

Current Comments®

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The 1987 National Academy of Sciences Award for Scientific Reviewing Goes to Gardner Lindzey for Reviews in Social Psychology, Personality Psychology, and Behavioral Genetics

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The 1987 National Academy of Sciences (NAS) Award for Scientific Reviewing has been awarded to Gardner Lindzey, president and director, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Stanford, California. Lindzey, a psychologist and educator, was recognized by the NAS for his "critical eye aimed at current work in personality psychology, social psychology, and behavioral genetics, always balancing a talent for synthesis with a seasoned researcher's sense of complexity."¹

ISI® and Annual Reviews Inc., Palo Alto, California, are co-sponsors of the NAS Award for Scientific Reviewing, designed to recognize and encourage excellence in the writing of reviews. The award was established in 1979 in honor of James Murray Luck, founder of Annual Reviews, whom we mentioned recently in an essay on review literature.^{2,3} Although ISI and Annual Reviews contribute jointly to the award's \$5,000 honorarium, winners are selected independently by committees appointed by the NAS. The discipline from which recipients are chosen rotates annually among the biological, physical, and social and behavioral sciences. Last year's recipient, for example, was astronomer and astrophysicist Virginia Trimble, University of California, Irvine.⁴ All the recipients to date were listed in our recent essay on review literature.²

Born in Wilmington, Delaware, in 1920, Gardner Lindzey received his bachelor's and master's degrees in psychology at Pennsylvania State University. He received his PhD from Harvard University in 1949, where he

taught between 1946 and 1956, later moving to Syracuse University, New York, and then to the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. He became professor of psychology at the University of Texas, Austin, in 1964. Except for one year (1972-1973) during which he returned to Harvard as chairman and professor of psychology, Lindzey taught at Texas and served in a variety of administrative capacities, including vice president for academic affairs and vice president and dean of graduate studies, until 1975, when he became director and president of the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences.

The center, located near the campus of Stanford University, was founded in the mid-1950s as part of an initiative by the Ford Foundation to encourage "the understanding of the principles that govern human behavior."⁵ The program offers postdoctoral fellowships to scholars and scientists with diverse backgrounds. Fellows are free to further their intellectual development in a secluded, relatively unstructured environment, with the opportunity for stimulating interaction with scholars from many different disciplines. Past fellows who have written some of their best-known work at the center include: James S. Coleman, *Introduction to Mathematical Sociology*;⁶ Lawrence A. Cremin, *American Education*;⁷ Victor Fuchs, *Who Shall Live?*;⁸ Seymour Martin Lipset, *Political Man*;⁹ James G. March and Herbert A. Simon, *Organizations*;¹⁰ Frederick Mosteller and David L. Wallace, *Inference and Disputed Authorship*;¹¹ Karl



Gardner Lindzey

R. Popper, *The Logic of Scientific Discovery* (1959 translation);¹² W.V.O. Quine, *Word and Object*;¹³ and Harriet Zuckerman, *Scientific Elite*.¹⁴

Lindzey's primary areas of expertise are the broad fields known as social and personality psychology. As defined by Harvard psychologist Gordon W. Allport (1897-1967), social psychology is "an attempt to understand and explain how the thought, feeling, and behavior of individuals are influenced by the actual, imagined, or implied presence of others."¹⁵ According to Allport, social psychology overlaps political and economic science, cultural anthropology, and sociology. But social psychology is "above all else a branch of general psychology," focusing on "the social nature of the individual person."¹⁵

Allport's definition appears in the opening chapter of each of the three editions of *The Handbook of Social Psychology*. The first edition was published in 1954 and was edited by Lindzey alone.¹⁶ The second edition (1968)¹⁷ and the third edition (1985)¹⁸ were edited by Lindzey and Elliot Aronson, University of California, Santa Cruz. The 1985 edition comprises 30 lengthy chapters on such topics as "Socialization in Adulthood," "Sex Roles in Contemporary American Society," and "Effects of Mass Communication." This comprehensive, multi-authored reference book on social psy-

chology has been cited in at least 1,000 publications since the initial volume was published in 1954. To give a more complete and accurate picture of citations to this book, one would have to look up each of the separate chapters. Some of the contributors to the *Handbook* are not social psychologists but are economists, theologians, mathematicians, and others, writing about how social psychology interacts with their discipline.

Figure 1 is a historiograph, a string of annual research fronts, showing the progression of selected areas of research in or related to social psychology. To identify the research fronts selected for the historiograph, we checked for fronts that contain core works written by Lindzey or some of his colleagues and collaborators. We also checked for fronts using such keywords as "social psychology," "personality," and "behavior." As mentioned earlier, social psychology is a broad subject area, and not every research-front string identified was included in Figure 1.

The Handbook of Social Psychology is only one of the volumes with which Lindzey has been associated. In the words of sociologist Neil Smelser, University of California, Berkeley, who compiled ISI's forthcoming *Contemporary Classics in the Social and Behavioral Sciences*,¹⁹ "Lindzey has made an extraordinary contribution to virtually all areas of psychology with his authored and coauthored textbooks, which are a form of review."²⁰ Some examples of Lindzey's publications follow.

Theories of Personality, coauthored by Lindzey and Calvin S. Hall, University of California, Santa Cruz, presents summaries of modern theories of personality, including the work of Sigmund Freud, Carl Jung, Carl Rogers, and B.F. Skinner.²¹ Originally published in 1957, the book is now in its third edition. It has sold almost one million copies and led to the establishment of hundreds of new graduate and undergraduate courses on this topic.

A leading introductory textbook, *Psychology*, was coauthored by Lindzey, Hall, and Richard F. Thompson, then professor of psychobiology, University of Cal-

ifornia, Irvine.²² This introduction to psychology, which includes chapters on learning, perception, intelligence, and personality, was first published in 1975. The third edition is currently in press. Lindzey also edited the sixth and most recent volume (1974) of *A History of Psychology in Autobiography*, a collection of autobiographical accounts by psychologists first published in 1930.²³ Volume VI includes a chapter of reminiscences and reflections by Ernest R. Hilgard, Stanford, who won the NAS award for reviewing in 1984.²⁴

Lindzey and coauthors John C. Loehlin, University of Texas, and J.N. Spuhler, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, dealt with a potentially controversial topic in their 1975 book *Race Differences in Intelligence*.²⁵ The authors acknowledge in the preface that the book's title is incomplete and perhaps misleading; they clarify that the "race differences" discussed are largely differences between various racial-ethnic groups in the US, and that "intelligence" refers mostly to performance on conventional intelligence tests.²⁵ (p. vii) The book is described by Smelser as a "superb and masterfully balanced treatment of the literature on genetic factors in intelligence."²⁰ Some readers may recall our examination of A.R. Jensen's work, in which we discussed research that achieves high citation impact because it is controversial.²⁶ As it turns out, Jensen's 1969 paper on genetic and environmental factors in intelligence²⁷ is one of the "core" papers that links the annual research fronts in the historiograph in Figure 1.

Lindzey has written often on behavioral genetics. He covered the topic, along with University of Texas colleagues Loehlin, Martin Manosevitz, and Delbert Thiessen, in a paper in the 1971 *Annual Review of Psychology*.²⁸ In their treatment of "this complex merging of psychology and genetics," the authors discuss research on genetic factors affecting cognitive abilities and learning, personality, social behavior, and other areas.

Lindzey has done considerable experimental work in behavioral genetics and other

areas. For example, he was coauthor of a 1968 paper in *Science*, "Androgen control of territorial marking in the Mongolian gerbil."²⁹ This work has been cited in more than 90 subsequent papers.

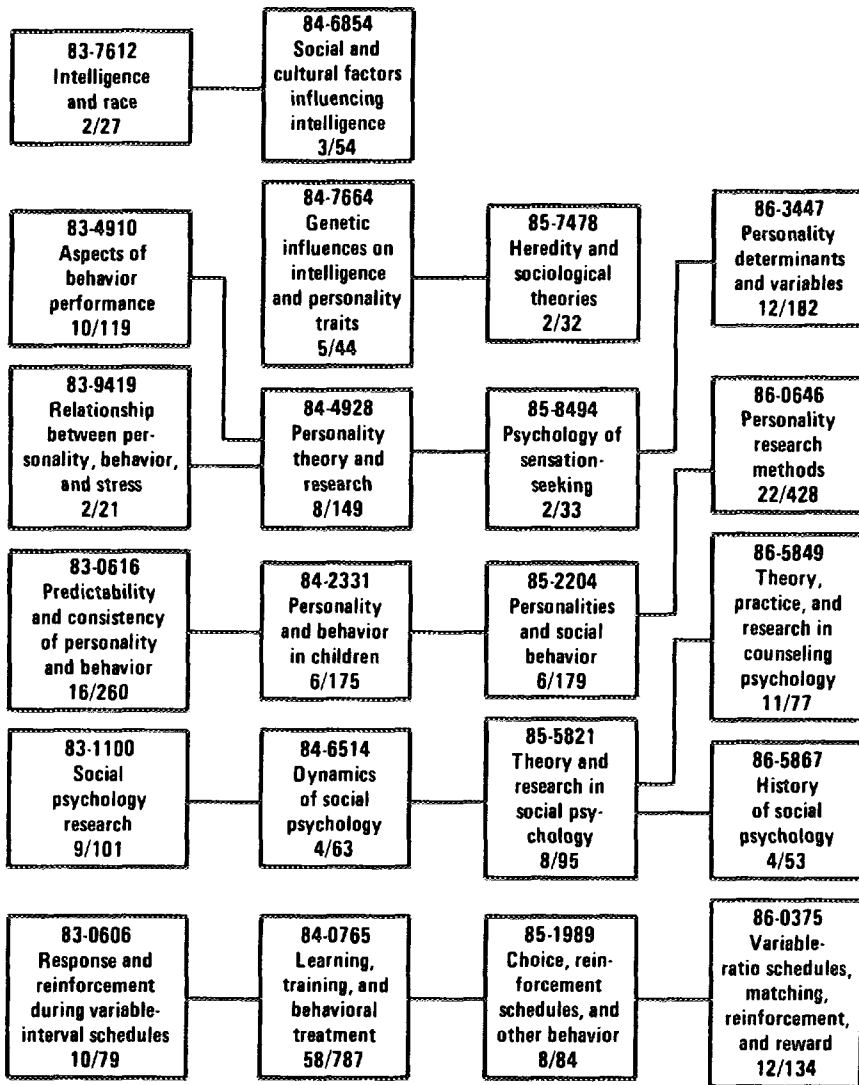
Lindzey has also worked in psychometrics, using the Thematic Apperception Test (TAT) and other psychological testing measures. His 1961 book, *Projective Techniques and Cross-Cultural Research*, reviews and appraises the varieties and applications of projective measures, including the TAT.³⁰ This book has been explicitly cited in over 60 publications, but it is almost impossible to measure its influence on clinical use. That, in fact, is one of the limitations of citation analysis that one needs to keep in mind for any clinically useful discovery.

In addition to writing reviews and surveys, Lindzey has held numerous editorships. Between 1968 and 1974, for example, he edited *Contemporary Psychology*, a journal published by the American Psychological Association, Washington, DC, that features book reviews in psychology. He is also a coeditor, with R.C. Atkinson, R.J. Herrnstein, and R.D. Luce, of the forthcoming *Stevens' Handbook of Experimental Psychology*.³¹ He has been associated with many editorial review boards and also serves on the board of directors of Annual Reviews Inc.

The breadth of Lindzey's career, in fact, illustrates a problem mentioned in our recent study of review literature: narrowing down a definition of "review."

"Reviewing is a very broad concept," says Lindzey, "and I don't even know how the NAS has defined it for the purposes of this award. For example, I played a major role in a study of research doctoral programs a few years back and was a coeditor of the published report. This was an attempt to appraise the quality of research doctoral programs in American universities in all major arts and sciences and engineering programs. That's a kind of review. Whether it was considered as such by the people who decided on this award, I don't know. But it's certainly something that occupied a lot of my time."³² The NAS has defined sci-

Figure 1: Historiograph tracing research on behavior, personality, and social psychology. Numbers of core/citing papers are indicated at the bottom of each box.



entific reviews as scholarly articles that summarize research on a given scientific topic. The report to which Lindzey refers, which used ISI data as one measure of productivity of various academic programs, was published in 1982.³³

Despite the innumerable reviews and surveys he has written and edited, Lindzey is not inclined to be analytical about the process of creating a review. "I don't have any particular method," he quips, "and if I did, it's changed." He is more serious about the

importance of reviews. "I think their value, particularly in education, is enormous."³²

Next year's NAS award will be presented for reviews in the biological sciences. Candidates need not be members of NAS. Nominations should be submitted by July 31, 1987, to the Office of the Home Secretary,

National Academy of Sciences, 2101 Constitution Avenue, Washington, DC 20418.

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