

Tore Nordenstam, "[Om subjektivismen i hermeneutiken](#)", Nordisk psykologi, Vol. 29, No. 2, 1977, pp. 101-109.

## SUMMARY

The hermeneutic traditions in psychology and sociology have been criticized for being subjectivistic, individualistic and ahistorical. Criticism on such lines is justified when directed to contemporary writers like A. Maslow, but it would be a mistake to treat the hermeneutic tradition as an undifferentiated whole. The classical writings of Wilhelm Dilthey, for instance, display an acute awareness of the importance of the historical and social setting for the human studies. Dilthey attributed a central role to psychology and hermeneutics in his attempts to construct new foundations for the human sciences. But he did not conceive of psychology and hermeneutics as enterprises based on introspection or intuition. The subjectivistic tendency in the hermeneutic tradition came later. The richness of Dilthey's work is one of the reasons for going back to his classical contributions to the philosophy of the human sciences.