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My suggested headline: Does the 'crisis' in Psychology continue today?

Publication title: Psychology After the Crisis: Scientific Paradigms and Political Debate

Author: Ian Parker

Publisher: Routledge

Year of publication: 2014

Paperback price: £22.65

This book is part of Ian Parker's Psychology After Critique series, which brings together key papers produced from his career to date. I was particularly keen to read this book to find out how he would address the 'crisis in psychology' debates more than twenty years after those historic debates and challenges between experimental and critical psychologists. In this first book in the series, he discusses key issues including: what the 'crisis' was and how this has informed contemporary psychology today; how discourse analytic research emerged in relation to cognitive laboratory research and finally, consideration of the extent to which debates about perspectives and theories in psychology is important for considering the type of discipline that psychology is today. Each chapter in this book includes a summary box, which is placed at the introduction of each new chapter. This was a useful addition to this text as it contextualizes each paper and enables Parker to reflect on each work. In the first few chapters, Parker begins with charting the ways in which discourse analysis and critical psychology emerged during the 1970s as well as outlining core critical psychological approaches such as: Marxism, feminism, psychoanalysis and post-structuralism. Other chapters in this book include coverage of how Universities are 'not a good place for psychotherapy and counseling training' as well as considering issues for psychologists such as climate change and why it is important to consider how politics and radicalism should be an important part of the research and practice that we engage in, both within and outside of psychology. Finally, I think that this book would be particularly useful for psychology and counseling undergraduates, postgraduates and scholars as well as students and researchers in fields such as language studies, cultural studies, sociology and anthropology.

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