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Can We Live Together Equality and Difference

By Alain Touraine

Stanford University Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 336 pages. Dimensions: 9.0in. x 6.0in. x 1.1in. In this book, a leading French social thinker grapples with the gap between the tendency toward globalization of economic relations and mass culture and the increasingly sectarian nature of our social identities as members of ethnic, religious, or national groups. Though at first glance, it might seem as if the answer to the question Can we live together is that we already do live together watching the same television programs, buying the same clothes, and even using the same language to communicate from one country to another the author argues that in important ways, we are farther than ever from belonging to the same society or the same culture. Our small societies are not gradually merging into one vast global society; instead, the simultaneously political, territorial, and cultural entities that we once called societies or countries are breaking up before our eyes in the wake of ethnic, political, and religious conflict. The result is that we live together only to the extent that we make the same gestures and use the same objects we do not communicate with one another in a meaningful way or govern ourselves together....



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