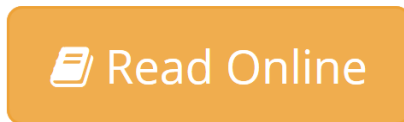


Concepts of Capital: The Commodification of Social Life

By Jacek Tittenbrun



Concepts of Capital: The Commodification of Social Life By Jacek Tittenbrun

Borrowing terminology from the economic discipline—specifically the concept of "capital"—has led to an abundance of new terms in the social sciences: human capital, social capital, and cultural capital, to name the most prominent representatives on an ever-growing list. In this interdisciplinary transaction, the concept is borrowed and the original meaning extended until the new concepts often have nothing left in common with their initial referents.

Here Jacek Tittenbrun offers a critical analysis of human, social, and cultural capital on the basis of their uses and misuses across a wide range of social sciences, simultaneously revealing the source of conceptual diffusion in the real world. He presents a two-pronged analysis of an intellectual fashion popular in the social sciences and offers a critical analysis of a range of concepts constructed around the common core of "capital." The analysis is innovative, as it is underpinned by a theoretical framework rooted in economic sociology and the concept of ownership in particular. The approach is one of the sociology of knowledge coupled with a substantive critique-application of the given concepts.

The volume reveals a range of processes in the real world that account for the conceptual diffusion. The general reader will be drawn to the discussion in the second half of the book, a study of a variety of relatable real life situations that illuminate privatization and commodification in our lives.

 [Download Concepts of Capital: The Commodification of Social ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Concepts of Capital: The Commodification of Soci ...pdf](#)

Concepts of Capital: The Commodification of Social Life

By Jacek Tittenbrun

Concepts of Capital: The Commodification of Social Life By Jacek Tittenbrun

Borrowing terminology from the economic discipline—specifically the concept of "capital"—has led to an abundance of new terms in the social sciences: human capital, social capital, and cultural capital, to name the most prominent representatives on an ever-growing list. In this interdisciplinary transaction, the concept is borrowed and the original meaning extended until the new concepts often have nothing left in common with their initial referents.

Here Jacek Tittenbrun offers a critical analysis of human, social, and cultural capital on the basis of their uses and misuses across a wide range of social sciences, simultaneously revealing the source of conceptual diffusion in the real world. He presents a two-pronged analysis of an intellectual fashion popular in the social sciences and offers a critical analysis of a range of concepts constructed around the common core of "capital." The analysis is innovative, as it is underpinned by a theoretical framework rooted in economic sociology and the concept of ownership in particular. The approach is one of the sociology of knowledge coupled with a substantive critique-application of the given concepts.

The volume reveals a range of processes in the real world that account for the conceptual diffusion. The general reader will be drawn to the discussion in the second half of the book, a study of a variety of relatable real life situations that illuminate privatization and commodification in our lives.

Concepts of Capital: The Commodification of Social Life By Jacek Tittenbrun Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #2753770 in Books
- Published on: 2014-03-07
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.02" h x .75" w x 5.98" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 264 pages

 [Download Concepts of Capital: The Commodification of Social ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Concepts of Capital: The Commodification of Soci ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Concepts of Capital: The Commodification of Social Life By Jacek Tittenbrun

Editorial Review

Review

“The author’s argument that the concepts of human capital, social capital, and cultural capital have come to bear too much conceptual weight is a reasonable one and deserves wide attention. . . . Tittenbrun clearly reads widely in both economics and sociology.”

—J. Li, *Choice*

“This is a *tour de force*. Professor Tittenbrun has produced a scholarly and stimulating book that brings together conceptions of capital, commodification, and privatization in a unique way. This makes a significant contribution to critical literature in economics and sociology.”

—Jane Hardy, professor, University of Hertfordshire

“... Jacek Tittenbrun examines the gullible acceptance of economic dogma in the social sciences. ‘Why is it,’ he asks, ‘that our academic colleagues who call themselves economists, sociologists, or social psychologists are building fortresses on shifting sands of such concepts as social, cultural, or human capital?’ What he does is remarkable: first, he demonstrates clearly that the concept of social, cultural, or human capital does not hold water, even if it is defended by a Nobel prize winner. Second, he examines these flawed concepts from the point of the Marxian and Simmelian analysis of the commodification of interactions. Third, he demonstrates venues of contemporary expansion of the capitalist markets. Fourth, he shows the consequences. We can believe that we are not tools, but somebody has to pay for the accumulation of financial capital—and this somebody’s dispossession is mediated by a variety of ‘enclosures.’ Readers of Tittenbrun will have second thoughts before defining shopping malls as public spaces and gated communities as paradises of true happiness. My guess is that the concepts of social, cultural, and human capital will go down the drain as did the concepts of ether or phlogiston. I also think that the rational choice theory and the over-individualized, undersocialized theories of interacting and communicating in market societies will decline, because they have nothing to tell us either about us or about the social world around us. Recycling Marx makes sense, so does reinventing democracy. After all, even Harvard professors begin to suspect that not everything is for sale.”

—Slawomir Magala, professor, Erasmus University Rotterdam

“The values which serve as the basis for management and economy are being expanded to all spheres and dimensions of contemporary life. Everything is for sale and shaped according to pre-established images of success. But this is nothing new. There are many books about capital and capitalism, from the most different theoretical perspectives. The strongest merit of this work is its power to function as a tool capable of making us question ourselves about the things we naturalize and take for granted. This book deconstructs the [socio-economic] consensus. It denaturalizes the ideas we accept without reflecting, even the academic discourses, concepts, words, and theories we use as if they were natural and that may lead us to act exactly as we, at least in theory, criticize. This book is mandatory reading for those who do not consider it enough to be critical just by adopting a theoretical perspective, but want to reflect about their ways of thinking, being, and feeling.”

—Igor Valentim, professor, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro

About the Author

Jacek Tittenbrun is professor of sociology at Adam Mickiewicz University in Pozna, Poland.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Kathleen Elder:

Have you spare time for just a day? What do you do when you have much more or little spare time? That's why, you can choose the suitable activity regarding spend your time. Any person spent their particular spare time to take a stroll, shopping, or went to typically the Mall. How about open or even read a book entitled Concepts of Capital: The Commodification of Social Life? Maybe it is to be best activity for you. You already know beside you can spend your time with your favorite's book, you can better than before. Do you agree with it is opinion or you have some other opinion?

Jennifer Games:

As people who live in often the modest era should be up-date about what going on or facts even knowledge to make these keep up with the era which can be always change and move ahead. Some of you maybe will probably update themselves by examining books. It is a good choice for you but the problems coming to anyone is you don't know what one you should start with. This Concepts of Capital: The Commodification of Social Life is our recommendation so you keep up with the world. Why, because this book serves what you want and wish in this era.

Philip Cooper:

Information is provisions for those to get better life, information currently can get by anyone from everywhere. The information can be a know-how or any news even a problem. What people must be consider any time those information which is from the former life are difficult to be find than now is taking seriously which one is appropriate to believe or which one the resource are convinced. If you find the unstable resource then you buy it as your main information we will see huge disadvantage for you. All of those possibilities will not happen with you if you take Concepts of Capital: The Commodification of Social Life as your daily resource information.

Sammy Cheney:

Reading a e-book make you to get more knowledge as a result. You can take knowledge and information coming from a book. Book is written or printed or outlined from each source in which filled update of news. In this modern era like currently, many ways to get information are available for you. From media social just like newspaper, magazines, science guide, encyclopedia, reference book, novel and comic. You can add your

understanding by that book. Ready to spend your spare time to open your book? Or just seeking the Concepts of Capital: The Commodification of Social Life when you required it?

**Download and Read Online Concepts of Capital: The
Commodification of Social Life By Jacek Tittenbrun
#OUS8Y4V97I3**

Read Concepts of Capital: The Commodification of Social Life By Jacek Tittenbrun for online ebook

Concepts of Capital: The Commodification of Social Life By Jacek Tittenbrun 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 Concepts of Capital: The Commodification of Social Life By Jacek Tittenbrun books to read online.

Online Concepts of Capital: The Commodification of Social Life By Jacek Tittenbrun ebook PDF download

Concepts of Capital: The Commodification of Social Life By Jacek Tittenbrun Doc

Concepts of Capital: The Commodification of Social Life By Jacek Tittenbrun Mobipocket

Concepts of Capital: The Commodification of Social Life By Jacek Tittenbrun EPub