

# Poststructural Policy Analysis

Carol Bacchi • Susan Goodwin

# Poststructural Policy Analysis

A Guide to Practice

palgrave  
macmillan

Carol Bacchi  
Department of Politics  
University of Adelaide  
Adelaide, Australia

Susan Goodwin  
Faculty of Education and Social Work  
University of Sydney  
Sydney, New South Wales, Australia

ISBN 978-1-137-52544-4

ISBN 978-1-137-52546-8 (eBook)

DOI 10.1057/978-1-137-52546-8

Library of Congress Control Number: 2016949395

© The Editor(s) (if applicable) and The Author(s) 2016

This work is subject to copyright. All rights are solely and exclusively licensed by the Publisher, whether the whole or part of the material is concerned, specifically the rights of translation, reprinting, reuse of illustrations, recitation, broadcasting, reproduction on microfilms or in any other physical way, and transmission or information storage and retrieval, electronic adaptation, computer software, or by similar or dissimilar methodology now known or hereafter developed.

The use of general descriptive names, registered names, trademarks, service marks, etc. in this publication does not imply, even in the absence of a specific statement, that such names are exempt from the relevant protective laws and regulations and therefore free for general use. The publisher, the authors and the editors are safe to assume that the advice and information in this book are believed to be true and accurate at the date of publication. Neither the publisher nor the authors or the editors give a warranty, express or implied, with respect to the material contained herein or for any errors or omissions that may have been made.

Cover illustration: Pattern adapted from an Indian cotton print produced in the 19th century

Printed on acid-free paper

This Palgrave Pivot imprint is published by Springer Nature

The registered company is Nature America Inc.

The registered company address is: 1 New York Plaza, New York, NY 10004, U.S.A.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We would like to thank Anne Wilson for her excellent advice and expert assistance in the development and preparation of this book. Her attention to detail and engagement with the material have added enormously to the clarity of the ideas presented. We also gratefully acknowledge Jennifer Bonham's contribution to the book and her work with Carol developing a new framework for undertaking poststructural interview analysis. This addition to the book contributes substantially to the objective of providing new and exciting ways to engage questions about policy and governing practices.

# CONTENTS

## Part I Asking New Policy Questions

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Making Politics Visible: The WPR Approach</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Key Themes and Concepts</b>	<b>27</b>
	<i>Power, Knowledge, and Resistance</i>	28
	<i>Practices, Events, and Relations</i>	32
	<i>Discourses and Discursive Practices</i>	35
	<i>Problematizing, Problematizations, Self-Problematization</i>	38
	<i>Governmentality: Rationalities and Technologies</i>	41
	<i>Genealogy and Subjugated Knowledges</i>	45
	<i>Subjectification, Subject Positions, and Dividing Practices</i>	49

## Part II Interrogating Policies as Constitutive: WPR Applications

<b>4</b>	<b>Making and Unmaking “problems”</b>	<b>57</b>
	<i>Understandings of “problems” in Policy Analysis</i>	58
	<i>Alcohol and Other Drug “problems”</i>	62
	<i>“Gender equality”</i>	64

<b>5 Making and Unmaking “subjects”</b>	69
<i>Education Policy</i>	71
<i>Health Policy</i>	73
<i>Immigration Policy</i>	75
<i>Economic Policy</i>	76
<i>Transport/Environment Policy</i>	77
<i>Disability/Equality Policy</i>	78
<i>Family Policy</i>	80
<b>6 Making and Unmaking “objects”</b>	83
<i>“traffic”/“cycling”</i>	85
<i>“poverty”/“social inclusion”</i>	87
<i>“addiction”</i>	89
<i>“literacy”</i>	90
<i>States of Being: “wellbeing”, “disability”, “developing/developed”</i>	92
<b>7 Making and Unmaking “places”</b>	95
<i>Making (up) “the state”</i>	97
<i>Making (up) “Europe”</i>	98
<i>Making (up) “urban”/“rural” “places”</i>	100
<i>Making (up) “developed” and “developing” “places”</i>	103
<i>Making (up) “public places”</i>	104
<b>8 Conclusion</b>	107
<b>Appendix: Poststructural Interview Analysis: Politicizing “personhood” by Carol Bacchi and Jennifer Bonham</b>	113
<b>Bibliography</b>	123
<b>Index</b>	143