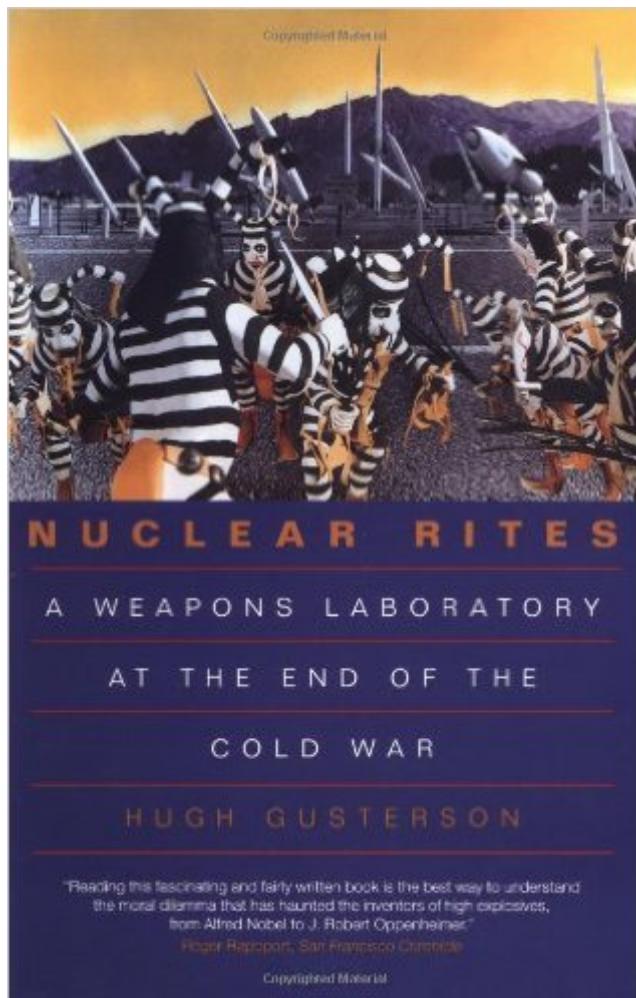


The book was found

Nuclear Rites: A Weapons Laboratory At The End Of The Cold War



Synopsis

Based on fieldwork at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory—the facility that designed the neutron bomb and the warhead for the MX missile; Nuclear Rites takes the reader deep inside the top-secret culture of a nuclear weapons lab. Exploring the scientists' world of dark humor, ritualized secrecy, and disciplined emotions, anthropologist Hugh Gusterson uncovers the beliefs and values that animate their work. He discovers that many of the scientists are Christians, deeply convinced of the morality of their work, and a number are liberals who opposed the Vietnam War and the Reagan-Bush agenda. Gusterson also examines the anti-nuclear movement, concluding that the scientists and protesters are alike in surprising ways, with both cultures reflecting the hopes and anxieties of an increasingly threatened middle class. In a lively, wide-ranging account, Gusterson analyzes the ethics and politics of laboratory employees, the effects of security regulations on the scientists' private lives, and the role of nuclear tests; beyond the obvious scientific one; as rituals of initiation and transcendence. He shows how the scientists learn to identify in an almost romantic way with the power of the machines they design; machines they do not fear. In the 1980s the "world behind the fence" was thrown into crisis by massive anti-nuclear protests at the gates of the lab and by the end of the Cold War. Linking the emergence of the anti-nuclear movement to shifting gender roles and the development of postindustrial capitalism, Gusterson concludes that the scientists and protesters are alike in surprising ways, and that both cultures reflect the hopes and anxieties of an increasingly threatened middle class.

Book Information

Paperback: 392 pages

Publisher: University of California Press (February 10, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0520213734

ISBN-13: 978-0520213739

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.8 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars See all reviews (8 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #300,650 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #23 in Books > Science & Math > Physics > Nuclear Physics > Atomic & Nuclear Physics #168 in Books > Textbooks > Social Sciences > Military Sciences #187 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Specific Topics > War & Peace

Customer Reviews

Hugh Gusterson's book, "Nuclear Rites: A Weapons Laboratory at the End of the Cold War" (1996), is so rich, so packed with myriad concepts, that it is difficult to decide where to launch a discussion about it. An early critical point made by Gusterson is his identification of two competing "regimes of truth": that of the weapons manufacturing industry and that of the antinuclear movement. For many people, a typical response to this identification might be the desire to determine which regime is the "correct" or "true" one. For Gusterson, however, that is not the question to ask. Rather, Gusterson is attempting to identify the multiple processes that inform and establish these respective truth regimes. What are the political, social, economic, bureaucratic, and even grammatical forces that empower these competing regimes of truth with their respective justification and validity? Gusterson argues that the nuclear weapons scientists at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory as well as policy advocates throughout the broader nuclear weapons community utilize a "technostrategic discourse" which affords them a degree of presupposed expertise when interacting with non-expert opponents outside of their truth regime. (p. 205) However, once each respective regime gradually accumulates a number of "specific intellectuals" who can effectively communicate with one another but nevertheless disagree with each other, the ensuing discourse opens the door to public skepticism and increased independent thinking with regard to the issue under discussion. (p. 206) One of the strengths of Gusterson's book is that it draws upon relatively complex sociological, political, and anthropological theories to clearly explicate the mundane and workaday elements of the story he is relating.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Nuclear Rites: A Weapons Laboratory at the End of the Cold War
Cold Calling: for beginners - Cold Calling Techniques that work - Cold Calling Tips (Cold Calling Techniques that work for beginners - Cold calling sales Book 1)
National Security and The Nuclear Dilemma: An Introduction to the American Experience in the Cold War
Nuclear Deterrence in the 21st Century: Lessons from the Cold War for a New Era of Strategic Piracy
Command and Control: Nuclear Weapons, the Damascus Accident, and the Illusion of Safety
Bomb Scare: The History and Future of Nuclear Weapons
The Spread of Nuclear Weapons: A Debate Renewed (Second Edition)
Nuclear Weapons and Arms Control in the Middle East (BCSIA Studies in International Security)
Nuclear Weapons: A Very Short Introduction (Very Short Introductions)
Nuclear Weapons of the United States: An Illustrated History (Schiffer Military History)
Cold Steel: The Art of Fencing with the Sabre (Dover Military History, Weapons, Armor)
Davis's Comprehensive Handbook of Laboratory and Diagnostic

Tests With Nursing Implications (Davis's Comprehensive Handbook of Laboratory & Diagnostic Tests With Nursing Implications) Immunology & Serology in Laboratory Medicine, 5e (IMMUNOLOGY & SEROLOGY IN LABORATORY MEDICINE (TURGEON)) Davis's Comprehensive Handbook of Laboratory and Diagnostic Tests With Nursing Implications (Davis's Comprehensive Handbook of Laboratory & Diagnostic Tests W/ Nursing Implications) Clinical Laboratory Hematology (3rd Edition) (Pearson Clinical Laboratory Science Series) Laboratory Manual for Laboratory Procedures for Veterinary Technicians, 6e The End of the Cold War 1985-1991 Cold Cereal (Cold Cereal Saga) Builder's Guide to Cold Climates: A Comprehensive Guide to the Best Cold-Climate Building Techniques THE COLD CALLING SECRET: Discover the NEW ground-breaking cold calling techniques that get results! Readable on Kindle, PC, Mac or iPad

[Dmca](#)