AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF FOUNDATIONAL LITERATURE IN ORGANIZATIONAL BEHAVIOR AND DEVELOPMENT

Compiled with commentary by

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Compiler's Preface

This bibliography was originally prepared primarily for internal use in the doctoral program of the School of Business and Public Management of George Washington University. The bibliography reflects my own educational history, which began as an undergraduate major in social psychology at the University of Minnesota, continued as a graduate student at the Harvard Business School in the early 1960's and proceeded to a six year faculty appointment at the Graduate School of Management, UCLA. From 1969 until 1998, I was also deeply involved with the NTL Institute for Applied Behavioral Science. In addition, I have worked on OB/OD at the University of Connecticut, George Washington University, and the University of St. Thomas where I have continued my career.

All four of my formative institutions (Minnesota, Harvard, UCLA and NTL) have been the source of major conceptual and empirical contributions to the field of Organizational Behavior and have influenced me profoundly. These four institutions are by no means the only sources of concepts and research findings, however. To an extent unknown to me, insufficient (or worse, inaccurate!) attention may have been given in this bibliography to such other centers of early thought in Organizational Behavior and Development as MIT, the University of Michigan, Carnegie-Mellon, Case Western Reserve, Boston University, and Teachers College Columbia as well as other institutions influenced by these. Doubtless there are some glaring omissions which, when they are pointed out, will cause me to rend my garments in anguish.

As one additional prefatory comment, a word is needed on the criteria employed for compiling this bibliography. For the most part, only literature prior to the mid-1970's has been included. Various books of readings and other bibliographies have been consulted in selecting entries for this list. In general, the attempt has been to mention the names and major works of all those who are generally viewed (in my judgment) as having contributed to the creation of the fields of Organizational Behavior and Organization Development. It must also be granted that there are many influential books in academic psychology and sociology that have been omitted from this list, either by accident or design.

It should also be noted that the 1990's have begun to see publication of histories and other bibliographies of the field (see Kleiner, Varney and Loeffler, and Weisbord, below). The present document, in other words, is hardly the last word on the subject.

In the annotations that follow, the acronym "OB&D" has been used as shorthand for "Organizational Behavior and Development." Also, an asterisk following a name means that individual has a separate entry devoted to him or her.

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This book is a classic of the sociological literature. It was on reading lists in the early days of the OB&D field, but there was no hint that it might be a forerunner of an explosion of interest and research in the nature of Japanese organizations and management.


Ackoff is a management theorist and philosopher, not an organizational behavior specialist per se. He is one of the inventors of the field of Operations Research and of Strategic Management. Along with writers like Barnard*, Drucker*, and Bennis*, he is one of the most influential thinkers on management since World War II, and continues to be a major thinker and innovator into the 1990's.


A series of books that made the theory and practice of Organization Development widely available to managers and consultants. The original six books, which appeared as a boxed set, were:

Richard Walton, Interpersonal peacemaking: Confrontations and Third-Party Consultation.
Robert Blake and Jane Mouton, Building a Dynamic Corporation through Grid Organization Development.
Paul Lawrence and Jay Lorsch. Developing Organizations.

Many other titles have followed.


An original and enormously influential statement of the thesis that machine-like bureaucracies are antithetical to human nature and mental health. Argyris has authored several other foundational books in the succeeding thirty-five years. He is arguably the source of the current interest in "learning organizations" through his book (with Donald Schon), Organizational Learning: A Theory of Action Perspective, Addison-Wesley, 1978. He has also made major statements about leadership, the nature of "action science," and has written extensively about Organization Development consulting.

Adler had been developing materials for this book for approximately the previous
decade and did her doctoral work at UCLA on the subject. While the book cannot
properly be called foundational to the field of Organizational Behavior, it was the
first attempt to deal with the field cross-culturally, and as such is of substantial
historical importance (see Harris and Moran)*.


Sourcebook for basic formulations in all of social psychology with particular
value in group norms and social influence.

Athos, A. and J.J. Gabarro. Interpersonal Behavior: Communication and Understanding

Second of two Harvard Business School books (see Turner & Lombard, below)*
containing theory, research, and case studies applying Carl Rogers' (see
references on Rogers*) ideas to organizational life.


Bales created a widely-known scheme for analyzing interaction patterns in small
groups. In this book, he developed twelve different kinds of roles that people play
in groups and showed how the group could be analyzed in terms of the interplay
of these roles. Terms like "gatekeeper" and "task-oriented' probably date from
terminology developed by Bales. He went on to make many other distinguished
contributions to social psychology, but the analytical methods of this book were
the main resources utilized by the growing OB&D field. (see Shepherd*).


 Probably the most influential management theory of the 20th century. More
relevant to the contemporary scene than many suppose it to be. Barnard is
sometimes seen as an apostle of ultra-rationalism in management, but a close
reading will show that he was well aware of and approving of the subjective,
artistic side of management.


This book, with a gigantic bibliography, was Bass's first major publication on
leadership. He continues to be one of the most influential contributors on the
social psychology of leadership, having lately been primarily interested in so-
called "transformational leadership" (see James McGregor Burns*, below). Bass
(1960) offered the useful distinction between attempted, successful, and effective
leadership. "Attempted" is the initiative by the leader; "successful" means that
people did what the leader was trying to get them to do; and "effective" means
that what people did got the job done and didn't create other harmful side effects. The use of the phrase "organizational behavior" in the title of this book may be its first public appearance (but see also, Rothlisberger*, 1939).


Somewhat like Abegglen's*, Benedict's book was on most Organizational Behavior reading lists. It was a dimension of the field "to be aware of." The book quickly became a classic piece of scholarship, but it was to be nearly two more decades before books about culture specifically addressed to the Organizational Behavior field began to appear (see Adler* and Harris and Moran*).


This book did as much or more than any other to articulate what the field of Organization Development might be. While individual readings are somewhat dated, the editors' various section introductions can still be read for basic and original ideas about planning organizational change and consulting. The senior editor continues to be a major voice in the field; the other two men have passed away.


A collection of Bennis's best essays on leadership and organizations. Widely quoted.


A critique of organizations and society with the turbulent 'sixties exerting a powerful influence on the authors' thinking; a harbinger of the current interest in chaos, turbulence, chronic instability. Also relevant to those studying loneliness, disconnectedness, and anaclitic depression. (See Drucker*, 1969, and Emery and Trist*). This book has been republished in 1998 by Jossey-Bass on the thirtieth anniversary of its original publication.


Warren Bennis's autobiography, containing reminiscences from his five decades of leadership of the OB&D field.


"Berelson and Steiner" was a matter of considerable excitement and debate in the 1960's. They had undertaken to compress into one volume all the research-based
knowledge that existed about human behavior. The intent was to more adequately ground future research.


Theories of group behavior by one of the founding members of the Tavistock Institute of Human Relations, London. More influential in the 1990's than ever before, due to the efforts of Professor Jerry B. Harvey* of George Washington University.


Blake and Mouton have been "household words" in Organization Development from its inception. Many writers credit Blake with inventing the phrase. A distinguished social psychologist prior to the rise of the O.D. field, Blake brought a vast knowledge of small group and intergroup research and theory to bear on problems of organizational effectiveness. By the early 1960's, Blake and Mouton, through their company, Scientific Methods Inc., had developed a multi-year, six phase program of planned change that could be tailored to any organization. This program was the first of its kind and made millionaires out of its creators.


This book did not have the impact that the authors intended, but it remains useful for historical reasons. The authors erected a framework (called the "Consulcube") that generated 100 distinctly different types of O.D. consulting situations. For each such situation, they cite O.D. literature that provides guidance on how to handle that particular type of situation. In the process an enormous range of O.D. literature is surveyed and interpreted.


Along with books by Merton*, Selznick*, and Gouldner*, this is one of the studies by the "bureaucratic sociologists," a very influential school of thought in the 1950's and 1960's. Much of their thinking stemmed originally from the work of Talcott Parsons*.


This book is an excellent repository of classic articles in the field. One of its best features is a retrospective comment by a contemporary scholar.

One of the relatively few attempts to explain what T groups (aka Sensitivity Training groups, Encounter Groups) are all about. The authors are founding members of the NTL Institute for Applied Behavioral Science. NTL ("National Training Laboratories") was a training and development spin-off from the National Education Association. Beginning in 1947, it pioneered the T group as a powerful method of human relations learning and training. In the early 1960's, a small group of academic and corporate members began meeting to discuss ways that NTL methods could be used in on-going organizations. Dr. Jerry Harvey* was NTL's principal representative in these discussions. Out of it emerged "the Industrial Network" (1965) and later the O.D. Network (1966), which is still the primary professional association for O.D. professionals.


A very nice summary of the state of the art in the 1950's and 1960's from a British perspective.


Burns is a political scientist who has written extensively on political leadership, especially Roosevelt. This book advanced the concept of "transformational leadership" and quickly became influential in the Organizational Behavior field. Burns continues to write extensively and is presently completing a leadership studies project under a major grant from the Kellogg Foundation.


Burns and Stalker's book contrasted successful and unsuccessful organizations in high tech industries by their structures. Successful companies had "organic" structures; less successful ones had "mechanistic" structures. The list of descriptors of each type was one of the first such attempts. "Mechanistic vs. organic thinking" has continued to be a common attribution down to the present day. The method of creating two contrasting "ideal types," one that was traditional and outmoded and another that was more appropriate to the present and future was highly influential and continues as an analytical style to this day.


This was an enormously influential book of readings and continues to be relevant. It contained a number of papers that qualify as "seminal;" includes papers by Festinger on cognitive dissonance, Asch* on conformity, Coch and French on resistance to change, and French and Raven on social power.

This book takes a "perceptual approach" to human psychology. It explores the meaning of the well-known phrase that reality is in the eye of the beholder. The book has had wide influence and is actually more consistent with the state of clinical psychology today than it was when it first appeared. This school of psychology was central to Harvard's course on listening (see Athos & Gabarro*, and Turner & Lombard*).


This book was noteworthy in its day, and to some extent still is, as a "participant-observer" research study where Dalton was a member of the system of managers whose behavior he was describing. The research was done covertly, if memory serves, which would not be legal today.


The late Bill Dowling was the founding editor of Organizational Dynamics, an influential journal in the field. Throughout the 1970's, Dowling conducted and published interviews with many of the "big names" in the field, including such people as Herzberg*, Likert*, Argyris*, Skinner*, McClelland*, Roethlisberger*, and Bennis*. The interviews are collected in this book. The book unfortunately is out of print.


Of Drucker's many books, these are the two that established his reputation originally. The first is a study of General Motors. The second introduces "management by objectives" and a number of other fundamental concepts.


This book of Drucker's, along with Emery and Trist*, was one of the first to take chaotic change seriously. The prevailing mentality was that change is purposeful, linear, cumulative, and controllable. "Planned change" is a foundational image in the history of the O.D. field. Drucker, Emery, and Trist, and a few others, however, began to question all these assumptions. In 1996, we are still trying to learn to think about turbulence since rationalistic ideas about change are so
deeply ingrained. It would not be a waste of time to try to research more thoroughly the roots of thinking about chaos in managerial and organizational studies.


This article virtually founded the study of how organizational operations are affected by different degrees of turbulence in the environment. The authors use the term "turbulent fields," where "the ground itself is moving," to discuss the same phenomena that chaos theorists and phrases like "permanent white water" are addressing in the 1990's. Emery and Trist's paper is one of the most prophetic in the entire management literature. So far as is known, Emery and Trist never developed their concept of turbulent fields in further publications, although awareness of the instabilities of the post-industrial environment permeated the work of each for the next twenty-five years.


One of the first "contingency theories" of leadership, in which it is argued that the best style for a leader depends on other variables in the situation. Fiedler presents a theory of what these variables are and performs empirical tests of his theory in live situations.


One of the first, perhaps the first, academic textbooks in O.D. Widely influential. Went through several subsequent editions. Still in print.


This was a widely read book in the 1960's and foreshadowed Peter Vaill's* and Tom Peters' later emphasis on the same subject. Gardner had been a Presidential Cabinet member. He later founded Common Cause. He is still producing a stream of influential papers on leadership.


This book of excerpts and interpretations was a very popular introduction to Weber. Mills also wrote White Collar, one of the first studies of middle managers.

This was a casebook used in various editions for nearly three decades at the Harvard Business School. In its earlier editions, it embodied the "classic" view of the general manager which had developed at that school.


For many years, Goffman was one of the most original thinkers in social psychology and sociology. He had a genius for noticing the subtle ways in which human beings communicate their meanings to themselves and each other. Because his books were so unusual, each one was eagerly anticipated. His emphasis was on what is overt and observable...if one knows how to look. He authored many books on various forms of organizational behavior. He was particularly astute in documenting the ways in which organizational norms and values impact individual behavior.


Another of the "bureaucratic sociologists" (see Blau*, Merton*, Selznick*). In succeeding years, Gouldner has written a number of very important commentaries on sociology and its role in society.


Every graduate student in the behavioral sciences in the 1950's and 1960's knew about "Hall and Lindzey." They were the bible on personality theory. The book consists of chapters intensively describing and critiquing all the major theories of personality of the day. A book that performs a similar function has just been published - Morley Segal's *Points of Influence*.


This book did as much to make "body language" real and respectable as any other single work. Hall is a psychoanalytically oriented anthropologist with a wide consulting practice in business and government. Still worth reading as an excellent introduction to non-verbal communication. Hall has written several other books in succeeding years that continue to explore the nature and significance of culture.


Author is a Harvard DBA in Organizational Behavior from the mid-1960's. This book is a survey of all the major personality theories that were being used by
organizational researchers. The book has become very popular with "new age" thinkers because of its unusual scope and eclectic approach.


This book is the first known textbook addressed to managers about the significance of cultural differences in organizations. It is written more for practitioners than academics, but it filled a tremendous need at the time and has sparked a number of other books with similar focus (see Adler*).


All the Harvard Business Review classics on management. An outstanding sourcebook for the most influential articles of the 1950's and 1960's. Unfortunately, this book and the next are hard to find. They would be worth acquiring for anyone who wanted compact histories of management and human relations as expressed through the pages of the Harvard Business Review.


This collection practically defines the field of human behavior in organizations as it was conceived between about 1950 and 1970.


The original "Abilene Paradox" appeared in the journal, Organizational Dynamics, in 1974. It's central thesis is that human groupings often make decisions and take actions that are contrary to the wishes of their members and thereby perpetrate confusion and craziness on themselves and their stakeholders. More importantly the article explained why and how this phenomenon occurs. Harvey has published many other essays, each marked by extraordinary creativity, insight, and humor. The Abilene Paradox is also available as a video. In research done in the Organization Development group at Bowling Green University, this article of Harvey's was ranked first in usefulness by a panel of O.D. practitioners from a list of 180 books and articles in the field.


This is a popular introduction to the field of General Semantics - the study of how people form and communicate meanings. The idea of studying organizations as "fields of meaning" was very popular in the late 1950's and early 1960's. Hayakawa fell somewhat into disfavor as a result of his hawkish stance on
Vietnam; he was also perceived to be somewhat controversial as President of San Francisco State. He later became a U.S. senator. His brother played the Japanese colonel in Bridge over the River Kwai. Unfortunately, these later colorful events in his career overshadowed his book. The idea of organization as a "field of meaning," however, has been making a comeback in the 1990's, due chiefly to the recent surge of interest in organizational culture. An impressive example is Wilfred Drath and Charles Palus's Making Common Sense: Leadership as Meaning-making Ian Community of Practice. Greensboro, NC: Center for Creative Leadership, 1994.


This book appeared about a decade after the major feminist critiques of society in general and is the first major study and critique of the status of women in corporations and the passage of Affirmative Action legislation. As such, the book launched a revolution of theory, research, and change. (see Kanter*).


This little-known annotated bibliography is the background to Herzberg's famous job enrichment theory. The book surveys practically everything that was known about job design and human behavior at that time. I am indebted to Professor Erik K. Winslow, a student of Herzberg's, for the opportunity to examine a copy of this book.


This book is Herzberg's basic presentation of his "motivator-hygiene" for work motivation.


This is one of the most influential books on small group theory ever written. It "revisits" four or five classic empirical studies of group behavior, including the Hawthorne researches and Whyte's Street Corner Society (see below). Homans created a simple framework that distinguished formal and informal modes of behavior (which Homans called "external" and "internal" systems), and divided all behavior into three categories: "activities," "interactions," and "sentiments," thus giving a 6 celled typology. Homans is one of the best social science writers of the 20th Century, and also a close student of the nature of science. While the book was very influential, the 6 factor typology has not stood the test of time after Homans himself abandoned it.
Homans shocked his colleagues by abandoning the framework of *The Human Group* entirely and instead sought to reduce all social behavior to "reward and punishment" propositions from Skinnerian psychology and classical "economic man theory." The book is not alone in that tradition nor is it without influence, but by and large this second book did not have the influence of the earlier volume.


Jaques' large body of more recent work is well-known and influential, but is more contemporary than this bibliography. His two earlier books were influential in their own right, the second for example being a key basis for a large-scale research project on blue collar job satisfaction conducted between 1962 and 1965 at the Harvard Business School.


With Hennig and Jardim*, one of the first management books to explicitly address the situation of women in management and in organizations generally. The book was a best seller. Kanter moved from Yale to the Harvard Business School in the late 1980's to become the first woman to hold an endowed chair at the Harvard Business School. The Chair was endowed as the Class of 1960 Chair in Organizational Behavior.


Kaplan was a philosopher who had a distinguished career at UCLA and later as an émigré in Israel. He was very familiar with the field of organizational behavior as it was developing in the late 1950's and early 1960's in Southern California. He annually served as an encounter group leader at a retreat sponsored by the UCLA Extension Division. This book is a basic statement of the philosophical dilemmas encountered by the social sciences in the process of rigorous inquiry. It was well-received and influential in its day but has unfortunately receded in influence over the past twenty-five years or so. Kaplan also authored *New Worlds of Philosophy* which is an excellent layperson's introduction to a dozen or so major philosophical schools of thought.


This was the first major exposition of systems theory for the social sciences. The authors were part of the "group dynamics" school (see Cartwright and Zander) at
the Univ. of Michigan, and thus had high visibility and influence in the community of social psychology. Everybody was reading "Katz and Kahn" in the late 1960's. The book quickly led to a spate of management textbooks that claimed to embody a "systems approach." The book is worth re-reading today to see if, with hindsight, we can understand why it has taken so long for real systems thinking to take hold in the social sciences.


"Kepner-Tregoe" has for many years been one of the best known of the management consulting firms which have an explicit grounding in the behavioral sciences. This book by the firm's two founders is a basic statement of their approach. It was widely read by practicing managers in the 1960's. There are many such statements on the market today by various prominent consultants. They are not "academic," "scholarly" works, but they often prove to have greater impact than more deliberate and empirically rigorous statements.


This is a popularly-written history of attempts since World War II to conduct planned change of human organizations. It covers the subject matter of OB&D, but also includes surveys of other related fields that OB&D scholars and professionals have not by and large utilized. Kleiner was a major contributor to Peter Senge's The Fifth Discipline and co-authored with Senge The Fifth Discipline Fieldbook (New York; Doubleday, 1994).


Koontz was for many years the senior professor of management at UCLA's Graduate School of Management. With Cyril O'Donnell he authored Principles of Management which went through many editions. From the 1950's to 1970's this text was to management what "Samuelson" was to economics (viz., the core ideas of "planning, organizing, staffing, directing, controlling"). Koontz was known to be very skeptical about the behavioral sciences, particularly the normative forms that counseled managers to become more "people-oriented." However, in the "jungle" that Koontz sketched, he gave fairly even-handed treatment to various schools of thought about management. This book was probably his most creative work. For two decades, "discuss Koontz's management theory jungle" was a standard question on doctoral comprehensive examinations.


This became one of the most influential of a new breed of management-oriented books in the mid to late 1960's. Attention shifted away from the "personalistic"
emphasis that had been created by books like McGregor's *Human Side of Enterprise*, and toward more interest in structure and policy. In the 1960's, Katz and Kahn's* Social Psychology of Organizing* and James D. Thompson's* Organizations in Action* were other prominent members of this genre. Lawrence and Lorsch's book was also a major departure from the kind of book the organizational behavior group at Harvard had been producing, forcing a great number of colleagues at other institutions to revise their perceptions of what the Harvard group was all about. (see also Ronken and Lawrence.*)


A very influential book of readings, still in print in later editions. Leavitt has been senior professor of organizational behavior at the Stanford Business School for many years. The late Lou Pondy was one of the most widely admired of the "second generation" of OB professors and was chairman of the management department at the Univ of Illinois for several years before his untimely death.


With Maslow and Mayo and perhaps one or two others, Lewin is one of the true giants in the history of the Organizational Behavior & Development field. This book is the primary source of his own writings, although he worked with so many other major scholars in American social science that his influence has been multiplied many times over. His ideas were foundational to the Center for Group Dynamics at the University of Michigan, for example, and to the creation of the National Training Laboratories organization out of which grew the Organization Development field. There are excellent biographies and critical interpretations of Lewin's work available.


One of the set of seminal books appearing in the early 1960's which defined the field of organizational behavior. Likert used the extensive empirical studies on supervision, group dynamics, and job satisfaction to synthesize his own approach to effective leadership of people in organizations. Likert was based at the University of Michigan for many years.


It was not widely known that Maslow* even kept a journal, and it is not widely known that the journals of the last eleven years of his life were published. These volumes are exactly the cornucopia of ideas and feelings that one would expect a journal of Maslow's to be.

Luft, with Harry Ingham, was co-inventor of the interpersonal communications framework known as the JoHari Window (i.e., Joe and Harry). This device is probably second only to Maslow's Need Hierarchy in its popularity with trainers and workshop leaders. (The daughter of one well-known O.D. consultant is named "Johari.") Unfortunately and somewhat puzzlingly, the framework has seen virtually no conceptual development since its creation.


In its day a well-known and well-regarded survey of theories and applications.


Probably the most influential organization theory book of the postwar era. Highly rationalistic in its form, it creates a systematic framework of propositions from which deductions about actual events and operations can be drawn. The precursor of the structuralist movement that began a few years later (see Lawrence and Lorsch*). March and Simon were at Carnegie-Mellon when they authored this book. Simon later won a Nobel Prize in Economics for his work in decision theory. He has also been a leading theorist in Artificial Intelligence. March went to UC Irvine and from there to the Stanford Business School.


A quite strong case can be made that the fields of Organizational Behavior and Organization Development could not exist without the vision of Maslow. For more than two decades he was by far the clearest and strongest and most intellectually grounded voice against the mechanistic, reductionistic value system that was implicit in Skinnerian* psychology. The Need Hierarchy is what he is best known for, but that is because McGregor* popularized it. The truth is that Maslow was a centrifuge of ideas about the nature of man and the nature of the process of studying man. He was not a management or leadership theorist, nor was he particularly interested in social systems per se. He was a theorist of the
human spirit and as such he provided a value system and a vocabulary and an intellectual discipline for a whole generation of psychologists and humanists.


A book similar to Boone and Bowen* with some variation in "classics" included.


Mayo did not publish a great deal himself but, as the intellectual and spiritual father of the Harvard Business School group in Organizational Behavior, worked his influence on many others at Harvard and elsewhere. At Harvard, his chief disciple was Fritz J. Roethlisberger*, co-author of Management and the Worker, the report of the Hawthorne Studies (see below) which Mayo designed and led. Both the "Human Problems" and the "Social Problems" refer repeatedly to the learnings from the Hawthorne Studies.


The late David McClelland pioneered work on achievement motivation, including the "Thematic Apperception Test" to measure motivation. He has studied entrepreneurs extensively. In early 1994, the Atlantic Monthly ran a long article assessing McClelland's work and influence.


This book is arguably the most influential book of the last fifty years in terms of presenting the case for "the human side of enterprise." It is anecdotal and practical in its style. It presents the famous idea of Theory X and Theory Y, which are based on the motivation theories of A.H. Maslow*. However, the book does not test this concept rigorously nor propose a method for testing it. Over the years various tests have been created that try to measure the degree of a manager's adherence to Theory X vs. Y, but these have not had the influence the book did, nor have they enriched the original idea. It is worth remembering that at the time this book appeared, there were virtually no books on the market that were both
well-grounded in research and theory and written in a readable style with lots of examples of applications. McGregor, in other words, almost single-handedly created the "business book" market.


This book is a key set of essays in the "bureaucratic sociology" tradition, following Talcott Parsons (see Blau, Gouldner, and Selznick).


Mary Parker Follett was a visionary management consultant and writer in the post World War I period. She is widely regarded as having had ideas about effective organizations and leadership that were at least one and maybe two or three generations ahead of their time.


This collection by the sociologist C. Wright Mills is an excellent introduction to many of the "grand theories" of late 19th and early 20th century sociology.


Morgan's book itself is not a foundational book to the field, but its many chapters on different ways of looking at organizations constitute a tour de force of ideas about organizations that have been developed in the past 50-75 years. It performs a service similar to that of Hampden-Turner* and Segal.* An “executive” edition of this book was published in 1998.


An excellent survey of the materials of its title. Widely used as a textbook in the 1970's. Nord is a co-editor of the presently popular texts, Organizational Reality and Managerial Reality.


A powerful theoretical formulation by one of the most important sociologists of the 20th century. Professor David Schwandt of George Washington University uses Parsons’ theories to ground ideas about organizational learning.

Parsons, T. Theories of Society: Foundations of Modern Sociological Theory. New York:
Free Press, 1965 (2 vols.).

Very large collection of classic papers from the 19th and early 20th century.


A very nice memoir of the intellectual climate in Cambridge, MA during the 1930's. Many famous names amble through these pages.


Pigors' "incident process" was an early and widely-admired method of creating "experiential learning" in the classroom. It is similar to the case method, but puts the student in a much more active, inquiring mode. The instructor describes an "incident" as a tip of an iceberg. The class then interrogates the instructor for more information about the situation. The method trains students as inquirers and in reasoning and drawing inferences about human situations.


This is the report of the famous Hawthorne Studies. One of its last chapters, "The Industrial Organization as a Social System" served as the basic framework guiding the Organizational Behavior faculty at Harvard for the next twenty five years. Twenty years after Management and the Worker was published, Roethlisberger proposed in a memo to his faculty colleagues that the issues and subject matter and methodologies he had been concerned with throughout his career be summarized in the phrase, "Organizational Behavior." His memo may be the first use of that phrase (however, see Bass*).


Speeches by Roethlisberger about the meaning of Hawthorne, and other subjects, chiefly to managers in the 1930's.


This book is a research report of a three year project funded by the Ford Foundation to develop what the book calls "second-level practitioners." These are individuals who are skillful practitioners of human relations principles in
teaching, consulting and management, who also possess well-developed skills in theory and research and who ALSO possess high degrees of mental health and self-awareness. The project, in other words, was Roethlisberger's attempt to conceive of and then implement a program that would produce his ideal, fully-rounded OB&D professional/human being. Many feel this book is the best single statement of Roethlisberger's philosophy of science and practice. This book is unfortunately out of print, and no final report was ever written. Xerox copies of various chapters can still be found, and occasionally a complete copy of the book. The author of this Bibliography has a copy.


This is a series of speeches Roethlisberger gave over about twenty years. A number of his most important later formulations are included, such as "The Contributions of the Behavioral Sciences to a General Theory of Management," given at UCLA in 1961 (and reprinted in Koontz*) and summarizing the entire Harvard approach to OB&D.


This book is a classic in counseling as well as being very influential in the history of OB&D. Rogers' ideas became important to the evolving field of OB&D because he so thoroughly explored the process of talking sensitively and supportively to another person. A central concern of the new field was to help managers talk more effectively with employees, deal with feelings, be more open, etc. This book of Rogers, and even more so his 1961 compendium provided ideas and methods for these conversations (See also on this list, Athos and Gabarro; and Turner and Lombard.) A doctoral dissertation has recently been completed at George Washington University exploring the relationships between acting toward people according to Rogers' ideas, and subordinates' perceptions of a leader's effectiveness (see Robert Kramer, "Leading by Listening: An Empirical Test of Carl Rogers's Theory of Human Relationship Using Interpersonal Assessments of Leaders by Followers," unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, School of Business & Public management, George Washington University, 1997).


A compendium of previous articles and speeches by Rogers. Probably the best single source for understanding his thinking. Contains all of his classic articles.


This book is an interpreted case study. It is one of the best examples of the interweaving of empirical field research in an organization with theory-based
interpretations of what is found there. The theory-base is an interesting adaptation of some of the personality and communication theories of Carl Rogers. Ronken left academe after this book but Lawrence remained at Harvard for the next forty years and had a distinguished career marked by many more influential books as well as honors from his colleagues at Harvard and around the world. Several doctoral advisees of Lawrence's are presently substantial contributors to the OB&D field.


An influential book of readings on organization theory. Rubenstein is also one of the founders of the field known as Research and Development Management, or more recently, Management of Science and Technology.


This book was in the original Addison-Wesley (see above) series. It has gone into a second and perhaps a third edition and can stand by itself, independent of the field of OD, as an important statement about the process of exerting influence and being helpful from a consulting as opposed to a hierarchical position.


Somewhat like Hall and Lindzey*, Segal interprets the significance of all the most influential psychological theories, but with the significant additional feature of suggesting what kinds of organizational change and development each theory might be appropriate to. Most of the theories Segal discusses were exerting independent influence from the earliest years of the Organizational Behavior and Development field.


Selznick is another of the "bureaucratic sociologists" (see Blau*, Gouldner*, and Merton*). His leadership book is still one of the best descriptions of the role, responsibilities, and opportunities of the top level executive. He has been more influential in the public administration world than in business, but he can be read with profit by scholars in any sector.

Shepherd's little book reviewed and critiqued three major schools of thought in small group theory: George Homans*, Kurt Lewin*, and R. Freed Bales*; the book discusses six other theories more briefly. It was regarded as a very valuable survey and critique at a time when "the small group" was the most important element in the field of OB&D.


This book is regarded as a landmark in management and organization theory, on par in influence with such other writers as Parsons*, Barnard*, Drucker*, or Roethlisberger*. Simon later won a Nobel Prize for his work in artificial intelligence and decision theory.


This is a layperson's book in which Skinner tries to answer the many criticisms of his theories that there have been. It is an excellent introduction to Behaviorism and is a set of arguments that, uncomfortable as they may be, need to be understood by Organizational Behavior scholars. In this book Skinner even anticipates the objection that his theory does not account for his own behavior as a theorist and author and refutes it to his satisfaction (despite the absence of a concept of "feeling satisfied" in his theory).


Another influential contribution to the ideas being developed by Carl Rogers.


Widely assigned in social psychology courses of the 1950's containing many of the basic papers of the time.


This book contains the "West Coast" approach to Organization Development. The "sensitivity training group" was the center-piece concept, although in general the book is filled with various approaches to leadership viewed as an intimately interpersonal process. The UCLA group around Tannenbaum did maiknly clinical research on OB&D, particularly within the group context. It was most famous, however, for its experiments in experiential education and in applications of Humanistic psychology to Organizational Behavior and Development.

This was a very well-received contribution to organization theory. Thompson was a sociologist who had ties to James March* and Herbert Simon* at Carnegie Mellon. Thompson's book portrays an organization as an "acting thing." Thompson's was one of the first organization theory books to emphatically stress the role of the external environment in an organization's decisions and operations.


This book is a survey of the relation of blue collar job structure to job attitudes among 450 workers in ten different industries. It was not enthusiastically greeted at the time of its publication, but ten to fifteen years later, when the Quality of Work Life movement was in full swing, this book was a valuable source. This book also completed Lawrence's "job design period." He next turned to problems of organization structure and design (see Lawrence & Lorsch, above) where he made several landmark contributions. Turner and Lawrence also provided the broader context for a doctoral dissertation written on the same population of workers called, "Attitudes, Behavior, and Technical Structure: An Investigation of the Relation of Job Design to Emergent Human Behavior in Five Industrial Settings," by Peter Vaill, Harvard Business School, (1964). (see also Ronken & Lawrence).


This book was the first of two books (see Athos & Gabarro, above) summarizing the Harvard Business School's second year MBA course on listening skills. The course was an application of Carl Rogers' ideas about empathic listening.


This is a partially annotated 500 item bibliography of the OB&D field as it was understood at the time of publication. Portions of this bibliography have been reprinted in Varney and Loeffler*.


The book is a collection of twenty-three chapters by well-known authors in the OB&D field, all of whom were associated as faculty or students with the "Tannenbaum group" at UCLA between the late 1960's and the late 1980's. Vaill's article undertakes a reinterpretation of what the OB&D field was "up to," by examining three cornerstones of the field: Douglas McGregor's* Theory X & Y,
NTL's "sensitivity training" (see Bradford*), and Carl Rogers'* "active listening." Vaill argued that despite the enormous popularity of all three techniques, insufficient attention had been given to what might be called the "cognitive status" of the three approaches. In brief, the OB&D field viewed the three approaches as evidence of the scientific nature of the field, whereas Vaill argues that the three are not science as normally understood at all; and that viewing the field as scientific in the normal sense leads to misunderstanding, confusion, and misdirected effort.


An expansion and update of Vaill and Murrell.* Best currently available general bibliography of the field. Contains among other things, several citations of other bibliographies in the OB&D field.


____________. Freedom in a Rocking Boat.

Vickers was a British executive for his entire career. Relatively late in life he began to publish conceptual essays on his experiences leading large organizations, and produced in the process some of the most important work on organizational management, governance, and leadership of the past fifty years. His most important contribution was a model he called "the Appreciative System" (1965), a mode of executive behavior made up of three kinds of judgment: "reality judgment," by which we determine what is the case; "value judgment," by which we determine what we want to be the case; and "instrumental judgment," by which we figure out how to change what is into what might be. Prof. Bayard Catron of the George Washington University Dept. of Public Administration was a close personal friend of Vickers and is probably the world's foremost authority on his work. Vickers' "appreciative system" may later have functioned as a core idea for a book of essays edited by Suresh Srivastva and Associates at Case Western Reserve University, titled Appreciative Management and Leadership, San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 1990. As such, it may be an ancestor concept to what is known today as "appreciative inquiry."


The Man on the Assembly Line was one of the first "calls to arms" about the abysmal levels of motivation and the corrosive organizational climates of the Big
Three automakers. It is not a polemic, though, but a serious research study which General Motors paid for. Walker later became one of the foremost "philosophers of technology" during a long career at Yale. He was an early commentator on the social impact of automation.


Weick has made many fundamental contributions to the OB field in the past four decades. This book virtually set thought about organizational behavior on a new path, for it viewed the organization in more dynamic terms in relation to the world around it than organization theory previously had.

“The organizing model” was of a dynamic process not a static thing ("the organization"). This model was something one had to understand to be at all literate in the field. One could argue that this book made possible the ideas about “learning organizations” which became so popular in the 1990’s.


Weisbord has been a major voice in O.D. consulting since the early 1970's. This particular book is a wonderful history and reinterpretation of many of the events, schools of thought, and controversies that have punctuated the O.D. field from its beginnings. Weisbord actually traces the roots of our concern for "productive workplaces" back to the late 19th century in the work of Frederick Winslow Taylor, and in the process debunks a lot of the stereotypes that have grown up around him and other early contributors. The book ends with a sketch of what has since become Weisbord's major preoccupation - the philosophy and methodology of what he has named "Future Search."


The author is one of the most best-known and influential practicing O.D. consultants. This book introduces his "Six Box Model" which was a comprehensive framework for understanding what is going on in an organization.


One of the first and still one of the best ethnographic studies of a small group in its natural setting. Whyte pioneered the "participant-observer" method of field research in this study done prior to World War II. Whyte was at Cornell University for many years and made many noteworthy contributions to the
Organizational Behavior Field, including Human Relations in the Restaurant Industry and Action Research for Management.


This book was a bestseller in the 1950's and probably did more than any other single book to focus attention on the "organizational society" that America had become. In those years the "organization man" became a code phrase for the conformist middle manager who primarily wants to survive in the power structure by doing exactly what his boss wants, all the while telling himself that he is an independent-minded, entrepreneurial individualist who does not kow-tow to anybody. Other books in this genre were David Reisman's, The Lonely Crowd, Robert Presthus's The Organizational Society, C. Wright Mills' White Collar, and The Hidden Persuaders as the first of a whole series of polemics about (and against) business organizations by Vance Packard; novels in a similar vein included The Man in the Grey Flannel Suit, Executive Suite, Point of No Return, How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying, and Cash McCall. Significantly, there is virtually no hint in any of these books that women might be qualified for and interested in positions as organizational managers (see Henning and Jardim, and Kanter). The "Dilbert" comic strips of the 1990's continue the popular attack on sick organizational climates that destroy the human spirit while purporting to offer opportunities for growth and development.

It is also worth noting that these books express the somewhat bitter and cynical attitude people had about organizations right in the period when Argyris*, McGregor*, Bennis*, Roethlisberger*, and other founders of the OB&D field were beginning to develop a vision of another way for organizational life to be.


From the early 1950's onward, Zaleznik was one of the most creative members of the Harvard Business School Organizational Behavior group. In the early 1960's, Zaleznik broke with the group's primary tradition and began to explore psychoanalytic approaches to the understanding and improvement of organizational life. Over the years he authored many influential articles expressing this new approach (cf., the Harvard Business Review) and advised several doctoral students who have become very influential in their own right. This particular book is a recent summary of the author's thinking about organizational leadership. Zaleznik has been sharply critical of "mainstream" O.D. partly because, in his opinion, it has not come to terms with power.

This book is not "historical" in publication date, but it does contain an extensive section on the history of work - what it has meant psychologically and sociologically - in preparation for describing the impact of "expert systems" on organizational operations and life. This book is also valuable for its extensive appendix on interview and observation methods in organizational research.

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There are no books on this list that deal extensively with the experience of African-American and other racial and ethnic minorities in organizations. This omission is doubtless partly due to my own ignorance or insensitivity. But it is also true that before 1980 there were not very many books and articles in general circulation dealing with the experience in organizations of racial and ethnic minorities. Partly of course, the absence of material was because African-Americans and other minorities were so widely excluded from significant roles in organizations.

In the 1960’s there was a genre that powerfully portrayed African-American experience, and some OB professors and students were reading these books. They included, for example, Claude Brown’s *Manchild in the Promised Land*, Eldridge Cleaver’s *Soul on Ice*, James Baldwin’s *Nobody Knows My Name* and *The Fire Next Time*, Martin Luther King, Jr.’s *Letter from the Birmingham Jail*, and *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*.

As a result of increased interest in what is called "diversity and multiculturalism" in the late 1980’s and 1990’s, there are today more and more books available. An excellent example, which frequently cites earlier literature, is:


I am eager to add to this bibliography any Organizational Behavior books and articles dealing with racial and ethnic minorities, particularly published prior to 1980. Please send citations to <pbvaill@stthomas.edu>.

Also I would like other suggestions for books and articles of the 1950’s, 1960’s and 1970’s that influenced the formation of the fields of Organizational Behavior and Development.