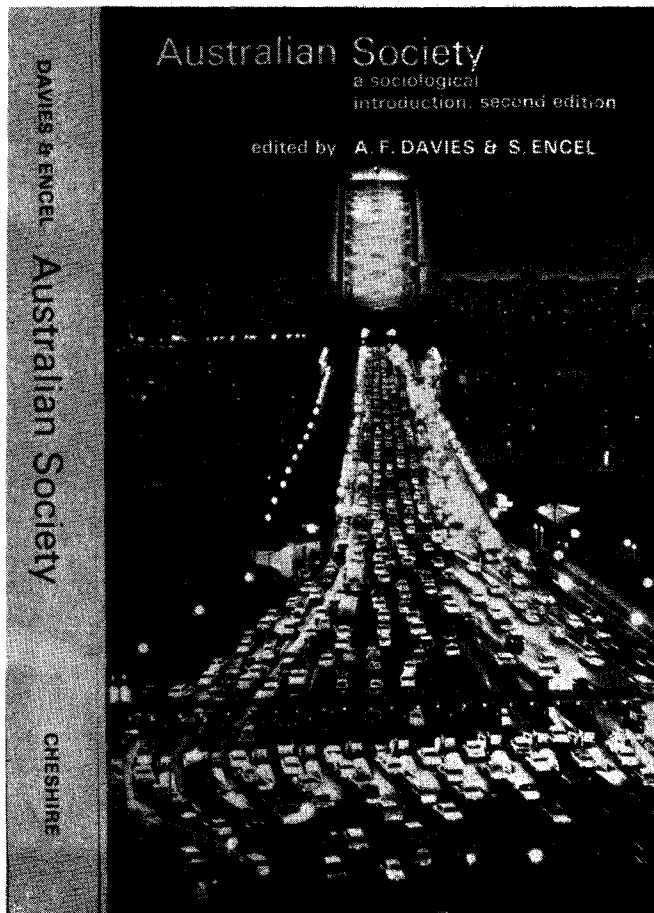


1969/1970



AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY

A SOCIOLOGICAL
INTRODUCTION:
SECOND EDITION

Edited by S. Encel & A.F. Davies

Available May 1970

Price \$8.50

The first edition of Australian Society, originally published in 1965, was a pioneering attempt to produce a substantive text on the social structure of contemporary Australia. The second edition, five years later, is a different book. There are new chapters on urbanisation, politics, class and status, the mass media, suburban life, religious belief, education, immigration, work, and the Aboriginal community; in addition, previous chapters on population, the family, and the growth of drama and the theatre have been extensively revised.

The new edition continues and deepens the emphasis on the highly urban - and suburban - character of a country where 70% of the population at the 1966 census lived in eight urban centres. The dominant role of urban growth in the economic and social development of Australia is exposed in detail in George Clarke's chapter on urbanisation; the quality of life in the suburbs is explored by Jean Martin; and the contribution of European immigrants to economic expansion and social change is described by Charles Price and G.W. Ford. *

Contributions to social theory are made by Colin Hughes in his chapter on politics, which attempts a "systems analysis" of the Australian political culture, and by S. Encel in a chapter on class and status, which examines the nature of class-consciousness and its relation to "objective" indices of social inequality such as wealth, occupation and education. Alan Davies contributes a new chapter on the mass media which applies current theories on mass communications to the actual character of press, radio, and television in Australia.

Frank Stevens, in a new chapter on the Aborigines, exposes in unsparing detail the repressive treatment of the Aboriginal minority and the failure of well-meaning policies to improve their lot. J.J. Mol reports on the results of a national survey of religious belief and practice. R.T. Appleyard, in an extensively revised chapter on population, documents important trends in the demographic structure of the Australian community.

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Australian Society explores and illuminates many areas of our culture previously misunderstood or at worst distorted, and about which little or no data has been readily available. Some of the chapters report sociological research published for the first time. Most important, many of the questions raised provide a challenge to all of us concerned with our own society in the most critical and creative sense - students and laymen alike.

CONTENTS AND CONTRIBUTORS:

POPULATION - A. Appleyard

URBAN AUSTRALIA - G. Clarke

FAMILY SIZE AND FERTILITY - L.H. Day

CLASS AND STATUS - S. Encel

WORK - G.W. Ford

MIGRANTS - C.A. Price

RURAL AUSTRALIA - F.H. Gruen

ABORIGINES - F. Stevens

SOCIAL POLICY - L.R. Tierney

POLITICS - C.A. Hughes

THE FAMILY - S. Encel

DIVORCE - L.H. Day

SUBURBAN LIFE - Jean Martin

EDUCATION - S. Encel

RELIGIOUS BEHAVIOUR - K.S. Inglis

CHURCH SCHOOLS AND RELIGIOUS BELIEF - J.J. Mol

DRAMA - H.G. Kippax

THE MASS MEDIA - A.F. Davies

The first aim of each contributor has been to provide a conspectus and critical assessment of sociological studies so far made in his field, but most contributors have gone beyond this to make an independent assessment of trends and problems.