1. Developmental Psychology
   1. Adolescence
      1. Time period between puberty and adult-hood
         1. Adult-hood usually corresponds to independent from parents
         2. Roughly between 13-20
         3. Once adolescent we can have abstract thinking and have morals
         4. We begin to evaluate people as to why they do certain things
      2. Kohlberg’s stages of moral development
         1. Preconvential level
            1. Moral dilemmas are resolved in ways that resolve in ways that satisfy self-serving motives
            2. Young children would only be able to reason at this level.
            3. Only done to avoid something unpleasant or to get something they want.
            4. A young child may say he would steal the drug because they don’t want to be sad if their wife dies.
            5. A young child may say he wouldn’t steal the drug because they don’t want to go to jail.
            6. The reasoning is all about them.
            7. Examples:

When you speed you’re impatient, it’s all about me.

* + - 1. Conventional level
         1. Moral dilemmas are resolved in ways that reflect the laws of the land or norms set by parents
         2. If the law says its legal, then it’s OK.
         3. If the law says its illegal, then it’s not OK.
      2. Postconventional level
         1. Most complex
         2. Based on abstract principles such as justice, and the value of life.
         3. An act is moral, if it affirms your own conscious. Whether it is legal or not, so long as it affirms your conscious then it’s right.
         4. If you stole the drug because your wife’s life is worth more than going to jail. Not about you, about your wife.
      3. Example
         1. A woman is dying, a drug a pharmasict in your town has the drug to save her life, the pharmacist is charging too much and they can’t afford it. They tell the pharmacist was asked, please sell it cheap or get now and pay later? He stole the drug, or should he of not stolen the drug?
      4. Kohlberg didn’t care if you were going to take or not take the drug. He was interested in why the situation turned out. Your rationale will tell you where you are on moral development.
      5. Criticism
         1. It is culturally biased
         2. Cultures that value rules and laws, then they’re more likely to reason at the conventional level.
         3. Moral reasoning is very different from moral behavior.
         4. You may say something is right or wrong, but it is different when you’re in that situation.
    1. Dr. Death aka Jack Kevorkian
       1. Helped many people in the 90s commit suicide
       2. Assisted suicide is illegal
       3. He did not agree with that law, he believed our right to die with dignity and peacefully is more important than the law
       4. All of his patients were suffering from terminal illnesses in a tremendous amount of pain
       5. When does human compassion go above the law?
       6. He filmed it, sent it into 60 minutes, knowing that he would be charged with second-degree murder. He was charged, found guilty, and spent 8 or 9 years of prison. He felt so strongly about what he was doing he was willing to serve time in prison. He believed we have the right to decide when we can end our lives.
    2. Women have killed their abusive husbands after years of abuse.
       1. They have been acquitted of their crime.
       2. In those cases the jury must have been reasoning at the post-conventional level
       3. John and Lorena Bobbitt
          1. Lorena was being abused by John for years. While he was sleeping, she went to the kitchen got a butcher knife and chopped off his penis. She went in her car with the severed penis and threw it out on the highway. What she did was illegal, she was found not guilty due to temporary insanity. She admitted the crime, they couldn’t find her not guilty without using temporary insanity.
          2. If they were reasoning at the conventional level they would of convicted her of the crime, however they were reasoning at the postconventional level.
          3. Aftermath of John

He became a porn star after his penis was reattached

Formed a band called the severed parts.

* + - * 1. Aftermath of Lorena

She beat up her mother or mother-in-law.

Found guilty in that case.

* + - * 1. An extreme example of the jury reasoning at the postconventional level

1. Social Development
   1. Erikson’s “identity crisis” describes teenage years
      1. A crisis must be resolved in order for a healthy development is to continue
      2. Identity crisis
         1. Where do you fit into your family, society, etc?
      3. Three aspects you must come to terms with
         1. Relationships with parents
            1. A rise in tension between adolescents and parents
            2. You start to break away from your parents
            3. From an evolutionary perspective we’re essentially dragging out a period of adolescence on both ends. Hundreds of years ago, kids left home at 15-17 years old, about the time they went through puberty. Today we are going through puberty much earlier in life, but yet we are staying with our parents later in life. Of course we want our dependence.
            4. Generally speaking our parents influence most of our major life decisions.

Religious, political, social, beliefs, etc

* + - 1. Relationships with peers
         1. Increase conformity
         2. Influences how we dress, etc
      2. Sexuality
         1. Whether parents like it or not, teenagers are sexually mature. Just because you are sexually mature doesn’t mean you have to be sexually active. Once you go through puberty your body is telling you are a sexually mature adult. Issues with STDs and teenage pregnancies are due to us maturing so much faster than generations ago. The problem is that we are physically maturing faster than generations ago, we are not mentally maturing any faster than generations ago.
         2. Our brain is not fully developed until around 20-25
  1. Adulthood and old age
     1. Biological changes
        1. Our basic abilities start to decrease early in life.
        2. Muscle strength, heart rate, speed of reflex, all increase through your teens and 20s, and start to decrease as early as your 30s and 40s.
        3. Golfing and bowling get better as you get older, unlike the rest of the sports you peak at 25 or so.
     2. Cognitive changes
        1. Intelligence
           1. Fluid intelligence

The ability to reason quickly and abstractly, solve logic problems, etc.

As we age fluid intelligence declines

On a time fluid intelligence test younger adults will do better than older adults.

* + - * 1. Crystallized intelligence

Reflects the accumulation of verbal/language skills and factual knowledge

As we age crystallized intelligence relatively stable throughout age.

On a time fluid intelligence test, sometimes the younger adults will perform better due to wiser explanations to certain problems. They use their years of accumulated knowledge and experience. They tend to compensate for their cognitive slowdown by using their wisdom.

* + - 1. Memory and forgetting
         1. Age related decline in prospective memory (reminders for future action) is seen.
         2. Prospective memory

Remember to go to the grocery store on the way home, to turn your English paper in to your professor, etc.

This is why elderly individuals forget to take their medication or they may forget they took it already and take multiple doses.

* + - * 1. Alzheimer’s disease

We know that as human life expectancy is increasing, so is the prevalence of Alzheimer’s.

Results from a deterioration of neurons that produce Acetylcholine. They begin to plague or die off. That part of the brain isn’t producing enough acetylcholine.

It is different between each person, typically it starts as simple lapses in memory, someone’s name, where you put the remote control, and then the memory problems become more severe.

They often have anterograde and retrograde amnesia.

Changes in judgment, personality, losing the ability to recognize loved ones and family.

The body eventually forgets to talk, feed itself, and then the ability to breath.

A form of dementia

No prevention or cure, there are drugs that can slow the progression of the disorder. The drugs can boost acetylcholine levels.

Factors that are linked to Alzheimer’s

Genetics

Smoking

Drug use

Obesity

Language skill/ability and whether or not you might develop Alzheimer’s

Demonstrated in a study with a group of nuns when they first entered the convent in their 20s. They were asked to write a brief autobiographical essay on why they wanted to be a nun. They were judged on complexity of ideas, sentences, grammar, etc. 60 years later, the nuns that scored lows were then more likely to develop Alzheimer’s. The nuns that wrote complex passages were less likely to develop Alzheimer’s. This is a correlation, but does not mean there is causation.