



Music Sociology: Examining the Role of Music in Social Life

By Sara Towe Horsfall, Jan-Martijn Meij, Meghan Probstfield

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Music Sociology explores 16 different genres to demonstrate that music everywhere reflects social values, organisational processes, meanings and individual identity. Presenting original ethnographic research, the contributors use descriptions of subcultures to explain the concepts of music sociology, including the rituals that link people to music, the past and each other. Music Sociology introduces the sociology of music to those who may not be familiar with it and provides a basic historical perspective on popular music in America and beyond.

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Review

“A unique and very valuable textbook that is long overdue in the field. It is the first introductory book that I know of that starts from a biosocial perspective. Hopcroft’s book should make it easy for teachers who have a typical sociology background to incorporate an evolutionary perspective in their teaching.”

?François Nielson, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

“This textbook shows how sociology encompasses all fundamental and major aspects of human life and behavior. No other text does this. Hopcroft’s text adds tremendous depth to the sociological perspective. Moreover the author writes in such a way that undergraduates – even those who normally find reading to be a chore – will quickly grasp the central ideas of the book and will develop the appropriate level of understanding the complex connections between sociology and the life sciences.”

?Jeff Davis, California State University-Long Beach

“By using an interdisciplinary approach, Hopcroft brings sociology into the 21st century. Introductory sociology students in a community college setting will especially benefit from this text as it easily and neatly compliments other core areas of study in the natural sciences.”

?John Glass, Collin College

About the Author

Sara Towe Horsfall is an Associate Professor at Texas Wesleyan University. Previously she worked as a journalist and foreign correspondent in England, Greece, and India. Her recent books include *Social Problems: An Advocate Group Approach* (2012).

Jan-Martijn Meij is Assistant Professor of Sociology at Florida Gulf Coast University, with a specialization in environmental sociology, social inequality, and social psychology. His book on social problems and solutions will be published by Cognella in 2013.

Meghan Probstfield is Associate Professor of Sociology in the Department of Social Sciences at Indian River State College in Fort Pierce, FL, where he is co-organizing the Center for Media and Journalism Studies. His scholarly contributions include the W. I. Thomas entry in the *Dictionary of Modern American Philosophy*.

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