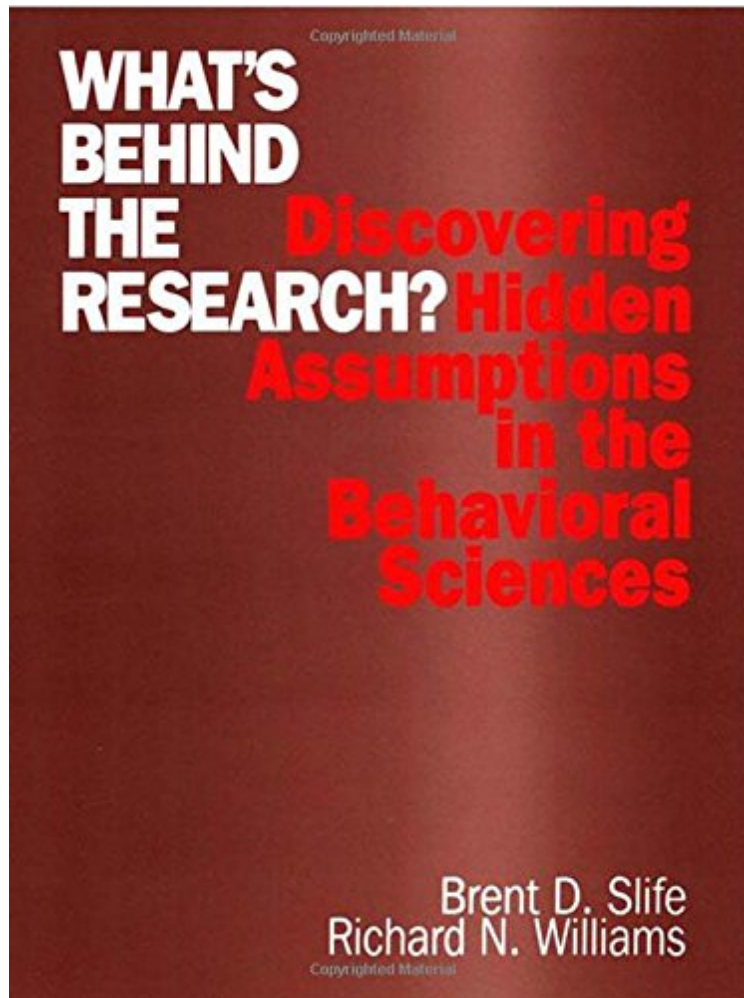


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## Whats Behind the Research?: Discovering Hidden Assumptions in the Behavioral Sciences

*Brent D. Slife, Richard N. Williams*  
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0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Must read for anyone in the field.By kas0102Really teaches you to critically think. I think this book is a must read for all social worker majors, counseling majors, psychology majors, etc. It really shows you the problems within each theory in the field and to think critically about each one. My only problem is that the authors seem repetitive at times, and also a little contradictory at times. I know that they are trying

to get the reader to see both sides, but some of their arguments seem to contradict previous arguments. Overall, a great read. 0 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Barbara Eyer Book was as advertised and arrived in a timely manner. 0 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Three Stars By AndyLA book I needed for class

This volume encourages students to engage in critical thinking by exploring the main assumptions upon which behavioral science theories are based and offering some alternatives to these assumptions. The text begins with a review and critique of the major theoretical approaches: psychoanalysis, behaviorism, humanism, cognitivism, eclecticism, structuralism and postmodernism. The authors then discuss the key assumptions underlying these theories - knowing, determinism, reductionism and science. They trace the intellectual history of these assumptions and offer contrasting options. The book concludes by examining ways of coming to terms with some of the inadequacies in the assumptions of the behavioral sciences.

About the Author Richard N. Williams is founding Director of the Wheatley Institution. From 2001 through 2008, he served as an Associate Academic Vice President for Faculty and Professor in the department of Psychology at Brigham Young University. His specialty areas include the philosophical, theoretical and historical foundations of psychology, with concentration on issues related to human agency, as well the science of psychology and research methods and statistics. Williams has authored, co-authored, or edited numerous journal, articles, and books. He has been a visiting faculty member at Duquesne University and at Georgetown University. He holds an M.S. and Ph.D. from Purdue University in Psychological Science and is a summa cum laude graduate of Brigham Young University. Williams and his wife Camille have 5 children and 18 grandchildren. [Click here to see a full professional curriculum vitae.](#)