

Helga Nowotny

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# In Search of Usable Knowledge

Utilization Contexts and the  
Application of Knowledge

European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research

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Campus / Westview

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In the first part of this book temporal structuration and use of time is discussed as a central societal mechanism. Temporal structuration is exemplified by analyzing how present-day societies are replacing the category of the 'future' by that of an 'extended present'. Use of time and different valuation of time is analyzed in the context of 'paid' and 'unpaid' time and work, especially that of women and men, and implications are drawn for a variety of social policy issues. The second part is devoted to the growing interlinkages between scientific-technological knowledge and their practical applications in a wider societal context. The utilization context remains a social one, e.g. the so-called 'information society'; artificial intelligence and fears as well as opportunities which are imagined and associated with it; or whether one analyzes the development of organizational contexts in which scientific-technological knowledge is produced. In the last part the difficulties arising in the dialogue between producers and consumers of social science knowledge are treated as forming part of an ever-changing context, e.g. from research which was considered relevant for politics to policy-relevant research. Another aspect is that of the image of the social sciences and how it is shaped in the context of public discussion.

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