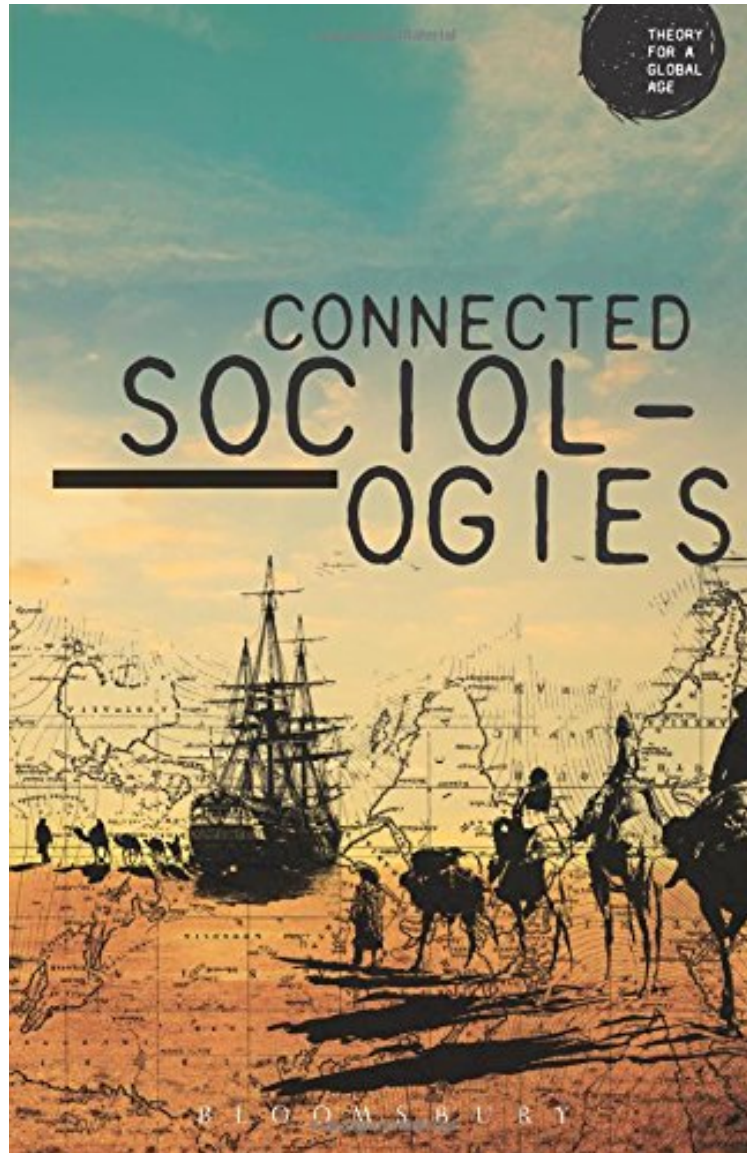


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## Connected Sociologies (Theory for a Global Age Series)

*Gurminder K. Bhambra*

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**Gurminder K. Bhambra** : **Connected Sociologies (Theory for a Global Age Series)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Connected Sociologies (Theory for a Global Age Series):

This book outlines what theory for a global age might look like, posing an agenda for consideration, contestation and

discussion, and a framework for the research-led volumes that follow in the series. Gurminder K. Bhambra takes up the classical concerns of sociology and social theory and shows how they can be rethought through an engagement with postcolonial studies and decoloniality, two of the most distinctive critical approaches of the past decades.

Sociology has a long history of internal reexamination and critique, and some of the works in this genre—such as those of C. Wright Mills and Alvin W. Gouldner—have become classics. Bhambra follows in this tradition; in this instance, she focuses on the ways in which contemporary sociologists to date have, in her opinion, unsuccessfully grappled with the reality of globalization, both its history and its more recent intensification. The shortcomings she finds in such prominent scholars as Ulrich Beck, Michael Mann, and Immanuel Wallerstein are a result of their inability to cast off the imprint of Eurocentrism ... The author concludes by proposing the creation of connected sociologies that preserve the pluralism of local experiences. Left unclear is whether the connections can or should yield a unified sociology.

Summing Up: Highly recommended. Graduate students/faculty. -- P. Kivisto, Augustana College CHOICE A vital pedagogical resource ... This is a detailed, yet expansive book, which more than fulfills its twin goals of critiquing 'backwards' the Eurocentric canon of sociology, and reconstructing 'forwards' connected sociologies produced from plural locations ... Connected Sociologies will remain a vital guiding text for those wishing to understand where we have been and where we are going to ... Bhambra's voice is an increasingly vital source of historically-informed sense which will continue to steer us through seemingly incomprehensible times.

e-International Relations This book presents a fresh perspective on the interface between sociology as a discipline and its other—modernity. After interrogating substantive positions (from modernization, development and multiple modernities to dependency, underdevelopment and world systems analysis) and epistemological positions (indigeneity, autonomous knowledge and decolonization) Gurminder Bhambra presents a novel argument that connected sociologies is the methodological trope that can and should exemplify global sociology. A must-read for everyone interested in the discipline and its future and in the theories of modernity.

Sujata Patel, Professor of Sociology, University of Hyderabad, India The influential theories that still equate modernity with the West, and marginalize our colonial histories, are obsolete. Based on a deep knowledge of sociological thought, Gurminder Bhambra's important new book shows the need for radical rethinking. Connected Sociologies traces with great clarity the emerging movements of thought that give us new ways of understanding global society, and offers a hopeful future for social science.

Raewyn Connell, author of Southern Theory Drawing on her previous path-breaking critique of Eurocentric modernity, Bhambra confronts us with one crucial question: can sociology account for a world that underwent globalization long before sociology took any notice and was prey to colonialism, dispossession and violence without sociology paying much attention either? The answer is "yes" if you trust and follow Bhambra's fascinating reconstruction of sociology as connected sociologies and connected histories.

Boaventura de Sousa Santos, Professor of Sociology at the University of Coimbra, Portugal, and Distinguished Legal Scholar at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA

About the Author Gurminder K. Bhambra is Professor of Sociology and Director of the Social Theory Centre at the University of Warwick, UK. She is Series Editor of the Theory for a Global Age series.