

Quoted

Lawrence E. Fraley

Professor of Behaviorology (retired)

[This quote originated as the only footnote, and its source, in Chapter 10 of the author's *General Behaviorology* book (see Fraley, L.E. [2008]. *General Behaviorology: The Natural Science of Human Behavior* [p. 338]. Canton, NY: ABCs.). That chapter, on graphs and graphing technique, needed a footnote when pointing out the usefulness of a battery of coordinated graphs. The responses at the end of this footnote—which are relevant to one of the major objectives of the book—have applications in contexts far wider than just this chapter; for this reason the footnote and its source are quoted here.—Ed.]

... *I*t proves easier to tease out the interrelations among the variables when different kinds of data are graphed in this time-coordinated way.¹ ... This example illustrates that coordinated graphs afford a more complete and comprehensive analytical profile of the situation under investigation by making relations among different dependent variables easier to see. Behaviorologically, we would say that the presentation of such an arrangement of graphic stimuli, which makes relations among various dependent variables more salient, facilitates those relations acquiring functional control over certain critical neural body parts of the viewer.

¹ The reader will note that the text in this chapter, like that in others, is stylistically written in a combination of (a) common agential language and (b) language crafted to reflect the naturalistic behaviorological perspective. The agential language is comfortably familiar to most readers, and its appearances represent a compromise that facilitates reading behavior at the expense of technical correctness. The agential language typically appears in passages where, if uncritically accepted, it may not perplex the reader. On the other hand, to the extent that its appearances begin to evoke the critical attention of the reader, the book is succeeding in one of its major objectives. For instance, those who may be annoyed by the expressed implication that interrelations revealed in a set of coordinated graphs are “teased out” by some kind of proactive environment—appreciating agent within the viewer are to be congratulated on their maturing scientific sensitivity. They may also enjoy exercising those powers on the preceding acknowledgment of their achievement, and then, in turn, on this invitation to do so. ☺