CHAPTER SEVENTEEN

Conclusion

CHAPTER OVERVIEW

- Status of Personality Theory
- Contributions of the Theories to Various Topics
  - Individual Differences
  - Adaptation and Adjustment
  - Cognitive Processes
  - Society
  - Biological Influences
  - Child Development
  - Adult Development
CHAPTER OVERVIEW

Choosing or Combining Theories
- Eclecticism
- Pluralism
- Unified Theory
- Criteria of a Good Theory: Revisited

Theories as Metaphors
- The Mechanistic Metaphor
- The Organic Metaphor
- The Information Processing Metaphor
- The Narrative Metaphor
- The Metaphor of the Emergent Self
- The Metaphor of the Transcendent Self

What Lies Ahead?

STATUS OF PERSONALITY THEORY

CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE THEORIES TO VARIOUS TOPICS
- Individual Differences
- Adaptation and Adjustment
- Cognitive Processes
- Society
- Biological Influences
- Child Development
- Adult Development
**INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES**
- Difference or similarity?
- Individuals or nomothetic?
- What to measure? (Behavior, interviews, projective tests, or what?)

**ADAPTATION AND ADJUSTMENT**
- Adjustment
- Reaching full potential (humanists)
- Unity (integration) vs. conflict
- Contribution to society
- Consciousness
- True self
- Learning interventions
- Expectancies

**COGNITIVE PROCESSES**
- Person variables
- Consciousness / unconscious
- Cognitive functions or styles (Jung)
- Intelligence
- Language
- Personal constructs
Society

- Society vs. focus on the individual
- Models (e.g., in child rearing)
- Predominant problems of a society
- Gender roles
- Cultural diversity
- Individualistic bias

Biological Influences

- Underlying biological motivations
- Heredity
- Collective unconscious
- Temperament
- Environmental fit

Development

- Importance of early years
- Stages
- Family: parents, siblings
- Identification or modeling
- Self
- Ideals
- Stability or change
- External influences
- Internal motivation for change
Choosing or Combining Theories

- Eclecticism
- Pluralism
- Unified Theory
- Criteria of a Good Theory: Revisited

Eclecticism

- Combining ideas from a variety of theories
- A popular position

Pluralism

- The coexistence of various theories without attempting to combine them
- Avoids premature integration of theories
Unified Theory

- A theory that combines diverse aspects from various approaches, indicating how they are organized and related
- A later stage in theoretical development

Criteria of a Good Theory: Revisited

- Verifiability
- Comprehensiveness
- Applied value

Theories as Metaphors

- The Mechanistic Metaphor
- The Organic Metaphor
- The Information Processing Metaphor
- The Narrative Metaphor
- The Metaphor of the Emergent Self
- The Metaphor of the Transcendent Self
### Chapter Review

- **Contributions of the Theories to Various Topics**
- **Choosing or Combining Theories**
- **Theories as Metaphors**
- **What Lies Ahead?**

### What Lies Ahead?

#### Chapter Review

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workable (Based on Basic Metaphors)</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
<th>Examples</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Animism (spiritualism)</td>
<td>The world has characteristics of a spirit or a spirit.</td>
<td>Spirit, synchronicity (Jung)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Myths (symbolic)</td>
<td>Knowledge is acquired through revelation of experience, such as through symbols or lore.</td>
<td>Personality traits and types (Cattell), archetypes (Jung)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Form (nature vs. purpose)</td>
<td>Forms exist in nature that are remembered in culture, existing either similar (the same form) or different (different forms).</td>
<td>Learning (Bion), archetypes (Jung), energy transformation (Maslow)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanism (the mechanism)</td>
<td>Forms are transmitted to produce effects.</td>
<td>Self-actualization (Maslow), gestalt growth (Bion), the organismic principle (Bion), becoming (adapted)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Organization (the organization)</td>
<td>Stages of development result in the emergence of the previously concealed organic structure.</td>
<td>Narcissistic unconscious, biographical approach, identity (Bion), case formation (Bion, and others)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consciousness (the historical aspect or purpose)</td>
<td>Situations change as events unfold through episodes that influence other events.</td>
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