

STRATEGY OF CONTEXTUAL BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE

Article Review by Mr. Praneeth Kamarapu, India

(M.Sc Formulation Science, PhD in Clinical Research Student of Texila American University)

Email:- Praneethuk4@gmail.com

SOURCE

Steven C. Hayes, 'Contextual Behavioral Science: Creating a science more adequate to the challenge of the human condition', Science Direct Journal, Sep, vol. 1, no. 1-2, pp.1-16, viewed Oct 2012, <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2212144712000087>.

KEYWORDS

Contextual behavioural science, Behavioural Psychology, Behavioural Medicine, epistemology, ontology, health intervention

INTRODUCTION

This review critically reviews the article 'Contextual Behavioral Science: Creating a science more adequate to the challenge of the human condition' in the journal Science Direct Journal. The review will first summarise the article. Secondly, it will briefly analyse the effectiveness of the article's structure, investigating how the information is set out and whether the reader can access it efficiently. Thirdly, the review will critique the article, evaluating its authority, currency, accuracy. Overall the article was well written, clear and relevant.

ARTICLE SUMMARY

The purpose of the article is to include physicians, social workers, nurses, midwives, and community healthcare workers working with vulnerable populations, Behavioural medicine practitioners. Behavioral medicine is at the intersection of three practice models familiar to practitioners in developing countries, namely:

- i) The Medical Model,
- ii) The Traditional Medicine Model and
- iii) The Public Health Model.

The article provides the goals for nature, scope, and purpose of Contextual Behavioral Science (CBS). Emerging from behavioral psychology but expanding from those roots, CBS is based on contextual assumptions regarding the centrality of situated action, the nature of epistemology versus ontology, and a pragmatic truth criterion linked to the specific goal of predicting-and-influencing psychological events with precision, scope, and depth.

ARTICLE STRUCTURE

The present article describes the nature, scope, and purpose of Contextual Behavioral Science (CBS). Emerging from behavioral psychology but expanding from those roots, CBS is based on contextual assumptions regarding the centrality of situated action, the nature of epistemology versus ontology, and a pragmatic truth criterion linked to the specific goal of predicting-and-influencing psychological events with precision, scope, and depth. These assumptions and goals explain the characteristic features of CBS including its environmentalism, focus on theory and principles, and its reticulated or networked program of theory development, research and practice.

Domains of development include increased linkage to multi-dimensional and multi-level evolution science; development of principles that describe the interaction of behavior and symbolic events with genetic, epigenetic, and cultural dimensions; expansion of theoretical and model development to a broader range of areas of human complexity; advances in measurement theory and practice; the development of techniques and components linked to contextual processes and principles; broad testing of these methods; additional research on mediation and moderation; more concern for effectiveness and training; and enhancement of a diverse development community.

AUTHORITY:

The journal, the Science Direct Journal, is a publication of the American Public Health Association. The author Steven C. Hayes from the Department of Psychology, University of Nevada, Reno, NV 89557-0062, USA.

ACCURACY:

The source of the information in the article was a current research project. It was also backed up and supported by a comprehensive, recent reference list with these sources cited in-text to support both the literature review and the research itself. The strict editorial and refereeing processes also contributed to the article's accuracy.

CURRENCY:

The journal was published in Oct 2012, while the article was accepted for publication in Sep 2012. The research it describes was current and the article cites up-to-date references in the body of the text. Therefore the article is current.

RELEVANCE:

This was an academic Journal of Contextual Behavioral Science, which has high credibility in a research in public health context. It was written to inform researchers and students rather than to maintain maximum health percentage in public. It would be relevant to groups but particularly any academic interested in community based innovations and in health generally. It could be a difficult article to read and understand. This is an important article to students in department of psychology.

OBJECTIVITY:

The main objective of the article includes CBS is a broad program of research and practical development. CBS is best viewed as part of multi-dimensional and multi-level evolution science. It emerged from behavioral psychology, but stands on its own. Its assumptions explain its environmentalism, focus, and reticulated approach. CBS has scores of important practical and empirical areas for exploration.

CONCLUSION

This review has both summarized and correctly reviewed Steven C. Hayes's article 'Contextual Behavioral Science: Creating a science more adequate to the challenge of the human condition'. The content, structure, strengths and limitations of the article were analyzed and reviewed. The article has contributed to the literature in terms of its valuable critique of current research study on psychology and their health issues and the implications provided for both health interventions and future research collaborative possibilities.

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