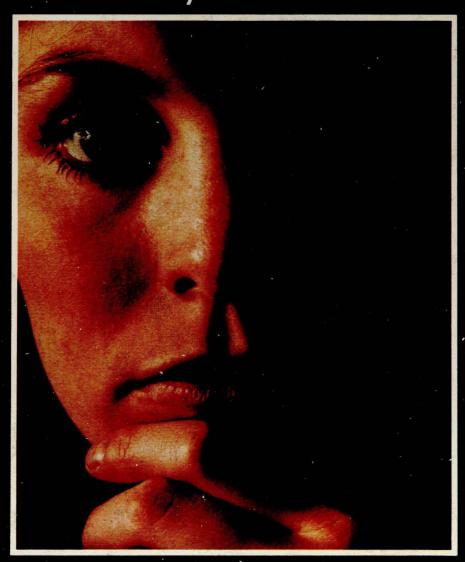
# PSYCHOLOGY Its Study and Uses



Louis H. Janda • Karin E. Klenke-Hamel

# Psychology

Its Study and Uses

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# Psychology

Its Study and Uses

# To our children Christopher and Michael Katja and Max

# **Preface**

In a number of ways, the introductory course in psychology offers a greater challenge than any other to both instructors and textbook writers. It is here that the students are both largest in numbers and most diverse in their backgrounds, abilities, interests, and expectations. Since a majority of these students will not be psychology majors, and for many the course will be the only formal exposure to the field that they will ever have, it is inevitable that their lifelong view of psychology will be strongly influenced by their introductory textbook and classroom lectures. The impact on declared and potential psychology majors is equally important, for it will have a decided effect both on their individual careers and on the future of the discipline. The ranks of psychologists are filled with people who as undergraduates had an awakening interest in psychology fostered by an exciting introductory course. We hope this book will help instructors perform the same task for a new generation.

Psychology: Its Study and Uses covers all of the basic areas of psychological investigation: physiological, experimental, developmental, clinical, and social. We discuss the theoretical aspects, the major research findings, and, where possible, the controversies and the social and ethical implications that are related to these various areas. Fur-

Science of Psychology

- 1. The Nature of Psychology
- 20. Statistics and Research Methods
- 2. The Physiological Basis of Behavior
- 3. States of Consciousness
- 4. Sensation and Perception

ther, as our subtitle is meant to suggest, this text gives more attention than most to the applications of psychology—the ways in which psychological concepts and findings are put to work in a great variety of everyday situations. A distinctive feature of the book is the inclusion of three chapters that use insights and techniques from all the basic areas of the field to explore particular topics: human sexual behavior, violence and aggression, and applications of psychology in environmental, industrial, community, and educational contexts. Each chapter in the book was written to provide a thorough introduction to the subject under consideration and to suggest the limits of our present knowledge concerning it.

We planned *Psychology: Its Study and Uses* to be substantial enough for a two-semester course and flexible enough for a single semester. Although we carefully selected the sequence of chapters, it need not be adhered to strictly. For example, some instructors may wish to emphasize the scientific aspects of psychology, while others may prefer to stress the applications of psychology. Both will be able to assign chapters that fulfill their objectives. Here is one possible organization of chapters for each of these two emphases, and other sequences are also feasible:

Applications of Psychology

- 1. The Nature of Psychology
- 3. States of Consciousness
- 5. Principles of Learning
- 6. Motivation and Emotion
- 8. Life-Span Development

- 5. Principles of Learning
- 6. Motivation and Emotion
- 7. Language, Thinking, and Memory
- 8. Life-Span Development
- 10. Theories of Personality
- 11. Psychological Assessment
- 12. Abnormal Behavior
- 13. Treatment of Abnormal Behavior
- 16. Groups
- 17. Human Sexual Behavior
- 18. Violence and Aggression

Chapters 17 and 18, "Human Sexual Behavior" and "Violence and Aggression," were included for two reasons. First, the topics are of great interest to students. Second, the chapters illustrate that a variety of approaches and methods is necessary to make a topic fully understandable. By its very nature as a survey, the introductory psychology course tends to make the discipline appear far more fragmented than it is. Students study learning one week, sensation the next, development the following week, and so on, without ever having the opportunity to cover a particular aspect of human behavior in depth. These two chapters afford that opportunity, each demonstrating how the interests of all the basic areas within the discipline can be brought to bear on a single subject.

Our experience indicates that when most beginning students think of careers in psychology they have visions of therapists and clients. They are surprised to discover that psychologists work in business, industry, and government as environmental planners, as personnel directors, or as researchers in a host of specialties; that others are employed in community mental health programs as administrators, consultants, or social workers; that still others are in education as counselors or as teachers of handicapped children. Chapter 19, "Applications of Psychology," and the "Training

- 9. Gender Identity and Sex Roles
- 10. Theories of Personality
- 11. Psychological Assessment
- 12. Abnormal Behavior
- 13. Treatment of Abnormal Behavior
- 14. Attitudes and Attitude Change
- 15. Social Perception, Social Attraction, and Love
- 16. Groups
- 17. Human Sexual Behavior
- 18. Violence and Aggression
- 19. Applications of Psychology

and Employment" section of Chapter 1, "The Nature of Psychology," inform students about some of the employment options available to them should they choose to continue their study in the discipline.

Perhaps we should say a word about our boxed discussions—some entitled "Critical Issues," some entitled "Applications"-which appear throughout the book. We have chosen the topics for these, first of all, to help sustain the student's interest. For example, one box describes recent and exciting research suggesting that tears may be the body's way of ridding itself of stress-related biochemicals; another discusses Ralph Nader's controversial criticism of the Educational Testing Service; a third examines an amusing study testing the hypothesis in the title of the song "Don't the Girls Get Prettier at Closing Time." Some of the boxes explore theoretical or empirical issues-for instance, "Sex Differences in the Brain." Others suggest practical uses of research findings-for example, "Breaking the Smoking Habit." A good many consider social or ethical implications—for instance, "Tests as an Invasion of Privacy" or "Confidentiality between Therapist and Client." A complete list of the boxes appears at the end of the table of contents.

We recognize that if our goal of conveying the nature of psychology in an exciting fashion is to

be met, the text must be accessible to students. We open each chapter with a short anecdote or case history that gets the student thinking early about the questions addressed later in the chapter. From the outset of our work on the book, we have been conscious of the crucial importance of readability. We were especially gratified by the comments of our manuscript reviewers that our text was unusually easy to read, and certainly we have worked hard to make it even more so. Part of the task of any introductory text is to teach the basic vocabulary of the discipline, but technical jargon can be bewildering to the beginning student, and we have avoided it whenever possible. To aid students in mastering the language of psychology, we have printed important terms in boldface type, defined them as early as possible in each chapter, listed them in the "Key Terms for Review" at the end of each chapter, and defined them again in the "Glossary" at the end of the book. We believe that graphic materials—tables, figures, and photographs—are immensely helpful to students in understanding the text, and we have provided them in abundance.

In any task as large as preparing an introductory psychology text, many people play an indispensable role. First, we are grateful to the reviewers who offered their time and expertise to help us provide an accurate and representative account of the various areas of psychology. Their names are listed here:

Nancy S. Breland, Trenton State College
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Of course, any errors of fact or interpretation remain our responsibility.

Several people at St. Martin's Press made essential contributions. Tom Broadbent was always willing to contribute his support and resources when they were needed. Helen Greer and Jinny Joyner helped to turn our drafts into polished prose. Inge King did an excellent job in obtaining the photographs. Ron Aldridge made the process of transforming typewritten copy into printed pages as painless as possible. Special thanks go to Walter Kossmann, our editor and friend. He guided the process of producing this book from its inception to bound copies. Not only is he a first-rate editor, but he also manages to remain cheerful and encouraging throughout the difficult times.

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Louis H. Janda Karin E. Klenke-Hamel

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