

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-03259-9 - Psychopathology: The Evolving Science of Mental Disorder

Edited by Steven Matthyse, Deborah L. Levy, Jerome Kagan and Francine M. Benes  
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The scientific study of mental disorder is progressing rapidly because of new discoveries in molecular genetics, cognitive processes, neurochemistry, and neuroanatomy. The study of mental disorder has evolved from a primarily descriptive discipline into a mature science with strong biological underpinnings that incorporates social and developmental data. *Psychopathology: The Evolving Science of Mental Disorder* combines these fields of research to present a comprehensive picture of current research on psychosis.

In this timely volume honoring Professor Philip Holzman, distinguished investigators from varied fields present new findings from their laboratories, as well as perspectives on areas of rapid growth and change. The editors also provide thoughtful overviews of four major themes in psychopathology research: brain mechanisms, development, thinking, and genetics.

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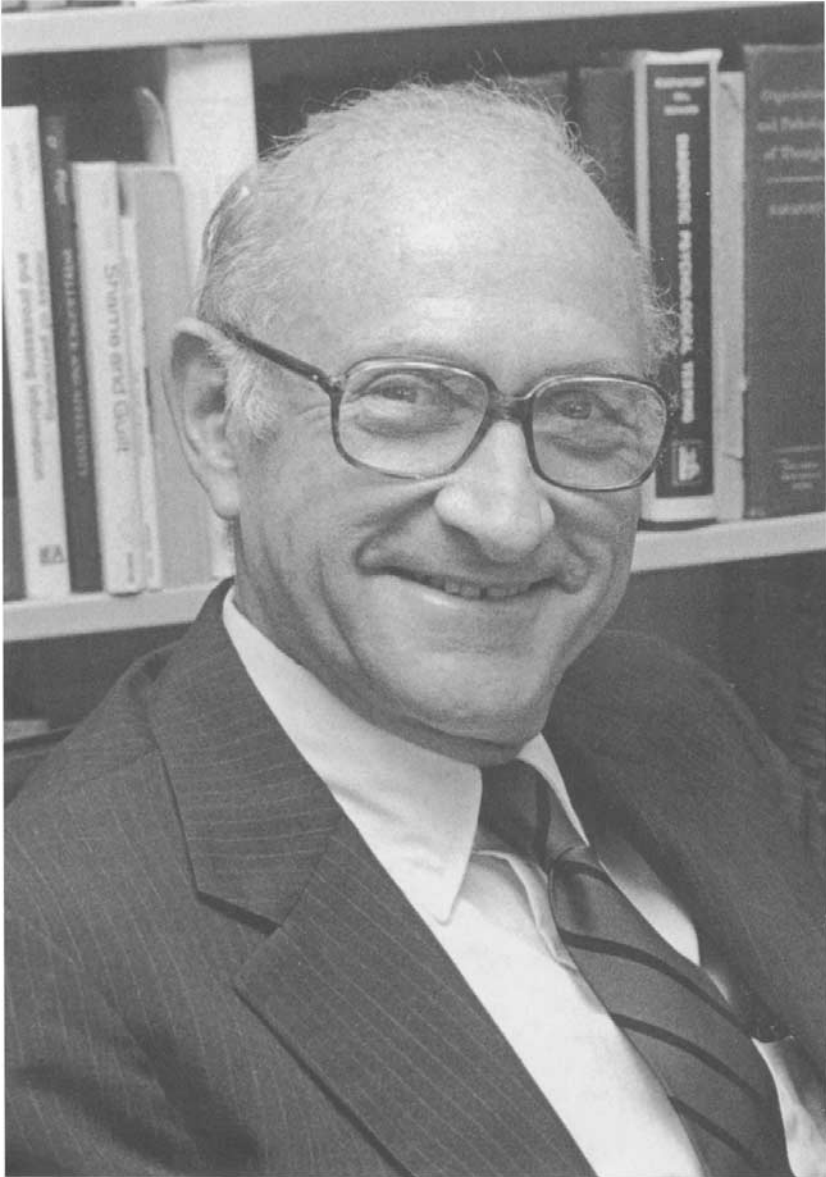
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The evolving science of mental disorder

*Edited by*

**Steven Matthyse**

*McLean Hospital*

*Harvard Medical School*

**Deborah L. Levy**

*McLean Hospital*

*Harvard Medical School*

**Jerome Kagan**

*Harvard University*

**Francine M. Benes**

*McLean Hospital*

*Harvard Medical School*



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To Professor Philip Holzman  
Master of the art of psychological experimentation

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Frontmatter[More information](#)

## Contents

---

List of Contributors	<i>page xi</i>
Preface	xiii
<i>Steven Matthyse</i>	

### Brain mechanisms

1. Editor's introduction: From controversy to connectivity	3
<i>Francine M. Benes</i>	
2. The functional parcellation of dorsolateral prefrontal cortex and the heterogeneous facets of schizophrenia	7
<i>Patricia Goldman-Rakic</i>	
3. Components of working memory deficit in schizophrenia	34
<i>Sohee Park and Gillian O'Driscoll</i>	
4. Temporal lobe structural abnormalities in schizophrenia: A selective review and presentation of new magnetic resonance findings	51
<i>Martha E. Shenton</i>	
5. Location, location, location: The pathway from behavior to brain locus in schizophrenia	100
<i>Deborah L. Levy</i>	
6. The defects of affect and attention in schizophrenia: A possible neuroanatomical substrate	127
<i>Francine M. Benes</i>	

vii

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-03259-9 - Psychopathology: The Evolving Science of Mental Disorder

Edited by Steven Matthysse, Deborah L. Levy, Jerome Kagan and Francine M. Benes

Frontmatter

[More information](#)viii *Contents***Development**

7. Editor's introduction: Methods in the developmental study of madness 155  
*Jerome Kagan*
8. Developmental psychopathology: From attribution toward information 161  
*Sheldon H. White*  
Comments on Sheldon H. White's chapter 198  
*Philip S. Holzman*
9. A paradoxical partnership: Some historical and contemporary referents linking adult schizophreniform disorder and resilient children under stress 200  
*Norman Garnezy*
10. A look at the evolution of developmental models of schizophrenia 229  
*L. Erlenmeyer-Kimling*
11. Developmental theory: Lessons from the study of risk and psychopathology 253  
*Dante Cicchetti*
12. The return of the ancients: On temperament and development 285  
*Jerome Kagan*

**Thinking**

13. Editor's introduction: Upward toward phenomenology, downward toward physiology 301  
*Steven Matthysse*
14. The psychometric assessment of schizophrenia proneness 313  
*Jean P. Chapman and Loren J. Chapman*  
Comments on Jean P. Chapman and Loren J. Chapman's chapter 334  
*Philip S. Holzman*
15. Politeness in schizophrenia 336  
*Roger Brown*



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978-0-521-03259-9 - Psychopathology: The Evolving Science of Mental Disorder

Edited by Steven Matthysse, Deborah L. Levy, Jerome Kagan and Francine M. Benes

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

<i>Contents</i>	ix
Comments on Roger Brown's chapter <i>Philip S. Holzman</i>	351
16. Neuroleptic treatment effects in relation to psychotherapy, social skills training, and social withdrawal in schizophrenics <i>Herbert E. Spohn</i>	353
Comments on Herbert E. Spohn's chapter <i>Philip S. Holzman</i>	362
17. Familial factors in the impairment of attention in schizophrenia: Data from Ireland, Israel, and the District of Columbia <i>Allan F. Mirsky</i>	364
18. Parsing cognitive processes: Psychopathological and neurophysiological constraints <i>Anne Sereno</i>	407
19. Cognitive psychopathology in schizophrenia: Explorations in language, memory, associations, and movements <i>Brendan A. Maher</i>	433
<b>Genetics</b>	
20. Editors' introduction: Contemporary issues in the genetics of psychopathological disorders <i>Deborah L. Levy, Steven Matthysse, and Philip S. Holzman</i>	455
21. Genetic and environmental factors in the etiology of schizophrenia <i>Seymour S. Kety</i>	477
22. Problems and paradoxes in research on the etiology of schizophrenia <i>Einar Kringlen</i>	488
Comments on Einar Kringlen's chapter <i>Philip S. Holzman and Steven Matthysse</i>	509
23. Epistemological issues in psychiatric research <i>Josef Parnas</i>	511

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

x	<i>Contents</i>	
24.	Searching for major genes for schizophrenia <i>Kenneth K. Kidd</i>	539
25.	The <i>Drosophila</i> eye and the genetics of schizophrenia <i>Steven Matthyse</i>	557
<b>Response and reflections</b>		
26.	Reflections on the developing science of psychopathology <i>Philip S. Holzman</i>	583
	Author index	607
	Subject index	619

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-03259-9 - Psychopathology: The Evolving Science of Mental Disorder

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[More information](#)

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## Contributors

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Francine M. Benes  
Laboratory for Structural  
Neuroscience  
Mailman Research Center  
McLean Hospital  
115 Mill Street  
Belmont, MA 02178

Roger Brown  
William James Hall  
Harvard University  
22 Kirkland Street  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Jean P. Chapman  
Department of Psychology  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
1202 West Johnson Street  
Madison, WI 53706

Loren J. Chapman  
Department of Psychology  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
1202 West Johnson Street  
Madison, WI 53706

Dante Cicchetti  
Mount Hope Center  
187 Edinburgh Street  
Rochester, NY 14608

L. Erlenmeyer-Kimling  
Psychiatric Institute, Annex,  
3rd Floor  
722 West 168th Street  
New York, NY 10032

Norman Garmezy  
5115 Lakeridge Road  
Edina, MN 55436

Patricia Goldman-Rakic  
Section of Neurobiology  
SHM C303  
Yale University School of  
Medicine  
333 Cedar Street  
New Haven, CT 06510

Philip S. Holzman  
William James Hall  
Harvard University  
33 Kirkland Street  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Jerome Kagan  
William James Hall  
Harvard University  
33 Kirkland Street  
Cambridge, MA 02138

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)xii *Contributors*

Seymour S. Kety  
National Institutes of Health  
10 Center Drive, Room 4C110  
MSC 1366  
Bethesda, MD 20892

Kenneth K. Kidd  
Yale University School of  
Medicine  
333 Cedar Street  
New Haven, CT 06510

Einar Kringlen  
Psykiatrisk Klinik  
Blindernvn, 85  
Postboks 85  
Vinderen, 0319 Oslo  
Norway

Deborah L. Levy  
Psychology Research Laboratory  
Wyman Building  
McLean Hospital  
115 Mill Street  
Belmont, MA 02178

Brendan A. Maher  
William James Hall  
Harvard University  
33 Kirkland Street  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Steven Matthyse  
Psychology Research Laboratory  
Wyman Building  
McLean Hospital  
115 Mill Street  
Belmont, MA 02178

Allan F. Mirsky  
National Institutes of Health  
10 Center Drive, Room 4C110  
MSC 1366  
Bethesda, MD 20892

Gillian O'Driscoll  
Department of Psychology  
Stewart Biological Science Building  
205 Dr. Penfield Avenue  
Montreal, Quebec  
Canada H3A 1B1

Sohee Park  
Department of Psychology and  
Institute for Neuroscience  
Northwestern University  
2029 Sheridan Road  
Evanston, IL 60208

Josef Parnas  
Department of Psychiatry  
Hvidovre Hospital  
Brøndbyøstervej 160  
2650 Hvidovre  
Denmark

Anne Sereno  
Center for Molecular and  
Behavioral Neuroscience  
Rutgers University  
Aidekman Research Center  
University Heights  
197 University Avenue  
Newark, NJ 07102

Martha E. Shenton  
Department of Psychiatry – 116A  
VAMC – Brockton  
940 Belmont Street  
Brockton, MA 02401

Herbert E. Spohn  
Menninger Foundation  
PO Box 829  
Topeka, KS 66601

Sheldon H. White  
William James Hall  
Harvard University  
33 Kirkland Street  
Cambridge, MA 02138

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## Preface

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From his first research study (“The schematizing process: Perceptual attitudes and personality qualities in sensitivity to change”) to his latest (“The functional neuroanatomy of antisaccade eye movements investigated with positron emission tomography”), Philip Holzman has explored experimental psychopathology with a depth and breadth unequalled in our time. His studies of smooth pursuit eye movement dysfunction, and its connections with thought disorder and genetics, are known to every student of the field. The evolution of his work parallels the evolution of the science of mental disorder – reaching ever more deeply downward into biological mechanisms – but it retains an upward glance, at the phenomena of psychopathology, that the field sometimes forgets in its reductionistic zeal. To be fully informative about schizophrenia, Dr. Holzman has written, “phenomena should be explored which point, Janus-like, in two directions at once: they should be tied to the psychology of schizophrenia, and at the same time related to known processes in the brain.” For abundant scholarly reasons, and other reasons that words cannot express, we celebrate our colleague Philip Holzman at mid-career, as he leaves lectern and mortarboard behind to pursue his research full-time.

We also celebrate the sixtieth year of the Schizophrenia Research Program of Scottish Rite Freemasonry, whose Benevolent Foundation supported the preparation of this book, as it has supported more than 500 research projects in its distinguished history. The Scottish Rite program began before the founding of the National Institutes of Health, as Masonic bodies sought a charity that would “be unique,” “have widespread benefit to all humanity,” and “be within our means.” It has retained a central role in schizophrenia research, by focusing on creative ideas in their early stages, when they are yet too

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

xiv *Preface*

novel to attract conventional funding. The Scottish Rite has persisted over these 60 years, despite the attractiveness of other, more visible, charities, because – in the words of one of its leaders – “money wisely spent for research produces benefits that work for all people for all time.”

Finally, in this volume on *Psychopathology: The Evolving Science of Mental Disorder* we celebrate the coming of age of our field. The chapters that follow – divided into “brain mechanisms,” “development,” “thinking,” and “genetics” – show plainly that psychopathology has joined the ranks of the mature sciences, both in the canons of scientific evidence and in the ingenuity of experimental design. The leaders of the field are gathered here, some to report new results, some to share their mature vision; the reader is invited to join the feast.

Steven Matthyse