HANDBOOK OF PERSONALITY PSYCHOLOGY – ROBERT HOGAN, JOHN A. JOHNSON, STEPHEN BRIGGS

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Handbook of personality psychology, edited by Robert Hogan, John A. Johnson and Stephen Briggs is one of the most influential scientific works in personality literature. The book is structured in eight parts and contains the most important scientific evidence in the field of personality.

Part I, called Introduction contains some of the most important information regarding the history of personality, and information regarding psychobiography. Here are presented the evolution of the personality concept in the XX century, the most important events being discussed taking into account three directions: (1) the whole person, (2) motivation and (3) individual differences. The authors present prominent information regarding the evolution of personality in academic context.

Part II is concerned with conceptual and measurement issues in personality. Here are presented the need for units of analysis, traits as units for analysis, issues in the assessment of traits, alternative to personality traits. Furthermore, an entire chapter is dedicated to personality traits, Jerry Wiggins defending the importance and utility of the concept of trait. Wiggins present traits from the viewpoints of attributes of behavior, attributes of persons and predictors of behaviors as well as traits as explanation of behaviors. In the end are discussed information regarding the comparison between idiographic and nomothetic approach in personality psychology as well as information related to validity and reliability in personality assessment.

Part III is dedicated to the study of developmental issues in personality psychology. In this section are debated research interests such as stages of personality development, the emotional basis of early personality development, implications for the emergent self-concept, the influence of family in personality

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development, longitudinal stability of adult personality, and gender differences in personality development.

Part IV is concerned with biological bases of personality. David Buss present some of the most interesting findings regarding evolutionary foundations of personality as well as an evolutionary perspective in personality traits, and the relationship between genetics, temperament and personality. In the end of the section are discusses issues related to the psychophysiological approaches to personality.

In Part V are presented information related to social determinants of personality. Here are taken into account aspects such as personality and social structure, social psychological contributions, cross-cultural perspectives on personality. In the end of this part are discusses issues regarding one of the most interesting topics in personality: trust and betrayal: the psychology of getting along and getting ahead.

Part VI is dedicated to the study of dynamic personality processes. Here are taken into considerations aspects such as motives and goals, the motive disposition approach, goal approaches of personality, an integrative approach to the study of emotions in personality psychology, contemporary theory and research in psychological defense and issues regarding internal inhibitions and controls.

Part VII is dedicated to the study of personality and the self. An interesting comparison is being made regarding the congruence of others and self-judgments of personality by David Funder and Randall Colvin. Moreover, are discussed aspects concerned with the quest for self-insight: theory and research on accuracy and bias in self-perception, information regarding identity, self-concept, and self-esteem and mental representation of persons and personality, and chapters dedicated to the study of extraversion and emotions, agreeableness, openness to experience and conscientiousness?

The last part is dedicated to applied psychology and personality. Here are discussed topics related to personality and interactive relations, personality and health, progress and problems in psychosomatics, personality diagnosis and personality disorders, trends and practices in psychotherapy outcome assessment and their implications for psychotherapy and applied personality.

In conclusion, Handbook of personality psychology is one of the most comprehensive scientific papers in personality domain bringing together relevant
information related to the most important dimensions and components of human personality.