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desde 1950





Título:

Autor: Precio: \$364.00

Editorial: Año: 2004

Tema: Edición: 1ª

Sinopsis ISBN: 9780226091938

Friedrich A. Hayek is regarded as one of the preeminent social theorists of the twentieth century as much for his work outside of economics as for his work within it. During a career spanning several decades, he made contributions in fields as diverse as psychology, political philosophy, the history of ideas, and the methodology of the social sciences. Bruce Caldwell_editor of The Collected Works of F. A. Hayek_understands Hayek's thought like few others, and with this book he offers us the first full intellectual biography of this pivotal economic theorist.

As Hayek's ideas matured, he became increasingly critical of developments within mainstream economics; his works evolved in striking_and sometimes seemingly contradictory_ways. Caldwell is ideally suited to explain the complex evolution of Hayek's thought, and his analysis here is nothing short of brilliant, impressively situating Hayek in a broader intellectual context, unpacking the often difficult turns in his thinking, and showing how his economic ideas came to inform his ideas on the other social sciences.

Acknowledgments

Introduction

- I. The Austrian School and Its Opponents_-Historicists, Socialists and Positivists
- 1. Menger's Principles of Economics
- 2. The German Historical School
- 3. The Methodenstreit
- 4. Max Weber and the Decline of the Historical School
- 5. Positivism and Socialism
- II. Hayek's Journey
- 6. Hayek in Vienna
- 7. Monetary Theory and Methodology
- 8. Hayek at the London School of Economics
- 9. Some Methodological Debates of the 1930s

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Bonilla y Asociados

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- 10. "Economics and Knowledge" and Hayek's Transformation
- 11. The Abuse of Reason Project
- 12. Individualism and the Sensory Order
- 13. Rules, Orders and Evolution
- III. Hayek's Challenge
- 14. Journey's End_-Hayek's Multiple Legacies
- 15. Epilogue: A Meditation on Twentieth-Century Economics

Appendixes Bibliography Index

Teléfonos: 55 44 73 40 y 55 44 72 91