CONTENTS

1

2

Preface ix History and Definitions 1 Historical Views of Sympathy and Empathy 3 Sympathy 3 Empathy 5 Contemporary Views of Empathy 7 Problems with Contemporary Views Empathy: An Organizational Model Antecedents 14 Processes 15 Intrapersonal Outcomes Interpersonal Outcomes 19 Advantages of the Organizational Model A Multidimensional Approach to Empathy **Evolutionary Origins of Empathic Capacities 23** Empathy as an Innate Human Capacity 24 Empathy as a Mechanism for Altruism 24 Empathy as a Variety of Social Intelligence Evaluation of the Evolutionary Argument 33 Hoffman's Theory of Empathy: A Synthesis Modes of Empathic Arousal 37 Cognitive Capabilities: The Cognitive Sense of Others 41 The Affective-Cognitive Synthesis 42 Summary and Conclusion 45

3	Assessment	of Indi	vidual ?	Differences	in	Empathy	46
---	------------	---------	----------	-------------	----	----------------	----

Measures of Role Taking: Children 47

Perceptual Role Taking 48

Cognitive Role Taking 49

Affective Role Taking 50

Measures of Affective Outcomes: Children 51

Measures of Role Taking and Non-Affective Outcomes: Adults 52

Measures of Affective Empathy: Adults 55

Multidimensional Measures of Empathy: Adults 55

Sex Differences in Empathy-Related Constructs 58

4 Origins of Individual Differences in Empathy 62

Inherited Predispositions 62

Evidence from Twin Studies 63

The Role of Temperament 65

The Heritability of Role-Taking Tendencies 68

Environmental Influences 70

Affective Quality of Family Relations 70

Parenting and Discipline Techniques 74

Parents' Dispositional Empathy 78

Summary 80

5 Non-Affective Outcomes 82

Accuracy in the Perception of Others 83

Empathy Defined as Accuracy 83

Empathy as an Influence on Accuracy 85

Summary 91

Attributions Regarding Other People 93

Instructional Sets and Causal Attributions 94

Observer-Target Relationship and Attributions 96

Summary 99

Evaluative Judgments of Others 100

Liking for Individual Others 100

Tolerance for Outgroups 102

Summary 102

6 Affective Outcomes 104

Parallel and Reactive Responding 105

Causal Antecedents of Affective Responding 107

Three Approaches: Hoffman, Batson, and Eisenberg 108

Theoretical Propositions 110

Parallel Outcomes 111

Motor Mimicry 111
Role Taking 114
Individual Differences 116
Similarity between Observer and Target 116
Reactive Outcomes 118
Empathic Concern 118
Personal Distress 120
Evaluating the Theoretical Propositions 122
Summary 124
Altruism and Helping Behavior 126

7

Definitions: Helping and Altruism 127 Affective Outcomes and Helping 129 Reduction of Aversive Arousal 130 Negative State Relief 132 "True" Altruistic Motivation Non-Affective Outcomes and Helping Perspective Taking and Helping Observer/Target Similarity and Helping Individual Differences 146 Individual Differences and Helping Behavior Individual Differences and "True" Altruism Summary and Conclusion

8 Aggression and Antisocial Behavior 153

Theoretical Links between Aggression and Empathy Cognitive Links Affective Links 155 Non-Affective Outcomes and Aggression Affective Outcomes and Aggression Perspective Taking and Aggression Situational Factors: Observer-Target Similarity Individual Differences in Empathy and Aggression Role Taking Measures Affective Measures 167 Summary and Conclusion 172

9 Social Relationships and Social Behavior

Theoretical Links between Empathy and Social Behavior Davis' Mediational Model Bradbury and Fincham's Model The Domain of Relationship Behaviors

Affective Outcomes and Social Relationships 184
Non-Affective Outcomes and Social Relationships 186
Role Taking and Social Relationships 188
Dispositional Empathy and Social Relationships 189
Global Evaluation/Satisfaction 189
Considerate Social Style 191
Good Communication 195
Conflict and Conflict Management 197
Evaluation of the Models 199

10 Where We Have Been and Where We Should Go 201

Where We Have Been 202
Where We Should Go 204
Empathy-Related Processes 205
New Measurement Methods 209
Usefulness of the Organizational Model 215
Conclusion 221

References 222

Index 247