

**Ralph L. Rosnow, Ph.D.**  
**Thaddeus Bolton Professor Emeritus, Temple University**



A thread running through much of my research and writing is what pragmatist philosopher C. S. Peirce (1877) called the fixation of belief, but which I have viewed in a more granular sense from the perspective of some of the ways by which certain assumptions, convictions, actions, generalizations, and inferences are defended or justified. I have tried to be sensitive to the given that context matters, whether the content has to do with attitude formation; the psychology of rumor and gossip; the idea of levels of interpersonal acumen; the problem of biases and artifacts when people study people; methodological and ethical concerns that are sometimes in conflict; and the utility and limitations of specific empirical and data-analytic procedures. I have long been interested in contextualism and William J. McGuire's seminal work on perspectivism. Along with my old friend and longtime colleague, Bob Rosenthal, I have encouraged exploratory data analysis, awareness of the usefulness of contrasts, and the reporting and interpretation of multiple effect-size indicators insofar as each index is limited in some way.

**Academic Career:**

1963-67      Assistant Professor of Communication Research, Boston University  
1967-70      Associate Professor of Psychology, Temple University  
1970-2001    Professor of Psychology, Temple University  
1982-2001    Thaddeus Bolton Professor, Temple University (retired Dec. 2001)  
Since 2002    Bolton Professor Emeritus, Temple University

**Visiting Positions:**

1973            Visiting Professor, London School of Economics & Political Science  
1974            Visiting Professor, Harvard University Psychology Dept. (teaching appt.)  
1988-89        Visiting Professor, Harvard University Psychology Dept. (teaching appt.)

**Degrees in Psychology:**

1953-57        University of Maryland, B.S. 1957  
1957-58        George Washington University, M.A. 1958  
1960-62        American University, Washington, DC, Ph.D. 1962

**Et cetera:**

Previously on boards of journals and encyclopedias; Coeditor with Robert E. Lana of Oxford U. Press 1970s book series, titled *Reconstruction of Society*; member and/or chair of professional committees; NIMH and NSF research grants; basic and applied research and consulting; Fellow since 1970: AAAS and APA (Divisions 1, 5, 8, & 24); Charter Fellow: APS; Fellow: SESP and others; Festschrift edited by Donald Hantula (ISBN: 978-1-138-00423-8); USAR (Lt. 1958-66).

**Books:**

Rosnow, R. L., & Robinson, E. J. (Eds.) (1967). *Experiments in Persuasion*. Academic Press.

Rosenthal, R., & Rosnow, R. L. (Eds.) (1969). *Artifact in Behavioral Research*. Academic Press.

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Rosenthal, R., & Rosnow, R. L. (2009). *Artifacts in Behavioral Research* (Single volume reissue of three books: *Artifact in Behavioral Research*, *The Volunteer Subject*, and *Experimenter Effects in Behavioral Research*). Oxford University Press.

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