

THE CONSTITUTION OF BDTH

Constitutional Edition

P A P E R 15

Identity

P O S I T I O N

Identity represents one of the most enduring organising principles of human experience.

BDTH does not reject identity.

It examines the processes through which acquired architecture progressively becomes mistaken for the individual.

I D E N T I T Y

F O R M A T I O N

Identity develops progressively.

Language contributes.

Relationship contributes.

Memory contributes.

Expectation contributes.

Protective organisation contributes.

The resulting continuity serves important adaptive purposes.

I D E N T I F I C A T I O N

Difficulty arises when acquired organisation gradually acquires existential authority.

The individual increasingly experiences organisational continuity as essential identity.

Interpretation becomes progressively inseparable from self-understanding.

Observation correspondingly diminishes.

IDENTITY

RECOGNITION

Witness restores an essential distinction.

Identity may be observed.

What may be observed cannot simultaneously constitute the entirety of the observer.

The distinction requires no philosophical conclusion.

Its observational significance is sufficient.

CONTINUITY

Reducing unnecessary interference does not abolish identity.

Personality remains.

History remains.

Relationship remains.

Continuity remains.

The architecture simply ceases progressively to require uninterrupted identification with every acquired pattern.

IDENTITY

WORKING POSITION

BDTH proceeds from the working position that identity contains both ordinary continuity and acquired organisation.

Practice concerns the latter.

CLOSING POSITION

Identity need not become weaker.

It need only become less exclusive.

The coherent human system remains capable of continuity without becoming confined by every conclusion it has accumulated about itself.