

Evolution

Evolutionary psychology is a theoretical approach in social and natural sciences that examines psychological structure from a modern evolutionary perspective.

According to evolutionary psychologists, patterns of behaviour have evolved through natural selection, in the same way that physical characteristics have evolved.

Because of natural selection, adaptive behaviours, or behaviours that increase reproductive success, are kept and passed on from one generation to the next.

The history of evolutionary psychology began with Charles D. Darwin, who said that humans have social instincts that evolved by natural selection.

Evolutionarily informed

Research has suggested that brains are composed of a number of specialized domain specific mechanisms. For example, birds use different memory systems and all different rules for remembering species, song, the taste of poisonous food, and location of food caches. The theories on which evolutionary psychology is based originated with Charles Darwin's work, including his speculations about the evolutionary origins of social instincts in humans. Modern evolutionary psychology, however, is possible only because of advances in evolutionary theory in the 20th century.

The field of evolutionary psychology is based on the idea that human emotions and behaviours have been shaped by natural selection. Knowing the evolutionary

Relationship among species allows scientists to choose appropriate organisms for the study of diseases, such as HIV. Psychologists are even using the principles of natural selection to identify new drugs for detecting and treating diseases such as cancer. Other evolutionary psychologists focus ~~on~~ solely on research. They may be employed by research facilities or institutions, independent laboratories or by state or federal agencies.