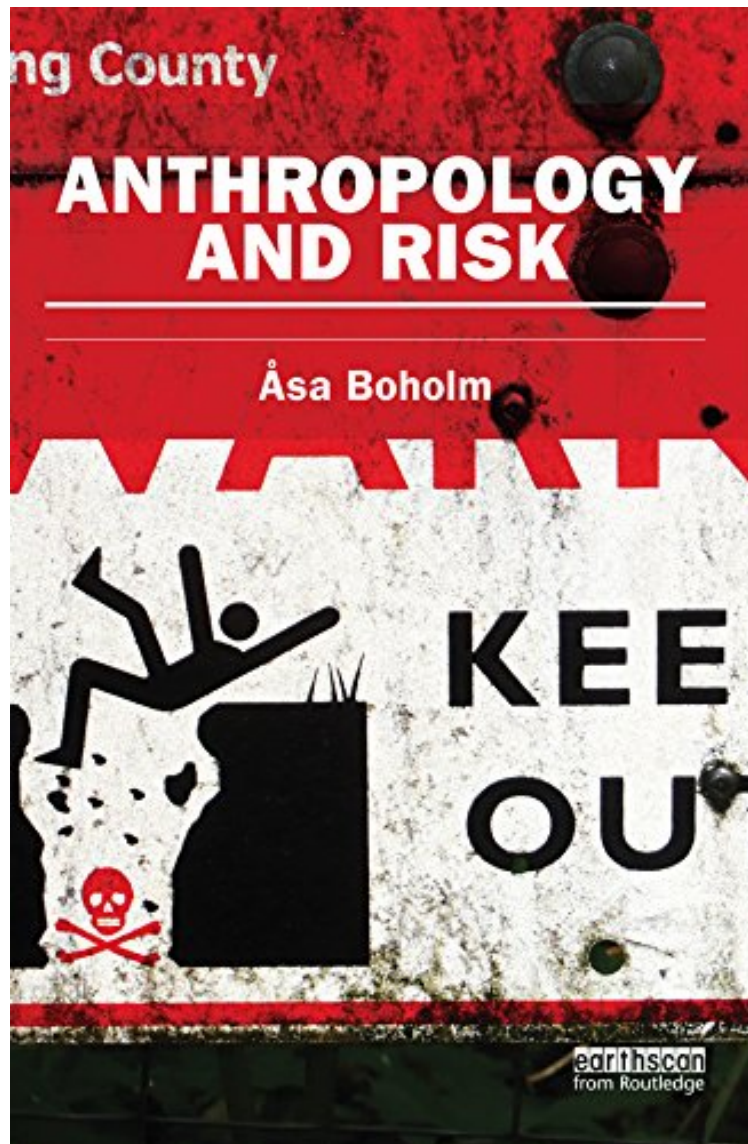


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Anthropology and Risk (Earthscan Risk in Society)

Asa Boholm

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Asa Boholm : Anthropology and Risk (Earthscan Risk in Society) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Anthropology and Risk (Earthscan Risk in Society):

Drawing on theory from anthropology, sociology, organisation studies and philosophy, this book addresses how the perception, communication and management of risk is shaped by culturally informed and socially embedded knowledge and experience. It provides an account of how interpretations of risk in society are conditioned by

knowledge claims and cultural assumptions and by the orientation of actors based on roles, norms, expectations, identities, trust and practical rationality within a lived social world. By focusing on agency, social complexity and the production and interpretation of meaning, the book offers a comprehensive and holistic theoretical perspective on risk, based on empirical case studies and ethnographic enquiry. As a selection of Aring;sa Boholm's publications throughout her career, along with a newly written introduction overviewing the field, this book provides a unified perspective on risk as a construct shaped by social and cultural contexts. This collection should be of interest to students and scholars of risk communication, risk management, environmental planning, environmental management and environmental and applied anthropology.

"This book is essential to anyone concerned with the predicaments of contemporary social life — uncertainty, contingency and risk. Aring;sa Boholm skillfully zooms in on risk as a cultural category and situates risk perceptions and scenarios within larger frameworks of social and political change. Theoretically brilliant and thought provoking!" —Christina Garsten, Professor of Social Anthropology, University of Stockholm, Sweden "How individuals, groups and societies cope with contingency as part of their daily experiences is the main topic of this book. It broadens our understanding of the cultural meaning(s) of risk and uncertainty, provides a convincing middle ground between a realist and a constructivist view on risk, presents substantive evidence for the importance of cultural relationships between observer and perceived risk situations and draws valuable conclusions for informing risk policy and communication. This is a book that enlightens our understanding of risk and uncertainty." —Ortwin Renn, Professor of Environmental Sociology and Technology Assessment, University of Stuttgart, Germany "This book provides a critical and timely review of the nature of risk in contemporary society that is well written, easily accessible to students and scholars alike and provides both the theoretical and practical understanding of the issues." —EcoHealth, Anita V. Shankar, Johns Hopkins University, USA About the Author Aring;sa Boholm is Professor of Social Anthropology at Gothenburg University, Sweden, and has published on historical, cultural, organizational and institutional dimensions of risk for over twenty years.