



Culture

Why do we care?

- Social Learning Theory
- Dual Inheritance Theory
- Religiosity
- Languages and Cognition
- GATTACA

What are we doing today?

- Form groups of 2-3, come up with a definition of culture
- Share with each other something from your culture that you think shaped who you are today
- Share out with the larger group

Ice Breaker!

- Albert Bandura
 - Learning is a cognitive process based on context and observation
 - Modeling: learning by observing a behavior
 - Learner is not a passive recipient
 - Attention, retention, reproduction, motivation
 - Reciprocal determinism
- Bandura and the Bobo Doll
 - Stage 1: Modeling
 - Stage 2: Aggression arousal
 - Stage 3: Delayed imitation
 - Conclusion: children who observed the aggressive model made far more imitative aggressive responses

Social Learning Theory

- Social developments as infants
 - Blind infants study: feedback loop

How does social learning affect us?

- Collectivistic vs. Individualistic cultures
 - Co-sleeping patterns



Different Cultures

- Cross cultural emotional display
 - Comparing Japan (C), Canada (I), and the US (I)



Different Cultures & Emotions

- Sense of Self
 - Independent: typical in the Western cultures
 - Traits: kind, intelligent, funny
 - Interdependent: typical in the Eastern cultures
 - Social roles: relationships

Sense of Self

- Write down 20 statements describing yourself
- Count the number of traits/personal identity written
- Count the number of social roles written

Activity break!

- Behavior is an interaction of genetic evolution and cultural evolution (nature and nurture)
 - Population genetic models show cultural processes have profound effect on human evolution
 - Anthropologists investigate cultural practices that modify current selection
 - Hundreds of genes have been subject to positive selection, often in response to human activities
 - Tangent: directional selection

Dual Inheritance Theory

- Two kinds of cultural differences in biology
 - Innate biological difference
 - UVR and skin color
 - Lactose intolerance
 - Acquired biological difference
 - Moken of Southeast Asia
 - Early onset of puberty

Cultural Biology Examples

- Heritability
 - Heritability of religiosity increases from 12 to 44% and contributions of family effect decreases from 56 to 18% between adolescence and adulthood
- Let's talk about the reading!
 - Where do you see evidence that support the statistics we just talked about?
 - Reflect on your own life. Religious or no? Why?

Religiosity

How religious are you?

- How cultures affect language
 - At birth, babies in Japan can distinguish L and R sounds
 - Synaptic pruning: ability is lost through lack of stimulation
- Analytic vs. holistic thinking
 - Analytic: $A = A$, $A = B$ or $A = \text{not } B$, $A \neq \text{not } A$
 - Holistic: Relative acceptance for contradictions
- Linear (Western) vs. dialectical reasoning (Eastern)

Language and Cognition



Analytic vs. Holistic



Analytic vs. Holistic

- How much social learning actually takes place?
- How does each generation's unique culture shape the next generation?
- We look a lot at Eastern vs. Western cultures in cultural psychology; as a result, do you think stereotypes play a role in how we perceive each other's cultures and ultimately bias the research results?

Food for Thought
