
Hope College
Abstract

David Myers was the John Dirk Werkman Professor of Psychology at Hope College in Holland, Michigan. He taught at Hope from 1967 to 2005 and was voted “Outstanding Professor” by students. He has published eight books, as well as numerous magazine and journal articles on ESP, pride, giftedness, and psychological research and Christian belief, to name a few. His scientific articles have appeared in two dozen journals, and he has served on the editorial boards of *the Journal of Experimental Social Psychology* and *the Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*. His most noted books include *Psychology*, America’s best-selling introductory psychology text in more than a decade; *Social Psychology; The Inflated Self: Human Illusions and the Biblical Call to Hope*, *Psychology Through the Eyes of Faith*, and *The Pursuit of Happiness: Who is Happy- and Why*. In addition to teaching and writing, Myers has been deeply involved in his college and community activities. He has chaired the Human Relations Commission for the City of Holland, helped found a thriving information assistance center for poverty-level families, and spoken to numerous community, collegiate, and religious groups.

The collection contains personal information, correspondence, news releases, articles, essays, lecture notes, oral histories, periodicals concerning many issues, advertisements, photographs and a videotape recording *Worth Publishers Presents Conversations with David G. Myers*. Topics include psychology, happiness, self-bias, Christianity, ESP, pornography, stature in politics, American social recession and economic depression, marriage, children, behaviors in group interaction, and racial attitudes.

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Photographs: 86 images (51 negatives, 1 minidisk in Box 1; 1 image in Box 2)
Processed by: Rebecca A. O’Shesky, September 1991
Craig Wright, December 1992
Courtney Frisinger, October 2002

Biography

David G. Myers was born in Seattle, Washington, in 1942. He received his B.A. (1964) from Whitworth College, and obtained an M.A. (1966) and Ph.D. (1967) from the University of Iowa.

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**Scope and Content**

Collection contains personal information, correspondence, news releases, articles, essays, lecture notes, oral histories, periodicals concerning many issues, advertisements, and photographs. Topics include psychology, happiness, self-bias, Christianity, ESP, pornography, stature in politics, American social recession and economic depression, marriage, children, behaviors in group interaction, and racial attitudes.

The collection is organized alphabetically by topic.

**Container List**

**Box 1**

Articles and Essays written by David Myers on General Topics, 1998-2001

- “Wanting in an Age of Plenty,” 2000
- “Fight Society’s Ills Through Marriage,” 2000
- “Do We Fear the Right Things,” 2001
- “Why Care Who Wins,” 2001

Articles and Essays written by David Myers on Happiness, 1978-2004

- “Let’s Cut the Poortalk,” 1978
- “Poortalk,” 1979
- “Lessons from Hope’s Defeat,” 1984
- “Here’s How to Get Much More Satisfaction at Work…and Play,” 1992-1993
- “The Secret to Happiness, 2004
- “Well-Being, Who is Happy, and Why,” n.d.
- “Older, Wiser, and Happier?” n.d.
- “Wealth isn’t path to happiness,” n.d.

Articles and Essays written by David Myers on Hearing Loss, 2003-2006


- “Stimulus Factors in Conformity,” 1968
- “The influence of an advantaged third person on collaboration in a prisoner’s dilemma game,” 1968
- “Note on Prejudice and Personality,” 1970
- “Prejudice and Perceived Belief Dissimilarity,” 1970
- “Information effects on cautious and risky-shift items,” 1970
- “Responsibility Diffusion and Drive Enhancement Effects on Risky Shift,” 1970
- “Discussion arguments, information about others’ responses, and risky shift,”
1971
“Enhancement of Dominant Risk Tendencies in Group Discussion,” 1972
“Is Risky Shift Due to Disproportionate Influence by Extreme Group Members?” 1972
“The Polarizing Effect of Group Discussion,” 1975
“Group-Induced Polarization of Attitudes and Behavior,” 1978
“Polarizing Effects of Social Comparison,” 1978
“Lessons Learned En Route from Risky Shift to Group Polarization,” 1987
“Grant Application on Group Discussion,” 1970

Biographical, 1976-ongoing

Books
The Human Connection, 1984
Inflation, Poor Talk, and the Gospel, n.d.
Inside Out: Introduction to Psychology, 2006 (DVD)
Social Psychology, n.d.
Psychology, second edition, n.d.
Psychology, fifth edition, with promotional CD-ROM, n.d.
Psychology, sixth edition, 2001
Psychology Reader, 2000

Lecture Notes
Lecture One: Religious and Scientific Explanation of Persons, 1976
Lecture Two: Action and Attitude, 1977
Lecture Three: The Mystery of Freedom, 1977

Oral Histories, Dr. David Myers
Oral History, 2007
“Pursuit of Happiness,” 2007

Box 2

Periodicals
Concerning David Myers, 1972-2011, n.d.
Concerning Stature in Politics, 1992
Concerning Children, 1981-1996
Personnel File (RESTRICTED)
Photograph, Cornell University, 2005 (1 image)
Press releases and news clippings, 1969-[ongoing]
Racial Attitudes, questionnaire and article, 1970
Videotape, Worth Publishers Presents Conversations with David G. Myers, 1986 (2:20)