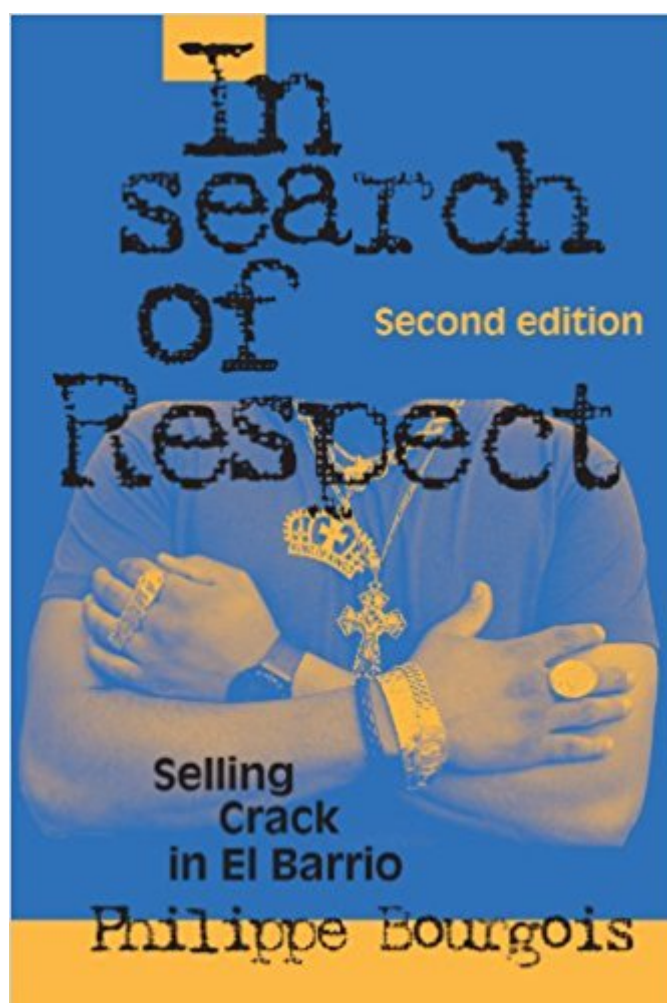


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# In Search Of Respect: Selling Crack In El Barrio (Structural Analysis In The Social Sciences)



## Synopsis

Philippe Bourgois's ethnographic study of social marginalization in inner-city America, won critical acclaim when it was first published in 1995. For the first time, an anthropologist had managed to gain the trust and long-term friendship of street-level drug dealers in one of the roughest ghetto neighborhoods--East Harlem. This new edition adds a prologue describing the major dynamics that have altered life on the streets of East Harlem in the seven years since the first edition. In a new epilogue Bourgois brings up to date the stories of the people--Primo, Caesat, Luis, Tony, Candy--who readers come to know in this remarkable window onto the world of the inner city drug trade. Philippe Bourgois is Professor and Chair of the Department of Anthropology, History and Social Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco. He has conducted fieldwork in Central America on ethnicity and social unrest and is the author of *Ethnicity at Work: Divided Labor on a Central American Banana Plantation* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 1989). He is writing a book on homeless heroin addicts in San Francisco. 1/e hb ISBN (1996) 0-521-43518-8 1/e pb ISBN (1996) 0-521-57460-9

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## Customer Reviews

"Some of the best ethnographic research being conducted today concerns the use of crack cocaine in different inner- and outer-cities. Anthropologist Philippe Bourgois spent several years studying the crack trade in his East Harlem community...He was able to gain entry to a world of economic,

gender, age, and ethnic relationships that are closed to representatives of official society." ICCA Journal"offers one of the most closely observed accounts we are likely to get of the urban crack scene...it provides a fascinating account of the obstacles crack sellers face as they seek to earn a living." New York Review of Books"Now In Search of Respect: Selling Crack in El Barrio, by Philippe Bourgois, brings the lives of these crack dealers into brilliant focus. Bourgois' raw and poignant book delivers a message about the economics of exclusion that should shake public perceptions of the inner-city drug trade....Bourgois offers us truly culturally privileged information...for anyone interested in the brutal truth about drug dealing in our inner cities, In Search of Respect is the place to look." Washington Post Book World"...[a] masterful study of the drug trade in upper Manhattan....[a] fascinating book....Bourgois' wealth of detail adds greatly to his picture of the internal logic of ghetto life....Bourgois' portraits are so carefully executed, so unflinching, that it's impossible to walk away from this book without a profoundly different perspective on the inner city." London Review of Books

This classic, ethnographic study of social marginalization in inner-city America, won acclaim after it was first published in 1995 and in 1997 was awarded the Margaret Mead Award. This new edition adds a prologue describing the major dynamics in America in the 1990s that have altered life on the streets of East Harlem. A new epilogue brings up to date the stories of the people Primo, Caesar, Luis, Tony, Candy who readers come to know in this remarkable window onto the world of the inner city drug trade.

a good book about cultures

Fantastic work showcasing qualitative research. Very interesting. Great for reviewing research ethics.

Almost perfect condition! I was satisfied!

So I bought this book for my Anthropology 201 class with Dr. Louie (MSU, anyone?) and thought that it would be one of those books that I barely read in class and then toss away. But even after the class was over I read it over and over again and used it for research papers in other classes. Bourgois did an excellent job living amongst and observing the every-day lives of the residents in El Barrio. He used emic and etic analysis to deepen the reader's understanding of exactly what goes

on, and he took it even further by applying his findings to relevant solutions (ones that would actually work) for the problems he encountered. It's a good read for academics and non-academics alike.

I read this in conjunction with "Sidewalk" by Mitch Duneier to compare and contrast works about lives of marginalized people within New York City. This book is really well done in that it gives the reader a sense of life in East Harlem in the 80s and 90s. I wish, though, that Bourgois would have gone more in depth regarding some of the policies related to the times. For example, having worked in that area, I have seen the remnants of urban planning- project buildings amass the area for blocks on end- but he doesn't really delve into how that shapes the neighborhood; he only slightly goes into this. Aside from that, it's a great read on the relationship between drug dealing, the neighborhood, and those who live there.

I first learned about Philippe Bourgois when I took an online anthropology course a year ago. The first book I purchased by Bourgois was "Righteous Dopefiend", which is a photo ethnography of the homeless population in San Francisco during the 1990's. However, "In Search of Respect" was written and published before that period. "In Search of Respect" is easier to comprehend than "Righteous Dopefiend". For anyone interested in learning about segregation and the hardships endured by Puerto Rican immigrants in New York City during the 1980's and early 1990's, this is a spectacular book that is bound to enlighten you.

Although I purchased this book for one of my classes, it was a book that I actually enjoyed and wanted to read. The material is very raw and the writer writes in an informative yet easy way. Highly recommended.

A great book. However I payed twice and received it twice, maybe by double-clicking accidentally. Instead of demanding an exchange I will keep the double copy to give a present.

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