

Review of: "On the Meaning of Psychological Concepts: Is There Still a Need for Psychological Concepts in the Empirical Sciences?"

César Augusto García Avitia¹

¹ Universidad de Colima

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This article is relevant because it addresses an important question in the field of psychology, which is the role of psychological concepts in empirical sciences. The thesis that this article defends is that psychological concepts are necessary for understanding the psychological states of other beings, despite the fact that empirical psychology mostly focuses on physiological processes and external behavior. The author argues that without introspection, we would not be able to form concepts about other minds and psychological phenomena. The meaning of a psychological concept is neither its use for external behavior nor language use in context.

The article provides a clarification of what is meant by the terms "concept" and "introspection". The author defines a concept as a mental representation of a category or an idea that allows us to understand and communicate about the world. The author also explains that introspection is the ability to reflect on one's own mental states and processes, and to form concepts about them.

The text presents several arguments to defend the main thesis of the article, which is that psychological concepts are necessary for understanding the psychological states of other beings. Firstly, the author argues that if there are only physical processes and external behavior, then why are psychological concepts needed in the empirical sciences? Secondly, the author argues that introspection is necessary for forming concepts about other minds and psychological phenomena, arguing that without introspection, we would not be able to understand the psychological states of other people or animals. Finally, the author suggests that scientific research is based on what others can also experience and to some extent check whether the results of the research are correct. Therefore, empirical psychology should not ignore the importance of psychological concepts in understanding the psychological states of other beings.

The text reflections in this article belong to the discipline of philosophy of mind, which is concerned with understanding the nature of the mind, mental events, mental functions, and consciousness. Probably, a better title for the article should be "The Importance of Introspection and Psychological Concepts in Understanding Other Minds and Psychological Phenomena". Overall, this article is of current relevance.