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The Social Self (Revised)

While there are many aspects of the concept of Self, the focus of this paper will be on the social Self. A man has as many social selves as there are individuals who recognize him and carry an image of him in their mind (William James). All in all, man's social Self is the recognition which he gets from his mates.

A self idea of the sort seems to have three principal elements: the imagination of our appearance to the other person; the imagination of his judgment of the appearance, and some sort of self-feeling, such as pride or mortification (James Cooley). Based on what is witnessed in today's society; this concept of social Self is extreme and a good portion of that extremism is due to social media. You see women posting images of themselves barely clothed whose faces are altered with makeup to look like someone entirely different than their own. There are fifteen-year-olds who look like they are twenty-five and are getting comments from forty-seven-year-old men (and others), who are only validating what they are doing. These women and girls change their appearance to be what they believe is the ideal version of themselves in order to have better self-esteem and to gain popularity with others.

Overall, how you feel about yourself is based on how others perceive you. We are so enveloped in this toxic yet addictive cycle. Instead of just your family and friends, when it comes to social media, there could be hundreds and thousands of people you don't even know stating their opinion of you. Sadly, It has caused many to rise and many to fall when it comes to self-esteem and overall health.