



Come run the River of Adult Cognitive Development: Bring a supporter too!

Source – Dualistic Thinking

Mouth – relativistic Dialectical Thinking, emptying into the *Ocean of Wisdom*. Found in her depths are the acceptance of ambiguity as a virtue, transcendence to higher awareness (Wilber’s Eighth Level) and Kegan’s trans-systems thinking.

Rocks and boulders (Contradictions and paradoxes) are ever present obstacles to river runners, yet also create *eddies* – calmer waters that provide needed rest.

Along the Way: Piaget (1981): *“Perhaps development is all transitions and ‘stages’ [are] only resting points along the way.”* While our river shores represent the context that shapes our journey, eddies are indeed the stages of rest along the dynamic running of the Adult Cognitive Development River, as it flows toward maturity. It is the natural transitions of the river’s terrain that present sets of challenging rapids. Successful navigation of these difficult transitions brings true cognitive development. Here, metaphorical eddies provide calmer waters for reflection and rest.

Fourth Eddy: Dialectical Thinking: Washburn's 'awesome energy' awakens us. Baxter Magolda's internal voice is coordinator of own meaning-making. Perry's Position 9 -- "I must be wholehearted, respect others and be ready to learn." **Arrive at Ocean of Wisdom!**

Third Eddy: Development of 'Self' in an uncertain world. Magolda & King recognize self-authorship and self as central to knowledge construction. WWK stage 3 - self appears and women gain a voice. Labouvie-Vief shares the mature adult's ability to be self-regulating in choosing one's worldview, and one path among many.

Second Eddy: Neo-Piagetian postformal reflective thinking and the importance of context enter our stream of thought. We may find ourselves negotiating King and Kitchener's waves with peaks of commonly used sets of assumptions.

First Eddy: New river runners may be passive, silent, believe authorities know, seek Right answers and cling to concrete thought. So too say models WWK, Reflective Judgment, Perry's Scheme, and of course, Piaget.