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### Personalities Article Search

Personalities is not only one of the driving forces that make us who we are, but also one of the first traits noticed when meeting new people and arguably define an individual. In the article “The Psychology of Personality Formation” by Kendra Cherry, they dive into different theories on how personalities are developed. Cherry cites and informs her readers about the theories of Sigmund Freud, Erik Erikson, Jean Piaget, and Lawrence Kohlberg.

Cherry summarizes each of these individual’s theories uncovering why and how personalities develop from the physical genetic makeup of a person to experiences and societal variables. Freud, arguably the most controversial, believes that personalities develop in stages and are related to erogenous zones. Straying from these zones is what can lead to problems during adulthood. His concepts are based off the “libido” which is comprised of the Id, ego, and the superego. “The id is the aspect of personality present at birth. It is the most primal part of the personality and drives people to fulfill their most basic needs and urges.” “The ego is the aspect of personality charged with controlling the urges of the id and forcing it to behave in realistic ways.” “The superego is the final aspect of personality to develop and contains all of the ideals, morals, and values imbued by our parents and culture. This part of personality attempts to make the ego behave according to these ideals.” (Cherry 1). Cherry states that his concepts have gained popularity in today’s cultures and provides an interesting breakdown on how personalities possibly developed. The following theory by Erik Erikson is the portrayed as the best-known

theory in Cherry's article. Erikson's theory argues that social relationships can ultimately impact individual personalities. Each stage, individuals face psychological tasks that must be mastered and will gain mastery over those skills. Those who do not master those skills will have issues with them for the remainder of their life.

Jean Piaget, "one of the most frequently cited in psychology" (Cherry 1) based her theory on child progression. These stages can be defined by how children think about themselves, think about others and feel about the events that happen around them. Piaget claims that children think differently than adults and the progression of events around them is what ultimately shapes their personalities over time. The last theorist, Lawrence Kohlberg expands Piaget theory by extending it into six stages based solely on the moral development and known ethical ideas of an individual. Although his theory follows in similar strides as Piaget his expansion includes the idea that people are born with moral and ethical responsibility.

In conclusion Cherry states that "Personality involves not only inborn traits but also the development of cognitive and behavioral patterns that influence how people think and act. Temperament is a key part of the personality that is determined by inherited traits." (Cherry 1) The theories of each thinker do play a part in the physiological growth of one's personality from childhood experiences to inborn traits.

Using the source evaluation checklist, this article is useful and easy to understand, there are no obvious bias or agendas, the purpose of Cherry's article is to inform the reader on the psychology of personalities and the different theories associated with individual development. Cherry is just providing an information piece and not trying to persuade anyone. Cherry is credible, all her statements are backed by research done and theorized by four well-known psychologists. Cherry organizes these theories and supportive information to logically flow up to

her conclusion. Cherry does not leave out any information I would expect to see in discussion of this topic, and she documents her sources by providing links to research done on their theories and facts from their work. There were not any factual errors or fault logic that could be seen or determined that would make her sources less credible. She gathers the information from famous psychologist's theories. Cherry's article does not have contradicted information found in other sources, her sources are widely known in the psychology world, and she uses facts rather than opinions to back up her statements. Cherry's article was appropriate for my purposes, she provided an outline on the psychological approach to personalities and back it up with facts and different point of views of famous psychologists. Cherry's writing was clear and organized and well written. Cherry provided an excellent source of information on the topic of personalities and passed the source evaluation checklist.

Cherry, Kendra. *<https://www.verywellmind.com/personality-development-2795425>*

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