

A Rationalist Methodology for the Social Sciences



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A Rationalist Methodology For The Social Sciences:

A Rationalist Methodology for the Social Sciences David Sylvan, Barry Glassner, 1985-01-01 **Rationality and the Social Sciences (RLE Social Theory)** S.I. Benn, G.W. Mortimore, 2014-08-21 The concepts of rationality that are used by social scientists in the formation of hypotheses models and explanations are explored in this collection of original papers by a number of distinguished philosophers and social scientists The aim of the book is to display the variety of the concepts used to show the different roles they play in theories of very different kinds over a wide range of disciplines including economics sociology psychology political science and anthropology and to assess the explanatory and predictive power that a theory can draw from such concepts *Epistemology, Methodology, and the Social Sciences* Robert S. Cohen, Marx W. Wartofsky, 2013-03-09 The last decades have seen major reformations in the philosophy and history of science What has been called post positivist philosophy of science has introduced radically new concerns with historical social and valuative components of scientific thought in the natural sciences and has raised up the demons of relativism subjectivism and sociologism to haunt the once calm precincts of objectivity and realism Though these disturbances intruded upon what had seemed to be the logically well ordered domain of the philosophy of the natural sciences they were no news to the social sciences There the messy business of human action volition decision the considerations of practical purposes and social values the role of ideology and the problem of rationality had long conspired to defeat logical reconstructionist programs The attempt to tarne the social sciences to the harness of a strict hypothetico deductive model of explanation failed Within the social sciences phenomenological Marxist hermeneuticist action theoretical approaches vied in attempting to capture the distinctiveness of human phenomena In fact the philosophy of the natural sciences even in its hard forms has itself become infected with the increasing reflection upon the role of such social scientific categories in the attempt to understand the nature of the scientific enterprise Max Weber and the Methodology of the Social Sciences Toby E. Huff, *Critical Rationalism, the Social Sciences and the Humanities* I.C. Jarvie, N. Laor, 2013-06-29 An outstanding feature of this book is the broad range of the contributors drawn from Europe the Middle East and North America testifying both to the range of Professor Agassi's interests and the geographical spread of his influence Most contributors use Agassi's ideas as a springboard to engage in debate on issues or offer a contribution in an area that interests him In this volume contributors consider such questions as Agassi's philosophy of education in practice as well as in theory the impact of psychologism in philosophy the origins of critical rationalism in the Bible the debates in economics stimulated by the work of Popper and Agassi and many other topics Besides the special topics the reader gains some sense of the fruitfulness of critical rationalism in the hands of Agassi's friends and colleagues *Handbook of Survey Methodology for the Social Sciences* Lior Gideon, 2012-06-21 Surveys enjoy great ubiquity among data collection methods in social research they are flexible in questioning techniques in the amount of questions asked in the topics covered and in the various ways of interactions with

respondents Surveys are also the preferred method by many researchers in the social sciences due to their ability to provide quick profiles and results Because they are so commonly used and fairly easy to administer surveys are often thought to be easily thrown together But designing an effective survey that yields reliable and valid results takes more than merely asking questions and waiting for the answers to arrive Geared to the non statistician the Handbook of Survey Methodology in Social Sciences addresses issues throughout all phases of survey design and implementation Chapters examine the major survey methods of data collection providing expert guidelines for asking targeted questions improving accuracy and quality of responses while reducing sampling and non sampling bias Relying on the Total Survey Error theory various issues of both sampling and non sampling sources of error are explored and discussed By covering all aspects of the topic the Handbook is suited to readers taking their first steps in survey methodology as well as to those already involved in survey design and execution and to those currently in training Featured in the Handbook The Total Survey Error sampling and non sampling errors Survey sampling techniques The art of question phrasing Techniques for increasing response rates A question of ethics what is allowed in survey research Survey design face to face phone mail e mail online computer assisted Dealing with sensitive issues in surveys Demographics of respondents implications for future survey research Dealing with nonresponse and nonresponse bias The Handbook of Survey Methodology in Social Sciences offers how to clarity for researchers in the social and behavioral sciences and related disciplines including sociology criminology criminal justice social psychology education public health political science management and many other disciplines relying on survey methodology as one of their main data collection tools

The SAGE Handbook of Social Science Methodology William Outhwaite, Stephen Turner, 2007-10-18 An excellent guidebook through different approaches to social science measurement including the all important route maps that show us how to get there Roger Jowell City University In this wide ranging collection of chapters written by acknowledged experts in their fields Outhwaite and Turner have brought together material in one volume which will provide an extremely important platform for consideration of the full range of contemporary analytical and methodological issues Charles Crothers Auckland University of Technology This is a jewel among methods Handbooks bringing together a formidable collection of international contributors to comment on every aspect of the various central issues complications and controversies in the core methodological traditions It is designed to meet the needs of those disciplinary and nondisciplinary problem oriented social inquirers for a comprehensive overview of the methodological literature The text is divided into 7 sections Overviews of methodological approaches in the social sciences Cases comparisons and theory Quantification and experiment Rationality complexity and collectivity Interpretation critique and postmodernity Discourse construction Engagement Edited by two leading figures in the field the Handbook is a landmark work in the field of research methods More than just a cookbook that teaches readers how to master techniques it will give social scientists in all disciplines an appreciation for the full range of methodological debates today from the quantitative to

the qualitative giving them deeper and sharpen insights into their own research questions It will generate debate solutions and a series of questions for researchers to exploit and develop in their research and teaching **Is Rational Choice**

Theory All of Social Science? Mark I. Lichbach,2009-12-11 A timely examination of the current paradigm wars in political science **Meaning and Method in the Social Sciences** Paul A. Roth,2019-05-15 Paul A Roth s book examines an important controversy in the philosophy of the social sciences that has developed since the demise of logical positivism and its conception of rationality Roth contends that this controversy a dispute over the canons of rationality is the product of the mistaken belief in methodological exclusivism Drawing on work in contemporary epistemology by W V O Quine Richard Rorty and Paul Feyerabend he argues that no single theory of human behavior has methodological priority indeed the existence of a plethora of theories for the study of human behavior he believes is an inevitable consequence of our epistemic situation

Felix Kaufmann's Theory and Method in the Social Sciences Robert S. Cohen,Ingeborg K. Helling,2014-05-19 This volume contains the English translation of Felix Kaufmann s 1895 1945 main work Methodenlehre der Sozialwissenschaften 1936 In this book Kaufmann develops a general theory of knowledge of the social sciences in his role as a cross border commuter between Husserl s phenomenology Kelsen s pure theory of law and the logical positivism of the Vienna Circle This multilayered inquiry connects the value oriented reflections of a general philosophy of science with the specificity of the methods and theories of the social sciences as opposed to abstract natural science and psychology The core focus of the study is the attempt to elucidate how and under what conditions scientific knowledge about social facts empirically justified and theoretically embedded can be obtained The empirical basis of knowledge within the social sciences forms a phenomenological concept of experience According to Kaufmann this concept of experience exhibits a complex structure Within the meaning interpretation of human action as the core of knowledge in the social sciences this structure reaches out across the isolated act of verification toward the synthesis of external and internal experiences The book opens with a detailed and useful introduction by Ingeborg K Helling which introduces the historical and theoretical background of Kaufmann s study and specifically illuminates his relation to Alfred Sch tz and John Dewey Finally it contains interviews with and letters to members of his family colleagues and students

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Table of Contents A Rationalist Methodology For The Social Sciences

1. Understanding the eBook A Rationalist Methodology For The Social Sciences
 - The Rise of Digital Reading A Rationalist Methodology For The Social Sciences
 - Advantages of eBooks Over Traditional Books
2. Identifying A Rationalist Methodology For The Social Sciences
 - Exploring Different Genres
 - Considering Fiction vs. Non-Fiction
 - Determining Your Reading Goals
3. Choosing the Right eBook Platform
 - Popular eBook Platforms
 - Features to Look for in an A Rationalist Methodology For The Social Sciences
 - User-Friendly Interface
4. Exploring eBook Recommendations from A Rationalist Methodology For The Social Sciences
 - Personalized Recommendations
 - A Rationalist Methodology For The Social Sciences User Reviews and Ratings
 - A Rationalist Methodology For The Social Sciences and Bestseller Lists
5. Accessing A Rationalist Methodology For The Social Sciences Free and Paid eBooks
 - A Rationalist Methodology For The Social Sciences Public Domain eBooks
 - A Rationalist Methodology For The Social Sciences eBook Subscription Services
 - A Rationalist Methodology For The Social Sciences Budget-Friendly Options

6. Navigating A Rationalist Methodology For The Social Sciences eBook Formats
 - ePub, PDF, MOBI, and More
 - A Rationalist Methodology For The Social Sciences Compatibility with Devices
 - A Rationalist Methodology For The Social Sciences Enhanced eBook Features
7. Enhancing Your Reading Experience
 - Adjustable Fonts and Text Sizes of A Rationalist Methodology For The Social Sciences
 - Highlighting and Note-Taking A Rationalist Methodology For The Social Sciences
 - Interactive Elements A Rationalist Methodology For The Social Sciences
8. Staying Engaged with A Rationalist Methodology For The Social Sciences
 - Joining Online Reading Communities
 - Participating in Virtual Book Clubs
 - Following Authors and Publishers A Rationalist Methodology For The Social Sciences
9. Balancing eBooks and Physical Books A Rationalist Methodology For The Social Sciences
 - Benefits of a Digital Library
 - Creating a Diverse Reading Collection A Rationalist Methodology For The Social Sciences
10. Overcoming Reading Challenges
 - Dealing with Digital Eye Strain
 - Minimizing Distractions
 - Managing Screen Time
11. Cultivating a Reading Routine A Rationalist Methodology For The Social Sciences
 - Setting Reading Goals A Rationalist Methodology For The Social Sciences
 - Carving Out Dedicated Reading Time
12. Sourcing Reliable Information of A Rationalist Methodology For The Social Sciences
 - Fact-Checking eBook Content of A Rationalist Methodology For The Social Sciences
 - Distinguishing Credible Sources
13. Promoting Lifelong Learning
 - Utilizing eBooks for Skill Development
 - Exploring Educational eBooks
14. Embracing eBook Trends
 - Integration of Multimedia Elements

- Interactive and Gamified eBooks

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