

# The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life

*The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life*

<b>Authors</b>	<a href="#">Erving Goffman</a>
<b>Country</b>	Scotland
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Subjects</b>	<a href="#">Social anthropology</a> <a href="#">Sociology</a> <a href="#">Social psychology</a>
<b>Publisher</b>	<a href="#">Doubleday</a>
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<b>Media type</b>	Print ( <a href="#">hardcover</a> and <a href="#">paperback</a> )
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*The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life* is a 1956 [sociological](#) book by [Erving Goffman](#). In the book, he uses [imagery](#) of [theatre](#) to show the importance of [human social interaction](#). This became known as Goffman's [dramaturgical analysis](#). It was first published in Scotland in 1956, and the United States in 1959.<sup>[1]</sup> It was Goffman's first book,<sup>[2]</sup> and won him the [American Sociological Association](#)'s MacIver award in 1961.<sup>[3]</sup> In 1998, the [International Sociological Association](#) listed the work as the tenth most important sociological book of the [20th century](#).<sup>[4]</sup>

*The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life* was the first sociological book to study [face-to-face interaction](#). Goffman uses examples from [theatrical performances](#) and shows how they are like everyday [conversations](#).<sup>[5]</sup> He believed that people would try to change what others thought of them whenever they spoke to somebody else. At the same time, the other person does the same.<sup>[6]</sup> Another thing that is in the book many times is the idea that making sure everyone in a room has the same [definition of the situation](#) is important for interactions.<sup>[7]</sup>

## References

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1. <sup>↑</sup> Macionis, John J., and Linda M. Gerber. 2010. *Sociology* (7th Canadian ed.). Pearson Canada Inc. p. 11.

2. <sup>↑</sup> Wagner, Helmut R. (1983). *Phenomenology of Consciousness and Sociology of the Life-world: An Introductory Study* . Edmonton: The University of Alberta Press. p. 217. ISBN 0-88864-032-3.
3. <sup>↑</sup> Trevi-O, A. Javier (2003). *Goffman's Legacy*. Rowman & Littlefield. ISBN 9780742519787.
4. <sup>↑</sup> "Books of the Century". International Sociological Association. 1998. Archived from [the original](#) on 2014-03-15. Retrieved 2012-07-25.
5. <sup>↑</sup> Smith, Greg (2006). *Erving Goffman* ([Online-Ausg.] ed.). Hoboken: Routledge. pp. 33, 34. ISBN 978-0-203-00234-6.
6. <sup>↑</sup> Trevino, James. 2003. *Goffman's Legacy*. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers. p. 35.
7. <sup>↑</sup> Goffman, Erving (1959). *The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life*.

## Other websites

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- *The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life* at [Open Library](#)
- [Works by Erving Goffman](#) at [Open Library](#)

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