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Phenomenology And Psychological Research



Synopsis

This book is both a theoretical justification of a phenomenological and human scientific approach to psychological research and a presentation of findings in the areas of cognitive, clinical, and social psychology. The book is important because it is the most sustained statement to date about a phenomenological approach to psychological research along with original findings to compare with mainstream psychology in crucial areas of psychology: cognitive, clinical, and social psychology. Phenomenology and Psychological Research is further clarification of the phenomenological approach to psychological research along with examples of application in four different content areas: learning and thinking (both examples of alternative approaches to cognitive processes), self-deception (clinical psychology), and criminal victimization (social psychology). As such, it gives the reader who is merely curious about the possibilities of phenomenological approaches a good opportunity to evaluate its fruitfulness, whereas those who are already sympathetic to the approach will find a greater articulation of the theory behind the procedures. Lastly, the reader will find in this study an example of a descriptive and qualitative approach to psychological research that claims to meet both phenomenological and human scientific criteria. It is one of the first books to make such a claim about psychological research.

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Dr. Giorgi et al. lay out the phenomenological approach in a very understandable way. Not only is the philosophical foundation explained well, the method is delineated step by step so that the novice

can begin to apply it. The phenomenological method provides an approach that preserves the "voice" of the research participants while maintaining sufficient objective analysis in the process. The chapter authors provide examples of research in which the method was applied. I believe, "seeing is believing" when one reads a phenomenological psychological research report. Unlike the dominant quantitative research methods, one does not have to understand statistics and theory-laden psychological terminology. The phenomenological approach provides a descriptive psychology rather than and interpretive psychology wherein the veracity of its results is laid bare for review by the reader. In sum, the phenomenological methodology presented in this book provides a sound alternative to those research methods and philosophies that were invented for the physical sciences. For one to fully appreciate the contrast between this cutting edge research methodology and those dominating experimental psychology today, reading Dr. Giorgi's *Psychology as a Human Science: A Phenomenologically Based Approach*, published in 1970 by Harper and Row Publishers.

I liked it. My research in education is being developed using as theoretical basis: phenomenology methodology and social semiotic. Prof. Giorgi offers an particular mode to treat Husserl's philosophy concepts from viewpoint methodological.

This is one of several of the texts I utilized when doing my doctoral dissertation research. While it was certainly useful, I believe it should be used in conjunction with other methodological texts.

The book is very good. It is within my field of research. I loved the choice. I nominate this book for everyone.

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