

Current empathetic identification with another or group [*Analysing Identity: Chapter 2* © Peter Weinreich]

The extent of one's current empathetic identification with another is defined as the degree of similarity between the qualities one attributes to the other, whether 'good' or 'bad', and those of one's current self-image.

Current empathetic identification with entity E_i :

$$\begin{aligned}\Psi_i^c &= E_c \cap E_i \\ &= \frac{(E_c^+ \cap E_i^+) + (E_c^- \cap E_i^-)}{E_c^+ + E_c^-} \quad (13)\end{aligned}$$

where E_c denotes one's construal of one's current self-image, and E^+ and E^- denote the positive and negative characteristics attributed to the entity in question. *Internal standardization* follows directly from the particular constellation of the person's positive values and beliefs, and construal of self and the other.

The range of values for a person's current empathetic identification with another is zero to unity, that is, from an absence of to complete identification with the other in question.

People's empathetic identifications with others modulate according to context and mood state. The algorithm generalises for these contextualised empathetic identification, whereby $E_{c1,2,3\dots}$ represent alternative current self contexts or mood states, and $E_{p1,2,3\dots}$ denote different biographical past contexts and mood states.

Metaperspective of self

In general, one empathetically identifies with other people or agents, outside of 'self'. However, there is an aspect of 'self' that is to some extent defined externally to 'self' when it is defined by others, so that in these instances of 'metaperspectives of self', people may empathetically identify with this externally located aspect of self.