

REVIEW

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF VOCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Edited by Robert H. Roth, David B. Hershenson, & Thomas Hilliard.
Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 1970, pp. 528. \$9.95.

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Here is nothing new. The authors present a compendium of articles on Vocational Psychology gleaned from the journals of the 50's and 60's. Since "one of the major purposes of this book is to organize areas of theory and research," the articles have been classified into 6 major areas: Introduction (4 articles); Social Psychological Approaches (5 articles); Developmental Personality Approach (12 articles); Needs and Values (10 articles); Decision Making Theories (14 articles). In each section there are a few of the classic articles by the old names: Borow, Lipsett, Ginzberg, Roe, Super, Holland and Tiedman, as well as articles by the newer thinkers in vocational areas like Carkhuff, Crites, Korman, and Hershenson, himself, who is well on the way to becoming one of the brighter lights in vocational theory.

The articles are cleverly organized and certainly contain most of the current ideas of four years ago. There is no question that they would form a comprehensive course in vocational psychology, but is this enough? Nowhere in the woefully short introduction to the sections do the author's own evaluations appear. The particular articles have certainly been well chosen, but why? Surely the day of the scientist presenting his findings without comment is past in the human sciences. The scientist, author or editor, if he is to be more than a machine, must start committing himself to some ideas and rejecting others. Certainly Crites (*Vocational Psychology*, 1971) and Osipow (*Theories of Career Development*, reviewed *Canadian Counsellor*, June, 1969) haven't hesitated to be constructively critical of the theories presented. It is difficult to train dedicated counsellors who will dare to be subjective, using books by non-dedicated, coldly objective authors.

If, as I suspect, the present book is simply an organized batch of articles used as the basis for a graduate course, then it should be presented in a mimeographed or paper back format, or as a collection of short summaries of the same articles. But then it wouldn't sell at \$9.95, would it?