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# Community Paramedicine The impact on paramedic identity

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This presentation has no answers.  
It only has questions.



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# Professionalisation

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## What is a vocation?

- Division of labour
- Distinct role in society
- Requires some kind of training



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### What is a profession?

- Multiple theories of what constitutes a profession:
  - Definitionist
  - Structural-Functionalist
  - Monopolist

Greenwood's List (1957)

1. a unique body of knowledge,
2. authority,
3. community sanctions,
4. ethical codes, and
5. a professional culture.

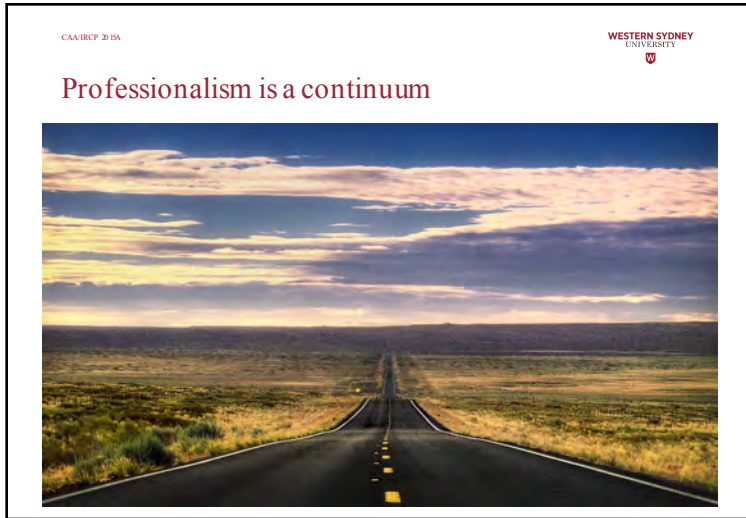


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### Professionalism is a continuum

Vocation

Profession



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But wait, it gets trickier...

Eliot Freidson:

Professionalisation is a function of autonomy

# Identity

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Where does our identity come from?

- Role
- Ritual
- Language
- Symbols

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## Social Identity Theory

Individuals gain their sense of identity from a sense of belonging or alignment with either tangible or intangible social elements.

- Social Categorisation
- Social Identification
- Social Comparison

# Community Paramedicine

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## Characteristics of Community Paramedicine

- Greater autonomy
- More permeable boundaries
- Wider community of practice
- Wider roles and knowledge base
- Different elements of occupational satisfaction
- Practitioner based

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## Challenges of Community Paramedicine

- We are not completely sure who we are
- The context of our practice is changing rapidly
- Community paramedicine models are heterogeneous in a homogenous profession
- We are challenged by permeable boundaries, gradual change or evolution, and an every changing external world we need to adapt to

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Thank You

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