THE BEHAVIORAL JUNKIE

STEVEN C. HAYES

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT GREENSBORO

I've met B. F. Skinner,
And Day is my friend.
And sometime I wonder,
Just where it will end.

I've got drunk with Azrin,¹
And I know his wife.
And Michael and Baer
Are my heroes for life.

I call Kazdin "Alan",
And Risley is "Todd".
Dave Barlow's "my mentor"
And who thinks it odd?

I've read all my JABAs
From cover to cover;
A JEAB subscription
I gave to my mother.

There's *BRAT* and *BT*
and *Behaviorism*;
Now MABA's producing
A subscribeptive schism.

I've joined up with "Say ab",
And AABT . . .
Division Two-Five . . .
And Twelve (Section III) . . .

And the Midwestern Group
For Behavior Analysis
(Just *thinking* of dues
Gives my right hand paralysis).

And then the conventions,
"Just five times a year".
Go broke in December,
(Now that's Christmas cheer).

And just when you think
You've recovered in May,
There's one in Chicago
And one in L.A.

The papers; the parties;
The dry presentations!
What makes it the worst
Is it's all my creation.

I'm stoned out by "biggies"²
And "facts" and "prediction".
In a manner of speaking
It's "Psycho-addiction."

It's latched on my back—
The ambitious monkey.
No treatment or cure,
For the Behavioral Junkie³.

REVIEWER'S⁴ COMMENTS

I reviewed this paper carefully,
To keep it in or keep it out?
After some deliberation,
I continue to have doubt.

Reliability, reversal, and
Strong effects are missing.
If we seek to publish this,
Our readers will be hissing.

Replication, cost-effectiveness,
And validation are omitted.
No visual inspection or fancy math curves,
To the data have been fitted.

"Where are the data?" our colleagues will ask,
And write nasty editorial prose.
More poems will result and plague reviewers
Who will begin to rip their clothes.

On the other hand, this is unique
And engenders reader spirit:
So why not publish it any way,
So all can read and hear it.

I recommend we publish this,
With at least one stipulation.
That the author promise not to consider,
A subsequent replication.⁵

EDITOR'S NOTES

¹N. H. Azrin might dispute this observation of his behavior.

²Peculiar mid-1970s student term for those who have achieved some visibility in the field of behavior modification.

³On the contrary, data indicate that aversive consequences are sometimes successful and these may be applied by corresponding directly with the author or the Chairperson of his department.

⁴Noted critic and dilettante, A. E. Kazdin.

⁵This promise has been received from the author.

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