

A Meditation on Research Methodology of Psychology:

Possible Ways for Making the three (I-, You- and Anybody-)

Psychologies Continuous and/or Discontinuous

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The theme of this paper is the clarification of various possible ways for making three psychologies --- that is, the psychologies of I-, You-, and Anybody- ----, continuous and/or discontinuous. The psychology dominating the present-day academic world is essentially the psychology of the other, consisting mainly of the “psychology of anybody”, supplemented by the “psychology of you”, while excluding and suppressing the “psychology of I”. Existentially as well as logically, however, each of the three psychologies has at least an equal potentiality for enriching the knowledge and wisdom of mankind for understanding and explaining the mysteries of human psyche. The present-day situation being dominated by the “psychology of the other” has been sketched out. The strangeness of this dominance is vividly drawn out in its logical outcome that while the specialists in psychology may know others better than non-specialists do, they know themselves no better. The discontinuity between three psychologies is based upon the existentially grave significance of the differences between “I”, “You” and “Anybody”. However, it also had originated from the history of modern psychology that has been eagerly aspiring to be included among advanced natural sciences, while distancing itself from philosophy and humanities. The continuity and discontinuity between the three psychologies are discussed. Points are made (1) on the necessity of restoring the “psychology of I” to the modern scene, (2) on the mutually complementary natures of the three psychologies, and (3) on some prospects of relating the three. This paper prepares for a further detailed discussion of a richer integration of the three in the future.