Call for Papers

The BFSA Journal has predominately published theoretical and philosophical papers—and the current issue follows this pattern. While such articles can be valuable, provocative, and stimulating, the overall impact of the journal seems to be compromised by its relative paucity of data-oriented articles. The imbalance is further accentuated by the dual foci of the journal: behaviorism and social action, both of which stress operationalization and intervention, and therefore should lead to empirical and descriptive reports. Data-based articles naturally complement the theoretical/philosophical ones, and are necessary if the journal is to evolve into a viable, meaningful, and more influential publication.

Therefore, the BFSA Journal actively encourages the following types of submissions:

1. Articles: These can be theoretical, philosophical, empirical, or descriptive. Examples of “descriptive” manuscripts include reports of (a) actual intervention attempts, preferably with some data; (b) programs which train graduate, professional, or paraprofessional students to be change agents; (c) alternative communities or progressive social systems (e.g., Operant Communes, programs in socialist countries, innovative programs within traditional structures).

   Manuscripts submitted as “articles” will be sent out to two Consulting Editors for blind review. These manuscripts should be submitted in triplicate and should follow APA guidelines, particularly with respect to the abstract and references.

2. Comments and News: Short communications (1500 words or less) which are of interest to behaviorists concerned with social change will be published in this section. Many of us “do little things” or “have (or hear) good ideas” which, if shared, could be implemented or expanded upon by others. Examples might include (a) Approaches in teaching, consultation, or therapy that highlight social change issues — particularly when the issue could easily be ignored (e.g., when discussing “nature-nurture” and IQ in my introductory personality class, I detail the assertions of the eugenics and IQ testing movement in the early 1900’s and its tragic impact—the discriminatory, restrictive Johnson-Lodge Immigration Act of 1924). References should be provided in order to facilitate further investigation by the reader. (b) Successful as well as unsuccessful attempts to make small but progressive changes in the “system”, or to even circumvent it (anonymity guaranteed, if requested!). (c) Important news items of interest to BFSAJ readers which are unlikely to receive wide dissemination, e.g., local conferences, political events, etc.

   The content of this section will be limited only by the creativity and experiences of, and very importantly, involvement (i.e., number of submissions) by, the readers of the journal. Comments and News should be submitted in duplicate, and will not ordinarily be reviewed.

   Send all manuscripts and editorial correspondence to:
   Richard F. Rakos, Editor
   BFSA Journal
   Department of Psychology
   Cleveland State University
   Cleveland, OH 44115

   Finally, in an effort to broaden the base of the BFSA Journal, we have restructured the editorial board to include behaviorists who have diverse interests and specialties. Clinicians, applied behavior analysts, behavioral-community psychologists, experimental behavior analysts, social psychologists, and sociologists are all represented. The involvement of these individuals will undoubtedly strengthen the journal.

Erratum

Correction for the Volume 4, Number 1, 1983 issue of the Behaviorists for Social Action Journal:

In the article “Toward a United Front: A Class Analysis of Social and Political Action” by Jerry Ulman, several words were omitted from the last sentence on page 20 and the first one on page 21. The sentences should read: “Finally, the elimination of alienation is predicted on the abolition of the private ownership of the major means of production. The following is an attempt to translate a feature of Marx’s theory of alienation into behavioral terms and to show how this behavioral re-conceptualization may be applied in understanding alienated labor in the workplace, with SIDOR serving as an illustration.”