Part 1: Foundations for Empathy



David Hume (1711-1776)

Hume's Four Uses of Sympathy

- 1. Mental Mirroring: "Data-gathering capacity," receptivity
- 2. Delicate Sympathy: Orienting disposition, re-focusing of senses
- 3. Delicacy of Taste in Aesthetics: Savouring the other's experience
- 4. Benevolence in Ethics: Helping the other, imploring moral duties

Kant's Aesthetics of Taste

"Possibility of relatedness"

- 1. Respect: Second-person approach to beauty
- 2. Reflective Judgement: Third-person perspective processing of beauty

Caveat: Unlike Taste, empathy does not assume that all people have the same capacity to use the senses in the same way.



Immanuel Kant (1724-1804)

Part 2: Approaches to Empathy

Lipps' Projective Empathy

Pros: emphasized the intrinsic value of consciousness in a body and gave us a convenient, linear mechanism

Con: fell into the logical flaw of "subreption," falsely attributing someone else's mental state to yourself.

Husserl's Counterargument

We have the capacity to understand another without imitating them. This also respects and preserves the uniqueness of the "other."

Stein's Redemption of the Sui Generis

While the experience the other is sharing is their's, we have a unique, first-person access to the empathetic forum in which the experience is being shared. This supports the random, non-linear mechanism that occurs between people during empathetic sharing.



Theodor Lipps (1851-1914)





Edith Stein (1891-1942)

Part 3: Understanding Our Relationships



(1899-1959)

Types of Roles.

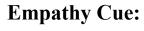
Professional/Indirect
 ex) empathizing with a mailman

2. Personal/Direct ex) empathizing with the mailman as your husband

Contexts of Bodily Expression:

1. Expressive Movements
Not relevant to empathy

2. Expressive ActsRelevant to empathy



Directness of relationship to the "other"