



Paradigm Shift

By Martin Cohen

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Why do giraffes have long necks? It can't really be for reaching tasty leaves since their main food is ground level bushes, tidy though that explanation would be. And how does relativity theory cope with the fact that the observable universe defies prediction by being far too small and anything but homogeneous? By inventing a vastly larger, but invisible, universe. And what exactly should we make of the scientists who claim to be witnessing thought itself, when the changes of blood flow in the brain that they observe are a thousand times slower than the neuronal activity it is supposed to reveal? A little scepticism is in order.

Yet if philosophers of science, from Thomas Kuhn to Paul Feyerabend, have argued that science is a more haphazard process, driven by political fashion and short-term economic self-interest, today almost everyone seems to assume it is a vast jigsaw of interlocking facts pieced slowly but steadily together by expert practitioners.

In this witty but profound 21st-century update on the issues, Martin Cohen offers vital clues for understanding not only the way knowledge develops, but also into the dangers of accepting too readily or too uncritically the claims of experts of all kinds - even philosophical ones! The claims are invariably presented as objective fact, yet are rooted in human subjectivity.

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Paradigm Shift By Martin Cohen Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

"Cohen, unclubbable philosopher and devout sceptic, specialises in free-range skewering of solemnly intoned bullshit" -- Karen Shook, in the New & Noteworthy column, *Times Higher* (London)

"Challenges us to take an active part in questioning, or enforcing, current paradigms" --Perig Gouanvic

"Science Men are always right. Even when they are in the middle of changing their opinions, they are always right. They are like foxes, which always have multiple ways in and out of their sets". -- *Kristeligt Dagblad* (Copenhagen)

"A good mental workout" --Michael Comyn, *RTE Radio 1*

"Plausible misinformation is passed down to each generation in our efforts to explain everything. The greatest error is to confuse fact with theory or science with omniscience." -- *Irish Times*

"In his new book, philosopher Martin Cohen warns of the risks we run in accepting too readily the claims of experts of all kinds" *the-newshub.com*

"At its heart, Paradigm Shift is all about embracing debate and thinking outside the box." --*Imprint Academic*

From the Author

As a keen 'browser' of books, I'm sorry you can't at the moment 'look inside' this book. If you could, though, you'd see some great stuff! I'll put extra details about the book below though - these were prepared for 'marketing'.

Philosopher's Eye view of Science from Pre-History to Tomorrow

- * Takes in a broad swath of scientific and social cultural history giving radical new perspectives.
- * Uses a wide range of examples including: biochemists arguing over the origins of life, physicists arguing over the existence of the interstellar aether and climate scientists arguing over the drivers of the Earth's weather to show how science has always been deeply political and marked by disagreements - often linked to external, moral commitments.
- * By indicating all the contradictions and inconsistencies in experts opinion and theory, demonstrates how simplistic public notions and misplaced confidence in authorities - scientific, intellectual and political alike lead to dangerous conclusions.
- ^a The history of science and contemporary methodological studies of 'how scientists work' both indicate that much research is riddled by simple errors, by bias, or by reliance on other erroneous studies.
- * Philosopher and social scientist, Martin Cohen, says: "Philosophers of science have long recognised that the apparent solidity of expertise is an illusion- and that scientific knowledge is much more of a perpetually shifting mosaic of opinions than a steadily pieced together jigsaw of 'facts'."

From the Inside Flap

In this witty but profound 21st-century update on the issues, MartinCohen offers vital clues for understanding not only the way knowledge develops, but also into the dangers of accepting too readily or too uncritically the claims of experts of all kinds -- even philosophical ones! The claims are invariably presented as objective fact, yet are rooted in human subjectivity.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Robert Arnett:

The book Paradigm Shift make you feel enjoy for your spare time. You should use to make your capable more increase. Book can to be your best friend when you getting strain or having big problem together with your subject. If you can make studying a book Paradigm Shift to become your habit, you can get far more advantages, like add your own capable, increase your knowledge about some or all subjects. You could know everything if you like available and read a book Paradigm Shift. Kinds of book are a lot of. It means that, science book or encyclopedia or other people. So , how do you think about this publication?

Cathy Spearman:

Paradigm Shift can be one of your nice books that are good idea. Most of us recommend that straight away because this guide has good vocabulary that can increase your knowledge in vocabulary, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nonetheless delivering the information. The article writer giving his/her effort to set every word into pleasure arrangement in writing Paradigm Shift although doesn't forget the main level, giving the reader the hottest and also based confirm resource information that maybe you can be among it. This great information can certainly drawn you into brand-new stage of crucial thinking.

Amanda Doss:

Are you kind of busy person, only have 10 or perhaps 15 minute in your moment to upgrading your mind expertise or thinking skill even analytical thinking? Then you are receiving problem with the book as compared to can satisfy your short time to read it because all this time you only find book that need more time to be study. Paradigm Shift can be your answer as it can be read by a person who have those short extra time problems.

Alex Miller:

As we know that book is essential thing to add our expertise for everything. By a book we can know everything you want. A book is a list of written, printed, illustrated or perhaps blank sheet. Every year ended up being exactly added. This book Paradigm Shift was filled with regards to science. Spend your free time to add your knowledge about your scientific disciplines competence. Some people has distinct feel when they reading any book. If you know how big advantage of a book, you can truly feel enjoy to read a book. In the modern era like currently, many ways to get book that you simply wanted.

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