
With the volume of textbooks flooding our campuses, one wonders how many times the same concepts can be reiterated without having them fall on deaf ears. Authors of textbooks often walk a thin line between boring students and/or leaving them behind conceptually. Writing a text which is both enjoyable to read and still comprehensible is no easy task.

*Deviant Behavior* is written from one perspective and is not a review on theories of deviant behavior. It describes deviant behavior from the interactionist or labeling approach, not from what Goode terms an "encyclopedic" or "eclectic" approach. I would not recommend this text to an individual who wishes to portray the history and variety of significant theories in this field.

The text is organized in such a fashion that Goode first introduces the concepts and gives the basic interactionist viewpoint towards deviance. The second part covers different forms of deviant behavior, including drug and alcohol uses and abuses, sexual deviance, prostitution, male and female homosexuality, violent behavior and crime.

A unique dimension is added to the text by Goode's use of short examples which portray different types of deviance in a variety of settings. This not only makes it effortless to read but also shows the diversity in deviant behavior avoiding the stereotyping which often accompanies this area. Overall, the examples are clear, concise and well integrated into the subject matters showing the interrelatedness between concepts and behavior. Goode's use of the *New York Times* articles as references is an excellent way to show that sociology and everyday life are actually discerning the same entity.

The various areas of concentration are well conceptualized, avoiding the archaic myths which plague many previous textbooks. His rhetoric evokes vivid, detailed, unambiguous images of social phenomena. In conclusion, this is a valuable text for an individual who wishes to learn and/or teach the interactionist viewpoint of deviance.

Parviz Piran

University of Kansas

Jane C. Ollenburger

University of Nebraska-Lincoln