mystique implies a plan for the good society." This essay more than any other in the book answers the question why such tyrants as Stalin and Hitler have been able to survive and even obtain support from many of their countrymen.

Much of Inkeles's effort in the 1960s has been devoted to the study of world-wide transformation through his large-scale research on six nations. As the title of the current book suggests, he has also been extremely interested in analyzing the changes in the Soviet Union. The opening section, entitled "Change and Continuity in Soviet Development," and the closing section, called "Comparative Perspectives on the Future," reflect this concern. The most significant of all these essays is the concluding selection, "Models and Issues in the Analysis of Soviet Society," originally a speech delivered before a select group of experts on Soviet society. Inkeles is forthright in admitting that the model of totalitarian society, to the development of which he himself has contributed so much effort, is no longer entirely applicable in the Soviet case. He suggests that we pay greater attention to other models, particularly to the developmental and industrial society models.

In his preface Inkeles feels compelled to explain why so few sociologists study Soviet society. He states that "sociology has lagged behind the contributions made in economics and political science." In the judgment of this reviewer, however, the work of Alex Inkeles alone is sufficient to claim an honorable place for sociology in the field of Soviet studies.

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SOCIAL THOUGHT IN THE SOVIET UNION. Edited, with an Introduction, by *Alex Simirenko*. Chicago: Quadrangle Books, 1969. 439 pp. $14.95.

Since the death of Stalin in 1953 the social sciences and allied disciplines in the Soviet Union have been increasing rapidly in scales of effort, quality of output, and applicatory significance. In particular, law, economics, sociology, and economic geography have played measurable roles, over the past sixteen years, in Soviet sociopolitical evolution. Moreover, while most of the reported research of Soviet social scientists and allied professionals has been conceptually rather pedestrian, Soviet contributions to psychology have been seminal, world-wide.

The Soviets have pioneered in relating behavior intimately to neurophysiology, in developing realistic models of organismic cybernetics, and in using meticulous clinical observations on the behavior of man and of conditioned animals to detect the pathogenic effects of toxins and such forces as noise, vibration, and ionizing and microwave radiation. The Soviet behavioral tests have met with considerable skepticism abroad, but have recently been confirmed. American electroencephalographic studies, aided by refined computer programs to eliminate background effects, have verified Soviet clinical findings on the effects of low levels of ionizing and background radiation directly upon central nervous systems.

These facts make especially welcome the comprehensive, scholarly, well-documented, and generally dispassionate review of developments in social fields undertaken by Professor Simirenko and his collaborators. *Social Thought in the Soviet Union* consists of an introduction and twelve chapters, covering, respectively, social science ideology (William M. Mandel), philosophy (Eugene Kamenka), political science (Bohdan K. Bociurkiw), law (Donald D. Barry), historiography (Arthur P. Mendel), economics (Howard J. Sherman), character education (Urie Bronfenbrenner), psychology (John A. Molino), psychiatry (Isidore Ziferstein),

structural linguistics (William R. Schmalstieg), ethnography (Stephen P. Dunn), and sociology (Alex Simirenko). The essays differ in emphasis, one stressing institutional developments (Barry); another, applications (Sherman); a third, specific investigations (Simirenko).

I could cavil about particulars: for example, Kamenka's definition of statistics as an expression of "the mathematical relationships of large numbers" (p. 101) has long been superseded (via Gödel, Bayes, and others) by understanding of the formalistic nature of mathematical rules and models, and, hence, the primacy of nontestable assumptions in the consideration of any system. Barry seems to me to have overlooked important, albeit aborted, experiments in social control via "comrades' courts"; such experiments may have great relevance in other unstable urban societies. Simirenko does not, I believe, handle with critical care the reliability and validity of the statistics he cites.

I must also make two general criticisms. First, the book really deals far more with the sociology and content of particular professions in the Soviet Union than it does with "social thought." A book on that subject is still needed, but it might well have less representation from the technicians of social science and more from writers, politicians, natural scientists, and others. Second, the various references to the past reveal a very weak control by the authors of work of prerevolutionary social scientists, whose work was often of outstanding quality. An understanding of the contributions of, say, Krasheninnikov, Maack, and Sergeevich, would have brought better balance to the volume.

These criticisms aside, I can recommend *Social Thought in the Soviet Union* most highly. It is a valuable reference work, and should be made available, in a cheaper paperback edition, to every class in either comparative social science or in Soviet area studies. Finally, the comparison of this investigation with the survey of the behavioral sciences in the United States recently completed by the National Academy of Sciences should add to the value of both.

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SOVIET SOCIOLOGY: HISTORICAL ANTECEDENTS AND CURRENT APPRAISALS. Edited, with an Introduction, by *Alex Simirenko*. Chicago: Quadrangle Books, 1966. 384 pp. $7.95.

The aim of sociology is to produce accurate, relevant information about society's social patterns and problems. Modern societies stand to profit in the long run from a continuing supply of such information, but it is usually viewed and interpreted by political leaders and interest groups in terms of their own cherished interests, values, and ideologies. Thus sociology is inherently threatening to conservative forces in the established order, and the emergence of sociology to a position of precarious acceptance and perhaps even some prestige is of considerable interest wherever it takes place. Such is one consideration the reader of *Soviet Sociology* may have in mind as he approaches this book. Another's concern might be more circumscribed and technical in nature. The Western sociologist might be interested in becoming acquainted with the specific problems, theories, research methods, and findings that the work of his Soviet colleagues would reveal. Or he might want to see whether the image of Soviet society given by sociologists corresponds with other versions of it, say those found in party handbooks, in the novels and short