DESCRIPTION

Issues of movement – of people, things, information and ideas – are central to people's lives and to most organisations. From oil wars to SMS texting, from airport expansion controversies to the decline of walking, from slave-trading to global terrorism, from global warming to teleworking, issues of ‘mobility’ are centre-stage upon many academic and policy agendas. These topics and issues are increasingly analysed as part of a concern with ‘mobility’ which this wide-ranging book both describes and seeks to develop.

John Urry has been at the centre of these debates and he draws upon an extensive array of new research and material to develop what he calls the ‘new mobilities paradigm’ for the social sciences. He shows how this paradigm makes comprehensible social phenomena which were previously opaque. He examines how ‘mobilities’ each presuppose a ‘system’ that permits predictable and relatively risk-free repetition. The book outlines various such systems and then analyses their intersecting implications for social inequality, for social networks and meetings, for the nature of places and for alternative mobility futures.

Mobilities is thus both an analysis of different mobilities historically and in the present and an argument that the social world will be analysed quite differently once peoples’ lives, organisations, states and global institutions are seen to be dealing with extensive and hugely contested mobility processes. This book rewrites social science through a mobilities paradigm.
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

John Urry (1946-2016) was Distinguished Professor of Sociology at Lancaster University

FEATURES

- Ground-breaking new book by John Urry outlining what he calls the ‘new mobilities paradigm’ for the social sciences
- An analysis of different mobilities, or ways of movement, both historically and in the present
- Argues that the social world will be analysed differently once peoples’ lives, organisations, states and global institutions are seen to be dealing with extensive and hugely contested mobility processes
- Clearly written using many modern examples and references to literary works
- Powerful and persuasive, this book will appeal to students and scholars across the social sciences and humanities

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