

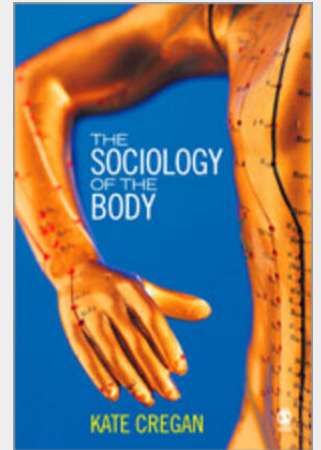
Cregan

## The Sociology of the Body

Mapping the Abstraction of Embodiment

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"Through a provocative analysis, this book contextualizes, explicates and critically analyses the work of those key theorists and texts that have been most influential in refocusing our gaze on human embodiment. Upon this foundation, the author builds her own distinctive theoretical framework towards the analysis of embodiment. This is a valuable addition to the field of body studies." - Chris Shilling, University of Kent Over the last 20 years, the social sciences have witnessed a remarkable inter-disciplinary surge of interest in the body. The latter is now recognized as a core concept and is the subject of intensive study at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. But how can we map this work? What are the contributions and differences of the various approaches? This lucid and authoritative text: - Provides a critical evaluation of the work of Elias, Aries, Foucault, Bourdieu, Mary Douglas, Kristeva, Butler, Haraway and Bordo. - Guides the reader through the inter-disciplinary influence of these ideas. - Gives a clear and compelling analysis of the significance of the 'turn' towards the body. - Explains the complex way in which embodiment is formed across different social formations. Clearly organized and powerfully expressed the book provides the best available guide to the 'turn to the body' in the social sciences.



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