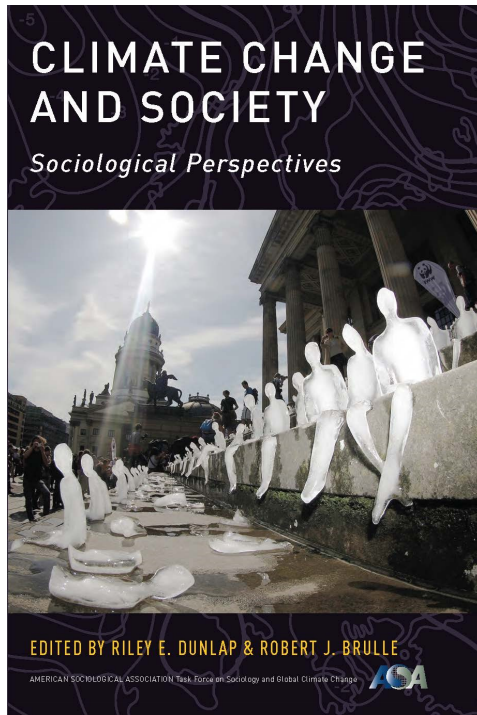


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CLIMATE CHANGE AND SOCIETY SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES

Edited by Riley E. Dunlap and Robert J. Brulle



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Climate change is one of the most critical issues of the twenty-first century, presenting a major intellectual challenge to both the natural and social sciences. While there has been significant progress in natural science understanding of climate change, social science analyses have not been as fully developed. *Climate Change and Society* breaks new theoretical and empirical ground by presenting climate change as a thoroughly social phenomenon, embedded in behaviors, institutions, and cultural practices.

This collection of essays summarizes existing approaches to understanding the social, economic, political, and cultural dimensions of climate change. From the factors that drive carbon emissions to those which influence societal responses to climate change, the volume provides a comprehensive overview of the social dimensions of climate change. An improved understanding of the complex relationship between climate change and society is essential for modifying ecologically harmful human behaviors and institutional practices, creating just and effective environmental policies, and developing a more sustainable future. *Climate Change and Society* provides a useful tool in efforts to integrate social science research, natural science research, and policymaking regarding climate change and sustainability.

Produced by the American Sociological Association's Task Force on Sociology and Global Climate Change, this book presents a challenging shift from the standard climate change discourse, and offers a valuable resource for students, scholars, and professionals involved in climate change research and policy.

Riley E. Dunlap is Dresser Professor and Regents Professor of Sociology at Oklahoma State University, Past President of the International Sociological Association's Research Committee on Environment & Society, and Past Chair of the American Sociological Association's Section on Environment & Technology. He is senior editor of the *Handbook of Environmental Sociology* and *Sociological Theory and the Environment*, and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Dr. Robert J. Brulle is Professor of Sociology and Environmental Science at Drexel University, and Past Chair of the American Sociological Association's Section on Environment & Technology. He is author of *Agency, Democracy and the Environment: The U.S. Environmental Movement from the Perspective of Critical Theory* and co-editor of *Power, Justice and the Environment*. He was a 2012-2013 Fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University.

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PRAISE FOR *CLIMATE CHANGE AND SOCIETY*

"Climate Change and Society provides a superb overview of our knowledge of the social causes and consequences of climate change, and of the social obstacles to an effective response. It is essential reading."

—Erik Olin Wright, Vilas Distinguished Professor, University of Wisconsin and Past President of the American Sociological Association

"Though more work always remains, the physical sciences have accomplished their core task when it comes to climate change. We know what we need to know about the causes and consequences of our actions. What we don't know is how to stop ourselves, which is why this book—and the social sciences—are so important from here on out."

—Bill McKibben, author of *The End of Nature* and Schumann Distinguished Scholar, Middlebury College