

a perspective that demonstrates the rich possibilities that arise for psychological inquiry when theory is philosophically informed. The way in which this is done can breathe new life into a discipline that has become overly focused on technique, method, and formulaic accounts of human action and experience. The psychology endorsed here is an interpretive psychology that is cognizant of the emergent, yet irreducible, nature of persons, selves, and agency. Following the hermeneutic tradition, such a psychology accepts the perspectival nature of understanding but rejects the strongly relativistic conclusions that some have drawn from such acceptance. Thus, this approach will be of interest to those concerned about ethnocentrism in psychology and the need to develop approaches that are more appropriate to our increasingly globalized world. Such a psychology also involves a radical reconceptualization of theories of mind, behavior, morality, politics, and education. While readers may not agree with every aspect of this view, they are certain to come away from this volume with a fresh perspective on psychological research and theory, and the unique contributions psychology can make in attempts to better understand the human condition.

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Agency

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