



Idea of a Social Science and Its Relation to Philosophy (Studies in Philosophy Psychology)

By Peter Winch

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In the fiftieth anniversary of this book's first release, Winch's argument remains as crucial as ever. Originally published in 1958, *The Idea of a Social Science and Its Relation to Philosophy* was a landmark exploration of the social sciences, written at a time when that field was still young and had not yet joined the Humanities and the Natural Sciences as the third great domain of the Academy.

A passionate defender of the importance of philosophy to a full understanding of 'society' against those who would deem it an irrelevant 'ivory towers' pursuit, Winch draws from the works of such thinkers as Ludwig Wittgenstein, J.S. Mill and Max Weber to make his case. In so doing he addresses the possibility and practice of a comprehensive 'science of society'.

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Review

'Far and away the liveliest and most cogent of the responses yet made to that staid official judgement of some years ago, that political philosophy must now be presumed dead.' - *Times Literary Supplement*

About the Author

Peter Winch (1926-1997). Born in Walthamstow, Essex, Peter Winch was an internationally respected Philosopher and an influential student of Wittgenstein. *The Idea of a Social Science and its Relation to Philosophy* is his most famous work.

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