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#ubcpsyc325
PSYC 325 with Dr. Rawn
Psychology of Self in Social Media

*Vote for Impact Project weighting on Piazza.*
*Current response rate 75%.*

Please sit with your working groups.
Have a copy of today's article ready.

Syllabus: http://blogs.ubc.ca/psychsocialmedia

Meetings: Tuesday & Thursday 11-12:20, BUCH A201

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# Agenda

- 11:00-11:10 Check in on Participation
- Exploring theme reading
  - Phenomenon of Trolling
  - Personality and Dark Tetrad
  - Personality and self

# Check in on 5% Participation

- Anchor in what's most objectively measureable: Algorithm for Piazza, Twitter
  - Piazza: # days online + # posts read + 2*# contributions
    - *Also note I can delete posts that are non-posts just there to get logged.*
  - Twitter: total number of meaningful contributions using hashtag (TAs count?)
- Adjustment: What I have observed as verbal participation in class large group
- Questions about Twitter? Piazza?
  - Great way to study: read past posts about the readings on Piazza
  - Tweeting with a hashtag is like raising your hand to say, hey I'm part of this conversation.

# Today's topic: Trolling

- "As the article explains, **trolling is the practice of deliberately acting in a deceptive, destructive, or disruptive way, on the Internet, with the sole purpose of eliciting anger or annoyance from others.** In other words, trolls will use clever tactics to purposely try to make other people on the Internet look stupid." Brittany A

Rob [redacted] Weird discovery of the day. If you type a word in Facebook (in a comment, status, etc.) that happens to be the same as your password, after you click "Share," Facebook automatically converts it to asterisks to protect your security. Allow me to demonstrate. My password is ********.
3 hours ago · Comment · Like
Liesl [redacted] **********
2 hours ago
Liesl [redacted] Weird! It totally works.
2 hours ago
Jeremy [redacted] megaman3
2 hours ago
Heather [redacted] iheartbieber
2 hours ago
Sandi [redacted] my password is 76trombones
2 hours ago
TROLLS
Now available in Facebook addition!
Online Trash

-- Isu Non Y.

- https://youtu.be/Z2JRpGt1nY0
- “In this video, a player going by the alias "KirmitTHEfrog" convinces an 11 yr old boy that he can help "glitch" his Destiny characters ("aka" Guardians) into becoming stronger if he allows him momentary access to his account. The boy agrees to this and KirmitTHEfrog takes control. Once the boy isn't looking, KirmitTHEfrog goes on to delete the boy's characters. The boy is reduced to tears the moment he realizes what just happened.” – Michael S

# Defining Trolling

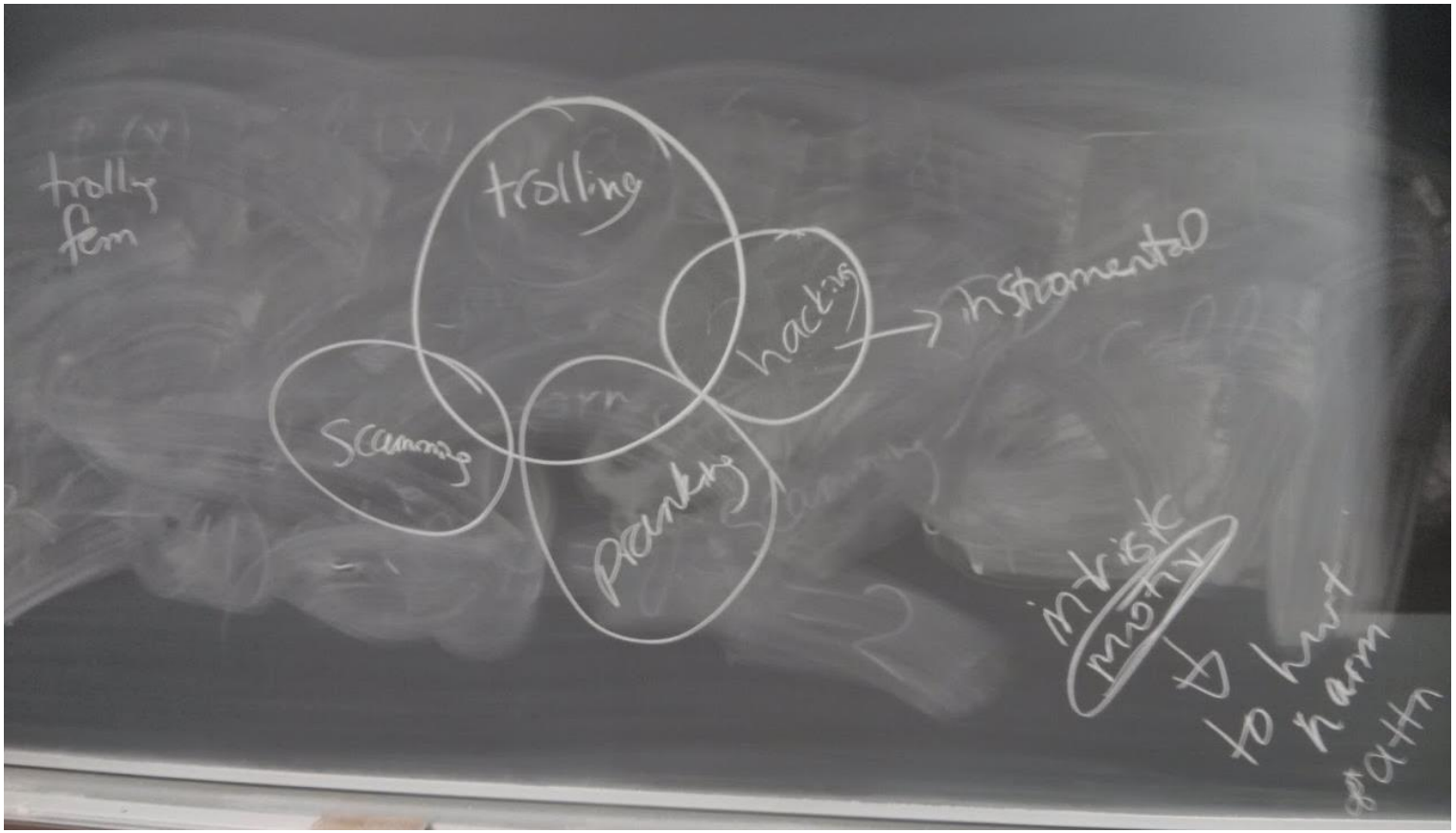
- Definition from article
  - “Online trolling is the practice of behaving in a deceptive, destructive, or disruptive manner in a social setting on the Internet with no apparent instrumental purpose.” – pp. 97

- By this definition, would this count as Trolling?
  - “**How I Infiltrated a White Pride Facebook Group and Turned It into 'LGBT Southerners for Michelle Obama**”
  - http://www.vice.com/en_ca/read/virgil-texas-white-power-facebook-group-troll

# Defining Trolling

- “Deception can be implemented by "trolls" in a harmful way, but I also think they are ways to use deception that don't have to be particularly negative. For example, the online practice of **"rick-rolling"** other users with a link, then sending them to a video of Rick Astley, would fall under this articles definition of trolling because of the deception and also because there doesn't seem to be any instrumental reason for this. However, I don't think this kind of activity would be as strongly linked to sadism as something like deleting someone's game characters (see Michael's example above). Personally, when I get rick-rolled I think it's pretty funny.” – Marisa G

# Exploring concept of trolling. What behaviours count?



# Linking to Personality Traits

**Big Five**

**Dark Tetrad**

# Dark Tetrad
## *Del Paulhus & colleagues*

Shared: Callousness, lack of empathy; extroverted & sociable (tend toward good first impressions)

- Narcissism: Grandiose self-promoters who continually crave attention
- Macchiavellianism: Master manipulators, white collar crime
- Psychopathy: high callousness, impulsivity, manipulativeness, grandiosity
- Everyday Sadists: callous, enjoy cruelty; *not impulsive or manipulative*

Paulhus, D. L. (2014). Toward a taxonomy of dark personalities. *Current Directions in Psychological Science, 23*, 421-426.
https://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/sex-murder-and-the-meaning-life/201412/the-four-dark-personality-traits

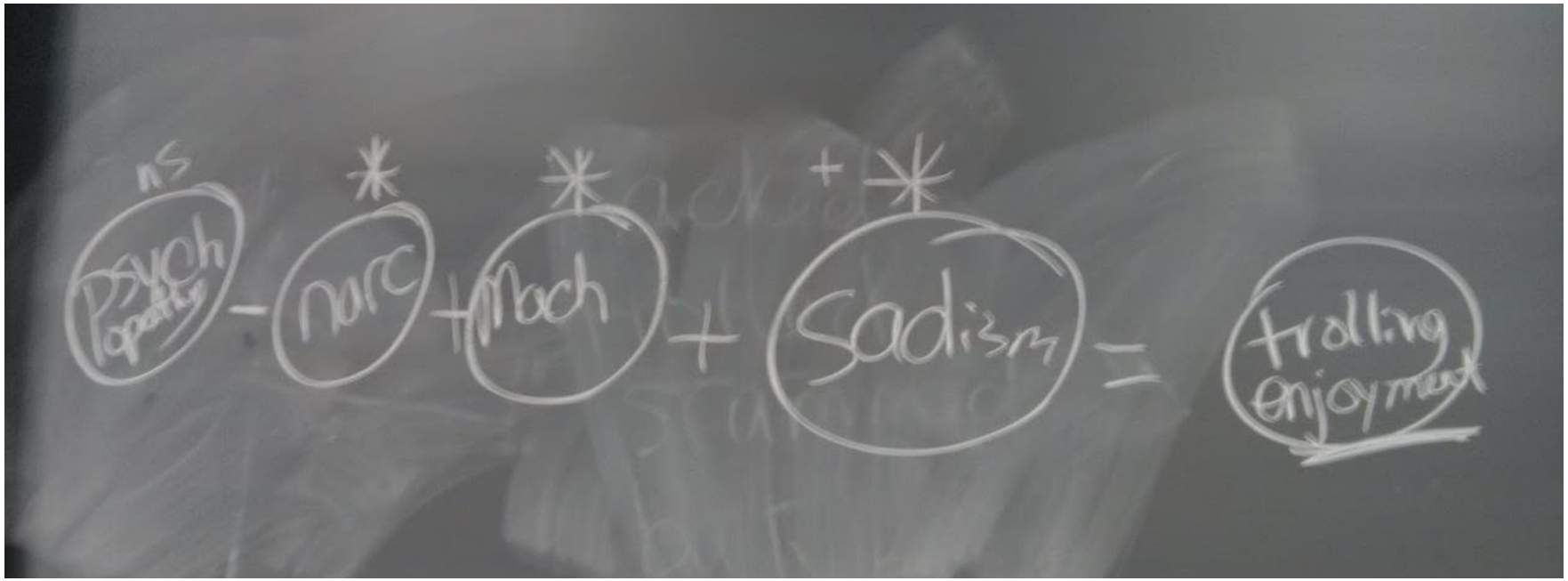
# Everyday Sadism

- Buckels, Jones, & Paulhus (2013). Behavioral confirmation of everyday sadism. *Psychological Science.*
  - Volunteer to kill bugs at greater rates than nonsadists
  - Willing to work for the chance to hurt an innocent person

# Exploring the results

- How are Dark Personalities related to trolling behaviour?
- How are Dark Personalities related to enjoyment of trolling?
- Diagrams
  - Regression (see 3.2.1)
  - Mediation (see 3.2.2)

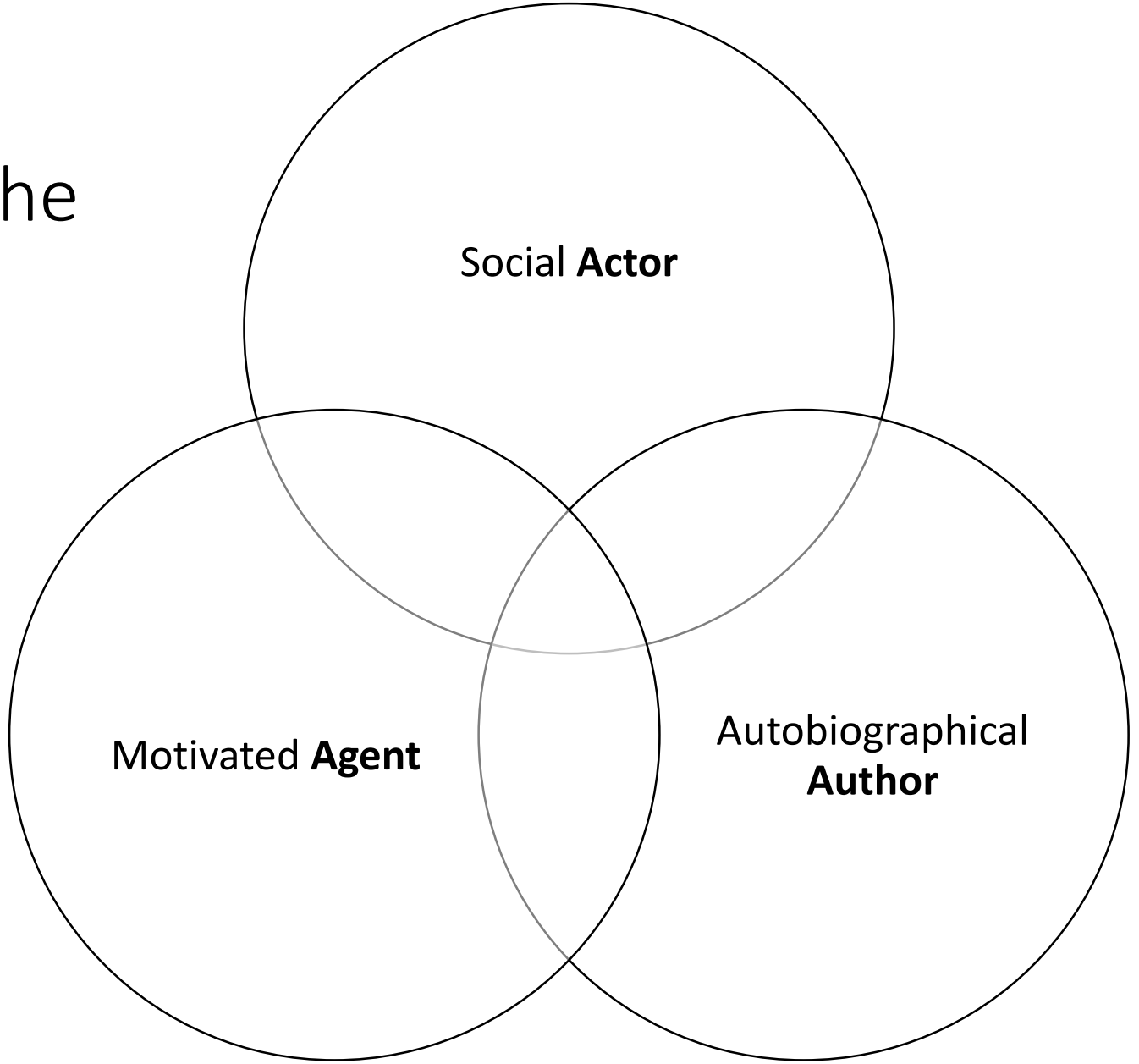
# Regression model



# How might you incorporate variables in this article into a model of Self?

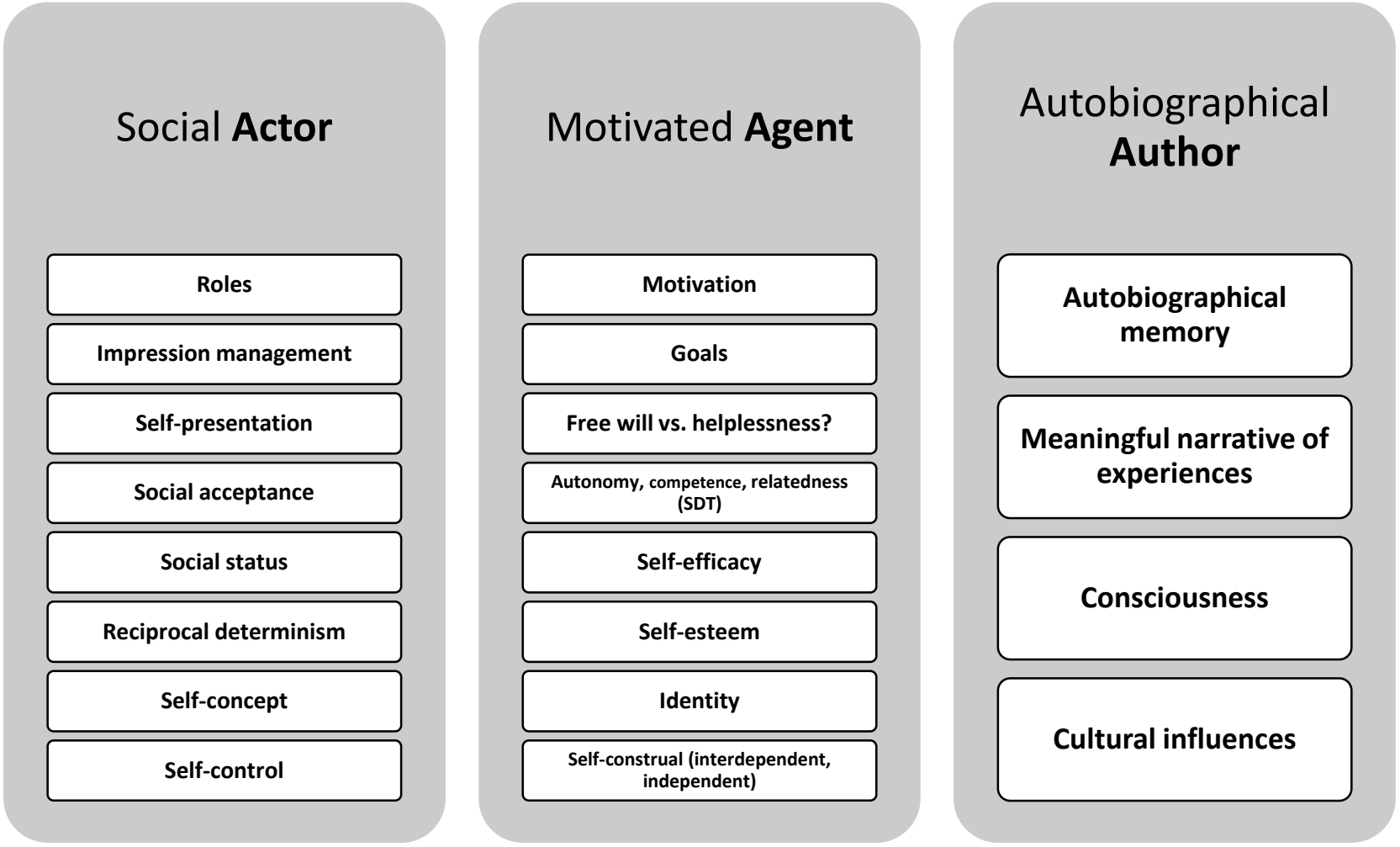
- Where might personality fit in Self?
- Is there room in your model of Self for Dark Personality traits? For the Big Five?
- Consider:
  - How does personality *influence* behaviour?
  - How might those *behaviours* affect other aspects of self?
- *How might victimization affect Self?*
- Reminders of models…

# What is the SELF?

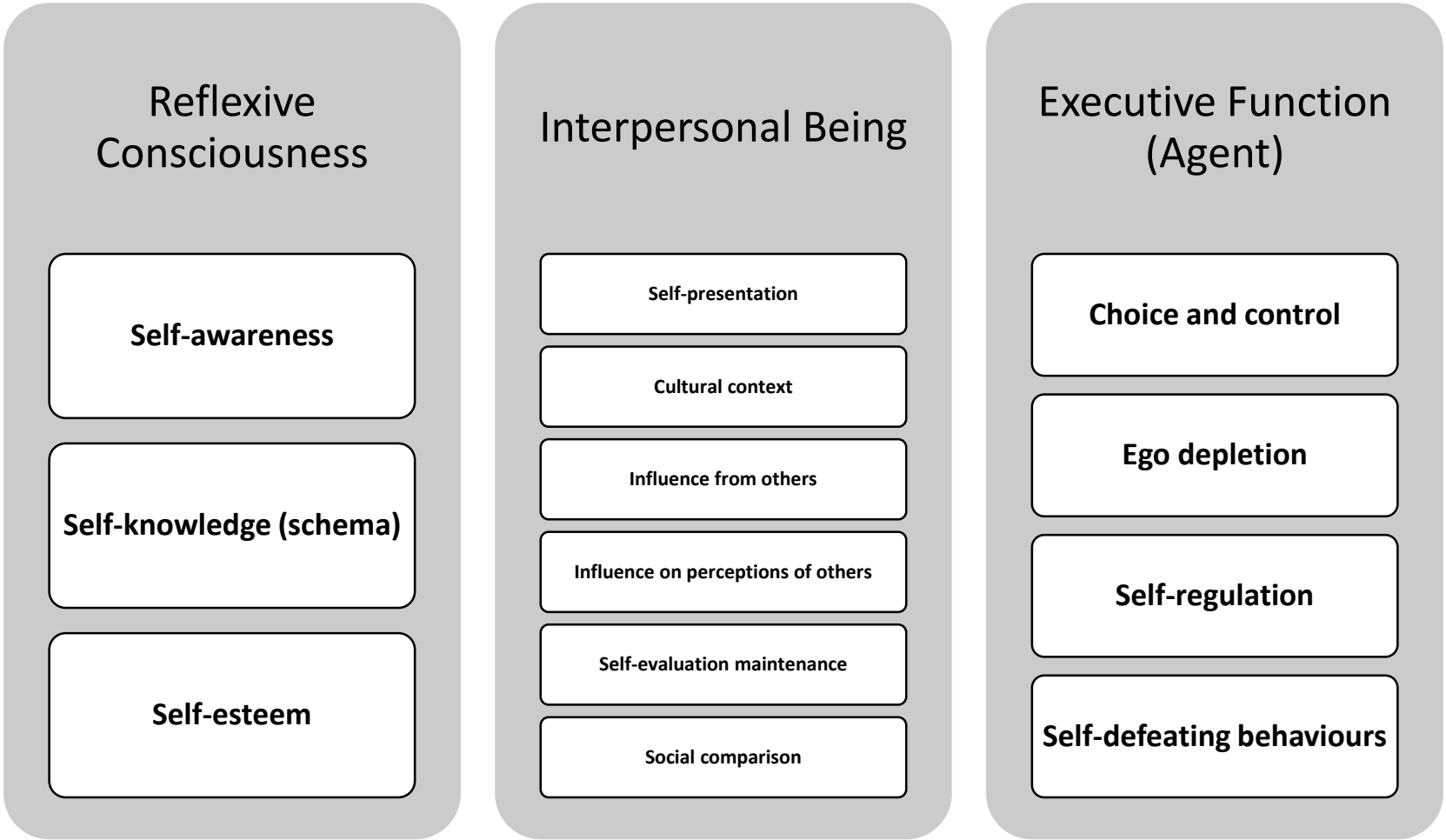



McAdams http://nobaproject.com/modules/self-and-identity, elaborated in McAdams & Cox (2010) Self and Identity Across the Lifespan.

# Overview of the theory of Self by McAdams & Cox






McAdams http://nobaproject.com/modules/self-and-identity, elaborated in McAdams & Cox (2010) Self and Identity Across the Lifespan.

# The Nature and Structure of the Self: An Overview Baumeister (1999)