



The Anthem Companion to Raymond Boudon

Edited by Christian Robitaille with Robert Leroux

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A text that explores Raymond Boudon's influence on sociology by identifying the main threads of a resolutely complex course of thought which has contributed greatly to the discipline.

This book seeks to identify the main threads of a resolutely complex course of thought which has contributed greatly to sociology. Although he founded no “school,” Raymond Boudon certainly made original contributions to the discipline in his own time, including his theory of rationality, his interpretation of the work of the founders of sociology, and his explanation of educational inequalities. He also presented convincing arguments about how the overly narrow utilitarianism of mainstream economists was incomplete and betrayed major theoretical gaps. It is true in any case that his thought laid the groundwork for many theoretical and empirical social studies. Through an analysis of the most important parts of this thought, each of the chapters will not merely demonstrate the scientific rigor which can be associated to his work, but also show how it remains relevant to our understanding of contemporary society and how it can hence be used for future research projects.

There can be no doubt, Boudon’s thought has for various reasons undergone new assessments. Chapters of this book hence reflect a variety of points of view on how his work can be understood, criticized, and used for future research endeavors.

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Christian Robitaille is a lecturer (assistant professor) in sociology at Liverpool Hope University. His research focuses on theories of rationality, epistemology, the sociology of action, and the history of social scientific thought.

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