



# Persons and Personal Identity (Key Concepts in Philosophy)

*By Amy Kind*

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**Persons and Personal Identity (Key Concepts in Philosophy)** By Amy Kind

As persons, we are importantly different from all other creatures in the universe. But in what, exactly, does this difference consist? What kinds of entities are we, and what makes each of us the same person today that we were yesterday? Could we survive having all of our memories erased and replaced with false ones? What about if our bodies were destroyed and our brains were transplanted into android bodies, or if instead our minds were simply uploaded to computers?

In this engaging and accessible introduction to these important philosophical questions, Amy Kind brings together three different areas of research: the nature of personhood, theories of personal identity over time, and the constitution of self-identity. Surveying the key contemporary theories in the philosophical literature, Kind analyzes and assesses their strengths and weaknesses. As she shows, our intuitions on these issues often pull us in different directions, making it difficult to develop an adequate general theory. Throughout her discussion, Kind seamlessly interweaves a vast array of up-to-date examples drawn from both real life and popular fiction, all of which greatly help to elucidate this central topic in metaphysics.

A perfect text for readers coming to these issues for the first time, *Persons and Personal Identity* engages with some of the deepest and most important questions about human nature and our place in the world, making it a vital resource for students and researchers alike.

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## Persons and Personal Identity (Key Concepts in Philosophy) By Amy Kind Bibliography

- Rank: #124392 in Books
- Brand: Wiley-Blackwell (an imprint of John Wiley & Sons Ltd)
- Published on: 2015-09-08
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.50" h x .50" w x 4.50" l, .50 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 180 pages

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