

Contents

Preface and Acknowledgements	vi
Introduction: A Rhetorical–Responsive Version of Social Constructionism	1
PART I: A RHETORICAL–RESPONSIVE VERSION OF SOCIAL CONSTRUCTIONISM	
1 The Conversational Background of Social Life: Beyond Representationalism	17
2 Situating Social Constructionism: Knowing ‘from Within’	33
3 Dialogue and Rhetoric in the Construction of Social Relations	50
PART II: REALISM, THE IMAGINARY, AND A WORLD OF EVENTS	
4 The Limits of Realism	65
5 Social Life and the Imaginary	79
6 Linguistic Relativity in a World of Events	99
PART III: CONVERSATIONAL REALITIES	
7 In Search of a Past: Therapeutic Re-authoring	118
8 Real and Counterfeit Constructions in Interpersonal Relations	132
9 The Manager as a Practical Author: Conversations for Action	148
10 Rhetoric and the Recovery of Civil Society	160
Epilogue: Rhetorical–Responsive Social Constructionism in Summary Form	178
Afterword <i>Roy Bhaskar</i>	185
References	188
Index	197