

WAYS OF SEEING, WAYS OF KNOWING (Belenky et al.)

SILENCED KNOWER (not on Perry's scheme)

Voice: "I can't learn; life is chaotic and I have no control over it; knowledge is what other people, smarter than I, can have."

Profile: Person does not try to learn; tries to be unnoticed and quiet.

RECEIVED KNOWER (on Perry's scheme: Dualist)

Voice: "If I listen carefully and remember, I can learn from experts and those with authority."

Profile: Person strains to repeat back exactly what they have heard or read; wants to know the "right answers."

SUBJECTIVIST KNOWER (on Perry's scheme: Multiplist)

Voice: "Sometimes the experts don't know what they're talking about; everybody's got their own opinions."

Profile: Person trusts his or her own "gut"; adopts a "seeing-is-believing" approach to learning; trusts experience.

PROCEDURAL KNOWER (On Perry's scheme: Relativist)

Voice: "Experts can disagree; some opinions are more convincing than others; knowledge can only be trusted if it's justified and warranted."

Profile: Person critiques other people's opinions and knowledge; justifies his/her opinions through credible procedures (dialogue, research, evidence, and so forth).

CONSTRUCTIVIST KNOWER (on Perry's scheme: Committed Knower)

Voice: "All human knowledge is constructed; I can make my own contributions to what people know about the world; I can contribute what I value."

Profile: Person constructs knowledge, justifies it convincingly, and contributes it to others.

The capacity to know is always a matter of perspective and agency.