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[www.psychomedia.it/rapaport-klein/june2023.htm](http://www.psychomedia.it/rapaport-klein/june2023.htm)

June 10, 2023, 2.30 pm

## **Introduction to Everett Waters**

*Doris Silverman*

I first found Everett's name in the 1970s because I was interested in the attachment system. He is an early initiator of this significant experimental work. In fact, he was one of the founders of empirical work on attachment. We can think of him as a father of the attachment system. He has worked on papers with the major figures in the field. He has produced an amazing amount of systematic investigation.

I got to know Everett as a member of the *Rapaport-Klein Study Group*. He is often quiet and unassuming, speaking up when he has something relevant to say. He is easy to engage with and to assist you when necessary. He is invariably helpful.

Engaging with his CV is another matter. I found it markedly overwhelming. The acknowledgement of his startlingly significant mind began as an undergraduate from *Johns Hopkins University* where he received the Selective Honors Graduate in the Department of Psychology. He received his doctorate of Child Development from the *University of Minnesota*. He quickly rose to full professor at the *University of Stonybrook*. It was not surprising.

He sponsored many student dissertations and hosted post-doctoral students from other countries. What a lucky find he was for *Stonybrook*. Because he is so knowledgeable, he has offered courses in a variety of subjects. Here's a sample: Philosophy of Science for Psychology, Social Development, Social Attachment, Psychometric Methods and Test Construction, Cognitive Experiential Self Theory, Women in Bad Relationships, Advanced Personality Theory, Advanced Statistics, Social Development, and more.

It is relevant to remark that he has received the honor of Teacher of the year twice from the Department of Psychology. He has received other honors as well but, most important, he received the *Bowlby-Ainsworth Award* for Contributions to Attachment Study, a well-deserved honor.

He has published over 100 articles and, in addition, has articles in many books and monographs. He has also received grants for his work including from NIMH, not an easy institution to receive a grant. He participated on editorial boards too many to mention. It is hard to imagine how he has time for all this extensive work.

I have just provided an indication of his scholarly pursuits.

What I want to stress now is how I and others think about Everett. He has a unique mind. He is a non-conformist, able to think outside the box. And emerge with original ideas. He has a lucid and creative mind, generating innovation. Beside this, he is a generous man, helping friends and colleagues with his time and energies. Altogether, a lovely man whom I am happy to introduce.