



# The Humanity of Cities: An Introduction to Urban Societies

*John Gulick*

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## **The Humanity of Cities: An Introduction to Urban Societies** John Gulick

I recommend this book highly to social scientists who are looking for a review or refresher course in urbanology, advanced undergraduate students, and introductory graduate students. As our American college student bodies become more culturally diverse, *The Humanity of Cities* provides a welcome respite from the usual culture-bound texts that give limited attention, for effect only, of the stereotypical 'Third World'.

### *Contemporary Sociology*

Gulick's style is to develop each topic by presenting appropriate case studies. He manages to include an enormous range of studies, and he wisely reaches out beyond anthropology to the many fields that concern themselves with urban life. This book is consequently an excellent compilation of the recent history of theoretical and empirical research on an in cities. The 28-page bibliography is itself a tour de force.

### *American Anthropologist*

Combining major urban theories with empirical studies from around the world, the author offers poignant glimpses into urban life, including: the streets of San Francisco as seen through the eyes of a proud garbage collector; the marketplace of Ibadan, as seen by a petty food trader; the curiously empty streets of Fun city, a California retirement community; and Cairo's teeming cemetery, the City of the Dead, filling with the living. The problems of urban life are shown to be more a result of worldwide forces, rather than the intrinsic nature of cities. This major, new, and timely contribution to the field is a most useful way to introduce urban scholars, planners, and students in a variety of disciplines to *The Humanity of Cities*. A complete teachers' manual makes this the perfect text.

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