



Corporate Wrongdoing and the Art of the Accusation

Robert R. Faulkner

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Description

An exploration of accusations of wrongdoing and the revelations these expose about the dark side of capitalism and modern corporations.

'Professor Faulkner has amassed a database of over a thousand accusations of economic wrongdoing in corporate USA in the past 20 years, all of which highlight "the market interplay between the culture and structure of transgression" ... He presents an eyes-wide-open approach to understanding illegal repertoires of self-interest... that have sway in dealings among corporations, markets and states. These alliances can undermine, attack and even destroy legitimate entrepreneurship in the marketplace. Prof. Faulkner explains much about how we got into this mess we're in.'

—Ruth Parnell, *Nexus*

'[T]he book has much to offer researchers who want to understand the cultural and network dimensions of accusations of corporate wrongdoing.' —Harland Prechel, *American Journal of Sociology*

'[R]eaders willing to think outside the box in which contemporary organization theory on wrongdoing is currently trapped will be amply rewarded. "Corporate Wrongdoing" raises fundamental issues that our field has largely ignored.' —Donald Palmer, *Administrative Science Quarterly*

This book addresses an old and basic question: what is the moral order of the market? ***Corporate Wrongdoing and the Art of the Accusation*** is an exploration of accusations of wrongdoing, and the revelations these accusations expose about the dark side of capitalism and modern corporations in their relationships with suppliers, buyers, peers, investment banks and state regulators. The study explores data gathered from the past twenty years, including over a thousand accusations of economic wrongdoing in corporate America.

Readership: This book will appeal to students of social science and business studies, as well as anyone interested in corporate ethics and greed under capitalism.

Contents

Acknowledgements; Chapter 1. Accusations: Between the Innuendo and the Illegal; Chapter 2. Red Flags and Rebukes: How to Assemble an Accusation; Chapter 3. Fighting Words and Key Phrases; Chapter 4. Market Exchanges Gone Sour: Six Fields of Action; Chapter 5. Finger Pointing and Three Themes: Lying, Cheating, and Stealing; Chapter 6. The Ecology of Greed: Hot Spots for Accusations; Chapter 7. The Repertoires of Wrongdoing; Appendix A: Notes on Statistical Analysis and Coding Principle Themes, Keywords, Key Phrases in the Accusations; Appendix B: The Sample of United States Corporations and Counts of Public Announcements of Alleged Economic Crime; References; Index

About the Author

Robert R. Faulkner is Professor of Sociology at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, where he is affiliated with the Social and Demographic Research Institute. He writes on economic sociology, the sociology of culture, corporate governance, social networks, and the culture and practice of jazz. With Wayne E. Baker, his work on the social organization of conspiracies won the Max Weber Award from the American Sociological Association.

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