

# Transformations and Flexible Forms

Where Qualitative Psychology Begins

(柔軟な形式とその変化様式—— 質的心理学の出発点)

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## Abstract

Qualitative psychology builds its understanding of psychological phenomena on the basis of phenomenologically oriented approaches in psychology (Brentano, Meinong, Ehrensfeld, Külpe, Piaget, Vygotski). Its ontological starting point is unambiguous: **the world consists of different flexible structural forms**, and their corresponding **specifiable sets of conditions under which these forms become other forms**. This perspective is shared between chemistry, biology, and other natural sciences in which the structural nature of the object of investigation is an axiomatic given. Qualitative investigation is primary in all basic sciences, where quantification is used selectively as a technical tool, rather than a symbolic means for public demonstrations of being "scientific." Qualitative psychology branches off from the common ground it shares with its quantitative counterpart— the basic notion of the nominal scale— different trajectory of systemic analyses of single cases. Qualitative psychology can be productive if it reverses the tradition of methods-dominated psychology in favor of an epistemological inquiry where all parts of methodology are mutually related.

## Key words

methodology, quantification, quality, systemic approach

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\* 日本語要約および解説 (サトウタツヤ) は p.54。