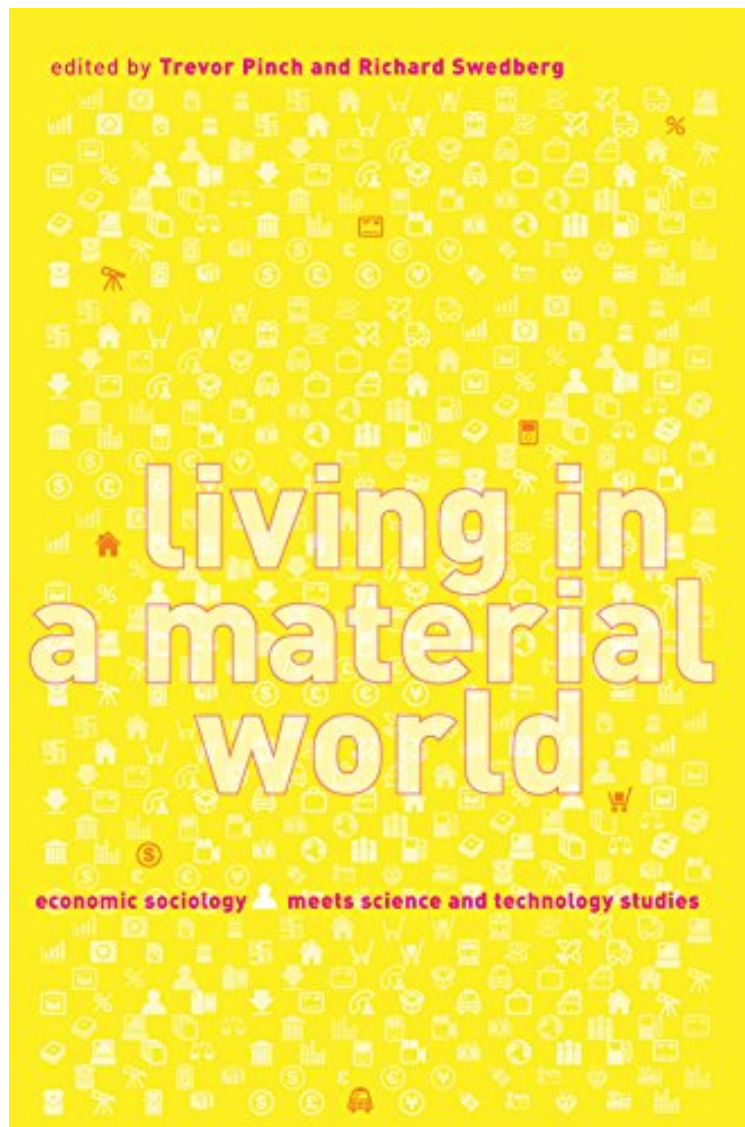


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## Living in a Material World: Economic Sociology Meets Science and Technology Studies (Inside Technology)

*Trevor Pinch, Richard Swedberg*  
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**Trevor Pinch, Richard Swedberg : Living in a Material World: Economic Sociology Meets Science and Technology Studies (Inside Technology)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Living in a Material World: Economic Sociology Meets Science and Technology Studies (Inside Technology):

1 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Interesting book..By H. PintoThe subject of the book is very

interesting: linking the science and technology studies with economic sociology. Nevertheless few chapters give new ideas to strengthen these connections: materiality is the central concept - giving attention not only to actors and social relations but also to objects (the NH elements in ANT). It is an interesting book with some nice chapters, my favorites were the "Economic Markets and the Rise of Interactive Agencements: From Prosthetic Agencies to Habilitated Agencies" (M. Callon) and "Transfer Troubles: Outsourcing Information Technology in Higher Education" (N.J. Rowland and T.F. Gieryn). If you are interested in the impacts of technology in society you must buy...

Although social scientists generally agree that technology plays a key role in the economy, economics and technology have yet to be brought together into a coherent framework that is both analytically interesting and empirically oriented. This book draws on the tools of science and technology studies and economic sociology to reconceptualize the intersection of economy and technology, suggesting materiality--the idea that social existence involves not only actors and social relations but also objects--as the theoretical point of convergence. The contributors take up general concerns, such as individual agency in a network economy and the materiality of the household in economic history, as well as specific financial technologies such as the stock ticker, the trading room, and the telephone. Forms of infrastructure--accounting, global configurations of trading and information technologies, and patent law--are examined. Case studies of the impact of the Internet and information technology on consumption (e-commerce), the reputation economy (the rise of online reviews of products), and organizational settings (outsourcing of an IT system) round off this collection of essays. Contributors: Elizabeth Popp Berman, Daniel Beunza, Michel Callon, Karin Knorr Cetina, Shay David, Thomas F. Gieryn, Barbara Grimpe, David Hatherly, David Leung, Christian Licoppe, Donald MacKenzie, Philip Mirowski, Fabian Muniesa, Edward Nik-Khah, Trevor Pinch, Alex Preda, Nicholas J. Rowland, David Stark, Richard Swedberg

"This book is a well-timed effort to investigate the crucial relationship between technology and economy by joining the forces of science and technology studies and economic sociology. It improves our understanding of the diverse ways in which the world is material, while breaking new ground to conceptualize the relationship between technology and economy. The book convincingly demonstrates how this relationship is much more complex and interactive than the established idea that economy shapes technology, while new technologies offer economic options through innovation."--Knut H. Soslash;rensen, Professor of Sociology, Norwegian University of Science and Technology  
About the Author Richard Swedberg is Professor of Sociology at Cornell University. He is the author of Max Weber and the Idea of Economic Sociology, Principles of Economic Sociology, and other books.