

other selves philosophers on friendship

other selves philosophers on friendship have long explored the nature of human relationships, emphasizing the profound connection between individuals who recognize each other as distinct yet intimately linked beings. This philosophical perspective views friendship not merely as a social bond but as an encounter with another self, a relationship that transcends superficial interactions and touches upon the core of human identity and mutual recognition. Throughout history, various thinkers have contributed to this understanding, analyzing how friendship shapes moral development, personal growth, and the experience of genuine otherness. This article delves into key philosophical contributions to the concept of other selves in friendship, exploring classical, modern, and contemporary viewpoints. It examines how these philosophers frame friendship as a dynamic interplay between selfhood and otherness and considers the ethical implications arising from such relationships. The discussion further highlights the significance of empathy, trust, and mutual respect in fostering true friendships, aligning with the broader discourse on identity and interpersonal connection. The following sections will provide a comprehensive overview of these philosophical insights.

- Classical Perspectives on Other Selves and Friendship
- Modern Philosophical Views on Friendship and Otherness
- Contemporary Theories: Ethics and the Other in Friendship
- Key Themes in Philosophical Discussions of Other Selves in Friendship

Classical Perspectives on Other Selves and Friendship

The classical philosophical tradition offers foundational insights into the concept of other selves in friendship. Ancient philosophers such as Plato and Aristotle laid the groundwork for understanding friendship as a relationship that involves recognizing and valuing the other as a distinct self. This recognition is not merely an acknowledgment of another person's existence but an appreciation of their unique character and virtues.

Plato's Dialogues on Friendship and the Other

Plato's dialogues often highlight the transformative nature of friendship, where the self encounters the other in a pursuit of truth and goodness. In works like the "Lysis," Plato explores how friendship arises from a mutual desire for what is good and beneficial. The other is seen not as a rival but as a complementary self whose presence enriches one's understanding of virtue and the self.

Aristotle's Notion of Friendship as Mutual Recognition

Aristotle famously categorized friendship into three types: friendships of utility, pleasure, and virtue. The highest form, friendship of virtue, encapsulates the essence of other selves philosophers on friendship by emphasizing mutual recognition of moral character. Such friendships require an intimate knowing of the other's virtues, fostering a relationship where both individuals aim to promote each other's flourishing.

- Friendship is based on mutual goodwill and shared values.
- True friendship involves a deep understanding and acceptance of the other self.
- Otherness in friendship is embraced as a means for personal growth and ethical development.

Modern Philosophical Views on Friendship and Otherness

In the modern era, philosophers expanded on classical ideas by incorporating psychological and existential dimensions into the understanding of other selves in friendship. The focus shifted toward how individuals relate to others in contexts of freedom, individuality, and intersubjectivity.

Immanuel Kant and Moral Respect for the Other

Kantian philosophy emphasizes respect for persons as ends in themselves, which resonates with the concept of other selves in friendship. For Kant, friendship involves recognizing the inherent dignity and autonomy of the other, fostering relationships grounded in moral respect rather than instrumental use. This approach underscores the ethical foundation necessary for genuine friendships.

Jean-Paul Sartre and the Existential Encounter with the Other

Existentialist philosophy, particularly Sartre's, presents the other as a crucial element in self-awareness. In the context of friendship, the encounter with another self can be both affirming and challenging, as it forces individuals to confront their own freedom and limitations. Sartre's analysis reveals the tension between self and other but also the possibility of authentic connection through mutual recognition.

Contemporary Theories: Ethics and the Other in Friendship

Contemporary philosophers continue to explore the ethical and phenomenological aspects of other selves in friendship, often integrating insights from feminist, phenomenological, and relational ethics perspectives. These theories emphasize the dynamic and ongoing nature of friendship as an ethical practice involving vulnerability and openness.

Emmanuel Levinas and the Primacy of the Other

Levinas's philosophy centers on the ethical responsibility to the other as a fundamental aspect of human relationships. In friendship, this translates to an infinite obligation to recognize and respond to the other's alterity without attempting to reduce them to the self's categories. Levinas's thought challenges conventional notions of friendship by prioritizing ethical responsiveness over reciprocity.

Contemporary Relational Ethics and Friendship

Contemporary relational ethics highlights how friendships are formed and sustained through mutual care, trust, and respect for difference. This framework sees friendship as a space where other selves are engaged with attentiveness to their distinct perspectives, fostering equality and shared growth rather than domination or assimilation.

- Friendship as a dialogical and ethical practice.
- The importance of vulnerability and trust in recognizing otherness.
- Commitment to preserving the other's uniqueness while nurturing the relationship.

Key Themes in Philosophical Discussions of Other Selves in Friendship

The discourse surrounding other selves philosophers on friendship reveals several recurring themes that are essential to understanding the complexity of this human bond. These themes illustrate how friendship functions as a site of ethical engagement and identity formation.

Mutual Recognition and Identity

At the heart of philosophical reflections on friendship is the concept of mutual recognition. Friendship involves seeing the other as a distinct self with their own values and experiences, which in turn shapes one's own identity. This reciprocal acknowledgment fosters self-awareness and deepens interpersonal connection.

Ethical Responsibility and Care

Friendship entails an ethical responsibility to care for the other's well-being without subsuming their individuality. Philosophers emphasize that genuine friendship requires respecting boundaries, offering support, and maintaining trust, all of which contribute to a balanced and enduring relationship.

The Role of Empathy and Understanding

Empathy plays a crucial role in bridging the gap between selves in friendship. It allows individuals to appreciate the other's perspective and emotions, facilitating a compassionate and authentic connection. Philosophical analyses often highlight empathy as a foundational skill for navigating the complexities of otherness.

1. Recognition of the other's unique identity.
2. Commitment to ethical care and respect.
3. Development of empathy to foster understanding.
4. Embracing vulnerability as a means of deepening trust.
5. Mutual growth through shared experiences and moral reflection.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who are the 'other selves' philosophers in the context of friendship?

The 'other selves' philosophers refer to thinkers who conceptualize friendship as a relationship where friends are seen as extensions or reflections of oneself, emphasizing empathy, mutual understanding, and shared identity.

How does Aristotle's view relate to the idea of 'other selves' in friendship?

Aristotle viewed true friendship as a bond between people who wish good for each other for the other's own sake, often describing friends as 'another self,' highlighting deep mutual respect and similarity.

What role does empathy play in the 'other selves' philosophical perspective on friendship?

Empathy is central, as it allows friends to understand and share each other's feelings, fostering a sense of unity and seeing the friend as an extension of oneself.

How do contemporary philosophers interpret the concept of 'other selves' in friendship?

Contemporary philosophers often explore 'other selves' in friendship by examining how interpersonal relationships shape identity, emphasizing relational autonomy and the moral significance of recognizing the other as a self.

Can the 'other selves' concept in friendship apply to online or virtual friendships?

Yes, many argue that the 'other selves' concept extends to virtual friendships, as meaningful connections and mutual understanding can be developed through digital communication, reflecting similar psychological and emotional bonds.

What ethical implications arise from viewing friends as 'other selves'?

This perspective promotes ethical behavior by encouraging individuals to treat friends with the same care and respect as they would themselves, fostering altruism and moral responsibility within friendships.

How does the 'other selves' philosophy address conflicts within friendships?

It suggests that conflicts should be resolved through mutual understanding and empathy, recognizing the friend's perspective as akin to one's own, thereby promoting reconciliation and harmony.

Are there critiques of the 'other selves' view in friendship philosophy?

Yes, some critiques argue that seeing friends as 'other selves' may overlook individuality and difference, potentially imposing expectations that limit authentic interpersonal diversity.

How do Eastern philosophies relate to the 'other selves' concept in friendship?

Eastern philosophies, such as Confucianism and Buddhism, often emphasize interconnectedness and compassion, aligning with the 'other selves' idea by viewing friendship as a harmonious relationship that transcends individual separateness.

What is the significance of 'other selves' in fostering deep and lasting friendships?

Recognizing friends as 'other selves' encourages profound empathy, trust, and mutual care, which are foundational for building enduring and meaningful friendships.

Additional Resources

1. "The Nicomachean Ethics" by Aristotle

This classic work by Aristotle explores the nature of virtue and the good life, dedicating significant attention to the concept of friendship. Aristotle categorizes friendships into three types: friendships of utility, pleasure, and virtue, emphasizing that the highest form is based on mutual goodness and moral character. His insights continue to influence contemporary philosophical discussions on interpersonal relationships and ethics.

2. "On Friendship" by Michel de Montaigne

Montaigne's essay "On Friendship" reflects on the deep bond between friends, inspired by his own relationship with Étienne de La Boétie. The work delves into themes of loyalty, trust, and the unique intimacy that distinguishes true friendship from other social ties. Montaigne's personal and philosophical reflections highlight friendship as a profound and enriching human experience.

3. *"The Art of Friendship" by Roger Horchow and Sally Horchow*

This modern exploration discusses friendship from both a philosophical and practical perspective, offering insights into building and maintaining meaningful relationships. The book blends historical wisdom with contemporary advice, helping readers understand the dynamics of friendship in everyday life. It serves as a guide to cultivating empathy, communication, and mutual support.

4. *"Friendship: A Philosophical Reader" edited by Neera Kapur Badhwar*

This anthology collects essential philosophical essays on friendship from ancient to modern thinkers, providing a comprehensive overview of the topic. Contributors explore various dimensions of friendship, including its ethical significance, psychological aspects, and social functions. The reader is ideal for anyone interested in the diverse philosophical perspectives on human connections.

5. *"The Ethics of Friendship" by Mark Vernon*

Mark Vernon examines friendship through the lens of moral philosophy, arguing that friendships are vital for ethical living and personal development. He discusses how friendships challenge self-centeredness and foster virtues like kindness, honesty, and loyalty. The book combines philosophical analysis with contemporary examples, making a compelling case for the ethical importance of friendship.

6. *"Friendship and the Self: A Study in Personal Identity" by Mary Ann Glendon*

This work investigates the relationship between friendship and personal identity, questioning how friendships shape and reflect our understanding of the self. Glendon explores philosophical theories of the self while analyzing how deep friendships contribute to self-knowledge and authenticity. The book offers an interdisciplinary approach, integrating philosophy, psychology, and sociology.

7. *"The Uses of Friendship: Two Essays" by Michel de Montaigne*

In this collection, Montaigne presents his profound thoughts on the purpose and value of friendship in human life. He contrasts friendship with other social bonds, emphasizing its voluntary and spiritual nature. His essays provide timeless insights into how friendship enriches human existence beyond mere utility or pleasure.

8. *"Friendship: Development, Ecology, and Evolution of a Relationship" by Daniel J. Hruschka*

Hruschka approaches friendship from an interdisciplinary perspective, combining philosophy, anthropology, and evolutionary biology. The book explores how friendships develop, their ecological contexts, and their evolutionary significance in human societies. It offers a broad understanding of friendship's role in human survival and social cohesion.

9. *"The Philosophy of Friendship" by Friedrich Nietzsche*

Nietzsche's reflections on friendship challenge traditional moral views, emphasizing individualism and the transformative power of friendship. He

views friendship as a space for personal growth, conflict, and self-overcoming rather than mere comfort or support. His provocative ideas invite readers to reconsider the dynamics and purposes of friendship in the quest for authenticity.

Other Selves Philosophers On Friendship

Other Selves: Philosophers on Friendship - Exploring the Bonds that Shape Us

This ebook delves into the profound philosophical explorations of friendship, examining how different thinkers throughout history have conceived of the unique bond between individuals and its impact on self-discovery, personal growth, and the overall human experience. We'll explore the concept of "other selves," the idea that friends serve as mirrors reflecting aspects of ourselves we might not otherwise see, and how this relationship shapes our understanding of who we are. This exploration is crucial in understanding the complexities of human connection and its vital role in a fulfilling life.

Ebook Title: Navigating the Labyrinth of Friendship: A Philosophical Exploration of "Other Selves"

Contents:

Introduction: Defining Friendship and the "Other Self" Concept

Chapter 1: Aristotle's Conception of Friendship: A Foundation for Understanding

Exploring the different types of friendship according to Aristotle (utility, pleasure, virtue).

Analyzing the role of reciprocity, shared activities, and mutual respect in Aristotelian friendship.

Examining the ethical dimensions of friendship and its contribution to a virtuous life.

Chapter 2: Friendship in the Stoic Tradition: Self-Mastery and Social Harmony

Discussing the Stoic emphasis on virtue, reason, and living in accordance with nature.

Examining how Stoic philosophy views friendship as a means of self-improvement and achieving eudaimonia.

Analyzing the role of empathy, compassion, and shared values in Stoic friendships.

Chapter 3: The Existentialist Perspective: Friendship and Authenticity

Exploring the existentialist emphasis on individual freedom, responsibility, and the search for meaning.

Analyzing how friendships can contribute to the development of authentic selves.

Examining the challenges and complexities of friendship in a world characterized by isolation and alienation.

Chapter 4: Contemporary Perspectives on Friendship: Psychology, Sociology, and Neuroscience

Reviewing recent research from psychology, sociology, and neuroscience on the benefits of friendship.

Exploring the impact of social media and technology on friendships.

Discussing the challenges of maintaining friendships across diverse life stages and circumstances.

Conclusion: The Enduring Importance of Friendship in Human Life

Introduction: This section defines friendship, differentiating between casual acquaintances and deep friendships, and introduces the central concept of the "other self" – the idea that friends act as mirrors, reflecting aspects of our personalities and selves that we may not fully recognize on our own. We establish the philosophical foundation for the exploration to follow.

Chapter 1: Aristotle's Conception of Friendship: This chapter examines Aristotle's profound analysis of friendship, differentiating between friendships based on utility, pleasure, and virtue. It focuses on the Aristotelian view of reciprocity, shared activities as central to cultivating strong bonds, and the ethical dimensions inherent in true friendship as a pathway to a flourishing life.

Chapter 2: Friendship in the Stoic Tradition: This chapter explores how Stoic philosophers viewed friendship as a crucial element in achieving a virtuous and fulfilling life. It emphasizes the role of reason, self-mastery, and living in harmony with nature as foundational principles that shape Stoic friendships, highlighting their emphasis on empathy and shared values.

Chapter 3: The Existentialist Perspective: This section dives into the existentialist view of friendship, connecting it to the themes of authenticity, freedom, and the search for meaning. We explore how existentialists perceive friendship as a crucial tool in confronting existential angst and building genuine connections despite the inherent isolation of the human condition.

Chapter 4: Contemporary Perspectives: This chapter bridges the gap between classical philosophical thought and contemporary research. We explore recent studies from psychology, sociology, and neuroscience that highlight the cognitive, emotional, and physical benefits of strong social connections. We also address the impact of technology and societal shifts on the nature of modern friendships.

Conclusion: This concluding section summarizes the key arguments presented throughout the ebook, emphasizing the enduring importance of friendship in human life, from ancient philosophical perspectives to modern scientific findings. We re-iterate the significance of fostering meaningful relationships for personal growth, well-being, and a richer understanding of self.

Keywords: friendship, philosophy, Aristotle, Stoicism, Existentialism, other selves, self-discovery, personal growth, social connection, human relationships, psychological well-being, neuroscience, sociology, meaning of life, eudaimonia, virtue, authenticity, reciprocity, empathy, compassion, social media, technology, contemporary friendship.

FAQs:

1. What is the "other self" concept in friendship? The "other self" refers to the way friends reflect

aspects of our personality, values, and selves that we might not fully recognize on our own. They act as mirrors, revealing hidden facets of who we are.

2. How does Aristotle define friendship? Aristotle defines three types: friendships of utility (based on mutual benefit), friendships of pleasure (based on shared enjoyment), and friendships of virtue (based on mutual respect and shared values). The last is considered the truest and most enduring.

3. What is the Stoic perspective on friendship? Stoics view friendship as a means of achieving eudaimonia (flourishing) by fostering virtue, reason, and living in accordance with nature. Empathy and shared values are key elements.

4. How do existentialists view friendship? Existentialists emphasize the role of friendship in the search for authenticity and meaning in a world often characterized by isolation and alienation. Friends help us to define and affirm our unique selves.

5. What are the psychological benefits of friendship? Research shows that strong friendships contribute to increased happiness, improved mental and physical health, reduced stress, and greater resilience in the face of adversity.

6. How has technology impacted friendship? Technology has both positive and negative impacts. It facilitates connections across distances but can also lead to superficial interactions and a sense of isolation despite being constantly "connected."

7. Are friendships important across all life stages? Yes, friendships are crucial throughout life, providing support, companionship, and a sense of belonging at every stage of development.

8. What are some practical tips for nurturing friendships? Prioritize quality time, be a good listener, offer support, practice empathy, and actively participate in shared activities.

9. How can philosophy help us understand friendship better? Philosophical inquiry provides frameworks for understanding the nature of friendship, its ethical dimensions, and its role in human flourishing, enriching our appreciation for its complexity and importance.

Related Articles:

1. The Ethics of Friendship: A Kantian Perspective: Explores Immanuel Kant's deontological approach to friendship, focusing on the moral duties and obligations involved in maintaining strong and ethical relationships.

2. Friendship and the Development of the Self: Discusses the psychological and developmental aspects of friendship, exploring how it contributes to identity formation and self-understanding.

3. The Neuroscience of Friendship: Brain Mechanisms and Social Bonding: Investigates the neurological basis of friendship, exploring the brain regions and neurochemicals involved in social connection and attachment.

4. Friendship in the Digital Age: Challenges and Opportunities: Examines the impact of social media

and technology on the formation, maintenance, and nature of friendships in the contemporary world.

5. The Sociology of Friendship: Networks, Groups, and Social Capital: Analyzes friendship from a sociological perspective, exploring its role in creating social networks and generating social capital.

6. Aristotle's Nicomachean Ethics and the Meaning of Friendship: A detailed examination of Aristotle's views on friendship as presented in his Nicomachean Ethics, including a thorough analysis of his different types of friendship.

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8. Existentialism and the Search for Authentic Connection: Explores how existentialist philosophy illuminates the challenges and rewards of forming meaningful relationships in a seemingly meaningless world.

9. The Power of Vulnerability in Friendship: Brené Brown's Insights: Explores the importance of vulnerability in building deep and lasting friendships, drawing upon the work of Brené Brown and related research.

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other selves philosophers on friendship: Aristotle and the Philosophy of Friendship

Lorraine Smith Pangle, 2002-11-14 This book offers a comprehensive account of the major philosophical works on friendship and its relationship to self-love. The book gives central place to Aristotle's searching examination of friendship in the Nicomachean Ethics. Lorraine Pangle argues that the difficulties surrounding this discussion are soon dispelled once one understands the purpose of the Ethics as both a source of practical guidance for life and a profound, theoretical investigation into human nature. The book also provides fresh interpretations of works on friendship by Plato, Cicero, Epicurus, Seneca, Montaigne and Bacon. The author shows how each of these thinkers sheds light on central questions of moral philosophy: is human sociability rooted in neediness or strength? is the best life chiefly solitary, or dedicated to a community with others? Clearly structured and engagingly written, this book will appeal to a broad swathe of readers across philosophy, classics and political science.

other selves philosophers on friendship: Friendship Neera Kapur Badhwar, 1993 There has been a marked revival of interest among philosophers in the topic of friendship. This collection of fifteen essays presents an admirable range of the diverse contemporary approaches to friendship within philosophy. The book is divided into three sections. The first centers on the nature of

friendship, the difference between friendship and other personal loves, and the importance of friendship in the individual's life. The second section discusses the moral significance of friendship and the response of various ethical theories and theorists (Aristotelian, Christian, Kantian, and consequentialist) to the phenomenon of friendship. The last section deals with the importance of personal and civic friendship in a good society. Badhwar's introduction is a comprehensive critical discussion of the issues raised by the essays: it relates them to each other, as well as to historical and contemporary discussions not included in the anthology, thus providing the reader with an integrated overview of the essays and their place in the larger philosophical picture. Contributors: Robert M. Adams; Julia Annas; Neera Kapur Badhwar; Marcia Baron; Lawrence Blum; Nathaniel Branden; John M. Cooper; Marilyn Friedman; C. S. Lewis; H. J. Paton; Peter Railton; Amelie O. Rorty; Mary Lyndon Shanley; Nancy Sherman; Michael Stocker; Laurence Thomas

other selves philosophers on friendship: *First, Second, and Other Selves* Jennifer Whiting, 2016 In her essay collection *First, Second, and Other Selves: Essays on Friendship and Personal Identity*, well-known scholar of ancient philosophy Jennifer Whiting uses Aristotle's theories on friendship as a springboard to engage with contemporary philosophical work on personal identity and moral psychology.

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other selves philosophers on friendship: *The Politics of Friendship* Jacques Derrida,

2020-10-13 The most influential of contemporary philosophers, Jacques Derrida, explores the idea of friendship—and its political consequences, past and future—through writings by Aristotle, Nietzsche, Cicero, and more. Until relatively recently, Jacques Derrida was seen by many as nothing more than the high priest of Deconstruction, by turns stimulating and fascinating, yet always somewhat disengaged from the central political questions of our time. Or so it seemed. Derrida's "political turn," marked especially by the appearance of *Specters of Marx*, has surprised some and delighted others. In *The Politics of Friendship* Derrida renews and enriches this orientation through an examination of the political history of the idea of friendship pursued down the ages. Derrida's thoughts are haunted throughout the book by the strange and provocative address attributed to Aristotle, "my friends, there is no friend" and its inversions by later philosophers such as Montaigne, Kant, Nietzsche, Schmitt and Blanchot. The exploration allows Derrida to recall and restage the ways in which all the oppositional couples of Western philosophy and political thought—friendship and enmity, private and public life—have become madly and dangerously unstable. At the same time he dissects genealogy itself, the familiar and male-centered notion of fraternity and the virile virtue whose authority has gone unquestioned in our culture of friendship and our models of democracy. The future of the political, for Derrida, becomes the future of friends, the invention of a radically new friendship, of a deeper and more inclusive democracy. This remarkable book, his most profoundly important for many years, offers a challenging and inspiring vision of that future.

other selves philosophers on friendship: Nicomachean Ethics Aristotle, 2019-11-05

other selves philosophers on friendship: Contemplating Friendship in Aristotle's Ethics

Ann Ward, 2016-09-30 Examines how Aristotle posits political philosophy and the experience of friendship as a means to bind strictly intellectual virtue with morality. In this book, Ann Ward explores Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics*, focusing on the progressive structure of the argument. Aristotle begins by giving an account of moral virtue from the perspective of the moral agent, only to find that the account itself highlights fundamental tensions within the virtues that push the moral agent into the realm of intellectual virtue. However, the existence of an intellectual realm separate from the moral realm can lead to lack of self-restraint. Aristotle, Ward argues, locates political philosophy and the experience of friendship as possible solutions to the problem of lack of self-restraint, since political philosophy thinks about the human things in a universal way, and friendship grounds the pursuit of the good which is happiness understood as contemplation. Ward concludes that Aristotle's philosophy of friendship points to the embodied intellect of timocratic friends and mothers in their activity of mothering as engaging in the highest form of contemplation and thus living the happiest life.

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For statesmen, friendship is the lingua franca of politics. Considering the connections between personal and political friendship, John von Heyking's *The Form of Politics* interprets the texts of Plato and Aristotle and emphasizes the role that friendship has in enduring philosophical and contemporary political contexts. Beginning with a discussion on virtue-friendship, described by Aristotle and Plato as an agreement on what qualifies as the pursuit of good, *The Form of Politics* demonstrates that virtue and political friendship form a paradoxical relationship in which political friendships need to be nourished by virtue-friendships that transcend the moral and intellectual horizons of the political society. Von Heyking then examines Aristotle's ethical and political writings – which are set within the boundaries of political life – and Plato's dialogues on friendship in *Lysis* and the *Laws*, which characterize political friendship as festivity. Ultimately, arguing that friendship is the high point of a virtuous political life, von Heyking presents a fresh interpretation of Aristotle and Plato's political thought, and a new take on the most essential goals in politics. Inviting reassessment of the relationship between friendship and politics by returning to the origins of Western philosophy, *The Form of Politics* is a lucid work on the foundations of political cooperation.

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Howard J. Curzer presents a fresh new reading of Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics*, which brings each of the virtues alive. He argues that justice and friendship are symbiotic in Aristotle's view; reveals

how virtue ethics is not only about being good, but about becoming good; and describes Aristotle's ultimate quest to determine happiness.

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other selves philosophers on friendship: Ancient and Medieval Concepts of Friendship Suzanne Stern-Gillet, Gary M. Gurtler, S.J., 2014-11-13 Charts the stages of the history of friendship as a philosophical concept in the Western world. Focusing on Plato and Aristotle, the Stoics and Epicureans, and early Christian and Medieval sources, Ancient and Medieval Concepts of Friendship brings together assessments of different philosophical accounts of friendship. This volume sketches the evolution of the concept from ancient ideals of friendship applying strictly to relationships between men of high social position to Christian concepts that treat friendship as applicable to all but are concerned chiefly with the soul's relation to God—and that ascribe a secondary status to human relationships. The book concludes with two essays examining how this complex heritage was received during the Enlightenment, looking in particular to Immanuel Kant and Friedrich Hölderlin.

other selves philosophers on friendship: Friendship as Sacred Knowing Samuel Kimbriel, 2014 We are haunted, Samuel Kimbriel suggests, by a habit of isolation buried, often imperceptibly, within our practices of understanding and relating to the world. In this volume he works through the complexities of this disposition to contest its place within contemporary philosophical thought and practice. He focuses on the human activity of friendship. Chapters one and two examine friendship to unearth the contours of this habit towards isolation and to reveal certain ills that have long attended it. Chapters three through seven place these isolated ways of relating to the world into critical dialogue with the tradition of late-antique and early-medieval Johannine Christianity, in which intimacy and understanding go hand in hand. This tradition drew the human activities of friendship and enquiry into such unity that understanding itself became a kind of communion. Kimbriel endorses a return to an antique and particularly Christian philosophical habit - the befriending of wisdom.

other selves philosophers on friendship: How to Be a Friend Marcus Tullius Cicero, 2018-10-09 A splendid new translation of one of the greatest books on friendship ever written In a world where social media, online relationships, and relentless self-absorption threaten the very idea of deep and lasting friendships, the search for true friends is more important than ever. In this short book, which is one of the greatest ever written on the subject, the famous Roman politician and philosopher Cicero offers a compelling guide to finding, keeping, and appreciating friends. With wit and wisdom, Cicero shows us not only how to build friendships but also why they must be a key part of our lives. For, as Cicero says, life without friends is not worth living. Filled with timeless advice and insights, Cicero's heartfelt and moving classic—written in 44 BC and originally titled *De Amicitia*—has inspired readers for more than two thousand years, from St. Augustine and Dante to Thomas Jefferson and John Adams. Presented here in a lively new translation with the original Latin on facing pages and an inviting introduction, *How to Be a Friend* explores how to choose the right friends, how to avoid the pitfalls of friendship, and how to live with friends in good times and bad. Cicero also praises what he sees as the deepest kind of friendship—one in which two people find in each other “another self” or a kindred soul. An honest and eloquent guide to finding and treasuring true friends, *How to Be a Friend* speaks as powerfully today as when it was first written.

other selves philosophers on friendship: *Sex, Love, and Friendship* Adrianne Leigh McEvoy, 2011-08 The joke is that all the prostitutes go on vacation when the philosophers come to town. The reason that the other conventioners do it; philosophers just talk about it. And talk about sex and

love, and friendship is what the contributors to this volume do! They talk and argue, split hairs and clarify, all trying to advance our understanding of this most interesting practice of the human species. Some of the best minds on three continents, from four nations, and eighteen of the United States discuss such topics as adultery, commitment, cross dressing, gender politics, date rape, family, friendship, friends as lovers, gayness, love, marital pluralism, marriage, prostitution, religiously motivated anti-queer sentiments, same sex marriage, seduction, and self-respect. Rather than preach, participants probe our attitudes and practices involving these issues with the aim of better understanding the broad range of sexual practices of our species. The result is a collection of stimulating essays that can enliven class discussions as well as provide guidance for the sexually perplexed. The work is accessible to readers from high school through college and beyond.

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resonance within Christian thought and is an important yet underinvestigated theme in the writings of Søren Kierkegaard. In *Works of Love*, Kierkegaard argues that the friendships and romantic relationships which we typically treasure most are often merely disguised forms of 'selfish' self-love. Yet in this nuanced and subtle account, John Lippitt shows that Kierkegaard also provides valuable resources for responding to the challenge of how we can love ourselves, as well as others. Lippitt relates what it means to love oneself properly to such topics as love of God and neighbour, friendship, romantic love, self-denial and self-sacrifice, trust, hope and forgiveness. The book engages in detail with *Works of Love*, related Kierkegaard texts and important recent studies, and also addresses a wealth of wider literature in ethics, moral psychology and philosophy of religion.

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Saint Thomas (Aquinas), 1993 The fine editions of the Aristotelian Commentary Series make available long out-of-print commentaries of St. Thomas on Aristotle. Each volume has the full text of Aristotle with Bekker numbers, followed by the commentary of St. Thomas, cross-referenced using an easily accessible mode of referring to Aristotle in the Commentary. Each volume is beautifully printed and bound using the finest materials. All copies are printed on acid-free paper and Smyth sewn. They will last.

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In *A Social Theory of Freedom*, Mariam Thalos argues that the theory of human freedom should be a broadly social and political theory, rather than a theory that places itself in opposition to the issue of determinism. Thalos rejects the premise that a theory of freedom is fundamentally a theory of the metaphysics of constraint and, instead, lays out a political conception of freedom that is closely aligned with questions of social identity, self-development in contexts of intimate relationships, and social solidarity. Thalos argues that whether a person is free (in any context) depends upon a certain relationship of fit between that agent's conception of themselves (both present and future), on the one hand, and the facts of their circumstances, on the other. Since relationships of fit are broadly logical, freedom is a logic—it is the logic of fit between one's aspirations and one's circumstances, what Thalos calls the logic of agency. The logic of agency, once fleshed out, becomes a broadly social and political theory that encompasses one's self-conceptions as well as how these self-conceptions are generated, together with how they fit with the circumstances of one's life. The theory of freedom proposed in this volume is fundamentally a political one.

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Deep friendship may express profound loyalty, but so too may virulent nationalism. What can and should we say about this Janus-faced virtue of the will? This volume explores at length the contours

of an important and troubling virtue -- its cognates, contrasts, and perversions; its strengths and weaknesses; its awkward relations with universal morality; its oppositional form and limits; as well as the ways in which it functions in various associative connections, such as friendship and familial relations, organizations and professions, nations, countries, and religious tradition.

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<https://www.taylorfrancis.com/books/mono/10.4324/9781003188810/friendship-technology-tiffany-petricini>

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1950s. The battle to put an educational TV station on the air was fought at the national, state and local levels by the Milwaukee Vocational School. WMVS-TV was the first educational TV station to run a regular schedule of colorcasts, and WMVT was the site of the first long-distance rest of a digital over-the-air signal. This detailed story of the rich history of the city's television stations since 1930 is told through facts, anecdotes, and quotations from the on-air talent, engineers, and managers who conceived, constructed, and put the stations on the air. Included are discussions of the many locally-produced shows - often done live - that once made up a large part of a station's broadcast day. Through these stories - some told here for the first time - and the book's extensive photographic images, the history of Milwaukee television comes alive again for the reader. From the first early tests using mechanical scanning methods in the 1930s, through the first successful digital television tests, the politics, conflicts, triumphs, and failures of Milwaukee's television stations are described in fascinating detail. --Book Jacket.

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