Contents

Introduction		1
1	Situating Critical Social Science	10
	1.1 The Self-estrangement Theory	10
	1.2 The Humanist Variant of the Estrangement Theory	17
	1.3 A Preliminary Sketch of Critical Social Science	23
2	The Basic Scheme of Critical Social Science	27
	2.1 The Elements of Critical Social Science	27
	2.2 The Basic Scheme	31
	2.3 An Example: Marx's Theory of Capitalism	33
	2.4 How the Basic Scheme is Scientific Critical, and	
	Practical	36
3	The Ontology of Critical Social Science	42
	3.1 Metatheory and Ontological Commitment	42
	3.2 The Activist Conception of Human Beings	47
	3.3 Some Contrasting Views	58
4	The Values of Critical Social Science	66
	4.1 Rational Self-clarity	68
	4.2 Collective Autonomy	75
	4.3 Happiness	80
	4.4. A Note on Other Values	83

viii Contents

Index

5	The Politics of Critical Social Science I	
	The Education of its Audience	85
	5.1 The Educative Versus the Instrumentalist Account of	
	Theory and Practice	86
	5.2 The Problem of Resistance	98
	5.3 Educative Enlightenment and Revolutionary Social	
	Change	108
6	The Politics of Critical Social Science II	
	The Power of the Oppressors	117
	6.1 The Dyadic Conception of Power	117
	6.2 Strategies of Political Emancipation	130
	1	
7	Limits to Rational Change	143
	7.1 Limits	144
	7.2 Embodiment	146
	7.3 Force	154
	7.4 Tradition	159
8	Limits to Clarity and Autonomy	165
	8.1 Opacity	166
	8.2 Rational Disagreement	174
	8.3 Embeddedness	191
	8.4 Freedom Versus Happiness	198
9	Conclusion	203
Notes		216
Bibliography		231

237