

QUALIFYING EXAMINATION

ON THE SOCIAL NATURE OF SELF-DISCREPANCY: THE MODERATING ROLE OF RELATIONAL SELF-CONSTRUAL AND THE IMPACT OF PERSONAL AND RELATIONAL SELF-DISCREPANCIES ON CLOSE RELATIONSHIPS

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Abstract

Self-discrepancy refers to the gap between an individual's actual self and internalised standards, and can be assessed from either a personal or relational perspective. Past research has predominantly focused on personal self-discrepancy and the associated personal consequences on negative affect. We proposed four studies to review self-discrepancy from a social perspective. Results from Study 1 showed that higher personal and relational self-discrepancies predicted higher negative affect, and lower perceived social support and relational help-seeking intentions. More importantly, the detrimental impact of both personal and relational self-discrepancies was stronger for individuals with higher relational self-construal in general. Study 2 aimed to replicate these findings. Studies 3 and 4 aimed to generalise to actual interpersonal behaviour in conflict situations, as well as to explicate the mechanisms in which relational and personal self-discrepancies could differentially influence conflict management behaviour. Taken together, these studies will provide a more holistic understanding of self-discrepancy in a broader social context.

Keywords: Self-discrepancy, relational self-construal, negative affect, close relationships

Proceedings

Duration	Session
5 mins	Chair Welcome & Introduction of Panel
30-45mins	Presentation by Student
15 mins	Q&A (by audience – faculty / students)
Break	Audience to leave the room
30 mins	Q&A by Panel
15 mins	Chairperson to ask candidate to leave the room and wait outside Private Panel Discussion and Decision to Pass the Student
15 mins	Candidate invited back by Chairperson Feedback and Outcome of Oral Examination

Friday
17 Jan 2020

10 am

Venue:
SHHK/HSS Seminar
Room 3 #B1-10

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