

Sociology 125 Lecture 2
WHAT KIND OF A SOCIETY IS “AMERICAN SOCIETY”?
Monday, September 11, 2006

1. TECHNOLOGY

2. THE ECONOMY

- 2.1 Capitalism & Hypercapitalism
- 2.2 Gigantic Corporations.
- 2.3 Extremely weak labor unions.
- 2.4 Weak public regulation of the economy
- 2.5 Extreme economic inequality.
- 2.6 Incredibly Rich economy.
- 2.7 Globalization.

3. POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS: LIBERAL DEMOCRACY.

- 3.1 Winner-take-all, single member district elections
- 3.2 Federal system
- 3.3 Grass roots activism
- 3.5 Money in Politics

4. MILITARISM AND GLOBAL DOMINATION

5. GENDER RELATIONS: ERODING MALE DOMINATION

6. SOCIAL CLEAVAGE: RACIALLY DIVIDED.

7. IMMIGRATION

8. CULTURE

- *Pluralism*
- *Individualism*
- *Community*
- *Religiosity*
- *Commercialism and consumerism.*

9. VIOLENCE AND DOMESTIC REPRESSION