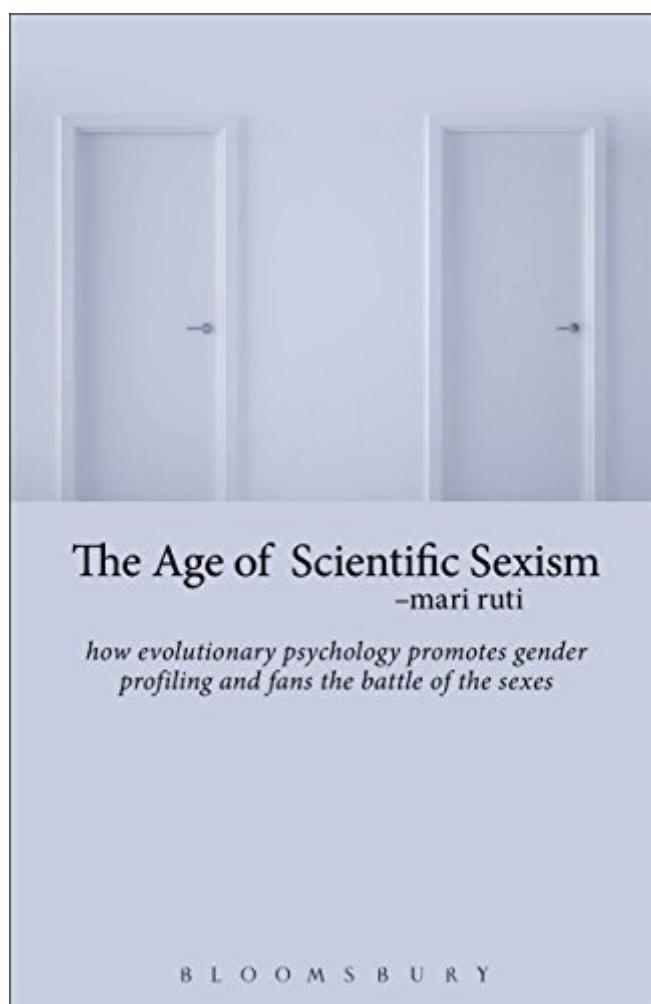


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The Age Of Scientific Sexism: How Evolutionary Psychology Promotes Gender Profiling And Fans The Battle Of The Sexes



Synopsis

We trust our sciences to operate on a plane of objectivity and fact in a world of subjectivity and cultural ideologies, but should we? In *The Age of Scientific Sexism*, philosopher Mari Ruti offers a sharp critique of the gender profiling tendencies of evolutionary psychology, untangling the insidious threads of various gender mythologies that have infiltrated—or perhaps even define—this faux-science. Selling stereotypes as scientific facts, evolutionary psychology continually brings retrograde models of sexuality into mainstream culture: it insists that men and women live in two completely different psychological, emotional, and sexual universes, and that they will consequently always be locked in a vicious battle of the sexes. Among these regressive arguments is the assumption that men's sexuality is urgent and indiscriminate, whereas women are "naturally"?? reluctant, reticent, and choosy—a concept constructed to justify masculine behavior, such as cheating, that women have historically found painful. On its most basic level, *The Age of Scientific Sexism* explores our impulse to "explain"?? romantic behavior through science: in the increasingly egalitarian gender landscape of our society, why are we so eager to embrace the rampant gender profiling that evolutionary psychology promotes? Perhaps these simplistic gender caricatures owe their popularity, at least in part, to our overly pragmatic society pragmatic society, which encourages us to search for easy answers to complex questions.

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Customer Reviews

This is a brilliant, must-read book for anyone interested in the relations between men and women (and men and men, and women and women) both as they are portrayed by "scientific minds" whose books reach the bestseller list by trading in outdated and sexist tropes about the differences between men and women (even when their own studies say that men and women "in the search for love and sex" "are more alike than dissimilar"); and as Mari Ruti, a brilliant thinker, has observed it in her studies and her life. I am pushing this book on everyone I meet. For those who hate dry, academic takes, let me assure you that this book is hilarious and gripping, like the best kind of magazine article, while also being incredibly analytical and intelligent. It is making me see the world more clearly.

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