

Early Social Development

- I. Early Social Development
 - A. What determines how children learn to interact in a social world?
 1. Emotion
 2. Personality
 3. Attachment
 4. Self
 5. Peer relationships
 6. Gender
 - B. Will initially focus on infancy/preschool period and will discuss social development in older children later in the course
 - C. Deals with the environment that surrounds us
 1. Baby's more outward than shy, cry or conserved (All Genetic)
- II. Psychoanalytic Theories
 - A. Freud
 1. Freud: Behavior is driven by the need to satisfy drives and motives that are largely unconscious
 - a) Sex and aggression
 - b) Founder of Developmental Theory
 - c) Studied Stages of Development
 - d) Role of early experience
 - e) The unconsciousness
 - f) Emphasized role of emotional relationships
 2. Features of Freud's Theory
 - a) 3 stages of development during infancy and preschool period
 - b) The id, ego, and superego
 - (1) id: basis impulse of sex - kids born evil
 - (2) Ego: link to the external world of reality "reason and good sense"
 - (3) Superego: enables child to control behavior and develop morally
 - c) Psychosexual because it posits that psychic energy (biological drives) are focused in different erogenous zones of the body
 3. Stages of Development
 - a) Oral Stage - oral pleasure - sucking and eating (1 year)
 - b) Anal Stage - primary source of pleasure is defecation (beginning of superego and ego) (1-3 years)
 - (1) Anal Fixation (Excessive Compulsive Disorder) - If strict parents, child develops lot of guilt if get in trouble and can lead to this
 - (2) Beginning of how you are going to parent and parent-child relationship starts to develop
 - c) Phallic Stage - increase sexual urges and curiosity of gender (superego gender identify) (3-6 years)
 - (1) Sexual organs curiosity of both men and women
 - (2) Boy starts falling in love with mom (oedipus complex)
 - (3) Girl starts falling in love with dad
 - (4) Want to know the differences are between women and men

- B. Erikson: Development is driven by series of age-related developmental tasks that individuals must resolve to achieve healthy development
1. In group that started first pre-school (Arsenal School)
 2. Theory of Psychosocial Development
 - a) Proposed 8 development stages
 - b) Stage characterized by a crisis, or task, that the individual must resolve
 3. Stages
 - a) Basic trust v Mistrust (1 year) - Oral Stage
 - (1) Critical attachment between babies and parents that establishes a feeling of trust, reliable caregiving
 - b) Autonomy v Shame: Basic Strengths: Self Control, Courage, and Will (18m-3 years) - Anal Stage
 - (1) Dealing with rule system of parents
 - (2) Develop basic skills like walking and talking
 - (a) Allow for autonomy but also lead the child vulnerable to disagreements and shame
 - c) Initiative v Guilt (4-6 years): Children identify with and learn from parents
 - (1) Phallic Stage
 - (2) Children set goals and learn to achieve
 - (3) Children internalize parents' rules and develop conscience
 - (4) Children need to achieve a health balance between initiative and guilt
 4. Learning Theories
 - a) Historically were a reaction to the unscientific nature of the Psychodynamic Theories
 - b) Emphasize the role of external factors in shaping personality and social behavior
 - c) Wanted viewable and testable theories
- C. Watson's Behaviorism
1. Watson believed that children's development is determined by their social environment especially their parents
 2. Ignored mental states and emphasized conditioning
 3. Proved with "Little Albert" experiment that fear could be conditioned
- D. Skinner's Operant Conditioning
1. Skinner believed that behavior was under environmental control
 2. Major tenet is that we tend to repeat behaviors that lead to favorable outcomes (reinforcement) and suppress those that result in unfavorable outcomes (punishment)
 3. Showed that receiving attention is a powerful reinforcer
 4. Behavior management strategy of timeout focuses on the withdrawal of attention
 5. Showed difficulty of extinguishing behavior that has been intermittently reinforced (sometimes rewarded)
 6. Work led to behavior-modification therapy, which is useful for changing undesirable behaviors
- E. Problems with Traditional Social Learning Theories**
1. Positive Reinforcement - support the good things that kids do
 2. Parents should congratulate the kid for doing something positive (positive reinforcement), not ignore it because they aren't "bothering" them
 3. Kids might start acting up if parents are ignoring them going through a divorce

4. Ignored role of the child
 5. Children play an active role in their development
 6. Not everything is reinforced, some things are just observed
 7. A learning theorist who took this into account was Albert Bandura
- F. Bandura's Social/Cognitive Learning Theory
1. Emphasis on the observation and imitation of others, and on cognitive processes of attention, encoding, storing, and retrieval of info to reproduce the behavior observed
 2. Emphasized "reciprocal determinism" between children and their social environment which emphasizes the active role children have in their own development
- G. Bandura and Observational Learning
1. Increased attraction to aggression (guns, fighting, hitting, hostile language) when dealing with the Bobo doll
 2. Showed after children showed aggressive behavior, they would perform aggressive behavior
 3. Learn many social behaviors by just observing without reinforcement
 4. Implication for TV
 - a) Not much violence in the 70's but there was some
 - b) Saw the Scrooge and questioned is this going to negatively impact children?
 - (1) Bandura is correct! When children watch aggressive tv, aggressive behavior increase after
 - (2) When they watch social TV like Mr. Rogers, their positive behaviors increase
 - (3) Long term impact (a week later),
 - (4) Some kids are more aggressive from the beginning
 - (5) Parents tend to yell and scream when kids are watching something bad, which then adds more bad influence for the kids
- H. Problems with both Psychoanalytic Social Learning Theories
1. Child impacted by environment, Behaviors of children impact parent, parent impact on children
 2. Transactional View - Social development is actively and dynamically evolving over development time
 3. Kids respond in different ways due to things that happen in their family life
 - a) Divorce
 - b) Moving
 - c) Death
- I. Summary of Social Development Theories
1. Psychodynamic Theories
 - a) Ignored individual and innate differences in children with respect to personality issues
 - b) Too much emphasis on just infancy
 2. Bandura
 - a) Importance of role of child but don't discuss possible innate differences
 - b) Not just limited to infancy
 - c) Ignored ongoing dynamic nature of social development
- J. What do Children bring to social development? Individual Differences in Emotions and Regulation