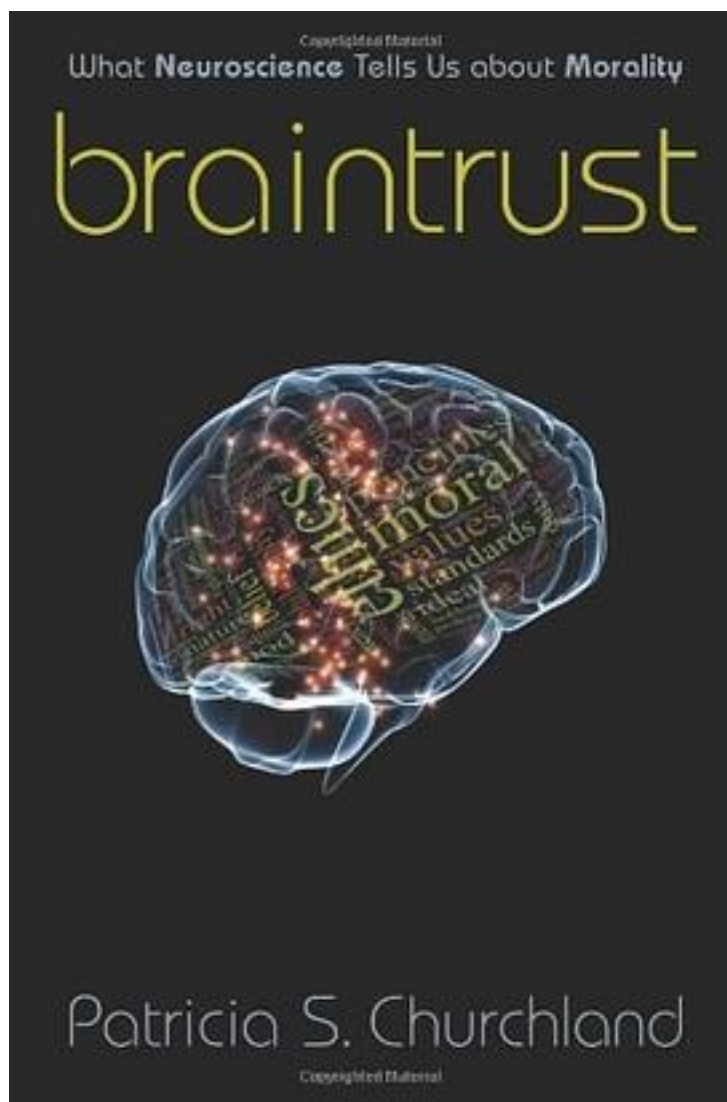


Braintrust



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著者:Patricia S. Churchland

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What is morality? Where does it come from? And why do most of us heed its call most of the time? In "Braintrust", neurophilosophy pioneer Patricia Churchland argues that morality originates in the biology of the brain. She describes the 'neurobiological platform of bonding' that, modified by evolutionary pressures and cultural values, has led to human styles of moral behavior. The result is a provocative genealogy of morals that asks us to reevaluate the priority given to religion, absolute rules, and pure reason in accounting for the basis of morality. Moral values, Churchland argues, are rooted in a behavior common to all mammals--the caring for offspring. The evolved structure, processes, and chemistry of the brain incline humans to strive not only for self-preservation but for the well-being of allied selves - first offspring, then mates, kin, and so on, in wider and wider 'caring' circles. Separation and exclusion cause pain, and the company of loved ones causes pleasure; responding to feelings of social pain and pleasure, brains adjust their circuitry to local customs. In this way, caring is apportioned, conscience molded, and moral intuitions instilled. A key part of the story is oxytocin, an ancient body-and-brain molecule that, by decreasing the stress response, allows humans to develop the trust in one another necessary for the development of close-knit ties, social institutions, and morality. A major new account of what really makes us moral, "Braintrust" challenges us to reconsider the origins of some of our most cherished values.

作者介绍:

帕特里夏·S.丘奇兰德，加利福尼亚大学圣地亚哥分校荣休哲学教授，以及索尔克研究所(Salk Institute)的兼职教授，其在神经哲学与心智哲学方面贡献卓著。她的书包括《脑智》(Brain-Wise)、《神经哲学》(Neurophilosophy)等。1991年，她荣获麦克·阿瑟奖。

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标签

哲学

心理学

neuroscience

认知科学

脑神经科学

神经科学

认知神经科学

英文原版

评论

丘奶奶科普

I was forced to read this book and I have 0 interest in neuroscience/philosophy... I was surprisingly able to maintain my own stand against reductionism, ended up agreeing with the author on many points...Churchland is not a reductionist in a strict sense at all

chs 3 & 6 recommended

信任与合作的神经基础。

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书评

对人类心灵问题的哲学研究在20世纪最后的20余年中十分兴盛。哲学研究从对语言的关注逐步转向了更深层次的对心灵的关注。现代神经科学、生物学、数学、语言学、计算机科学、认知科学和人类学的形成和发展，为揭开人类心灵之谜提供了多方位的、更细致的视角，也为哲学家深入人类...

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