

**Zeitschrift:** Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand  
**Herausgeber:** Swiss Society of New Zealand  
**Band:** 34 (1971)  
**Heft:** [4]  
  
**Artikel:** Objective thinking  
**Autor:** [s.n.]  
**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-942264>

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# Objective Thinking

Objective thinking means the recognition that other people have emotions which colour their thinking, just as our own emotions colour ours. In our mental life, in our social estimates and in our personal development, it is necessary to know the facts of the case.

We all tend to select, generally without set purpose, what we feel will back up our ideas. Few things are more difficult than to get beyond our bias, whatever that may be. There is a tendency to pick out those things which seem to us to support our ideas, and what comes to us with interest and emotions is best remembered.

The solution, it would seem, is an increase in the quality and objective of our thinking, coupled with greater regard for men and women as persons. Personal relationships become a very important factor in our daily routine of living, for they cover much of our daily life and involve our thinking and outlook. In whatever field we toil, in whatever social environment we move, we are, in some measure influenced by others, and they in return are influenced by us. This two-way activity is often unconscious; but this fact reduces neither its reality nor its importance.

The duty of being a good neighbour implies not only goodwill, but also understanding. A lack of that wide outlook on life which is often associated with the practice of objective thinking, are partly responsible for the difficulties of neighbour relationships. We need to place the emphasis on facts. These, and not gossip, rumour, malice or wild imagination should guide our judgments. To know the truth should be our aim.

— Progress.