General Considerations About Theophrastus Proposal in Personality Study

Abstract

Personality has been understood as patterns of the most striking and stable features over time and represents one of the most studied constructs in psychology. Thus, the aim of this paper is to briefly present the historical data regarding the study of personality. It includes the basic concepts about the construct, as well as some inconsistencies regarding its current conceptualization. Moreover, it was took over the etymological and historical construct roots from the philosophical point of view by approaching the book The Characters of Toefrasto, pre-Socratic greek philosofer who lived between 372 BC and 287 BC. Some considerations are made about the influence that this book have in the study of personality today. It's concluded that, although seldom mentioned among the forerunners of the study of personality, the work of Theophrastus currently has great influence in the area.

Keywords: Personality; philosofy; history of psychology.