



## Social Capital and the Happiness of Nations

By Christian Kroll

Peter Gmbh Lang Feb 2008, 2008. Taschenbuch. Condition: Neu. Neuware - Why are people in some countries much more satisfied with their lives than people in others In fact, the national mean life satisfaction scores of 72 countries in this study range from 3.7 to 8.5 on a 10 point scale. This book examines the importance of social capital for societal well-being with highly interesting results. If people in a rich nation increased their civic engagements from one to three memberships on average, the life satisfaction would rise by the same amount as from an increase in GDP per capita of 24,000 US-\$. The effects of networks and trust, as well as GDP, unemployment, inflation and income equality are investigated in this study of World Bank and World Values Survey data including 180,000 respondents from Albania to Zimbabwe. The book discusses approaches to life satisfaction from economics, psychology, political science, biology, social anthropology, and sociology, featuring a thorough exploration of social capital theory. Important policy implications result from the findings: Rich nations have to focus on improving interpersonal ties between citizens - a paradigm shift is necessary. Moreover, economically emerging nations need to include social capital more intensively into their...



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