



Generating Social Capital: Civil Society and Institutions in Comparative Perspective

From Palgrave Macmillan



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Social capital - networks of civic engagements, norms of reciprocity, and attitudes of trust - is widely seen as playing a key role for the health of democracy. While many authors have examined the consequences of social capital, there is a pressing need to explore its sources. This collection brings together leading American and European scholars in the first comparative analysis of how social trust and other civic attitudes are generated. The contributors to this volume examine the generation of social capital from two directions: society-based approaches that emphasize voluntary associations, and institutional approaches that emphasize policy.

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- Sales Rank: #3783038 in Books
- Published on: 2003-05-16
- Released on: 2003-05-16
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.82" h x .57" w x 5.06" l, .65 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 256 pages

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Editorial Review

Review

'The diverse essays in this edited volume focus sharply on the important question: where does social capital come from? Using different analytical approaches to data culled from a variety of countries across three continents, the book advances our understanding of the nature and origins of social capital.' - Ken Newton, University of Southampton

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