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CONTRIBUTORS

Omar Greg Conrad ("The Social-Psychology of Anti-Semitism") is a graduate student studying sociology and philosophy at The University of Kansas. He holds a masters degree in sociology and is currently working towards his Ph.D. in philosophy. His main theoretical interests lie in social thinkers that bridge the social sciences and philosophy, such as Hegel, Marx, and Sartre.

Kevin Gotham ("A Study in American Agitation: J. Edgar Hoover's Symbolic Construction of the Communist Menace") is graduate student in sociology at the University of Kansas. His major areas of interests include: political sociology, historical sociology, domestic and international political crime by the state, and modern and postmodern sociological theory.

C. Richard King ("To Have or not to Have Sex in Critical Theory: Sexuality in the Early Writings of Wilhelm Reich and Erich Fromm") is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Anthropology at the University of Illinois--Champaign. His research interests include history of social sciences and discourse analysis.

Ernest Manheim ("The Frankfurt School and Critical Sociology and Critical Philosophy") received a Ph.D. in 1928, Leipzig, Germany, in Sociology and Philosophy, and a Ph.D. in Anthropology in London in 1937. Dr. Manheim is the former Chair of the Sociology Department, University of Missouri-Kansas City, and has held faculty appointments at the University of Chicago and in Germany. He has published numerous books and articles.

Roger Neustadter ("An End to "Childhood amnesia": The Utopian Ideal of Childhood in Critical Theory") is an Associate Professor of Sociology at Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville Missouri. His most recent publications and research interests are in the idea of time in social theory, the social and theoretical status of childhood, and generations in the American Left. Research articles have appeared in Time and Society, Current Perspectives in Social Theory, and Sociological Spectrum.

David Norman Smith (Introduction to Herbert Marcuse, "On the Critique of Sociology") is Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of Kansas. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1988. His publications include George Orwell for Beginners; "The Beloved Dictator: Adorno, Horkheimer, and the Critique of Domination," in Current Perspectives in Social Theory; and, he is the editor of the forthcoming The Ethnological Notebooks of Karl Marx. His academic interests include sociological theory, social movements, and, historical and comparative sociology.

INTRODUCTION

This issue of *Mid-American Review of Sociology* is a special edition focusing on Critical Theory and the Frankfurt Institute. In the Fall Semester of 1991, David Norman Smith taught a graduate seminar on Critical Theory at the University of Kansas. It was from this class that this special issue was developed. The Editors are pleased to publish the first English translation of Herbert Marcuse's "The Critique of Sociology: Freedom and Equality as Fundamental Problems of Sociology." The translation of this article was done by David Smith and another seminar participant, Annette Kuhlmann. As a guest speaker in the seminar, Dr. Ernest Manheim provided a personal link to the Frankfurt Institute. He is Karl Manheim's first cousin and received his academic training in Weimar Germany.

The relationship between individual and society and its effect upon freedom and democracy is just as intriguing today as when the Frankfurt Institute was established. Contributing contemporary applications are Omar Greg Conrad ("The Social Psychology of Anti-Semitism"), Kevin Gotham ("A Study in American Agitation: J. Edgar Hoover's Symbolic Construction of the Communist Menace"), and C. Richard King (To Have or not to Have Sex in Critical Theory: Sexuality in the Early Writings of Wilhelm Reich and Erich Fromm"). These contributions were a result of the authors' participation in the seminar. One non-seminar author, Roger Neustadter's article ("An End to 'Childhood Amnesia': The Utopian Ideal of Childhood in Critical Theory") also contributed to this special edition of the *Mid-American Review of Sociology*. 