

Group Types

Type	Character	Explanatory Mechanism
<i>What is a group?</i>	<i>What are the nature of the changes forced on an individual by a group?</i>	<i>Where does the capacity for a group to influence an individual come from?</i>
Common Groups <i>Crowds, Unorganized Groups</i>	Common Bind (Unity) --> Collective Mind (7) Temporary, Heterogenous, Emergent Properties (7) Intelligence of "Lowest Common Denominator" (12-4) Temporary and Non-Decomposable (13) Heterogeneous yet Paranoid Intolerance of External Difference ('Abject') (13-5) Extremist / Easily Influenced (High 'Suggestibility') (13)	Le Bon: Hypnosis McDougall: Suggestibility Freud: Ego Ideal " <i>a number of individuals who have put one and the same object in the place of their ego ideal and have consequently identified themselves with one another in their ego</i> " (61)
Organized Groups	5 Principles -- McDougall (24-5) 1. Continuity of existence 2. Definite idea of nature, composition, functions and capacities 3. Interacts with other (differing) groups 4. Traditions, customs and habits for group membership 5. Specialization and differentiation of functions of constituents	Internal desire for order (via Eros and shared Ego Ideal)?
Artificial Groups <i>Army, Church</i>	Person not given a choice whether or not they want to enter this group. Leader gives illusion of loving all subjects equally. If leader or illusion drops, group dissolves into panic (33-9).	If leader is lost, mutual ties of libido between members of the group disappear and the group 'vanishes in dust.' (38)

Le Bon's Steps (9-11)

<i>Steps</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Freud's reading</i>
1. Anonymity	Individual realizes anonymity of the crowd hides social responsibilities.	Super-Ego disappears completely	Manifests Unconscious
2. Contagion	Every sentiment and act is contagious	Individuals ready to sacrifice person interest to collective interest	Contrary to individual's nature, men are rarely capable of such behavior except when part of a group (contrary to character and habits of individual, with the possibility of great evil or great altruism)
3. Suggestibility	Without a conscious, subjects obey all the suggestions of an operator	Subject becomes fascinated by the operator as if hypnotized. Also automoton like (AC: different than transfixed?)	Freud's states that his task in <i>GPE</i> is to explain how this suggestibility works.

Libido (Eros): sexual, self-love (narcissism), others, humanity in general, objects and abstract ideas. (29)

In Chapter 7 (46-53) Freud explains the Oedipus Complex in order to develop a theory of **identification** and the **ego ideal**.

The ego ideal in Freud's work shifts and is never fully theorized. Sometimes it appears as "ideal ego" "ego ideal" or sometimes plays the role of the "superego". Freudians develop competing theories. Lacan maps ideal-ego::ego-ideal::superego / ideal self-image::big-Other(good)::big-Other(bad) /imaginary::symbolic::real

Role of Ego-Ideal in *GPE*

Type	Constituent Elements / Character	Explanatory Mechanism
Beginning Explanation	Celebrity worship, over-bearing parent coaches, hypnotists, paranoiac leaders?	Narcissism "gradually gathers up from the influences of the environment...so that a man , when he cannot be satisfied with his ego itself, may nevertheless be able to find satisfaction in the ego ideal which has been differentiated out of the ego." (52-3)
Being in Love <i>Sensual Love</i>	All sexual instincts achieve their aim.	Object-cathexis of sexual instincts achieve through direct sexual satisfaction, cathexis expires when reached, eventually followed by revival of instict. (54)
	"You complete me." Some sexual impulses inhibited, replaced by "idealization" (56) Enrichment of the self through love.	Because of inability to achieve sexual aims, the ego splits and 'introjects' the love object into itself as ego ideal - "object treated in the same was as our own ego".(56) Lost object? (58)
<i>Affectionate Love</i> "Sentimental Passion"	Self-sacrifice, 'bondage', impoverishment. "Everything that the object does and asks for is right and blameless. Conscience has no application to anything that is done for the sake of the object; in the blindness of love remorselessness is carried to the pitch of crime." (57)	Ego ideal (conscience) ceases to exist, "hypercathexis of the (love) object by the ego and at the ego's expense." (58) "The real essence of the matter, namely, whether the object is put in the place of the ego or of the ego ideal."???
Hypnosis	Extreme case of "being in love." All sexual impulses are inhibited. Zero sensual love, pure affectionate love. (58-60)	Analysand inhabits the place of the ego ideal. "Among the functions of the ego ideal (is) the business of testing the reality of things." (59) See note 6.
The Group	Each individual is bound by libidinal ties to: Leader Group	Multiplication' of hypnosis process: Each individual replaces ego ideal with leader. Shared ego ideal between individuals creates "identification" with others.
Neurosis	Human development is not completely successful, inhibited sexual aims which should be correctly repressed resurface in an attempt to attain direct satisfaction.	All possible relations between the ego and the object (object retained, abandoned or even erected inside the ego itself) or conflict between ego and its ideal. (97)

Freud considers Trotter's '**herd instinct**' in Chapter 9 (62-8). The herd model lacks a leader that Freud considers as a crucial element in the composition of groups. By reintroducing the original myth of civilization he constructs in *Totem and Taboo*, Freud proposes a '**primal horde**' – a herd lead by a chief.

Freud tried to approach crowd phenomena from the point of view of the unconscious, but he did not see clearly, he did not see that the unconscious itself was fundamentally a crowd. He was myopic and hard of hearing; he mistook crowds for a single person. Schizos, on the other hand, have sharp eyes and ears. They don't mistake the buzz and shove of the crowd for daddy's voice. (Deleuze and Guattari 1988: 29-30)

If subjects are always already (inside) a crowd, what does it mean to establish a leader?

Explore it's implications for:

- 1) Freud's model of the unconscious (with a coherent and unitary(?) ego at the helm).
- 2) Freud's originary myth (with a hegemonic leader *primus inter pares*).
- 3) "The social" – what do groups 'dissolve' into when an illusion of common identity dissipates?
- 4) 'Group' forms that Freud discounts or leaves out? (D&G's 'pack' comes to mind)