

Furnham, Adrian. The new psychology of money. Routledge, 2014. 321p bibl index ISBN 9781848721784, \$155.00; ISBN 9781848721791 pbk, \$53.95; ISBN 9780203506011 ebook, contact publisher for price

This book by University College London psychologist Furnham (and implicitly his mentor, the late Michael Argyle) is an updated version from the original 1998 edition. The overarching question has to be: Why an update? Billed as an analysis of our psychological relationship to money in all its forms, the book is disappointingly disorganized, and the old saw “everything but the kitchen sink” best describes the contents. In 12 chapters consisting of continuity-stopping, attention-grabbing bolding, 27 tables (some of which extend to several pages), over 100 boxed inserts that for the most part paraphrase others’ contributions, and a plethora of bullet points, the author covers—seemingly at random—the psychology of money, the link between money and happiness, money beliefs and behaviors, money and mental health, money within the family and in the workplace, plus a chapter on behavioral economics. Unfortunately, the author confuses money with income, wealth, and credit, among many other economic sins. The biggest sin? The psychological impact of an aspect of daily life we generally take for granted is a great topic, and the book could have been a terrific addition to the literature. Summing Up: Not recommended.