

The Self, Society, and Culture

Chapter 1 Lesson

2

UNDERSTANDING THE
SELF



Would you rather...?

Would you rather...

#1. Would you rather time travel back to the **past** or to the **future**?

Would you rather...

#2. Would you rather **give up bathing** for a month or **give up the internet** for a month?

Would you rather...

#3. Would you rather be influenced by your **mother** or your **father**?

Would you rather...

#4. Would you rather **not speak** for a year or **not hear** for a year?

Would you rather...

#5. Would you rather **be a kid** your whole life or **an adult** your whole life?

Would you rather...

#6. Would you rather have your browser history revealed before your **teacher** or **one of your parents**?

Would you rather...

#7. Would you rather live **without music** or **movies** for the rest of your life?

Would you rather...

#8. Would you rather always be 10 minutes late or always be 20 minutes early?

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What is the SELF?

- Self is always unique and has its own identity
- Self is self-constrained and independent
- Self is unitary in that is the center of all experiences and thoughts that run through a certain person
- Self is private



Social Constructionist Perspective

Argue that the self should not be seen as a static entity that stays constant through and through. Rather, *the self has to be seen as something that is in constant struggle with external reality, and is malleable in its dealings with society.*

Self is always in participation with social life and its dealing with society



THE SELF AND THE CULTURE

According to French Anthropologist Marcel Mauss, every self has two faces:

Moi refers to a person's sense of who he is, his body, and his basic identity; This is a person's basic identity.

Personne is composed of the social concepts of what it means to be who one is. It means to live in a particular institution, a particular family, a particular nationality, and how to behave given the expectation and influences from others. In other words, these are things within our environment and or experience that make up who we are.



Mead and Vygotsky

Human persons develop with the use of language acquisition and interaction with others. The way that we process information is normally a form of internal dialogue in our heads.

The cognitive and emotional development of a child is always a mimicry of how it is done in the social world, in the external reality where he is in.



Self in Families

The kind of family that we are born in and the resources available to us (human, spiritual, economic) will certainly affect us and the kind of development that we will have as we go through life.

Without a family, biologically, and sociologically, a person may not even survive or become a human person.



Gender and the Self

Gender is one of the loci of the self that is subject to alteration, change, and development.

Oftentimes, society forces us a particular onto us depending on our sex and/or gender.

