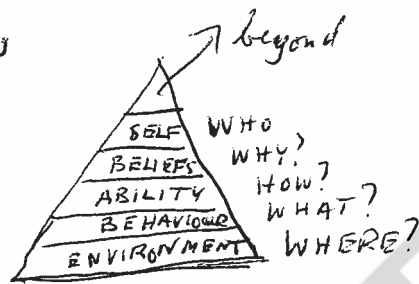


2nd Wed

Dear Everybody,

Gregory Bateson's
Logical Levels



I went to Malaysia in 1989 and was told not to:
teach with my hands in my pockets
" " hands on hips
eat with my left hand etc / to teach and point. ...
These were all things at "what" or "behaviour" level
I tried to correct these behaviours at behaviour level.
I failed.

I then asked what the beliefs about these behaviours were. I mentally "role-played" the belief and was then able to easily delete the behaviour. So, in other words, making the belief temporarily my own allowed me to correct the behaviour.

Behind many a cultural behaviour lurks a cultural belief. You can only understand the behaviour once you know the belief. It was because of their beliefs that my European students (basic human rights + territorial feeling) refused to stop blowing their nose like trumpeters. The Japanese revulsion at such antics was to do with convictions in the area of dirty/clean public/private. Here was no clash of behaviours - it was a clash of beliefs.

Warmly yours,

Name