

has probably proceeded too fast and has included the wide spread acceptance as scientific facts of a mass of pseudo-scientific assumptions and hypotheses. Sometimes these have been exploited at the peril of sound practice as well as of sound science. It is consequently no small part of the responsibility of Psychology in its new affiliations to emphasize the importance of scientific procedure and to insist on a just distinction between established facts and more or less probable guesses about human nature.

It would be gratuitous to emphasize here the fundamental importance of pure science and scientific research. It would be unfortunate, however, to leave the impression that they had been overlooked in the plans of the Institute of Human Relations and the Human Welfare Group, or that the interests of the Group were exclusively technological. The importance of fundamental experimental research in Psychology and Psychobiology was in fact fully recognized, and more or less adequate provision was made for investigations that have no immediate or obvious connection with any practical need. The great bulk of scientific research is necessarily of this kind. Such research furnishes the scientific background for a sound psychotechnology and the base line from which abnormal deviations of psychophysiological processes may be estimated and understood. It is also the condition for such reliable insight into normal human nature as we have or hope to obtain.

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