### Analysing policy: What's the problem represented to be?

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**Contents:**  
1. Introducing a ‘what’s the problem represented to be?’ approach to policy analysis  
2. Rethinking policy analysis: Theory and politics  
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This book offers a novel approach to thinking about public policy and a new, distinctive methodology for analysing policy. It introduces a set of six questions that probe how 'problems' are represented in policies, followed by an injunction to apply the questions to one's own policy proposals. This form of analysis, it suggests, is crucial to understanding how policy works, how we are governed, and how the practice of policy-making implicitly constitutes us as subjects. Arguing that such a paradigm denies the shaping that goes on in the process of problematisation, it offers a 'what's the problem represented to be?' approach to policy analysis as a counter-discourse. In this view critical thinking involves putting 'problems' into question rather than learning how to 'solve' them.