

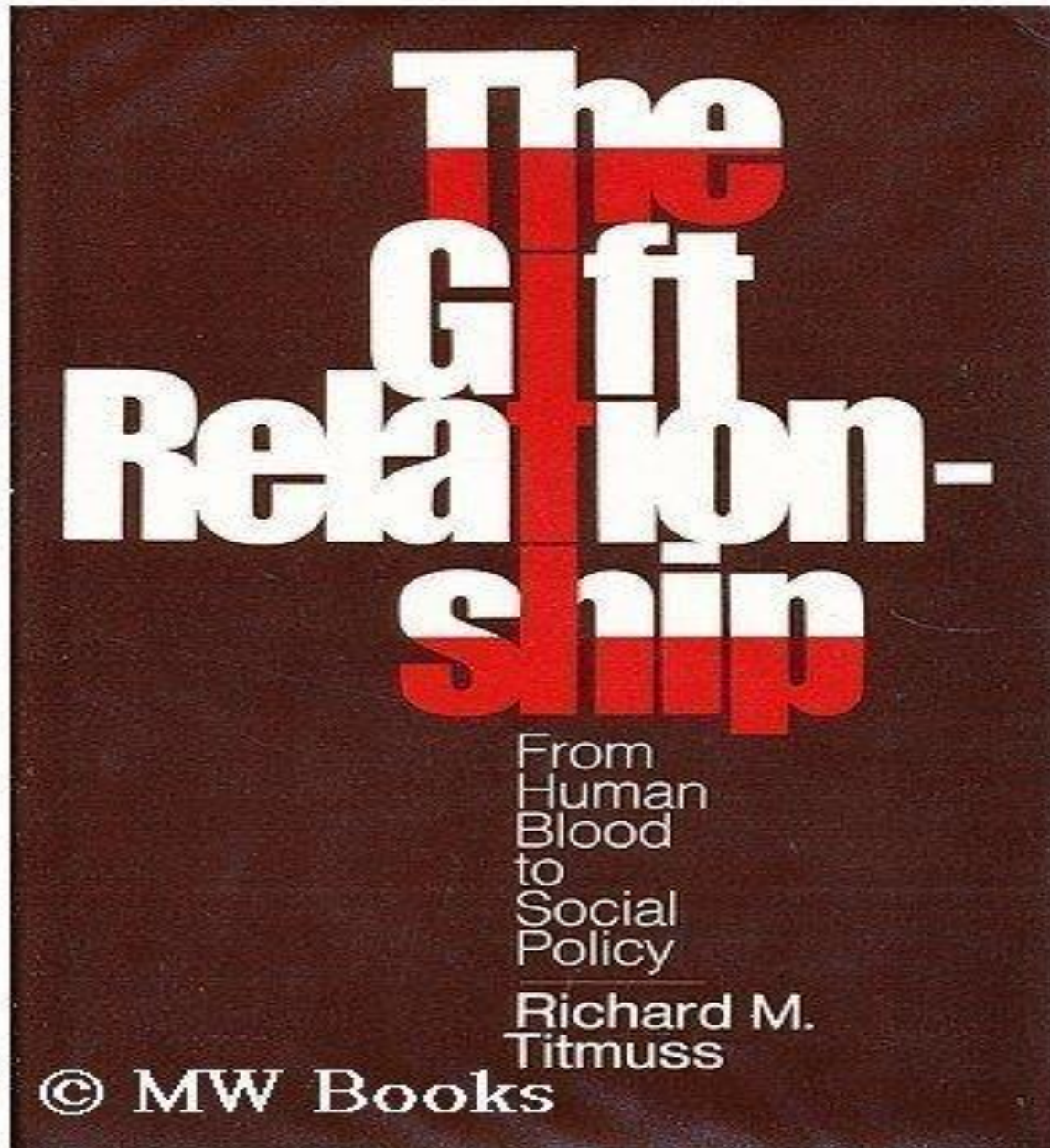
Reimagining 'Donation'

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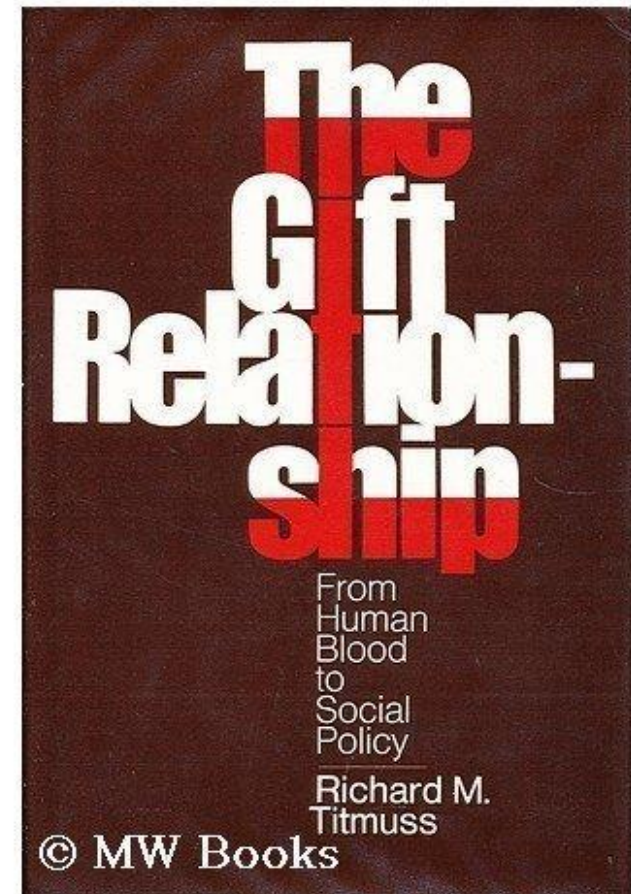
“Transplantation in turn is understood as an unquestioned good, the shortage of organs is therefore portrayed as tragic, people are depicted as dying unnecessarily, donation is the saviour to this problem, and donors the heroes.”

(Zeiler, 2014)



The Legacy of Titmuss

- 1) Altruism
 - Acknowledgement & benefit
- 2) Community & solidarity
 - Erosion & revision

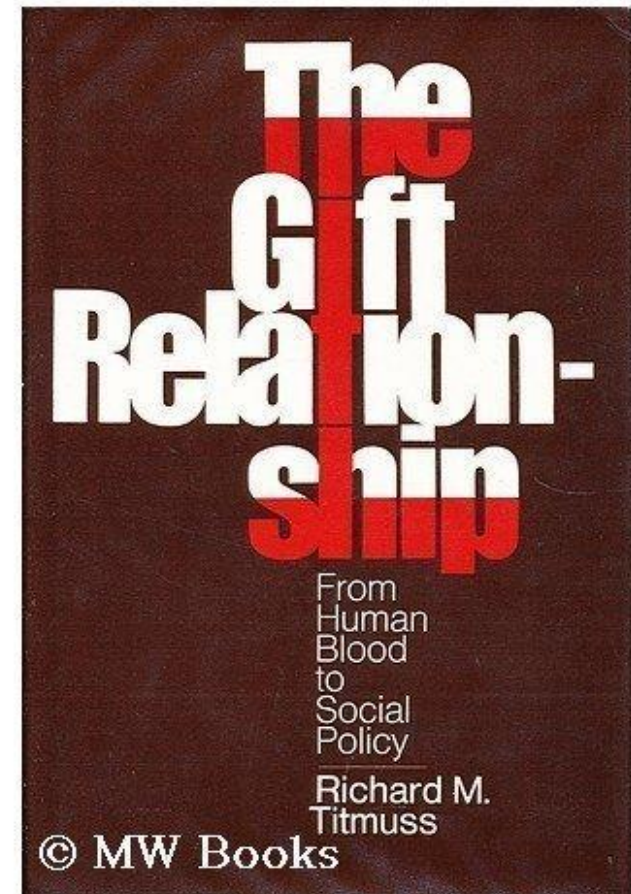


The Legacy of Titmuss

3) Voluntariness

- Incentivise
- Consent
- Conditional & directive

4) Anonymity



The Legacy of Titmuss

- The context of donation is now more globally situated and the development of trans-national donation needs to be recognised.
- No longer can the act of donation be simply considered as one that is active, physical, or conscious.
- It is not always clear *who* is 'doing' the donating – those consenting or those physically giving – or if a person 'owns' his or her body parts and products to give away.
- Anonymity and identity are significant in how we interpret and understand donors' bodies, and shapes relationships for recipients with donated body parts and products.
- Titmuss' 'gift' discourse therefore:
 - Deemed over-simplistic and unrealistic
 - Does not reflect the complexity within and surrounding donation
 - Idealizes the donation system and is often seen as an outdated model.

‘Donation’: Fit for Purpose?



'Donation': Fit for Purpose?



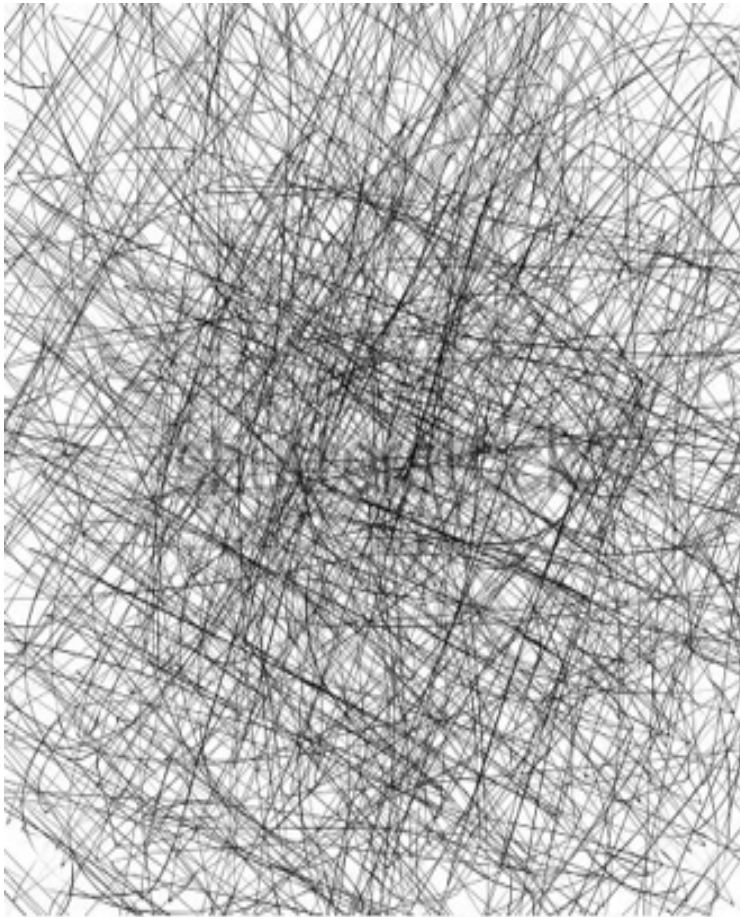
“organ donation cannot be understood as the simple agency of the donor because it is always overdetermined by the assemblage of permission from the donors’ family, the policies of the hospital, the decisions of the doctors, psychologists, and the work of the algorithms, which assist tissue matching” (Sothorn and Dickinson, 2011)

Researching Donation

- What we research
 - Research interests
 - Mundane vs controversial
 - Research ‘data’
- Why we research
 - Research agendas
 - Institutional and funders’ values & priorities
- How we research
 - Research silos
 - Body part or purpose
 - Disciplines



Reimagining Donation



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- Sliding scales of (non)donation
- Blurring hierarchies of donation & values, investment and emotions

Reimagining Donation



- Seek to identify and understand the various uncertainties within and surrounding donation
 - Novel areas ripe for future research
- Look for the commonalities and dissimilarities between attitudes to the donation of different body parts
 - Different cultural meanings of the body