Science Works on Human Behavior

Over a dozen papers track some useful details of disciplinary development, history, & implications/applications.

Stephen F. Ledoux
This book contains a selection of career-spanning papers covering various considerations in the natural science of behavior that some call behaviorology, papers that have not appeared in previous books. The topics in these papers help provide context as part of the various contingencies producing this discipline and earlier books. The papers range from a transcript of an interview, by a local Public Radio reporter, of the organizers of the first behaviorology convention in Potsdam, New York, in 1988, to the author’s recent presentations about educating for sustainability or that introduce behaviorology to some specialized audiences. Thus this book of readings complements the author’s previous book of readings, *Origins and Components of Behaviorology—Third Edition* (2015). Sharing various bits of wisdom with different audiences, this accessible book serves both new readers and readers experienced in the discipline.

The author received his M.A. from California State University, Sacramento, in 1973, and his Ph.D. from Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, in 1982. As a professor of Behaviorology for over 40 years, he designed behaviorology courses and curricula for all levels of higher education, and has written several books to increase understanding and applications of the relatively young—at a little over 100 years—natural science of behaviorology. He also consults with universities and colleges to build quality behaviorology departments and programs.

Natural Science / Life Science

*Science Works on Human Behavior*

Stephen F. Ledoux

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$40.00
Science Works on Human Behavior

Burrhus Frederic Skinner

(1904–1990)

Conversing at a convention in 1982

The products of the contingencies of his life established behaviorology.
Science Works on Human Behavior

Stephen F. Ledoux

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Science Works on Human Behavior

Stephen F. Ledoux, Ph.D.

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This book provides information regarding the subject matter covered with the understanding that the author and publisher are not providing any professional services; if problem behaviors occur, and expert assistance is desired or required, contact a competent applied behaviorologist or applied behavior analyst. The publisher and author hereby exclude all liability to the extent permitted by law for any errors or omissions in this book and for any loss, damage, or expense (whether direct or indirect) suffered by a third party relying on any information contained in this book.
Other Books by Stephen F. Ledoux

Study Questions for Paul De Kruif’s Microbe Hunters (1972).

Grandpa Fred’s Baby Tender, or Why and How We Built Our Aircrubs

The Panda and Monkey King Christmas—A Family’s Year in China
with first author Nelly Case (1997).

Eight other books of Study Questions for various texts,
one with two co–authors (1999–2015; see BOOKS at www.behaviorology.org).

Behaviorology Majors Make a Difference


An Introduction to Verbal Behavior—Second Edition
with first author Norman Peterson (2014).


Beautiful Sights and Sensations—Small Collections of Native American and Other Arts
(2016; this book includes not only a scientifically grounded definition of art, but
also a description of the signature seals that appear at the end of the Introduction to
the present book of readings; see p. x).

On Typography & Related Resources

This book is set in the Adobe Garamond, Adobe Garamond Expert, and Tekton collections of typefaces. In addition, a valuable basis for the typographic standards of this work deserves acknowledgment. As much as possible, this book follows the practices described in two highly recommended volumes by Ms. Robin Williams (both of which Peachpit Press, in Berkeley, CA, USA, publishes). One is the 1990 edition of *The Mac is Not a Typewriter*. The other is the 1996 edition of *Beyond the Mac is Not a Typewriter*. For example, on page 16 of the 1990 book, Williams specifies practices regarding the placement of punctuation used with quotation marks, an area in which some ambiguity has existed with respect to what is “proper.” In addition the present book follows the advice in these books about avoiding “widows” (which is the name for leaving less than two words on the last line of a paragraph) and “orphans” (which is the name either for leaving the first line of a paragraph alone at the bottom of a page, or for leaving the last line of a paragraph alone at the top of the next page). Also, since some confusing alternatives remain regarding the use of hyphens and dashes, this book would simply limit hyphens to separating the parts of words that break at a line end, although this book never breaks words at line ends, because good software (e.g., Adobe InDesign) makes that old, hard to read practice unnecessary. Then, “en dashes” most commonly separate the whole words of compound adjectives, and “em dashes” set off multiple-word—a compound adjective with an en dash—phrases or clauses. (Note that ebook formatting typically destroys most of these easy-reading characteristics that developed across humanity’s centuries of successful printing-press practices.)

You can address correspondence regarding this book to the author (at ledoux@canton.edu). For more information, visit www.behaviorology.org where you can find all the back issues of the journal of TIBI (The International Behaviorology Institute). Previously named *Behaviorology Today* (ISSN 1536–6669), TIBI renamed it *Journal of Behaviorology* (ISSN 2331–0774) in 2013.


Order any of those books from the usual sources or, better, directly from the distributor, Direct Book Service, Inc., in Wenatchee, WA, at 800–776–2665. They will likely answer the phone with “Dogwise,” because one of their long standing and most popular specialities involves books about our canine friends; several of these books already specifically apply the laws of behavior that the 2014 textbook, and the 2017 general-audience book, systematically introduce in detail. ☺
Table of Contents

Other Books by Stephen F. Ledoux ... v
On Typography & Related Resources ... vi
“Introduction” (Traditionally called the Preface) ... ix

PART I: Some Early Papers, with Science and History ... 3
1 August 1988 Public Radio Interview of the Organizers of the First Behaviorology Convention ... 5
2 Supporting Both Our Science and the Other Components of Our Discipline ... 15
3 Defining Natural Sciences ... 19
4 A Parable of Past Scribes and Present Possibilities [on Project Follow Through] ... 25

PART II: Some Later Papers, with Science and Society ... 33
5 The Future and Behaviorology ... 35
6 Anticipating the Natural Science of Behavior: Charles Darwin ... 43
7 Human Multiple Operant Research Equipment ... 47
8 An Interview on Behaviorology Supporting a Sustainable Society (with co–authors Dale Hallatt and Thomas Hallatt) ... 59

PART III: Some Special–Occasion or Special–Audience Papers ... 75
9* Running Out of Time for New “Behaviorology and Green Engineering” Programs to be Effective [an often repeated presentation] ... 77
10* Follow Fate by Coincidence or Solve Global Problems [a forum] ... 89
11* About a Book that Expands Behavior–Science Repertoires [a book talk] ... 95
12* Behaviorology—The Natural Science of Why Human Behavior Happens [Form and Handouts for a six–hour overview short course] ... 99
13 * Just What Are Those Two–Legged Animals and When will They Stop Hurting My Habitat OR Helping Our Canine Friends by Helping Ourselves with Science [Forms and Handouts for a nine–hour overview short course] … 109

14 * A Brief Introduction to Behaviorology, the Natural Science of Behavior: What it involves and with what is it concerned [a convention extra] … 121

APPENDICES [with color photos throughout] … 131

Appendix 1: The First Baby Tender (by B. F. Skinner, with photographs of a later aircrib; reprinted with permission) … 131

A Bonus Historical Photo … 136

Appendix 2: A Rose by Another Name: Behavioral Materialism (by Joseph E. Morrow, a paper proposing a reasonable, even helpful alternative label to “Radical Behaviorism”; reprinted with permission) … 137

Another Bonus Historical Photo … 140

Appendix 3: A Selection of Quotes … 141

“Wanted” Poster … 146

Appendix 4: An “Easter Egg”: Nutritious Apple Cake [an award–winning recipe] … 147

Appendix 5: More “Easter Eggs”: Some Book Covers & An Art Photo … 149

�性 A Very Short Bibliography … 151

(extra) About the Author … 155

*While acknowledging this book as the source, readers need no additional permission to use this paper, and reproduce its handout(s), as a whole or partial presentation or series of presentations to help introduce behaviorology to wider audiences.
“Introduction”
(Traditionally called the Preface)

My writings try to provide as much support for new readers as for more seasoned readers in the behaviorology discipline. Thus this book contains readings on a range of topics in the natural science of behavior. This means, of course, that these papers are not psychology papers, since behaviorology is neither a part of, nor any kind of, psychology. While the papers in my earliest book of readings (now in its third edition: Ledoux, 2015) connected with each other along the theme of “origins and components of behaviorology,” the papers in this book connect with each other along the more general theme of “science working on human behavior”; hence this book’s title. No paper in this book has previously appeared in any of my books of readings, although many have appeared in the peer–reviewed disciplinary literature of behaviorology.

A young behaviorology—only 75 years old when made independent under the behaviorology label in 1987—needed the opportunity to develop as well as to help solve individual, local, and global problems. That contingency–driven separation of the natural science of behavior from its somewhat coincidental shared history with psychology work units (see Fraley & Ledoux, 2015) induced several authors, including me, to commit most, if not all, of their post–1987 writing productivity to expanding the explicit disciplinary literature of behaviorology. As a result, a rich and growing disciplinary literature now exists, and the papers in this book constitute a part of it. For references to many of these works, and many of the pieces in this book, see the bibliography in this book and the bibliography in Ledoux, 2014, or the five–year–indexes of the behaviorology journal that appear online at www.behaviorology.org which is the website of The International Behaviorology Institute (TiBi).

The editing for the papers in this book included, where appropriate, updating their references. The papers appear here in roughly chronological order in these three Parts:  
Part I: Some Early Papers, with Science and History;  
Part II: Some Later Papers, with Science and Society;  
Part III: Some Special–Occasion or Special–Audience Papers.

After these three Parts, several Appendices appear. The first of these, “The first baby tender,” by B. F. Skinner, also includes color photographs of a later aircrib.

While not in this book of readings, because they have appeared in other books of readings, here are other articles (and their locations) that may interest readers:

- **Behaviorism at 100 unabridged** (a slightly expanded version appears as Chapter 1 in Ledoux, 2014; fully peer reviewed).
- **An introduction to the origins, status, and mission of behaviorology: An established science with developed applications and a new name** (Paper 1 in Ledoux, 2015; fully peer reviewed).
- **An introduction to the philosophy called radical behaviorism** (Paper 2 in Ledoux, 2015; fully peer reviewed).
- **Origins, status, and mission of behaviorology** (seven chapters with first author Lawrence Fraley: Paper 3 in Ledoux, 2015; peer reviewed).
- ** Behaviorology curricula in higher education** (Paper 4 in Ledoux, 2015; fully peer reviewed).
Behaviorology in China: A status report (Paper 5 in Ledoux, 2015; fully peer reviewed, and also available in Chinese at www.behaviorology.org).

Increasing tact control and student comprehension through such new postcedent terms as added and subtracted reinforcers and punishers (Paper 6 in Ledoux, 2015; fully peer reviewed).

Multiple selectors in the control of simultaneously evocable responses (an experimental research project: Paper 7 in Ledoux, 2015; fully peer reviewed).

Successful smoking control as an example of a comprehensive behaviorological therapy (Paper 8 in Ledoux, 2015; peer reviewed).

Elements of the ongoing history of the behaviorology discipline (with co–author James O’Heare: Paper 9 in Ledoux, 2015; fully peer reviewed).


Parental management of time out and attention in the control of brat–syndrome behavior (with first author David Anderson: Paper 1 in Ledoux, 2013).

The Brat Syndrome and other equally fascinating factors (with first author Sheila Knight: Paper 2 in Ledoux, 2013).

Other papers are available. One that may interest some readers, written with first author Michael Shuler, is “Behaviorology terminology adjustments for The Analysis of Behavior by Holland and Skinner” (see [2017] Journal of Behaviorology, 20, 1, pp. 3–15, under JOURNALS at www.behaviorology.org). Another is “In response to Fraley, 2015” (see [2015] Journal of Behaviorology, 18, 1, pp. 27–28). Readers can also locate 13 of my TIBI course syllabi through the “Syllabus Directory” in volume 18, number 1, of Journal of Behaviorology (also under JOURNALS at www.behaviorology.org); James O’Heare later updated these syllabi (as explained under COURSES at www.behaviorology.org).

You can also find a very early paper of mine, “Designing a new Walden Two–inspired community,” which is a very different kind of paper, in Communities—Journal of Cooperation, No. 66, Spring, 1985, pp. 28–32, 84. Now, on to the papers!

References


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