

Prof. Annemarie Mol

# Valuing in practice

Notes on the complex good of 'clean'

If you shower, you clean your body, but you dirty the water. Your body, once showered, does not stay clean: at some point you may want to wash it again. Clean, then, is a **relational** and an **ephemeral good**. It also comes in versions: hygienically clean does not equal aesthetically clean; and both of these may be in tension with ecologically clean – take face-masks that may keep virus out of airways, but pollute environments. Starting from such mundane cases, in this talk I will ask questions about **valuing**. This, or so I will argue, does not just include the **qualification** of particular entities (bodies, water) as clean or unclean, but also the situated, practical **doing** and **undoing** of this-or-that version of cleanliness. How to best attend to such **valuing appraisals** and activities; how to include the **non-neutrality** of the realities we study in our social science and humanities research?



**15th June 2022, 15.00 CET**  
**Square University St.Gallen**  
**Hybrid Lecture & Aperó**

## Online registration

To sign up, please send an email to [christina.ihasz-riedener@unisg.ch](mailto:christina.ihasz-riedener@unisg.ch) by the 9th June

## Organized by

Technology Studies, University of St. Gallen (SHSS-HSG) & STS-CH Association

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**Annemarie Mol** is professor of Anthropology of the Body at the University of Amsterdam (Netherlands). She is the author of numerous books, amongst others *The Body Multiple* (2002), *The Logic of Care* (2008) and, most recently, *Eating in Theory* (2021). She was awarded the Spinoza prize for her work in 2012. Her conceptualizations of 'multiplicity' and 'care' have profoundly shaped science and technology studies, anthropology, sociology, and gender studies.