KAVOUS ARDALAN
Marist College, United States

CULTURE: A MULTI-PARADIGMATIC LOOK

Abstract:
Any explanation of culture is based on a worldview. The premise of this paper is that any worldview can be associated with one of the four broad paradigms: functionalist, interpretive, radical humanist, and radical structuralist. This paper takes the case of culture and discusses it from the four different viewpoints. It emphasizes that the four views expressed are equally scientific and informative; they look at the phenomenon from their certain paradigmatic viewpoint; and together they provide a more balanced understanding of the phenomenon under consideration.

Keywords:
Culture; Paradigms; Diversity