

# Structural Holes Versus Network Closure As Social Capital

Social Capital Social Capital and Economics Social Capital Social Capital Social Capital, Social Identities The Handbook of Social Capital Social Capital of Organizations Assessing Social Capital Social Capital Social Capital Theory Knowledge and Social Capital Theories of Social Capital Creation and Returns of Social Capital Contexts of Social Capital Social Capital in Development Planning Social Capital Social Capital Social Capital, Social Support and Stratification Rethinking Social Capital Social Capital at the Community Level *Nan Lin Asimina Christoforou John Field Nan Lin Dieter Thomä Dario Castiglione Shaul M. Gabbay Rosalind Edwards Ed. K.R. Gupta Julia Häuberer Eric Lesser Ben Fine Henk Flap Ray-May Hsung Raffaella Y. Nanetti Partha Dasgupta Rene Dubos Ronald S. Burt Isabell Gstach John M. Halstead*

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this volume provides a collection of critical new perspectives on social capital theory by examining how social values power relationships and social identity interact with social capital this book seeks to extend this theory into what have been largely under

investigated domains and at the same time address long standing classic questions in the literature concerning the forms determinants and consequences of social capital social capital can be understood in terms of social norms and networks it manifests itself in patterns of trust reciprocity and cooperation the authors argue that the degree to which and the different ways in which people exhibit these distinctively social behaviours depend on how norms and networks elicit their values reflect power relationships and draw on their social identities this volume accordingly adopts a variety of different concepts and measures that incorporate the variety of contextually specific factors that operate on social capital formation in addition it adopts an interdisciplinary outlook that combines a wide range of social science disciplines and methods of social research our objective is to challenge standard rationality theory explanations of norms and networks which overlook the role of values power and identity this volume appeals to researchers and students in multiple social sciences including economics sociology political science social psychology history public policy and international relations that employ social capital concepts and methods in their research it can be seen as a set of new extensions of social capital theory in connection with its themes of social values power and identity that would advance the scholarly literature on social norms and networks and their impact on social change and public welfare

this is an indispensable introduction to the topic which explains the theoretical underpinning of the subject the empirical work that has been done to explore its operation and the effect that it has had on policy making jacket

leading scholars in the field of social networks from diverse disciplines present the first systematic and comprehensive collection of current theories and empirical research on the informal connections that individuals have for support help and information from other people expanding on concepts originally formulated by pierre bourdieu and james coleman this seminal work will find an essential place with educators and students in the fields of social networks rational choice theory institutions and the socioeconomics of poverty labor markets social psychology and race the volume is divided into three parts the first segment clarifies social capital as a concept and explores its theoretical and operational bases additional segments provide brief accounts that place the development of social capital in the context of the family of capital theorists and identify some critical but controversial perspectives and statements regarding social capital in the literature the editors then make the argument for the network perspective why and how such a perspective can clarify controversies and advance our understanding of a whole range of instrumental and expressive outcomes social capital further provides a forum for ongoing research programs initiated by social scientists working at the crossroads of formal theory and new methods these scholars and programs share certain understandings and approaches in their analyses of social capital they argue that social networks are the foundation of social capital social networks simultaneously capture individuals and social structure thus serving as a vital conceptual link between actions and structural

constraints between micro and macro level analyses and between relational and collective dynamic processes they are further cognizant of the dual significance of the structural features of the social networks and the resources embedded in the networks as defining elements of social capital nan lin is professor of sociology duke university karen cook is ray lyman wilber professor of sociology department of sociology stanford university ronald s burt is hobart w williams professor of sociology and strategy university of chicago graduate school of business

current research on social capital tends to focus on an economic reading of social relations whereas economists pride themselves on reaching out to social theory at large sociologists criticize the economization of the social fabric the concept of social capital serves as a touchstone for the study of the role of the economy in modern societies it serves as a breach for expanding the reach of economic categories yet it also yields the opportunity for questioning and transforming economic premises in the light of social theory and philosophy exploring the concept of social capital in the context of related terms like embeddedness trust sociability and cooperation is particularly instructive this collection of papers from various disciplines philosophy sociology economics religious studies combines conceptual studies and empirical findings it is a plea for re embedding economic thought in a broader theoretical framework by exploring the varieties of social identities implied in the theories of social capital the authors argue for a social or more sociable conception of man

social capital is a relatively new concept in the social sciences in the last twenty or so years it has come to indicate that networks of social relationships represent a resource for both the individual and society since they provide support for the individual and facilitate collective action although this is not an entirely new idea the more systematic way in which social capital captures such an intuition has created a new theoretical paradigm and helped to develop a series of innovative research programmes in politics economics and the study of human well being the concept has gained currency beyond academia extending its influence to political and policy making circles at local national and international levels it has also affected the way in which social surveys are conceived and public policies assessed as the idea of social capital has spread the literature about it has increased exponentially after twenty years of rapid expansion it is time for a more considered and critical assessment of how the original concept has been adapted and refined and how successful its application has been the handbook of social capital intends to do precisely that it offers a state of the art view of discussions about the concept of social capital and the way in which it has been applied in empirical research the organization of the handbook reflects this intention by focusing on conceptual development and analysis in the first part by identifying two main areas of research in which social capital has favoured the development of new and influential research programmes political participation in democratic societies and economic development and by exploring the more normative and policy oriented consequences of social capital

all chapters comprising the volume were specifically written for the handbook by some of the main experts in the fields the book provides authoritative and innovative introduction to the study of social capital

social capital is a key concept in academic research and policymaking internationally it focuses attention on social relationships values and access to resources in families communities regions and nations but does the concept with its focus on particular aspects of social life and the thrust of its influence on policy initiatives hide more than it illuminates is it even harmful can social capital ideas be amended or adapted to bring other issues into view or are there alternative concepts that are better able to address contemporary social economic and political life this edited collection brings together contributions including from internationally renowned researchers that assess social capital as a theoretical concept its shaping of policy development and its practices in research and everyday life some reveal the conceptual lacks and policy drawbacks of social capital and put forward alternatives others pursue mainstream models and their adaptation

the field of social capital still lacks a recognized general theory accordingly various and sometimes inappropriate measurements are used for it julia häuberer contributes to filling in this gap and provides progress towards the creation of a formalized social capital theory based on the founding concepts of social capital of bourdieu 1983 and coleman 1988 and current concepts of putnam 2000 burt 1992 and lin 2001 the second part of the monograph focuses on the quality of measurements of the more general concept of social capital derived in the first part therefore the telephone survey social relationships among czech citizens conducted as a test retest experiment is analyzed this book is valuable reading for academics in sociology and political science

social capital the informal networks trust and common understanding among individuals in an organization determines major competitive advantages in today s networked economy knowledge and social capital explains how social capital can drive collaboration reconcile an organization s internal and external labor markets and improve organizational effectiveness this edited compilation of authoritative articles helps readers understand how they can build and capitalize on their own organizations social capital knowledge and social capital teaches core principles and important strategies to a range of executives including organizational development specialists corporate strategists and knowledge management professionals readers will learn how an organization can

tracing the evolution of social capital since his highly acclaimed contribution of 2001 social capital versus social theory ben fine consolidates his position as the world s leading critic of the concept fine forcibly demonstrates how social capital has expanded across the social sciences only by degrading the different disciplines and topics that it touches a mcdonaldisation of social theory the rise and fall of social capital at the world bank is critically explained as is social capital s growing presence in disciplines such as

management studies and its relative absence in others such as social history writing with a sharp critical edge fine not only deconstructs the roller coaster presence of social capital across the social sciences but also draws out lessons on how and how not to do research

the idea of a social capital research program has become increasingly significant within the social sciences this collection of essays contributes to a theoretical integration as well as standardization of measurement instruments and co ordination of empirical research on the significance of social capital

the concept of social capital refers to the ways in which people make use of their social networks in getting ahead social capital isn t just about the connections in networks but fundamentally concerns the distribution of resources on the basis of exchanges this volume focuses on how social capital interacts with social institutions based on the premise that markets communities and families are the major contexts within which people meet and build up social networks and the foci to create social capital featuring innovations in thinking about exchange mechanisms resource distribution institutional logics resource diversity and the degree of openness or closure of social networks these chapters present some of the most important advances in this essential field paralleling these theoretical developments the chapters also improve practical methodological work on social capital research using new techniques and measurement methods for the uncovering of social logics

the pursuit of sustainable development and smart growth is a main challenge today in countries around the world social capital is an asset of their territorial communities it is also a precondition for national and local policies that aim to better the economic base and quality of life for all this change is socially diffused economically sustainable over time and smart in its content a significant stock of social capital facilitates such results because it links into the process of development planning institutional decision makers and socioeconomic stakeholders who share trust solidarity norms and a community vision in the last thirty years social capital has become a forceful concept in the social sciences the subject of many scholarly works and a topic of keen interest and debate in policy circles yet the main focus has been on defining and measuring social capital with little attention given to its value in promoting development policies social capital in development planning updates and advances the debate on social capital through the analysis of the application of the concept of social capital to programs for sustainable and smart socioeconomic development empirical findings and a new paradigm for development planning

this book contains a number of papers presented at a workshop organised by the world bank in 1997 on the theme of social capital integrating the economist s and the sociologist s perspectives the concept of social capital is considered through a number of theoretical and empirical studies which discuss its analytical foundations as well as institutional and

statistical analyses of the concept it includes the classic 1987 article by the late James Coleman social capital in the creation of human capital which formed the basis for the development of social capital as an organising concept in the social sciences

leading scholars in the field of social networks from diverse disciplines present the first systematic and comprehensive collection of current theories and empirical research on the informal connections that individuals have for support help and information from other people expanding on concepts originally formulated by Pierre Bourdieu and James Coleman this seminal work will find an essential place with educators and students in the fields of social networks rational choice theory institutions and the socioeconomics of poverty labor markets social psychology and race the volume is divided into three parts the first segment clarifies social capital as a concept and explores its theoretical and operational bases additional segments provide brief accounts that place the development of social capital in the context of the family of capital theorists and identify some critical but controversial perspectives and statements regarding social capital in the literature the editors then make the argument for the network perspective why and how such a perspective can clarify controversies and advance our understanding of a whole range of instrumental and expressive outcomes social capital further provides a forum for ongoing research programs initiated by social scientists working at the crossroads of formal theory and new methods these scholars and programs share certain understandings and approaches in their analyses of social capital they argue that social networks are the foundation of social capital social networks simultaneously capture individuals and social structure thus serving as a vital conceptual link between actions and structural constraints between micro and macro level analyses and between relational and collective dynamic processes they are further cognizant of the dual significance of the structural features of the social networks and the resources embedded in the networks as defining elements of social capital

this insightful book explores the spread of network imagery in three areas of sociology social capital social support and China using as its protagonist a man active in all three Nan Lin social capital social support and stratification provides a unique combination of Nan Lin's core contributions to the field presented alongside new and original analyses

concepts of social capital play a well established role in a number of academic disciplines and continue to grow in popularity in the discourses of the sciences as well as those of civil society and social practice as an element that is fundamental and constitutive of various forms of societal coexistence and wellbeing social capital apparently generates positive effects however it also contributes to inequalities and unequal distribution of power and is consequently a rather controversial subject this collection of essays represents reflections and case studies from all over the world they step out of well known paths of discourse and discuss the phenomenon of social capital in manifold ways and from new perspectives in addition to rethinking social capital theoretically and methodologically the authors focus especially on issues and challenges of its practical

application the contributions come from researchers and practitioners of different backgrounds including sciences such as sociology philosophy social geography economics health studies history interpersonal communication studies and cultural studies as well as social practice in development aid the volume will appeal to a broad audience from diverse disciplines both academic and practical

in social capital at the community level john halstead and steven deller examine social capital formation beyond the individual level through a variety of disciplines planning economics regional development sociology as well as non traditional approaches like engineering and built environmental features the notion of social capital in community and economic development has become a focus of intense interest for policy makers practitioners and academics the notion is that communities with higher levels of social capital networks trust and norms will prosper both economically and socially in a practical sense how do communities use the notion of social capital to build policies and strategies to move their community forward are all forms of social capital the same and do all have a positive influence on the community to help gain insights into these fundamental questions social capital at the community level takes a holistic interdisciplinary or systems approach to thinking about the community while those who study social capital will acknowledge the need for an interdisciplinary approach most stay within their disciplinary silos one could say there is strong bonding social capital within disciplines but little bridging social capital across disciplines the contributors to social capital at the community level have made an attempt to build that bridging social capital while disciplinary biases and research approaches are evident there is significant overlap about how people with different disciplinary perspectives think about social capital and how it can be applied at the community level this can be from neighborhoods addressing a localized issue to a global response to a natural disaster this book is an invaluable resource for scholars researchers and policy makers of community and economic development as well as rural sociologists and planners looking to understand the opaque process of social capital formation in communities

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