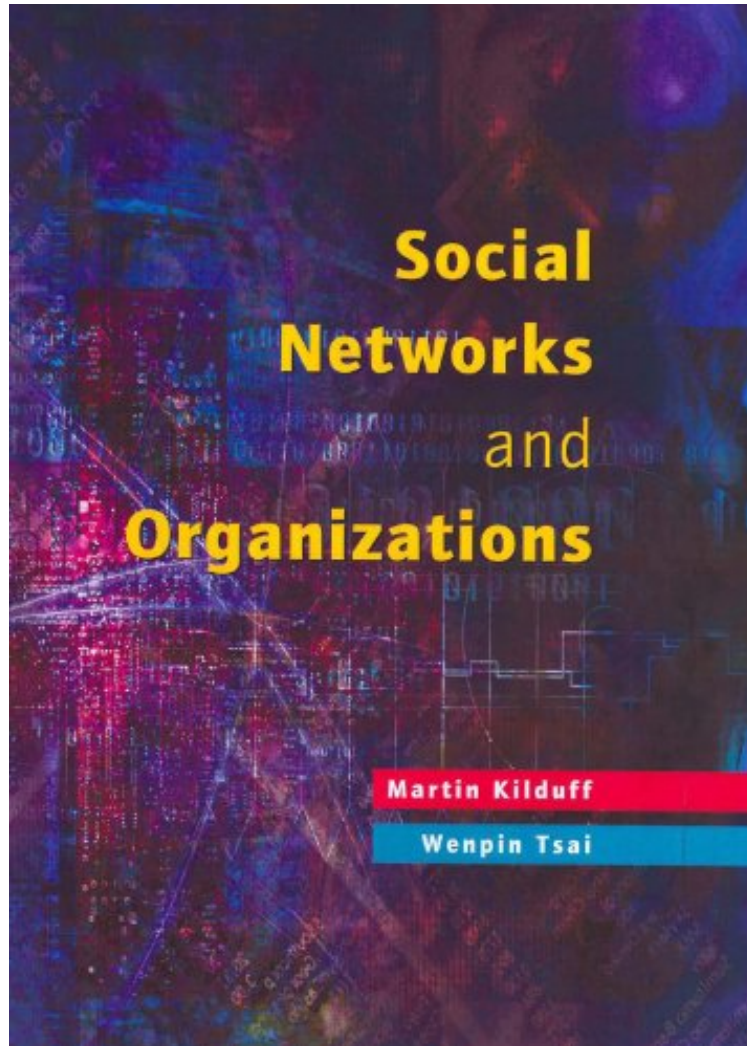


Social Networks and Organizations

Martin Kilduff, Wenpin Tsai

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Martin Kilduff, Wenpin Tsai : Social Networks and Organizations before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Social Networks and Organizations:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Social Networks and Organizations By Dr Graham A Durant-Law
CSCI've just re-read "Social Networks and Organizations" by Professors Martin Kilduff and Wenpin Tsai. I like this book because it is an easy read, with enough detail to whet the appetite but not so much detail as to become a laborious slog. With 150 pages of succinct text it is possible to read and digest in a couple of sittings. The authors provide many examples throughout the book and point the reader to more advanced reading, but for the beginner Appendix 1 on "Getting Started on Data Analysis and Interpretation" is a must read. As a doctoral candidate I appreciated the opening chapters which position network analysis in the research traditions, and provide some discussion on the underlying theories. Some readers might find these chapters boring, but I think there is something there for everyone. Take for

example the discussion on theoretical foundations. The authors discuss graph theory without blinding the lay-person with incomprehensible mathematical formulas. They also talk about balance theory and other borrowings from psychology in simple terms. This is a constant throughout the book - the reader is gently exposed to key network concepts, debates in the literature, and possible new research directions. The authors guide the reader through various units of analysis, ranging from the individual, to the team, and finally the organisation. Their interest in interpersonal networks within organisations is obvious. There is ample discussion on cognitive networks, knowledge transfer, and business unit networks. In each of these discussions key concepts such as dyads, triads and cliques are presented in layman's terms. All this serves to highlight the importance and centrality of networks in our daily life. So all in all I think this book deserves a five-star rating, and should be on the shelf of any serious network analysis practitioner. Regards, Graham

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars
By Customer
It is a wonderful to read it!!!
17 of 19 people found the following review helpful. A book for all organizational researchers
By A Customer
Many books have been written about social networks. But few review the research on social networks in organizations. This book by Kilduff and Tsai is one that reviews a vasy body of literature about social networks in organization. Further, readers are gently exposed to key network concepts. Students who would like to learn the mechanics of network analysis and its usage in theory testing can refer to the appendices. For established researchers seeking potential new research questions, this book provides a wealth of interesting research questions. Most books on social networks are techical, hard to grasp and do not establish the relevance of social networks to organizational research. This book is an exception.

‘The authors should be congratulated for not only offering an excellent tour de force of cutting-edge work in social network analysis, but also charting some new possible territories for future organizational research’ -Environment and Planning
Social Networks and Organizations provides a compact introduction to major concepts in the area of organizational social networks. The book covers the rudiments of methods, explores major debates, and directs attention to theoretical directions, including a vigorous critique of some taken-for-granted assumptions. The book is aimed at all of those who seek a lucid and lively treatment of social network approaches to organizational research, with a particular emphasis on the neglected area of interpersonal networks in organizations. In this book, Martin Kilduff and Wenpin Tsai offer new insights to those already familiar with network analysis, and motivate those interested in pursuing network research to embark on journeys of discovery. ‘This book is extremely timely. It provides a wonderful synthesis of the recently burgeoning literature in the area of organizations and social networks. It should be relevant at once for both the experienced network scholar as well as those entering this growing area’ - Ranjay Gulati, Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University
‘Martin Kilduff and Wenpin Tsai have done a marvellous job of not only reviewing and integrating the diverse streams of literatures on social networks, but also of showing the enormous potential of this research approach that still lies untapped. Overall, this book will prove to be an invaluable resource for interested graduate students as well as for established scholars in the field’ - Sumantra Ghoshal, Professor of Strategic and International Management, London Business School
‘Research on social networks is already one of the most vibrant areas of organizational inquiry. How can it possibly become any more so? This book by Kilduff and Tsai opens up many new avenues for network research and theory-building. Whether you're newly-interested in social networks or a veteran of the topic, you will benefit from Kilduff and Tsai's marvellous contribution’ - Donald C Hambrick, Smeal College of Business Administration, The Pennsylvania State University

About the Author
Martin Kilduff (PhD Cornell, 1988) is Professor of Organizational Behavior at University College London, former editor of Academy of Management (2006-08), and currently associate editor of Administrative Science Quarterly. Prior to joining UCL he served as Diageo Professor of Management Studies at Cambridge University, and prior to that served on the faculties of University of Texas at Austin, Penn State, and Insead. His work focuses on social networks and includes the co-authored books Social Networks and Organizations (Sage: 2003); and Interpersonal networks in organizations: Cognition, personality, dynamics and culture (Cambridge University Press: 2008). His research relates personality to network structure (e.g., Journal of Applied Psychology, 2008; Administrative Science Quarterly, 2001), perceived networks to actual networks (e.g., Organizational Behavior and Human Decision Processes, 2008; Academy of Management Journal, 1994), and proposes new theory concerning scientific innovation (e.g., Academy of Management , 2011). Current research continues many of these emphases including research on how bias affects perceptions of women's networks, how emotion distorts network perceptions, and how people's careers are boosted by ties from the past.
Wenpin Tsai is Professor of Business Administration in the Smeal College of Business at the Pennsylvania State University. He holds degrees from National Taiwan University (BBA), George Washington University (MBA), and London Business School (PhD). His current research interests include social capital, knowledge transfer, network evolution, and cooperative and competitive interactions inside and across organizations. His work has appeared in Academy of Management Journal, Academy of Management , Strategic Management Journal, Organization Science and Organization Behavior and Human Decision Processes. He has also published a book on social networks and organizations (co-author Martin Kilduff). Wenpin is currently on or has

served on the editorial boards of Academy of Management Journal, Academy of Management , and Strategic Management Journal. His contributions to the profession have also been recognized through several outstanding reviewer awards. In addition, he has been appointed as a Special Issue Editor (2004), member of advisory committee (2004-2007), and Associate Editor (2008-2010) of Academy of Management Journal.