

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

The extent of one's idealistic identification with another is defined as the similarity between the qualities one attributes to the other and those one would like to possess as part of one's ideal self-image.

Let **I** represent the ideal self-image attributes and **E_i** those of the other, then

Idealistic-identification with entity E_i:
$$f_i^I = \frac{I \cap E_i}{I} \quad (11)$$

where the Boolean intersection $I \cap E_i$ - *designating overlap between I and E_i* - is represented by the positive attributes E_i^+ , since the ideal self-image, I, is assumed to be synonymous with the person's positive value and beliefs (that is, the positive poles of the constructs). Self's desire to emulate specific qualities of the other denotes instances of elemental idealistic-identification with that other. *Internal standardization* follows directly from the particular constellation of the person's positive values and beliefs.

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

Metaperspective of self

In general, one idealistically-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 idealistically-identify with this externally located aspect of self.