Contents

	Preface: why do we need another social theory? Acknowledgments	xi xvi
1	An invitation to a social journey	1
	Where have we been? 1	
	What is the question? 3 Where am I taking you? 4	
	Overview of the book 4	
PAI	ART I TRUE strategy and strateg	
La	aying the foundation	7
2	Philosophy of science The validity of social science 10	9
	Explaining human experience 12	
	Critical realism 14 sanag ban vaced asbate besittingen moltable	
3	A rubric for evaluating social theory	16
	The epistemological continuum 16 The ontological continuum 20	
	The applicability continuum 22	
	Plausibility 24	
	Mechanism 25	
	My assumptions 25	
1	Scientific method and theory	20
•	Scientific method and theory Scientific paradigms 28	20
	Theoretical methods 30	
	Thought experiments 31	

5	Other building blocks Initial definitions 34	34
6	Situating the theory	38
	Reflective human consciousness 38	
	Human experience 49	
PAI	RT II	
	veloping a theory of social ontology	59
7	Complex adaptive systems	61
	Non-adaptive versus adaptive systems 61	
	Complex adaptive systems 65	
8	Emergence theory	68
	Defining emergence 69	
	Mead's emergence theory 69	
	Complexity-based emergence theory 71	
0		72
9	Applicable social theory	73
	Mead and social interaction 73	
	Giddens and structuration 76	
	Needs and motivation 77 notabased and galv	
10	Dewey and Bentley's transactional approach approach approach	80
	Emirbayer and relational sociology 82	
11	Negotiation, negotiated order theory and game theory	83
	Negotiation 83	
	Game theory 84 growth Island guitable of all day A	
	Negotiated order theory 88	
	The ontological continuum 20	
12	Meaning, meaning-making, language and symbols	91
	Definitions 91	
	Peirce, signs and semeiotics 92	
	Mead and the significant symbol 93	
	Ricoeur's interpretation theory 94	
	Narrative and meaning as social canon 970000 bear bottom of the bottom o	

Contents