

# The Logic of Social Research



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出版者:University of Chicago Press

出版时间:2005-6-28

装帧:Hardcover

isbn:9780226774916

Arthur L. Stinchcombe has earned a reputation as a leading practitioner of methodology in sociology and related disciplines. Throughout his distinguished career he has championed the idea that to be an effective sociologist, one must use many methods. This incisive work introduces students to the logic of those methods. The Logic of Social Research orients students to a set of logical problems that all methods must address to study social causation. Almost all sociological theory asserts that some social conditions produce other social conditions, but the theoretical links between causes and effects are not easily supported by observation. Observations cannot directly show causation, but they can reject or support causal theories with different degrees of credibility. As a result, sociologists have created four main types of methods that Stinchcombe terms quantitative, historical, ethnographic, and experimental to support their theories. Each method has value, and each has its uses for different research purposes. Accessible and astute, The Logic of Social Research offers an image of what sociology is, what it's all about, and what the craft of the sociologist consists of.

作者介绍:

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## 标签

Methodology

方法论

社会学

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methodology

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研究方法

## 评论

这本书的优点在于没有按照“常规”把社会学研究方法分成“定量”“定性”“历史”几种固定的类型，而是去探究在这些五花八门的具体研究技术背后的研究逻辑。这本书对我的很大一个帮助就是教会了我如何向做定量研究的人解释民族志方法背后的基本逻辑，而不是以“根本就是两种不同的取向”为由而拒绝任何交流沟通。它的缺点是文字实在太过佶屈聱牙了。

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## 书评

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