

Psychology 420
Psychoanalytic Theories: Freud

Freud

field of origin

theoretical position

Structure of Personality

1. id-
2. ego-
3. superego-

Id

functions

the two fundamental instincts

1. the Life instinct

2. the Death instinct

basic goal- the pleasure principle (or the primary process)

primary process- it exists at birth

Ego

function

basic goal- the reality principle (or the secondary process)

secondary process- because it develops later than the pleasure principle

origin

Superego

function

basic goal

origin

Relationships Among Personality Structures and Levels of Consciousness

Personality Dynamics

dynamics- the processes by which personality operates to affect behavior

conflict

anxiety

defense mechanisms- generalized coping attempts to protect against inescapable dangers or fears

1. denial- actively attempt not to think about them
2. repression- a specific type of denial
3. projection- unacceptable desires are blamed on other people or sources
4. sublimation- re-directing unacceptable feelings into more socially acceptable pursuits
5. reaction formation- converting unacceptable feelings into feelings that are exactly the opposite
6. rationalization- finding “more logical” reasons for one’s feelings

limitations of defense mechanisms

Sequence in the development of anxiety

motivational determinism- all behavior is motivated by id impulses

Personality Development

◆ How does the tendency to employ these strategies develop?

prior to birth

1. Oral Stage- pleasure is centered on the mouth

two phases

1. oral passive

2. oral aggressive

primary challenge- development of trust

2. Anal Stage- pleasure is focused on excretion

two phases

1. anal sadistic

2. anal erotic

primary challenge- development of self-control

3. Phallic Stage- pleasure is focused on genital region, although the other previously emphasized regions retain some focus of pleasure

primary challenge- the Oedipal conflict for boys, the Electra conflict for girls

Oedipus

Electra

development in boys

castration anxiety

development in girls

penis envy

development of the superego

4. Latency Period- sexuality moves into the background

5. Genital Stage

fixation-

◆ the result is the retaining of the psychic organization predominant in that stage

1. oral personality

◆ gratification-seeking behaviors

◆ psychological characteristics

2. anal personality

◆ gratification-seeking behaviors

◆ psychological characteristics

3. phallic personality

◆ gratification-seeking behaviors

◆ psychological characteristics

4. genital personality

◆ gratification-seeking behaviors

◆ psychological characteristics