GNED 08 - UNDERSTANDING THE SELF CHAPTER 6

The Physical Self

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THE PHYSICAL



WHAT IS PHYSICAL SELF?

Physical self refers to the body which we interface with our environment and fellow being. It is a tangible aspect of the person that can be directly observed and examined.

MORE ON PHYSICAL SELF

People now days are too conscious on how they look. How they see themselves in the mirror, how people will look at them and what will people say about them. Our concept of our self and the perception of people around us will always have big effect on how we deal in a situation, cultural or not. This discussion of Physical Self has found place on different Schools of Psychology, like psychoanalysis, behaviorism,

humanism etc.

Self perception of our body image



Examples:

William James

Considered body as initial source of sensation and necessary for the origin and maintenance of personality. It is an element of spiritual hygiene of supreme significance.

For example, a boxer during a fight, do not notice/feels his

Signorunds unterthe intensity of the fight subside.

In Psychoanalytical school, construction of self and personality makes the physical body the core of human experience.

Examples:

Wilhelm Reichargued

He says that mind and body are one; all psychological processes, he postulated, are a part of physical processes,

and vice versa Erik Erikson

According to him, the role of bodily organs is especially important in early developmental stages of a persons life. Later in life, the development of physical as well as intellectual skills help determine whether the individual will achieve a sense of competence and ability to choose demanding roles in a complex society. For example a child get their confidence when they bigger stronger faster and more capable of learning complex skills

Examples:

Carl Jung

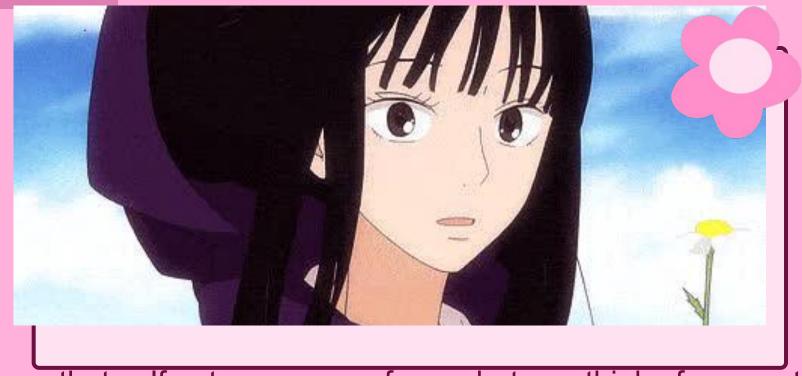
He argued that the physical body and the external world can be known only as psychological experiences.

B.F. Skinner(Burrhus Frederic)

says that the role of the body is of primary importance.

Which from this different orientation clearly show us and explains how people deals with their physical self. Regardless of what culture or traditions he or she may be, his or her interpretation of himself will be how people act in the community.

Self - Esteem



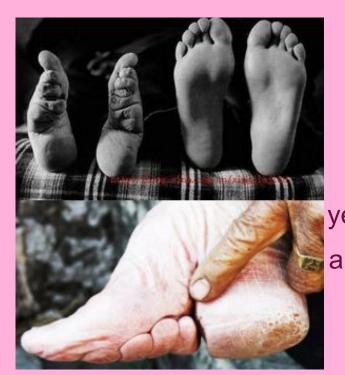
'We all know that self-esteem comes from what you think of you, not what other people think of you" - Gloria Graynor

Healthy Self-Esteem



People from different culture have opted to change their features in attempt to meet the cultural standards of beauty, as well as their religious and/or social obligations. They modify and adorn their bodies as part of the part of complex process of creating and re- creating their personal and social identity to be accepted by society and to be able to accept them self. This includes body painting, tattooing, jewelries and adornments. Youth in present time are too conscious of their physical attributes that they are not confident to face the day without

make_un



-Foot binding —

The painful tradition of foot binding has persisted in China for hundreds of years. Essentially women will crush their feet into undersized shoes to prevent their feet from growing, so they start binding their feet at five years old. A small foot in China, no different from a tiny waist in Victorian England, represented the height of female refinement, because women who had bound feet had a higher status than average women, and they were more likely to

-Lip Plates -



Mursi, Chai, and Tirma tribes of Africa are some of the few societies that still place a massive ceramic plate in their lower lip to make them seem more beautiful.

-Sharp Chiseled Teeth -



Malawian people believe that sharp teeth are a sign of grace and elegance. To achieve the beauty standard, they have to get their teeth chiseled to a point.

As our physical self, dictates how we act in front of other people it also defines how we will manage our self-esteem. Yet, this self-esteem is vital on how we form positive and healthy relationships with people around us. We have different kinds of self-esteem; The Inflated Self- Esteem (this people holds high regards of themselves. Better than the other to the point of under estimating them), High Self-Esteem (this is a positive self-esteem, which make the person be satisfied of themselves) and Low Self-Esteem (this person do not value themselves and do not trust their possibilities). Most of the times, this self-esteem are define by what physical attributes they have. Beauty as define by the society,

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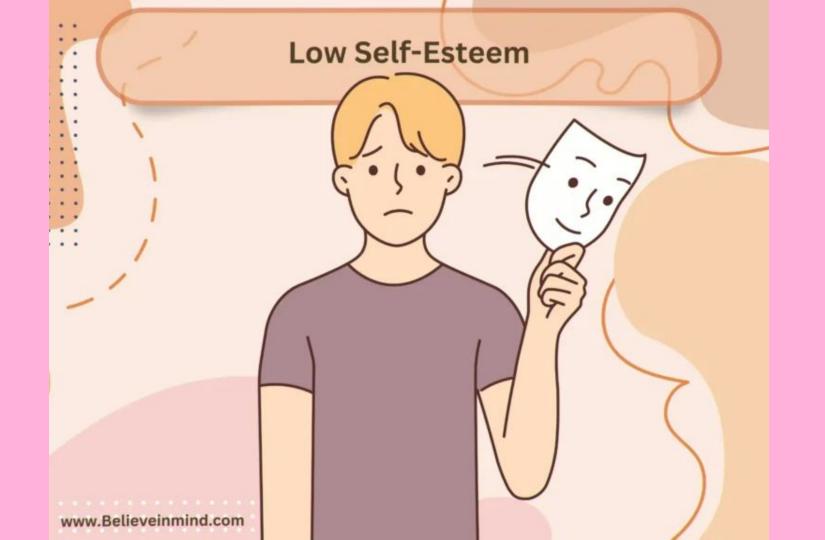
Inflated self-esteem is associated with:

- An exaggerated sense of self-importance.
- A desire to be recognized as special.
- A sense of entitlement to special treatment.
- A tendency to exaggerate accomplishments or talents.
- Needs external validation to feel good about self.
- · Arrogance.



High self-esteem is associated with:

- Accepting responsibility
- Avoiding comparison to others.
- You take care of yourself.
- You appreciate yourself
- Caring about your physical health
- Believes in himself/Confident.



Low self-esteem is associated with:

- · Self-doubt.
- Problems accepting praise.
- Difficulty in expressing your own needs.
- Comparisons to others.
- Difficulty trusting others.
- Social withdrawal.