

BOOK REVIEW

By Dr. Henry Lieberman

THE EMOTION ORGANON
ISBN 979-885-1933-400

Why does so much of technology leave us in an emotional state of such frustration? What can we do about it? You'll find original and wide-ranging answers to these questions in this book. Aristotle and Francis Bacon both used the word "Organon" to present their philosophy of knowledge, which led to the scientific method. But they ignored the very important emotional aspects of human life. That ignorance, which continues today in interface design that treats users callously, provably affecting our mental and physical health. The human science, encompassing biology, psychology and beyond, is documented at length here. Good or bad interactions "rub off" on users, so new developments in AI and other fields provide an unprecedented opportunity to get it right this time. Mason's "Emotion Organon" lights the way towards more compassionate design of technology and a better understanding of ourselves. I guarantee you'll feel better for having read it.

April 12, 2024



Henry Lieberman
Research Scientist
Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory
MIT
henry@csail.mit.edu