

## Essay Brief 2

Humans as a whole and individually have questioned why they are the way that they are. The mind-body duality, discussed by George Mead, allows people to understand the conception of self through constant dialogue in social situations. In *The Self, the I and the Me*, Mead discusses the idea that the body cannot experience itself but the self can. The evaluation of emotional reactions brings people together in understanding the nature of self. He continues by discussing how individual knowledge in a social setting determines the reaction to stimuli. This explanation differs from Ervin Goffman in *The Presentation of Self*, who concurs that the self is discovered through a collectively produced social situation. While both authors differ in the approach to determining the interactions of self, each concludes that environmental factors drive the social self of an individual.

The conception of self is the understanding of how individuals are put together. George Mead describes the role of the “I” and “Me” in social situations. The “Me” is established through internal evaluations of a specific social situation and determines the “I,” or response, to the stimuli presented in the environment. This interaction provides an understanding of how the self arises out of internal dialogue between the different parts of self. This idea can also be found in *The Presentation of Self* by Ervin Goffman. Goffman concludes that the environmental factors are the presence of other humans, dictating the performance and roles of each individual in the social situation. The involvement of individuals roles establishes a social setting in which those in the environment must react and respond to their appropriate part in the play. The cycle of dialogue through language in both individual self assessment and the adherence to roles in the produced situation connects to the idea that environmental factors drive the social self of an individual.

In conclusion, both essays establish the idea that environmental factors drive the social self of an individual and are regulated through dialogue to determine the appropriate response in a social

a great step to achieving the best role.