

with internationalization and globalization.

## A Postscript

Sociology in Canada, as elsewhere, has itself been subject to considerable change in the last 25 years. In Canada in particular, sociology formed a strong base for the development of feminism which swept most of the humanities and social sciences and created the programs in women's studies. There is some question, however, as to whether mainstream sociology has been able to adjust its paradigms to the new approaches. While Feminism and Marxism symbolize a return to the early ethos of social commitment which marked earlier phases of the discipline, postmodernism on the other hand "can be read" as symbolizing the other extreme where social purpose is far from evident. Some sociologists have opted for a sociology of postmodernism rather than a post modernist sociology. Perhaps because it lacks a rigid theoretical/ideological core such as economics, sociology has been a discipline, a social space, where new ideas such as feminism could find a beginning (Porter, 1995). With the development of interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary studies, sociology is not the only home available for new academic programs. Sociology was once described as the 'American science', but in the United States, a number of departments, some of them well-known, have been closed down. Although sociology still appears to be flourishing in Canada, as we approach the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, there is something of an identity crisis as well as powerful social and economic forces that do not bode well for the discipline. We might well ask what the next one hundred years hold for the discipline, as its utility and its purpose are more frequently questioned. Ecological struggles, and repatterning within disciplines and within universities, will undoubtedly continue.

### REFERENCES AND BIBLIOGRAPHIC SOURCES

- Literature on the development of sociology in Canada as opposed to some other areas is 'finite'. The brief list of books which follows is a more or less complete listing of the material in book form. Campbell provides a more conventional history of the discipline and tends to focus on the earlier periods of development. Brym and Fox provide a more abstract analysis of recent developments. While the two are complementary there are other items which fill certain gaps. Carroll et al. includes a comprehensive bibliography up until 1992. Beyond that date there are a few relevant items in *The Canadian Review of Sociology and Anthropology* and the *The Canadian Journal of Sociology* which are the main journals published in sociology in Canada. These may be found in the indexes to these journals.
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