
Contents

PART I. INTRODUCTION: WHAT ARE CRITICAL SYSTEMS THINKING AND CRITICAL SOCIAL THEORY ALL ABOUT?

1. Introduction.....	3
2. Critical Systems Thinking and Critical Social Theory.....	9
2.1. Introduction.....	9
2.2. Pioneering Work in Developing Critical Systems Thinking as a Distinct Area of Study and Practice.....	10
2.3. Some New Developments in Critical Systems Thinking ..	21
2.4. Some Critical Views on the Critical Systems Thinking Research Program.....	23
2.5. General Comment.....	30
2.6. Critical Social Theory	31

PART II. METATHEORETICAL CONCERNS: WHAT ARE SOCIAL ORDER AND HUMAN FREEDOM AND HAPPINESS?

3. Forms of Social Order and Their Sustaining Worldviews	37
3.1. Forms of Social Order.....	37
3.2. Sustaining Worldviews.....	37
3.3. Connective Summary	39

4. Individualism and Social Order 41

 4.1. Social and Intellectual Roots..... 41

 4.2. Individualism as Ideology..... 45

 4.3. Summary 49

5. Unitarism and Social Order..... 51

 5.1. Social and Intellectual Roots..... 51

 5.2. Unitarism as Ideology..... 54

 5.3. Summary 58

6. Pluralism and Social Order 59

 6.1. Differentiated versus Integrated Pluralism..... 59

 6.2. Pluralism as Ideology 63

 6.3. Reflective Summary..... 64

**PART III. ENLIGHTENMENT AND EMPOWERMENT:
TOWARD SELF-CLARITY AND SELF-WILL: MUST WE
REMAIN HELPLESS AND IGNORANT OF OURSELVES?**

**7. Power and Interests: From Domination to the Power of
Knowing You Are Not Powerless** 69

 7.1. Introduction..... 69

 7.2. Subjectivist Conceptions of Power 73

 7.3. Objectivist Conceptions of Power..... 74

 7.4. Relational Conceptions of Power 76

 7.5. Conceptions of Power: A Summary 84

 7.6. The Concept of Interest 85

 7.7. Toward Empowerment of Social Systems..... 87

 7.8. Conclusion..... 91

**8. Ideology: From Mystification to the Power of Knowing That
You Can Critically Reflect upon Yourself** 93

 8.1. Introduction..... 93

 8.2. Historical Conceptions of Ideology 97

8.3. Naturalistic Conceptions of Ideology	104
8.4. Toward "Liberating Systems Theory"	112
8.5. Conclusion.....	117

**PART IV. TRANSFORMATION: TOWARD
INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM AND HAPPINESS AND
COLLECTIVE AUTONOMY AND RESPONSIBILITY:
CAN WE NOT SHAPE OUR OWN DESTINIES?**

9. Control and Social Order	121
9.1. Introduction.....	121
9.2. Control: A Cybernetic Viewpoint.....	121
9.3. The Concept of Control: An Organization–Theory Viewpoint.....	139
9.4. Social Contradictions and Conflicts: The Problem of Social Order.....	141
9.5. Connective Summary	142
 10. Control and Human Interests: Methodological Foundations of Systems Methodologies	 145
10.1. Introduction	145
10.2. Method or Methodology?	146
10.3. A Framework for Methodology in General	149
10.4. Three Methodological Foundations.....	152
10.5. Systems Methodologies	161
10.6. Connective Summary	167
 11. Control, Constancy, and Change: The Architecture of Power and Ideology.....	 169
11.1. Introduction	169
11.2. Critical Systems Thinking: A Very Slow "Slowcomer" to Systems Science	169
11.3. Systems Stability and Change: Natural or Historical? ...	171
11.4. Control and the Architecture of Power and Ideology ...	172
11.5. Some Implications for Systems Theory	177
11.6. Connective Summary	178

12. Control and Strategic Ideologies	181
12.1. Introduction	181
12.2. Concepts of Weak and Strong Organizations	181
12.3. Strategic Ideologies Thesis	185
12.4. Conclusion.....	198
13. Critical Social Theory: From Epistemology to Communicative Paradigm	199
13.1. Introduction	199
13.2. Habermas's Knowledge and Human Interests: A Human-Centered Epistemological Critique of Objectivistic Positivism.....	200
13.3. Critical Hermeneutics: A Brief Definition	202
13.4. Burrell and Morgan's Sociological Paradigms and Habermas's Knowledge and Human Interests	202
13.5. The Epistemological Enigma of Modernity: The Philosophy of Consciousness.....	203
13.6. The Linguistic Enigma of Modernity: The Communicative Action Paradigm	227
13.7. Action in the Communicative Paradigm: A Reconstructed Logic	266
13.8. Communicative Coherency: Toward a Reconstruction of the Idea of Complementarism in Critical Systems Thinking.....	268

**PART V. CONCLUDING REFLECTIONS: ARE THE
IDEAS OF HUMAN FREEDOM AND HAPPINESS
AND COLLECTIVE AUTONOMY AND
RESPONSIBILITY UTOPIAN?**

14. Enlightenment, Empowerment, and Transformation of Societal Systems: What Is to Be Done? The Case of Developing Countries	273
14.1. Introduction	273
14.2. Developing Countries and the "Double" Emancipatory Problematic	274
14.3. Developing Countries: A Comment on Terminology....	274

14.4. Development Theories	276
14.5. What Should Be Done?.....	285
14.6. Is It Utopian?	288
15. Conclusion	291
15.1. In Regard to Critical Social Theory	291
15.2. In Regard to Developing Countries.....	293
15.3. In Regard to Critical Systems Thinking.....	293
References	295
Author Index	313
Subject Index	317

Figures and Tables

Figures

Figure 6.1. A Continuum of Membership Discipline (D) and Representation (R)	62
Figure 7.1. Concepts of Power	72
Figure 8.1. Concepts of Ideology	95
Figure 9.1. Ashby's Law of Requisite Variety: Payoff Matrix....	124
Figure 9.2. An Inducement–Contribution Matrix	128
Figure 9.3. A General Empirical Model of Control.....	130
Figure 9.4. Population Ecology Model.....	132
Figure 9.5. Resource Dependence Model	132
Figure 9.6. Rational Selection Model	133
Figure 9.7. Environmental Variety: The Dialectics of Complexity, Illiberality, and Variability	136
Figure 9.8. A Model of Environmental Variety	137
Figure 9.9. Environmental Variety and Its Determinants.....	138
Figure 10.1. Four Paradigms for the Analysis of Social Theory....	150
Figure 11.1. Systems Stability and Change: The Architecture of Power and Ideology.....	176
Figure 13.1. The Enigma of Modernity: The Dialectic of Enlightenment	205
Figure 13.2. Hegel's Objective Idealism: Absolutist Paradigm....	208
Figure 13.3. A Common Interpretive Framework for Understanding Different Paradigmatic Positions on the Enigma of Modernity.....	209
Figure 13.4. Marxian Marxism: Economistic Determinism: Production Paradigm	211
Figure 13.5. The Reconstruction of the Process of Rationalization	213
Figure 13.6. Weber's Culturalist Paradigm.....	214
Figure 13.7. Lukacsian Marxism: Dialectical Voluntarism Paradigm.....	216

Figure 13.8. Gramscian Marxism: Revolutionary "Praxis" Paradigm.....	217
Figure 13.9. The Frankfurt School of Critical Theory: Critique of Instrumental Reason Paradigm.....	219
Figure 13.10. Sociology of Change (Subject-Centered Philosophy of Consciousness).....	222
Figure 13.11. The Young Habermas's Epistemological Paradigm..	224
Figure 13.12. Nietzschean Aesthetics Paradigm.....	225
Figure 13.13. Rationalization Complexes.....	227
Figure 13.14. Mature Habermas's Communicative Action Paradigm.....	228
Figure 13.15. Actor-World Relations.....	233
Figure 13.16. Types of Argumentation.....	236
Figure 13.17. The "Reconstruction" of Weber.....	237
Figure 13.18. Action-Rationality-Rationalization Complex.....	238
Figure 13.19. Forms of Language Orientation.....	242
Figure 13.20. The Paradigm of Language and Habermas's TCA Project of Modernity.....	244
Figure 13.21. Locutionary, Illocutionary, and Perlocutionary Speech Acts.....	246
Figure 13.22. Perlocutionary and Illocutionary Human Actions...	248
Figure 13.23. Communicative Action: The "Originary" Form of Language-in-Use.....	249
Figure 13.24. The Philosophy of Language: An Account of Developments in Language Perspectives.....	251
Figure 13.25. Contributions of Reproduction Processes to Maintaining the Structural Components of the Lifeworld.....	258
Figure 13.26. Society-as-a-Whole (SAAW) from System Perspective.....	259
Figure 13.27. Society-as-a-Whole (SAAW) from Lifeworld Perspective.....	260
Figure 13.28. Society-as-a-Whole (SAAW) from the Perspective of Its Constituent Subsystems (the Olympic Metaphor).....	261
Figure 13.29. Colonization of the Lifeworld by the System through the Medium of Juridification.....	262
Figure 13.30. Manifestations of Crisis when Reproduction Processes Are Disturbed (Pathologies).....	263
Figure 13.31. Welfare State: System and Lifeworld Exchanges of Burdens and Benefits (from the Perspective of the System).....	264
Figure 13.32. Welfare-State Compromise Structures of Late Capitalism (from the Perspective of the Lifeworld).....	265
Figure 13.33. The Logic of Social and Nonsocial Actions.....	267

Figure 14.1. "Development Problem": What Is to Be Done?	287
Figure 15.1. From Domination toward Emancipation: The Logic of the Overall Critical Argument	292

Tables

Table 1.1. Structure of the Book.....	7
Table 3.1. Typology of Forms of Social Order	38
Table 6.1. Differentiated (Pluralist) Welfare State versus Inte- grated (Corporatist) Welfare State	61
Table 7.1. Conceptions of Power and Their Fundamental As- sumptions.....	85
Table 10.1. Habermas's Interest Constitution Theory.....	152
Table 10.2. Problem Contexts and Systems Methodologies	165
Table 11.1. Mechanisms of Ideological Subjection and Qualifi- cation	174
Table 12.1. Judgments on the Textbook Scandal	193
Table 13.1. The Enigma of Modernity: With Some Key Players and Their Lifetimes	206
Table 13.2. Weber's Typology of Actions and Their Underlying Rationality and Meaning	239
Table 13.3. World Relations, Actions, and Forms of Rationality (Validity Claims).....	240
Table 13.4. Developments in Language Perspectives.....	243