Personality Theory

Name:

Institution:

Introduction

Personality is a distinctive design unique to a person in terms of thoughts, feelings, and behavior (Schultz & Schultz, 2016). It has been proved that external factors affect a person's personality traits, and they may change as one grows older. One exhibits the same traits in different situations, making a trend of how one makes decisions (Schultz & Schultz, 2016). The environment can influence the personality that one is in. Personality varies from time to time and can be affected by the situation that one is in. Another personality characteristic is personality influences a person's behavior. A person's personality affects how one interacts with other people. Personality determines everything in a person's life, including the type of job one has and the life one desires to live.

Personality assessment is essential in advancing research on psychological theories to help understand personality traits (Weiner & Greene, 2017). The paper will discuss the similarities and differences in personality traits due to the structure of objective self-reporting assessment. The paper will also discuss the impact of the Christian worldview on Erikson's theory of human development. And it will lastly discuss my personality trait assessment results from the objective self-reporting assessment test.

Self-Reporting Personality Tests

An objective self-reporting assessment test is a personality test that people are given to identify the personality trait of a person (Weiner & Greene, 2017). The test is about a person's characteristics that the individual provides. One does a test that has several questions about different situations, and one is given a scale from strongly disagree to agree strongly, and one chooses the extent of their character (Weiner & Greene, 2017). The participants fill in the scale using their perception of the characteristics. An advantage of using objective self-reporting assessment is it can be used in both clinical and non-clinical studies. Differences and similarities personality determination of this method is determined through extraversion and introversion, showing if one is an outing person or not (Weiner & Greene, 2017). Another measure used to determine a person's personality is through the perceived function, which is through intuition (Weiner & Greene, 2017). Another way is through the thinking and feeling function, which helps measure if one makes decisions through thought or emotions (Weiner & Greene, 2017). The last measure that is used to determine a person's personality trait is through using lifestyle preferences (Weiner & Greene, 2017). It shows if one does something after careful thinking or just through intuition.

Personality Theory

Erikson's eight stages of psychological development are personality theories that expanded Freud's psychosexual development to form the theory (Syed & McLean, 2017). Erikson focused on child psychoanalysis helping him understand psychosocial development understanding the needs of a person in relation to society. According to psychosocial development, one must go through eight development stages to develop one's personality fully (Syed & McLean, 2017). When one encounters a problem, one develops a personality trait that helps them form their behavior. It is a broad topic that helps people understand a person's character trait all through a person's life. Its pitfall does not describe how one solves the problems they encounter or how they move from one development stage to the next (Syed & McLean, 2017).

The first stage is trust vs. mistrust which a child develops between birth to twelve to eighteen months old (Orenstein & Lewis, 2020). When a child is born, they rely on their parents in doing everything. A child is fed, cleaned, carried from place to place, and they also need love to grow effectively (Orenstein & Lewis, 2020). This helps a child to build a psychological trait of trust in those around the child. Infants need to feel secure in the environment they grow in to build trust in them. If an infant does not feel secure in their environment, they grow up with a personality trait of mistrust (Orenstein & Lewis, 2020). These children will grow up fearing and mistrusting the society around them, resulting in anxiety for the child (Orenstein & Lewis, 2020).

The second stage is Autonomy vs. shame and doubt occurring for children between eighteen months and three years (Orenstein & Lewis, 2020). At this age, children are developing their independence and control over their physical skills. If a child is given support to grow at this stage, they become confident and develop survival skills (Orenstein & Lewis, 2020). The opposite is true; if a child is constantly criticized for failing or not give an opportunity to be independent, they do not develop surviving mechanisms (Orenstein & Lewis, 2020). They may lack self-esteem in doing anything and will depend on others constantly.

The third stage is initiative vs. guilt which occurs in children between three to six years (Orenstein & Lewis, 2020). At this stage, the child learns to take the initiative in any situation they are in. At this stage, a parent should teach them to create goals, plan and achieve their goals (Orenstein & Lewis, 2020). It is also essential to teach them how to take responsibility for their actions. This stage prepares the child to take responsibility in a situation that requires them to take the initiative. A parent needs to play with the child to create a bond with the child. However, the parent should let the child lead the play because it helps them take the initiative and leadership (Orenstein & Lewis, 2020). If a parent does not encourage this, the child may not develop self-confidence in interacting with other children (Orenstein & Lewis, 2020).

The fourth stage is Industry vs. inferiority, which happens between six to twelve years old (Orenstein & Lewis, 2020). At this time, children start comparing their abilities to other children and people (Orenstein & Lewis, 2020). Here a parent should monitor the child's abilities and encourage them to do what they good at. This will help boost a child's confidence and help them succeed in something they are good at. If a child experiences adverse incidences, they may develop inferiority feelings hindering their success in doing things (Orenstein & Lewis, 2020).

The fifth stage is identity versus confusion between the ages of twelve and eighteen (Orenstein & Lewis, 2020). Here, children struggle to identify themselves, exploring different roles and ideas better to understand themselves. A parent should encourage their child to do what they love even if it changes constantly. If teenagers cannot find their identity, they may find it hard to find their sense of self, affecting their ability to come out of a crisis (Orenstein & Lewis, 2020).

The sixth stage is intimacy versus isolation which occurs between the ages of eighteen and forty (Orenstein & Lewis, 2020). The person struggles to form lasting relationships with others to make them feel safe. If one does not discover one sense of self, one may struggle in making lasting connections with others (Orenstein & Lewis, 2020). One is most likely to experience depression if one does not form a meaningful relationship with others.

The seventh stage is generativity versus stagnation between the ages of forty and sixty-five (Orenstein & Lewis, 2020). This stage can be described as the need to give to others. Here one needs to feel needed and feel satisfaction for the contribution one made to society. At this stage, one needs constant positive feedback to feel gratified. If one gets constant criticism, they may feel like a failure becoming frustrated. They may feel not motivated in personal growth (Orenstein & Lewis, 2020).

The eighth and last stage is integrity versus despair which occurs to people over the age of sixty-five. Here one reflects on the life they have lived, and those who did not jump any stage experience satisfaction. If one jumped a stage, they might feel dissatisfied, lost, and regretful (Orenstein & Lewis, 2020). People in this stage feel constantly satisfied and regret at the same time the life they lived.

Christian's Impact on the Personality Theory

Erikson's eight stages of psychosocial development are based on religion. The eight stages are in relation to the Christian worldview, and it promotes morality and Christian values. Erikson was not a Christian, but he was inspired by the teachings of Jesus when he was growing up hence referring to Christian values to help him develop the stages of psychosocial development. Erikson's eight development stages of psychosocial development can be used in religion to show the progress of one's faith since joining the religion (Timm et al., 2020). The stages can be applied for the understanding of the development of a person's spirituality. Not many psychological theories can be integrated into Christianity because some do not adhere to morality standards placed by Christianity (Timm et al., 2020).

Personality Assessment test

Consul personality type has a caretaker personality. They are outgoing, loyal, they hate conflict, and they are tender-hearted. They are popular people; they can make friends easily due to their outgoing nature. They are very caring for those they love. They always want to make their family and friends happy at all times. Consuls are very emotional people, and this is both their weakness and their strength. Consuls are not interested in politics or scientific things; they are interested in fashion, what is going on in the music scene, and their social status. They follow traditions and laws respecting the authority.

Consuls always want to of service in whatever situation they are in. they take the initiative when an opportunity arises. Erikson's theory of psychosocial development explains that initiative is developed in children in preschool. Here the child learns to take control in situations where an opportunity arises. Here a child learns to have a sense of purpose that will guide them to take the initiative when needed (Syed & McLean, 2017). Consuls enjoy being of service to everyone around them. Consul personality type is the life of the party. They can make a dull moment interesting or a sad situation less sad. In Erikson's theory, a child develops self-confidence between 3 and five years, giving them the courage to interact well with others.

Consuls are very sensitive, and with little provocation, they may feel attacked. They are very emotional and can break down due to something minute. This is a strength but also a weakness that people can easily take advantage of. Their sensitive nature makes them good and caring friends, family, and parents. They always take care of everyone and sometimes at the expense of themselves. A negative is that this makes them clingy, and at times it does not end well for them or their loved ones. They hold romantic relationships highly because it gives them a sense of security among all the other relationships they have.

They are over-dependent on social gratification, and if they are not recognized as they expect, they are offended. They do not like to be criticized because they feel people disagree with their idea and thinking. They seek approval from their partners no matter the cost they have to pay at their own expense. Emotional development should occur when one is between eighteen and forty. Emotional development occurs when one feels safe in a relationship, and if one keeps failing at relationships, they may feel vulnerable and desperate to find a partner affecting emotional development (Syed & McLean, 2017).

Even though this makes them vulnerable, their faint heart makes them loving and caring, dedicated and supportive parents. They show their affection to their children, disciplining them when necessary. Consuls ensure their children feel safe and secure, forming a special bond with their children. They can also be controlling parents because they are overwhelmed by their children growing. They control their children's lives, always wanting to be the center of their lives.

Conclusion

Personality is a distinctive design that one uses to make decisions throughout a person's life. Research shows that personality traits may change throughout a person's life. Erikson's eight stages of psychosocial development explain how personality traits develop as one grows. It shows the eight stages that a child goes through that help shape their development, including each stage of a person's life from birth till death. The environment that a child is growing in plays a big part in their psychosocial development shaping their personality. Erikson's psychosocial development theory includes Christian teaching in helping determine the proper steps that help a child develop their psychosocial attributes that helps one shape a positive personality trait. My personality type is Consul with the attributes of being popular due to the ability to quickly start a conversation with a stranger. Consul personality types are compassionate and faint-hearted, making them the best parent, friend, and family despite being emotionally vulnerable. Consuls are the life of the party, and they like to take care of everyone around them.

References

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