



The Oxford Handbook of Media Psychology (Oxford Library of Psychology)

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It is indisputable that media is by far the most common means by which human beings spend our free time in the modern world. However, the ubiquity of media in our lives brings with it advantages and disadvantages along with uncertainty: will increased dependence on media impair our social functioning, enhance it, or both?

The Oxford Handbook of Media Psychology explores facets of human behavior, thoughts, and feelings experienced in the context of media use and creation. Divided into six sections, chapters in this volume trace the history of media psychology; address content areas for media research, including children's media use, media violence and desensitization, sexual content, video game violence, and portrayals of race and gender; and cover psychological and physical effects of media such as serious games, games for health, technology addictions, and video games and attention. A section on meta-issues in media psychology brings together transportation theory, media psychophysiology, social influence in virtual worlds, and learning through persuasion. Other topics include the politics of media psychology, a lively debate about the future of media psychology methods, and the challenges and opportunities present in this interdisciplinary field.

Authored by top experts from psychology, communications, and related fields, this handbook presents a vibrant map of the field of media psychology.

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Editorial Review

Review

"Some people wonder whether media psychology is even a legitimate field of scientific inquiry. This handbook should remove any doubt that it is. Karen Dill put together a star-studded cast of researchers to discuss the methods, theories, and findings in media psychology. This is an impressive volume that covers about every topic one can imagine, and in a rigorous fashion. This volume sits proudly on my shelf, and not just collecting dust either. I regularly use it in my research and teaching."

-- Brad J. Bushman, Ph.D., Professor of Communication and Psychology, The Ohio State University, and VU University, Amsterdam

"The Oxford Handbook of Media Psychology successfully integrates psychology and communication, drawing on the work of scholars in both fields. The book informs its readers about how behavior is affected by the media, especially by interactive and emerging technologies. Of particular interest were the lucid chapters on research methods and on video games." -- Dorothy G. Singer, Ph.D., Professor and Researcher, Edward Zigler Center in Child Development & Social Policy, Yale University

"This volume collects with precision essays from leading scholars on media psychology to present a comprehensive look at the foundations, history, methodology, contemporary issues facing the field... The book comprehensively covers classic areas of study for media scholars, including violence and sexuality, ethnic portrayals, and persuasion... This is a masterful volume that frames the field of study well. It will be a prominent volume in the 'Oxford Library of Psychology' series, highlighting the topic's increased importance within the social sciences. Summing up: Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduate, graduate, and research collections." -- N.D. Bowman, West Virginia University, CHOICE

"The strengths of [The Oxford Handbook of Media Psychology] lie in the essays that address the emerging questions about new media and the bl

About the Author

Karen Dill, Ph.D., is the Director of the Media Psychology Doctoral Program at Fielding Graduate University in Santa Barbara, CA.

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