



# Psychology in Human Context: Essays in Dissidence and Reconstruction

*Sigmund Koch*

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## **Psychology in Human Context: Essays in Dissidence and Reconstruction** Sigmund Koch

Sigmund Koch (1917-1996) was one of the twentieth century's most penetrating and wide-ranging critics of the scientific ambitions of psychology. Writing in a style sometimes scathing, sometimes witty, always lucid, he decried any psychology that attempted to eradicate the human dimension from the study, scientific and otherwise, of human experience and action. A philosopher and humanist by nature, Koch also sought to change the multifaceted field of psychology by moving it closer to the humanities and arts.

The broad scope of essays in *Psychology in Human Context*—which began as the basis for the eagerly anticipated postscript to Koch's seminal *Psychology: A Study of a Science*—reveals his writings to be as fresh and relevant today as ever. Carefully edited by two of Koch's close associates, this collection places psychological and philosophical issues in the context of twentieth-century thought and provides intellectual and moral signposts for future travelers in what Koch regarded as the irreducibly rich and human realm of the psychological studies.

Sigmund Koch was University Professor of Psychology and Philosophy at Boston University, the editor of the landmark six-volume series *Psychology: A Study of a Science* (1959-1963) and coeditor of *A Century of Psychology as Science*. He served as the president of three divisions of the American Psychological Association and was director of the Ford Foundation program in the Humanities and the Arts (1964-1967).

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