

Investigators in Psychology, Neuroscience, Behavioral Biology, and Cognitive Science

Do you want to:

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- solicit reactions, criticism, and feedback from a large sample of your peers?
- place your ideas in an interdisciplinary, international context?

The Behavioral and Brain Sciences (BBS),

an extraordinary journal now in its sixth year, provides a special service called Open Peer Commentary to researchers in any area of psychology, neuroscience, behavioral biology or cognitive science.

Papers judged appropriate for Commentary are circulated to a large number of specialists who provide substantive criticism, interpretation, elaboration, and pertinent complementary and supplementary material from a full cross-disciplinary perspective.

Article and commentaries then appear simultaneously with the author's formal response. This BBS "treatment" provides in print the exciting give and take of an international seminar.

The editor of BBS is calling for papers that offer a clear rationale for Commentary, and also meet high standards of conceptual rigor, empirical grounding, and clarity of style. Contributions may be (1) reports and discussions of empirical research of broader scope and implications than might be reported in a specialty journal; (2) unusually significant theoretical articles that formally model or systematize a body of research; and (3) novel interpretations, syntheses or critiques of existing theoretical work.

Although the BBS Commentary service is primarily devoted to original unpublished manuscripts, at times it will be extended to précis of recent books or previously published articles.

Published quarterly by Cambridge University Press. Editorial correspondence to: Stevan Harnad, Editor, BBS, Suite 240, 20 Nassau Street, Princeton, NJ 08540.

"... superbly presented ... the result is practically a *vade mecum* or *Who's Who* in each subject. [Articles are] followed by pithy and often (believe it or not) witty comments questioning, illuminating, endorsing or just plain arguing ... I urge anyone with an interest in psychology, neuroscience, and behavioural biology to get access to this journal."—*New Scientist*

"Care is taken to ensure that the commentaries represent a sampling of opinion from scientists throughout the world. Through open peer commentary, the knowledge imparted by the target article becomes more fully integrated into the entire field of the behavioral and brain sciences. This contrasts with the provincialism of specialized journals ..."—Eugene Garfield *Current Contents*

"The field covered by BBS has often suffered in the past from the drawing of battle lines between prematurely hardened positions: nature v. nurture, cognitive v. behaviourist, biological v. cultural causation. ... [BBS] has often produced important articles and, of course, fascinating interchanges. ... the points of dispute are highlighted if not always resolved, the styles and positions of the participants are exposed, hobbyhorses are sometimes ridden with great vigour, and mutual incomprehension is occasionally made very conspicuous ... commentaries are often incisive, integrative or bring highly relevant new information to bear on the subject."—*Nature*

"... a high standard of contributions and discussion. It should serve as one of the major stimulants of growth in the cognitive sciences over the next decade."—Howard Gardner (Education) Harvard

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"Neurobiologists are acutely aware that their subject is in an explosive phase of development ... we frequently wish for a forum for the exchange of ideas and interpretations ... plenty of journals gladly carry the facts, very few are willing to even consider promoting ideas. Perhaps even more important is the need for opportunities publicly to criticize traditional and developing concepts and interpretations. [BBS] is helping to fill these needs."—Graham Hoyle (Biology) Oregon

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M. P. BRYDEN

The author critically reviews the principal approaches to hemispheric specialization in the intact human brain and integrates the literature from many diverse sources. Divided into three sections, the volume considers the evidence for perceptual and motor laterality effects, the biological basis of functional asymmetries, and individual differences in lateralization. A major conclusion from this review is that laterality effects are determined as much by procedural and cognitive variables as by neurological variables.

1982, 336 pp., \$29.50 ISBN: 0-12-138180-3

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PLS

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The Association for Politics and the Life Sciences (APLS) was founded in 1980 to advance interest in and encourage scholarship about biobehavioral political science. The journal of the Association, *Politics and the Life Sciences*, publishes articles and peer commentary, review essays, research notes, bibliographic listings of works on biosocial research, and news of conference activities.

The editors encourage the submission of manuscripts on a variety of biopolitical topics including: (1) public policy-related works on biomedical technologies, human ecology, health and environment, aging, food and population, and reproductive technologies; (2) manuscripts on the influence of biological factors on political behavior; (3) papers on the relationship of ethology and sociobiology to the concerns of traditional political science and ethics; and (4) works on the relationship of biopolitics to other perspectives in the social and natural sciences. Data-based empirical studies are especially welcome.

Membership in the Association, subscription to the journal (published semi-annually in 1982), and mailings about conference participation and other activities of the Association are included in the annual fee of \$10 for regular membership and \$5 for students. Sustaining memberships are \$25 per year. Address all correspondence to: Editor, *Politics and the Life Sciences*, Association for Politics and the Life Sciences, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois 60115.

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JOURNAL OF SOCIAL AND BIOLOGICAL STRUCTURES

Editors
Harvey Wheeler,
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Assistant Book Review Editor
S.A. Peterson

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£50.00 (UK) \$ 135.00 (overseas)

This journal is concerned with the relationship between biological and social phenomena on the theoretical, rather than the analogical, level. This shared concern is distinguished from the ancient biological analogies used to describe the organic parts of the "body politic", as well as from nineteenth century social Darwinism, individualist and collectivist theories and from the later organismic philosophies with their allied ideologies of left and right.

Today diverse areas of biological and social theory are discovering common conceptual ground and there is an intensification of the search for general principles applicable to the entire spectrum of dynamic organizations, ranging from cells to systems. This journal enhances this developing dialogue on the levels of rhetoric and fundamental synthesis. It plays a unifying role in providing a common means of publication for those in widely differing disciplines who, directly or indirectly, are contributing to the structural aspects of the phenomena exhibited in social systems. The journal will appeal to students of psychology, human behavior, social evolution, theoretical biology and neurology, as well as to those studying psychiatry, anthropology, politics, social organization and systems theory, general linguistics and myth theory.

Contents of Volume 5, No 3

Alec Style and Carolyn Briggs Style: Once upon a paradigm: An inquiry into the state of medical knowledge

Leston Havens: The risks of knowing and not knowing

The structure of ancient wisdom – a symposium

Harvey Wheeler: The invention of wisdom: from the discovery of aural psychophysics to Plato's politics

Ernest G. McClain: Structure in the ancient wisdom literature: The holy mountain
Comments on McClain's 'Structure in the ancient wisdom literature'

Robert R. Stieglitz: Numerical structuralism and cosmogony in the ancient Near East

Comment on Stieglitz's 'Numerical structuralism and cosmogony in the ancient Near East'

Antonio T. de Nicolas: Aural and literary cultures: The Bhagavad Gita as a case study

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The Behavioral and Brain Sciences

Instructions for Authors and Commentators

The Behavioral and Brain Sciences (BBS) is a unique scientific communication medium, providing the service of Open Peer Commentary for reports of significant current work in psychology, neuroscience, behavioral biology or cognitive science. If a manuscript is judged by BBS referees and editors to be appropriate for Commentary (see Criteria below), it is then circulated to a large number of commentators selected (with the aid of systematic bibliographic searches) from the BBS Associateship* and the worldwide biobehavioral science community, including individuals recommended by the author.

Once the Commentary stage of the process has begun, the author can no longer alter the article, but can respond formally to all commentaries accepted for publication. The target article, commentaries and author's response then co-appear in BBS. Continuing Commentary and replies can appear in later issues.

Criteria for acceptance To be eligible for publication, a paper should not only meet the standards of a journal such as *Psychological Review* or the *International Review of Neurobiology* in terms of conceptual rigor, empirical grounding, and clarity of style, but it should also offer a **clear rationale for soliciting Commentary**. That rationale should be provided in the author's covering letter, together with a **list of suggested commentators**. The original manuscript plus **eight copies** must be submitted.

A paper for BBS can be (i) the report and discussion of empirical research that the author judges to have broader scope and implications than might be more appropriately reported in a specialty journal, (ii) an unusually significant theoretical article that formally models or systematizes a body of research, or (iii) a novel interpretation, synthesis, or critique of existing experimental or theoretical work. Occasionally, articles dealing with social or philosophical aspects of the behavioral and brain sciences will be considered.

The service of Open Peer Commentary will be primarily devoted to original unpublished manuscripts. However, a recently published book whose contents meet the standards outlined above is also eligible for Commentary if the author submits a comprehensive, article-length precis to be published together with the commentaries and his response. In special cases, Commentary will also be extended to a position paper or an already published article dealing with particularly influential or controversial research. Submission of an article implies that it has not been published or is not being considered for publication elsewhere. Previously published articles appear by invitation only. **The Associateship and professional readership of BBS are encouraged to nominate current topics and authors for Commentary.**

In all the categories described, the decisive consideration for eligibility will be the desirability of Commentary for the submitted material. Controversiality *simpliciter* is not a sufficient criterion for soliciting Commentary: a paper may be controversial simply because it is wrong or weak. Nor is the mere presence of interdisciplinary aspects sufficient: general cybernetic and "organismic" disquisitions are not appropriate for BBS. Some appropriate rationales for seeking Open Peer Commentary would be that: (1) the material bears in a significant way on some current controversial issues in behavioral and brain sciences; (2) its findings substantively contradict some well-established aspects of current research and theory; (3) it criticizes the findings, practices, or principles of an accepted or influential line of work; (4) it unifies a substantial amount of disparate research; (5) it has important cross-disciplinary ramifications; (6) it introduces an innovative methodology or formalism for consideration by proponents of the established forms; (7) it significantly integrates a body of brain and behavioral data; (8) it places a hitherto dissociated area of research into an evolutionary or ecological perspective; etc.

In order to assure communication with potential commentators (and readers) from other BBS specialty areas, **all technical terminology must be clearly defined or simplified, and specialized concepts must be fully described**. Authors should use numbered section-headings to facilitate cross-reference by commentators.

Note to commentators The purpose of the Open Peer Commentary service is to provide a concentrated constructive interaction between author and commentators on a topic judged to be of broad significance to the biobehavioral science community. Commentators should provide substantive criticism, interpretation, and elaboration as well as any pertinent complementary or supplementary material, such as illustrations; all original data will be refereed in order to assure the archival validity of BBS commentaries. Commentaries and articles should be free of hyperbole and remarks *ad hominem*.

Style and format for articles and commentaries Articles must not exceed 14,000 words (and should ordinarily be considerably shorter); **commentaries should not exceed 1,000 words**. Spelling, capitalization, and punctuation should be consistent within each article and commentary and should follow the style recommended in the latest edition of *A Manual of Style*. The University of Chicago Press. It may be helpful to examine a recent issue of BBS. A title should be given for each article and commentary. An auxiliary short title of 50 or fewer characters should be given for any article whose title exceeds that length. Each commentary must have a distinctive, representative **commentary title**. The contributor's name should be given in the form preferred for publication, the affiliation should include the full institutional address. **Two abstracts**, one of 100 and one of 250 words, should be submitted with every article. The shorter abstract will appear one issue in advance of the article; the longer one will be circulated to potential commentators and will appear with the printed article. A list of 5–10 keywords should precede the text of the article. Tables and figures (i.e. photographs, graphs, charts, or other artwork) should be numbered consecutively in a separate series. Every table and figure should have a title or caption and at least one reference in the text to indicate its appropriate location. Notes, acknowledgments, appendices, and references should be grouped at the end of the article or commentary. Bibliographic citations in the text must include the author's last name and the date of publication and may include page references. Complete bibliographic information for each citation should be included in the list of references. Examples of correct style for bibliographic citations are: Brown (1973), (Brown 1973), (Brown 1973, 1978), (Brown 1973; Jones 1976); (Brown & Jones 1978); (Brown, Jones & Smith 1979) and subsequently, (Brown et al. 1979). References should be typed in alphabetical order in the style of the following examples. **Journal titles should not be abbreviated.**

Kupfermann, I. & Weiss, K. (1978) The command neuron concept. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences* 1:3–39.

Dunn, J. (1976) How far do early differences in mother-child relations affect later developments? In *Growing points in ethology*, ed. P. P. G. Bateson & R. A. Hinde, pp. 1–10. Cambridge University Press.

Bateson, P. P. G. & Hinde, R. A., eds. (1976) *Growing points in ethology*. Cambridge University Press.

Preparation of the manuscript The entire manuscript, including notes and references, must be typed **double-spaced** on 8½ by 11 inch or A4 paper, with margins set to 70 characters per line and 25 lines per page, and should not exceed 50 pages. Pages should be numbered consecutively. It will be necessary to return manuscripts for retyping if they do not conform to this standard.

Each table and figure should be submitted on a separate page, not interspersed with the text. Tables should be typed to conform to BBS style. Figures should be ready for photographic reproduction; they cannot be redrawn by the printer. Charts, graphs, or other artwork should be done in black ink on white paper and should be drawn to occupy a standard area of 8½ by 11 or 8½ by 5½ inches before reduction. Photographs should be glossy black-and-white prints, 8 by 10 inch enlargements are preferred. All labels and details on figures should be clearly printed and large enough to remain legible even after a reduction to half size. It is recommended that labels be done in transfer type of a sans-serif face such as Helvetica.

Authors are requested to submit their original manuscript with **eight copies** for refereeing, and commentators their original plus **two copies**, to: Stevan Harnad, Editor, The Behavioral and Brain Sciences, 20 Nassau St., Suite 240, Princeton, NJ 08540. In case of doubt as to appropriateness for BBS commentary, authors should write to the editor before submitting eight copies.

Editing The publishers reserve the right to edit and proof all articles and commentaries accepted for publication. Authors of articles will be given the opportunity to review the copyedited manuscript and page proofs. Commentators will be asked to review copyediting only when changes have been substantial; commentators will not see proofs. Both authors and commentators should notify the editorial office of all corrections within 48 hours or approval will be assumed.

Authors of target articles receive 50 offprints of the entire treatment, and can purchase additional copies. Commentators will also be given an opportunity to purchase offprints of the entire treatment.

*Individuals interested in serving as BBS Associates are asked to write to the editor.

To appear in Volume 6, Number 2 (1983)

Offprints of the following forthcoming BBS treatments can be purchased in quantity for educational purposes if they are ordered well in advance. For ordering information, please write to Journals Department, Cambridge University Press, 32 East 57th Street, New York, N.Y. 10022.

Is blindsight an effect of scattered light, spared cortex, and near-threshold vision?

John Campion, Richard Latto, and Y. M. Smith, *University of Liverpool*

"Blindsight" is used to describe unconscious visually guided behaviour elicited by stimulation within a cortically derived scotoma (blind area). Mediation is thought to be by subcortical pathways (the second visual system). The literature is reviewed, and it is concluded that because of methodological and conceptual difficulties in the reported studies, all blindsight effects could be attributed to processes other than blindsight. First, in the absence of histological verification, it is difficult to exclude the possibility that some effects are being mediated by residual but degraded striate cortex. Second, many effects could result from light scattering from scotomata into the good field. A series of experiments using hemianopic subjects and normal subjects with simulated hemianopias demonstrates that performance similar to blindsight is possible when only scattered light is available as a cue. It is concluded that the existence of blindsight remains undemonstrated.

With Commentary from JL Barbur & KH Ruddock; P Bach-y-Rita; B Bridgeman; RN Haber; O Meienberg; A Morton; P & T Pasik, E Pöppel; R Puccetti; T Torjussen & S Magnussen; G Underwood; L Weiskrantz; J Zihl; and others.

An analysis of psychotherapy versus placebo studies

Leslie Prioleau, Martha Murdock, and Nathan Brody, *Wesleyan University*

Thirty-two studies comparing psychotherapy to placebo are analyzed. Their median effect size was .15 standard deviations and tended to vary inversely with sample size, duration of treatment, the use of real patients, and the use of measures other than undisguised self-reports. These findings suggest that psychotherapy is equivalent to placebo.

With Commentary from RM Dawes; MN Eagle; E Erwin; HJ Eysenck; JD Frank; SL Garfield; GV Glass, ML Smith & TI Miller; LV Hedges; AE Kazdin; B Maher; R Rosenthal; DA Shapiro; M Shepherd; and others.

Brain organization for language from the perspective of electrical stimulation mapping

George A. Ojemann, *University of Washington*

A model for the organization of language in the adult human brain is derived from electrical stimulation mapping. A common perisylvian cortex for motor and language functions is identified in the language-dominant hemisphere, including sites common to sequencing of movements and identification of phonemes that may represent an anatomic substrate for the "motor theory of speech perception." This is surrounded by sites related to short-term verbal memory, with sites specialized for such language functions as naming or syntax at the interface between these motor and memory areas. A common "specific alerting response" mechanism for motor and language functions is identified in the lateral thalamus of the language-dominant hemisphere, a mechanism that may select the cortical areas appropriate for a particular language function.

With Commentary from F Boller; JW Brown; HW Buckingham Jr.; WH Calvin, PS Churchland; WE Cooper; L Frazier; RD Kent; WG Lehnert; AM Liberman; JC Marshall; JD Newman; M Studdert-Kennedy; P Tallal; and F. Wood.

Rational belief

Henry E. Kyburg, Jr., *University of Rochester*

There is a tension between normative and descriptive elements in the theory of rational belief. A number of issues related to both deductive and inductive logic can be raised: Are there full rational beliefs? What is their structure? How can uncertain statements come to be accepted? Can new evidence then lead to their rejection? What is the role of classical logic? Should degrees of belief satisfy the probability calculus? Does conformity to the probability calculus exhaust the constraints that can be imposed on partial beliefs? Should beliefs change in accord with Bayes' theorem? What is the role of expected utility in decision? A systematic set of answers to these questions is developed on the basis of a probabilistic rule of acceptance and a conception of interval-valued logical probability according to which probabilities are based on known frequencies.

With Commentary from M Bar-Hillel & A Margalit; LJ Cohen; J Evans; G Harman; PN Johnson-Laird; D Kahneman; I Levi; LL Lopes; RE Nisbett & P Thagard; R Revlin; RD Tweney, ME Doherty & CR Mynatt; and others.

Among the articles to appear in forthcoming issues of BBS:

D. C. Dennett, "Intentional systems in cognitive ethology: The 'Panglossian Paradigm' defended"

J. Dinsmoor, "Observing and conditioned reinforcement"

S. Grossberg, "The quantized geometry of visual space: The coherent computation of depth, form, and lightness"

E. P. Stabler, Jr., "How are grammars represented?"

Special Issue: Event-related Potentials and Cognition

Special Issue: Canonical Papers of B. F. Skinner

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