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# Revue suisse de sociologie

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- Is it possible to discern correlations between past and present urban policies? Do path dependencies exist at the urban level? If so, how do they differ from other links between the past and the present? A review of the literature dealing with dependencies and reproduction, a presentation of the research methodology, and an examination of six case studies enable us to identify three ways of connecting transport and urban planning policies in the past and in the present between namely reproduction, innovation and contingency.
- Keywords: transport, urban planning, path dependency, innovation
- 387    **City of Layers – Bangkok’s Sky Train and How It Works in Socially Segregating Mobility Patterns** [E] | Ole B. Jensen
- This paper explores the construction of the “Sky Train” (BTS) in central Bangkok. The research explores the potentially socially segregating effect of the BTS on Bangkok mobility patterns. The conclusion is that in the networked urban geographies of Bangkok’s transportation system new mobility practices are played out in a relational space where the potential for movement is shifted in favour of the elite and the tourists. The BTS reconfigures the mobility patterns of the inner city of Bangkok in ways that are more than planning policies to overcome congestion and traffic jams. They are also expressions of power and social exclusion.
- Keywords: mobility, power, cities, segregation
- 407    **Individual or Organisational Resources as Determinants of Success of Apprenticeship? The Need for Solving Organisational Problems as Motors Behind Social Inequality** [G] | Christian Imdorf
- A recent sociological dispute serves to question the explanatory value of resource theories to account for inequality in labour market access. To explain educational success, human resource theories can be countered by organisational theories, in particular by the concept of Institutional Discrimination. The empirical plausibility of this concept is shown with regard to the distribution of apprenticeships in training firms. It is argued that by settling

for a narrowed notion of individual productivity, previous research of social inequality has ignored significant organisational rationalities of selection in the educational field and in the labour market.

Keywords: ethnicised social inequality, access to education and work, institutional discrimination, distribution of apprenticeships

#### 425 A Brief Survey of the Ontology of Boudon's Sociology [F] | Loïc Jarnet

Raymond Boudon is a high-ranking French author, and his ontology of sociology is complex. The survey we are giving here is focused on two entities: the individual and society. Boudon's individual comes first, he is plural (rational, situated, emotional), but above all he is capable of transcending a situation and of referring to the universal. As far as society is concerned, Boudon provides us with a few models to enable us to grasp such or such a society and more specifically the contemporary one. Altogether we find in Boudon's work a "co-generativity" of these two ontologies (the individual/society) which generates a complex evolutionism.

Keywords: ontology, Raymond Boudon, individual, society

#### 443 Theoretical Empiricism – Empirical Theory. Synthesis of Epistemological Insights within Systems Theory [G] | Jörg Räwel

This article reconstructs the methodology of theoretical and empirical research on the basis of the system-theoretical concept of communication. This reconstruction by means of the communication theory helps to better understand the (entangled) relationships between the research methods and to connect them to the recent findings in sociological research. Furthermore functional analysis makes it possible to find a common ground between Luhmann's communication theory, based on the paradigm of operational constructivism, and the established insights in the field of the philosophy of science and epistemology, especially regarding the philosophy of language. It shows that the results of the research in epistemology (as of Quine, Gödel, Bohr, Feyerabend, Kuhn, Heisenberg) not only correspond to the theoretical concept of communication as defined in the system theory but also relate to them in a coherent way.

Keywords: sociology of knowledge, philosophy of science, cognitive science, method problem, Luhmann

#### 465 Sibling Relationships as Shunt Connection: Presence and Influence of Parents on Adult Siblings [F] | Jean-Hugues Déchaux

This paper examines parents' involvement in adult siblings relationships by using a sample of 40 interviews conducted in France. The main result is that siblings relationships depend on the parents because of their nodal position in most of the kinship networks, localized or not. The factors which produce a greater autonomy of the siblings group are also the consequence of parents' influence in the past history of the family. The regulating role of the parental couple regarding the siblings relationships results from a specific structure of relations that we call "shunt connection".

Keywords: siblings, kinship networks, matricentricity, family roles, structural analysis

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