

**MODULE 52 ADOLESCENCE: SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND EMERGING ADULTHOOD**

**FORMING AN IDENTITY**

- **IDENTITY** is our sense of self; according to Erikson, the adolescent’s task is to solidify a sense of self by testing and integrating various roles.
- **SOCIAL IDENTITY** is the “we” aspect of our self-concept; the part of our answer to “Who am I?” that comes from our group memberships.

Erikson’s Stage Theory in its Final Version			
Age	Conflict	Resolution or “Virtue”	Culmination in old age
Infancy (0-1 year)	Basic trust vs. mistrust	Hope	Appreciation of interdependence and relatedness
Early childhood (1-3 years)	Autonomy vs. shame	Will	Acceptance of the cycle of life, from integration to disintegration
Play age (3-6 years)	Initiative vs. guilt	Purpose	Humor, empathy, resilience
School age (6-12 years)	Industry vs. inferiority	Competence	Humility; acceptance of the course of one’s life and unfulfilled hopes
Adolescence (12-19 years)	Identity vs. Confusion	Fidelity	Sense of complexity of life; merging of sensory, logical and aesthetic perception.
Early adulthood (20-25 years)	Intimacy vs. Isolation	Love	Sense of the complexity of relationships; value of tenderness and loving freely
Adulthood (26-64 years)	Generativity vs. stagnation	Care	Caritas, caring for others, and agape, empathy and concern
Old age (65-death)	Integrity vs. Despair	Wisdom	Existential identity; a sense of integrity strong enough to withstand physical disintegration

- Erikson contended that the adolescent identity stage is followed in young adulthood by a developing capacity for **INTIMACY**, the ability to form emotionally close relationships.

**PARENTS AND PEER RELATIONSHIPS**

- Parent-child conflict during the transition to adolescence tends to be greater with first-born than with second-born children, and greater with mothers than with fathers.
- Adolescence is typically a time of diminishing parental influence and growing peer influence.

**EMERGING ADULTHOOD**

- **EMERGING ADULTHOOD** is for some people in modern cultures, a period from the late teens to mid-twenties, bridging the gap between adolescent dependence and full independence and responsible adulthood.

**BE ABLE TO ANSWER:** How has the transition from childhood to adulthood changed in Western cultures in the last century or so?

**PRACTICE FRQ:** What is emerging adulthood? Name two trends that have led to adding this to the stages of life?