

basic emotions jaak panksepp

basic emotions jaak panksepp refers to the groundbreaking work of neuroscientist Jaak Panksepp, who pioneered the study of primal emotional systems in the brain. Panksepp's research shed light on the fundamental affective states shared across mammalian species, emphasizing the biological roots of emotions. His identification of core emotional circuits has influenced psychology, neuroscience, and affective science profoundly. This article explores the basic emotions Jaak Panksepp identified, their neurobiological underpinnings, and the implications for understanding human and animal behavior. By examining Panksepp's affective neuroscience framework, readers gain insight into the evolutionary and functional aspects of emotions. The following sections will delve into the primary emotional systems, the methodologies used to discover them, and their relevance in modern emotion theory.

- Overview of Jaak Panksepp's Emotional Theory
- The Seven Basic Emotional Systems
- Neurobiological Foundations of Basic Emotions
- Implications for Psychology and Neuroscience
- Applications in Mental Health and Behavior

Overview of Jaak Panksepp's Emotional Theory

Jaak Panksepp's emotional theory revolutionized the understanding of emotions by focusing on their neural substrates rather than solely behavioral expressions. He proposed that emotions are generated by ancient brain circuits, largely subcortical, that produce primal affective experiences. This perspective contrasts with traditional cognitive theories emphasizing higher cortical processing. Panksepp's approach, often called affective neuroscience, integrates behavioral, neuroanatomical, and pharmacological evidence to map emotional systems. His work underscores that emotions have evolved to promote survival and social interaction across species.

Foundations of Affective Neuroscience

Affective neuroscience is the interdisciplinary study of the neural mechanisms of emotion. Panksepp was instrumental in developing this field by combining animal studies, brain stimulation techniques, and behavioral analysis. He identified that specific brain areas, when stimulated electrically or chemically, evoke distinct emotional responses. These findings supported the concept of basic emotional systems as innate, evolutionarily conserved neural circuits. Affective neuroscience bridges psychology and neurobiology, providing a biological basis for emotional phenomena.

Distinction from Other Emotional Theories

Unlike theories that categorize emotions based on subjective experience or cultural context, Panksepp's model anchors emotions in the brain's architecture. His emphasis on subcortical structures challenges views that emotions are purely cognitive constructs. This biological perspective complements and sometimes contradicts approaches such as the James-Lange theory or appraisal models. The basic emotions Jaak Panksepp identified are thus rooted in primal brain functions that precede higher-order cognition.

The Seven Basic Emotional Systems

Central to Panksepp's work is the identification of seven primary emotional systems that exist in all mammals. These systems generate core affective states that drive behavior and social communication. Each system is associated with distinct neural circuits and characteristic behavioral patterns. Understanding these basic emotions reveals the evolutionary continuity between humans and other animals and clarifies the biological basis of affective experiences.

List of the Seven Basic Emotional Systems

- **SEEKING:** The desire or motivation system that drives exploration and goal-directed behavior.
- **RAGE:** The anger system that triggers defensive aggression and frustration responses.
- **FEAR:** The system responsible for responses to threats and danger, activating fight or flight.
- **CARE:** The nurturing system associated with maternal behavior and social bonding.
- **PANIC/GRIEF:** The separation distress system that mediates social loss and attachment pain.
- **PLAY:** The system facilitating social joy, rough-and-tumble play, and learning.
- **LUST:** The reproductive drive system governing sexual motivation and behaviors.

Characteristics and Functions of Each System

Each of the seven basic emotions serves adaptive functions vital for survival and reproduction. SEEKING energizes organisms to explore environments and acquire resources, underpinning curiosity and learning. RAGE provides a mechanism for defending territory or resources when threatened. FEAR ensures rapid responses to danger, enhancing survival chances. CARE supports offspring survival through nurturing behaviors. PANIC/GRIEF maintains social bonds by producing distress signals during separation. PLAY contributes to social skills and cognitive flexibility, while LUST drives reproductive success. These systems interact dynamically to shape complex emotional experiences.

Neurobiological Foundations of Basic Emotions

The basic emotions Jaak Panksepp identified are rooted in specific neuroanatomical circuits, primarily located within subcortical brain regions. These ancient structures regulate affective states through neurotransmitter systems and neural pathways. Panksepp's research used electrical brain stimulation and pharmacological manipulation in animals to map these circuits. This neurobiological foundation distinguishes his approach from purely psychological or behavioral models.

Key Brain Structures Involved

Several critical brain areas underpin the basic emotional systems:

- **Periaqueductal Gray (PAG):** Involved in FEAR and PANIC responses.
- **Amygdala:** Central to processing threat and mediating RAGE and FEAR.
- **Nucleus Accumbens:** Important for SEEKING and reward-related behaviors.
- **Hypothalamus:** Regulates LUST and CARE through hormonal control.
- **Anterior Cingulate Cortex:** Plays a role in separation distress (PANIC).

Neurochemical Systems

Neurotransmitters and neuropeptides modulate basic emotional systems profoundly. Dopamine is closely linked to the SEEKING system, facilitating motivation and reward. Opioid peptides influence PANIC/GRIEF by modulating social attachment and distress. Serotonin and norepinephrine impact FEAR and RAGE responses, affecting mood and arousal. Oxytocin and vasopressin are crucial in CARE and social bonding behaviors. Understanding these neurochemical pathways enhances comprehension of emotional regulation and dysfunction.

Implications for Psychology and Neuroscience

The basic emotions Jaak Panksepp described have significant implications for multiple fields, including clinical psychology, psychiatry, and behavioral neuroscience. His framework provides a biological basis for emotions that can inform diagnosis, treatment, and research. Recognizing emotions as brain-based systems facilitates new approaches to mental health disorders and emotional regulation strategies.

Influence on Emotion Theory and Research

Panksepp's affective neuroscience has prompted a shift toward integrative models of emotion that combine neural, behavioral, and experiential data. This has encouraged the development of biomarkers for emotional states and motivated research into the evolutionary origins of affect. His

work challenges purely cognitive or social constructivist views of emotions by emphasizing their biological roots.

Contributions to Understanding Emotional Disorders

Emotional dysregulation in conditions such as depression, anxiety, and PTSD can be better understood through Panksepp's basic emotional systems. For example, excessive activation of the PANIC/GRIEF system may underlie depressive symptoms linked to social loss. FEAR system hyperactivity is implicated in anxiety disorders. This knowledge supports targeted pharmacological and behavioral interventions aimed at modulating specific neural circuits.

Applications in Mental Health and Behavior

Practical applications of the basic emotions Jaak Panksepp identified extend to clinical therapies, animal welfare, and education. By acknowledging the primal emotional drives, interventions can be designed to address core affective needs and promote emotional well-being. Additionally, understanding these systems aids in improving communication and empathy across species.

Therapeutic Strategies Based on Affective Neuroscience

Therapies such as affective conditioning, emotional regulation training, and pharmacotherapy benefit from insights into basic emotional systems. For instance, enhancing SEEKING system activity through behavioral activation can alleviate anhedonia in depression. Targeting opioid systems may reduce social distress in attachment disorders. Such strategies are grounded in the neurobiological framework proposed by Panksepp.

Improving Animal Welfare and Communication

Recognizing that animals share the same basic emotional systems as humans underscores the importance of addressing their affective needs. This perspective informs ethical treatment standards and enriches human-animal interactions. It also supports the use of animal models in research to investigate emotional processes relevant to human health.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is Jaak Panksepp and what is he known for in the study of emotions?

Jaak Panksepp was a neuroscientist known for his pioneering work in affective neuroscience, particularly for identifying basic emotional systems in the brain that are shared across mammalian species.

What are the basic emotions according to Jaak Panksepp?

Jaak Panksepp identified seven primary emotional systems: SEEKING, RAGE, FEAR, LUST, CARE, PANIC/GRIEF, and PLAY, which he considered fundamental to mammalian emotional experience.

How did Jaak Panksepp's research on basic emotions differ from traditional emotion theories?

Unlike traditional emotion theories that focus on cognitive interpretations, Panksepp emphasized the neural and evolutionary basis of emotions, demonstrating that basic emotions arise from specific brain circuits and are deeply rooted in mammalian brains.

What is the significance of the SEEKING system in Jaak Panksepp's theory of basic emotions?

The SEEKING system is a fundamental emotional system that drives motivation, curiosity, and goal-directed behavior, playing a crucial role in learning and survival by encouraging exploration and engagement with the environment.

How can understanding Jaak Panksepp's basic emotions contribute to mental health treatments?

By recognizing that basic emotions are rooted in neural circuits, therapies can target these systems to address emotional disorders, such as depression or anxiety, through approaches that modulate underlying brain activity rather than just cognitive symptoms.

Additional Resources

1. Understanding Basic Emotions: Insights from Jaak Panksepp

This book explores the foundational theories of basic emotions as proposed by Jaak Panksepp, one of the pioneers in affective neuroscience. It delves into his research on primal emotional systems in the brain and how these systems shape human and animal behavior. Readers gain a comprehensive understanding of the neurobiological basis of emotions such as seeking, fear, rage, and play.

2. The Archaeology of Mind: Neuroevolutionary Origins of Human Emotions

Written by Jaak Panksepp himself, this book presents a detailed examination of the evolutionary roots of human emotions. It bridges neuroscience and psychology by tracing emotional systems back to ancient brain structures. The book also discusses the implications of these findings for mental health and emotional well-being.

3. Emotional Systems in the Brain: Affective Neuroscience Perspectives

This volume reviews the core emotional circuits identified by Panksepp and their relevance to behavior and psychiatric disorders. It integrates findings from animal studies and human research to explain how basic emotions are generated and regulated. The text is essential for students and professionals interested in the biological basis of emotions.

4. Primal Emotions: The Role of Subcortical Brain Networks

Focusing on the subcortical regions of the brain, this book highlights how primal emotional experiences arise from these ancient neural structures. It builds upon Panksepp's work to explain the significance of emotions in survival and social communication. The author also discusses how understanding these systems can improve therapeutic approaches.

5. The Emotional Brain: Foundations of Affective Neuroscience

This book provides an overview of the biological foundations of emotions, emphasizing Panksepp's affective neuroscience framework. It covers the classification of basic emotional systems and their behavioral manifestations. Readers are introduced to experimental methods used to study emotions in both animals and humans.

6. Play and Emotion: The Neurobiology of Joy and Social Connection

Inspired by Panksepp's identification of the play system as a basic emotional circuit, this book explores the neurobiological basis of play and its emotional benefits. It discusses how play influences brain development, social bonding, and emotional regulation. The text also reviews research on the therapeutic potential of play in mental health.

7. Fear and Rage: Neural Mechanisms of Basic Emotions

This book examines two of the most primal emotions—fear and rage—through the lens of affective neuroscience. Drawing heavily on Panksepp's research, it explains the brain circuits responsible for these emotions and their adaptive functions. The author also highlights how dysregulation of these systems can lead to anxiety and aggression disorders.

8. Seeking: The Neurochemical Basis of Motivation and Emotion

Focusing on the SEEKING system identified by Panksepp, this book discusses how this emotional circuit drives curiosity, motivation, and goal-directed behavior. It explains the neurochemical pathways involved and their relevance to addiction and mood disorders. The text offers insights into how understanding SEEKING can improve psychological treatments.

9. Affective Neuroscience and Mental Health: Bridging Emotion and Psychopathology

This book connects Panksepp's basic emotion theory to contemporary mental health issues, exploring how disruptions in emotional systems contribute to psychiatric conditions. It presents case studies and clinical approaches informed by affective neuroscience. The book is a valuable resource for clinicians and researchers interested in emotion-based therapies.

Basic Emotions Jaak Panksepp

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basic emotions jaak panksepp: *Affective Neuroscience* Jaak Panksepp, 2004-09-30 Some investigators have argued that emotions, especially animal emotions, are illusory concepts outside the realm of scientific inquiry. However, with advances in neurobiology and neuroscience, researchers are demonstrating that this position is wrong as they move closer to a lasting understanding of the biology and psychology of emotion. In *Affective Neuroscience*, Jaak Panksepp

provides the most up-to-date information about the brain-operating systems that organize the fundamental emotional tendencies of all mammals. Presenting complex material in a readable manner, the book offers a comprehensive summary of the fundamental neural sources of human and animal feelings, as well as a conceptual framework for studying emotional systems of the brain. Panksepp approaches emotions from the perspective of basic emotion theory but does not fail to address the complex issues raised by constructionist approaches. These issues include relations to human consciousness and the psychiatric implications of this knowledge. The book includes chapters on sleep and arousal, pleasure and fear systems, the sources of rage and anger, and the neural control of sexuality, as well as the more subtle emotions related to maternal care, social loss, and playfulness. Representing a synthetic integration of vast amounts of neurobehavioral knowledge, including relevant neuroanatomy, neurophysiology, and neurochemistry, this book will be one of the most important contributions to understanding the biology of emotions since Darwin's *The Expression of the Emotions in Man and Animals*

basic emotions jaak panksepp: Handbook of Emotions, Third Edition Michael Lewis, Jeannette M. Haviland-Jones, Lisa Feldman Barrett, 2008-04-17 Widely regarded as the standard reference in the field, this handbook comprehensively examines all aspects of emotion and its role in human behavior. The editors and contributors are foremost authorities who describe major theories, findings, methods, and applications. The volume addresses the interface of emotional processes with biology, child development, social behavior, personality, cognition, and physical and mental health. Also presented are state-of-the-science perspectives on fear, anger, shame, disgust, positive emotions, sadness, and other distinct emotions. Illustrations include seven color plates.

basic emotions jaak panksepp: The Feeling Brain: The Biology and Psychology of Emotions Elizabeth Johnston, Leah Olson, 2015-05-11 A reader-friendly exploration of the science of emotion. After years of neglect by both mainstream biology and psychology, the study of emotions has emerged as a central topic of scientific inquiry in the vibrant new discipline of affective neuroscience. Elizabeth Johnston and Leah Olson trace how work in this rapidly expanding field speaks to fundamental questions about the nature of emotion: What is the function of emotions? What is the role of the body in emotions? What are feelings," and how do they relate to emotions? Why are emotions so difficult to control? Is there an emotional brain? The authors tackle these questions and more in this tasting menu of cutting-edge emotion research. They build their story around the path-breaking 19th century works of biologist Charles Darwin and psychologist and philosopher William James. James's 1884 article *What Is an Emotion?* continues to guide contemporary debate about minds, brains, and emotions, while Darwin's treatise on *The Expression of Emotions in Animals and Humans* squarely located the study of emotions as a critical concern in biology. Throughout their study, Johnston and Olson focus on the key scientists whose work has shaped the field, zeroing in on the most brilliant threads in the emerging tapestry of affective neuroscience. Beginning with early work on the brain substrates of emotion by such workers such as James Papez and Paul MacLean, who helped define an emotional brain, they then examine the role of emotion in higher brain functions such as cognition and decision-making. They then investigate the complex interrelations of emotion and pleasure, introducing along the way the work of major researchers such as Antonio Damasio and Joseph LeDoux. In doing so, they braid diverse strands of inquiry into a lucid and concise introduction to this burgeoning field, and begin to answer some of the most compelling questions in the field today. How does the science of normal emotion inform our understanding of emotional disorders? To what extent can we regulate our emotions? When can we trust our emotions and when might they lead us astray? How do emotions affect our memories, and vice versa? How can we best describe the relationship between emotion and cognition? Johnston and Olson lay out the most salient questions of contemporary affective neuroscience in this study, expertly situating them in their biological, psychological, and philosophical contexts. They offer a compelling vision of an increasingly exciting and ambitious field for mental health professionals and the interested lay audience, as well as for undergraduate and graduate students.

basic emotions jaak panksepp: The Neuroscience of Emotion Ralph Adolphs, David J.

Anderson, 2018-06-05 A new framework for the neuroscientific study of emotions in humans and animals The Neuroscience of Emotion presents a new framework for the neuroscientific study of emotion across species. Written by Ralph Adolphs and David J. Anderson, two leading authorities on the study of emotion, this accessible and original book recasts the discipline and demonstrates that in order to understand emotion, we need to examine its biological roots in humans and animals. Only through a comparative approach that encompasses work at the molecular, cellular, systems, and cognitive levels will we be able to comprehend what emotions do, how they evolved, how the brain shapes their development, and even how we might engineer them into robots in the future. Showing that emotions are ubiquitous across species and implemented in specific brain circuits, Adolphs and Anderson offer a broad foundation for thinking about emotions as evolved, functionally defined biological states. The authors discuss the techniques and findings from modern neuroscientific investigations of emotion and conclude with a survey of theories and future research directions. Featuring color illustrations throughout, The Neuroscience of Emotion synthesizes the latest in neuroscientific work to provide deeper insights into how emotions function in all of us.

basic emotions jaak panksepp: *The History of Emotions* Jan Plamper, 2015 The history of emotions is one of the fastest growing fields in current historical debate, and this is the first book-length introduction to the field, synthesizing the current research, and offering direction for future study. The History of Emotions is organized around the debate between social constructivist and universalist theories of emotion that has shaped most emotions research in a variety of disciplines for more than a hundred years: social constructivists believe that emotions are largely learned and subject to historical change, while universalists insist on the timelessness and pan-culturalism of emotions. In historicizing and problematizing this binary, Jan Plamper opens emotions research beyond constructivism and universalism; he also maps a vast terrain of thought about feelings in anthropology, philosophy, sociology, linguistics, art history, political science, the life sciences - from nineteenth-century experimental psychology to the latest affective neuroscience - and history, from ancient times to the present day.

basic emotions jaak panksepp: *Jungian and Interdisciplinary Analyses of Emotions* Elizabeth Brodersen, Isabelle Meier, Valeria Céspedes Musso, 2025-04-09 This comprehensive collection of chapters concentrates on the multifaceted theme of emotions, and deepens our understanding of the role emotions play within the psyche. Leading international psychoanalysts and academics offer broad interdisciplinary dimensions using their own unique perspectives on the topic of emotions. Delineating into five parts, this volume focuses on key themes such as emotions, imagination, and method; the emotional basis of archetypes and complexes; relational trauma; mapping contagion across cultures; the contribution from neuroscience; and, finally, dreams and the transcendent. Clinical cases presented underline the important role unconscious, disassociated emotions play in the formation of symptomatology and how wholeness is facilitated through their acceptance. This collection offers a timely contribution to the interdisciplinary study of emotions placing Jungian psychology firmly within that framework. It will be of great interest to Jungian analysts, trainees, and psychotherapists, as well as interdisciplinary academic researchers interested in methodology, unconscious processes, transference, and dreams.

basic emotions jaak panksepp: *Interdisciplinary Foundations for the Science of Emotion* Cecilea Mun, 2021-06-22 In this book, Cecilea Mun introduces an innovative meta-framework for conducting interdisciplinary research in the science of emotion, broadly construed, as well as a framework for a particular kind of theory of emotion. She provides new solutions and arguments in support of an embodied cognitive approach to resolving a wide range of problems, including those concerning skepticism, the place of ordinary intuitions for the science of emotion, intentionality, the rationality of emotions, naturalizing knowledge, and the debate between philosophical cognitive and noncognitive theories of emotion. Her solutions include a revolutionary, unifying, interdisciplinary taxonomy of theories of emotion, which allows one to understand the discourse in the science of emotion as a debate between four fundamental types of theories: realism, instrumentalism, eliminativism, and eliminative-realism. Her original proposal for a conception of intentionality that

makes sense of our ordinary intuitions is also combined with her comprehensive account of rationality to articulate a groundbreaking understanding of the structure of human rationality. All of the contributions made herein, together, provide the foundations for a profound understanding of emotions, including as a kind of embodied language.

basic emotions jaak panksepp: Handbook of Emotional Development Vanessa LoBue, Koralý Pérez-Edgar, Kristin A. Buss, 2019-07-04 This handbook offers a comprehensive review of the research on emotional development. It examines research on individual emotions, including happiness, anger, sadness, fear, and disgust, as well as self-conscious and pro-social emotions. Chapters describe theoretical and biological foundations and address the roles of cognition and context on emotional development. In addition, chapters discuss issues concerning atypical emotional development, such as anxiety, depression, developmental disorders, maltreatment, and deprivation. The handbook concludes with important directions for the future research of emotional development. Topics featured in this handbook include: The physiology and neuroscience of emotions. Perception and expression of emotional faces. Prosocial and moral emotions. The interplay of emotion and cognition. The effects of maltreatment on children's emotional development. Potential emotional problems that result from early deprivation. The Handbook of Emotional Development is an essential resource for researchers, clinicians/professionals, and graduate students in child and school psychology, social work, public health, child and adolescent psychiatry, pediatrics, and related disciplines.

basic emotions jaak panksepp: Emotion in Language Ulrike M. Lüdtke, 2015-12-16 The miracle of children's language development and the joy of expressive language on the one hand and the vulnerability of language and the sorrow and grief caused by its distortion or even loss in people with aphasia or dementia on the other hand show us the inseparability of emotion and language in its extremes. Although the 'emotional turn' promised a paradigmatic shift from a rationalistic towards an emotion-integrating conceptualization of language, hardly any interdisciplinary research has focused on the interplay between emotion and language. The present book covers the wide range of work on Emotion in Language with contributions from numerous disciplines in the three areas of Theory, Research, and Application. With contributions both from well-known pioneers in the area of this topic as well as from young scientists, the book offers a broad range of perspectives from linguistics and language development to neurology, psychology and developmental neuropsychology and to the fields of philosophy and phenomenology.

basic emotions jaak panksepp: Categorical versus Dimensional Models of Affect Peter Zachar, Ralph D. Ellis, 2012-06-27 One of the most important theoretical and empirical issues in the scholarly study of emotion is whether there is a correct list of "basic" types of affect or whether all affective states are better modeled as a combination of locations on shared underlying dimensions. Many thinkers have written on this topic, yet the views of two scientists in particular are dominant. The first is Jaak Panksepp, the father of Affective Neuroscience. Panksepp conceptualizes affect as a set of distinct categories. The leading proponent of the dimensional approach in scientific psychology is James Russell. According to Russell all affect can be decomposed into two underlying dimensions, pleasure versus displeasure and low arousal versus high arousal. In this volume Panksepp and Russell each articulate their positions on eleven fundamental questions about the nature of affect followed by a discussion of these target papers by noted emotion theorists and researchers. Russell and Panksepp respond both to each other and to the commentators. The discussion leads to some stark contrasts, with formidable arguments on both sides, and some interesting convergences between the two streams of work.

basic emotions jaak panksepp: The Impassioned Life Samuel M. Powell, 2016-01-01 The Impassioned Life argues that theology's task today is to rethink the nature of the emotions and their relation to human reason. Such rethinking is necessary because the Christian tradition feels ambivalently about the emotions. Armed with a commitment to body-soul dualism, many writers have equated the image of God with rationality and wondered whether emotion is an essential feature of human nature; however, the tradition has also affirmed the value of emotions such as love

and compassion and has sometimes asserted the value of so-called negative emotions such as anger. The question, then, is whether the tradition's pastoral insight into the importance of moderation and control of the emotions requires us to think dualistically about soul (identified with reason) and body (the seat of emotions). To answer this question, *The Impassioned Life* explores the vital resources of the Christian theological tradition and also of contemporary scientific and psychological research in order to achieve a more adequate theological understanding of the emotions and reason. At heart, it offers a holistic, integrated vision of the Christian life lived passionately in its full range of human feeling as life in the Spirit.

basic emotions jaak panksepp: *The Deep History of Ourselves* Joseph LeDoux, 2020-08-25 Longlisted for the PEN/E.O. Wilson Literary Science Writing Award A leading neuroscientist offers a history of the evolution of the brain from unicellular organisms to the complexity of animals and human beings today Renowned neuroscientist Joseph LeDoux digs into the natural history of life on earth to provide a new perspective on the similarities between us and our ancestors in deep time. This page-turning survey of the whole of terrestrial evolution sheds new light on how nervous systems evolved in animals, how the brain developed, and what it means to be human. In *The Deep History of Ourselves*, LeDoux argues that the key to understanding human behavior lies in viewing evolution through the prism of the first living organisms. By tracking the chain of the evolutionary timeline he shows how even the earliest single-cell organisms had to solve the same problems we and our cells have to solve each day. Along the way, LeDoux explores our place in nature, how the evolution of nervous systems enhanced the ability of organisms to survive and thrive, and how the emergence of what we humans understand as consciousness made our greatest and most horrendous achievements as a species possible.

basic emotions jaak panksepp: *Posthuman Bliss?* Susan B. Levin, 2021 A tightly argued and expansive examination of the pitfalls of transhumanism that reacquaints us with what it means to live well. Advocates of transhumanism, or radical enhancement, urge us to pursue the biotechnological heightening of select capacities -- above all, cognitive ability -- so far beyond any human limit that the beings with those capacities would exist on a higher ontological plane. For proponents of such views, humanity's self-transcendence through advancements in science and technology may even be morally required. Consequently, the human stakes of how we respond to transhumanism are immeasurably high. In *Posthuman Bliss? The Failed Promise of Transhumanism*, Susan B. Levin challenges transhumanists' overarching commitments regarding the mind and brain, ethics, liberal democracy, knowledge, and reality, showing their notion of humanity's self-transcendence into posthumanity to be little more than fantasy. Uniting philosophical with scientific arguments, Levin mounts a significant challenge to transhumanists' claim that science and technology support their vision of posthumanity. In a clear and engaging style, she dismantles transhumanists' breezy assurances that posthumans will emerge if we but allocate sufficient resources to that end. Far from offering theoretical and practical proof of concept for the vision that they urge upon us, Levin argues, transhumanists engage inadequately with cognitive psychology, biology, and neuroscience, often relying on questionable or outdated views within those fields. Having shown in depth why transhumanism should be rejected, Levin argues forcefully for a holistic perspective on living well that is rooted in Aristotle's virtue ethics but that is adapted to liberal democracy. This holism is thoroughly human, in the best of senses: It directs us to consider worthy ends for us as human beings and to do the irreplaceable work of understanding ourselves rather than relying on technology and science to be our salvation.

basic emotions jaak panksepp: *Emotion* Annett Schirmer, 2014-07-07 *Emotion*, by Annett Schirmer, is a comprehensive text that integrates traditional psychological theories and cutting-edge neuroscience research to explain the nature and role of emotions in human functioning. Written in an engaging style, the book explores emotions at the behavioral, physiological, mental, and neurofunctional (i.e., chemical, metabolic, and structural) levels, and examines each in a broad context, touching on different theoretical perspectives, regulatory processes, development, and culture, among others. Providing greater insight and depth than existing texts, the book offers a

holistic view of the field, giving students a broader understanding of the mechanisms underlying emotions and enabling them to appreciate the role emotions play in their lives. In dedicated chapters, the text covers past and current theories of emotion, individual emotions and their bodily representation, the role of emotions for behavior and cognition, as well as interindividual differences.

basic emotions jaak panksepp: The Handy Psychology Answer Book Lisa J. Cohen, 2016-02-22 Bridges the gap between today's entertainment-focused "pop psychology" on television and the dry academic research that is published in journals. A primer on human behavior and psychology. The Handy Psychology Answer Book helps answer why humans do what we do through accurate scientific data presented in a lively, accessible, and engaging way. It covers the fundamentals and explains the psychology behind how people deal with money, sex, morality, family, children, aging, addiction, work, and other everyday issues. It takes a journey through the history and science of psychology and showing how psychology affects us all. Fully revised to reflect the latest scientific research—such as the current DSM-5 (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, published by the American Psychiatric Association); the latest neurobiological theories; and the changing face of marriage—this timely reference has expanded to include information sections on the biology and evolution of emotions; technology and adolescence; bisexuality; optimism; autism; as well as a full section on the law, eyewitness testimony and police shootings. Featuring more than 1,500 answers to questions concerning how the human mind and the science of psychology really work, this fascinating guide delivers the real facts of modern psychology, along with fun factoids and thought-provoking insights into what motivates human behavior. This intriguing exploration provides insights into the current science of the mind by answering questions such as: How have other cultures addressed psychological issues? Why was Freud so focused on sex? How do twin studies help illuminate the role of genetics? How can I maintain a healthy brain? Why do some people hear voices that aren't really there? Why do children see monsters in the closet at night? How have recent changes in technology affected adolescent development? Why does time seem to speed up as we age? Is it normal to argue during marriage? Does religion make people happier? How do we reduce social prejudice? How has morality changed over the course of history? What are the personality traits of people who succeed in their professions? Why do so many politicians get trapped in scandals? Does genetics play a role in voting behavior? Which therapies are best for which kinds of problems? How might the stress of police work affect decision-making in high stress situations? The Handy Psychology Answer Book also includes a helpful glossary of terms, complete reference sources for topics discussed, and an index. With a wide range of information suitable for everyone, this is the ideal source for anyone looking to get a better understanding of psychology. It provides clear answers on the history, basic science and latest research, and psychology behind everyday situations and at different stages in life.

basic emotions jaak panksepp: Embodied Emotions Rebekka Hufendiek, 2015-12-07 In this book, Rebekka Hufendiek explores emotions as embodied, action-oriented representations, providing a non-cognitivist theory of emotions that accounts for their normative dimensions. Embodied Emotions focuses not only on the bodily reactions involved in emotions, but also on the environment within which emotions are embedded and on the social character of this environment, its ontological constitution, and the way it scaffolds both the development of particular emotion types and the unfolding of individual emotional episodes. In addition, it provides a critical review and appraisal of current empirical studies, mainly in psychophysiology and developmental psychology, which are relevant to discussions about whether emotions are embodied as well as socially embedded. The theory that Hufendiek puts forward denies the distinction between basic and higher cognitive emotions: all emotions are embodied, action-oriented representations. This approach can account for the complex normative structure of emotions, and shares the advantages of cognitivist accounts of emotions without sharing their problems. Embodied Emotions makes an original contribution to ongoing debates on the normative aspects of emotions and will be of interest to philosophers working on emotions, embodied cognition and situated cognition, as well as neuroscientists or

psychologists who study emotions and are interested in placing their own work within a broader theoretical framework.

basic emotions jaak panksepp: Mormonism and the Emotions Mauro Properzi, 2015-05-21
Mormonism and the Emotions: An Analysis of LDS Scriptural Texts is an introductory Latterday Saint (LDS) theology of emotion that is both canonically based and scientifically informed. It highlights three widely accepted characteristics of emotion that emerge from scientific perspectives—namely, the necessity of cognition for its emergence, the personal responsibility attached to its manifestations, and its instrumentality in facilitating various processes of human development and experience. In analyzing the basic theological structure of Mormonism and its unique canonical texts the objective is to determine the extent to which LDS theology is compatible with this three-fold definition of emotion. At this basic level of explanation, the conclusion is that science and Mormon theology undoubtedly share a common perspective. The textual investigation focuses on unique Mormon scriptures and on their descriptions of six common emotions: hope, fear, joy, sorrow, love, and hate. For each of these emotional phenomena the extensive report of textual references consistently confirms an implied presence of the outlined three-fold model of emotion. Thus, the evidence points to the presence of an underlying folk model of emotion in the text that broadly matches scientific definitions. Additionally, the theological examination is enlarged with a particular focus on the Mormon theology of atonement, which is shown to play a significant role in LDS understandings of emotions. A broad exploration of such areas as epistemology, cosmology, soteriology, and the theological anthropology of Mormonism further contextualizes the analysis and roots it in the LDS theological worldview.

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