



Central Problems in Social Theory: Action, Structure, and Contradiction in Social Analysis

By Anthony Giddens

Download now

Read Online 

Central Problems in Social Theory: Action, Structure, and Contradiction in Social Analysis By Anthony Giddens

In this new and brilliantly organized book of essays, Anthony Giddens discusses three main theoretical traditions in social science that cut across the division between Marxist and non-Marxist sociology: interpretive sociology, functionalism, and structuralism.

Beginning with a critical examination of the importance of structuralism for contemporary sociology, the author develops a comprehensive account of what he calls "the theory of structuration." One of the main themes is that social theory must recognize, as it has not done hitherto, that all social actors are knowledgeable about the social systems they produce and reproduce in their conduct. In order to grasp the significance of this, he argues, we have to reconsider some of the most basic concepts in sociology.

In particular, Giddens argues, it is essential to recognize the significance of time-space relations in social theory. He rejects the distinction between synchrony and diachrony, or statics and dynamics, involved in both structuralism and functionalism, and offers extensive critical commentary on the latter as an approach to sociology.

The book, which can be described as a "non-functionalist manifesto," breaks with the three main theoretical traditions in the social sciences today while retaining the significant contributions each contains. In so doing Giddens discusses a range of fundamental problem areas in the social sciences: power and domination, conflict and contradiction, and social transformation. He concludes with an overall appraisal of the key problems in social theory today.

 [Download Central Problems in Social Theory: Action, Structu ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Central Problems in Social Theory: Action, Struc ...pdf](#)

Central Problems in Social Theory: Action, Structure, and Contradiction in Social Analysis

By Anthony Giddens

Central Problems in Social Theory: Action, Structure, and Contradiction in Social Analysis By Anthony Giddens

In this new and brilliantly organized book of essays, Anthony Giddens discusses three main theoretical traditions in social science that cut across the division between Marxist and non-Marxist sociology: interpretive sociology, functionalism, and structuralism.

Beginning with a critical examination of the importance of structuralism for contemporary sociology, the author develops a comprehensive account of what he calls "the theory of structuration." One of the main themes is that social theory must recognize, as it has not done hitherto, that all social actors are knowledgeable about the social systems they produce and reproduce in their conduct. In order to grasp the significance of this, he argues, we have to reconsider some of the most basic concepts in sociology.

In particular, Giddens argues, it is essential to recognize the significance of time-space relations in social theory. He rejects the distinction between synchrony and diachrony, or statics and dynamics, involved in both structuralism and functionalism, and offers extensive critical commentary on the latter as an approach to sociology.

The book, which can be described as a "non-functionalist manifesto," breaks with the three main theoretical traditions in the social sciences today while retaining the significant contributions each contains. In so doing Giddens discusses a range of fundamental problem areas in the social sciences: power and domination, conflict and contradiction, and social transformation. He concludes with an overall appraisal of the key problems in social theory today.

Central Problems in Social Theory: Action, Structure, and Contradiction in Social Analysis By Anthony Giddens **Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #1036091 in Books
- Published on: 1979-11-29
- Released on: 1979-11-29
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.19" h x .77" w x 5.43" l, .74 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 294 pages

 [Download Central Problems in Social Theory: Action, Structu ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Central Problems in Social Theory: Action, Struc ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Central Problems in Social Theory: Action, Structure, and Contradiction in Social Analysis By Anthony Giddens

Editorial Review

From the Inside Flap

"One of the most creative among the younger generation of critical social theorists, Giddens stands alone in his concern for the classical tradition on sociology; but he also makes brilliant use of the latest philosophical and theoretical work of several contemporary schools and disciplines. A very important book for all of social science."—Jeffrey C. Alexander

From the Back Cover

In this new and brilliantly original book of essays, Anthony Giddens discusses three main theoretical traditions in social science that cut across the division between Marxist and non-Marxist sociology: interpretive sociology, functionalism, and structuralism.

About the Author

Anthony Giddens is a Fellow of King's College and Lecturer in Sociology at the University of Cambridge. He is the author of numerous books on social theory.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Monica Ceja:

The book Central Problems in Social Theory: Action, Structure, and Contradiction in Social Analysis make one feel enjoy for your spare time. You may use to make your capable considerably more increase. Book can to be your best friend when you getting pressure or having big problem using your subject. If you can make examining a book Central Problems in Social Theory: Action, Structure, and Contradiction in Social Analysis being your habit, you can get far more advantages, like add your capable, increase your knowledge about several or all subjects. You may know everything if you like start and read a e-book Central Problems in Social Theory: Action, Structure, and Contradiction in Social Analysis. Kinds of book are several. It means that, science publication or encyclopedia or other individuals. So , how do you think about this publication?

Deborah Beaudry:

As people who live in the modest era should be revise about what going on or info even knowledge to make these people keep up with the era and that is always change and progress. Some of you maybe will probably update themselves by reading books. It is a good choice in your case but the problems coming to you actually is you don't know what type you should start with. This Central Problems in Social Theory: Action, Structure, and Contradiction in Social Analysis is our recommendation so you keep up with the world. Why, as this book serves what you want and wish in this era.

Brenda Lee:

Do you have something that suits you such as book? The publication lovers usually prefer to decide on book like comic, quick story and the biggest some may be novel. Now, why not attempting Central Problems in Social Theory: Action, Structure, and Contradiction in Social Analysis that give your entertainment preference will be satisfied by simply reading this book. Reading routine all over the world can be said as the opportunity for people to know world much better than how they react towards the world. It can't be mentioned constantly that reading habit only for the geeky person but for all of you who wants to always be success person. So , for all you who want to start reading through as your good habit, you can pick Central Problems in Social Theory: Action, Structure, and Contradiction in Social Analysis become your own starter.

Maritza Kress:

That e-book can make you to feel relax. This kind of book Central Problems in Social Theory: Action, Structure, and Contradiction in Social Analysis was colourful and of course has pictures on there. As we know that book Central Problems in Social Theory: Action, Structure, and Contradiction in Social Analysis has many kinds or variety. Start from kids until youngsters. For example Naruto or Detective Conan you can read and think you are the character on there. So , not at all of book are make you bored, any it offers you feel happy, fun and chill out. Try to choose the best book for you and try to like reading this.

**Download and Read Online Central Problems in Social Theory:
Action, Structure, and Contradiction in Social Analysis By Anthony
Giddens #JBIKO5FW9A7**

Read Central Problems in Social Theory: Action, Structure, and Contradiction in Social Analysis By Anthony Giddens for online ebook

Central Problems in Social Theory: Action, Structure, and Contradiction in Social Analysis By Anthony Giddens Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Central Problems in Social Theory: Action, Structure, and Contradiction in Social Analysis By Anthony Giddens books to read online.

Online Central Problems in Social Theory: Action, Structure, and Contradiction in Social Analysis By Anthony Giddens ebook PDF download

Central Problems in Social Theory: Action, Structure, and Contradiction in Social Analysis By Anthony Giddens Doc

Central Problems in Social Theory: Action, Structure, and Contradiction in Social Analysis By Anthony Giddens Mobipocket

Central Problems in Social Theory: Action, Structure, and Contradiction in Social Analysis By Anthony Giddens EPub

JBIKO5FW9A7: Central Problems in Social Theory: Action, Structure, and Contradiction in Social Analysis By Anthony Giddens