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Planning in Crisis?

Theoretical Orientations for Architecture and Planning

Walter Schoenwandt, University of Stuttgart, Germany

'Building on a thorough analysis of past theoretical developments, Schoenwandt proposes a new challenging direction in the current debate about planning theory.'

– Gert de Roo, University of Groningen, The Netherlands

'*Planning in Crisis* is a welcome addition to the planning literature, providing the reader with a new and creative approach to the interface of philosophy and planning theory. While previous theorists have applied the works of such philosophers as Rawls, Habermas and Rorty to enlighten issues in planning, Professor Schoenwandt applies the works of Mario Bunge, a well-known philosopher of science and social science. This opens up a unique and original path that should be of great interest and relevance to planning students, professors and practitioners alike.' – Stan Stein, University of Calgary, Canada

In recent years, a formidable gulf has opened up between planning theory and practice. Over the past four decades, planning academics have developed strong theories and created models to accompany and elucidate the planning process. However, many planning practitioners have resisted the notion that theory can play a positive role in the solution of concrete planning problems. This volume provides a comprehensive overview of the main planning theories and models, while then putting forward an innovative new model and a set of tools, based on the theories of Mario Bunge, which are aimed at helping planners achieve a better understanding of the complexities involved in the role of planners and their impact on the built environment.

Contents: Preface; PART I CONSTRUCTS FOR THE DESCRIPTION OF PLANNING: 7 models of planning; Towards a '3rd generation' of planning theory. PART II CONSTRUCTS FOR THE TREATMENT OF PLANNING TASKS: The semiotic triangle – a conceptual tool in planning; Bibliography; Index.

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