

What is the fundamental nature of social reality? What kinds of things are money, property, governments, nations, marriages, cocktail parties, and football games?

The renowned philosopher John R. Searle reveals the key role played by language in the creation and maintenance of human social institutions. These institutions serve to create and distribute power relations that are pervasive and often invisible. They motivate human actions in a way that provides the glue that holds human civilization together. Searle shows how this account makes sense of human rationality, free will, political power, and human rights. Our social world is a world created and maintained by language.