


Fitting it Together

All 5 theories




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Take Away Highlights

- Darwinian
 - There are constants across culture
 - Much universality in expression
 - Strongest for Big Six
 - Strong case for evolutionary basis for emotion
- Jamesian
 - ANS specificity in emotions
 - Differentiation is clear but small
 - Arousal supports the body to do what it needs to do
 - ANS/ facial feedback gives rise to experience of emotion
- Cognitive
 - Appraisal is key – primary, at least
 - Distinct secondary appraisals associated with specific emotions
- Brain Physiology
 - Specific brain regions involved in emotional experience – both primary and secondary
 - Specific neurochemicals key in emotional experience
- Social Constructivist
 - Culture defines appraisal
 - Culture shapes emotional display


Where are the points of overlap

- Evolutionary fits easily with Jamesian, Cognitive, & Brain perspectives
- Jamesian fits easily with Brain perspective and if we think only about primary appraisal, it fits easily with the Cognitive view
- Social Constructivist is at odds with Evolutionary perspective & Cognitive perspective on issue of universality



Odd Duck Out . . .

- Socio-Cultural Theory is really the odd duck out
- How might we understand this?
- Levels of Analysis Model (Keltner & Haidt, 1999)
- Focuses on the function of emotion
- Levels
 - Individual – emotions prepare for action in best interest
 - Dyad – emotion helps form and maintain relationships
 - Group – emotions shaped by social roles to reinforce those roles
 - Culture – emotions shaped to reinforce cultural beliefs and values



Innate & Universal [Individual – emotions prepare for action in best interest
Dyad – emotion helps form and maintain relationships
Group – emotions shaped by social roles to reinforce those roles
Culture – emotions shaped to reinforce cultural beliefs and values]
Learned & Variable

Levels of Analysis Example

- Individual/ Dyad level
- Evolutionary Perspective
- Document physiology/ display of the emotion
- Demonstrate that this is universal
- Functions to demonstrate appeasement/ evoke forgiveness
- Group/ Culture level
- Cultural Perspective
- Document situations and roles in different cultures that elicit it
- Demonstrate its variability
- Functions to promote values like deference, submission



Another View..

- Neuro-Cultural Theory (Ekman, 1972)
 - **Universal**
 - Facial display is pancultural
 - **Cultural/ Partially variable**
 - Antecedents/ expectations
 - Display rules



View #3

- Socially Constructed Scripts (Russell, 1991)
- Components of emotion --- acts as a 'script'
 - Precipitating events
 - Interpretation of events
 - Physiological changes
 - Experience of emotion
 - Facial display
 - Masking/ body language/ vocal tone
 - Action tendencies



- Some components are universal/ inherently more common
- Some components are more likely to be cultural specific