



## Famous Sociology Majors

### "YOU MAJORED IN WHAT?!!"

Though your parents may not believe it, there are thousands of accomplished people with BA, MA, and PhD degrees in sociology, who are not necessarily Sociologists with a capital "S." Below is a list of just a few, found by Peter Dreier, Occidental College, for his commencement address to the 2001 department of sociology graduating class of the University of Oregon.

#### **Politics:**

Wellington Webb, mayor of Denver  
Brett Schundler, mayor of Jersey City  
Annette Strauss, former mayor of Dallas  
Rev. Martin Luther King  
Roy Wilkins, former head of NAACP  
Rev. Jesse Jackson  
Rev. Ralph Abernathy  
Shirley Chisholm, former Congresswoman from NY  
Maxine Waters, Congresswoman from LA  
Barbara Mikulski, US Senator from Maryland  
Tim Holden, Congressman from Pennsylvania  
Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, Archbishop of Washington, DC  
Saul Alinsky, father of community organizing  
Ronald Reagan (double major in sociology and economics)  
Emily Balch, 1946 Nobel Peace Prize winner (a social worker and social reformer)  
Francis Perkins, social reformer and former Secretary of Labor  
Richard Barajas, Chief Justice, Texas Supreme Court  
Michelle Obama, wife of Barack Obama

#### **Arts:**

Saul Bellow, novelist  
Regis Philbin TV host  
Dan Aykroyd, actor/Blues Brother  
Robin Williams, actor/comedian  
Paul Shaffer, bandleader on *David Letterman Show* (and before that, *Saturday Night Live*)  
Dinah Shore, singer  
Ruth Westheimer, the "sex doctor"  
Kalpen Suresh Modi, White House Liaison for Arts and Humanities

#### **Sports:**

Alonzo Mourning, Miami Heat  
Bryant Stith, Boston Celtics  
Brian Jordan, Atlanta Braves  
Joe Theisman, NFL quarterback  
Eric Bjornson, Dallas Cowboys  
Bobby Taylor, Eagles cornerback  
Ahmad Rashad, Sportscaster