
Candidate Interest #3

Tango as Cognition

Love is a game. Argument is war. Really? In the sense of conceptual metaphor, these statements not only make sense, but serve to help us to know one thing (love/argument) in terms of another (game/war). In *Metaphors We Live By*, George Lakoff and Mark Johnson introduce the notion of conceptual metaphor, and by way of example detail how we might understand aspects of the abstract concept of love in terms of the more concrete concept of game, and how we might understand aspects of the abstract concept of argument in terms of the more concrete concept of war.

Tango as cognition? What if one was to equate cognition with tango? Might one be able to understand aspects of cognition in terms of this compelling argentine dance? Might this conceptual metaphor prove useful?

This project will probe the potential of this this conceptual metaphor for enhancing intuitions pertaining to cognitive development, embodied cognition, emergent phenomena, and other significant ideas that fall within the realm of cognitive science.

A review of conceptual metaphor and related phenomena (e.g., image schema) will segue into an investigation of the conceptual metaphor “cognition is tango” for the purpose of gaining insight into various cognitive phenomena.