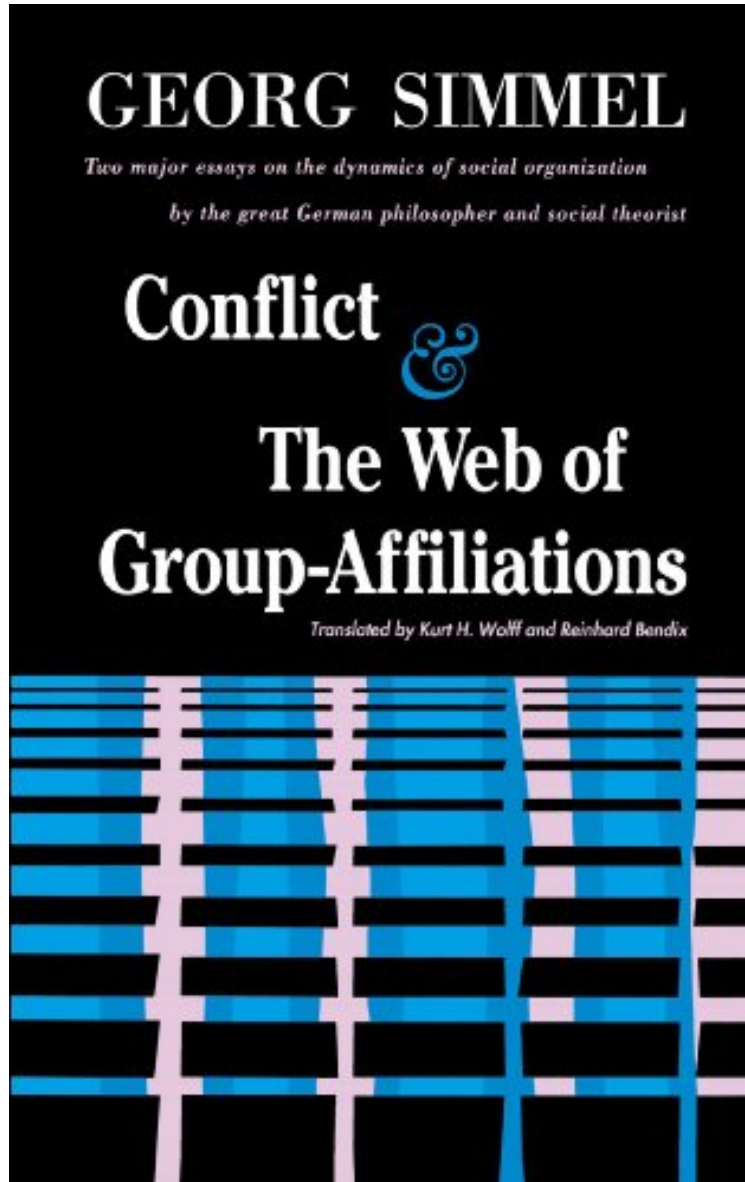


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## Conflict And The Web Of Group Affiliations

*George Simmel*

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**George Simmel : Conflict And The Web Of Group Affiliations** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Conflict And The Web Of Group Affiliations:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A fascinating mind  
By Lenore Schloming  
The author of this book, Georg Simmel, is fascinating. At least to me he is. It sometimes takes awhile to get what he's saying but when you get it, it's so worth it. Neat ideas. Fascinating ideas. I wrote a dissertation that was influenced greatly by Simmel  
1 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A Formalist Gamesman  
By arkady r.  
The book leaves very few traces in

memory. To say it's not memorable would be false, but it does lack in clear shape, an overarching story where the pieces fit in. It lacks in what people call organization. There are several gems of insight scattered throughout the very many small essays that the book is composed of. However if you are looking for a flowing narrative - with a beginning, middle and end - that first introduces ideas, and then systematically builds on them, this book will fail you. The small essays are self contained and it's almost impossible to tease out a comprehensive system or theory, a network of ideas. As a result none of the gem-like insights is fully developed. What's most annoying is the abstract formalist approach of the author, by which he presents, not fully fleshed ideas, but shapes of ideas. He will have several concrete cases in mind but will only rarely tell you what they are. Instead he will tell you what they have in common, in general - their "Form". Nowhere does he actually explain what he means by "form", a word he uses quite often in different contexts. The same goes for the word "Object" and "objective". It helps to be generally familiar with the Kantian distinction between object and subject, which Simmel takes for granted. He hails from a place and time where Kant was their everything, the mother of intellectual labor. One leaves with the feeling that Simmel wanted us to learn from his book not the substantive theories but the general formalist approach: going to concrete cases and sucking out their life, their abstract form, playing around with it to one's satisfaction, then going to something else. In fact what he seems to be doing all the time is playing around with abstractions from facts. A certain elitist but childlike narcissism seeps through. 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By TanyaA must read.

Two major essays on the dynamics of social organization by the great German philosopher and social theorist Georg Simmel.