

Encyclopedia of Technological Hazards and Disasters in the Social Sciences

Elgar Encyclopedias in the Social Sciences series

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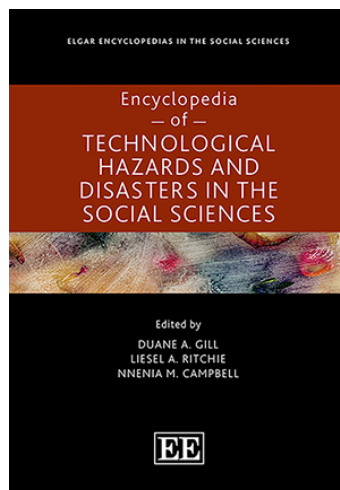
The Encyclopedia of Technological Hazards and Disasters in the Social Sciences brings together an array of global experts to investigate, explore and analyse human-caused disaster events. Providing insights into both the origins and aftermaths of disaster events, it offers advanced understanding of a broad range of disaster events facing society during the Anthropocene.

‘Through brief but substantive essays, this remarkable collection of authors reveals the intersection between technologies, economic incentives, and social constraints that generate social risk in novel and unanticipated ways. Building on Ulrich Beck’s seminal insights regarding the impact of technologies on working social and economic practices, the essays, collectively, produce a deeper, more nuanced understanding of the ‘risk society.’’
– Louise K. Comfort, University of Pittsburgh, US

‘This far-reaching Encyclopedia consists of entries on topics that are central to social science research on technological hazards and disasters. Contributing authors include many of the world’s leading hazards and disasters scholars. What an enormous contribution! It will be of great use for students, researchers, civil society groups, and policymakers.’
– Andrew Jorgenson, The University of British Columbia, Canada

‘This is an impressive collection of authoritative pieces encompassing well known (even notorious) and lesser-known technological hazards and disasters. Despite the technological label, the editors and authors confront the problematic taxonomic issue of setting boundaries for natural disasters which are never natural and technological disasters which may have natural triggers or consequences. The case studies provide a rich evidence base of concepts, theories, empirical studies and critical analyses that should be the first destination for those new to the field, and also an exemplary reference guide for the more experienced. But it is in the comprehensiveness of this collection that the Encyclopedia scores most strongly as there is nothing currently available with the breadth of its coverage. Despite decades of work in disaster research, I found much that was new and insightful from these entries.’
– Maureen Fordham, University College London, UK

‘Hazards and disasters are the flipside of technological systems’ ability to funnel natural forces into social processes, with increasingly complex and far reaching implications. This is a much needed, impressively comprehensive and compelling guide to navigating concepts, theories and events.’
– Luigi Pellizzoni, Scuola Normale Superiore, Italy



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