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Edited by Leigh Maxwell

Reimagining Work

Bridging Innovation and Human Dignity in Remote and Hybrid Workspaces

CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES ON SOCIAL SCIENCE

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About the editor

Dr. Maxwell is an accomplished educator and researcher with over two decades of experience in the field of communication studies. Holding a Ph.D. in Telecommunication and Electronic Media from The Ohio State University, Dr. Maxwell currently serves as a Full Professor of Communication Studies at Edgewood University in Madison, Wisconsin.

Throughout her career, Dr. Maxwell has dedicated her research efforts to exploring communication dynamics within the workplace. Her research portfolio includes in-depth studies on various aspects of workplace communication, ranging from healthcare provider interactions to communication patterns among different generations in professional settings.

As a passionate advocate for effective communication practices, Dr. Maxwell has contributed to the field through her insightful research findings and expertise. Her work sheds light on the complexities of interpersonal communication, nonverbal cues, and the evolving nature of professional interactions in modern organizational settings.

In addition to her research endeavors, Dr. Maxwell is a respected educator, teaching a diverse array of courses such as interpersonal communication, professional communications, business ethics, nonverbal communication, and organizational leadership. Her commitment to fostering a deeper understanding of communication dynamics among students is evident in her engaging teaching style and dedication to student success.

Dr. Maxwell's latest contribution to the field comes in the form of the edited volume titled "Reimagining Work: Bridging Innovation and Human Dignity in Remote and Hybrid Workspaces." This groundbreaking book delves into the fundamental shifts occurring in the modern workplace, offering insightful perspectives and practical advice for maximizing technological possibilities and creating collaborative and productive work environments.

Summary

In a world permanently changed by the COVID-19 pandemic, 'Reimagining Work' offers a timely and urgent exploration of how work is being reshaped—and how it should be. This interdisciplinary volume brings together scholars and practitioners from communication, leadership, education, psychology, and organizational development to confront the challenges and possibilities of the evolving workplace.

More than a reflection on remote and hybrid trends, this book is a call to rethink foundational questions: How do we honor human dignity in technologically mediated environments? What leadership strategies are needed to navigate generational dynamics, digital fatigue, and rapid innovation? How do communication technologies both enable and constrain productivity, connection, and inclusion?

With historical depth and forward-looking insight, the contributors examine four central themes: (1) the theoretical and historical underpinnings of communication in digital workspaces; (2) the unique strengths and tensions of multigenerational teams; (3) the influence of communication technology on collaboration and performance; and (4) the ethical responsibilities of leaders in shaping a future of work that is both innovative and humane. At its core, 'Reimagining Work' centers the human experience. It argues that while AI and digital platforms are vital, they must serve—not replace—empathy, agency, and community. Leaders and organizations must design systems that are not only efficient and adaptable but also inclusive, equitable, and responsive to diverse needs.

Whether you are an academic, a manager, a student, or a policymaker, this volume equips you with insights and frameworks to actively shape a future of work where technological advancement and human flourishing go hand in hand.

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