



The Corrosion of Character: The Personal Consequences of Work in the New Capitalism

By Richard Sennett

Download now

Read Online 

The Corrosion of Character: The Personal Consequences of Work in the New Capitalism By Richard Sennett

A *Business Week* Best Book of the Year.... "A devastating and wholly necessary book."?Studs Terkel, author of *Working*

In *The Corrosion of Character*, Richard Sennett, "among the country's most distinguished thinkers . . . has concentrated into 176 pages a profoundly affecting argument" (*Business Week*) that draws on interviews with dismissed IBM executives, bakers, a bartender turned advertising executive, and many others to call into question the terms of our new economy. In his 1972 classic, *The Hidden Injuries of Class* (written with Jonathan Cobb), Sennett interviewed a man he called Enrico, a hardworking janitor whose life was structured by a union pay schedule and given meaning by his sacrifices for the future. In this new book—a #1 bestseller in Germany—Sennett explores the contemporary scene characterized by Enrico's son, Rico, whose life is more materially successful, yet whose work lacks long-term commitments or loyalties. Distinguished by Sennett's "combination of broad historical and literary learning and a reporter's willingness to walk into a store or factory [and] strike up a conversation" (*New York Times Book Review*), this book "challenges the reader to decide whether the flexibility of modern capitalism . . . is merely a fresh form of oppression" (*Publishers Weekly*, starred review). Praise for *The Corrosion of Character*: "A benchmark for our time."?Daniel Bell "[A]n incredibly insightful book."?William Julius Wilson "[A] remarkable synthesis of acute empirical observation and serious moral reflection."?Richard Rorty "[Sennett] offers abundant fresh insights . . . illuminated by his concern with people's struggle to give meaning to their lives."?[Memphis] *Commercial Appeal*

 [Download The Corrosion of Character: The Personal Consequen ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Corrosion of Character: The Personal Consequ ...pdf](#)

The Corrosion of Character: The Personal Consequences of Work in the New Capitalism

By Richard Sennett

The Corrosion of Character: The Personal Consequences of Work in the New Capitalism By Richard Sennett

A *Business Week* Best Book of the Year.... "A devastating and wholly necessary book."?Studs Terkel, author of *Working*

In *The Corrosion of Character*, Richard Sennett, "among the country's most distinguished thinkers . . . has concentrated into 176 pages a profoundly affecting argument" (*Business Week*) that draws on interviews with dismissed IBM executives, bakers, a bartender turned advertising executive, and many others to call into question the terms of our new economy. In his 1972 classic, *The Hidden Injuries of Class* (written with Jonathan Cobb), Sennett interviewed a man he called Enrico, a hardworking janitor whose life was structured by a union pay schedule and given meaning by his sacrifices for the future. In this new book—a #1 bestseller in Germany—Sennett explores the contemporary scene characterized by Enrico's son, Rico, whose life is more materially successful, yet whose work lacks long-term commitments or loyalties. Distinguished by Sennett's "combination of broad historical and literary learning and a reporter's willingness to walk into a store or factory [and] strike up a conversation" (*New York Times Book Review*), this book "challenges the reader to decide whether the flexibility of modern capitalism . . . is merely a fresh form of oppression" (*Publishers Weekly*, starred review). Praise for *The Corrosion of Character*: "A benchmark for our time."?Daniel Bell "[A]n incredibly insightful book."?William Julius Wilson "[A] remarkable synthesis of acute empirical observation and serious moral reflection."?Richard Rorty "[Sennett] offers abundant fresh insights . . . illuminated by his concern with people's struggle to give meaning to their lives."?[Memphis] *Commercial Appeal*

The Corrosion of Character: The Personal Consequences of Work in the New Capitalism By Richard Sennett Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #317374 in Books
- Brand: imusti
- Published on: 2000-01-17
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.30" h x .50" w x 5.50" l, .33 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 176 pages

 [Download The Corrosion of Character: The Personal Consequen ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Corrosion of Character: The Personal Consequ ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online *The Corrosion of Character: The Personal Consequences of Work in the New Capitalism* By Richard Sennett

Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

In the brave new world of the "flexible" corporation, Richard Sennett observes, workers at all levels are regarded as wholly disposable, and they have responded in kind, ceasing to think in terms of any long-term relationship with the organizations they work for. This, he argues, has tremendous negative consequences for workers' emotional and psychological well-being. Even in menial jobs, we extract much of our self-image from the idea of a "career"--a life narrative rendered intelligible by specific loyalties, which is to some degree self-invented but also in some respects predictable. Innovations like "flextime" and bureaucratic "de-layering" seem to promise more freedom to define one's career, but in fact they create jobs in which there's less freedom than ever to be had. *The Corrosion of Character* is a short, anecdotal book, and while one might wish that it included a discussion of the social and psychological costs of the sheer increase of work time in the average worker's week, Sennett has created a pithy, disturbing picture of the cost of the corporate world's much-vaunted new efficiencies. --Richard Farr

From Publishers Weekly

The American company today ostensibly offers a more humane environment than in the era of "Fordism," when work on the assembly line had a deadening, routine character. However, Sennett, professor of sociology at New York University and the London School of Economics, believes this improvement is illusory. His argument is that the modern workplace with its emphasis on short-term, episodic labor; projects and flexibility does not allow people to shape their experiences or build a coherent narrative of their lives. Most important, the new adaptability in business militates against the formation of character. Character depends on stability for virtues such as loyalty, trust, commitment and mutual helpfulness to develop. And rather than giving workers greater freedom, the flexibility model allows another kind of power to be imposed from the top: from 1980 to 1995, between 13 million and 39 million workers became unemployed owing to downsizing. Even flextime contributes to the fragmentation and disorder, and teamwork only emphasizes "mutual responsiveness rather than personal validation." Sennett makes his case in well-crafted prose with references not just to luminaries such as Adam Smith, Diderot, Nietzsche and Rousseau, but to the immediate experiences of blue-collar workers and folks in bakery shops and bars. He challenges the reader to decide whether the flexibility of modern capitalism offers a better context for personal growth or is merely a fresh form of oppression.

Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Library Journal

From a writer with great credentials (New York University and the London School of Economics).

Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Frances Hairston:

As people who live in the modest era should be revise about what going on or information even knowledge to make these keep up with the era which is always change and make progress. Some of you maybe will certainly update themselves by reading through books. It is a good choice for yourself but the problems

coming to you actually is you don't know what one you should start with. This *The Corrosion of Character: The Personal Consequences of Work in the New Capitalism* is our recommendation to cause you to keep up with the world. Why, since this book serves what you want and need in this era.

Orville Norman:

This book untitled *The Corrosion of Character: The Personal Consequences of Work in the New Capitalism* to be one of several books that best seller in this year, honestly, that is because when you read this reserve you can get a lot of benefit onto it. You will easily to buy this book in the book shop or you can order it by way of online. The publisher on this book sells the e-book too. It makes you easier to read this book, since you can read this book in your Smart phone. So there is no reason to you to past this reserve from your list.

Tom Carter:

This *The Corrosion of Character: The Personal Consequences of Work in the New Capitalism* is completely new way for you who has intense curiosity to look for some information mainly because it relief your hunger of information. Getting deeper you in it getting knowledge more you know or perhaps you who still having little digest in reading this *The Corrosion of Character: The Personal Consequences of Work in the New Capitalism* can be the light food in your case because the information inside this kind of book is easy to get through anyone. These books develop itself in the form which is reachable by anyone, that's why I mean in the e-book web form. People who think that in e-book form make them feel tired even dizzy this reserve is the answer. So there is no in reading a reserve especially this one. You can find what you are looking for. It should be here for anyone. So , don't miss the idea! Just read this e-book kind for your better life as well as knowledge.

Jonathan Bean:

You will get this *The Corrosion of Character: The Personal Consequences of Work in the New Capitalism* by go to the bookstore or Mall. Just simply viewing or reviewing it could to be your solve difficulty if you get difficulties for the knowledge. Kinds of this reserve are various. Not only by simply written or printed but in addition can you enjoy this book by means of e-book. In the modern era just like now, you just looking from your mobile phone and searching what their problem. Right now, choose your own personal ways to get more information about your publication. It is most important to arrange yourself to make your knowledge are still revise. Let's try to choose appropriate ways for you.

Download and Read Online *The Corrosion of Character: The Personal Consequences of Work in the New Capitalism* By Richard Sennett #K6AVFW31LME

Read The Corrosion of Character: The Personal Consequences of Work in the New Capitalism By Richard Sennett for online ebook

The Corrosion of Character: The Personal Consequences of Work in the New Capitalism By Richard Sennett Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Corrosion of Character: The Personal Consequences of Work in the New Capitalism By Richard Sennett books to read online.

Online The Corrosion of Character: The Personal Consequences of Work in the New Capitalism By Richard Sennett ebook PDF download

The Corrosion of Character: The Personal Consequences of Work in the New Capitalism By Richard Sennett Doc

The Corrosion of Character: The Personal Consequences of Work in the New Capitalism By Richard Sennett Mobipocket

The Corrosion of Character: The Personal Consequences of Work in the New Capitalism By Richard Sennett EPub