This latest volume in the Attention and Performance series focuses on two of the fastest moving research areas in cognitive and affective neuroscience — decision making and emotional processing. This book investigates the psychological and neural systems underlying decision making, and the relationship with reward, affect, and learning. In addition, it considers neurodevelopmental and clinical aspects of these issues, for example the role of decision making and reward in drug addiction. It also looks at the applied aspects of this knowledge to other disciplines, including the growing field of Neuroeconomics. After an introductory chapter, the book is arranged according to the following themes: psychological processes underlying decision-making; neural systems of decision-making; neural systems of emotion, reward and learning, and neurodevelopmental and clinical aspects.

The Medical Market

Anne Digby

in The Evolution of British General Practice, 1850–1948

This chapter discusses the financial aspects of practising medicine in the 19th century. General practitioners as a class appear to have been reluctant to adopt more efficient financial management in their practices. The cultural ethos doctors themselves had helped to foster — in attempting to distance themselves from ‘trade’ and therefore try to establish themselves as professionals — had involved separating their services from immediate payment, which itself then contributed to patients' belated recompense of their doctors. During the mid-19th
century easier conditions in the medical market seem likely to have enabled practitioners to give a higher priority to the clinical, compared to the economic, aspects of their practice. But during the late 19th century an unregulated growth of medical graduates, and a continued competitive struggle with other suppliers of health care, made it harder for GPs to make a medical living.

Why Only Humans Weep
Ad Vingerhoets

Published in print: 2013 Published Online: May 2013
Item type: book

This book addresses the question why humans are the only animal species that produce emotional tears. The book brings together relevant theories and research from very different disciplines varying from clinical psychiatry to evolutionary biology and even the neurosciences and anthropology. Specific attention is devoted to the evolutionary origins of crying, the (neuro)biological aspects, antecedents, intra- and interpersonal differences, individual and gender differences in crying, cultural and art historical aspects, as well as the relation between crying and health. Several popular myths concerning this topic are disproved, while new challenging hypotheses are put forth.