

At each particular historical moment, the university appears as a heavy and rigid structure resisting changes, whereas, throughout time, it has actually undergone profound transformation. Often such changes have been drastic and almost always provoked by factors external to the university, be they of a religious, political or economic nature. This book explores the nature and dynamics of the transformation that the university is undergoing today. It argues that some of the projects of reform currently under way are so radical that the question of the future of the university may well turn into the question of whether the university has a future. A specific feature of this inquiry is the realisation that questioning the future of the university involves questioning its past as well.

"[Santos] successfully targets the idea of cognitive justice through these two lenses while exploring the possibility of alternative sciences and the right of non-Western cultures to express their contribution to the present status of knowledge in universities and to modernity with its philosophical, political and intellectual aspects. [...] This text provides arguments supplemented by footnotes and anecdotes, offering the reader examples of the epistemology of the social sciences and enlightening proposals about the future of the university. References to social scientists offer unique understanding to students and educators interested in critical thinking and decolonization."

Azimeh Takrimi

Farhangian University; Journal of Educational Thought, 2019

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978-1-5275-6396-4

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Decolonising the University

Boaventura de Sousa Santos

DECOLONISING THE UNIVERSITY

The Challenge of Deep Cognitive Justice



BOAVENTURA DE SOUSA SANTOS