## Chapter 6 Psychosocial Development in Infancy

Psychosocial Development in Infancy (outline/overview)

Erikson on Early Relationships

Attachment

Temperament

Early emotional development

### Erikson's Theory of Infant Personality Derived from Freud's oral stage Erikson emphasized quality of caregiver's behavior, not amount of oral stimulation Positive resolution Caregiver is prompt and sensitive to baby's needs Trusting infant expects world to be good and explores it confidently

### Erikson's Theory of Infant Personality (con't)

- Negative resolution
  - Caregiver is neglecting or inconsistent
  - Mistrustful baby cannot count on kindness and compassion from others, behavior is characterized by withdrawal
- Autonomy vs. Shame/doubt also addressed during this period

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### Attachment

- Theoretical perspectives
  - Psychoanalytic
  - Behavioral
  - Ethological theory
    - Evolutionary context
    - Infants are hard wired with behaviors that keep parents nearby
- Consequences of attachment

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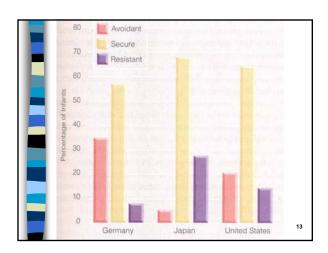
### Bowlby's Attachment Phases

- Preattachment (birth to six weeks)
- Attachment-in-the-making (6 weeks to 6-8 months)
  - Infant responds differently to caretaker
- Clearcut attachment
  - Caretaker as secure base
  - Separation anxiety
- Reciprocal relationships (18 months)
  - Importance of reciprocal socialization
  - Development of internal working model

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Episode	Event	Attachment behavior observed
1	Experimenter introduces parent and baby to playroom and then leaves.	
2	Parent is seated while baby plays with toys.	Parent as a secure base
3	Stranger enters, is seated, and talks to parent.	Reaction to unfamiliar a
4	Parent leaves room. Stranger responds to baby and offers comfort if upset.	Separation anxiety
5	Parent returns, greets baby, and offers comfort if necessary. Stranger leaves room.	Reaction to reunion
6	Parent leaves room.	Separation anxiety
7	Stranger enters room and offers comfort.	Ability to be soothed by stranger
8	Parent returns, greets baby, offers comfort if necessary, and tries to reinterest baby in toys.	Reaction to reunion

# Types of attachment (Ainsworth) - Securely attached - Avoidantly attached - Ambivalently attached - Disorganized/disoriented - Parental attitudes - Parental differences - Cultural differences



# Temperament Various models (Rothbart-Mauro/Chess-Thomas) Defined as patterns of emotionality and arousal that are consistent and enduring characteristics (how children behave) (Chess & Thomas model) Activity level Attention Span/Persistence Intensity of Reaction Distractibility Approach/withdrawal Adaptability Shows stability from infancy through adolescence Origins Reciprocal interactions

Profiles of temperament (Chess and Thomas)

Easy babies (40% of infants)

Positive disposition

Adaptable

Difficult babies (10%)

Negative mood

Withdraw in new situations

Slow-to-warm (15%)

Inactive, adapt slowly

Generally negative mood

Other 35%?

