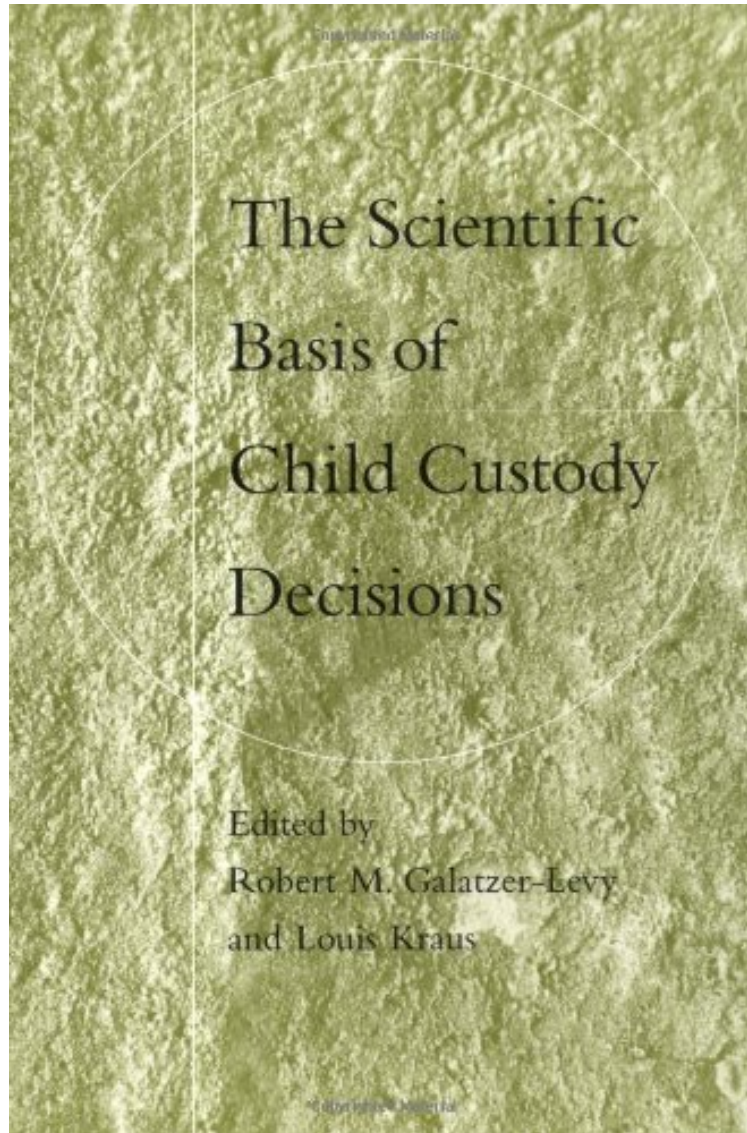


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considering context and individual dyads rather than relying on broad-based conclusions generated from any particular study. They have covered a breadth of topics, beginning with legal and ethical issues, relevant child development and adjustment issues, and psychological testing. Among other topics included are "the remarriage family," adopted children, medically ill children, and children of gay and lesbian parents. This work can be a useful reference for clinicians working with children of divorce, but for those performing custody evaluations it should be required reading. 8 of 24 people found the following review helpful. The unscientific basis of Child Custody Decisions By Wiebe Kunst After carefully studying this book - and hundreds of similar books and journal articles - my verdict is simply that there isn't ANY scientific basis for why mental health professionals should offer their opinion in court regarding custody arrangements. The book itself is the best evidence for the lack of a scientific - and hence ethical - basis for this kind of work, and it's obvious after reading this book that most of the authors just stubbornly clung to the idea that their education, credentials and clinical intuition give them privileged access to the minds and motivations of others. This book should be - critically - read by every lawyer and judge dealing with custody cases to prevent more havoc these "emperors without clothes" are wrecking in the lives of thousands of lives.

Making the Best Child Custody Decision. To truly address the child's best interest, decisions awarding custody should be based on the best possible information. In this essential book, leading child development researchers, legal professionals, and clinicians analyze the legal status of empirical studies, the role of psychological testing, and the evaluation and proper use of scientific evidence. The authors present current research on topics including evaluating and using child witnesses, the problems of stepfamilies, handling sexual abuse allegations, the impact of divorce on infants and very young children, and the special custody issues raised by medically ill children and adolescents. Lawyers, judges, custody evaluators, social workers, psychologists, policymakers, and parents can use this book to understand the tangle of information and concepts involved in child custody decisions.

From the Back Cover Making the Best Child Custody Decision. To truly address the child's best interest, decisions awarding custody should be based on the best possible information. In this essential book, leading child development researchers, legal professionals, and clinicians analyze the legal status of empirical studies, the role of psychological testing, and the evaluation and proper use of scientific evidence. The authors present current research on topics including evaluating and using child witnesses, the problems of stepfamilies, handling sexual abuse allegations, the impact of divorce on infants and very young children, and the special custody issues raised by medically ill children and adolescents. Lawyers, judges, custody evaluators, social workers, psychologists, policymakers, and parents can use this book to understand the tangle of information and concepts involved in child custody decisions. **About the Author** DR. ROBERT M. GALATZER-LEVY, a child and adolescent psychiatrist and psychoanalyst on the faculties of the Chicago Institute for Psychoanalysis and the University of Chicago, has extensive experience as an expert witness and consultant to courts, attorneys, and families on child custody issues. DR. LOUIS KRAUS currently serves as Division Head of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry for Evanston Northwestern Health Care. He has extensive expertise in educational, forensic, and child custody evaluations.