



Second Thoughts: Sociology Challenges Conventional Wisdom

Janet M. Ruane, Karen A. Cerulo

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Co-authored by Karen A. Cerulo, the Eastern Sociological Society's Robin L. Williams Lecturer for 2013-2014

Do birds of a feather flock together or do opposites attract? Is honesty the best policy? Are children our most precious commodity? Is education the great equalizer? Adages like these shape our social life. This **Sixth Edition** of **Second Thoughts** reviews several popular beliefs and notes how these conventional wisdoms cannot be taken at face value, but instead require careful second thoughts. This unique text encourages students to step back and sharpen their analytic focus with 25 essays that use social research to expose the gray areas of commonly held beliefs, revealing the complexity of social reality and sharpening students' sociological vision.

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