
Preface

This volume presents an outstanding collection of chapters addressing evolutionary perspectives on human sexual psychology and behavior. Not only are the chapter contributors leading researchers but also the contributors were carefully selected as gifted communicators. As a collection, the chapters in this volume provide a rich overview of historical and current empirical and theoretical work on sex differences and similarities in human psychology and behavior.

The volume is organized into three parts. In the first part, David Schmitt sets the stage for the volume with a wide-ranging review of how evolutionary scientists evaluate the evidence for mate preference adaptations. Drawing on his own extensive cross-cultural research, Schmitt provides the reader with a road map for how to *do* evolutionary psychology, with a special focus on sex differences and similarities in mate preferences.

The second and third parts of the volume focus on sexual adaptations in men and in women, respectively. The second part includes nine chapters addressing sexual adaptations in men. Joseph Camilleri and Kelly Stiver open this part with a chapter detailing recent work on sexual offending. Camilleri and Stiver review research on sexual offending and in the process provide a compelling case for the heuristic value of an evolutionary perspective for generating novel insights about rape and other sexual offenses.

David Puts and colleagues offer a stellar summary of recent research, including their own groundbreaking work, testing predictions generated from the hypothesis that sexual selection has shaped human male vocal qualities. In the past decade, evolutionary psychologists have invested significant effort unpacking individual differences in sexual psychology and behavior. This exciting work is typified by research conducted by Ben Jones and his colleagues on agreement and individual differences in men's preferences for women's facial characteristics, summarized in the next chapter. Erik Lund and Saul Miller bring the reader up to date on the accumulating evidence that human males have evolved adaptations to detect and respond to female ovulation. Lund, Miller, and their colleagues are among a new cadre of experimental social psychologists that have trained their methodological sophistication on testing hypotheses informed by an evolutionary perspective. As their chapter reveals, the empirical payoff already has been substantial.

Carin Perilloux describes some of the exciting recent research in her lab and elsewhere addressing men's perceptions—and *misperceptions*—of

women's sexual interest. In the next chapter, Jaime Cloud and Carin Perilloux provide a superb review of work investigating bodily attractiveness as information processed by male psychological adaptations to assess women's fertility and reproductive value.

On average, men more than women compete for short-term and long-term romantic partners and for the expendable resources and social status that facilitate winning these mating competitions. Daniel Kruger reviews this literature, providing evidence that male mortality exceeds female mortality as a consequence of this more intense competition among men than women. In the penultimate chapter of the part on sexual adaptations in men, Gil Greengross presents a compelling argument replete with empirical evidence that male production of humor is generated by sexually selected psychological adaptations. In the final chapter of this part, Valerie Starratt and Michele Alesia summarize recent work investigating human male adaptations to retain a long-term female partner in whom they have invested time, attention, and other resources.

The second part of the volume includes eight chapters addressing sexual adaptations in women, beginning with a contribution by William McKibbin. Previous research provides evidence that human males have psychological adaptations that motivate sexual coercion and rape. According to McKibbin, an evolutionary history of male sexual coercion will have generated selection pressures on females to thwart or to avoid rape. McKibbin reviews the evidence for sexual adaptations in women motivating rape avoidance. In the next two contributions, Lisa Welling and colleagues provide thoughtful reviews of the evolutionary science addressing human female orgasm and female adaptations associated with ovulation, respectively. These linked areas of research have received increasing attention by evolutionary biologists and psychologists, and Welling and colleagues bring the reader up to date on the status of this exciting work.

Lisa DeBruine offers a comprehensive review of recent work, including her own pioneering work, investigating women's preferences for male facial features. Not only does DeBruine's review provide a superb summary of previous research in the area but also she identifies several of the most interesting and important directions for future research in this area. In the next chapter, Diana Santos Fleischman provides readers with a tour de force of empirical investigation of disgust adaptations in women, with special reference to variation in expressions of disgust as a function of ovulatory cycle status and fertility status. Bernard Fink and colleagues address variation in women's perceptions of men's body movements, particularly as a function of women's ovulatory cycle status. Summarizing their own and others' research, Fink et al. make a strong case that men's body movements, especially dance movements, are attended to by women and used by them as cues to developmental stability and "good genes."

The final two chapters of this part of the volume focus on female intrasexual competition. Norman Li and colleagues address eating restriction in women as a consequence of intrasexual competition. This work showcases the potential for evolutionary science to successfully inform human health and well-being. April Bleske-Rechek and colleagues review recent work

from their own lab and from others' labs investigating rivalry in women's same-sex friendships, with particular attention to female attractiveness.

Contributions from Paul Vasey and Doug VanderLaan and from David Geary and colleagues comprise the concluding part of the volume. Vasey and VanderLaan provide a stellar review of theoretical and empirical work addressing human male androphilia—sexual attraction to men or masculinity. Geary and colleagues offer a thoughtful series of reflections on the evolution of human sex differences, with particular consideration of “social selection” and the evolution of cooperation among women.

Evolutionary Perspectives on Human Sexual Psychology and Behavior showcases the intellectual value of an interdisciplinary approach to human psychology and behavior. Guided by Darwin's insights, the contributions to this volume provide a stunningly compelling case for an evolutionary analysis of human sexual psychology and behavior.

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