



Erich Fromm Glossary – Grundbegriffe Erich Fromms

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personality

By personality I understand the totality of inherited and acquired psychic qualities which are characteristic of one individual and which make the individual unique. The difference between inherited and acquired qualities is on the whole synonymous with the difference between temperament, gifts, and all constitutionally given psychic qualities on the one hand and character on the other. [...] Differences in character are expressive of the degree to which an individual has succeeded in the art of living.— (1947a: *Man for Himself*, New York (Rinehart and Co.) 1947, pp. 50f.)

Persönlichkeit

Unter Persönlichkeit verstehe ich die Totalität ererbter und erworbener psychischer Eigenschaften, die den Einzelnen charakterisieren und das Einmalige dieses Einzelnen ausmachen. Der Unterschied zwischen ererbten und erworbenen Eigenschaften entspricht im großen und ganzen dem Unterschied zwischen Temperament, Begabung und allen konstitutionellen psychischen Eigenschaften einerseits und dem Charakter andererseits. [...] Die Charakterunterschiede zeigen den Grad an, bis zu welchem der Einzelne in der Kunst des Lebens erfolgreich war.— (1947a: Psychoanalyse und Ethik, GA II, S. 37)