

The SAGE Handbook of Public Opinion Research

By Wolfgang Donsbach, Michael W Traugott



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'Some of the most experienced and thoughtful research experts in the world have contributed to this comprehensive Handbook, which should have a place on every serious survey researcher's bookshelf - Sir Robert Worcester, Founder of MORI and President of WAPOR '82-'84. 'This is the book I have been waiting for. It not only reflects the state of the art, but will most likely also shape public opinion on public opinion research' - Olof Petersson, Professor of political science, SNS, Stockholm, Sweden. 'The Handbook of Public Opinion Research is very authoritative, well organized, and sensitive to key issues in opinion research around the world. It will be my first choice as a general reference book for orienting users and training producers of opinion polls in Southeast Asia' - Mahar K. Mangahas, Ph.D., President of Social Weather Stations, Philippines (www.sws.org.ph). 'This is the most comprehensive book on public opinion research to date' - Robert Ting-Yiu Chung, Secretary-Treasurer, World Association for Public Opinion Research (WAPOR); Director of Public Opinion Programme, The University of Hong Kong. Public opinion theory and research are becoming increasingly significant in modern societies as people's attitudes and behaviours become ever more volatile and opinion poll data becomes ever more readily available. This major new Handbook is the first to bring together into one volume the whole field of public opinion theory, research methodology, and the political and social embeddedness of polls in modern societies. It comprehensively maps out the state-of-the-art in contemporary scholarship on these topics. With over fifty chapters written by distinguished international researchers, both academic and from the commercial sector, this Handbook is designed to: - give the reader an overview of the most important concepts included in and surrounding the term 'public opinion' and its application in modern social research - present the basic empirical concepts for assessing public opinion and opinion changes in society - provide an overview of the social, political and legal status of public opinion research, how it is perceived by the public and by journalists, and how it is used by governments - offer a review of the role and use of surveys for selected special fields of application, ranging from their use in legal cases to the use of polls in marketing and campaigns. The Handbook of Public Opinion Research provides an indispensable resource for both practitioners and students alike.

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Editorial Review

Review

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This is an admirable and expansive book..Any scholar with an interest in public opinion will want to have access to this book, and I recommend it highly. The editors have provided a substantial

resource that no serious research library can be without'

Michael Higgins

The British Politics Journal

About the Author

Wolfgang Donsbach is Professor of Communication and founding director of the Department of Communication at Dresden University of Technology, Germany.

He received his PhD and his postdoctoral dissertation at the University of Mainz. Prior to his current position he taught at the universities of Dortmund, Mainz, and Berlin. 1989/90 he was a fellow at the Gannett Center for Media Studies, Columbia University, New York, 1999 Lombard Visiting Professor at Harvard University. From 1995 to 1996 he was president of the World Association for Public Opinion Research (WAPOR) and from 2004 to 2005 president of the International Communication Association (ICA).

Donsbach is managing editor of the "International Journal of Public Opinion Research "and serves on the editorial boards of "Communication Theory," "Political Communication," "The Harvard International Journal Press/Politics," "JAVNOST - The Public," and "Communication," His main research interests are in journalism, political communication, and exposure to communication. He has published or edited 13 books

and over 100 articles in academic journals.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Dorothy Wright:

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