Understanding Mental Retardation

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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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