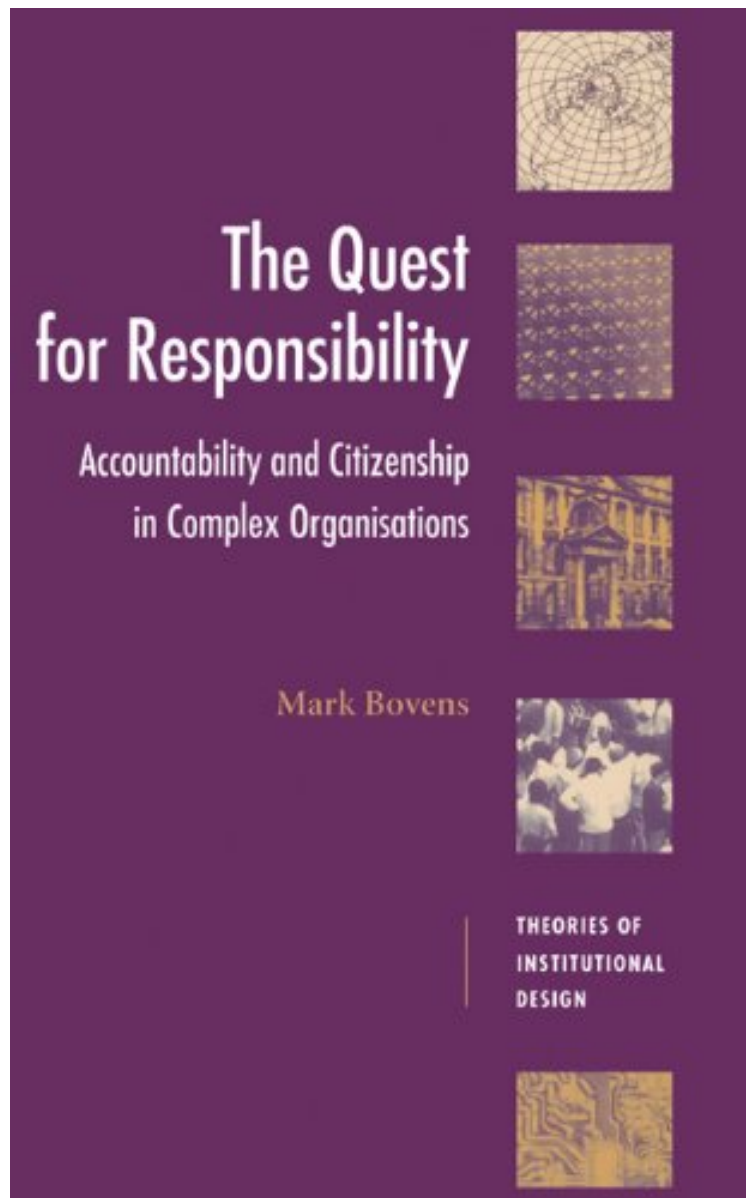


(Pdf free) The Quest for Responsibility: Accountability and Citizenship in Complex Organisations (Theories of Institutional Design)

The Quest for Responsibility: Accountability and Citizenship in Complex Organisations (Theories of Institutional Design)

Mark Bovens

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Mark Bovens : **The Quest for Responsibility: Accountability and Citizenship in Complex Organisations (Theories of Institutional Design)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised **The Quest for Responsibility: Accountability and Citizenship in Complex Organisations (Theories of**

Institutional Design):

The search for responsibility in complex organisations often seems an impossible undertaking. Adopting a multidisciplinary approach combining law, social science, ethics and organisational design, Mark Bovens analyses the reasons for this, and offers possible solutions. He begins by examining the problem of 'many hands' - because so many people contribute in so many different ways, it is very difficult to determine who is accountable for organisational behaviour. Four possible solutions - corporate, hierarchical, collective and individual accountability - are analysed from normative, empirical and practical perspectives. Bovens argues that individual accountability is the most promising solution, but only if individuals have the chance to behave responsibly. The book then explores the implications of this approach. What does it mean to be a 'responsible' employee or official? When is it legitimate to disobey the orders of superiors? What institutional designs might be most appropriate?

"...The Quest for Responsibility is thought provoking and demands careful reading. It may well serve as a springboard for organization theorists to develop research propositions." Marcia P. Miceli, Administrative Science Quarterly
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