**Worlds of Difference**
*Edited by Said Arjomand State University of New York, Stony Brook and Elisa P Reis Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil*

How can differences be understood in social theory through comparisons, and how should social theory relate to regional studies to do so?

This question has been prevalent within the sociological field for over a century, but is becoming increasingly important in a globalised age in which cultural borders are constantly challenged and rapidly changing. In this collection, Arjomand and Reis illuminate the importance of exploring spatial, cultural and intellectual differences beyond generalizations, attempting to understand diversity in itself as it takes shape across the world. With contributions from internationally renowned scholars, and a focussed emphasis upon sociological key themes such as citizenship, human rights, inequality and domination, this title provides a rich and convincing discussion that will add significant value to the ongoing debate about diversity and change within the social sciences.

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**Cities and Crisis**
*New Critical Urban Theory*
*Edited by Kuniko Fujita Michigan State University*

Recognizing the deep relations between politics, finance, cities and citizens, this book argues for a rejuvenated account of urban theory. The book emphasises the need to understand the importance of the 2008 global financial crisis and how the crisis affects cities nested in a variety of political economies. Situating urban theory in the current economic climate, the book powerfully illuminates the dynamic between history, theory, and practice stressing how catastrophic social and economic calamities under the crisis lead to - or not lead to - reorganise city structures, city life and city policies and hence new urban experience calls for theoretical perspectives that can speak to these challenging changes. Innovative, crisp and groundbreaking, this title is a must for anyone interested in urban life and its rapid movements.

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