



Decision Making: Towards an Evolutionary Theory of Human Action

By Mauro Maldonato

Sussex Academic Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Decision Making: Towards an Evolutionary Theory of Human Action, Mauro Maldonato, Since the dawn of time human beings have had to make decisions. Wise or foolish, thoughtful or instinctive, altruistic or selfish, decision-making - from the most simple to the most complex - enables people to confront and overcome constant environmental challenges. Yet, despite the momentousness of decision-making in adaptability terms, men and women ignore the actual process that takes place in their minds when, for example, they invest in the stock market, buy a car, trust a person they just met, or simply decide to go to the movies. While some decisions are taken in a few seconds (when we act impulsively without time to evaluate the process), other decisions require considerable cognitive effort and accurate cost-benefit analysis. But is it only the optimal decision that deserves to be called rational? If this is the case, how then can we explain the wisdom of our instincts, of our emotions, of our 'sixth sense'? Moreover, what is the role of subjectivity, free will, desire, culture in the decision-making process? Research on decision-making has had a long and controversial history. The idea...



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