

Hegemony, Consciousness and Consent: Methodological Engagement with Gramscian Thought.

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Abstract

This academic paper delves into the concept of hegemony, as it was developed and articulated by the Italian Marxist philosopher, Antonio Gramsci. In particular, the paper aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the methodological approach that Gramsci employed in order to construct his theory of society, while also examining the ways in which his personal and social context influenced his ideas. The paper is divided into two main sections. The first section focuses on Gramsci's political life and sheds light on his concept of hegemony, which is closely linked to several other major concepts. This section offers an analysis of the historical and political events that shaped Gramsci's worldview and contributed to the evolution of his ideas. The second section of the paper looks at how his thoughts were shaped by his life experiences and social context. By contextualizing Gramsci's ideas within his personal and historical context, the paper offers valuable insights into the methodological and theoretical foundations of his philosophy and social theory from the sociology of knowledge perspective.

Keywords: Gramsci, Hegemony, Consciousness, Intellectuals, Civil Society.

The starting-point of critical elaboration, is . . . 'knowing thyself' as a product of the historical process to date which has deposited in you an infinity of traces (Gramsci. 1971: 324).

Introduction:

The Sociology of Knowledge, a branch of philosophy that emerged in the third decade of the twentieth century, focuses on the relationship between ideas and reality, influenced by Marx's historical materialism. Mannheim (1954) attributed Marx's ideas to his approach, which emphasized the role of socioeconomic reality in shaping ideas and the concept of consciousness as a socially constructed phenomenon. It examines the discovery, analysis, and description of different

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