

Public Sociology

Man would not have attained the possible unless time and again he had reached out for the impossible.

—Max Weber

What do they know of sociology, who only sociology know?

—Adapted from C. L. R. James and Rudyard Kipling

For all the students who have taught me so much.

Public Sociology

Between Utopia and Anti-Utopia

Michael Burawoy

polity

Copyright © Michael Burawoy 2021

The right of Michael Burawoy to be identified as Author of this Work has been asserted in accordance with the UK Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.

First published in 2021 by Polity Press

Polity Press
65 Bridge Street
Cambridge CB2 1UR, UK

Polity Press
101 Station Landing
Suite 300
Medford, MA 02155, USA

All rights reserved. Except for the quotation of short passages for the purpose of criticism and review, no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the publisher.

ISBN-13: 978-1-5095-1914-9

ISBN-13: 978-1-5095-1915-6(pb)

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library.

Title: Public sociology : between utopia and anti-utopia / Michael Burawoy.
Description: Cambridge, UK ; Medford, MA : Polity Press, 2021. | Includes bibliographical references and index. | Summary: "Why sociology matters, how sociologists can help the people they study and how it can help us to deal with the crises of the 21st century"-- Provided by publisher.

Identifiers: LCCN 2021006108 (print) | LCCN 2021006109 (ebook) | ISBN 9781509519149 (hardback) | ISBN 9781509519156 (paperback) | ISBN 9781509519187 (epub)

Subjects: LCSH: Sociology.

Classification: LCC HM435 .B87 2021 (print) | LCC HM435 (ebook) | DDC 301--dc23

LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2021006108>

LC ebook record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2021006109>

Typeset in 11 on 13pt Sabon

by Fakenham Prepress Solutions, Fakenham, Norfolk NR21 8NL

Printed and bound in Great Britain by CPI Group (UK) Ltd, Croydon

The publisher has used its best endeavours to ensure that the URLs for external websites referred to in this book are correct and active at the time of going to press. However, the publisher has no responsibility for the websites and can make no guarantee that a site will remain live or that the content is or will remain appropriate.

Every effort has been made to trace all copyright holders, but if any have been overlooked the publisher will be pleased to include any necessary credits in any subsequent reprint or edition.

For further information on Polity, visit our website:
politybooks.com

Contents

<i>Tables</i>	<i>vii</i>
<i>Preface</i>	<i>viii</i>
Introduction: The Promise of Sociology	1
Part One: Theory and Practice	11
1. Theory: Utopia and Anti-Utopia	15
2. Practice: The (Di)vision of Sociological Labor	30
Part Two: Policy Sociology	43
3. The Language Question in University Education	47
4. Job Evaluation in a Racial Order	55
Part Three: Public Sociology	63
5. The Color of Class	67
6. Student Rebellion	76

Part Four: Critical Sociology	83
7. Race, Class, and Colonialism	89
8. Migrant Labor and the State	94
9. Manufacturing Consent	102
10. Racial Capitalism	112
Part Five: Professional Sociology	121
11. Advancing a Research Program	127
12. Painting Socialism	140
13. The Great Involution	148
Part Six: Real Utopias	159
14. Third-Wave Marketization	167
15. Whither the Public University?	178
16. Living Theory	195
Conclusion: Biography Meets History	208
<i>Notes</i>	215
<i>References</i>	217
<i>Index</i>	227

Tables

2.1	The Division of Sociological Labor	36
5.1	The Progress of Zambianization	70
10.1	The Dimensions of Racial Domination under Racial Capitalism	115