



The Tyranny of Science

By Paul K. Feyerabend

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Paul Feyerabend is one of the greatest philosophers of science of the 20th century and his book *Against Method* is an international bestseller. In this new book he masterfully weaves together the main elements of his mature philosophy into a gripping tale: the story of the rise of rationalism in Ancient Greece that eventually led to the entrenchment of a mythical 'scientific worldview'.

In this wide-ranging and accessible book Feyerabend challenges some modern myths about science, including the myth that 'science is successful'. He argues that some very basic assumptions about science are simply false and that substantial parts of scientific ideology were created on the basis of superficial generalizations that led to absurd misconceptions about the nature of human life. Far from solving the pressing problems of our age, such as war and poverty, scientific theorizing glorifies ephemeral generalities, at the cost of confronting the real particulars that make life meaningful. Objectivity and generality are based on abstraction, and as such, they come at a high price. For abstraction drives a wedge between our thoughts and our experience, resulting in the degeneration of both. Theoreticians, as opposed to practitioners, tend to impose a tyranny on the concepts they use, abstracting away from the subjective experience that makes life meaningful. Feyerabend concludes by arguing that practical experience is a better guide to reality than any theory, by itself, ever could be, and he stresses that there is no tyranny that cannot be resisted, even if it is exerted with the best possible intentions.

Provocative and iconoclastic, *The Tyranny of Science* is one of Feyerabend's last books and one of his best. It will be widely read by everyone interested in the role that science has played, and continues to play, in the shaping of the modern world.

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Editorial Review

Review

"The lectures are engaging, educative and entertaining - public lecturing at its best. Feyerabend offers an intriguing, entertaining and very original application of the history and philosophy of science to contemporary social, intellectual and public issues."

British Journal for the History of Science

"Each of the four lectures is excellent and interrelates with the others. Feyerabend's appealing and evocative entrances to scientific ideological claims permeate, and their lucidity will make identification and extraction of key concepts readily possible for scholars."

The Year's Work in Cultural and Critical Theory

"Offers intrepid scholars much to go on (on the relationship between Wittgenstein and Feyerabend), as well as being an entertaining and vigorous philosophical exercise in itself."

Philosophical Investigations

"In this posthumously published book, the maverick philosopher of science Paul Feyerabend questions the dominance of abstract, theoretical, objectivist science over more human modes of thought."

New Scientist

"Stimulating, thought-provoking, and hugely entertaining."

Morning Star

"Its clear conversational style makes the book a useful introduction to Feyerabend's thought."

Claremont Review of Books

"Both the style of presentation, and the question and answer sessions, will make this book accessible to a popular readership. It will be met with enthusiasm by those with a prior engagement with Feyerabend's work."

Metascience

"Feyerabend is not attacking science but rather the ideology of science and the metaphysical pronouncements of philosophers and theoreticians. He makes an eloquent and imaginative plea for the importance of the diverse forms of knowledge embodied in the practicalities of everyday life."

David Bloor, University of Edinburgh

"*The Tyranny of Science* is no work of arid scholarship or technical philosophy. It is the work of a philosophical story-teller who recounts 'fairytales' to situate the ideas he discusses. Feyerabend brings science and philosophy down from the heights of abstract theory to the ground of practice and experience which animates them."

Howard Sankey, University of Melbourne

From the Back Cover

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About the Author

Paul Feyerabend was one of the twentieth century's leading philosophers of science. His most well-known books are *Against Method* and *Science in a Free Society*.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Travis Wysocki:

Reading can called mind hangout, why? Because while you are reading a book particularly book entitled The Tyranny of Science your mind will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in every aspect that maybe mysterious for but surely will end up your mind friends. Imaging every single word written in a guide then become one type conclusion and explanation this maybe you never get ahead of. The The Tyranny of Science giving you another experience more than blown away your mind but also giving you useful info for your better life within this era. So now let us show you the relaxing pattern is your body and mind is going to be pleased when you are finished reading it, like winning a sport. Do you want to try this extraordinary spending spare time activity?

Gerald Patton:

This The Tyranny of Science is great publication for you because the content which is full of information for you who else always deal with world and also have to make decision every minute. This book reveal it information accurately using great arrange word or we can claim no rambling sentences in it. So if you are read the item hurriedly you can have whole details in it. Doesn't mean it only offers you straight forward sentences but hard core information with attractive delivering sentences. Having The Tyranny of Science in your hand like having the world in your arm, details in it is not ridiculous one particular. We can say that no publication that offer you world inside ten or fifteen small right but this reserve already do that. So , it is

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