# The Ethics Of Invention Technology And The Human Future By Sheila Jasanoff

Designs on NatureScience and Public ReasonUncertaintyStates of KnowledgeStates of KnowledgeDreamscapes of ModernityCan Science Make Sense of Life?Earthly PoliticsBulletin of the Atomic ScientistsThe Handbook of Science and Technology Studies, fourth editionCaptured FuturesScience at the BarThe Impact of Science and Technology on the Rights of the IndividualThe Ethics of InventionThe Fifth BranchThe Ethics of InventionA Contagious CauseVisions of Artificial IntelligenceRevue Internationale de Droit Et Politique Du Développement Durable de McGillThe Rosgen Wars and the Shifting Political Economy of Expertise Sheila Jasanoff Robin Wolfe Scheffler Stefan Raß Rebecca Anne Lave

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biology and politics have converged today across much of the industrialized world debates about genetically modified organisms cloning stem cells animal patenting and new reproductive technologies crowd media headlines and policy agendas less noticed but no less important are the rifts that have appeared among leading western nations about the right way to govern innovation in genetics and biotechnology these significant differences in law and policy and in ethical analysis may in a globalizing world act as obstacles to free trade scientific inquiry and shared understandings of human dignity in this magisterial look at some twenty five years of scientific and social development sheila jasanoff compares the politics and policy of the life sciences in britain germany the united states and in the european union as a whole she shows how public and private actors in each setting evaluated new manifestations of biotechnology and tried to reassure themselves about their safety three main themes emerge first core concepts of democratic theory such as citizenship deliberation and accountability cannot be understood satisfactorily

without taking on board the politics of science and technology second in all three countries policies for the life sciences have been incorporated into nation building projects that seek to reimagine what the nation stands for third political culture influences democratic politics and it works through the institutionalized ways in which citizens understand and evaluate public knowledge these three aspects of contemporary politics jasanoff argues help account not only for policy divergences but also for the perceived legitimacy of state actions

this collection of essays by sheila jasanoff explores how democratic governments construct public reason that is the forms of evidence and argument used in making state decisions accountable to citizens the term public reason as used here is not simply a matter of deploying principled arguments that respect the norms of democratic deliberation jasanoff investigates what states do in practice when they claim to be reasoning in the public interest reason from this perspective comprises the institutional practices discourses techniques and instruments through which governments claim legitimacy in an era of potentially unbounded risks physical political and moral those legitimating efforts in turn depend on citizens acceptance of the forms of reasoning that governments offer included here therefore is an inquiry into the conditions that lead citizens of democratic societies to accept policy justification as being reasonable these modes of public knowing or civic epistemologies are integral to the constitution of contemporary political cultures methodologically the book is grounded in the field of science and technology studies sts it uses in depth qualitative studies of legal and political practices to shed light on divergent cross cultural constructions of public reason and the reasoning political subject the collection as a whole contributes to democratic theory legal studies comparative politics geography and ethnographies of modernity as well as sts

a wide raging exploration of the place of uncertainty in our emotional and political lives from climate change to the pandemic uncertainty looms large over our public and personal lives it is also the core feature of democratic life while democratic governance seemingly heightens individual power it exposes our life chances to the uncertain activity of others we do not exercise control over those to whom we appeal and yet we are constantly dependent on their actions for the goods in life we seek sheila jasanoff opens a forum on uncertainty and democracy in this volume arguing that ideas around our autonomy our freedom and our individual agency particularly in the us obscure our dependence on others in so many ways to recognize this political emotion is to start to see the transformative potential in uncertainty the debate that follows explores the ideas about uncertainty and experts in a democracy as well its scientific philosophic and emotional aspects

the authors demonstrate that the idiom of co production importantly extends the vocabulary of the traditional social sciences offering fresh analytic perspectives on the nexus of science power and culture

dreamscapes of modernity offers the first book length treatment of sociotechnical imaginaries a concept originated by sheila jasanoff and developed in close collaboration with sang hyun kim to describe how visions of scientific and technological progress carry with them implicit ideas

about public purposes collective futures and the common good the book presents a mix of case studies including nuclear power in austria chinese rice biotechnology korean stem cell research the indonesian internet us bioethics global health and more to illustrate how the concept of sociotechnical imaginaries can lead to more sophisticated understandings of the national and transnational politics of science and technology a theoretical introduction sets the stage for the contributors wide ranging analyses and a conclusion gathers and synthesizes their collective findings the book marks a major theoretical advance for a concept that has been rapidly taken up across the social sciences and promises to become central to scholarship in science and technology studies

since the discovery of the structure of dna and the birth of the genetic age a powerful vocabulary has emerged to express science s growing command over the matter of life armed with knowledge of the code that governs all living things biology and biotechnology are poised to edit even rewrite the texts of life to correct nature s mistakes yet how far should the capacity to manipulate what life is at the molecular level authorize science to define what life is for this book looks at flash points in law politics ethics and culture to argue that science s promises of perfectibility have gone too far science may have editorial control over the material elements of life but it does not supersede the languages of sense making that have helped define human values across millennia the meanings of autonomy integrity and privacy the bonds of kinship family and society and the place of humans in nature

globalization seen through the lens of environmentalgovernance analyses of how the global and the local canaccommodate one another

the bulletin of the atomic scientists is the premier public resource on scientific and technological developments that impact global security founded by manhattan project scientists the bulletin s iconic doomsday clock stimulates solutions for a safer world

the fourth edition of an authoritative overview with all new chapters that capture the state of the art in a rapidly growing field science and technology studies sts is a flourishing interdisciplinary field that examines the transformative power of science and technology to arrange and rearrange contemporary societies the handbook of science and technology studies provides a comprehensive and authoritative overview of the field reviewing current research and major theoretical and methodological approaches in a way that is accessible to both new and established scholars from a range of disciplines this new edition sponsored by the society for social studies of science is the fourth in a series of volumes that have defined the field of sts it features 36 chapters each written for the fourth edition that capture the state of the art in a rich and rapidly growing field one especially notable development is the increasing integration of feminist gender and postcolonial studies into the body of sts knowledge the book covers methods and participatory practices in sts research mechanisms by which knowledge people and societies are coproduced the design construction and use of material devices and infrastructures the organization and governance of science and sts and societal challenges including aging agriculture security disasters environmental justice and climate change

environmental politics as we know it cannot deliver despite all efforts politics is unable to bend the ecological trends maarten a hajer and jeroen oomen argue that this is because environmental politics is captured this capture doesn't just express itself in lobbying or a lack of political will but in a capture of the imagination we seem unable to imagine futures that are meaningfully different from the present examining environmental politics as drama reveals how all actors play their particular roles in this capture scientists funnel narrow policy futures through their models activists adopt politically expedient language and policymakers look for safe technologically sound win win solutions all are captured in a regime of ecological modernization that entertains too narrow a solution space for hajer and oomen this is cause for concern we have entered a radical age in which persistent policy failure leads to increased suggestions to engage with speculative geoengineering technologies in a desperate attempt to safeguard the future on the other hand they point at the growing societal backlash against environmental policies yet in the third part of the book discourse and dramaturgical analysis appear as a reason for hope sketching an alternative perspective on environmental politics it suggests that a new more cultural approach to environmental politics could have more leverage on the societal imagination combining this with the formulation of new discourses and using alternative dramaturgies of change captured futures highlights how to find more effective and more inspiring ideas about how to approach the future and ultimately liberate environmental politics

issues spawned by the headlong pace of developments in science and technology fill the courts the realm of the law is sometimes at a loss constrained by its own assumptions and practices jasanoff suggests this book exposes american law s long standing involvement in constructing propagating and perpetuating myths about science and technology

the volume is devoted to the relevant problems in the legal sphere created and generated by recent advances in science and technology in particular it investigates a series of cutting edge contemporary and controversial case studies where scientific and technological issues intersect with individual legal rights the book addresses challenging topics at the intersection of communication technologies and biotech innovations such as freedom of expression right to health knowledge production internet content regulation accessibility and freedom of scientific research

we live in a world increasingly governed by technology but to what end technology rules us as much as laws do it shapes the legal social and ethical environments in which we act every time we cross a street drive a car or go to the doctor we submit to the silent power of technology yet much of the time the influence of technology on our lives goes unchallenged by citizens and our elected representatives in the ethics of invention renowned scholar sheila jasanoff dissects the ways in which we delegate power to technological systems and asks how we might regain control our embrace of novel technological pathways jasanoff shows leads to a complex interplay among technology ethics and human rights inventions like pesticides or gmos can reduce hunger but can also cause unexpected harm to people and the environment often as in the case of cfcs creating a hole in the ozone layer it takes decades before we even realize that any damage has been done advances in biotechnology from gmos to gene editing have given us tools to tinker with life itself leading some to worry that human dignity and even human nature are under threat but despite

many reasons for caution we continue to march heedlessly into ethically troubled waters as jasanoff ranges across these and other themes she challenges the common assumption that technology is an apolitical and amoral force technology she masterfully demonstrates can warp the meaning of democracy and citizenship unless we carefully consider how to direct its power rather than let ourselves be shaped by it the ethics of invention makes a bold argument for a future in which societies work together in open democratic dialogue to debate not only the perils but even more the promises of technology

how can decisionmakers charged with protecting the environment and the public s health and safety steer clear of false and misleading scientific research is it possible to give scientists a stronger voice in regulatory processes without yielding too much control over policy and how can this be harmonized with democratic values these are just some of the many controversial and timely questions that sheila jasanoff asks in this study of the way science advisers shape federal policy in their expanding role as advisers scientists have emerged as a formidable fifth branch of government but even though the growing dependence of regulatory agencies on scientific and technical information has granted scientists a greater influence on public policy opinions differ as to how those contributions should be balanced against other policy concerns more important who should define what counts as good science when all scientific claims incorporate social factors and are subject to negotiation jasanoff begins by describing some significant failures such as nitrites love canal and alar in administrative and judicial decisionmaking that fed the demand for more peer review of regulatory science in analyzing the nature of scientific claims and methods used in policy decisions she draws comparisons with the promises and limitations of peer review in scientific organizations operating outside the regulatory context the discussion of advisory mechanisms draws on the author's close scrutiny of two highly visible federal agencies the environmental protection agency and the food and drug administration here we see the experts in action as they deliberate on critical issues such as clean air pesticide regulation and the safety of pharmaceuticals and food additives jasanoff deftly merges legal and institutional analysis with social studies of science and presents a strong case for procedural reforms in so doing she articulates a social construction model that is intended to buttress the effectiveness of the fifth branch

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is cancer a contagious disease in the late nineteenth century this idea and attending efforts to identify a cancer germ inspired fear and ignited controversy yet speculation that cancer might be contagious also contained a kernel of hope that the strategies used against infectious diseases especially vaccination might be able to subdue this dread disease today nearly one in six cancers are thought to have an infectious cause but the path to that understanding was twisting and turbulent a contagious cause is the first book to trace the century long hunt for a human cancer virus in america an effort whose scale exceeded that of the human genome project the government s campaign merged the worlds of molecular biology public health and military planning in the name of translating laboratory discoveries into useful medical therapies however its expansion into biomedical research sparked fierce conflict many biologists dismissed the suggestion that research should be planned and the idea of curing cancer by a vaccine or any other means as unrealistic if not dangerous although the american hunt was ultimately fruitless this effort nonetheless profoundly shaped our understanding of life at its most fundamental levels a contagious cause links laboratory and legislature as has rarely been done before creating a new chapter in the histories of science and american politics

master s thesis from the year 2019 in the subject computer sciences artificial intelligence grade 1 university of vienna language english abstract artificial intelligence ai is often considered to be one of the defining technologies which will be important in shaping the prosperity and power dynamics of the twenty first century in the last five years many governments around the world tried to implement policies that are intended to foster ai innovation in order to position themselves as leaders in a space that is thought to be the next global paradigm shift europe and the united states are thought leaders in this field and have published policy documents aimed at deliberating the future progress of ai and defining national policies or research strategies which should serve as signposts for subsequent decisions research in science technology society sts studies has shown how sociotechnical imaginaries shape the ways emerging technologies are assessed evaluated and regulated in differing political cultures they inform the visions that make certain options possible specific outcomes plausible and leave other avenues for policy dormant this thesis explores these imaginaries found in policy documents connected to regulatory attitudes towards ai and the social changes linked to this emerging technology in the united states and europe along three dimensions first the dominant visions images and ideals associated with the technological innovation in ai second the expectations of benefits and risks projected onto ai and third the imagined role of governance of ai in the policy documents as well as how society is imagined to be part of the assessment development and regulation the thesis suggests that ai offers a new and rich window into regulatory imaginaries in a specific moment of technological emergence some of the uncovered attitudes

towards ai are reflected in imaginaries connected to previous technologies however ai constitutes a novel moment of emergence that links to unique attuites to regulating self learning algorithmic intelligence

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