

Title:

The Varieties of Wisdom

Word Count:

880

Summary:

There are several varieties or "flavors" of personal wisdom. Here, Copthorne Macdonald discusses

Keywords:

wisdom, values, decision-making, perspectives, transformation, Copthorne, meditation

Article Body:

PERSONAL WISDOM

At every moment in our lives we face some real-life situation, some fact-based reality. But what

A key point is that personal wisdom is internal, embodied by persons. Words of wisdom arise from

Aristotle differentiated between two kinds of wisdom: practical wisdom, and existential/metaphysical

1. Practical or "life-centered" wisdom is an information-processing modality - one in which

2. Big picture, existential wisdom is a variety that Eastern spiritual practices help to develop

3. Activist wisdom combines a high level of psychological/spiritual development with the desire

SOCIO-CULTURAL WISDOM

Societal institutions - corporations, political systems, economies, NGOs - are purposeful entities

Some institutions were imbued with wise values at their founding, but were co-opted later. Among

Economies are another example. Economies were created as societal subsystems to provision people

In my view, a wisdom-based society would be one in which many of the high values that guide these

It's important to note that there is a mutual feedback relationship between personal wisdom and

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