

IV-17 Ways of Doubt

If being human is about the ability to use tools, use of tools also constructs influences the quality of perceptions.

Lack of doubt is faith. Chances of success improve with search for viable alternatives to improve upon *knowing what we do not know*. Also *I think, therefore I am confused* endures play behaviors to make room for doubt. The dynamics underlies virtually all reasoning. Doubt is intrinsic in all manners of methods, searches, assumptions, and endeavors for exploring and examining our concerns. In such play acts a jump from *how* to *why* is as unsafe as is the jump from *is* to *ought*. Thus we arrive at limiting value of truth and limits of reasoned truth. It is also paradigmatic that rational behaviors are intertwined with perceived truth. Successful behaviors have a greater bearing on the truth value of perceived reality. In evaluating certainty, one acknowledges doubt and liabilities as part of rational interactions to get around the wishful disconnects.

Virtually all methods and manners of concept manipulation make world accessible. Humans can embrace uncertainty and attain a harmonious state through conscious effort. For example, mind and body rooted in spirit is motivated by ad hoc idealizations of grace, judgment and omniscience. Such contradictions, as well as inconsistencies and paradoxes, have undesirable personal, social and intellectual consequences.

A reasoned search begins with the premise that the world is knowable to humans through human efforts. It moves forward by weeding out distractions and paradoxes. As we learn to judge

and evaluate vulnerability that comes from the inconsistent actions and we also learn to stay clear of mindless consistency.

Harmony of thoughts and words with reasoned behaviors is rooted in reality. Being alive is about expression of potential that lies in the accessible. It has enduring value for survival and well-being. Knowing and understanding articulated in behaviors motivates search for meaning.

Dynamics of perceived certainty shape actions where it is better to be confused with thought, rather than not think. For their validation through practice thoughts rely on diversity and plurality of inputs to sample a wider cross-section of reality. Trajectory of thought consistent with behaviors allows search through workable alternatives.

Consistency through Representation

- As a basis for the theory of knowledge, the logic of reality binds all explorations of represented reality.
- An entity is represented by a name. Mutually agreed representations are at best circumstantial evidence for existence.
- Verified properties of an entity are analyzed in terms of defined criteria. It is conceptually identified as a class and category in relation to classes of other entities to distinguish it from the rest of the world.
- In the appeal to the parts emphasis is not on finding order among the parts but on finding the order (quality) that distinguishes the part.
- Depending on the purpose, a representation can be more majestic than the reality. The purpose of representation is to peel off the unwanted layers to define a manageable sliver of reality, as in equations, theories, art, photo, fiction, advertisements, public relation pronouncements, conceptions of aliens and gods.

- Goal of representation of reality is not truth: *Let there be X* does not necessarily mean that there is X, unless of course verified independently. It is an essential quality of representation that *there is no such thing as inaccuracy: All photographs are accurate, none of them is truth.*
- Two descriptions do not necessarily mean two sides of an argument. Two sides of an argument do not forgive ignorance and absolve demagoguery.

Room for Doubt

Preface

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