



Hierarchy of the sciences

Sociology Of Science

Michael Mulkay



Sociology Of Science:

The Sociology of Science Robert K. Merton, 1973 The exploration of the social conditions that facilitate or retard the search for scientific knowledge has been the major theme of Robert K Merton's work for forty years This collection of papers is a fascinating overview of this sustained inquiry There are very few other books in sociology with such meticulous scholarship or so elegant a style This collection of papers is and is likely to remain for a long time one of the most important books in sociology Joseph Ben David New York Times Book Review The novelty of the approach the erudition and elegance and the unusual breadth of vision make this volume one of the most important contributions to sociology in general and to the sociology of science in particular Merton's Sociology of Science is a magisterial summary of the field Yehuda Elkana American Journal of Sociology Merton's work provides a rich feast for any scientist concerned for a genuine understanding of his own professional self And Merton's industry integrity and humility are permanent witnesses to that ethos which he has done so much to define and support J R Ravetz American Scientist The essays not only exhibit a diverse and penetrating analysis and a deal of historical and contemporary examples with concrete numerical data but also make genuinely good reading because of the wit the liveliness and the rich learning with which Merton writes Philip Morrison Scientific American Merton's impact on sociology as a whole has been large and his impact on the sociology of science has been so momentous that the title of the book is apt because Merton's writings represent modern sociology of science more than any other single writer Richard McClintock Contemporary Sociology

The Sociology of Science Robert K. Merton, 1973 **Sociology of Science** Michael Joseph Mulkay, 1991 Traces the social production of scientific knowledge in modern society The author examines selected scientific disciplines and the social structure of a university department *Science and the Sociology of Knowledge (RLE Social Theory)* Michael Mulkay, 2014-08-07 How far is scientific knowledge a product of social life In addressing this question the major contributors to the sociology of knowledge have agreed that the conclusions of science are dependent on social action only in a very special and limited sense In *Science and the Sociology of Knowledge* Michael Mulkay's first aim is to identify the philosophical assumptions which have led to this view of science as special and to present a systematic critique of the standard philosophical account of science showing that there are no valid epistemological grounds for excluding scientific knowledge from the scope of sociological analysis The rest of the book is devoted to developing a preliminary interpretation of the social creation of scientific knowledge The processes of knowledge creation are delineated through a close examination of recent case studies of scientific developments Dr Mulkay argues that knowledge is produced by means of negotiation the outcome of which depends on the participants use of social as well as technical resources The analysis also shows how cultural resources are taken over from the broader social milieu and incorporated into the body of certified knowledge and how in the political context of society at large scientists technical as well as social claims are conditioned and affected by their social position On Social Structure and Science Robert K.

Merton, 1996-09-15 Robert K Merton is unarguably one of the most influential sociologists of his time. A figure whose wide ranging theoretical and methodological contributions have become fundamental to the field, Merton is best known for introducing such concepts and procedures as unanticipated consequences, self fulfilling prophecies, focused group interviews, middle range theory, opportunity structure, and analytic paradigms. This definitive compilation encompasses the breadth and brilliance of his works from the earliest to the most recent. Merton's foundational writings on social structure and process, on the sociology of science and knowledge, and on the discipline and trajectory of sociology itself are all powerfully represented, as are his autobiographical insights, in a fascinating coda. Anchored by Piotr Sztompka's contextualizing introduction, Merton's vast oeuvre emerges as a dynamic and profoundly coherent system of thought, a constant source of vitality and renewal for present and future sociology.

Science and Society Joseph Agassi, 2012-12-06 If a science has to be supported by fraudulent means, let it perish. With these words of Kepler, Agassi plunges into the actual troubles and glories of science. 321 The Sociology of science is no foreign intruder upon scientific knowledge; in these essays, for we see clearly how Agassi transforms the tired internalist/externalist debate about the causal influences in the history of science. The social character of the entire intertwined epistemological and practical natures of the sciences is intrinsic to science, and itself splits the internal sociology within science, the external sociology of the social setting. Without Agassi, we see these social matters in the small as well as the large, from the details of scientific communication, changing publishing, as he thinks to on demand centralism, with less waste. Ch 12 to the colossal tension of romanticism and rationality in the sweep of historical cultures. Agassi is a moral and political philosopher of science, defending, disturbing, comprehending, criticizing. For him, science in a society requires confrontation, again and again, with issues of autonomy vs. legitimation as the central problem of democracy. And furthermore, devotion to science, pace Popper, Polanyi, and Weber, carries preoccupational dangers. Popper's elitist rooting out of pseudo science, Weber's hard working, obsessive commitment to science. See Agassi's Weberian gloss on the social psychology of science in his provocative picture of the scientist as maniac. 437

Science as Practice and Culture Andrew Pickering, 2010-11-15 Science as Practice and Culture explores one of the newest and most controversial developments within the rapidly changing field of science studies: the move toward studying scientific practice, the work of doing science, and the associated move toward studying scientific culture, understood as the field of resources that practice operates in and on. Andrew Pickering has invited leading historians, philosophers, sociologists, and anthropologists of science to prepare original essays for this volume. The essays range over the physical and biological sciences and mathematics and are divided into two parts. In part I, the contributors map out a coherent set of perspectives on scientific practice and culture and relate their analyses to central topics in the philosophy of science, such as realism, relativism, and incommensurability. The essays in part II seek to delineate the study of science as practice in arguments across its borders with the sociology of scientific knowledge, social epistemology, and reflexive ethnography.

Making Sense of Science Steven Yearley, 2005 This volume

demystifies science studies and bridges the divide between social theory and the sociology of science Making Science Stephen Cole, 1992 The sociology of science is dominated today by relativists who boldly argue that the content of science is not influenced by evidence from the empirical world but is instead socially constructed in the laboratory Making Science is the first serious critique by a sociologist of the social constructivist position Stephen Cole begins by making a distinction between two kinds of knowledge the core which consists of those contributions that have passed the test of evaluation and are universally accepted as true and important and the research frontier which is composed of all work in progress that is still under evaluation Of the thousands of scientific contributions made each year only a handful end up in the core What distinguishes those that are successful Agreeing with the constructivists Cole argues that there exists no set of rules that enables scientists to certify the validity of frontier knowledge This knowledge is underdetermined by the evidence and therefore social factors such as professional characteristics and intellectual authority can and do play a crucial role in its evaluation But Cole parts company with the constructivists when he asserts that it is impossible to understand which frontier knowledge wins a place in the core without first considering the cognitive characteristics of the contributions He concludes that although the focus of scientific research the rate of advance and indeed the everyday making of science are influenced by social variables and processes the content of the core of science is constrained by nature In Making Science Cole shows how social variables and cognitive variables interact in the evaluation of frontier knowledge *Science as a Social Institution* Gerard L. DeGré, 1955 **The Sociology of Scientific Work** Dominique Vinck, 2010 More than ever before science and technology play a significant role in modern society as evidenced by the development of nanotechnologies and the controversies surrounding GMOs and climate change This book comprehensively explores the flourishing field of science and technology studies and examines its creation development and interaction with contemporary society Dominique Vinck examines the various relationships between science and society including the emergence of sciences the dynamics of innovation and technical democracy He also investigates the principal social mechanisms of science and technology such as institutions organizations exchanges between researchers and the construction of scientific knowledge expertise and innovation The book provides a thorough overview of the field and reviews the major theoretical and methodological approaches as well as the current state of research on a range of topics This original book will strongly appeal to students and researchers in the social sciences including economics the management of innovation political science and the sociology of science All those interested in the debate on the role of science and technology in society will also find this book to be of great interest *Science as Social Existence* Jeff Kochan, 2017-12-18 In this bold and original study Jeff Kochan constructively combines the sociology of scientific knowledge SSK with Martin Heidegger's early existential conception of science Kochan shows convincingly that these apparently quite different approaches to science are in fact largely compatible even mutually reinforcing By combining Heidegger with SSK Kochan argues we can explicate elaborate and empirically

ground Heidegger's philosophy of science in a way that makes it more accessible and useful for social scientists and historians of science. Likewise incorporating Heideggerian phenomenology into SSK renders SSK a more robust and attractive methodology for use by scholars in the interdisciplinary field of Science and Technology Studies. STS Kochan's ground breaking reinterpretation of Heidegger also enables STS scholars to sustain a principled analytical focus on scientific subjectivity without running afoul of the orthodox subject/object distinction they often reject. *Science as Social Existence* is the first book of its kind unfurling its argument through a range of topics relevant to contemporary STS research. These include the epistemology and metaphysics of scientific practice as well as the methods of explanation appropriate to social scientific and historical studies of science. *Science as Social Existence* puts concentrated emphasis on the compatibility of Heidegger's existential conception of science with the historical sociology of scientific knowledge pursuing this combination at both macro and micro historical levels. Beautifully written and accessible *Science as Social Existence* puts new and powerful tools into the hands of sociologists and historians of science, cultural theorists of science, Heidegger scholars and pluralist philosophers of science.

Robert K. Merton Craig Calhoun, 2010-09-14 Includes bibliographical references, p. and index. *Science As a Social Institution* Gerard L. Degre, 2012-05-01 **The New Political Sociology of Science** Scott Frickel, Kelly Moore, 2015-08-04 In the twenty first century the production and use of scientific knowledge is more regulated, commercialized and participatory than at any other time. The stakes in understanding those changes are high for scientist and nonscientist alike: they challenge traditional ideas of intellectual work and property and have the potential to remake legal and professional boundaries and transform the practice of research. A critical examination of the structures of power and inequality: these changes hinge upon this book. It explores the implications for human health, democratic society and the environment.

Science in Society Massimiano Bucchi, 2004 Without assuming any scientific background, Bucchi provides clear summaries of all the major theoretical positions within the sociology of science using many fascinating examples to illustrate them.

Science in Context Barry Barnes, David O. Edge, 1982 This collection of eighteen readings provides a basic text for undergraduates taking sociology of science courses. A general survey of articles published between 1961 and 1981, the book is also a useful overview for students taking courses in social and political studies of science, science, technology and society, and social issues components of courses in the environmental sciences, geography, philosophy and history of science. The editors have organized the book around the relationship between the subculture of science and the wider culture which surrounds it. Looked at from this perspective, science is primarily a source of knowledge and competence. Thus to stress its interaction with its context not only highlights these aspects of science which most people find of overriding pragmatic interest but also raises important basic issues concerning credibility, the distribution of authority in society and the nature of the interaction between different forms of culture. Essays are grouped in five sections: The Organization of Academic Science, Communication and Control, The Culture of Science, The Interaction of Science and Technology, The

Interaction of Science and Society Science as Expertise The editors have added a general introduction part introductions bibliographical notes and a lengthy bibliography Barry Barnes is Lecturer at the Science Studies Unit University of Edinburgh and editor of an earlier version of this book The Sociology of Science published in the Penguin Sociology Readings series and now out of print David Edge is Director of The Science Studies Unit at the University of Edinburgh and a joint editor of the journal Social Studies of Science *The Sociology of Science* ,1972 **Sociology of Science** Jerry Gaston,1978 **Scientific Knowledge** Barry Barnes,David Bloor,John Henry,1996-01-01 A systematic account of the importance of sociology for the understanding of scientific knowledge Applying sociological analysis to specific historical case studies the work attempts to show how the sociological approach is an essential complement to interpretations of scientific knowledge from other disciplines and a necessary contribution to obtaining a scientific understanding of science This book should be of interest to students in the social sciences and the history and philosophy of science and to academics interested in knowledge epistemology the history of ideas and the new sociology of science

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