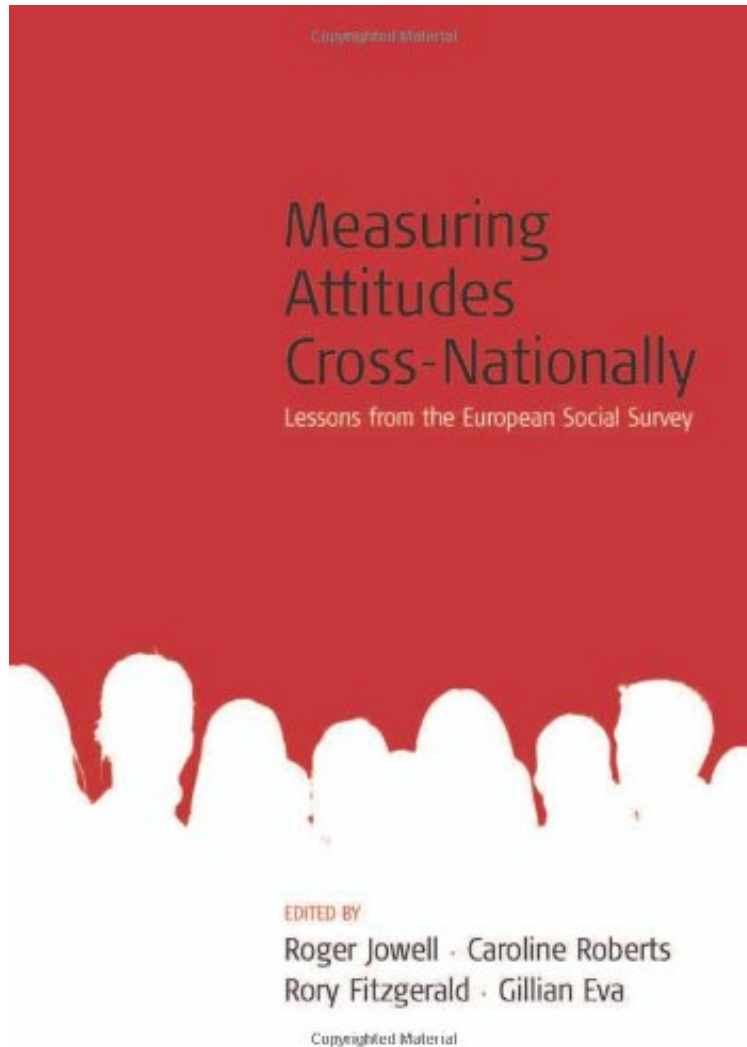


Measuring Attitudes Cross-Nationally: Lessons from the European Social Survey

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From Brand: SAGE Publications Ltd : Measuring Attitudes Cross-Nationally: Lessons from the European Social Survey before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Measuring Attitudes Cross-Nationally: Lessons from the European Social Survey:

This volume is the first to be written by members of the international academic team involved in the groundbreaking European Social Survey (ESS) which has been designed to chart and explain the interaction between Europes

changing institutions and the attitudes, beliefs and behavior patterns of its diverse populations. *Measuring Attitudes Cross-nationally: Lessons from the European Social Survey* maps the theory and practice of a uniquely innovative and rigorous multinational attitudinal social survey. It is essential reading for researchers across the social sciences that have an interest in the design, planning or interpretation of cross-national social surveys.

About the Author We were very sorry to hear that Sir Roger Jowell passed away over Christmas. Roger was the Founder and Director of the National Centre for Social Research, Britain's largest social research institute until 2001, and in 2008 was knighted for his services to the social sciences. We were very privileged to have worked with Roger as an author and friend for many years, most notably on one of his legacy works, the British Social Attitudes report series. In 1983 when it first launched, it was already a significant undertaking, surveying 1700 people in its first year. In an era where surveys were ad hoc and sporadic, work like this made it clear how important tracking opinion and trends over time would be. Writing in that first edition, Roger wrote: The term public opinion is in itself misleading. Our data demonstrate that on nearly all social issues there are actually several publics and many opinions. Published by SAGE since 2000 it is now in its 28th volume and continues to be just as challenging, and as important. Roger was also co-founder and Director of the European Social Survey (ESS), a 34-nation comparative study of changing social values throughout Europe. We published the initial book of methods and findings: *Measuring Attitudes Cross-Nationally: Lessons from the European Social Survey* in 2007. A key figure for the social sciences he was also, simply, an extremely nice man and a pleasure to work with. He will be greatly missed. I am an applied environmental scientist with specific interests in sustainable water resource management. I am also the Director of the Technology Strategy Board-funded Environmental Sustainability Knowledge Transfer Network (ESKTN), based at the University of Oxford. * The ESKTN is accelerating the UK's transition to a low carbon, resource and energy efficient economy by connecting businesses, universities and Government agencies, and catalysing innovation across a wide range of environmental technologies. I have also been a frequent expert witness in Public Inquiries and Crown Court. Most recently I was the Technical Adviser to Gloucestershire County Council following the severe flooding in summer 2007, and I continue to advise local authorities on flooding. The Gloucestershire event was the largest civil emergency in the UK, ever; and this project explores this theme further. I was previously Associate Dean of the Faculty of Education, Humanities and Sciences at the University of Gloucestershire and Director of the Centre for Active Learning. Mr Rory Fitzgerald has been a Senior Research Fellow at City University London since 2004 and became Deputy Director of its Centre for Comparative Social Surveys in 2007. He plays a lead role in the design, management and overall coordination of the European Social Survey (ESS) and a senior member of its Central Coordinating Team (CCT). The ESS is a rigorous comparative survey of changing attitudes and values in and between 34 European countries. With other members of the CCT he was awarded the Descartes prize in 2005 for excellence in collaborative scientific research.