Critical Strategies for Social Research

Edited by Canadian sociologist William K. Carroll, this thought-provoking volume is designed for research methods courses in sociology and social sciences. _Critical Strategies for Social Research_ explores ways in which several key research strategies bring an emancipatory dimension to social analysis. The new approaches recognize that social analysis is a form of knowledge production that takes place in a human-constructed world marked by injustice and persistent inequality.

Carroll considers five influential and productive strategies of inquiry:

- Dialectical Social Analysis
- Institutional Ethnography
- Participatory Action Research
- Critical Discourse Analysis
- Social Inquiry as Communicative Reason

Author Information

William K. Carroll
Dr. William K. Carroll is one of Canada's leading sociologists. He is professor of Sociology at the University of Victoria. His main areas of interest are political economy, corporate power structures, social movements, theory and ideology, and Canadian society.

Reviews

"I most like the way this book organizes the field of critical research by presenting five strategies. This framework sets up useful opportunities for comparison of research perspectives. There certainly is a need for a critical reader on research strategies."—Mary-Beth Raddon, Brock University

Table of Contents

Preface
Introduction

"**PART 1: KNOWLEDGE, POWER, AND SOCIAL RESEARCH**"

Part 1A: Rediscovering the Critical Edge in Social Analysis
Chapter 1 Theses on Feuerbach, Karl Marx
Chapter 2 Whose Side Are We On?, Howard S. Becker
Chapter 3 Social Justice and Sociology: Agendas for the Twenty-First Century, Joe R. Feagin

Part 1B: Steps toward Critical Inquiry
Chapter 4 On Intellectual Craftsmanship, C. Wright Mills
Chapter 5 Methods from the Margins, Sandra Kirby and Kate McKenna
Chapter 6 Twenty-Five Indigenous Projects, Linda Tuhiwai Smith
Chapter 7 Toward an Emancipatory Methodology for Peace Research, Abigail Fuller

"**PART 2: FIVE CRITICAL RESEARCH STRATEGIES**"

Part 2A: Making Connections, Unmasking Relations: Dialectical Social Analysis
Chapter 8 Getting Started on Social Analysis in Canada, Jamie Swift, Jacqueline M. Davies, Robert G. Clarke, and Michael S.J. Czerny
Chapter 9 The Principles of Dialectics, David Harvey
Chapter 10 Why Dialectics? Why Now? Or, How to Study the Communist Future inside the Capitalist Present, Bertell Ollman
Chapter 11 Explaining Global Poverty: A Realist Critique of the Orthodox Approach, Branwen Gruffydd Jones

Part 2B: Problematizing the Everyday World: Institutional Ethnography
Chapter 12 Theory “in” Everyday Life, Marie Campbell and Frances Gregor
Chapter 13 Ethnography, Institutions, and the Problematic of the Everyday World, Peter R. Grahame
Chapter 14 Institutional Ethnography: Using Interviews to Investigate Ruling Relations, Marjorie L. DeVault and Liza McCoy
Chapter 15 Institutional Ethnography and Experience as Data, Marie L. Campbell

Part 2C: Subverting Dominant Discourses: Critical Discourse Analysis
Chapter 16 Postmodernism and Deconstructionism, Norman K. Denzin
Chapter 17 Two Lectures: Lecture One: January 7, 1976, Michel Foucault
Chapter 18 Discovering Discourses, Tackling Texts, Ian Parker
Chapter 19 The Critical Analysis of Discourse, Lilie Chouliaraki and Norman Fairclough

Part 2D: Inquiry as Empowerment: Participatory Action Research
Chapter 20 Local Knowledge, Cogenerative Research, andNarrativity, Davydd J. Greenwood and Morten Levin
Chapter 21 Community-Based Participatory Research: Aspects of the Concept Relevant for Practice, Verna St. Denis
Chapter 22 Community Action Research, Marge Reitsma-Street and Leslie Brown
Chapter 23 Power and Knowledge, John Gaventa and Andrea Cornwall

Part 2E: Social Inquiry as Communicative Reason: Toward a Public Sociology
Chapter 24 The Promise, C. Wright Mills
Chapter 25 Exploring the Relevance of Critical Theory for Action Research: Emancipatory Action
Illustrations from Medical Sociology, Graham Scambler
Chapter 27 Emancipatory Politics, Critical Evaluation, and Government Policy, Madine VanderPlaat

Conclusion
Appendix: Workshops to Illustrate Critical Research Strategies in Practice

Related Books
Doing Ethnography
Dorothy Pawluch, William Shaffir, Charlene Miall
Early Modern Social Theory
Murray E. G. Smith
No More Masterpieces
Guy Allen
Research as Resistance
Leslie Brown, Susan Strega
Taking Social Research to the Larger World
Edward Harvey
The Logic and Methodology of Science and Pseudoscience
Fred Wilson