**Original Bibliographic Sources for Theory on**

**the Development of Organized Systems**

What follows is an extensive, though by no means comprehensive, bibliography of theory related to the development of organized systems at six differentiated levels:

**individual level**

**dyadic or interpersonal level**

**group level**

**organizational level**

**community level**

**cultural level**

The majority of references listed are books that are easily accessible from any one of Cleveland's three major libraries: Cleveland Public Library, Cleveland State University Library, and Case Western Reserve University's Freiberger Library.

These sources cover a wide range of disciplines. They tend to focus more on developmental processes over time than on general information or typologies. Collectively they represent a variety of analytical frameworks; however, there is a strong emphasis on Gestalt and systems theory orientations.

**Relevant journals and periodicals**:

Academy of Management Review

Administrative Science Quarterly

American Sociological Review

Behavioral Science: Journal of the Society for

General Systems Research

Harvard Business Review

Human Development

Human Organization

Industrial Management Review

Journal of Applied Psychology

Journal of Applied Behavioral Sciences

Organizational Dynamics

Psychological Review

**General Systems Theory: Multi-Level**

General systems theory references which are specific to one of the six levels of organized systems to follow are listed in those sections. The references below are multi-level and general in nature. These represent the seminal works in general systems theory.

Laszio, Ervin. The Systems View of the World. NY: Braziller, 1972.

-----. The Relevance of General Systems Theory. NY: Braziller,

-----. The World System. NY: Braziller,

All of Laszio's books are nontechnical and readable.

Miller, J. G. Living Systems. NY: McGraw Hill, 1978.

Most comprehensive presentation of systems theory as applied to living organisms. Superb charts and definitions. 1,000 + pages.

Sutherland, John. A General Systems Philosophy for the Social and Behavioral Sciences.

NY: Braziller,

Von Bertalanffy, Ludwig. General Systems Theory. NY: Braziller,

-----. Perspectives on General Systems Theory. NY: Braziller,

-----. Robots, Men and Minds. NY: Braziller,

Ludwig Von Bertalanffy is considered the earliest proponent of general systems theory, and is largely responsible for its development as a multidisciplinary form of analysis. His books are also nontechnical and very readable.

Weinberg, Gerald. An Introduction to General Systems Theory. NY: John Wiley and Sons, 1975.

**INDIVIDUAL LEVEL**

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**\*** Kohler, Wolfgang. Gestalt Psychology. NY: The American Library, 1947.

Wertheimer, Max. Productive Thinking.

**\*** These three seminal works represent the beginnings of Gestalt psychology as it was developed to explain perception and cognitive processes of human development. These thinkers and scientists were heavily influenced by the philosophy of Emmanuel Kant. Much of what is original to them concerns the organization of wholes and emerges from experimental work in the area of perception.

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Perls, Fritz S. Ego, Hunger and Aggression. NY: Vintage Books, 1969.

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This is a major text for the understanding of applied Gestalt psychology. Goodman's theoretical section on Gestalt applied to individual psychological development is superb.

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The Baltes and Schaie book and article provide a thorough and recent description of the literature in life-span developmental psychology.

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I. Gestalt references

II. Other sources: Systems approach

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III. Sources for organization theory

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