

able to perform their tasks as expected". Modern civilization becomes, thus, constructed and an ideal type of order that humans can not possibly live up to. Rationality as a „myth“ of the twentieth century is constructed as superior to humanity (Greisman & Ritzer 1981: 44) and for that very reason is in itself utopian. Is it, then, the mythical, the de-facto irrational of bureaucracy that makes it so bad?

Throughout this chapter various aspects of bureaucracy and its critique shall be explored. I will shortly outline its spatial dimension, the materiality and performativity that red tape comes with. Then, I want to look into several theoretical perspectives in order to historically approach bureaucracy and a critique on it departing from David Graeber (2015) and his „Utopia of Rules“. The metaphor of the Iron Cage of bureaucracy, described by Max Weber shall be followed by the concept of „Total Administration“ put forward by post-marxist representatives of Critical Theory. Michel Foucault's conceptions of power, Governmentality and Biopolitics, can further provide a fruitful basis to a critique on administrative apparatuses. Before moving on to the aspect of structural and physical violence that facilitates any administrative action (Graeber 2015), a field situated at the fringes of bureaucratic realm, the refugee camp, will be introduced so as make the invisibles of bureaucracy more obvious. In the chapter's conclusion the crucial role of capitalism in the historical development of bureaucracies, the claim of rationality, and the need for administering a chaotic reality will be discussed.