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# The Psychology Of Safety Handbook





## Synopsis

You cannot improve your organization's safety performance to enviable levels without addressing human behavior and attitude effectively. The only comprehensive reference on the psychology of the human dynamics of safety, The Psychology of Safety Handbook shows you how to apply psychology to improve safety and health in your organization. Dr. Geller provides theory, procedures, and tools to guide your organization's long-term continuous improvement. Based on Dr. Geller's bestselling The Psychology of Safety, this new and expanded Handbook gives you everything you need to decrease the frequency and severity of accidental injuries in your organization. He covers all areas of psychology directly relevant to understanding and influencing safety-related behaviors. Engineering interventions and government policy have made their mark on injury reduction. Now it is time to work with the human dynamics of injury prevention. The cause of most injuries can be attributed to at-risk behavior or insufficient safe behavior. The Psychology of Safety Handbook not only teaches principles and practical procedures for improving safety-related behaviors, but also illustrates how to increase people's willingness to use these techniques to create a Total Safety Culture. For more than three decades, Professor E. Scott Geller has taught and conducted research as a faculty member of Virginia Tech's Department of Psychology. In this capacity he has authored more than 250 research articles and over 50 books or chapters addressing the development and evaluation of behavior-change interventions to improve quality of life. He has authored seven books on managing behaviors and attitudes for occupational health and safety, including The Psychology of Safety and Working Safe. Dr. Geller is Senior Partner of Safety Performance Solutions, a leading training and consulting firm helping companies empower their employees to achieve a Total Safety Culture. He has been awarded Fellow status by the American Psychological Association, the American Psychological Society, and the World Academy of Productivity and Quality. Moreover, Scott Geller has been honored with three university-wide teaching awards - every one offered by Virginia Tech.

# **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

The focus of The Psychology of Safety Handbook is improving safety performance through psychology and methods of applied behavior analysis. Dr. Geller published the Psychology of Safety in 1996, and this Handbook is an extensive revision of that book. The Handbook presents new approaches to improving safety performance based on research in applied behavior analysis. These approaches can enhance traditional approaches to workplace safety, or even replace many of the safety program traditions that are commonly ineffective. Dr. Geller presents academic information in an entertaining and easy-to-read manner. He reviews ten paradigm shifts needed in safety including shifting from government regulation to corporate responsibility, from failure-oriented to achievement oriented mindsets, and from top-down control to bottom-up involvement. The book covers basic principles of behavioral safety, principles based on years of research as well as "real world" experience. Relevant examples, illustrations, and brief case studies are provided for the reader. Some of the principles include the primacy of behavior, reducing at-risk behaviors, and methods of learning and conditioning. The author goes into great detail explaining human barriers to safety and effective intervention methods. ABC Analysis is presented as a tool to analyze safety related behaviors, and various intervention methods are described in detail. There are great chapters on intervening as a behavior-change agent (Safety coaching) and intervening with supportive conversation. There is also a great section about "Actively Caring," which is a concept coined by the author and refers to planned and purposeful behavior directed at improving safety performance.

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