

BOOK REVIEWS

THE SOCIOLOGY OF HOUSING: HOW HOMES SHAPE OUR SOCIAL LIFE, Edited by Brian McCabe and Eve Rosen, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2023

The Sociology of Housing, edited by Brian McCabe and Eve Rosen, highlights “the power of the sociological imagination in showing how housing shapes our social world.” (p. 3). The book not only provides the chance to look at the sociological approach to housing—how housing affects social relations and other outcomes and how public policies affect housing quality—it also exposes us to the toolkit of techniques currently used by sociologists: quantitative analysis, in-depth interviewing; ethnographic research; comparative historical research. While the book’s primary focus is on US cities, the editors and contributors give some attention to research in the Global South (e.g. informal housing).

Rucks-Ahidian begins Part I (‘Mechanisms of Housing Inequality’) by showing just how the historical legacy of discriminatory policies in mortgage lending from the 1930s (especially the federal government’s mortgage underwriting manual) downgraded Black neighborhoods and how they continue to bring about Black/White disparities today. In contrast to the persistent Black/White gap in homeownership, Latino homeownership rates have risen in recent decades (Chapter 2). According to Hyde and Fischer, Latino self-segregation facilitates homeownership through greater access to Latino real estate agents and lenders “as well as stronger social capital via concentrated Latino neighborhood networks.” (p. 33) It is unclear why clustering leads to the creation of social capital in Latino but not Black communities. Continuing the Latino focus, Redon et al. (Chapter 3) use their own Los Angeles historical research from the 1930s and 1940s to show how today’s inadequate housing conditions are not only due to recent immigration and concentration of workers in unskilled jobs, but in Latinos’ history of displacement. Peter Rosenblatt (Chapter 4) states that urban redevelopment in Baltimore has been “inherently racialized” (p. 53) over three periods, pre-World War II (segregated public housing), post-War (urban renewal), and 1990s to the present (HOPE VI public housing revitalization). Racism (or racialization) is, in fact, an inaccurate and overly simplistic explanation for the most recent HOPE VI period given the fact the mayors of Baltimore and most city council members have been Black and the fact that Baltimore has one of the country’s most successful housing mobility

programs for moving residents to high opportunity suburbs. Darrah-Okike, et al. (Chapter 5) show that native Hawaiians experience similar problems as do other Native Americans (poverty, overcrowding, and excessive housing cost burden); they attribute these problems to “iterative histories of land dispossession, American imperial domination, and related technologies of racial classification...” (p. 78). Matthew McLaskey (Chapter 6), drawing upon semi-structured interviews with landlords, tenants, legal professionals, and housing advocates in Buffalo, shows how “landlords struggle to balance [the costs of] investment and maintenance in the midst of a declining economy and landlords’ desire to minimize conflicts with tenants to prevent turnover and vacancy.” (p. 84). And in Chapter 7, Gaddis and DiRago improve on previous reviews of housing audits (which employ separate teams of White and Black testers). They focus attention on three emerging areas of housing audit research: Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV, a federal program), short term rentals, and roommate searches. Nelson and Lens (Chapter 8) make a significant contribution to housing eviction research by promoting a perspective that centers on eviction’s institutional life, that is, strategies tenants, landlords and others use to navigate eviction case processing.

Esther Sullivan begins Part II, (Chapter 9: “Housing Insecurity and Instability”) by highlighting the significance of manufactured housing (mobile homes) as an affordable housing resource, the vulnerability of residents to evictions, and the increasing role of global markets and financial institutions in making manufactured housing residents vulnerable. Harvey and Allen (Chapter 10) note that shared housing (the nuclear family shares the unit along with kin and/or non-kin, especially common among minorities) can provide a safety net in response to emergency needs, but can also result in overcrowding, unsafe conditions as well as housing insecurity. Claire Herbert’s impressive case study of informal housing in Detroit (Chapter 11) points to the differing motivations, needs and resources of three types of squatters: “survival squatters”—those motivated to squat in order to fight instability and homelessness, “holdover squatters” who become squatters when the home they own or rent is foreclosed, and “homesteaders,” who are enticed by the opportunity to squat rather than being pressed by circumstances, and who have the means to make necessary repairs. Chris Herring (Chapter 12) draws from his own San Francisco fieldwork to criticize the city’s approach to homelessness including its Housing First strategy (whereby homeless individuals are moved into decent housing without requirements for treatment, employment or training). Herring, however, fails to ask an obvious question: Why is it that San Francisco has one of the country’s most serious homeless problem?

Joe LaBriola (Chapter 13) starts off Part III (“Housing Markets and Housing Supply”) by showing that between the 1970s and 1990s, California “cities that were whiter than their surrounding metropolitan areas were significantly more likely to pass explicit controls on residential growth, even after controlling for environmental attitudes.” (p. 188) He concludes that race plays a central role in why local officials

are motivated to pass and implement exclusionary land use controls. However, one cannot simply use analysis of aggregated data to infer motives about individuals (i.e. the ecological fallacy). Furthermore, because of increased ethno-racial diversity of the suburban population (especially in California), it is unlikely that findings from the late 20th century are applicable today. Korver-Glenn, Bartram and Besbris' main conclusion (Chapter 14)—that “by and large, intermediaries [property appraisers, mortgage lenders and code inspectors] reify racialized, gendered and classed housing markets.” (p. 192)—downplays the positive results that Bartram obtained in his original Chicago field research. Code inspectors made efforts to go easy on small-time landlords and low-income property owners; thus, according to the 2019 article, front-line workers like code inspectors are “uniquely poised to be agents of change.” (p. 197). Cornelissen and Jang-Trettien (Chapter 15) advocate for refocusing housing research away from gentrification to neighborhood decline because the latter occurs more frequently. Rather than concentrating on decline, the authors should have focused on neighborhood change in general. Such a framework would have spotlighted the thousands of community development corporations across the US that have tried, and usually failed to, achieve neighborhood upgrading (revitalization with the long-term population in place). Karen Paulsen's case study of Boise, Idaho (Chapter 16), a rapidly growing metropolitan area in the Mountain West, shows how short term rental platforms (STRs) like Airbnb have disrupted not only the tourism industry but also housing markets and neighborhoods. Furthermore, STR growth tends to reduce a sense of community among long term residents by eroding friend recognition, the provision of mutual aid, neighbors watching out for each other, and residents' ability to address neighborhood problems such as crime. Philip Garboden (Chapter 17) utilizes his own research on landlords in Washington D.C. to urge housing scholars to go beyond the good landlord/bad landlord dichotomy. “Focusing on individuals obscures the manner in which an economic system creates opportunities for exploitation that individuals are bound to take advantage of.” (pp. 228-229). Unfortunately, Garboden does not discuss practical solutions for exploitation such as rent controls. William Martin's core argument (Chapter 18) is that “housing markets are embedded in fiscal relations in particular... [e.g.] tax liabilities, public debts, public loan guarantees, and entitlements to public benefits.” (p. 240). Despite their similarly regressive impacts, three different tax break programs have different effects on housing inequality, residential mobility, and residential segregation: the home mortgage interest deduction (HMID) whereby homeowners may deduct from their annual income the interest accrued on mortgage debt; the federal Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC), a credit for investment in certain qualified low income housing developments; and local governments' property tax assessment limitations (PAL).

Part IV (“Housing, Racial Segregation, and Inequality”) begins with William Faber's assessment of the future of segregation research. He is pessimistic about solutions to America's segregation problem because, according to him, capitalistic

markets use racism as a tool to reproduce inequality, though he fails to say what type of economic system should replace capitalism. Carll et al.'s Chapter 20 highlights ethnic-based differences in housing searches in Seattle's Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program. Somali and Vietnamese women spoke of their preference "for living among friends, family, and amenities where they can speak their language..." (p. 273). Cuddy et al. (Chapter 21) build on the previous chapter by focusing on the family unit's impact on a housing search. Families affect residential mobility decisions in four ways: through "family as necessity" (relocating close to an aging parent to provide care); "family as amenity" (prioritizing being close to one's family, but also considering other amenities such as public school quality); "family as facilitator" (turning to members of one's family for information on housing and neighborhood options); and "family as the invisible hand" (the fact that one's mental map of housing and neighborhood options is influenced by childhood experiences). Rahim Kurwa (Chapter 21) draws upon fieldwork conducted in Antelope Valley (Los Angeles's northernmost region) to critique the implementation of what he considers discriminatory nuisance housing ordinances, put in place in response to the arrival of HCV recipients. Such ordinances encourage or force landlords to evict tenants once they are subject to some number of nuisance complaints or police visits. The author's critique fails, however, to mention that disruptive behavior of HCV tenants *is* a problem nationally (Turner et al. 2000), that some of concerned homeowners are Black, and that by addressing long-term residents' concerns, these ordinances actually help to retain White families, thereby facilitating racial and economic integration. Bryan and Alao (Chapter 23) continue the criminal justice theme by helping us to understand how the growing number of citizens under correctional supervision is affecting housing outcomes. Those leaving prison (disproportionately Black) experience housing instability and insecurity and return to their previously disadvantaged neighborhoods, thereby contributing to racial residential segregation. Marco Garrido (Chapter 24) bridges the gap between the Global South and the Global North. He shows how the deposal of Philippine dictator, Ferdinand Marcos in 1986 was linked to the expansion of gated communities. By the 2000s "enclavization had reached the point where observers could speak of a "private city" having seceded from the public one." (p. 327). This final chapter should lead to fruitful conversations about similarities and differences between gated communities in southern cities like São Paulo and northern ones like Los Angeles).

Overall, the *Sociology of Housing* is a worthwhile addition to the housing literature. It contains important cutting edge chapters on a wide variety of timely subjects (manufactured housing, code inspections, housing vouchers, squatters, gated communities) and the book as a whole moves beyond the White-Black dichotomy to reflect the increased racial-ethnic diversity in developed societies.

The book does, however, have some drawbacks: literature reviews are repetitive; the quality of the chapters varies; authors tend to oversimplify racial issues (or look at them through an anti-capitalistic lens) or undervalue positive racial developments,

such as Black suburbanization and decreasing racial residential segregation. The book would have been stronger had McCabe and Rosen included a concluding chapter summarizing the book's specific contributions to the sociology of housing and identifying recommendations for public policies.

Despite these weaknesses, I'd use this book as a supplementary text were I still teaching "Housing Systems" at the University of Cincinnati. Although written mainly for urban sociologists, the book should be equally useful for urban geographers, and local government scholars and practitioners including city planners.

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FROM THE CONQUEST OF THE DESERT TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: THE REPRESENTATION OF THE NEGEV IN PUBLIC DISCOURSE IN ISRAEL, by Ilanit Ben-Dor Derimian, Münster: LIT Verlag, 2021.

While writing this review, the issue of climate change has come to the fore in a global scale. Its influences produce new plans and policies in many states. Unfortunately, in Israel there has been a retreat from sustainable planning and climate change. Adaptation and mitigation plans do not exist. The subject is at low profile in the public sphere, whether top down or bottom up, especially in the Negev Desert which is highly vulnerable to climate change. This trend might polarize regional identities and aggravate the struggles between different agencies in this region. For example, small settlements and suburbs are scattered widely in this region, ignoring environmental considerations, climate change, and Bedouin displaceability. These are mass countering steps to the global trend of struggling climate change. Although it contradicts the type of identity in the Negev as concluded by this book, it validates its argument that spatial identity is always in a process of change due to social and ideological changes.

Derimian, a culture researcher, defines the topic of her book as follows:

The book deals with the construction of the Negev Desert's identity as an actual and symbolic site of occurrence, through which the power relations hidden in

public discourse and spatial practices are revealed. This is part of an interdisciplinary cultural study that relies on anthropological and geographical-cultural approaches that examine how a place is constructed in the public discourse and how it is being realized on the practical level (p. 250).

The author employs Paasi's (Paasi, 1986; 2013) work on regional identity as a theoretical framework. Paasi argues that ideological considerations with symbolic implications instigate a process of spatial socialization. Spatial identity changes follow social and ideological changes. The study analyzes the process of spatial socialization of the Negev Desert area, examining both the representation of the place through discourse and the processes of concrete geographical change. Political institutions, social groups, and individual desert residents participate in reconstruction of the identity of the Negev Desert in Israel and contribute to the changes that are taking place in it.

The hypothesis of the study is that different social agents in society use different spatial discourses and practices for the purpose of resisting from "bottom-up" the construction of spatial identity forced from "top-down" by the state, thus influencing reconstruction of spatial identity of the desert.

The book examines thus the process of changing identity reconstruction. The desert identity in the Negev has changed over the years, since the beginning of the Zionist enterprise in the early 20th century, when the discourse on "conquest of the wilderness" began to shape up in the Negev Desert, and ended with a change that took place after the 1970s, with the transformation of the Negev into a "sustainable Negev".

The author argues that the construction of the Negev's spatial identity is influenced by collective ideologies rooted in Jewish tradition and Zionism. Therefore, even in opposing that identity from above, the local actors employ its symbols and representations through everyday practices to gain social legitimacy and perpetuate the symbolism of place in the collective consciousness while choosing their local-origin way to tell the story of the place.

Part 1 of the book is more theoretical in nature. Chapter 1 (the introduction) represents the theoretical framework – the discourse over spatial identity construction that develops through lens of orientalism and postcolonialism. Meaning, construction by power relations in the third space, Homi Bhabha's (1994) theory, which is created between the dichotomous categories like Occident-Orient or center-periphery. The book examines the influence of tension between immigrants from the orient and the westernized Zionist character, which underlies Israeli identity and continues to affect reconstruction of its identity to present day, including representations of the Negev Desert. It examines how the Negev is represented along space-time. But the separation into binary categories of nature/culture and Occident/Orient that is being examined as a third space of Bhabha, reveals change by "bottom-up" that influences the state itself to use the new representations in the discourse to advance its goals. He also argues that resistance and cooperation do not necessarily contradict

each other. They can be molded reciprocally. Chapter 2 continues the introduction. It provides a wide background on the different perceptions on land and desert in Jewish tradition and Zionist ideology, and its implications on their practices, values, and natures as developed and changed during history.

Part 2, dealing with the wilderness conquest discourse in Zionism and the policy of developing the Negev in the first decades of the state of Israel, contains 2 chapters. The first illustrates the spatial identity construction of the Negev before establishment of the State, and begins with the British attitudes and development and pre-state Zionist settlements. It then turns to discuss and analyze modernist and romantic approaches in Zionism public discourse and in press.

The second chapter (number 4) traces the intensive Negev development since the state's establishment in 1948 goes over the first years planning and policy: the establishing of the new towns in the Negev, and the policy towards the Bedouins. That course gave rise to transforming the Negev from frontier perception to periphery, in practice and public discourse.

Part 3: "Sustainable Negev: Discourse and the Negev's Development Policy in Recent Decades", reviews changes in the global discourse and the Israeli society: ecological ideology and environmental justice, environmental organizations' policy, and critique of Negev policy by civil society groups. The author discusses the connection between environmental preservation and national Zionist ideology in the light of evolution of collective symbols over time. The "sustainable development" discourse is observed through the case of the struggle over the Wine Route project as mirrored in the media, and "Sustainable Negev" expression approach in public discourse.

Chapter 6: "Sustainable Negev identity reconstruction", goes all the way from Negev development by state institutions today towards ecotourism, to changes in public discourse following desert tourism vis-à-vis contemporary reflection on periphery versus center, and reconstruction of a new cultural identity of Bedouin and Negev cities entrepreneurship in sustainable development. Chapter 7 brings the town of Mitzpe-Ramon as a case study of ecotourism center as a variety of entrepreneurs from below.

Chapter 8 takes a different direction by checking the contribution of the desert to Hebrew prose literature published during the 20th and 21st centuries. The author argues that when it comes to writings with a distinctly mythical dimension, literature and reality and literature and ideology, are overlapping. The analysis of these works indicates the role of art in public discourse, and it does indicate changes in the perception of the desert both as a symbol and as a tangible place.

The concluding chapter emphasizes the great importance given to the changes that have taken place in Israeli society in general, as a result of global and local socio-economic-political processes. This is what Paasi (1986) intended in referring to spatial identity in the sense of regional identity of the locals and stated that regional activism could create a new territorial identity, which finds its representation in

public discourse. This resistance to the practices of state institutions takes place by using ideological work that offers alternative representations of social discourse, depending on ideologies that exist in the period in question, with the purpose of gaining legitimacy for the interests they are trying to promote. The argument is that political institutions and powerful local organizations in Israeli society continue to use the national Zionist symbols, to which Israeli society is still emotionally attached, only that they pour new values into these symbols, which gives their mode of action public legitimacy. At the same time, this process indicates a certain loosening of the status of the nation-state, while continuing to influence society through its ability to flex its values.

This interesting and original book adds to the existing literature on the Negev region, particularly, and on marginal regions generally. It is a tremendous thorough multi-disciplinary work that combines practice with symbols, bottom-up with top-down forces and conflicts, reciprocal intrusions, and influences. It is anchored in wide and deep digging, analyzing by creating connectivity between many disciplines and agencies, and painting a complex picture by portraying the thick material of which discourse is constructed, produced, and reproduced.

Yet, there are a few notes. Yiftachel (2001) revealed high centrality of power in Israel caused by a territorial 'fracturing' of the main social and ethnic groups that explains the fractured regional identities. The lack of a regional layer in the Israeli regime weakens the possibility of regional representation and political power. In addition, the 'divide and rule' policy creates deep disagreements between different ethnic and social groups in the Negev region that prevent cohesion. This last note is reflected in the fact that Bedouin discourse is absent in the book. The Bedouins are presented widely as 'the other' and the policy of exclusion they experienced. The public discourse of the Bedouin issue is analyzed through Jewish eyes, but their changing discourse is excluded from the book and leaves it incomplete.

Derimian follows Paasi (2013, p. 4) who argues that identities are not 'hermetically sealed' and should be seen in relational terms as multiple and fluid because they are increasingly associated with mobility, networks and interactions occurring in 'soft spaces' and across 'fuzzy boundaries'. However, in Israel, as noted, the process of identity building is deeply fractured. Therefore, even when identity changes in space-time, the changes are limited due to the need to stay within the boundaries of the rigid Zionist rhetoric. Most of the changes are not counter-hegemonic and do not dare to demand the right to the region. Only a few suggest completely new order of a real alternative that can change the peripheral course and deep gaps into a new vision of thriving along principles of equality and justice. Therefore, though regional identity is ever changing it changes in small and careful steps that do not have the power to terminate peripheralization, in discourse and practice, in the Negev as well as in the national level.

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A RESEARCH AGENDA FOR FOOD SYSTEMS edited by Colin L. Saga.
Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar Publishing, 2022.

The book *A Research Agenda for Food Systems*, edited by Colin L. Saga, explores the complex web of challenges within contemporary food systems. It delves into emerging solutions that can support overcoming systemic shortcomings and advocates for a research agenda to navigate in such uncertain times (Chapter 1).

In Saga's introductory chapter, the term "food system" is redefined to encompass the complexities involving all processes and actors from production to consumption. Two distinct definitions, one by GLOPAN (2020) and another by HLPE (2017) highlight the multifaceted nature of food systems, emphasizing the interactions between social, political, economic, and natural environments. As a complex entity, food systems are shaped by a series of interconnections within their elements (e.g., food supply, drivers, environment, consumer practices) and externally with other systems such as health care, energy, finance, and transportation (Chapter 1). The productivity paradigm, driven by the necessity to meet the demands of a growing population, confronts challenges of regional inequalities in access to food despite increased agricultural productivity. The term "sustainable development" takes center stage, urging a longer-term perspective to ensure that the present generation's needs don't compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own. The UN's promotion of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015 marks a turning point, emphasizing the interconnectedness of food with human well-being and planetary health (Chapter 1).

The book is divided into three parts, commencing with an Introduction in Part 1. Part 2, titled "Issues," encompasses five chapters, each meticulously addressing the challenges inherent in the contemporary food system. Following this, Part 3, named "Solution?" unfolds across five chapters, offering insights into potential paths forward (Chapter 1).

The text underscores the imperative need to humanize and democratize the food system, emphasizing the valuable contributions of the social sciences in its analysis (Chapter Forward). Key aspects include the need to identify actors within the food system, maintain a multi-disciplinary perspective, and scrutinize the framing of food system issues, particularly the language employed by influential actors (Chapter 1 Forward). The contributors to the volume, predominantly social scientists residing in affluent nations, express a shared concern for transforming the existing order. Advocating the need for a holistic approach, they critically evaluate current practices and offer normative judgments on potential pathways forward. The volume challenges prevailing notions of success in food security and positions social scientists as crucial agents for researching and addressing food system failures in collaboration with local stakeholders (Chapter 1).

The book covers the work of key food systems scholars addressing critical issues within the global food system. Authored by esteemed experts, these chapters provide insightful analyses of key issues including corporate influence, labor exploitation, planetary boundaries, food poverty, animal ethics, and transformative solutions. Jennifer Clapp (Chapter 2) exposes the rise of big food, emphasizing the need for a political-economic lens to discern power dynamics and advocate for global governance. Colin L. Saga explores the absence of a coherent framework for monitoring food system activities and advocates for redistributing agency and responsibility to address nutritional security within planetary limits (Chapter 3). Alicia Reigada and Carlos de Castro illuminate the vulnerability of agricultural laborers, delving into exploitative practices and the nuanced construction of labor markets (Chapter 4). Martin Caraher examines the food system's role in perpetuating food poverty and insecurity, urging a refocus on global governance and fair farm gate prices (Chapter 5). Finally, Lewis Holloway delves into the ethical dimensions of animals within the food system, stressing the need for ethical considerations and proposing avenues for future research (Chapter 6). In the 'Solutions' section, David Christian Rose and colleagues critically review technological advancements in primary food production, emphasizing the importance of citizen inclusion in shaping future trajectories (Chapter 7). Alexandra E. Sexton and Michael K. Goodman dissect plant-based and cell-cultured alternative proteins, assessing their impacts on food systems and posing questions for further research (Chapter 8). The examination of cities' concern for food systems, presented by Jess Halliday, delves into policy initiatives and challenges, exploring possibilities for municipal and civic engagement (Chapter 9). The chapter on the circular economy, by Steffen Böhm and other, advocates for regional cooperation and diverse, low-carbon, participatory food systems (Chapter 10). Lastly, Kata Fodor challenges traditional spatial designs in living spaces, particularly kitchens, urging an active re-imagination to accommodate shifts in urban food consumption patterns (Chapter 11).

This collective work offers critical insights into pressing issues within the food system and proposes thought-provoking solutions and avenues for future research.

The diverse perspectives and interdisciplinary approaches contribute to a robust understanding of the complexities of transforming the global food landscape.

While the book advances a comprehensive analysis of critical issues related to food systems approached from a social science perspective, some gaps should be acknowledged. For example, the authors, primarily from developed nations, could delve deeper into the global north's environmental, social, and economic impacts on developing countries. While some chapters touch on these considerations—for instance, Chapter 3 explores the influence of meat consumption linked to political development, and Chapter 4 addresses exploitative practices in the food system—the detailed exploration of resource exploitation from distant regions and its consequences is somewhat limited. Chapters 9 and 10 suggest solutions to mitigate the impact of imported food commodities and transition to a localized food system. However, a more nuanced examination of regional resource exploitation and its implications could enhance the book's insights.

Additionally, within the book's thematic framework emphasizing the role of social sciences in understanding the food system, there needs to be more attention to profound issues related to culture-nature and human-animal dichotomies. For instance, the eco-feminist perspective, drawing parallels between the subjugation of women and the exploitation of nature, is not explicitly covered. While Chapter 11 briefly discusses the spatial arrangement of historic kitchens and power dynamics between genders, a more extensive exploration of such issues would add depth. Chapter 9, advocating for an urban food system, also needs to include the added value of introducing the opportunity to promote biophilia through urban agriculture and emphasize the connection between humanity and the Earth for sustainability.

Furthermore, despite the book's comprehensive coverage of significant food system issues, more research needs to examine the critical concern of food loss and waste, which underlies the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). While briefly acknowledged in Chapter 1, a more in-depth exploration of the issue's moral implications and its ties to surplus production could enhance the book's treatment of this critical topic. A more nuanced understanding within the social sciences context would contribute to a holistic exploration of the issue.

In conclusion, the book unfolds as a compelling exploration of the complexity of the contemporary food system. Opening with presenting to the readers the relevant definitions and components of the food system field, it successfully engages readers of all backgrounds, introducing them to the multifaceted nature of the issue. The initial chapters, constituting the second part, delve into the food system's societal, ethical, and power-related dimensions. Topics ranging from power structures and economic drivers to exploitation and ecological impacts are thoroughly examined, providing a comprehensive understanding. The book's second part presents solutions and actionable directions for cultivating a sustainable food system. From diverse perspectives to political tools and management strategies, the chapters offer a holistic array of feasible solutions and avenues for further research and applied action. The

overall analysis presented in the book prompts readers to rethink familiar issues through a novel, thought-provoking lens. The book stimulates critical reflection by examining the complexities of the food system and its profound impact on society and the environment. The ideas presented in the concluding chapters paint a cautiously optimistic picture of a future where a sustainable food system benefits various stakeholders. This vision serves as a motivating force, encouraging readers to delve deeper into the proposed concepts and actively contribute to realizing a sustainable food system.

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