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In the ninth century, one goat herder noticed that when his goats were nibbling on the bright red berries of a certain bush, they became very energetic. The herder then chewed on the fruit himself. His elation of spirits prompted him to bring the fruit to the nearest a monastery in the village. A monk deemed the berries to be the evil work, and abruptly threw the berries into a nearby fire. In a short time, a sensual and powerful aroma filled the room that could not be missed. The monk, who had thrown them in the fire, ordered the embers be pulled from the fire. Then hot water was poured over them to preserve the smell. Upon drinking the mixture, they felt the peaceful, warming, and calming sensation it gave them. The effects were so powerful, as they were able to stay alert and discuss important matters for longer periods of time. The monk then shared his discovery with the other monks at the monastery, and knowledge of the exciting berries began to spread.

When making new friends, talking with school friends, and working with fellow workers, our personae strongly impact our daily mingling. A lot of theories exist about how personae develop. There are also methods for measuring and modifying this basic part of our lives.

Whether we are shy or outgoing, curious or wary, realistic or artistic, whatever, our nature is an important part of who we are. It shapes many facets of our lives, including the way we view the world and how other people see us. Relationships at home, school, and the workplace are all affected by our own personality. Deeper knowledge of its processes and components is a powerful tool in bettering our lives.

Personality or nature is a broad concept, encompassing the way we think, feel, and behave. In short, it is the totality of our identity. In psychological terms, personality involves the way we interpret an experience, what we think and feel about it, and how we react, at least, outwardly. Ingrained patterns of behavior lead to similar responses to new

experiences, resulting in comparable outcomes and creating a perpetuating cycle for oneself without time limit. Since individuals generally behave in expected patterns, persona is considered stable over time. So, for instance, if you consider your neighbors to be trustworthy, you are unlikely to expect them to act deceitfully.

Here is a question whether how a person becomes himself, herself or oneself. Numerous schools of thought have tried solving this challenging puzzle. While behaviorists emphasize the importance of their environment, humanists view free will and personal choice as crucial factors or elements. Biological psychologists, on the other hand, see heredity as a determining force. Many scholars, rather than subscribe to any one school, see personality as an interlocking web of variables including genetics, the environment, parenting styles, cultural issues, and the workings of the unconscious mind.

When it comes to pinpointing the elements of personality, trait theory is popular. It involves the identification of distinct characteristics such as generosity and empathy, which may be abundant or in short supply for an individual. Personality psychologists, working to isolate the total number of different traits, have generated lists with as few as three traits to lists with as many as four thousand. In recent years, the big five models have gained widespread acceptance, and these models suggest that we all possess, to varying degrees, these characteristics, such as extraversion, agreeableness, neuroticism, conscientiousness, and openness to experience. Each trait contains a range of potential components. For example, someone who is prompt and responsible would rate highly on the metric of conscientiousness.

From country to country, differences exist in commonly held traits, strengthening the view that culture plays an important role in personality development. Parenting strategies underscore these distinctions. Research

has shown that in some nations parents are likely to encourage children to pursue self-gratifications. In contrast, in other nations, restraint and the delay of gratification are encouraged. In the former set of nations, children learn to become independent, while obedience is valued in the latter. Rather than a question of right or wrong, parenting decisions should be viewed in the context of each culture, with desirable values measured by their ability to help the children succeed in life.

Given the biological and social forces we are subjected to, the question arises; to what extent we can modify our personality. Many psychologists feel that change is possible if we focus on altering habits and belief systems which underlie dominant traits. For example, if we regularly find fault with people, we can make an effort to look for things we admire about others. With persistence, a more positive demeanor can emerge. The essential starting point is a belief that change is practicable. One informative research project involved some students and the issue of brain development. The students who learned that the brain continuously develops were emboldened that they could become better versions of themselves. This newfound confidence led to an improvement in academic performance.

Various assessment tools exist to measure personality traits, the most famous being one special type indicator, which is taken by two million people yearly. This tool and other more specialized instruments help individuals understand themselves, assist doctors in diagnosing personality disorders, and provide valuable information to employers looking for the right person for a position. The corporate use of these metrics worldwide should come as no surprise, as research and experience show that beyond intelligence, being a successful employee requires persistence, reliability and interpersonal skills. Individuals can also use these assessments for edification, and continue down the road of our improvement.