

Lifespan Development

Psychosocial Development in Adolescence

1

Agenda/Outline

- Parent-teen conflict – the “Generation Gap”
- Marcia’s Identity statuses
- Adolescent psychopathology
 - Lewinsohn, P.M., Hops, H., Roberts, R.E., Seeley, J.R., & Andrews, J.A. (1993). Adolescent psychopathology: I. Prevalence and incidence of depression and other DSM-III-R disorders in high school students. Journal of Abnormal Psychology, 102(1), 133-144.

2

Parent-Teen Conflict

- Generation Gap?
 - Popular advice for parents of teens
 - Emphasizes non-normative development
 - Scientific writings
 - Focus on conflict
 - Research indicates
 - Very little emotional distance between teens and parents
 - Emotional relationship - examples
 - Intergenerational values

9

Generation Gap Fact or Fiction?

- Exists in matters of personal taste
- Transitory preferences, not values shaped over time
- Parent-Child Disagreements
- Generally mundane issues
- Different perspectives on issues
- Parents - matters of right or wrong
- Teens - personal choice

10

Erikson: Identity versus Identity Diffusion (Role Confusion)

- Identity results from mutual recognition between young person and society
- Forges an identity, but at the same time, society identifies the adolescent.
- As alternatives increase, establishing a sense of identity is more difficult
- Likelihood of prolonged identity crisis is greater today than in the past

11

James Marcia's Identity Statuses

- Made commitments?
- Exploration?

		Commitment	
		Present	Absent
Exploration	Present	Identity achievement	Moratorium
	Absent	Identity foreclosure	Identity diffusion

Identity Statuses

- Identity achievement
 - has explored alternatives, committed to a clearly formulated set of self-chosen values and goals, feel sense of sameness through time, and of knowing where they are going
- Moratorium
 - "delay or holding pattern," no definite commitment, in process of exploration-gathering information and trying out activities

13

Identity Statuses (cont.)

- Identity foreclosure
 - committed to values and goals without exploring alternatives, accept a ready-made identity from authority figures
- Identity diffusion
 - lack clear direction, uncommitted to values and goals, not actively trying to reach them, may have never explored alternatives

14

Marcia's Identity Statuses

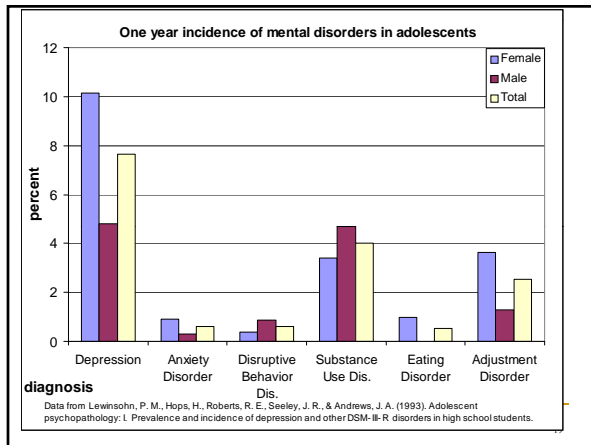
- Initial instability
- College facilitates exploration
- Immediate work after H.S. can speed process
- Negative Identity

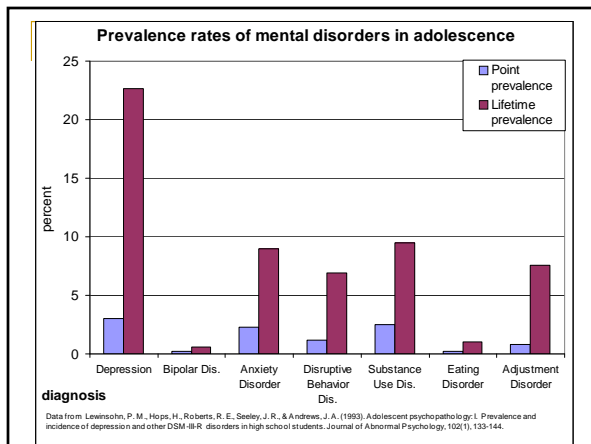
17

Adolescent Psychopathology

- Randomly selected sample of high school students n=1,710 at point of entry and 1,508 at 1-yr follow-up
- Western Oregon, Eugene area
- Representative sample
- Clinical interview
- Very expensive study

18





General findings

- almost 10% - current psychiatric disorder
- nearly 40% had experienced disorder during lifetime
- females experienced greater incidence
- most common: depression, anxiety disorders, substance abuse, and disruptive behavior disorders
- indicates need for stronger prevention efforts

21
