April 26, 2018

Hi Everyone,

We have started using the new MOHO textbook this year teaching our first year students and it is going very well. One of our students has asked a very good question and I thought I would put it out to the MOHO experts:

I have been reading about personal causation and performance capacity and I do not understand the difference between personal causation and the subjective element of performance capacity. From what I can gather they are synonymous, is that correct?

Please let me know your thoughts and I’ll pass the advice on to our students.

Thank you very much,
Melissa Aguey-Zinsou
Lecturer in Occupational Therapy
First Year Course Advisor
School of Allied Health

April 28, 2018

Hi Melissa,

Thanks for your inquiry. It is a good question. Personal causation refers to the cognitive awareness of one’s ability as that awareness fuels the associated interest, pleasure and value for doing things. The subjective experience of performance is what a person feels or experiences in the midst or actual moment of doing and it is revealed in and by the doing - the lived body work introduced in the prior editions and also included in edition five explains this well. I hope this helps.

Renee

Model of Human Occupation Clearinghouse – Archived ListServ Discussion
April 28, 2018

Thanks for this, Renée.
In all my years of using and applying and teaching MOHO, this succinct explanation has eluded me!

Sue Parkinson

April 29, 2018

Melissa,

The more I think about your student’s question, and try to put my explanation into words, the more I reflect back....

Building on Renee’s response, as personal causation is in the volitional subsystem, it is intentional. It is a voluntary act based on interests, values, and values. Several versions back, Gary differentiated between belief in Skill and belief in efficacy of skill, the difference being the individual's perception of the skill as useful and valuable.

This seems to be a subjective element of personal causation. Does anyone recall how this concept evolved, or got discarded?

Appreciate any comments on this, it was a construct which always resonated with me.

Patricia J Scott, PhD, MPH, OT, FAOTA
Interim Chair and Professor, Occupational Therapy
Director, Post-Professional Doctor of Occupational Therapy Program
Adjunct Associate Professor, School of Medicine

April 29, 2018

Hi Patty

Thanks. That is helpful. The Cliffs Notes version is that the idea of one's subjective experience of performance and performance capacity originated with Gary Kielhofner's seminal paper, "Meditation on the Use of Hands" ([https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.3109/11038129509106808?journalCode=iocc20](https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.3109/11038129509106808?journalCode=iocc20)), and then the work was further extended with all of the lived body work described in the MOHO books. Dr. Kerstin Tham was a significant co-contributor to the later development of the lived body work.
April 29, 2018

Yes Renee.

I support very much your explanation. I will be able to explain more about this in close time. I apologize for not being able to do it right now.

Love to all,
Carmen Gloria de las Heras
Chile

April 30, 2018

Renee,

Thanks for that reference. Meditation on the use of Hands is one of my all-time favorite articles. As far as I am concerned it is a ‘must read’ for all students, clinicians, and scholars in OT.

Patricia J Scott, PhD, MPH, OT, FAOTA
Interim Chair and Associate Professor, Occupational Therapy
Adjunct Associate Professor, School of Medicine
School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences

May 4, 2018

Thanks so much for your help. I look forward to reading this article and I appreciate the great explanations.

Melissa Aguey-Zinsou
Lecturer in Occupational Therapy
First Year Course Advisor
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