

William James

THE SELF

Observing Self
Knower
“I”

Also called “pure ego”

The Thinker and having volition

Relationship of *I* to *Me*

“My present Me is felt with warmth and intimacy. The heavy warm mass of my body is there, and the nucleus of the ‘spiritual me,’ the sense of intimate activity.”

Observed Self
Known
“Me”

Also called Empirical ego

The Constituents of the Me

The Material Me

“My Body”

“My Clothes”

“My House”

“My Company” (Bill Gates)

The Social Me

“As many social selves as there are individuals who recognize him and carry an image of him”

Spouse

Parent

Student

Sibling

The Spiritual Me

“The entire collection of my states of consciousness, my psychic faculties”

Me the Thinker

Self Appreciation

Two aspects:

Self-complacency (positive feelings)

Pride, conceit, vanity, self esteem

Self-dissatisfaction (negative feelings)

humility, confusion, shame

Self Seeking

Bodily (defense, nourishment, sex)

Social (friendship, recognition, etc)