

Psychology: Designing the Discipline
with Joseph Margolis, Rom Harré and Paul Secord
Oxford: Basil Blackwell, 1987

Preface

The four of us shared a symposium on the state of the art, at the American Psychological Association meetings in Toronto in August 1984. Paul Secord had taken the initiative. We hadn't expected our separate presentations to fit together as well as they did, but the natural unity they signified and the enthusiasm of our professional audience led spontaneously to planning this volume. We had the distinct impression that many in the various subdisciplines of psychology were rather strongly drawn in our direction, and have tried here to give a sense of the rationale for this new turn from a variety of perspectives. Hopefully, an occasion will arise to pursue all the essential themes in the full and rigorous way they deserve.

- 1 Paul F. Secord and Joseph Margolis: *Introduction*
- 2 Joseph Margolis: *Psychology and Its Methodological Options*
The question of being a science
Aspects of the unity of science
Obstacles to a scientific psychology
Top-down and bottom-up psychologies
Concluding remarks
- 3 Peter T. Manicas: *Whither Psychology?*
The genesis of 'experimental psychology'
A limited program
- 4 Rom Harré: *Social Sources of Mental Content and Order*
Introduction: presumptions of contemporary practice
Intimations of the priority of social to individual psychological phenomena
What is a conversation? Foundations of an alternative ontology
Syntax and the structure of experience: grammar and the self
Vocabulary and the making of experience: emotions and emotion words
Individuals in a social order
- 5 Paul F. Secord: *Social Psychology as a Science*

Three polarities

The standard view of science

The standard view and the social psychologies

Social psychology and the individual/ social polarity

Social psychology and inner-outer polarities

Implications from the several social psychologies

Coda