

# ORDERING INFORMATION

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Visit our website for more information and resouces on Social Construction:

www.taosinstitute.net

### MISSION STATEMENT

The Taos Institute is a community of scholars and practitioners working to explore, extend and share the view that through relationships we construct our realities, moralities, and aspirations. The Institute is a non-profit, educationally oriented organization whose participants collaborate to design and promote creative, appreciative, and relational practices in families, communities and organizations around the world.

We are pleased to share the fruits of our endeavors with others in diverse collaborative modes

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Taos Institute Publications offers contributions to cutting-edge theory and practice in social construction



Taos Tempo Series

**Focus Book Series** 

#### Books for Professionals Series

Books in these three series are particularly relevant to social scientists and to practitioners concerned with individual, family, organizational, community and societal change

"All that is meaningful grows from relationship; it is within this vortex that the future will be forged."

> — Kenneth J. Gergen Realities and Relationships



### **BOOKS FOR PROFESSIONAL SERIES**

Books that provide in-depth works, focusing on recent developments in theory and practice

## Positive Approaches to Peacebuilding: A Resource for Innovators

(2010) edited by Cynthia Sampson, Mohammed Abu-Nimer, Claudia Liebler, & Diana Whitney

This book presents an innovative perspective on peacebuilding that breaks new ground. The theoretical frameworks are rich, the case studies are practical and the tips and guides to practice are sure to inspire new and innovative work among peacebuilders. This book describes the social construction of imagined futures, inviting us, as scholar-practitioners, to move beyond 'problem solving' and its ethic of 'neutrality,' towards Appreciative Inquiry, and its ethics of narrative, voice, and meaning-making, relying on the heart-wisdom that flourishes in the context of affirmation. \$25.00

## Experiential Learning Exercises In Social Construction: A Field Book for Creating

Change (2004) by Robert Cottor, Alan Asher, Judith Levin, & Cindy Weiser

This field book presents exercises that have been organized into Learning Labs that will invite innovative thinking and practice with those familiar with social construction theory as well as those who are newcomers to constructionist thinking. Learning Labs are designed to generate new thinking about diverse societal and professional issues. \$24.95

#### <u>Joined Imaginations</u>: Writing and Language in Therapy

(2009) by Peggy Penn, Ph.D.

As the title, Joined Imaginations, suggests, this volume takes us into the lives of Peggy Penn's clients and illustrates how her love of language and its infinite possibilities invites the creation of new stories, new possibilities, and joined imaginations. Peggy positions herself as a master of double description as she takes on the serious business of clients' problems by expanding their voices as well as the means by which those voices are given expression. \$24.00

#### Conversational Realities Revisited: Life, Language, Body and World

(2008) by John Shotter

This book contests the traditional scientific view that naturally occurring psychological and socialogical realities of a systematic and structured kind are to be discovered underlying appearances. It claims that such orderly 'realities' are socially constructed and sustained in existence only within the context of people's disorderly, everyday conversational activities. \$25.00

## Celebrating the Other: A Dialogic Account of Human Nature

(2008 reprint) by Edward E. Sampson

In this important book, Sampson launches a new attack—this time on Western culture's centuries-long preoccupation with a contained, individualistic, monologic Self and its fearful suppression of all that is Other — all that is experienced as different from the implicit, self-affirming white male standard. Denying the Other so as to create a world secured on behalf of the dominant groups' interests has become an obsession driving not only the larger culture but also the human sciences. \$28.00

#### **Therapeutic Realities:**

#### Collaboration, Oppression, Relational Flow

(2006) by Kenneth Gergen

This work provides a brief introduction to social construction, and then illuminates the landscape of change. Special emphasis is given to topics of therapeutic communication, narrative, and therapeutic practices both traditional and contemporary. This book contains Kenneth Gergen's major contributions to therapeutic thought and practice, \$32.00

## Horizons in Buddhist Psychology: Practice, Research and Theory

(2006) by Maurits Kwee, Kenneth Gergen, & Fusako Koshikawa

This book is for those who are interested in Buddhist teachings and all who seek routes to growth in human well-being, particularly merapiss, coaches, and scientists. It is a vanguard work that sets a cultural revolution in motion by bringing the truits of the Buddhist heritage together with contemporary therapy, systematic research, and postmodern thought \$40.00

#### Sociodynamic Counselling: A Practical Approach to Meaning Making

(2004) by R. Vance Peavy

Social mamic Counseling focuses on the dynamic processes when constructing the self. This book emphasizes the relational aspects of the human experience. The purpose of this book is to weave the theories of various relational practices and arientations into a perspective on how to work with people's concern in daily life. \$20.00



### **FOCUS BOOK SERIES**

Books that provide brief introductions and overviews that illuminate theories, concepts and useful practices in social construction

#### The Appreciative Organization

(2008) Revised Edition by Harlene Anderson, David Cooperrider, Kenneth J. Gergen, Mary Gergen, Shella McNamee, & Diana Whitney

In the original version of this book the founders of the Taos Institute pooled their substantial resources to create a vision of a powerful and humanly nourishing form of organization and to share practices for bringing this organization into being. Today, The Appreciative Organization has been revised and updated. Based on the authors' diverse experiences in organizational life, they are unanimous in their view that the appreciative construction of meaning is essential to the efficacy of an organization and the fulfillment of its participants. In clear and direct language, the volume treats the challenges of decision making, leadership, group functioning, personnel evaluation, and the relationship of the organization to its context. Bold ideas are developed, examples described, and multiple suggestions developed for creating the appreciative organization. \$14.95

## Appreciative Inquiry: A Positive Approach to Building Cooperative Capacity

(2006) by Frank Barrett & Ron Fry

This introduction to Appreciative Inquiry is an excellent addition to your resource library. This clear, easy to read, concise introduction to AI brings theory and practice together in understandable terms. It weaves the theory and practice throughout the book through story and cases and brings to life the power of AI in building cooperative capacity in any organizational system. If you are looking for a great introduction and overview to AI, this is the book for you. \$19.95

# <u>Dynamic Relationships:</u> Unleashing the Power of Appreciative Inquiry in Daily Living

(2005) by Jacqueline Stavros & Cheri Torres

This book is designed to open the doorway into the "appreciative paradigm" where living with the intent to create positive, expansive way of relating and knowing actually increases the sustainability of positive change. This book is about living Appreciative Inquiry. It is about seeing yourself in the AI principles as the foundation for being in relationship. \$18.95

#### <u>Social Construction</u>: Entering the Dialogue

(2004) by Kenneth J. Gergen & Mary Gergen

This book presents an introductory account of social constructionist thought that will enable students, colleagues and practitioners — as well as those who are simply curious — to gain a basic understanding and appreciation of the drama and constructionist ideas in action — in organizations, psychotherapy, education, conflict resolution, social research, and every day life. \$16.00

#### Appreciative Sharing of Knowledge: Leveraging Knowledge Management for Strategic Organizational Change

(2005) by Tojo Thatchenkery

Combining the principles of appreciative inquiry, social constructionism and knowledge management, this book describes an approach called ASK — Appreciative Sharing of Knowledge. The goals of ASK are to identify the talents and competencies already at work in the organization, to locate what knowledge-sharing practices already existed, and to bring to light the values and behaviors that enable knowledge sharing at its best. \$19.95

## Appreciative Leaders: In the Eve of the Beholder

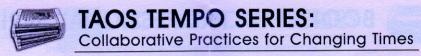
(2001) edited by Marge Schiller, Bea Mah Holland, & Deanna Riley

This book presents a model of Appreciative Leadership based on twenty-eight interviews, fifteen of which are included in the book. This small but comprehensive sample reveals the outstanding characteristics of appreciative leaders and their predominant behavioral attributes. The ways appreciative leaders engage in their daily practices are outlined in detail. \$19.95

# Experience AI: A Practitioner's Guide to Integrating Appreciative Inquiry and Experiential Learning

(2001) by Miriam Ricketts & Jim Willis

Share in a conversation around the power and efficacy of embedding experiential learning models, tools and techniques into appreciative inquiry in order to accelerate positive change, motivate teams and individuals, generate buyin and engage people at all levels. \$14.95



Books that focus on general practices that facilitate social change across disciplines and which will be of interest to the general public

## Riding the Current: How to Deal with the Daily Deluge of Data

(2010) by Madelyn Blair

In Riding the Current, Madelyn Blair shares ways ordinary and extraordinary people from around the world address the limits of time and budget, massive overdoses of information, and even lack of management skill to stay current in a fast-paced world. You'll learn new ways to keep your knowledge fresh through conscious self-guided learning that is grounded in the world around us! This book will help you discover ways in which your learning can occur outside the classroom and beyond books. \$25.00

#### Ordinary Life Therapy: Experiences from a Collaborative Systemic Practice

(2009) by Carina Håkansson

Ordinary Life Therapy is anything but ordinary. The work described in this book is relational, collaborative, generative and constructionist. It is also clinically sound and exciting—an extraordinary program. The ideas presented in this book challenge the foundations of mental illness healthcare as practiced in many places around the world. Carina describes an alternative and creative way of practicing the healing art of therapy. \$22.00

#### Mapping Dialogue: Essential Tools for Social Change

(2008) by Marianne "Mille" Bojer, Heiko Roehl, Marianne Knuth, & Colleen Magner

Sustainable social change is increasingly depending on successful dialogue. This book provides a closer look at transformative dialogue tools and processes for social change. It profiles ten dialogue methods in depth, and another fifteen more briefly, \$24.00

#### <u>Positive Family Dynamics</u>: Appreciative Inquiry Questions to Bring Out the Best in Families

(2008) by Dawn Cooperrider Dole, Jen Hetzel Silbert, Ada Jo Mann, & Diana Whitney

Positive Family Dynamics is a wonderful resource for parents and family members who want to bring out the best in their families! It is an Encyclopedia of Positive Questions. The questions, stories and activities in this book will help you create relationships within your family which will nurture respect, love, and care. The book's imaginative questions, exercises, and positive spirit create a simple yet powerful method for helping families discover hidden reserves of strength and inspired opportunities for better living. \$20.00



### **BOOKS FOR PROFESSIONAL SERIES**

Books that provide in-depth works, focusing on recent developments in theory and practice

#### <u>Social Construction on the Edge</u>: 'Withness'-Thinking & Embodiment

(2010) by John Shotter

The overall approach taken in this collection of essays is 'on the edge' of social constructionism in that — rather than emphasizing a "linguistic" or an "interpretative" turn — it emphasizes the spontaneous, expressive-responsiveness of our living bodies as providing the 'background glue' that holds us together in all our relationships, both with all the other people around us and with all the events also occurring in our surroundings. It thus emphasizes how our living exerts an influence on our actions. \$25.00

#### New Horizons in Buddhist Psychology: Relational Buddhism for Collaborative

Practitioners (2010) edited by Maurits G.T. Kwee

In this rich and wide-ranging anthology, Maurits G.T. Kwee has assembled ranking authorities on Buddhism as it originated, evolved, and stands in relationship to present day psychology, psychiatry, and education. The book provides an in-depth understanding of Buddhist practices and their potentials, and the ideas that for centuries have had a profound contribution to cultural life. \$40.00