

Everyday Regionalisations

Theoretical framework and research perspectives

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Prologue

Everyday Geographies and Scientific Geography

Concepts of Regionalisation

- Traditional: Unity of the Natural and Socio-Cultural
 - Modern: Formal Classification
 - Late-Modern: World-Binding
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Content

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 - 2 Types of Action and Social Praxis
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From Space to Praxis

First attempt

- Space as pre-given and non theoretical issue has to be considered as inappropriate
 - The Making of geographical realities as focus of scientific geography
 - From spatial approach to the analysis of everyday geography-making
 - From 'geography of objects' to 'geographies of subjects'
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From Space to Praxis

Second attempt

- Clarification of the implication of a praxis turn in geography
 - Critical appreciation of the spatial turn in the social sciences
 - Away from Weber and Ratzel/Hettner towards
 - a new qualitative approach without neglecting the material
 - without any materialistic shortcomings/reductionisms
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Types of Action and Social Praxis

Classical Types of Action

Purpose-oriented:	Weber, Pareto (Rational Choice Theory)
Norm-orientated:	Parsons, Goffman (Durkheim)
Meaning-oriented:	Schutz, Garfinkel, (Habermas)

Types of Action and Social Praxis

Action/Agency: A. Giddens

Agency and Structure: Structuration

Agency and Power

Agency and Mind: Time

Agency and Body: Space

Types of Action and Social Praxis

Action/Agency and Time/Space

Agency and Mind: Time and Reflexivity
- unconscious
- practical/reflexive consciousness

Consciousness and Body

Agency and Body: Space and Control
- spans of reach
- regionalisation

Types of Action and Social Praxis

Power

Resources	Allocative resources
	Authoritative resources
Rules	Semantic rules
	Schemes of interpretation

Action and Space

Agency and Time/Space (Giddens)

Agency and Time: Types of Time
- Durée (Bergson): routines
- Dasein (Heidegger): life span
- Longue durée (Braudel): institutions

Agency and Space: Control over Space and Power
- body and authoritative resource
- body and regionalisation
- regionalisation and power

Structuration of Time and Space - Regionalisation of Society

Action and Space

'Space'...

....is not a container of social actions but an element of action/praxis
....is not a non-theoretical, pre-given fact

Shift from 'action in space' to 'space in action'

- Implications for
- Structuration Theory
 - Regional Geography
 - Allan Pred
 - Derek Gregory
 - Nigel Thrift
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Action and Space

Elements of a definition of 'space'

- what 'space' is depends on its definition
 - the definition of 'space' depends on the theoretical framework
 - geographical space can be used for the location of material facts
 - but even geographical space is never a material entity
 - meanings are always attributed
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Action and Space

'Space' is a concept and

- not material (Aristotle, Descartes -> traditional geography)
- not absolute (Newton -> traditional geography)
- not relational (Leibniz -> spatial approach, Massey? Harvey?)
- no a-priori (Kant -> Geometry)
- not pre-given (Heidegger -> Pickles)

- Constituted, based on experiences (Husserl)

Action and Space

'Space' as a formal-classificatory concept

- Based on body experiences
- Body as (idealised) point of origin
- Calculation: Metric appropriation (purpose)
- Control/Social regulation: Normative appropriation (norm)
- Representation: Symbolic appropriation (meaning)

Action and Space

	formal	classificatory/ relational	examples
Purpose-rational	metric	classificatory calculation	land mark location theory
Norm-orientated	metric/ body-centred	classificatory / relational prescription	territory back-/front-region
Meaning-orientated	body-centred	relational signification	regional identity regional symbols

Everyday Regionalisation

Time/Space as Elements of Agency

Giddens:
Structuration of Time and Space - Regionalisation of Society

New Interpretation:

Time/Space - Elements of Agency and social structuration

Meanings of 'space' are constitutive for social realities

Everyday Regionalisation

Construction of geographical realities

	Types	Power	Realm
P R A X I S	EXCHANGE	authoritative allocative significant	Economy (purpose-rational)
	LEGITIMATION	allocative authoritative significant	Society (norm-oriented)
	SYMBOLISATION	authoritative significant allocative	Culture (meaning-oriented)

Everyday Regionalisation

World-Binding

'Culturally, socially and economically uneven capacities of

- *the mastering of spatial and temporal relations*
- *the steering of the subjective agency and the praxis of others*

'Space' can be understood as

- *a conceptual tool of the praxis of world-binding, of everyday regionalisations!*

Research Perspectives

Types of world-bindings

Main Types	Research Perspectives
PRODUCTIVE-CONSUMPTIVE	Geographies of Production Geographies of Consumption
NORMATIV-POLITICAL	Geographies normative Appropriation Geographies of Control
INFORMATIVE-SIGNIFIKATIVE	Geographies of Information Geographies of symbolic Appropriation

Research Perspectives

PRODUCTIVE-CONSUMPTIVE

Geographies of Production

- flows of goods and substances
- spatial and temporal relations
- authoritative resources over distance (absence)

Geographies of Consumption

- life-styles as forms of world binding
 - transformation of production
 - Transformation of nature
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Research Perspectives

NORMATIV-POLITICAL

Geographies normative Appropriation

- processes of de-/territorialisation
- forms of exclusion/inclusion
- geographies of childhood and youths
- regionalisms/nationalisms

Geographies of Control

- totalitarian supervision
 - territorial strategies of political dominance (ethnic cleansing, territorial wars etc.)
 - gated communities
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Research Perspectives

INFORMATIVE-SIGNIFIKATIVE

Geographies of Information

- Geographies of media and mediated geographies
- Medial containerisation of late-modern realities
- Regional marketing

Geographies of symbolic Appropriation

- feeling of spatial belongings
 - formation of regional/national identities (and it's implications)
 - politics of the symbolic (UN politics of cultural/natural heritage)
 - Regional images/place labelling
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