

# abstract

**Development Through Life** *Development Through Life. Barbara M. Newman and Philip R. Newman. Homewood, Illinois: The Dorsey Press, 1975. 399 pp. \$10.95.*

Nine stages of psychological development, beginning with infancy and concluding with later adulthood, are discussed in this book. The major theory used is that of Erik H. Erikson, but other theories are drawn on.

At each life stage, cognitive, emotional, and social development are integrated to provide a sense of the development of the whole person. Research themes in the psychological literature are identified and discussed within the context of particular stages of development. Paintings by famous artists are used to illustrate aspects of development. This book should be especially useful as a reference.

**Public Speaking as Communication** *Public Speaking as Communication. James E. Connolly. Minneapolis: Burgess Publishing Company, 1974. 122 pp. \$2.95.*

Here's a set of guidelines for effective speaking developed in the classroom, business, and industry. The book is divided into three parts: basic concepts underlying good communication attitudes and practices, the importance of adequate preparation, and four aspects of presentation. Five common-sense techniques are developed in a step-by-step procedure for good communication. Both beginning and experienced speakers will find this book valuable.

**Discussion and Group Methods** *Discussion and Group Methods. 2nd ed. Ernest G. Bormann. New York: Harper and Row Publishers, 1975. 395 pp. \$8.95.*

New research extends and supports theories found in the first edition. Findings are reported from the Minnesota studies of simulated organizations and the effect of organizational context on inter- and intra-group communication. Group discussion and small-group communication are viewed as involving both general-communication theory and small-group theory.

Professionals desiring a text in small-group communication will find this book balances decision making and problem solving with interpersonal relations.

**The Urban World** *The Urban World. J. John Palen. New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1975. 480 pp. \$11.95.*

Two sections of this book should be useful to professionals working in urban areas. These include discussions of lifestyles in the city and suburbs, urban stratification and power, and housing issues and transportation planning. A third section should be useful to professionals with an international interest. The final section consists of plans and speculations about the future of the city based on the social needs of people.

The book is designed to give the reader a sociological overview of the urban world. It's especially for those having a strong interest in human ecology.

**Youth** *Youth: The Seventy-fourth Yearbook of the National Society for the Study of Education. Robert J. Havighurst and Phillip H. Dreyer, eds. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1975. 463 pp. \$11.00.*

This new yearbook offers a revealing perspective on the developing knowledge and changing concerns about youth during the past 30 years. Section one contains a theoretical and empirical background to the study of youth as a stage in life, and section two is concerned with youth and social institutions. An impressive list of contributors provide 18 outstanding chapters on the psychological and social processes by which young people become adults in contemporary society. The book will interest the reader who's seeking greater understanding of the youth subculture.

**The American People** *The American People. E. J. Kahn, Jr. New York: Weybright and Talley Publishers, 1974. 340 pp. \$8.95.*

This book examines the findings of the 1970 census of population and housing. Thousands of statistics are skillfully presented and paint a detailed picture of the American people without the use of a single chart, graph, or map.

The information presented isn't documented or foot-noted, making it difficult to verify or expand on the idea in the book. Because the data are presented on a national level, the reader may think that conditions described exist in some parts of the country, but not at home.

The book is intended for the enjoyment of the lay reader and not as a reference. It is an interesting review of who we are, but doesn't provide in-depth information for planning.

*David Nelson*

**The Drug Scene** *Education and the Drug Scene. Bill C. Wallace. Lincoln, Nebraska: Professional Educators Publications, Inc., 1974. 117 pp. \$2.25.*

This book provides a perspective on today's drug dilemma by tracing the history and scope of psychoactive drug use. A study of drug use among students is included, and the manner of use; factors involved with use; effects; legal regulations; and possible risks to society of different drugs are outlined.

In the final section, the drug education explosion and apparent lack of understanding of the drug problem that accompanied it are discussed. A plea is made for new approaches, and suggestions are made for more effective drug education. The book will be of special interest to those searching for guidance in drug education program development.

**Role Playing** *Value Exploration Through Role Playing. Robert C. Hawley. Amherst, Massachusetts: Education Research Press, 1974. 124 pp. \$2.95.*

Educators often talk about the value and effectiveness of role playing as a teaching tool. However, few ever try this technique because they don't know how and when to use it.

Hawley gives us this information. The text includes: 18 role-playing formats, recommendations for implementing role playing, objectives for role playing, and a discussion of the relationship of role playing to the development of human values and moral decision making. A good, usable reference for Extension educators.

**Development Planning** *Agricultural Development Planning: Economic Concepts, Administrative Procedures and Political Processes. Willard W. Cochrane. New York: Praeger Publishers, 1974. 223 pp. \$9.95.*

The process of developmental planning in agriculture is the focus of this book. Its main purpose is to develop a conceptual base for planning agricultural systems most suitable for a particular area. While it doesn't prescribe solutions for specific problems, it provides a keener insight into the overall planning process. The concepts presented can be applied to national, regional, and local concerns encountered by agricultural planners or change agents.

Extension personnel interested in agricultural or rural development will find some of the concepts useful. However, the language used is more suited to professional planners than Extension professionals.

*John Huddleston*

**Understanding Research** *Understanding Research in the Social Sciences.* Curtis D. Hardyck and Lewis F. Petrinovich. Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders Company, 1975. 224 pp. \$6.95.

You can rely on the title of this book. Designed for the consumer of research in behavioral sciences, it's well organized and clearly written. About one-third of its pages help the reader understand and evaluate various types of research. The other two-thirds present a remarkably understandable explanation of how statistics contribute to behavioral research.

Two audiences should find the book helpful: all Extension professionals as they incorporate research in programming, and students about to embark on their first courses in research and/or statistics.

**Interpersonal Communication** *Looking Out/Looking In: Interpersonal Communication.* Ron Adler and Neil Towne. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1975. 330 pp. \$8.95.

This book presents a simplified approach to the subject of interpersonal communication. It ties together all the games, quotations, theories, poems, articles and suggested readings the authors used in interpersonal communications courses over a four-year period. Areas covered are: self-awareness, defensiveness, perception, really hearing, non-verbal communication, semantics and resolving interpersonal conflict.

The book would be a valuable asset for Extension professionals who deal with human relations and human development subject matter.

**Radio Recipes** *Aunt Sammy's Radio Recipes.* Ruth Van Deman and Fanny Walker Yeatman. Martin Greif, ed. New York: Universe Books, 1975. 142 pp. \$8.95 (cloth), \$4.95 (paper).

This makes good bicentennial reading. From another time, yet useful today, this book is a reprint of the most popular Depression cookbook. The book grew out of an enormously successful radio show written and sponsored by the U.S. Bureau of Home Economics.

As seen today, most of the recipes are still very practical, *imaginative, and inexpensive, though shifts in food availability and cost limit the usefulness of some.* The recipes lack yields, pan sizes and number of servings.