Chapter 8: Developing theory about the development of theory

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Abstract

This chapter provides a unique perspective on how to develop new theory. The chapter begins by describing what theory is not: it is not true, objective, or deductive. From there, the chapter explores what theory and theory development might actually be. In the most expansive section, the chapter articulates 20 points that constitute a unique approach to developing theory. These 20 points constitute a rich set of observations on theory building that are more interesting and relevant than they are rigorous or tested.
There are three important theories to explain the development of self. These theories have been propounded by Cooley, Mead and of Freud. A brief description of these theories is given below. 1. Cooley's Theory: Cooley's concept of self-development has been termed "looking-glass" concept. According to him, man develops the concept of self with the help of others. Man does not come to form opinions about him unless and until he comes into contact with other people and knows their opinions about himself. He forms to the concept of himself on the basis of opinions held by other