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SUBJECTIVITY IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

What is it like to be a person today? To think, feel, and act as an individual in a time of accelerated social, cultural, technological, and political change? This question is inspired by the double meaning of subjectivity as both the "first-personness" of consciousness (being a subject of experience) and the conditioning of that consciousness within society (being subject to power, authority, or influence). The contributors to this volume explore the perils and promise of the self in today's world, describing where we stand and what is at stake as we move ahead in the twenty-first century. They do so by interrogating the historical moment as a predicament of the subject. Their shared focus is on subjectivity as a dialectic of self and other, or individual and society, and how the defining tensions of subjectivity are reflected in contemporary forms of individualism, identity, autonomy, social connection, and political consciousness.

Romin W. Tafarodi earned his Ph.D. in social psychology from the University of Texas at Austin in 1994. He is currently Associate Professor of Psychology at the University of Toronto. Professor Tafarodi has published in the areas of self, identity, and culture and has taught courses on topics ranging from statistics to philosophy to anthropology to media studies. He is a strong proponent of multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary scholarship in an age of increasing academic specialization.

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CONTRIBUTORS

Ciarán Benson, University College Dublin

Richard J. F. Day, Queen's University

Anthony Elliott, University of South Australia

Stephen Frosh, Birbeck College, University of London

Kenneth J. Gergen, Swarthmore College

Hubert J. M. Hermans, Radboud University of Nijmegen

John Hewitt, University of Massachusetts at Amherst

Adam Lewis, Queen's University

Margaret A. McLaren, Rollins College

Frank C. Richardson, University of Texas at Austin

Romin W. Tafarodi, University of Toronto

Robert L. Woolfolk, Princeton University

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