

Robert K Merton Social Theory And Social Structure

Social Theory and Social Structure EBOOK: Situating Social Theory Social Theory Today Contemporary Social and Sociological Theory Introducing Social Theory Understanding Social Theory The Structure of Social Theory Social theory for beginners Social Theory for Social Work Social Theory in the Twentieth Century and Beyond A Treatise on Social Theory: The methodology of social theory Social Mechanisms Social Learning Theory and the Explanation of Crime Modern Social Theory A Theory of Social Interests Contemporary Social Psychological Theories Social Theory Social Theory and Social Practice The Elements of Social Theory Social Theory, Social Change and Social Work Robert King Merton Tim May Anthony Giddens Kenneth Allan Pip Jones Derek Layder Terry Johnson Paul Ransome Christopher Thorpe Patrick Baert Walter Garrison Runciman Peter Hedström Ronald L. Akers Austin Harrington Roscoe Pound Peter James Burke Mark Murphy Hans Lennart Zetterberg Barry Barnes Nigel Parton

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this new printing is not a newly revised edition only an enlarged one the revised edition of 1957 remains intact except that its short introduction has been greatly expanded to appear here as chapters i and ii the only other changes are technical and minor ones the correction of typographical errors and amended indexes of subjects and names

a very substantial and reliable introduction to social theory imaginatively written and extremely readable the new edition contains three valuable additional chapters william outhwaite professor of sociology university of sussex uk the long anticipated second edition of this original and approachable text examines social theory in the context of its traditions and historical development and explores its contemporary relevance in explaining society and understanding social relations the text has been substantially revised and includes three new chapters two of which depict theory in action and a new conclusion may and powell have also added new material on both emotion and globalisation situating social theory begins by charting the history of social theory examining its development in terms of the enlightenment project and the cultural and intellectual contexts in which theorists worked and constructed their ideas it goes on to critically examine traditions in social thought including

hermeneutics phenomenology pragmatism critical theory structuralism actor network theory systems theory and feminisms in outlining the main ideas behind these traditions the form and content of modern social theory is situated within its historical roots enabling the reader to actively explore the arguments and reflect upon their strengths and weaknesses throughout the book the relationships between agency the social self and social structure provide a thematic coherence there is a comprehensive bibliography that will help the reader to explore theories of particular interest in greater depth situating social theory is an invaluable text for intermediate undergraduate courses within sociology and the wider social sciences and provides an essential source of reference for advanced undergraduates and postgraduate researchers

social theory has undergone dramatic changes over the past fifteen years the aim of this book is to provide a comprehensive survey of those changes and an authoritative statement on current trends of development in social thought the contents of the book range in a systematic way across the major traditions of social theory prominent today among the topics covered are the relationships between modern social theory and the classics of the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries the connections between social theory and mathematical social science and the logical status of generalizations in the social sciences traditions of thought discussed include behaviourism symbolic interactionism parsonian theory analytical theory structuralism and post structuralism ethnomethodology structuration theory world systems theory marxism and critical theory

an upper division undergraduate social theory textbook that introduces the student to the multitude of different theorists this book helps students grasp theories and their relevance and application to modern life

this revised edition of pip jones s extremely popular introduction to social theory now benefiting from the collaboration of shaun le boutillier and liz bradbury has been carefully and thoroughly updated with the latest developments in this continually changing field written in a refreshingly lucid and engaging style introducing social theory provides readers with a wide ranging well organized and thematic introduction to all the major thinkers issues and debates in classical and contemporary social theory introducing social theory traces the development of social theorizing from the classical ideas about modernity of durkheim marx and weber right up to a uniquely accessible review of contemporary theoretical controversies in sociology surrounding post modernity and reflexive sociology with great clarity the authors explain the ideas of seminal thinkers such as foucault bauman habermas beck bourdieu and giddens as well as paying increased attention to other important contributions from theorists such as margaret archer fredric jameson and george ritzer introducing social theory is the ideal textbook for students at all levels taking courses in sociology from a level students to undergraduates who are looking to engage with social theory remarkably easy to follow and understand the new edition lives up to its predecessor s goal that students need never be intimidated by social theory again

throughout the book layder stresses the links between theory empirical research and everyday life he also highlights the continuities between the concerns of classical and modern social theory as well as emphasising the connections between different theories as a basis for establishing dialogue between them this major new introduction to contemporary social theory will be an essential text for students in sociology social psychology social theory and organisation studies

treating social theory as an exciting intellectual journey in its own right this new introductory level textbook presents the key ideas and concepts in social theory together with an account of the intellectual background from which they emerged aimed at first year undergraduates studying sociology and all related disciplines in the social sciences and humanities it provides an introduction to the major questions and debates facing social theorists and sociologists clearly designed presentation and layout features help readers navigate their way around the material thus giving them the best chance of finding what they need quickly and easily the book is supported by a companion website containing additional materials for both students and lecturers using the book which is available from the link above

trying to understand how the world looks through the eyes of individuals and groups and how it shapes the ways they think and act is something social workers do all the time it is what social theorists do too this book identifies and explains in a highly accessible manner the absolute value of social theory for social work drawing on the theoretical ideas and perspectives of a wide range of classical and modern social theorists the book demonstrates the insights their work can bring to bear on a wide range of social work practice scenarios issues and debates departing with the work of the classical theorists the book covers a diverse range of theoretical traditions including phenomenology symbolic interactionism norbert elias michel foucault pierre bourdieu feminism and globalization theory putting to work ideas from these different perspectives a range of social work scenarios issues and debates are opened up and explored the final chapter brings together the various theoretical strands and critically considers the contribution they can make towards realizing core social work values in a rapidly globalizing world demonstrating exactly how and in what ways social theory can make important and enduring contributions to social work social theory for social work is essential reading for social work students practitioners and professionals alike

this second edition of patrick baert s widely acclaimed social theory in the twentieth century has been brought right up to date with cutting edge developments in social theory today it offers an easy to read but provocative account of the development of social theory covering a range of key figures and classic schools of thought the authors also bridge the gap between philosophy and social theory locating the theoretical views of individuals such as giddens foucault and habermas within wider historical traditions

the advancement of social theory requires an analytical approach that systematically seeks to explicate the social mechanisms that generate and explain observed associations between events these essays written by prominent social scientists advance criticisms of current trends in social theory and suggest alternative approaches the mechanism approach calls attention to an intermediary level of analysis in between pure description and story telling on the one hand and grand theorizing and universal social laws on the other for social theory to be of use for the working social scientist it must attain a high level of precision and provide a toolbox from which middle range theories can be constructed

social learning theory has been called the dominant theory of crime and delinquency in the united states yet it is often misrepresented this latest volume in the distinguished advances in criminological theory series explores the impact of this theory some equate it with differential association theory others depict it as little more than a micro level appendage to cultural deviance theories there have been earlier attempts to clarify the theory s unique features in comparison to other

theories and others have applied it to broader issues these efforts are extended in this volume which focuses on developing applying and testing the theory on a variety of criminal and delinquent behavior it applies the theory to treatment and prevention moving social learning into a global context for the twenty first century this comprehensive volume includes the latest work tests and theoretical advances in social learning theory and will be particularly helpful to criminologists sociologists and psychologists it may also be of interest to those concerned with current issues relating to delinquency drug use abuse and drinking alcohol abuse

this book provides a comprehensive introduction to the core topics theories and debates in modern social theory fourteen chapters have been written by leading specialists in the field providing up to date guidance on the full sweep of the modern sociological imagination from the legacies of the classical figures of marx durkheim weber simmel and parsons to the work of cutting edge contemporary theorists separate chapters discuss functionalism and its critics interpretive and interactionist theory historical social theory western marxism psychoanalytic social theory structuralism and post structuralism structure and agency theory feminist social theory postmodernism and its critics and theories about globalization all chapters are supplied with questions for discussion study boxes guidance on further reading and useful website addresses it is ideal for students of sociology and cultural studies pursuing foundational courses in the history and theory of social analysis and is also accessible for the general reader

this text presents the most important and influential social psychological theories and research programs in contemporary sociology original chapters by the scholars who initiated and developed these theoretical perspectives provide full descriptions of each theory its background development and future the first four chapters cover general approaches organized around fundamental principles and issues symbolic interaction social exchange distributive justice and rational choice the following chapters focus on specific research programs and theories examining identity affect comparison processes power and dependence social exchange status construction and legitimacy a concluding chapter provides an analysis of and commentary on the state of the theoretical programs in sociological social psychology contributors peter j burke joseph berger coye cheshire karen s cook pamela emanuelson alexandra gerbasi karen a hegtvedt michael a hogg guillermina jasso edward j lawler michael w macy george j mccall linda d molm cecilia l ridgeway dawn t robinson lynn smith lovin jan e stets jonathan h turner murray webster jr david willer and morris zelditch jr

this textbook delivers a new thematic introduction to social theory that explores theoretical issues in their contemporary social contexts each chapter is devoted to a specific thematic area including the state governance the economy civil society culture language knowledge the self emotions the body and social justice each chapter details the key issues for debate and the relevant theories while linking those debates and theories to everyday life distributed throughout the chapters are focused sections on key concepts and their research applications alongside helpful additional detail including a glossary further suggested readings chapter summaries and questions for discussion the book also provides useful information on key theoretical movements such as feminism marxism and post structuralism as well as biographies of key theorists as such it reflects the breadth of social theory and its interdisciplinary nature by drawing on thinkers not just from sociology but also from philosophy history literature geography and cultural and gender studies the book s logical structure and clear pedagogical features make it an appealing and accessible introductory text for students new to social theory the chapters demonstrate the

relevance of social theory to everyday life such that readers can understand and actively engage with key concepts mark murphy is reader in education public policy at the school of education university of glasgow uk his published work includes two books on social theory and education

social theory and social practice is a unique effort at applied social theory hans l zetterberg believes that social research has now advanced so far that social scientists can give advice without being restricted to new research projects they can use previously proven theories as the basis for sound practical recommendations this approach has profound implications in the application of social science to problems in business management labor strife government decision making in such areas as education health and human welfare it remains a pioneering discourse for practitioners of social research and social policy zetterberg gives a searching review of the various ways in which social practitioners attempt to use the accumulated knowledge of social science he proceeds with a compact summary of the knowledge of the academicians of social science noting that practitioners are often unaware of much useful academic knowledge the process by which this knowledge is transformed into practical advice is spelled out in detail and is illustrated with examples from an actual consultation about problems faced by an art museum that wanted to increase its audience chapter 1 identifies the problem chapter 2 the knowledge of social practitioners outlines practitioners reliance on scientific knowledge chapter 3 the knowledge of social theorists discusses sociological terms and sociological law chapter 4 the practical use of social theory through scholarly consultants explores the actual specificity of social theory and its uses while the concluding chapter examines the uses of consultants covering some prerequisites for the successful use of applied science the book rejects the widespread view that in order to put social science to use we have to popularize its content zetterberg s approach is rather to translate a client s problem into a powerful theoretical statement the solution to which is calculated and then presented to the client as down to earth advice this volume will be of immediate interest to scholars in the field of social theory to consultants and practitioners who give advice on social problems and policy decisions and to executives who use advice from social scientists hans l zetterberg was the founding director of the city university of stockholm earlier he served as a consulting sociologist in new york city and a professor of sociology at columbia university and then at ohio state university he is the author of on theory and verification in sociology sexual life in sweden and before and beyond the welfare state he has been the subject of a festschrift published by transaction in 1999

over the past quarter century social theory has moved in diverse and often seemingly incompatible directions exaggerating differences of approach that existed even in earlier periods in a strikingly original book barry barnes uses this intellectual diversity not only to identify but also to unify the central ways of looking at the field barnes frames his task by addressing the most important problem confronting all students of society today the apparent conflict between cultural and functional methods of describing the social order on one hand and choice theoretic accounts on the other but rather than reviewing in detail the origins and development of these contending views of reality barnes conducts a dialogue between the two perspectives thereby revealing their respective strengths and shortcomings in the process he develops a case for a theoretical third way an interactionist understanding of the workings of the social order and the emergence of behavioral norms barnes successfully applies interactionist analysis formerly used mostly for micro social settings to macro phenomena like the formation of status groups the origin of social movements the politics of class formation and the dynamics of bureaucratic action he

shows how these phenomena are inexplicable in terms of exclusively cultural functional or choice theoretic methods they can be understood only by showing how norms emerge through interaction barnes has constructed a coherent and learned vision of the fundamentals of social theory that will excite not only sociologists but all social scientists and their students originally published in 1995 the princeton legacy library uses the latest print on demand technology to again make available previously out of print books from the distinguished backlist of princeton university press these editions preserve the original texts of these important books while presenting them in durable paperback and hardcover editions the goal of the princeton legacy library is to vastly increase access to the rich scholarly heritage found in the thousands of books published by princeton university press since its founding in 1905

social theory social change and social work has two inter related themes first to account for and analyse current changes in social work and secondly to assess how far recent developments in social theory can contribute to their interpretation representing the work of a range of academics all involved in research and teaching in relation to social work it considers issues of central significance to everyone interested in the theory policy and practice of social work

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Introduction

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