

Attribution Theory

Attribution (Weiner, 1985)

how an individual explains the causes of another person's behavior

Social & Cognitive psychology

What do you think is the cause?

Tendency to attribute cause to behavior



Dimension

Locus of control: To choose whether the responsibility for a particular event should be placed on internal or external factors

Stability: Whether the cause is stable or unstable

Control-ability: controllable or uncontrollable

Attribution	Cause	Stability	Control-ability
Ability	Internal	stable	uncontrollable
Effort	Internal	unstable	controllable
Luck	External	unstable	uncontrollable
task difficulty	external	stable	uncontrollable

Pros and Cons

- model to analyze many of the emotional behaviors that operate in the classroom
- difficult to develop classes to implement attribution theory in real classrooms
- classroom process is not developed enough to apply attribution theory