From the Active Subject to the Passive: 
H. Lefebvre and J. Baudrillard’s Practical Contributions to Everyday Life

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ABSTRACT

Everyday life has become the focus of attention of different names since it started to be one of the sub-branches of sociology. Everyday life which the first period sociology missed, started to become popular especially in the field of micro sociology after the 1950s, with the individual gaining importance as a subject in social studies. Along with the everyday life, recent sociology has added the individual/perpetrator to its side by rejecting only the structure/society-oriented definitive judgments of the first period sociology. Contrary to early sociology, discussions of everyday life, especially starting with Henri Lefebvre, created an intellectual resource for different approaches in parallel with today's social conditions. One of the names who have this approach is Jean Baudrillard. Both have made individual and social contributions to everyday life from different perspectives. Lefebvre was the source of Baudrillard with his thoughts on everyday life, which he discussed with a Marxist perspective. This study aims to comparatively analyze the contributions of Lefebvre and Baudrillard, known as his student, to everyday life. While Lefebvre attributes the feature of subject to the individual in his analysis of everyday life, Baudrillard claims that semantic signs have become fluid with the postmodern period and this fluidity exists in the daily life relations of the individual. Therefore, while in Lefebvre the individual achieves a necessary harmony in his everyday life, in Baudrillard this situation manifests itself as an unconscious subject that develops spontaneously. In this study, everyday life discussions will be made through Lefebvre and Baudrillard and their similar and different aspects will be examined.