**Assignment #1**

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Omega Graduate School

Leader Development: Transforming Self Concept

Professor Dr. Curtis McClane

April 2, 2024

**Assignment #1 – Core Essential Elements**

1. Select One (1) Core Essential Element from the Syllabus Outline:

a. Create a 350-word original discussion paper (with cited sources) during the week of the residency. Be prepared to discuss and engage with other students during the live sessions. Post this document in DIAL.

b. Professor will check for quality of content and word-count requirements. Grade assigned will be Credit or No Credit (CR/NC).

Self-concept is a fundamental aspect of human psychology and is pivotal in shaping individuals' perceptions, behaviors, and relationships. In this discussion paper, we explore its essence, components, developmental pathways, and implications for personal growth.

Self-concept encompasses individuals' perceptions of themselves, including their beliefs, values, abilities, and identity. Rooted in the concept of Imago Dei or in other words the image of God, it is formed by four fundamental components: connectedness, uniqueness, models, and power (Cooley, 1902).

Research suggests that self-concept influences various aspects of personal development, including academic achievement, mental health, and interpersonal relationships. By cultivating a positive self-concept, individuals are more likely to experience greater confidence, resilience, and overall well-being (Brewer & Gardner, 1996; Maslow, 1968).

Understanding the dynamics of self-concept has practical implications for educators, counselors, and leaders. Interventions to enhance individuals' self-concept can include fostering positive role models, promoting self-awareness and acceptance, and providing opportunities for personal growth and exploration.

In conclusion, self-concept is a cornerstone in personal development, shaping individuals' perceptions of themselves and their capabilities. By fostering a positive self-concept, individuals can navigate life's challenges with confidence and resilience, leading to greater fulfillment and success in their calling to serve others.

**Works Cited**

Brewer, M. B., & Gardner, W. (1996). Who is this "we"? Levels of collective identity and self representations. Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, 71(1), 83–93. <https://doi.org/10.1037/0022-3514.71.1.83>

Cooley, Charles Horton, 1864-1929. (1922). Human nature and the social order. New York: Scribner

Maslow, A. H. (2013). Toward a psychology of being. Start Publishing LLC.

James:

Master List for Professors assignments Feedback

FINAL NOTE:

This was a great first assignment, preparing for discussion on Saturday’s live session. Great job! I always encourage Core 1 students to begin a Word Document “master list” that includes the significant feedback that students receive from all of their professors about writing, APA formatting, grammar, etc. If you do this, and go over the list fairly frequently, implementing the suggestions that professors are providing for each course, you will find yourself improving immensely in your academic writing. As you already know, academic writing is much more formal and difficulty than normal writing.