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Gibson Burrell's Pandemonium. Towards Retro-organization Theory?

In this essay, Gibson Burrell's controversial book *Pandemonium* is reviewed. Furthermore, its importance to contemporary "post-modern" organization studies and management is discussed. Most importantly, *Pandemonium* is seen as a fresh and thought-provoking volume highlighting many this far neglected issues of organization and organized behavior, including sexuality, pain, disease, death, surveillance, or the role of peasants and peasantry in the forming of modern organizations. The book and its numerous stories and anecdotes from the history of organized behavior provide an inmemorable reading experience that makes the reader rethink his/her philosophical assumptions about organization or management - related phenomena. On the other hand, the promised retro-organization theory remains - quite intentionally - rather sketchy, challenging other scholars to enter into discussion on the theme.