

# **Introduction to the Sociology of Development**

**Also by Andrew Webster**

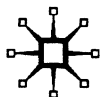
**INTRODUCTORY SOCIOLOGY (*co-author*)**

# **Introduction to the Sociology of Development**

**Second Edition**

Andrew Webster

palgrave  
macmillan



© Andrew Webster 1984, 1990

All rights reserved. No reproduction, copy or transmission of this publication may be made without written permission.

No paragraph of this publication may be reproduced, copied or transmitted save with written permission or in accordance with the provisions of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988, or under the terms of any licence permitting limited copying issued by the Copyright Licensing Agency, 90 Tottenham Court Road, London W1T 4LP.

Any person who does any unauthorised act in relation to this publication may be liable to criminal prosecution and civil claims for damages.

The author has asserted his right to be identified as the author of this work in accordance with the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.

Published by  
PALGRAVE

Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 6XS and  
175 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10010  
Companies and representatives throughout the world

PALGRAVE is the new global academic imprint of  
St. Martin's Press LLC Scholarly and Reference Division and  
Palgrave Publishers Ltd (formerly Macmillan Press Ltd).

ISBN 978-0-333-49508-7      ISBN 978-1-349-20584-4 (eBook)  
DOI 10.1007/978-1-349-20584-4

This book is printed on paper suitable for recycling and  
made from fully managed and sustained forest sources.

A catalogue record for this book is available  
from the British Library.

Transferred to digital printing 2002

*For Helen, Matthew and Nick*

# Contents

<i>List of Maps</i>	ix
<i>List of Illustrations</i>	x
<i>List of Figures</i>	xi
<i>List of Tables</i>	xii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xiii

<b>1 The Sociology of Development</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Aims of the text	4
1.3 Key sociological questions	10
<b>2 Measures of Inequality and Development</b>	<b>15</b>
2.1 Introduction	15
2.2 The concept of poverty	18
2.3 The Third World and its poverty	23
2.4 The basic needs strategy	34
2.5 The perception of development from below	36
<b>3 Modernisation Theory</b>	<b>41</b>
3.1 Introduction	41
3.2 The theoretical origins of modernisation theory	43
3.3 Modernisation theory	49
3.4 Summary of modernisation theory and its implications	53
3.5 The critique of modernisation theory	56
3.6 Conclusion	62
<b>4 Theories of Underdevelopment</b>	<b>65</b>
4.1 Introduction	65

viii *Contents*

4.2	Marx's theory of capitalism and class conflict	66
4.3	The exploitation of the Third World: an account of merchant capitalism, colonialism and neo-colonialism	70
4.4	Explanations for underdevelopment	81
4.5	Conclusion	96
<b>5</b>	<b>Population, Urbanisation and Education</b>	<b>98</b>
5.1	Introduction	98
5.2	Population	98
5.3	Urbanisation	107
5.4	Education and Industrialisation	119
5.5	Conclusion	128
<b>6</b>	<b>Political Development and Social Class</b>	<b>129</b>
6.1	Introduction	129
6.2	Third World politics: the analysis of instability	130
6.3	Military intervention in the Third World	144
6.4	Conclusion	147
<b>7</b>	<b>Development Planning and Aid</b>	<b>149</b>
7.1	Introduction	149
7.2	The failure of development aid	153
7.3	Rural development programmes	158
7.4	Conclusion	171
<b>8</b>	<b>Critique of Industrialisation</b>	<b>173</b>
8.1	Introduction	173
8.2	The populist challenge to industrialisation	174
8.3	The ecological critique of industrialisation	180
8.4	Alternative technology	185
8.5	Conclusion	189
<b>9</b>	<b>Conclusion</b>	<b>191</b>
9.1	Introduction	191
9.2	Development models and policies	192
9.3	Conclusion	207
	<i>Bibliography</i>	209
	<i>Author Index</i>	220
	<i>Subject Index</i>	223

# List of Maps

1.1	The ‘three worlds’ and the ‘North/South’ divide	5
2.1	Share of global income by population	28
4.1	The ‘Triangular Trade’: the slave route	72
4.2	The colonial empires, 1914	76



# List of Illustrations

1.1	The global market: the multinationals in Lebanon	7
1.2	The modern media as a vehicle for tradition	8
2.1	Absolute poverty	17
5.1	The shanty town	115

# List of Figures

2.1	The deprivation trap: Chambers' poverty ratchet	22
-----	---	----

# List of Tables

2.1	GNP per person	27
5.1	Number of countries with real GDP growth rate at or below population growth rate	101
9.1	The composition of global production, 1896–1984	199

# Acknowledgements

It is five years since the publication of the first edition of this text, a period in which the sociology of development has itself experienced change, happily of a generally progressive nature. This new edition tries to capture the flavour of some of these new debates while still retaining its broadly introductory nature.

The revision has been helped by sustained debate within the School of Sociology at Cambridge as well as by wider opportunities I have had elsewhere to explore new ideas in the field. To these many colleagues I express my thanks. At the publishers I have received considerable editorial support from Dilys Jones, Victoria Yogman and Keith Povey.

I have also been lucky enough to receive the continued support and help of my wife, who fortunately is the same as the one who saw me through the first edition.

*Cambridge*  
*August 1989*

A. J. W.

The author and publishers wish to thank the following who have kindly given permission for the use of copyright material for the second edition.

Longman Group Ltd. for material from *Rural Development* by Robert Chambers, 1983, p.112

New Left Review for material from 'The Global Economy' by D. Gordon, *New Left Review*, March/April 1988

United Nations for material from *World Economic Survey 1987*, Table 11.2

Every effort has been made to trace all the copyright holders but if any have been inadvertently overlooked the publishers will be pleased to make the necessary arrangement at the first opportunity