

Psy 109 Lecture 12

Social Development and Working Mothers

Developmental Psychology

- **Lifelong**
- **Child development:**
 - **Prenatal**
 - **Maturation (physical)**
 - **Cognitive development**
 - **Social development (including personality)**

Social Development

- **Stranger Anxiety**
 - fear of strangers that infants commonly display
 - beginning by about 8 months of age
- **Attachment**
 - an emotional tie with another person
 - shown in young children by their seeking closeness to the caregiver and displaying distress on separation

Social Development (cont)



Harlow's Surrogate Mother Experiments

- **Monkeys preferred contact with the comfortable cloth mother, even while feeding from the nourishing wire mother**

Social Development (cont)



- **Monkeys raised by artificial mothers were terror-stricken when placed in strange situations without their surrogate mothers.**

Social Development (cont)

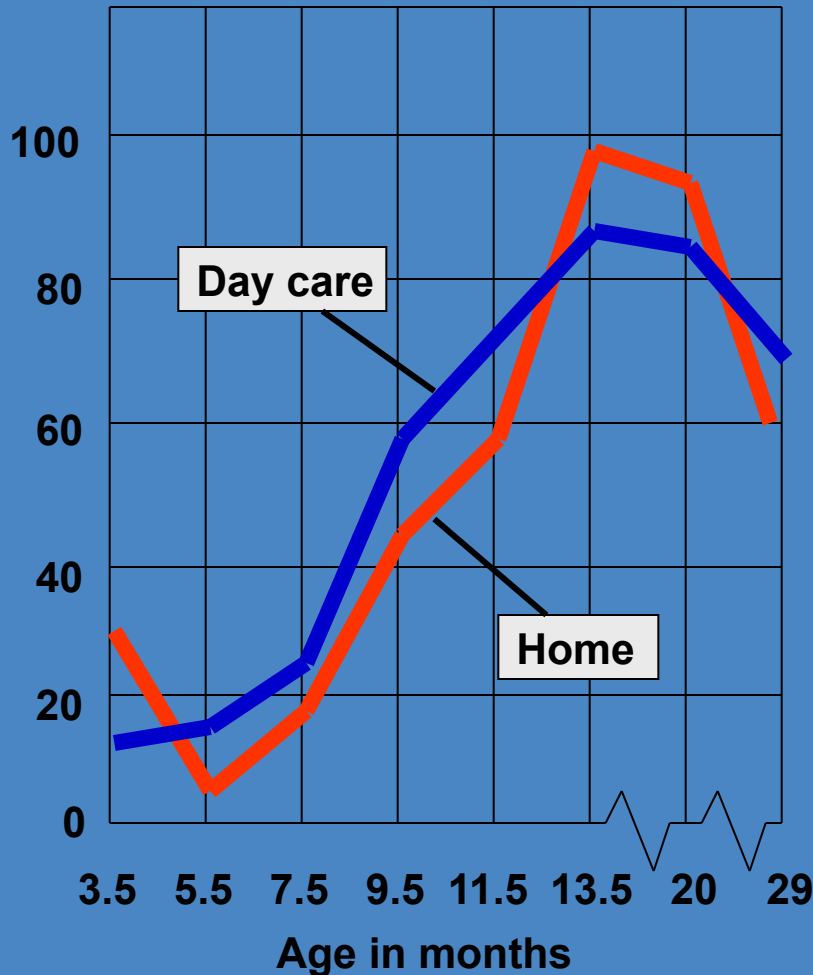
- **Three phases of attachment in humans:**
 - **Indiscriminate**
 - **Discriminate**
 - **Specific**

Social Development (cont)

- **Separation anxiety**
 - **Ainsworth (1978)**
 - **Patterns of attachment**
 - **Secure**
 - **Anxious-ambivalent**
 - **Avoidant**

Social Development (cont)

Percentage of infants who cried when their mothers left



- **Groups of infants left by their mothers in a unfamiliar room (from Kagan, 1976).**

Social Development (cont)

- **Basic Trust (Erik Erikson)**
 - a sense that the world is predictable and trustworthy
 - said to be formed during infancy by appropriate experiences with responsive caregivers
- **Self-Concept**
 - a sense of one's identity and personal worth

Social Development (cont)

- **Authoritarian**
 - parents impose rules and expect obedience
 - “Don’t interrupt.” “Why? Because I said so.”
- **Permissive**
 - submit to children’s desires, make few demands, use little punishment
- **Authoritative**
 - both demanding and responsive
 - set rules, but explain reasons and encourage open discussion

Social Development (cont)

- **Stage theories – three components**
 - progress through stages in order
 - progress through stages related to age
 - major discontinuities in development
- **Erik Erikson (1963)**
 - Eight stages spanning the lifespan
 - Psychosocial crises determining balance between opposing polarities in personality

Erikson's Stages of Psychosocial Development

Approximate age	Stage	Description of Task
Infancy (1st year)	Trust vs. mistrust	If needs are dependably met, infants develop a sense of basic trust.
Toddler (2nd year)	Autonomy vs. shame and doubt	Toddlers learn to exercise will and do things for themselves, or they doubt their abilities.
Preschooler (3-5 years)	Initiative vs. guilt	Preschoolers learn to initiate tasks and carry out plans, or they feel guilty about efforts to be independent.
Elementary (6 years- puberty)	Competence vs. inferiority	Children learn the pleasure of applying themselves to tasks, or they feel inferior.

Erikson's Stages of Psychosocial Development

Approximate age	Stage	Description of Task
Adolescence (teens into 20's)	Identity vs. role confusion	Teenagers work at refining a sense of self by testing roles and then integrating them to form a single identity, or they become confused about who they are.
Young Adult (20's to early 40's)	Intimacy vs. isolation	Young adults struggle to form close relationships and to gain the capacity for intimate love, or they feel socially isolated.
Middle Adult (40's to 60's)	Generativity vs. stagnation	The middle-aged discover a sense of contributing to the world, usually through family and work, or they may feel a lack of purpose.
Late Adult (late 60's and up)	Integrity vs. despair	When reflecting on his or her life, the older adult may feel a sense of satisfaction or failure.

