Abstract

Originally published in Contemporary Psychology: APA Review of Books, 1988, Vol 33(3), 258-259. Reviews the book, Mental Retardation: Nature, Cause, and Management (2nd ed.) by George S. Baroff (1986). This book aims to provide professionals and paraprofessionals serving mentally retarded persons with “a comprehensive treatment of mental retardation—what it is, what its causes are, and what you do about it”. The book is divided into two parts. The first half describes the nature of intelligence and classification schemes, a model of personality related to mentally retarded persons (new to the second edition) and biological and psychological factors related to mental retardation. The second half focuses on services needed by mentally retarded persons and their families. This text contains several informative sections, including a discussion of the American Association on Mental Deficiency's definition of mental retardation and two chapters on biological factors related to mental retardation. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2006 APA, all rights reserved)

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All types of mental retardation are now referred to as Intellectual and Developmental disabilities. If you or someone that you love has an intellectual or developmental disability, then you should know that there are far more resources that can help people to succeed now than there were in the past. Want To Learn More About Mental Retardation? “Get Answers Now. Professionals, such as the ones at BetterHelp, can help you to better understand the status of your mental health or normality. Mental retardation has been referred to differently by different psychologists and psychological associations. For example, British psychologists like Cyril Burt (1955) and Clark and Clark (1973) and the WHO (1954, 1967 and 1968) have used the term ‘subnormal mind’. However, WHO has preferred the term retardation instead of subnormal mind in the recent revision of ICD- 9. The American Psychiatric Associations on the other hand prefers the term mental deficiency in place of mental retardation.