

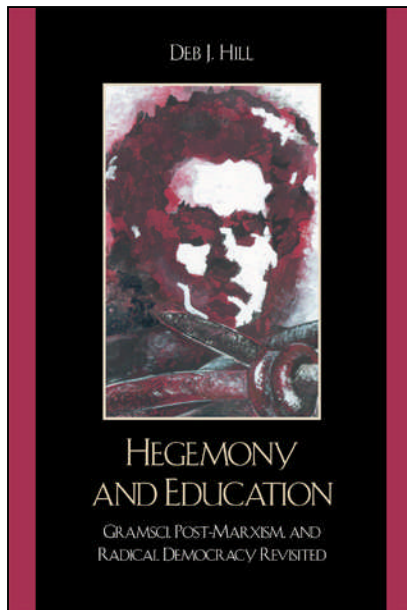
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## Hegemony and Education

### *Gramsci, Post-Marxism, and Radical Democracy Revisited*

By **Deb J. Hill**



*"This book will provide a forum of debate from Gramscians and non-Gramscians, Marxists and non-Marxists alike."* —**Derek Boothman, professor of translation, University of Bologna's Faculty for Interpreters and Translators**

*"Hill's book offers both a trenchant critique of post-Marxism and a persuasive re-reading of Gramsci's democratic approach, with particular focus on his pre-prison writings. She shows with clarity and insight how Gramsci relates his analyses of culture, everyday life and history to his economic analysis of capitalism in a manner that leads to his particular political perspective, his critique of representation and his organizational concerns. By doing this, Hill has made Gramsci more valuable for contemporary politics."*

—**Peter Ives, associate professor, University of Winnipeg**

*"Deb Hill's new book is a welcome addition to the burgeoning literature on the uses and abuses of Gramsci. Her philological approach to both his early works and the Prison Notebooks leads into a trenchant and convincing critique of the vogueish post-marxism that claims to take off from Gramsci. Hill exposes the uses of Gramsci—who today has surpassed even Machiavelli to be the most translated Italian theorist—by such luminaries as Laclau, Mouffe, and Mercer as either ill-founded and pretentious or, where she thinks*

*they have a point, as merely restating what is better explained by Gramsci himself. She ripostes with an impassioned defense of Gramsci's own views and of the marxism behind them, to which he always remained loyal."* —**Alastair Davidson, visiting professor, Latrobe University, Melbourne**

*Hegemony and Education* is a study written in opposition to the displacement of hegemony by recent post-Marxist scholarship from the historical materialist foundations that underpin Antonio Gramsci's own distinctive usage of the concept. The study centers upon the inevitable loss of the nuances of hegemony as a concept that highlights the problem of the pathological reach of a capitalist epistemology and ontology upon human identity.

Author Deb J. Hill argues that it was precisely the impress of capitalism's economic and extra-economic aspect upon humanity's own cognitive and moral capacity—upon its relational and valuational capacity—that Gramsci's writings attempted to articulate. In this respect, Gramsci differentiated himself in Marxist circles by the depth of his insights into Marx's historical materialist method and the practical reasoning that this methodology simultaneously engendered. As *Hegemony and Education* reveals, Gramsci's entire written legacy reflects his historical materialist allegiance: the problem of "education" as no less than the educative-formative problem of practical reasoning.

#### About the Author

**Deb J. Hill**, is a political philosopher of education at the University of Waikato, New Zealand.

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