

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

PATNA UNIVERSITY, PATNA

Advance General Psychology, sem-1st

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PERSONALITY

Personality is an individual's unique and relatively stable patterns of behavior, thoughts, and emotions.

According to Allport, "personality is the dynamic organization within the individual of those psychophysical systems that determine his/her characteristic behavior or thought."

ERIK ERIKSON THEORY OF PERSONALITY

Erikson maintained that personality develops in a predetermined order through eight stages of psychosocial development, from infancy to adulthood. During each stage, the person experiences a psychosocial crisis which could have a positive or negative outcome for personality development.

According to the theory, successful completion of each stage results in a healthy personality and the acquisition of basic virtues. Basic virtues are characteristic strengths which the ego can use to resolve subsequent crises.

Failure to successfully complete a stage can result in a reduced ability to complete further stages and therefore a more unhealthy personality and sense of self. These stages, however, can be resolved successfully at a later time.

Stage	Psychosocial Crisis	Basic Virtue	Age
1.	Trust vs. Mistrust	Hope	0 - 1½
2.	Autonomy vs. Shame	Will	1½ - 3
3.	Initiative vs. Guilt	Purpose	3 - 5
4.	Industry vs. Inferiority	Competency	5 - 12
5.	Identity vs. Role Confusion	Fidelity	12 - 18
6.	Intimacy vs. Isolation	Love	18 - 40

Stage	Psychosocial Crisis	Basic Virtue	Age
7.	Generativity vs. Stagnation	Care	40 - 65
8.	Ego Integrity vs. Despair	Wisdom	65+