

Perry's Theory of Intellectual and Ethical Development

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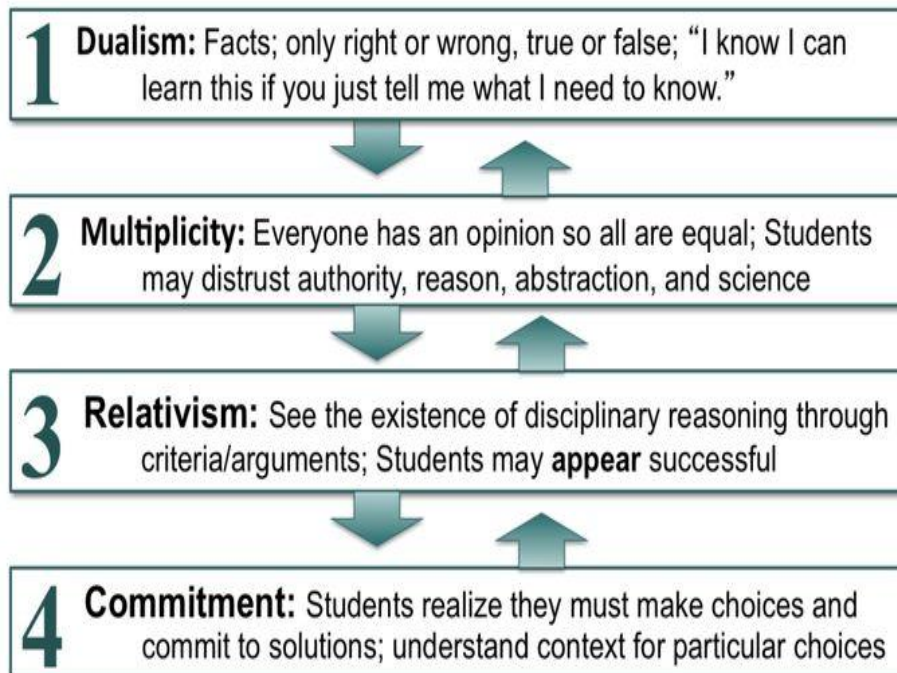
Purpose:

The purpose of Perry's Theory of Intellectual and Ethical Development is to examining how students make meaning of the teaching and learning process.

Citation:

Perry, W. G. J. (1970). *Forms of Intellectual and Ethical Development in the College Years: A Scheme*. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston

Intellectual Development Stages



Nelson, Perry, Belenkey

3 Deflections From Cognitive Growth

- **Temporizing** (a "timeout" period): a prolonged pause w/in any position w/out evidence of entrenchment in escape or retreat. Cognitive development is essentially put on hold and movement is stopped.
- **Escape:** A settling for hedonism by denying or rejecting the implications for growth. This involves an abandonment of responsibility characterized by alienation.
- **Retreat:** Active denial of the potential or legitimacy of others. This involves a retreat to dualism.

Key Takeaways

- Can greatly aid our understanding of the meaning-making process
- Refers to "forms" of intellectual & ethical development not stages
- "Forms" are the structures that shape how people view their experiences.
- Uses term "position" over stage for several reasons:
 - No assumption about duration is made.
 - B/c individuals may demonstrate some range in structures manifested at a given point in time; position can represent "the locus of a central tendency or dominance among these structures.
 - Perry considers position to be consistent w/ the image of a point of view from which one looks at the world.