

Chapter 12

Adolescence: Emotional and Social Development

INTRODUCTION

Chapter 12 discusses the stage of adolescence in the context of society's need to facilitate young people's quest for autonomy and a positive self-identity. Several significant issues are explored, including the following:

- **Development of identity.** Several theories of adolescent emotional and social development are introduced, including those of Hall, Sullivan, Erikson, Bandura, and Gilligan.
- **Peers and family.** The unique developmental role of the adolescent peer group is discussed, as well as the importance of adolescents' relationships with their families.
- **Teenage courtship, love, and sexuality.** The difficult adjustment by young people in regard to their experiences with dating, love, and sexuality is examined. The typical patterns and functions of dating are presented; the indefinable notion of love, as well as a possible physiological basis for this romantic attraction, is discussed. The chapter reviews the dynamic state of adolescent sexual expression, recent changes in sexual behavior, and, within this context, problems associated with teenage pregnancy.
- **Vocational choices.** The importance of adolescent decisions regarding vocational options is presented, as well as the issue of working teens. Special attention is given to the topic of whether or not teenagers should work.
- **Risky behaviors.** Other important issues relevant to teenagers are examined, such as drug abuse, teenage suicide, antisocial behavior, juvenile delinquency, and high school attrition. Special emphasis is given to suicide warning signals among adolescents.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After completing Chapter 12, you should be able to:

1. Briefly define the notion of *storm and stress*.
2. State the three periods of Sullivan's interpersonal theory of development and briefly define each.
3. Explain Erikson's view of the importance of a crisis in adolescence.
4. Explain the following concepts.
 - identity diffusion
 - identity foreclosure
 - identity moratorium
 - identity achievement
5. Discuss the different approaches to reducing unsafe sex among teens.

6. Describe influences on adolescent values, including the following concepts.

selection of friends

parental control

“right to choose”

7. Explain some of the differing patterns of behavior that impact on adolescent sexuality, including the following concepts.

female sexual exposure

hormonal basis

early onset of intercourse and relationship to other behaviors

virginity

mother’s sexual experience

older sibling’s behavior

living in poverty

single-parent families

community social context

social factors that may encourage teenage pregnancy

8. Cite several descriptions of “love” from the research studies.

media and myth

multicultural view of love

romantic love

agitated state

neurochemical reaction

9. Explain what is known about the development of sexual behavior in the following populations.

infants

boys

girls

10. Critically appraise the incidence and implications of teenage pregnancy, including the following concepts.

current statistics and historical view

long-term consequences of early childbearing

implications for family life and the children

11. List the factors that influence adolescent vocational choice.

12. Define *drug* and describe the prevalence and consequences of *drug abuse*.

drug

drug abuse

statistics

binge drinking and consequences

casual drug experimentation

factors contributing to illicit drug use

13. Discuss the following aspects of teenage suicide.

worldwide suicide rates

statistics

depression

at-risk factors for suicidal behavior

treatment options

14. List some of the warning signals for teenage drug or alcohol problems.

15. 15. Explain what is meant by antisocial behaviors, and cite some related statistics.

16. Discuss the problem of juvenile crime and explain the juvenile-justice system in the United States.

WEB SITES

The following Web sites deal with some of the concepts and issues presented in Chapter 12. Additional resources can be found on the text's Web site at <http://www.mhhe.com/crandell8>.

Adolescence: Erikson's Psychosocial Development
<http://web.cortland.edu/andersmd/ERIK/stage5.HTML>

Child Trends Data Bank: Teens
http://www.childtrendsdatabank.org/search_age.cfm#TEENS

Teen Pregnancy
<http://www.teenpregnancy.org/Default.asp?bhcp=1>

Healthy Schools, Healthy Youth
<http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/>

Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance
<http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/index.htm>

Understanding Adolescent Depression and Suicide
http://www.helpguide.org/mental/depression_teen.htm

Life Course (by Millennials Rising)
<http://www.lcourse.com/index.html>

SELF-TESTS

Matching

Match the following key terms with their definitions:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| a. binge drinking | f. generation gap | k. identity moratorium |
| b. consciousness of oneness | g. identity | l. negative identity |
| c. depression | h. identity achievement | m. puberty rites |
| d. deviant identity | i. identity diffusion | n. storm and stress |
| e. drug abuse | j. identity foreclosure | o. youth culture |

1. ____ a debased self-image and social role
2. ____ a feeling of being at home in one's body, a sense of "knowing where one is going," and an inner assuredness of anticipated recognition from those who count
3. ____ a lack of ability to commit oneself to an occupational or ideological position and to assume a recognizable station in life
4. ____ a lifestyle that is at odds with, or at least not supported by, the values and expectations of society
5. ____ a period of delay, during which adolescents can experiment with or "try on" various roles, ideologies, and commitments
6. ____ a stage of turmoil, maladjustment, tension, rebellion, dependency conflicts, and exaggerated peer-group conformity that some believe to be inevitable in adolescence
7. ____ five or more drinks in a row for men, or four or more in a row for women
8. ____ implies the existence of mutual antagonism, misunderstanding, and separation between youth and adults
9. ____ initiation ceremonies that socially symbolize the transition from childhood to adulthood
10. ____ standardized ways of thinking, feeling, and acting that are characteristic of a large group of young people
11. ____ sympathetic identification in which group members come to feel that their inner experiences and emotional reactions are similar
12. ____ the avoidance of autonomous choice
13. ____ the excessive or compulsive use of chemical agents to an extent that interferes with people's health, their social or vocational functioning, or the functioning of the rest of society
14. ____ when the individual is able to achieve inner stability that corresponds to what others perceive that person to be
15. ____ prolonged feelings of gloom, despair, and futility, profound pessimism, and a tendency toward excessive guilt and self-reproach

Multiple Choice

Circle the letter of the response that best completes or answers each of the following statements and questions.

Factual Questions

1. In Sullivan's theory, the period of early adolescence should fulfill three separate needs. Which is not a need according to Sullivan?
 - a. need for personal diffusion
 - b. need for sexual satisfaction
 - c. need for personal intimacy
 - d. need for personal security

2. Which type of identity formation, according to Marcia, describes an adolescent's acceptance of someone else's values and goals without exploring alternatives?
 - a. identity diffusion
 - b. identity foreclosure
 - c. identity moratorium
 - d. identity achievement

3. The function of puberty rites is
 - a. to acknowledge the right to enter puberty
 - b. to symbolize the transition from childhood to adulthood
 - c. to announce the onset of menarche
 - d. to form a psychological pact with others in the community

4. According to Gilligan, girls in adolescence tend to
 - a. be rather outspoken
 - b. be autonomous
 - c. be angry
 - d. be inauthentic

5. When social scientists talk about a generation gap, they are referring to
 - a. mutual antagonism and separation between young people and adults
 - b. the youth-oriented and age-fearing culture we live in
 - c. the age-segregated nature of most family activities
 - d. a youth-culture idea that the past is irrelevant and the future is uncertain

6. Boys scored higher than girls in all categories of self-esteem except _____
 - a. personal security
 - b. academics
 - c. home/parents
 - d. attractiveness

7. Social scientists have concluded that the
 - a. youth culture is a monolithic group for all adolescents
 - b. youth culture is composed of several distinct crowds
 - c. peer group has a greater influence on the adolescent than the family
 - d. differences among young people are not so great

8. Adolescents are most influenced by their parents when the issues pertain to
- career plans
 - personal adornment
 - autonomy
 - communication
9. The extent and intimacy of peer relationships increases dramatically in which age range?
- early and late adulthood
 - middle childhood and adolescence
 - young adulthood and middle age
 - middle age and old age
10. Which of the following situations is related to a less likely incidence of teenage pregnancy?
- older sexually active siblings
 - daughters from a single-parent home
 - high academic achievement and close ties with family
 - living in poverty
11. Generally speaking, the earlier the _____ first sexual experience and first birth, the earlier the _____ first sexual experience.
- father's; daughter's
 - mother's; daughter's
 - mother's; son's
 - father's; son's
12. Research on the origin of the emotion "love," suggests that love is
- a unique chemical reaction in the brain
 - diffuse physiological reactions
 - a perceptual tendency
 - a myth promoted by the media
13. According to your text, the nature of courtship behavior in the United States
- has not changed
 - has rapidly changed
 - has become more patriarchal
 - has become more formal
14. Research on adolescent sexual expression indicates that
- boys first experience nocturnal orgasms in their late teens
 - group masturbation is uncommon among preteen boys
 - teenage masturbation is often accompanied by erotic fantasies
 - sex play with other children begins in adolescence
15. Most boys experience nocturnal emissions, or "wet dreams," between _____ years old.
- 8 and 10
 - 11 and 12
 - 13 and 15
 - 16 and 17

16. Which of the following statements regarding adolescent sexuality is least accurate?
- Rates of teenage sexual experience have plateaued.
 - More girls than boys have had sexual experience at every age level.
 - Men from lower socioeconomic backgrounds appear to have had a higher rate of premarital sexual experience.
 - Growing numbers of teenagers are having multiple sexual partners.
17. In the United States, approximately what percentage of teenagers have had multiple sex partners before high school?
- 2 percent
 - 20 percent
 - 38 percent
 - 12 percent
18. A decade or so ago, teenage pregnancy and childbearing were seen primarily as what type of problem?
- economic
 - social
 - health
 - not viewed as a problem
19. The teenage pregnancy rate is highest in which of the following countries?
- Canada
 - France
 - United States
 - Saudi Arabia
20. In the United States the rate of all unintended pregnancies ending in abortion is
- increasing
 - decreasing
 - stable
 - unreported
21. Given the importance of the job entry process, how prepared are American teenagers for making vocational decisions?
- highly prepared through high school guidance offices and home and careers classes
 - ill prepared
 - more prepared than their parents were during adolescence
 - more prepared than their European counterparts
22. It is estimated that _____ percent of college graduates were “underemployed” between 1990 and 2005.
- 10
 - 20
 - 30
 - 40

23. What percentage of high school students work more than part time during the school year?
- 16 percent
 - 18 percent
 - 22 percent
 - 40 percent
24. Labor Department economists calculate that while skill levels in the workplace rose over the past decade,
- fewer adolescents can afford to go to college to prepare for those jobs
 - many adolescents aren't motivated to strive for success
 - the supply of college graduates rose even more rapidly, which may contribute to "underemployment"
 - fewer colleges can afford to train students in these technical skills
25. Among adolescents in the United States, the most frequently abused drug is
- alcohol
 - marijuana
 - cocaine
 - heroin
26. Sixty percent of college women who were diagnosed with a sexually transmitted infection such as herpes reported that at the time they became infected they were under the influence of which drug?
- LSD
 - alcohol
 - amphetamines
 - cocaine
27. Data on suicide reveal that
- suicide is not a leading cause of death among adolescents in the United States
 - suicide is the third leading cause of death among adolescents in the United States
 - suicide is the first leading cause of death among adolescents in the United States
 - suicide is the second leading cause of death among adolescents in the United States
28. Which term best describes America's juvenile-justice system?
- effective but slow
 - antiquated
 - adequate
 - underfinanced
29. The leading cause of death among African American youth is
- suicide
 - homicide
 - motor vehicle accidents
 - cancer
30. Lesbian, gay, and bisexual youth are at a particularly high risk of
- suicide
 - dropping out of school
 - losing friends
 - remaining inhibited

Conceptual Questions

1. Your child is having a very stressful adolescence. You go to the library to find out what is going on. You will be most likely to check out a book by
 - a. Bandura
 - b. Offer
 - c. Hall
 - d. VanderZanden

2. Although you want him to go to college, your teenage son expresses a desire to go into the military so that he can decide what he would really like to do with his adult life. Erikson would consider his choice an example of
 - a. role confusion
 - b. identity diffusion
 - c. negative identity
 - d. adolescent moratorium

3. Charlotte was a rebellious teenager who began self-destructive habits early and carried them on into her 30s. She never sets goals for herself or makes commitments. She has always been irresponsible and has never held a job for very long. According to Erikson, Charlotte is suffering from long-term
 - a. role confusion
 - b. negative identity
 - c. identity diffusion
 - d. deviant identity

4. John is 15, has a severe reading disability, and has been in trouble with the law for disorderly conduct and truancy from school. Erikson would suggest that John is
 - a. trying to be a leader for his peers
 - b. trying to fit in with a particular peer group
 - c. taking on a negative identity role
 - d. having difficulty adjusting to late-adolescence expectations

5. Most modern high schools have groups of students referred to as “jocks,” “nerds,” “burnouts,” and “brains.” This provides evidence of
 - a. a youth culture
 - b. a monolithic peer group
 - c. heterogeneous peer groups
 - d. heterosexual cliques

6. Your adolescent son started to wear an earring in one ear like some sports celebrities on television. You should conclude that his behavior indicates a(n)
 - a. deviant identity
 - b. effort to renounce your values
 - c. conformist trend he’ll overcome in high school
 - d. normal peer-group identification

7. Aaron, who is in the ninth grade, feels that his mother is overly restrictive and does not provide him with sufficient “space.” Who would Aaron most likely turn to if he needed advice?
- his peer group
 - his father
 - the school guidance counselor
 - one of his teachers
8. When you ask your 14-year-old son to attend a family reunion, he refuses, saying, “They’re just a bunch of old fogies; I’m going to stay here with my friends.” The most reasonable conclusion you can reach is that
- he loves his friends more than his family
 - if your son had another group of friends, he would be more likely to respect your wishes
 - your son still loves and respects you, but he’d rather do things he chooses to do
 - by tenth grade, his friends will have less influence on him
9. You are a female high school guidance counselor. One of your female students approaches you and verbalizes a concern about not being normal because she is 16 years old, is still a virgin, and has not yet begun dating. Your best advice to her would be which of the following?
- Virgins like yourself are psychologically healthier than other girls because you believe that romantic love should precede rather than follow sex.
 - Being a virgin isn’t abnormal; maybe you’re setting your standards higher for achievement for yourself at this time.
 - Dating is just game playing; people like yourself concentrate on your studies and are better off in the long run.
 - Consider masturbation while imagining erotic scenes.
10. An 11-year-old boy in your health class asks, “If someone masturbates, does that make that person a homosexual?” Your best response to him would be
- yes
 - I don’t know
 - no
 - it can lead to becoming a homosexual
11. You are asked to write a research paper on adolescent sexual orientation for your Developmental Psychology professor. After reviewing the literature on teenage homosexuality, what conclusion would you reach concerning causes of sexual orientation in adolescence?
- Homosexuality is inherited.
 - Lesbianism occurs most frequently among members of sororities and the military.
 - Homosexuality is more frequently found among those who are not in sports.
 - No conclusion can be reached because research on teenage homosexuality and lesbianism is limited.
12. A teenage girl comes into a federally funded birth control clinic for her first visit. Which of the following assumptions would be the most valid?
- She has probably never used any form of contraception.
 - She started using contraception months after she became sexually active.
 - She thinks that if she does not want to become pregnant, she won’t.
 - She is probably using withdrawal as a contraceptive technique.

13. Of the following, which activity is more likely to build character in your teenage son who is a junior in high school?
- working 20 hours per week after school at a store in the mall
 - engaging in after-school activities, such as sports or clubs
 - giving your son \$20 per week allowance for his help around the house
 - becoming an expert at a computer simulation game
14. You caught your son smoking pot in his bedroom. You can legitimately conclude that
- your use of sleeping pills did not influence his decision to smoke pot
 - he perceives a consciousness of oneness with you because you drink cocktails when you get home from work
 - his pot smoking makes him feel “cool” in competitive situations and increases his status
 - regular use of pot may adversely affect his future school performance
15. Your daughter informs you that she sometimes drinks alcohol and smokes pot at parties. According to recent research on casual drug experimentation, what is the most valid conclusion you can draw about your daughter’s disclosure?
- It will lead to addiction.
 - It is associated with poor social adjustment.
 - It will lead to pathological functioning.
 - It is frequently associated with good social and personal adjustment.
16. A teenage relative of yours has just made a suicide attempt. Which of the following conclusions would be least valid?
- The relative is more likely to be male than female.
 - Feelings of helplessness and boredom preceded the attempt.
 - The relative was ambivalent about his or her willingness to die.
 - The relative had an increased number of psychosomatic complaints.
17. Which of the following adolescents would you be most concerned about? A boy who
- normally has a B+ overall average but is now failing three of his classes
 - considers school a waste of time and likes hanging around with jobless dropouts
 - is not interested in grades and cares only about extracurricular activities
 - is emotionally immature and enjoys playing the class clown
18. Jimmy is in the ninth grade at Mulberry High School. He has sixth-grade equivalent scores in reading and math, has a long truancy record, and resents his teachers for hassling him. We are likely to infer that Jimmy will
- go to a vocational school and gain employment skills
 - impulsively attempt suicide to escape his helpless situation
 - stay out of mischief if he is retained in school
 - drop out of high school

Essay Questions

1. Discuss how changing sexual attitudes and behavior in teens might impact theories of identity development.
2. Discuss connections between risky behaviors and career development.
3. Why should peers become more influential at this time in an adolescent's life?

ANSWERS FOR SELF-TESTS

Matching

- | | | |
|------|-------|-------|
| 1. l | 6. n | 11. b |
| 2. g | 7. a | 12. j |
| 3. i | 8. e | 13. d |
| 4. c | 9. m | 14. h |
| 5. k | 10. o | 15. c |

Multiple Choice

Factual

- | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. a | 11. b | 21. b |
| 2. b | 12. a | 22. c |
| 3. b | 13. b | 23. b |
| 4. d | 14. c | 24. c |
| 5. a | 15. c | 25. a |
| 6. b | 16. b | 26. b |
| 7. b | 17. d | 27. b |
| 8. a | 18. c | 28. b |
| 9. b | 19. c | 29. b |
| 10. c | 20. b | 30. a |

Conceptual

- | | | |
|------|-------|-------|
| 1. c | 7. a | 13. b |
| 2. d | 8. c | 14. d |
| 3. d | 9. b | 15. b |
| 4. b | 10. c | 16. a |
| 5. c | 11. d | 17. a |
| 6. d | 12. b | 18. d |