

Final Discussion Class

Discussion Question

Does a person have just one self?

- A. Yes, each of us is just one person
- B. Yes, if one is healthy. It is pathological to have multiple selves
- C. No, most people can choose to adopt different personas at different times
- D. No, in the course of life, people exhibit different personas in different contexts

2

Discussion Question

What is required to count a behavior of yours as a free action?

- A. The behavior must be due to processes within me
- B. The behavior must be due to deliberative processes within me
- C. The action must not be brought about by casual processes within or outside of me
- D. Other

3

How much do emotive/motivational states affect your decision making?

- A. What I decide is determined by my emotions and desires
- B. I have whatever emotions and desires I have, but I get to choose which to listen to
- C. I am a rational creature—I rise above emotions and make rational decisions
- D. Other

4

Discussion Question

If one's narrative about who one is is built on memories, can those memories be false? What happens to one's self if one discovers that important memories are false? Can one deliberately deceive oneself about who one is?

5

Discussion Question

It is 2100 and neuroscientists have developed a host of brain enhancements—components that can radically enhance our memory or alter our memory, speed up our thinking, keep our attention focused, etc. As soon as a new enhancement comes available, you rush in and get it. Is there a point in which you would cease to be you?

- A. Yes
- B. No

6

What happens to the self during psychedelic experiences?

- A. The self remains—it just has different experiences
- B. A different self arises
- C. The self retreats and experience just happens

7

What happens to the self in cases of split brains (patients in which the corpus callosum is disrupted so the two cerebral hemispheres don't directly communicate)?

- A. There remains just one self—associated with the part of the brain that controls (inner) speech
- B. The self divides into two or more selves that can sometimes disagree
- C.

8

Is seeing ourselves as individual selves always a good thing? Would downplaying our individuality sometimes be a good thing?

9
