

tions—intensity-limiting environments, scattering media, color-biased environments, the directional distribution of light—and with coloration as a means of camouflage and advertisement. The treatment is strongly oriented toward Lythgoe's own research interests. Thus, in the account of visual mechanisms photochemistry is emphasized and electrophysiology and neuroanatomy are largely ignored, and in the chapters on vision in various challenging environments Lythgoe emphasizes problems of vision under water (he is an avid scuba diver and has published extensively on various aspects of underwater science).

Despite the narrow choice of topics, the book is a valuable contribution, for its abundant observations concerning natural history point up interesting biological problems the visual scientist might want to investigate. The prose is lucid, and the illustrations, particularly the plates, are helpful. Many of the analyses and explanations are superficial and speculative, but the extensive bibliography enables the interested reader (advanced undergraduate and beyond) to extend the level of inquiry. The book can be recommended both as an introduction to vision for the natural historian and as an introduction to natural history for the visual scientist. It is more successful in the latter capacity.

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Social Judgment Processes

Progress in Social Psychology. Vol. 1. MARTIN FISHBEIN, Ed. Erlbaum, Hillsdale, N.J., 1980. xii, 240 pp. \$14.95.

Social psychology as a discipline has grown tremendously and in increasingly rigorous and sophisticated directions over the last four decades. *Progress in Social Psychology* is the latest monograph series in the field, and its eclectic debut volume is a fine addition to the literature of basic and applied social psychology.

The theme of the series is that progress in a comparatively young field like social psychology is advanced as much by developments outside the field as it is by the systematic growth of theory and research inside the field. Indeed, the first three of the five chapters in this volume reflect the influence of cognitive psychology, behavioral decision theory, and the study of individual differences on the

long-standing interest of social psychology in the fundamental nature of those cognitive and affective processes that mediate social judgment and the processing of complex social stimuli.

Steiner, for example, focuses on the extent to which feelings of "choice" mediate an individual's decision-making process. His theory of choice not only clarifies the meaning of choice as a social psychological construct but also specifies the conditions under which people may be expected to experience and report considerable or negligible choice in their decisions. Tversky and Kahneman, whose work on the shortcomings of human inference has deservedly received much attention from researchers interested in social cognition, discuss the role and strength of causal reasoning in judgments under conditions of uncertainty and the concomitant biases associated with this mode of thinking. The psychological impact of evidence, in their view, is critically dependent on the relationship between data and preexisting causal schemata. Tversky and Kahneman demonstrate that in the making of probabilistic judgments "causal data have greater impact than other data of equal informativeness" and "in the presence of data that evoke a causal schema, incidental data which do not fit that schema are given little or no weight." A chapter by the late Nancy Hirschberg, to whom this volume is dedicated, argues for the usefulness of a multivariate approach to the study of individual differences in social and clinical judgment. Her lucid review of psychometric assumptions and empirical applications associated with the more popular and complex multidimensional scaling models will be of particular interest to those interested in social and person memory and "the relationship between structural and dynamic representations of mental events."

Social judgment at the level of group, rather than individual, decision-making is the focus of chapters by Laughlin and Davis. Laughlin applies Davis's social decision scheme theory to group problem-solving on verbal tasks in which the problems have a demonstrable solution (for example, verbal analogies). A social decision scheme is "a rule or procedure by which the group formulates a single group decision from a distribution of individual member preferences for different alternatives." Laughlin tests several theories of the social combination process. The concluding chapter, by Davis, embraces Kurt Lewin's well-known dictum that there is nothing so practical as a good theory. The emphasis there-

fore is on the important role of theory in applied research, in this case as a guide to changes in policy and procedure in our legal system. Drawing upon a considerable body of empirical research on group performance and mock-jury decision-making, much of which has been conducted by him and his colleagues, Davis clearly illustrates "the hazards attendant on adopting legal policy or procedures simply because they are consistent with 'well-known' canons of social behavior."

Although the volume probably overrepresents group decision-making and does not fully reflect the resurgence of interest in other subjects (attitudinal phenomena, the role of affect, emotion, and motivation in social judgment, and the role of self-schemata in social information processing, to name a few), it nevertheless effectively showcases the exciting diversity of contemporary social psychology.

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Analytical Procedures for Therapeutic Drug Monitoring and Emergency Toxicology. Randall C. Baselt. Biomedical Publications, Davis, Calif., 1980. xiv, 316 pp. \$35.

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