

**Sonja Windmüller: Zeichen gegen das Chaos. Kulturwissenschaftliches Abfallrecycling.  
In: Zeitschrift für Volkskunde 99/2003, S. 237-248.**

English Summary:

Signs against the chaos: Cultural analytic waste recycling

The cultural analysis of refuse focuses on its symbolic dimension and its reference to social conditions. The article explores the idea that not only refuse itself, but also the modes of reflecting on it can be interpreted as cultural expressions. This perspective sheds light on the study of meaning as it deals with the relations between a society and its garbage. The focus, then, is on social desires and expectations filed in the analytical approach. As a mode of perception and handling, the cultural analysis of refuse resembles techno-practical strategies of waste disposal. Specifically, recycling can be considered a similar practice of re-integrating that, which is leftover, refused and segregated into the social order.

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