Car Troubles

Critical Studies of Automobility and Auto-Mobility

Edited by Jim Conley, Trent University, Canada and
Arlene Tigar McLaren, Simon Fraser University, Canada

Bringing together an international and multi-disciplinary team of leading transportation scholars, this book's central premise is that the car as the dominant mode of travel needs to be problematized. It examines a wide range of issues that are central to automobility by situating it within social, economic, and political contexts, and by combining social theory, specific case studies and policy-oriented analysis. With contributors primarily from North America, and several from Britain and New Zealand, the book focuses on the Anglo world, but also takes account of the global phenomenon of automobility by considering the cases of China and Chile. With each contributor referencing other chapters and taking, for example, opposing positions on a question, or different approaches to the same subject matter, the volume provides a coherent and comprehensive analysis of issues.

This collection of lively and engaging studies drives home to devastating effect and from different political, material, cultural and social directions, the fundamental contradiction of the car; that it destroys the very environment it makes accessible.

Tim Dant, University of Lancaster, UK

Car Troubles shows brilliantly how far we have come since Wolfgang Sachs claimed that the 'problem with the automobile is that the automobile is not a problem'. *It gives rich, diverse insights into our problematization of the car, and into the complex politics of dealing with the problems cars cause.*

Matthew Paterson, University of Ottawa, Canada

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