

Lifespan Communication and Adolescence

Shaw 6; Pecchioni et al 4; Sunwolf-3

- Adolescent brain development and communication (impulsivity; storm & stress)
- Erikson (Identity vs role confusion)
- Learning new "adult" ways of seeing relationships (Cognitive complexity and Person-Centered Communication)
- Individual and group identities (and group boundaries)– Problems of repeatedly rejected adolescents—Sunwolf p. 77)
- Role of "family" environment in early adult communication development

Basics

Cognitive Complexity

1. Measure of social information processing capacity; high complexity = able to store, retrieve, organize, generate information about persons/social situations
2. Measures– Kelly's Role Construct Repertory and Crockett's Role Category Questionnaire
3. Communication involves– (a) perceiving others & social situations, (b) producing messages, (c) interpreting and responding to messages of others, and (d) coordinating interactions with others– all related to cognitive complexity


