

Styles of Reasoning & Academic Cultures (& epistemic drift)

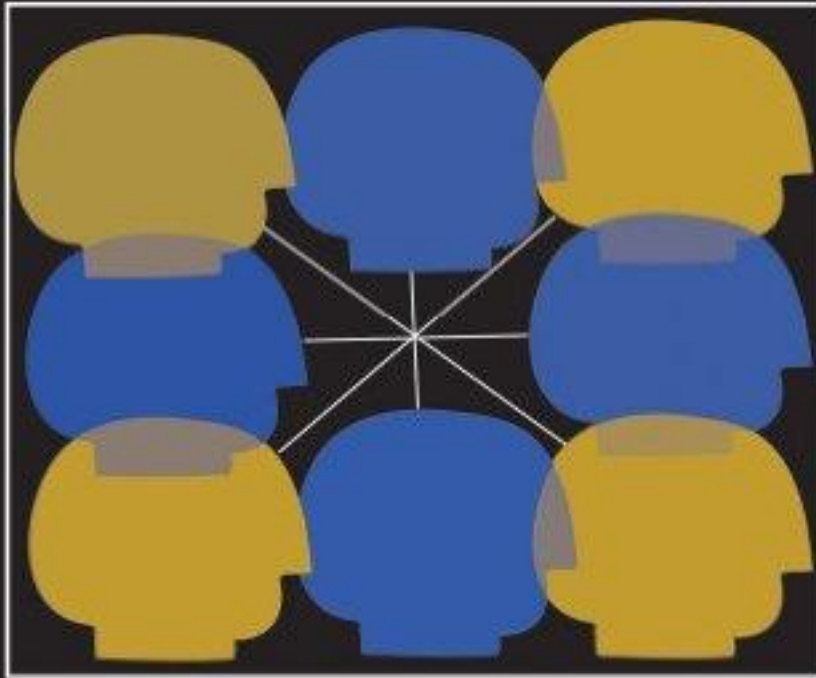


**Tom Popkewitz,
University of Wisconsin-Madison
WERA-IRN
International Research Network for
Research on Doctoral Education in
Education
2 June 2025**

Communication

The Social Matrix of Psychiatry

Jurgen Ruesch and
Gregory Bateson



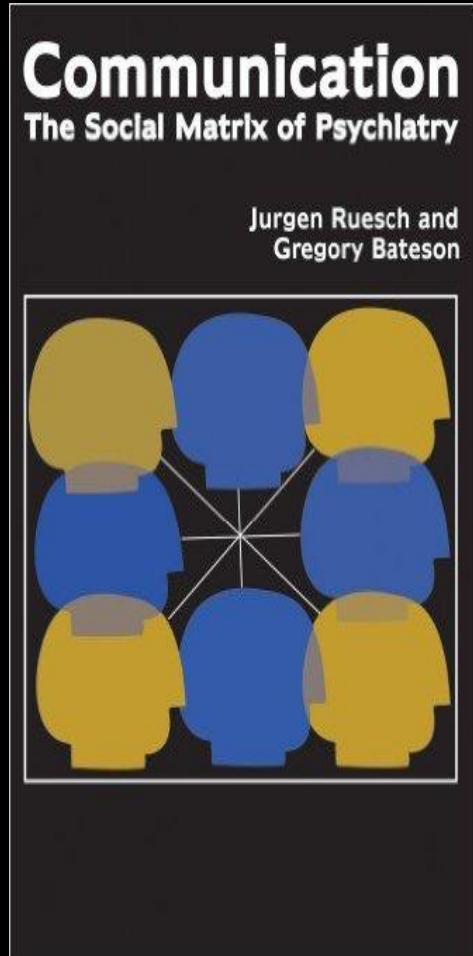
*Methods are Theories About
Desires and What is:*

There are only four ways to
know about the human
conditions.

- (1) Talk to people
 - (2) Participate
 - (3) Non-participant
 - (4) Read about culture
- *Did not include experiments

So the question is how the four
are to put to use?

There are no facts until made into facts!



STYLES OF REASON MATTER

Academic Cultures: Styles of Reasoning & Paradigms

Ian Hacking. Historical Ontology



Hacking: Each
evidence, sen
candidate for
personal ex
explanations that becomes a canon of objectivity and positivity.



**Hacking is talking about human sciences,
Kuhn Physics.
Overlaps but differences as well.**



Kuhn's paradigm: argues that science is not things that we "find" but are practices that make possible "seeing" objects as facts, what serves as evidence, and modalities and possibilities that order what is understood and as a type of subject matter.

Thomas Kuhn The Structure of Scientific Revolutions

Different “seeing” in human sciences

German philosopher Jürgen *Habermas*’ *Human Interests*

Empirical-Analytic Sciences: Bloom’s Taxonomies & PISA

Symbolic Sciences: Social Life as Rule Making. (e.g., Qualitative (sometimes)

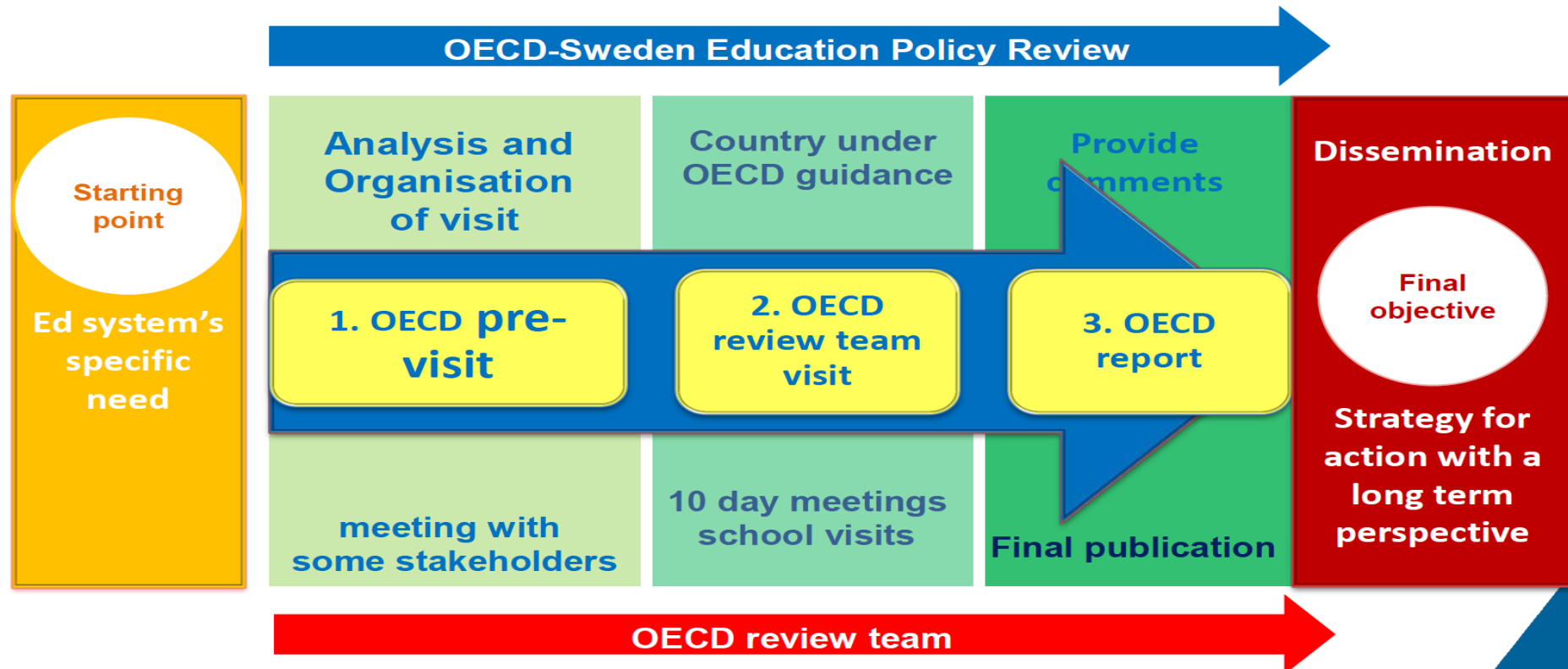
Critical Sciences

(today different styles of reason
in Frankfurt Critical Theory
And Post Humanism)

SEEING/RESEARCHING THE WORLD: EMPIRICAL-ANAYTICAL SCIENCE




The OECD Education Policy Review Process: Sweden



NUMBERS & PISA

- Rank countries in “practical knowledge of school subjects
- *Testing to See if Teachers are doing what they should be doing to make nation competitive and an equal society*
- Establishing Equivalences for Replication and Difference



| | Mathematics score | S.E. | Mathematics scale | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------|-------------------|------------|-------------------------|------------|
| | | | Range of rank | | | |
| | | | OECD countries | | All countries/economies | |
| | | | Upper rank | Lower rank | Upper rank | Lower rank |
| Chinese Taipei | 549 | (4.1) | | | 1 | 4 |
| Finland | 548 | (2.3) | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| Hong Kong-China | 547 | (2.7) | | | 1 | 4 |
| Korea | 547 | (3.8) | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| Netherlands | 531 | (2.6) | 3 | 5 | 5 | 8 |
| Switzerland | 530 | (3.2) | 3 | 6 | 5 | 9 |
| Canada | 527 | (2.0) | 3 | 6 | 5 | 10 |
| Macao-China | 525 | (1.3) | | | 7 | 11 |
| Liechtenstein | 525 | (4.2) | | | 5 | 13 |
| Japan | 523 | (3.3) | 4 | 9 | 6 | 13 |
| New Zealand | 522 | (2.4) | 5 | 9 | 8 | 13 |
| Belgium | 520 | (3.0) | 6 | 10 | 8 | 14 |
| Australia | 520 | (2.2) | 6 | 9 | 10 | 14 |
| Estonia | 515 | (2.7) | | | 12 | 16 |
| Denmark | 513 | (2.6) | 9 | 11 | 13 | 16 |
| Czech Republic | 510 | (3.6) | 10 | 14 | 14 | 20 |
| Iceland | 506 | (1.8) | 11 | 15 | 16 | 21 |
| Austria | 505 | (3.7) | 10 | 16 | 15 | 22 |
| Slovenia | 504 | (1.0) | | | 17 | 21 |
| Germany | 504 | (3.9) | 11 | 17 | 16 | 23 |
| Sweden | 502 | (2.4) | 12 | 17 | 17 | 23 |
| Ireland | 501 | (2.8) | 12 | 17 | 17 | 23 |
| France | 496 | (3.2) | 15 | 22 | 21 | 28 |
| United Kingdom | 495 | (2.1) | 16 | 21 | 22 | 27 |
| Poland | 495 | (2.4) | 16 | 21 | 22 | 27 |
| Slovak Republic | 492 | (2.8) | 17 | 23 | 23 | 30 |
| Hungary | 491 | (2.9) | 18 | 23 | 24 | 31 |
| Luxembourg | 490 | (1.1) | 20 | 23 | 26 | 30 |
| Norway | 490 | (2.6) | 19 | 23 | 25 | 31 |
| Lithuania | 486 | (2.9) | | | 27 | 32 |
| Latvia | 486 | (3.0) | | | 27 | 32 |
| Spain | 480 | (2.3) | 24 | 25 | 31 | 34 |
| Azerbaijan | 476 | (2.3) | | | 32 | 35 |
| Russian Federation | 476 | (3.9) | | | 32 | 36 |
| United States | 474 | (4.0) | 24 | 26 | 32 | 36 |
| Croatia | 467 | (2.4) | | | 35 | 38 |
| Portugal | 466 | (3.1) | 25 | 27 | 35 | 38 |
| Italy | 462 | (2.3) | 26 | 28 | 37 | 39 |
| Greece | 459 | (3.0) | 27 | 28 | 38 | 39 |
| Israel | 442 | (4.3) | | | 40 | 41 |
| Serbia | 435 | (3.5) | | | 40 | 41 |
| Uruguay | 427 | (2.6) | | | 42 | 43 |
| Turkey | 424 | (4.9) | 29 | 29 | 41 | 45 |
| Thailand | 417 | (2.3) | | | 43 | 46 |
| Romania | 415 | (4.2) | | | 43 | 47 |
| Bulgaria | 413 | (6.1) | | | 43 | 48 |
| Chile | 411 | (4.6) | | | 44 | 48 |
| Mexico | 406 | (2.9) | 30 | 30 | 46 | 48 |
| Montenegro | 399 | (1.4) | | | 49 | 50 |
| Indonesia | 391 | (5.6) | | | 49 | 52 |
| Jordan | 384 | (3.3) | | | 50 | 52 |
| Argentina | 381 | (6.2) | | | 50 | 53 |
| Colombia | 370 | (3.8) | | | 52 | 55 |
| Brazil | 370 | (2.9) | | | 53 | 55 |
| Tunisia | 365 | (4.0) | | | 53 | 55 |
| Qatar | 318 | (1.0) | | | 56 | 56 |
| Kyrgyzstan | 311 | (3.4) | | | 57 | 57 |

“Post” as Critical LIFE AS ARCHIVE

How “Seeing”/Feeling Are Made Possible & Differences Produced

“The archive is a site of safekeeping, a place of the legislation of language which is to establish truth.”

L Stoler, *Along the Archival Grain. Epistemic Anxieties And Colonial Common Sense* ■

//Animates political energies and expertise
//Pulls some social facts, converts into
qualified knowledge and ways of knowing
//Produce social kinds: particular kind of
data for auditing the state commitment to the
public good and to racial differentiation



STYLES OF REASON

Methods “Act” to Make Phenomena called “Context”

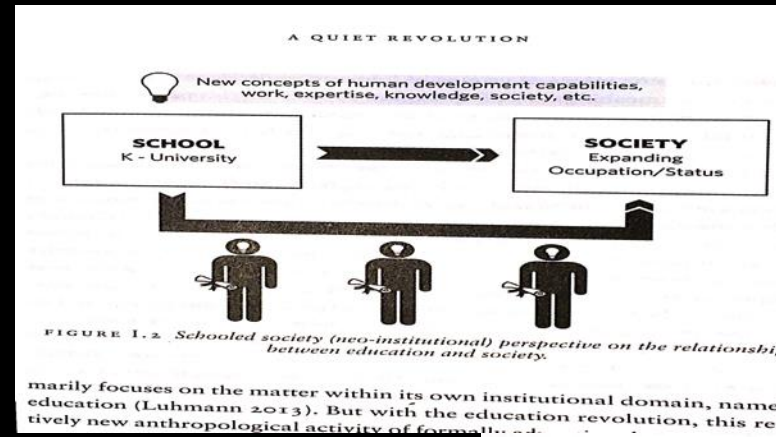
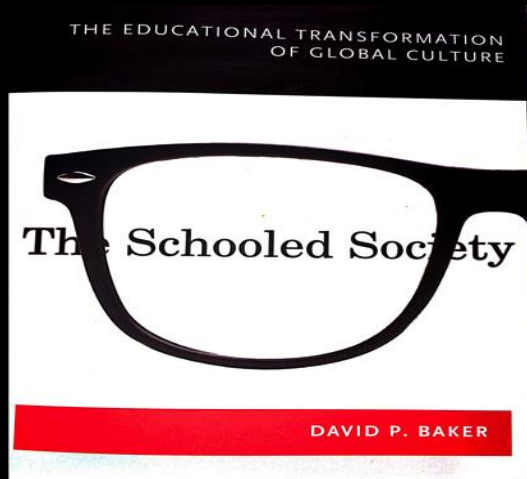
Comparing through Assuming and Equivalences
discussion of social science and equivalences to compare
e.g., Boltansky & Thevenot. *On Justification:*
Economies of Worth

Context
Matters



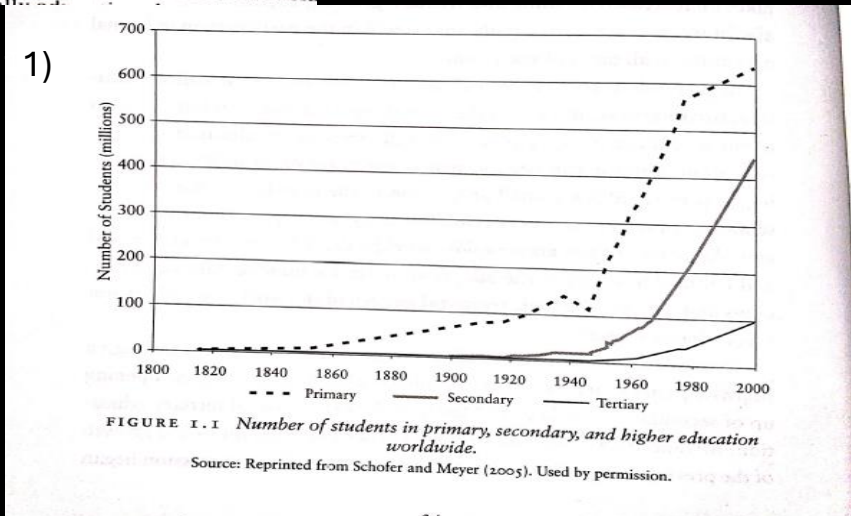
- and the sentences around it too.
- Q Clues can be found by thinking about how the word is used in the sentence.
 - Q Clues can also be found by thinking about the main idea and details of the story.

Styles of Reason, Theory/Method, “CONTEXT” NEO-INSTITUTIONAL THEORY

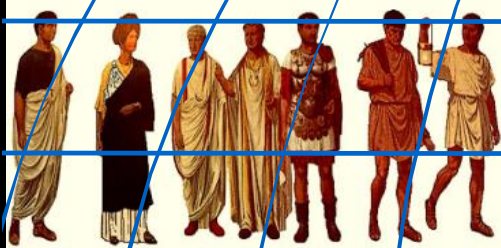


Average Life Expectancy in School: 5-11 years (

Discourse
Analysis
ordered by
categories of
schooling (US
bound and
statistical)



CLOTHES, CULTURE, STYLES OF REASON MAKING THE SELF DIFFEENT CLOTHES/ KUHN'S *IMPUTED REALITIES*



(1) Like WEARING A STYLE OF CLOTHES. KUHN TALKS ABOUT IT AS AN IMPUTED REALITY.

(1) SOCIAL SCIENCE ENTAILS STYLES OF REASON THAT COMPARES TO UNDERSTAND DIFFERENCES (Nations/People, e.g.)



TRAINED SUBJECTIVITY

CULTURE, DOCTORAL STUDIES & TRAINED SUBJECTIVITY:

What is science? A cartoon on a Friend's Office Door



After a Doctoral Oral with other Graduate Students



WHY ARE STYLES OF REASON IMPORTANT TO A CULTURE OF STUDIES IN DOCTORAL STUDIES?

IF DOCTORAL STUDIES IS TO THINK ABOUT THE WORLD AND SELF THROUGH SYSTEMATIC WAYS , THERE ARE DIFFERENT RATIONALITIES OR STYLES OF REASONING.

IT IS AN EPISTEMIC RELATIVISM BUT NOT A MORAL RELATIVISM

PETER BERGER EXPRESSED IT AS CLIMBING MANY HILLS AROUND A TOWN. EACH HILL HAS A DIFFERENT “SEEING” BUT A HUMILITY IN THE “SEEING”.



STYLES OF REASON

DIFFERENCES BUT ALSO ASSEMBLAGES THAT CONNECT AND CH



Caspar David Friedrich, *the Wanderer above the Sea of Fog* (c18).

Hamburg Kunsthalle, Hamburg Germany

There is no 'purity'; yet an historical "I" in the assemblage of doctoral studies"

European Enlightenment "Cosmopolitanism"
Reason and Rationality:

Colonialism/Coloniality, and its Problematics

- Voltaire and photo of Confucius on his desk
- John Stuart Mills formed British Liberalism in relation India.
- The Haitian Revolution against the French (1791-1804) used Enlightenment ideas (French The Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen)

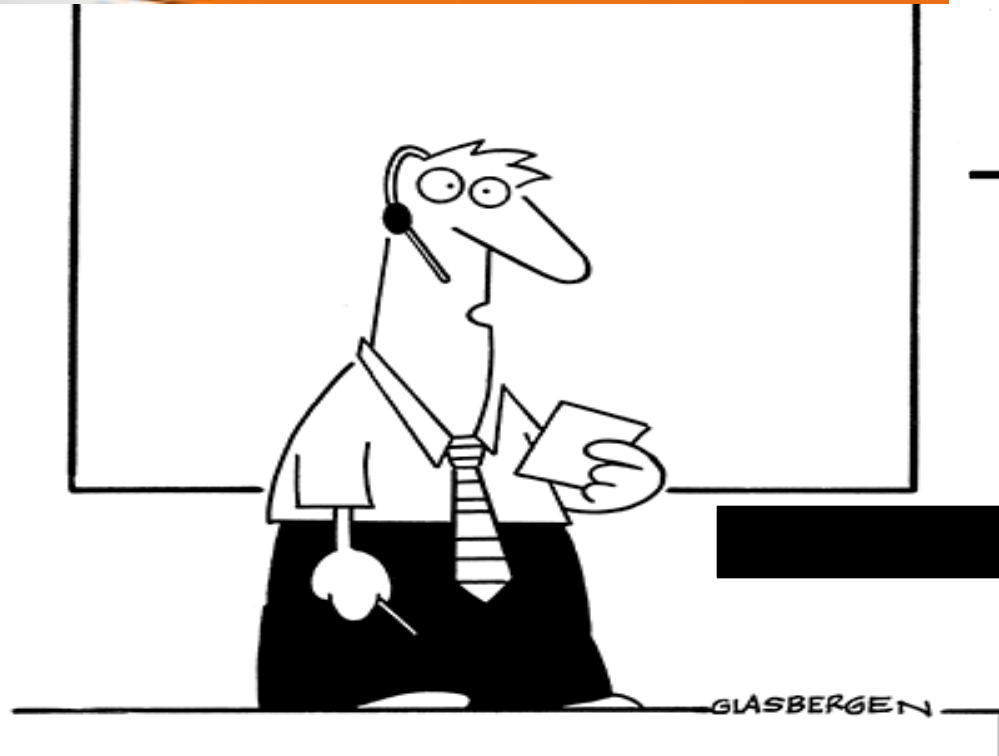


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Computer Tech Support Hotline



"You learned how to use a telephone without my help. That's a good start!"



"Welcome! Today's topic is 'How To Give A Presentation Without Losing Your Audience's Attention'. The End. Thank you for coming."