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Can We Create Our ‘Self’? - A Philosophical Enquiry on Creativity for Personal Development

Being framed as certain **skills** or **abilities**, “creativity” as an academic hot topic in recent decades has gained remarkably significance in the area of personal development. However, from a creative product to a creative person a logical linkage has to be developed. This paper aims to establish this logical linkage by exploring philosophically the creative self whose product is the creator’s self and his own life, and redefine creativity as subjective attitudes rather than objective skills. The enquiry begins with the question about the existence of the “self”, followed by investigation on the origin and form of its existence and how it is associated with the notion of creativity. Methodologically, the paper adopts a comparative approach, reexamining the philosophical theories from Buddhism, Existentialism (of Camus, Sartre and Heidegger) and round up by Confucianism and Taoism. In answering the question whether our “self” is created by our own, the paper concludes with the fundamental quality of creative life which is predicated on belief and attitude.