

TALKING ABOUT PEOPLE

Readings in Contemporary Cultural Anthropology

THIRD EDITION

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Because of the pace of social, economic, and technological change in the world, people are entering a new period of global crisis. Anthropology's holistic, cross-cultural, and evolutionary approaches provide a number of highly sophisticated insights into these processes and their effects for large and small-scale cultures.

2 Fact versus Fiction: An Ethnographic Paradox Set in the Seychelles 15

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The task of understanding a culture other than one's own is fraught with difficulty; not only are there all sorts of unexpected things to be discovered, but the anthropologist may also be fed all sorts of misinformation. The difficulties are compounded as one tries to write up one's material in a way that will be comprehensible to an audience with a different cultural background without doing violence to ethnographic reality.

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Baseball is not simply a game, but also a symbolic way of expressing basic cultural values.

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