

International Encyclopedia of Social Behavioral Sciences

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From Brand: Pergamon : International Encyclopedia of Social Behavioral Sciences before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised International Encyclopedia of Social Behavioral Sciences:

27 of 32 people found the following review helpful. Best Kindle book costing over \$10,000 By R. Arless I was prepared to spend \$17,000 for the International Encyclopedia of Social Behavioral Sciences, 1st edition but pleased to find this bargain for under \$15,000. Even better this is the First edition, not the 2nd edition, so this has real collector's value. You could get the hard cover version for less than \$1000, but for only \$13,000 more you get the convenience of having it on your Kindle. 39 of 42 people found the following review helpful. Valuable but with serious flaws By Birger Hjrtland The publication of this work is of course an important event in the Social and Behavioral Sciences. There is no doubt that it is in many ways of a high value. The price, however, is also extreme. At this extreme cost, I think, one is permitted to be critical. Overall, I find that psychiatry, neurosciences and the like take much too much

space at the expense of subjects more related to the social sciences. Just to name one example: The Organization OECD (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development) has no entry (although there are a few references in the index). The emphasis on behavioral sciences is argued in the introduction as an implication of the decision to cover the behavioral sciences in full. I do not quite agree in this decision. Is behavioral science not connected to behaviorism? And is behaviorism not a point of view that has lost much influence? This edition does not contain an article about "the behavioral sciences" (as did the 1968 edition). This is strange considering this very heavy concentration on that field. In this way this priority is not supported by arguments concerning the nature of the social sciences. By the way there is a very interesting article in this new (3rd) edition "Human sciences, History and sociology". This article explains how this concept is used as a new umbrella by a growing number of scientists who feel uncomfortable with the term "behavior" as the uniting concept. In a way this article confirms my skepticism about the concept of "behavioural sciences". Some serious omissions are: There is no article on "concepts" in general. There are no articles about scientific concepts or about social science concepts and terminology. (The exception is one about children's understanding of scientific concepts, again an example of over domination of "behavioral" views). The field of information science is almost totally absent, except as a heading in the subject index. Bradford's law of scattering and Zipf's law are not mentioned at all. There are no articles on core concepts such as "information" (although "information theory" is represented), "relevance", "(scientific) documentation" etc. There are a number of articles about core databases in different disciplines. None, however, about core databases in many other fields, including psychology and economics. This kind of asymmetry is common also in many other areas. There are many articles about new philosophical approaches to many fields, which I highly appreciate. But, for example, the fine article about "Sociology, epistemology of" does not have its counterpart in, for example, psychology. The basic structure of this encyclopedia is based, among other things, on the disciplines of the social sciences. But how many exists, and which should be excluded. There are some important discussions of this in the Introduction just as there are very useful articles on the history etc of scientific disciplines and social science disciplines in particular. The introduction, the index and these article are not, however consistent, and my feeling is that the view of what constitute the disciplines of the social sciences is somewhat narrow and conservative. These remarks should not bias my conclusion that this is a rich and useful source. There are extremely many articles. Each article is concise, informative and quickly read. 2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Wow By T. Holmes I laughed so hard when I saw what this book was selling for! And then had to laugh even harder when I realized how many stupid people were actually BUYING it at that price! Some people will buy anything, hmmm I have a bridge in London they might want to buy, it is a steal at only \$2,000 haha haha stupid people!

This Encyclopedia is the first attempt in a generation to map the social and behavioral sciences on a grand scale. Not since the publication in 1968 of the International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences, edited by David L. Sills, has there been such an ambitious project to describe the state of the art in all the fields encompassed within the social and behavioral sciences. Available in both print (26 volumes) and online editions, it comprises 4,000 articles, commissioned by 52 Section Editors, and includes 90,000 bibliographic references as well as comprehensive name and subject indexes.

"Like the pyramids, the work is monumental in scope, will prove to be enduring in its contribution, and is surely one of the great wonders of the scientific world." - Contemporary Psychology, APA of Books, 2004, Vol. 49, No. 6. "IESBS, a major social science reference work with a user-friendly interface.. Well worth the expense, even to libraries holding the print version..." CHOICE, November 2003 About the Author Neil J. Smelser is Director of the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences in Stanford, California, and University Professor Emeritus of Sociology at the University of California, Berkeley. His many books include "Social Paralysis and Social Change: British Working-Class Education in the Nineteenth Century" (California, 1991). Hans-Peter Muller is Professor of Sociology at Humboldt University, Berlin. Paul B. Baltes is noted for his theoretical and empirical work in developmental psychology and the interdisciplinary study of human aging. Aside from multiple honorary doctorates and election to academies, he has received numerous awards, including the International Psychology Award of the American Psychological Association, the Lifetime Achievement Award of the German Psychological Society, and the Aristotle Prize of the European Federation of Psychological Associations.