

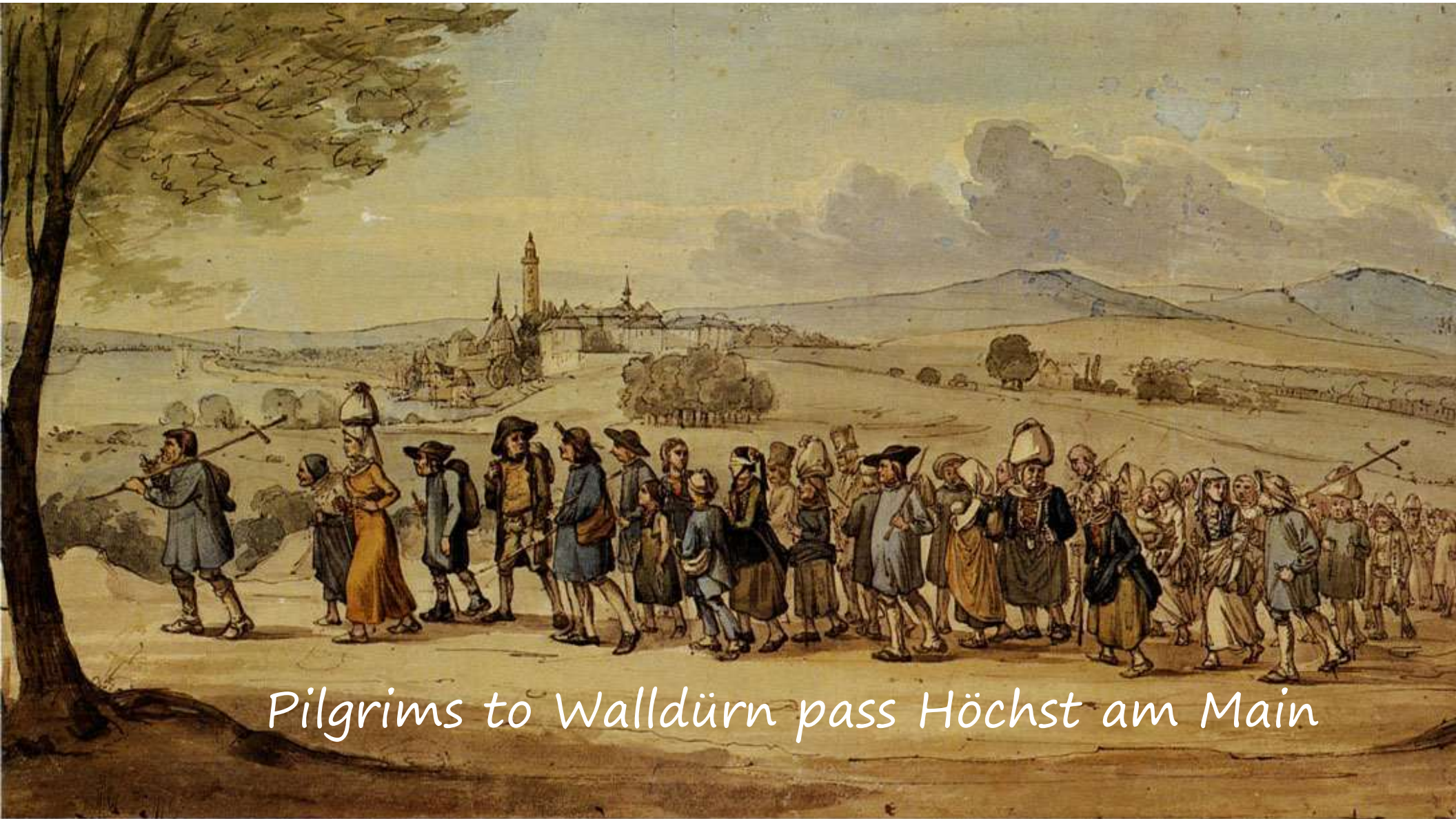


# Chaplains: Agents of Personhood

*Humanness, Personhood, and Self*



Wallfahrer nach Walldürn ziehen bei Höchst am Main vorbei



*Pilgrims to Walldürn pass Höchst am Main*

# Chaplains: Agents of Personhood

*Perspective*



# Chaplains: Agents of Personhood

## Confirmation bias

The tendency to seek out and prefer information that supports our preexisting beliefs

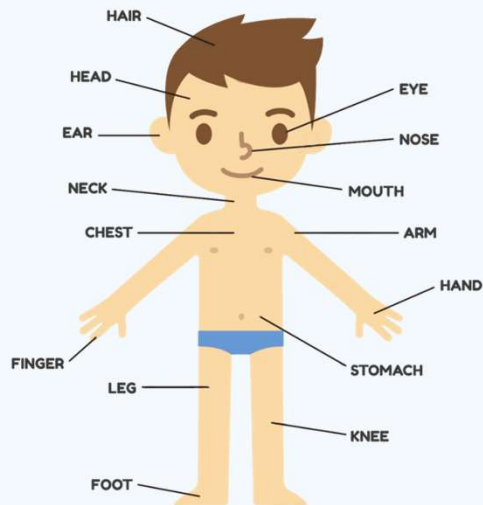


## Chaplains: Agents of Personhood

τὸν αὐτὸν δὴ τρόπον καὶ ἀποδέχεσθαι χρεῶν ἕκαστα τῶν λεγομένων· πεπαιδευομένου γάρ ἐστιν ἐπὶ τοσοῦτον τὰκριβὲς ἐπιζητεῖν καθ' ἕκαστον γένος, ἐφ' ὅσον ἢ τοῦ πράγματος φύσις ἐπιδέχεται· παραπλήσιον γὰρ φαίνεται μαθηματικοῦ τε πιθανολογοῦντος ἀποδέχεσθαι καὶ ῥητορικὸν ἀποδείξεις ἀπαιτεῖν. ἕκαστος δὲ κρίνει καλῶς ἃ γινώσκει, καὶ τούτων ἐστὶν ἀγαθὸς κριτής. καθ' ἕκαστον μὲν ἄρα ὁ πεπαιδευμένος, ἀπλῶς δ' ὁ περὶ πᾶν πεπαιδευμένος.

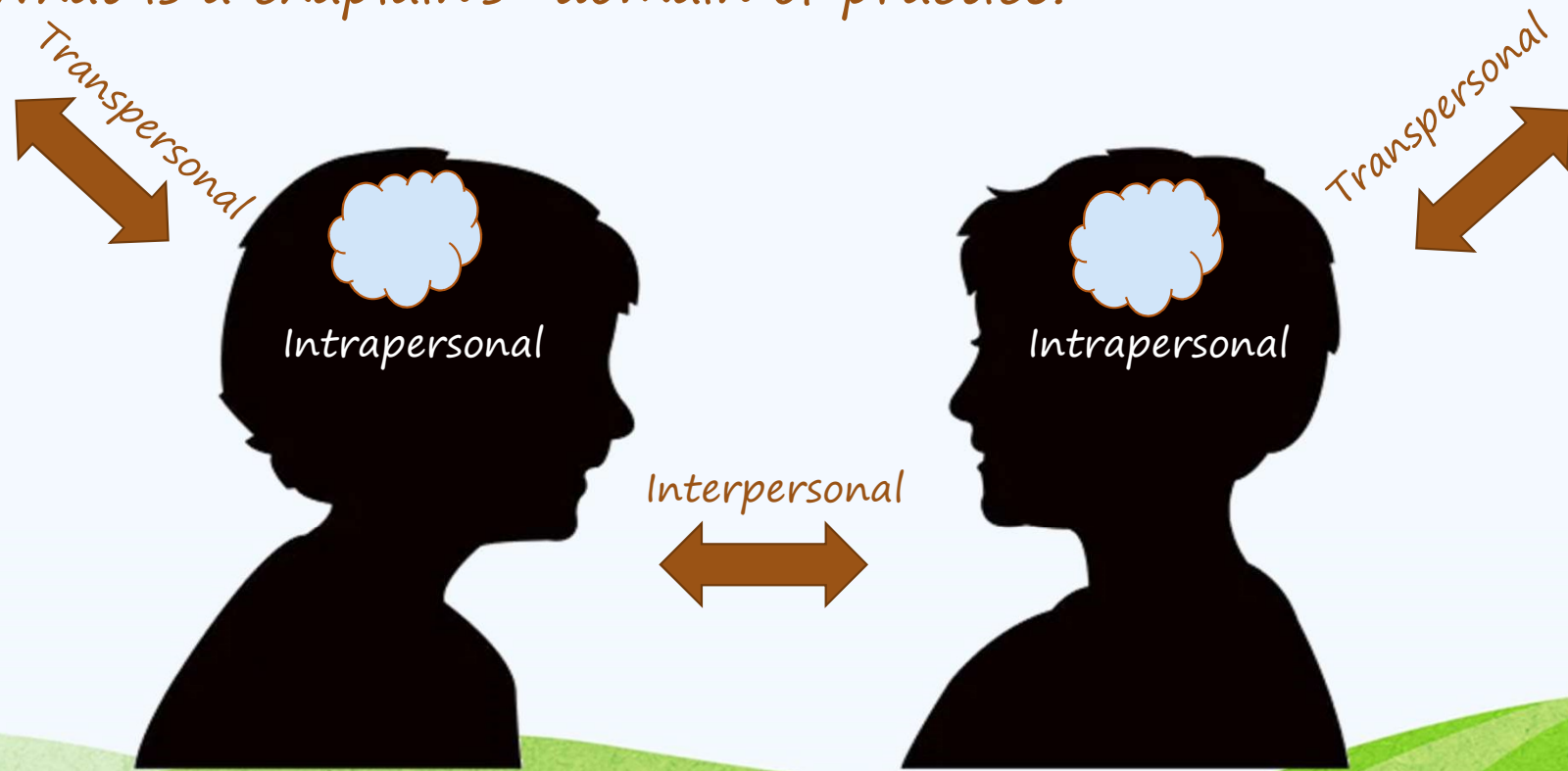
# Chaplains: Agents of Personhood

What is a chaplain's "domain of practice?"



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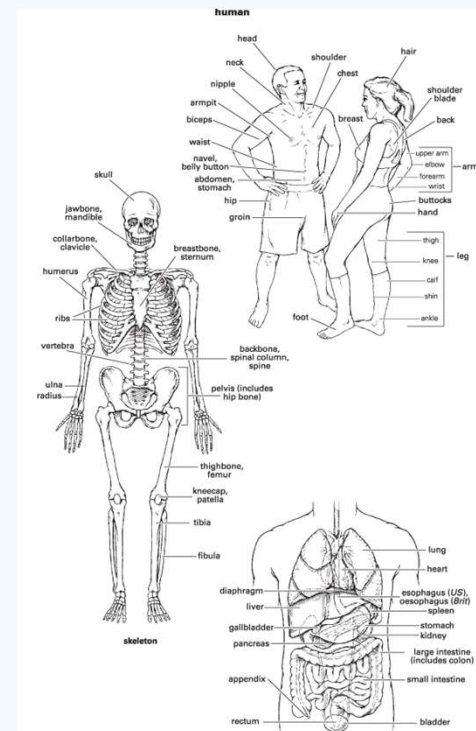


# Chaplains: Agents of Personhood

## Human (Def'n):

“Unlike a pickle or a chipmunk, a human is a person. You can identify a human by the two legs it stands on, its upright stature, its high intelligence, and its speech that you'll understand if you're one, too.”

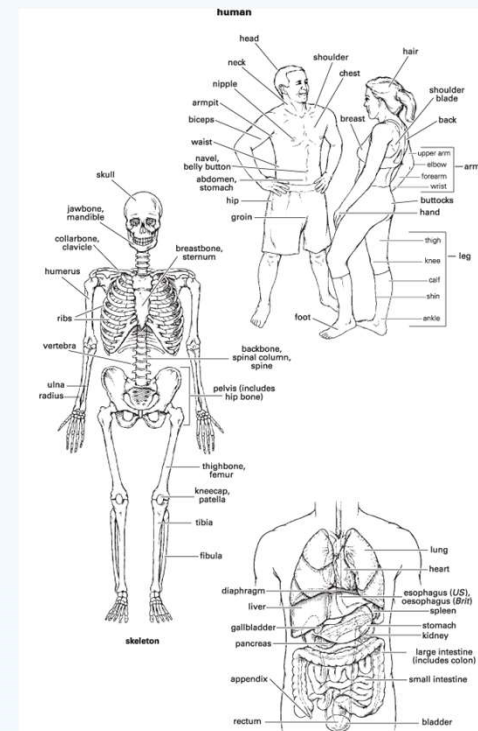
“A member of the primate genus *Homo*, especially a member of the species *Homo sapiens*, distinguished from other apes by a large brain and the capacity for speech.”



# Chaplains: Agents of Personhood

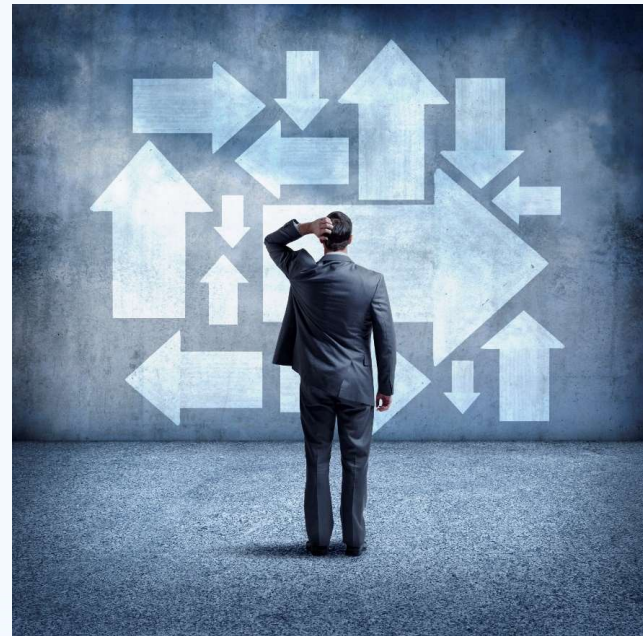
## Human (Def'n):

*“Unlike a pickle or a chipmunk, a human is a person...”*



# Chaplains: Agents of Personhood

- *What does it mean to be human?*
- *What does it mean to be a person?*



# Chaplains: Agents of Personhood

## Personhood / The Self:

The Western idea of the 'self' (as a whole and independent entity) developed over time, and was influenced by particular philosophical, legal, and religious traditions.

'Personhood' is not found in many dictionaries or reference works.

Personhood, as a genderless form of Manhood, is a relatively new category for discussion.



# Chaplains: Agents of Personhood

## Personhood / The Self:

What constitutes personhood varies from culture to culture, entailing different

- rights,
- duties,
- kinship bonds,
- and titles.

Most attempts to define personhood recognize that the human person must extend beyond a merely biological basis to include some form of consciousness or rationality.



# Chaplains: Agents of Personhood

## Personhood / The Self:

The concept of personhood allows us to isolate appropriate objects of moral concern (persons), as opposed to anything else, that deserve or require moral recognition.

The notion of personhood also allows us to differentiate amongst those that are appropriate, in so far as personhood may admit of degrees.



# Chaplains: Agents of Personhood

## Personhood / The Self:

*In the West, we distinguish persons from animals and inanimate objects.*

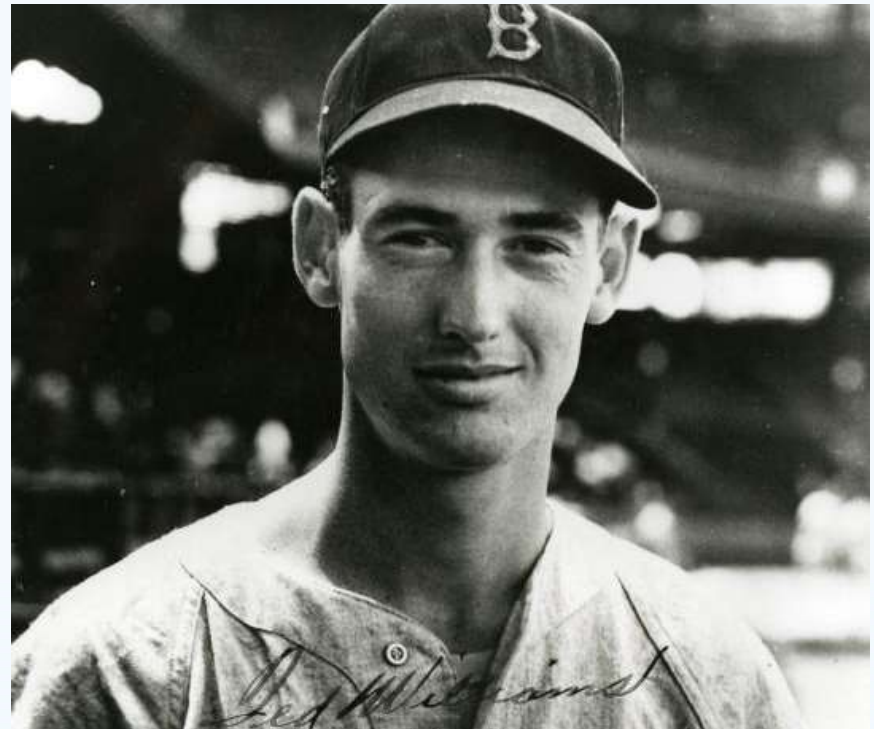
*This raises metaphysical questions about:*

- the identity of consciousness over time,*
- the identity of states of consciousness with particular bodies,*
- about how we differentiate ourselves from what is not ourselves.*



# Chaplains: Agents of Personhood

•Thought Experiment: Where is the locus of you?



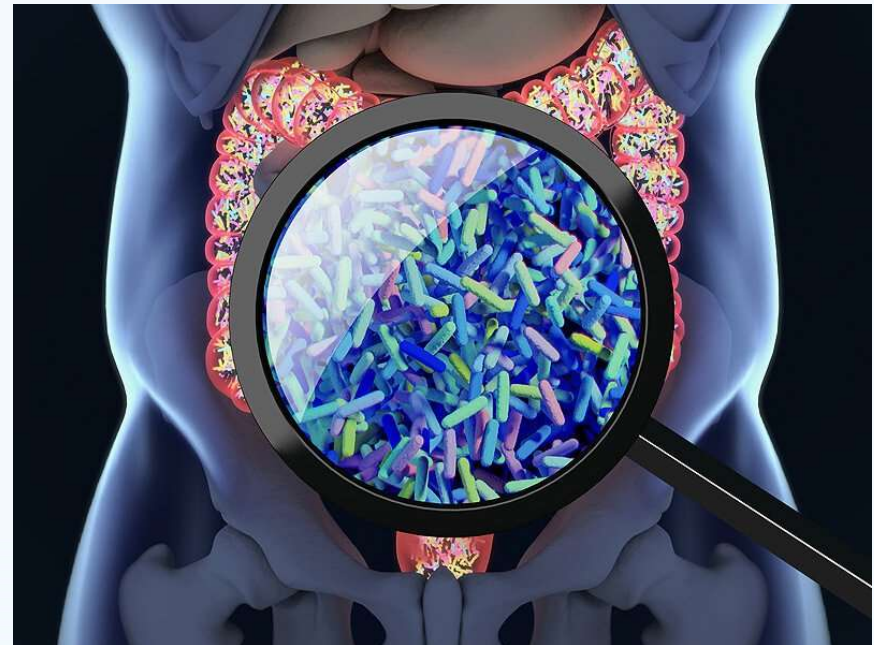


# Chaplains: Agents of Personhood

## Personhood / The Self:

What are the limits (boundaries) of you?

Is there a part of you that exists outside of your body?



## Chaplains: Agents of Personhood

*Culture: “A pattern of shared basic assumptions learned by a group as it solved its problems of external adaptation and internal integration, which has worked well enough to be considered valid and, therefore, to be taught to new members as the correct way to perceive, think, and feel in relation to those problems.”*

# Chaplains: Agents of Personhood

## *Culture:*

- 1. A pattern of shared basic assumptions,*
- 2. learned by a group as it solved its problems of*
  - external adaption*
  - and internal integration,*
- 3. which has worked well enough to be considered valid and,*
- 4. therefore, to be taught to new members as the correct way to perceive, think, and feel in relation to those problems.”*

# Chaplains: Agents of Personhood

## Personhood / The Self:

Many cultures mark each stage of life with a new identity, a new name, and new relationships to the clan.



# Chaplains: Agents of Personhood

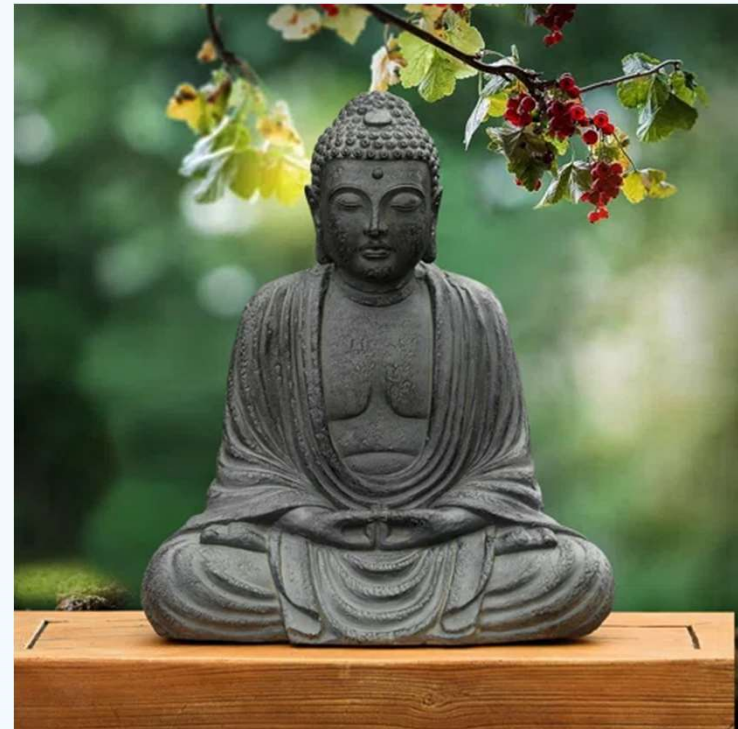
## Personhood / The Self:

Taoism and Buddhism emphasize the individual as a composite and historical being.

Hindu and Buddhist cultures are among the many that believe in reincarnation, where a person is reborn as another person or animal after death.

Many Native American cultures also believe that a person is the incarnation of his or her ancestors and animal spirits.

Personhood in these traditions is more a process than a state or category of being.



# Chaplains: Agents of Personhood

## Personhood / The Self:

The person as actually embodying part of his or her ancestral past is foreign to Christian tradition.

The Western European tradition believes each soul to be individual and unique, the inhabitant of only one body.



# Chaplains: Agents of Personhood

## Personhood / The Self:

The idea of a person as having an inner life and inner consciousness arose largely through a Christian tradition, which held that every person has a soul, regardless of legal or social status.

Christianity helped to establish the idea of the person as more than a legal entity, but a moral entity as well.

Protestantism emphasizes the autonomy of the individual in relation to God.



# Chaplains: Agents of Personhood

## Individualism:

“A social pattern that consists of loosely linked individuals who view themselves as independent of collectives; are primarily motivated by their own preferences, needs, rights, and contracts they have established with others; give priority to their personal goals over the goals of others; and emphasize rational analysis of the advantages and disadvantages to associating with others.”



# Chaplains: Agents of Personhood

## Individualism:

“A social pattern that consists of

1. loosely linked individuals
2. who view themselves as independent of collectives;
3. are primarily motivated by their own preferences, needs, rights, and contracts they have established with others;
4. give priority to their personal goals over the goals of others;
5. and emphasize rational analysis of the advantages and disadvantages to associating with others.”

# Chaplains: Agents of Personhood

## Collectivism:

“A social pattern consisting of closely linked individuals who see themselves as parts of one or more collectives (family, co-workers, tribe, nation); are primarily motivated by the norms of, and duties imposed by, these collectives; are willing to give priority to the goals of these collectives over their own personal goals; and emphasize their connectedness to members of their collectives.”

# Chaplains: Agents of Personhood

## Collectivism:

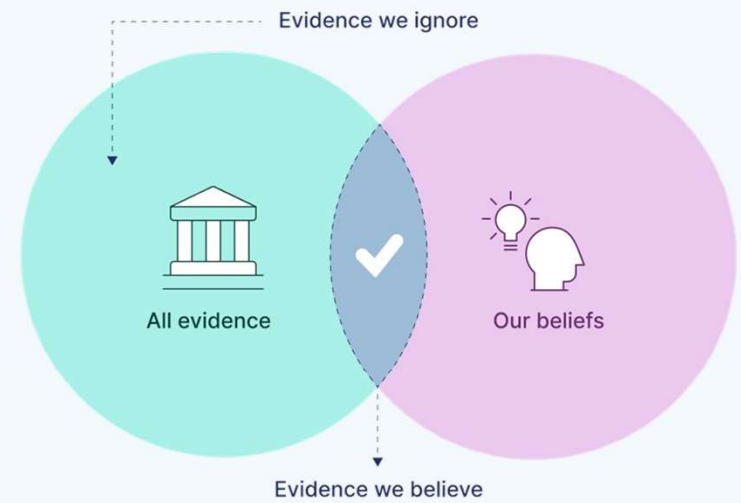
“A social pattern consisting of

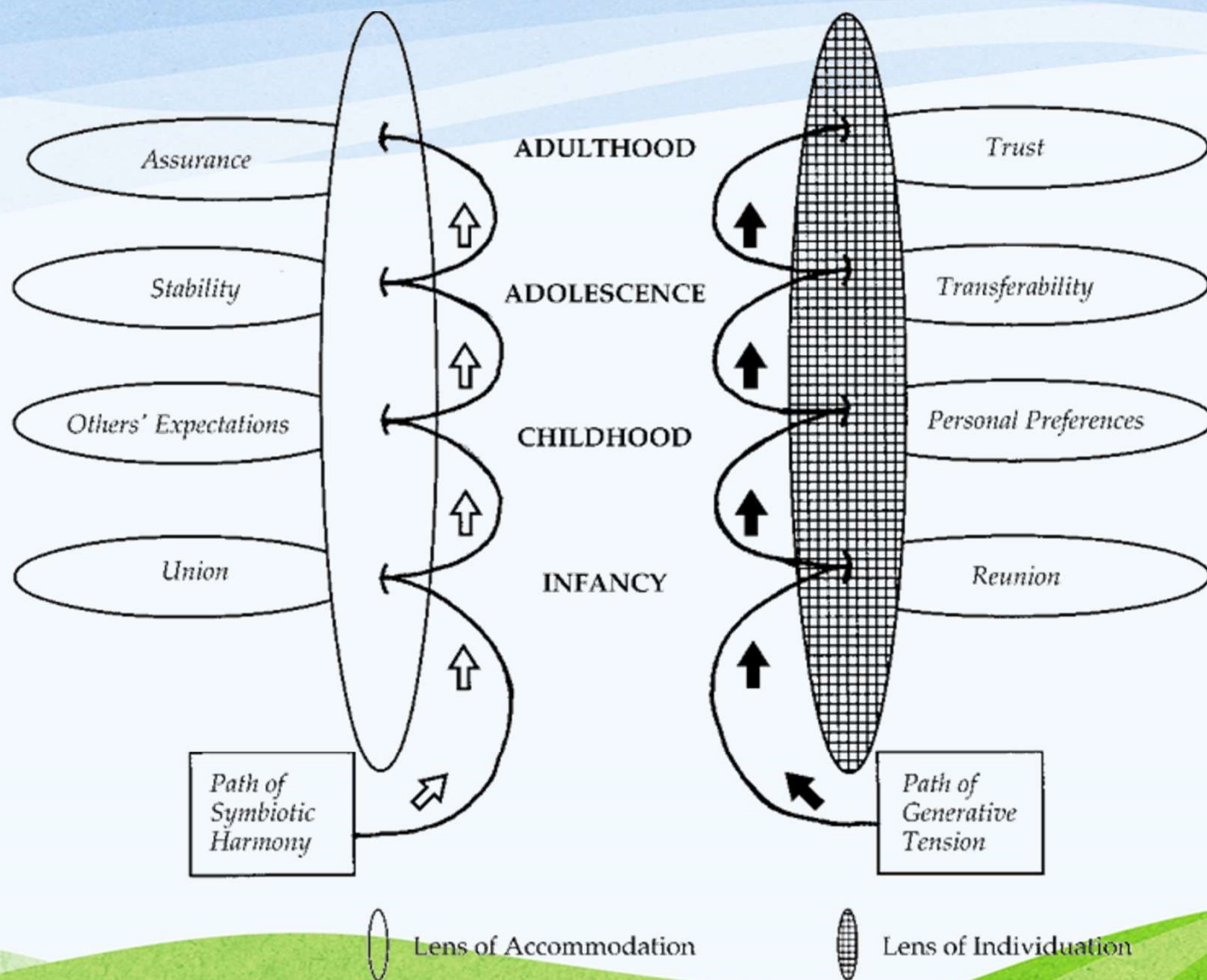
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5. and emphasize their connectedness to members of their collectives.”



## Confirmation bias

The tendency to seek out and prefer information that supports our preexisting beliefs





# Chaplains: Agents of Personhood

## Individualist\*

(typically reflect western ideals)

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Independent

Self-reliant

Achievement orientated

Competitive

Assertive

Pleasure seeking

Self-assured

Direct

Self-interest

## Collectivist†

(typically reflect eastern ideals)

---

Socially interdependent

Connected

Moderate/traditional

Cooperative

Obedient

Self-sacrificing

Sensitive

Self-controlled

Equalitarian

# Chaplains: Agents of Personhood

## Personhood / The Self:

Two competing constructs:

*The Existential Construct of Personhood: "A state of being inherent in and essential to the human species."*

*The Relational Construct of Personhood: "A conditional state of value defined by society."*



# Chaplains: Agents of Personhood

## Personhood / The Self:

*Is personhood inherent or derived?*

YES



# Chaplains: Agents of Personhood

## Personhood / The Self:

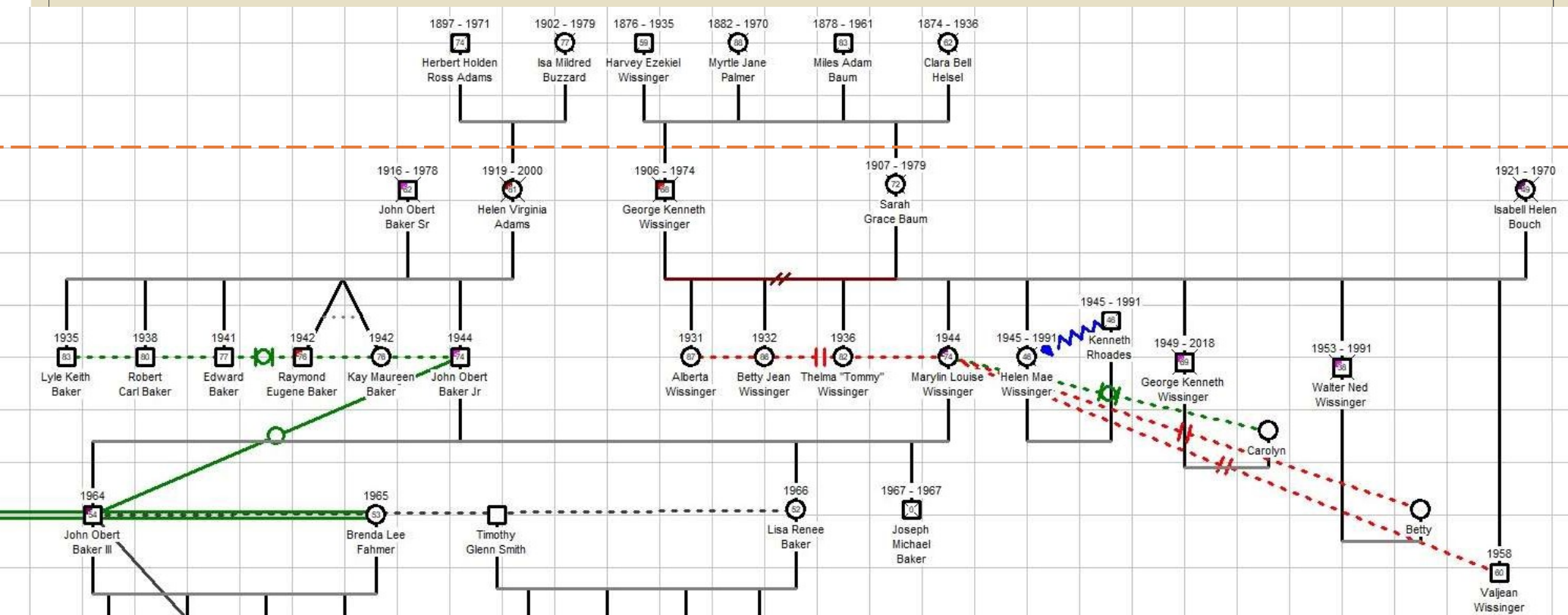
### *The Individual vs. The Person*

*“People are born as individuals and become persons through relationships.”*

*“People are born human and become a person through relationships.”*



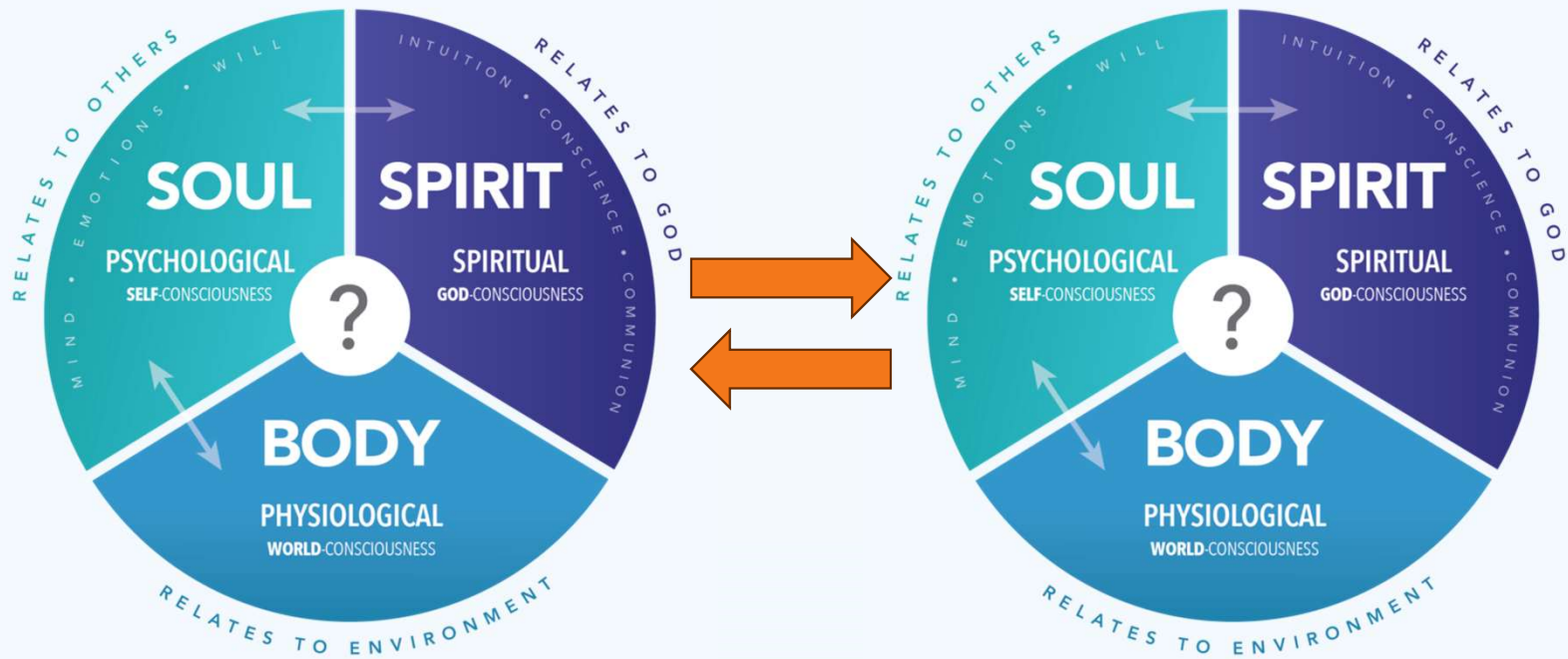
# JOB3 Genogram



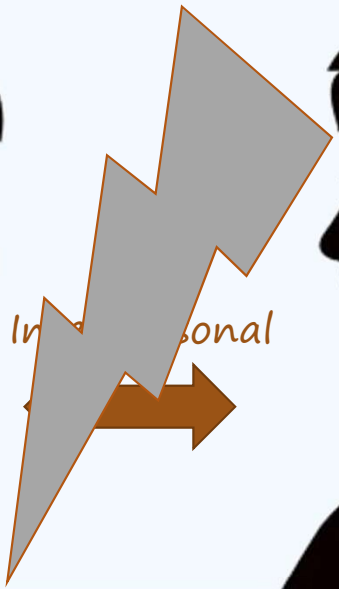
# Chaplains: Agents of Personhood



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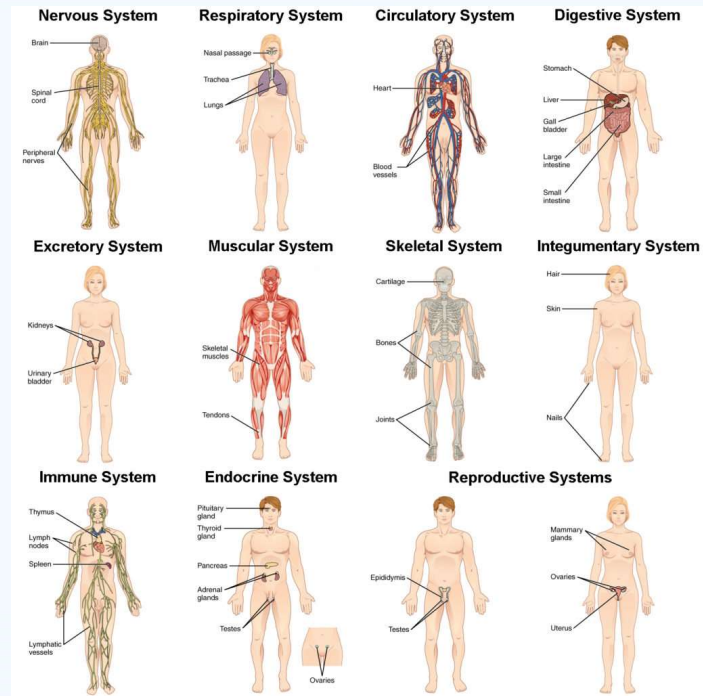
Transpersonal



Transpersonal



Transpersonal



*Transpersonal*



*Interpersonal*



*Transpersonal*







# Questions ??

*Chaplains as Agents of Personhood*



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