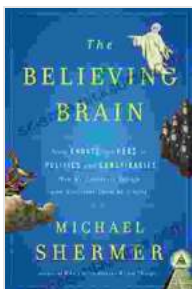


From Ghosts and Gods to Politics and Conspiracies: How We Construct Beliefs And

Beliefs are a fundamental part of human nature. They shape our thoughts, feelings, and actions, and they play a major role in our relationships with others. But where do beliefs come from? And how do we decide what to believe?

In this article, we'll explore the psychology of belief and examine the different factors that influence how we construct our beliefs. We'll also discuss the role of culture, society, and personal experience in shaping our beliefs, and we'll examine the ways in which beliefs can change over time.



The Believing Brain: From Ghosts and Gods to Politics and Conspiracies---How We Construct Beliefs and Reinforce Them as Truths by Michael Shermer

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 1551 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
X-Ray	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 401 pages



The Psychology of Belief

Beliefs are mental representations of the world that we hold to be true. They can be based on evidence, but they can also be based on faith, intuition, or personal experience. Beliefs are often deeply ingrained in our minds, and they can be difficult to change.

There are a number of factors that influence how we construct our beliefs. These include:

- **Culture:** Our culture shapes our beliefs about the world, about ourselves, and about others. We are exposed to our culture's beliefs from a young age, and these beliefs can have a profound impact on our own beliefs.
- **Society:** The society in which we live also influences our beliefs. The norms and values of our society can shape our beliefs about what is right and wrong, about what is possible and impossible, and about what is important.
- **Personal experience:** Our own personal experiences can also shape our beliefs. We learn from our experiences, and these experiences can lead us to change our beliefs about the world.

How Beliefs Change

Beliefs are not static. They can change over time, as we learn new information, have new experiences, and interact with new people. There are a number of factors that can lead to changes in belief, including:

- **New information:** When we are exposed to new information, we may change our beliefs to accommodate this new information.

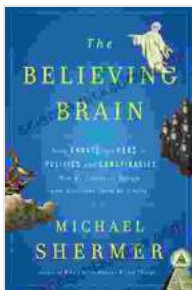
- **New experiences:** When we have new experiences, we may change our beliefs to accommodate these new experiences.
- **Social interaction:** When we interact with other people, we may change our beliefs to conform to the beliefs of our social group.

The Role of Beliefs in Our Lives

Beliefs play a major role in our lives. They shape our thoughts, feelings, and actions, and they play a role in our relationships with others. Beliefs can be a source of comfort and support, but they can also be a source of conflict and division.

It is important to be aware of the role that beliefs play in our lives and to be open to changing our beliefs when new information or new experiences warrant it.

Beliefs are a complex and fascinating part of human nature. They shape our thoughts, feelings, and actions, and they play a major role in our relationships with others. By understanding the psychology of belief, we can better understand ourselves and our interactions with others.



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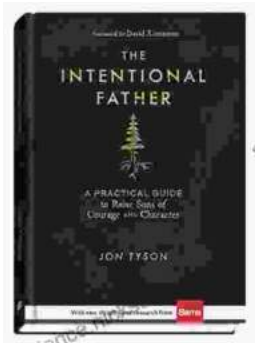
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