

# Social roles and adult personality

PSYCHOLOGY

GROUP-C



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# TWO PERSPECTIVES ON ADULT PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT

## TESSERA Framework

- re-occurring short-term, situational processes shapes the long-term personality development
- previous TESSERA sequences render future similar TESSERA sequences through reactions or reinforcements
- Developmental patterns on adult life span:
  - Maturity & Social Investment Principle (Young)
  - Cumulative Continuity & Identity Development Principle (Middle)
  - Plasticity Principle (late)

## Developmental Task Framework

- suggests that occurrences in a specific life phase changes the course of personality development.
- development occurs after accomplishing developmental tasks which follow normative sequence.
- Lifespan Perspective:
  - Age-graded influences
  - History-graded influences
  - Non-normative influences
- Quality of the experiences rather than just the transition shapes personality development

# ADULT PERSONALITY

- characterized by changes in the 5 components of personality (also known as *Big 5 Personality Model*)
  - emotional stability
  - degree of extraversion
  - conscientiousness
  - agreeableness
  - intellect
- not just about changes, but also about stability

# Personality development in adulthood

- ▶ Personality development is not only about change but about change and stability
- ▶ Personality is an iridescent construct which has been defined differently by different authors.



# Social roles

**Roles**  
The behavior expectations stemming from norms Associated with various statuses

**Role set**  
All the behaviors associated with a particular statuses such as professors role set, teaching, research servise etc..

**Role expectations**  
The behavior which is expected

**Role performance**  
The actual performance by the person

**Role making**  
Negotiations between role makers

# Social norms influence

*Our life is strongly influenced by social norms*

Example:

- Avoiding to drive under alcohol's effect
- Driving based on the speed limit
- Queuing in a shopping area
- Avoid smoking in public transport
- Respecting seat belts law
- Not to sell alcoholic drinks to under age people etc.



# Analysis and Recommendations

Both frameworks are used to illustrate the development of an adult's personality throughout his lifespan, although these frameworks have its own limitations.

Wrzus and Roberts (2016) suggest that future studies should consider the biological factors of an individual, societal differences, perception of other people, and micro-process levels on short term processes presented in the TESSERA framework.

Hutteman et al. (2014) suggest that future studies should further examine the mechanisms, processes and association between the developmental tasks and personality development in different contexts. This includes showing the influence of the differences in culture and birth cohorts in dealing with the developmental tasks.

The TESSERA framework supports the developmental task framework as it depicts the normative patterns and individual differences in different aspects, and includes a wider scope of study that previous theories did not cover.



**Thank you for your  
attention**