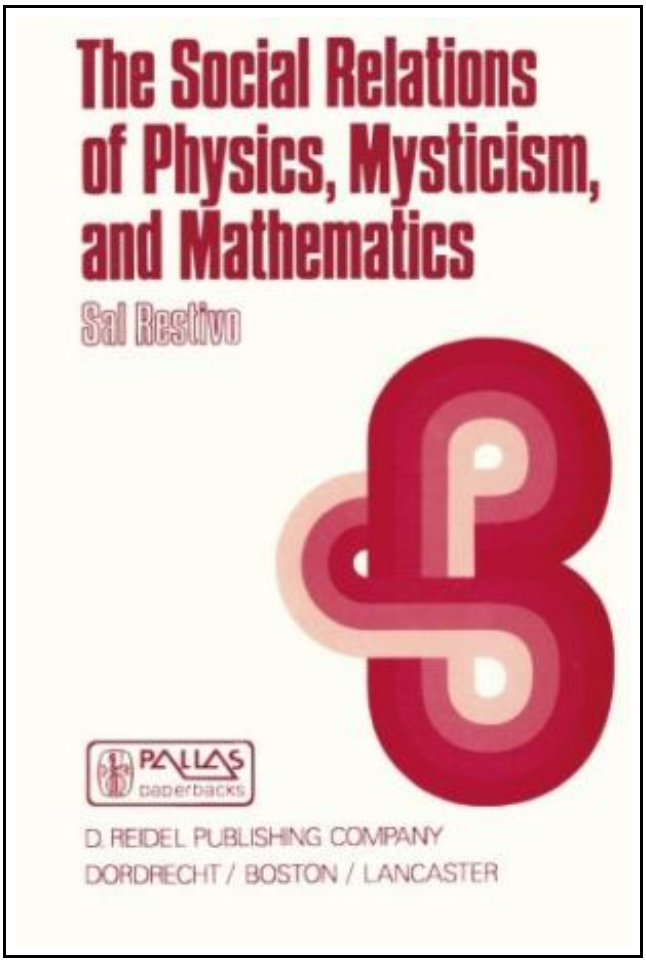
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Book Condition: New. Publisher/Verlag: Springer Netherlands | Studies in Social Structure, Interests, and Ideas | The problems I address in this book are among the least studied in the soci ology of science and knowledge. Part I is a critique of the claim that there are parallels between ancient mysticism and modern physics, and a sociological analysis of this claim as a strategy in intellectual conflict. This study must. ultimately be rooted more firmly in a: type of sociology of knowledge that is just now beginning to crystallize (and which I discuss in Chapter 7), and a sociology of religion that is not so much unknown as underground, and timid, that is, a non-worshipful materialist sociology of religion. My study of physics-mysticism parallelism is a vehicle for exploring epistemic strategies. I thus conclude Part I by sketching a materialist, emancipatory epistemic strategy. My conclusion brings together a number of ideas formulated by myself and others over the past several years, but stops short of a systematic synthesis. A more integrated and coherent "model" than what I can sketch here must wait on the results of research now in progress in the critical (as opposed to apologetic or worshipful) sociology of knowledge. | I. Physics, Mysticism, and Society.- Section I. The Parallelist Perspective.- 1: Parallels Between Physics and Mysticism.- Appendix A: The Physicist and the Sufi Master: A Meeting of Alternate Realities.- 2: The Pitfalls of Parallelism.- Appendix B: The Search for China's Aristotles, Galileos, and Einsteins.- Section II. The Sociology of Physics and Mysticism.- 3: Mysticism as a Social Fact.- 4: Physics as a Social Fact.- Section III. Parallelism and Society.- 5: Interests and Ideas: Parallelism as an Intellectual Strategy.- 6: Parallelism, Science, and Society.- Appendix C: The Dialectics of Physics, Knowledge, and Life.- Section IV. Emancipatory Epistemology.- 7: Epistemic...

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