A Man for All Seasons?

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Abstract

Originally published in Contemporary Psychology: APA Review of Books, 1979, Vol 24(10), 742–744. Reviews the books, The Principles of Psychology, Vol. 1 by William James (1890) and The Principles of Psychology, Vol. 2 by William James (1890). These two volumes provide a foundation to the principles of psychology. Consciousness and attention are the core topics in these volumes. The absence of psychological theory does make the Principles a descriptive work, although James is willing to become more speculative and “theoretical” when he moves out of the confines of the traditional psychological problem areas such as memory, sensation, and perception. For example, he speculates that degree of self-esteem is the ratio of people's successes to their pretensions (aspirations). But this kind of endeavor stops short of speculating about social, economic, or political humanity. James did well enough, even within that constriction of theoretical thought. His work on emotion, right or wrong, engendered a rich research tradition and, by way of Cannon's later attention, significantly moved the field forward. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2006 APA, all rights reserved)

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A Man for All Seasons is a 1966 film about the life of Sir Thomas More, and his refusal to bend to the will of King Henry VIII. Directed by Fred Zinnemann. The screenplay was written by Robert Bolt, adapted from his play. I am commanded by the king to be brief, and since I am the king's obedient subject, brief I will be. I die His Majesty's good servant, but God's first. A Man For All Seasons is a 1962 Tony Award-winning Best Play and acclaimed film by Robert Bolt. After successful runs in London (1960) and New York (1962), it was adapted to film in 1966. The play and film made a star of Paul Scofield, who won both a Tony Award and an Oscar for his performance as Sir Thomas More, the truly noble, yet condemned Lord Chancellor of England. The movie picked up five additional Oscars, including Best Picture and Best Director (Fred Zinneman). Inspired by actual historic events, A Man for All Seasons is a play by Robert Bolt based on the life of Sir Thomas More. An early form of the play had been written for BBC Radio in 1954, and a one-hour live television version starring Bernard Hepton was produced in 1957 by the BBC,[2] but a...