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The Self and Transcendence of Emotion

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Early projects, biographical interviews:

(1) “Learning and Social Cohesion: values, attitudes and civic participation”

(2) “Managing transitions: learning and adaptation among parents with young children”
A typology of identity and identification

The Self:

Increasingly more peripheral - individual and social aspects of identity

Most core
The Self

Essentialism - false

Social Constructionism – if true, trivially so, so inadequate

Narrative Identity – can bring together the fairly core and the peripheral, individual and social, descriptions and values (a reference point for emotions)
The “Most Core” Self

Beyond even narrative

Self-Identity – immunity to error through misidentification

Sartre: non-positional consciousness, fundamental selfness
Sartre

“Consciousness is not what it is and is what it is not”

Intentionality:
Consciousness is consciousness of....

Object
Sartre

Self-Consciousness is positional consciousness of...

Self-Consciousness is also non-positional consciousness of self (now)

Transcendence = outside consciousness, and having a breadth and depth of characteristics beyond current awareness
Examples

matter of factness in narrations
– why?
Sartre on Emotion

On James – physiology begs the question
On Janet – Behaviourism too incoherent
On Dembo – assumption of inferiority of emotional behaviour unwarranted
On Freud – the unconscious re-creates the same problem, the “censor” knows
Sartre

Consciousness is consciousness of….

Object
Sartre on Emotion

“magical transformation” as a project of consciousness
Sartre

Past self narrated, with past episodes of emotion

- which assists in making self transcendent (creatively) but not itself magically transformed

- which also puts distance between narrator and narrated (emotional or otherwise)
Questions and comments, please!