

Department of

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Sociology



Who's Afraid of Pierre Bourdieu?

Reflections on Sociology as a Combat Sport

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Michael Burawoy has been a participant observer of industrial workplaces in Zambia, United States, Hungary and Russia. He has tried to illuminate postcolonialism, the organization of consent to capitalism, the peculiar forms of class consciousness and work organization in state socialism, and the dilemmas of transition from socialism to capitalism. Over the course of four decades of research and teaching, he has developed the "extended case method," which allows broad conclusions to be drawn from ethnographic research. He recently turned to the study the university to consider the way sociology is produced and disseminated. Throughout his career, he has engaged with Marxism, seeking to reconstruct it in the light of his research and more broadly in the light of contemporary challenges.

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