Class Stratification presents a new approach to the sociological study of stratification by anchoring it in individual behaviour. The authors argue that class position is a centrally important factor in determining the opportunities open to people and the constraints that they face in their everyday lives. The essence of class stratification is thus the unequal location of people and families within a structure of social power. The book draws on data from Eastern and Central Europe, as well as the United States and Western Europe to show why class continues to be a centrally important concept in understanding contemporary societies. Class stratification is a form of social stratification in which a society is separated into parties whose members have different access to resources and power. An economic, natural, cultural, religious, interests and ideal rift usually exists between different classes. In the early stages of class stratification, the majority of members in a given society have similar access to wealth and power, with only a few members displaying noticeably more or less wealth than the rest. Class Stratification : Comparative Perspectives, by David B. Rottman and Richard Breen. No Customer Reviews. An introductory account of the concept of class stratification, of contemporary approaches to the study of class, and of current debates about its role in the study of society. Definitions and an analysis of different theoretical approaches to class are accompanied by empirical material which compares the class structures of a range of countries and examines social mobility in cross-national perspective.