# A theory of self esteem

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The Theory of Self-Esteem\*\*

Self-esteem refers to an individual's overall sense of worth and value. It is a key component of psychological well-being and has been extensively studied by various theorists over the years.

#### **Self-Esteem Theories**

# **Stanley Coopersmith's Self-Esteem Theory**

Coopersmith proposed that self-esteem develops through five stages:

- Early childhood: Self-esteem is based on external validation.
- Middle childhood: Self-esteem becomes more internalized and based on personal experiences.
- Adolescence: Self-esteem is influenced by social comparisons and peer approval.
- Young adulthood: Self-esteem becomes more stable and independent of external factors.
- Maturity: Self-esteem is based on a sense of purpose and self-acceptance.

# **Cast and Burke Theory of Self-Esteem**

This theory suggests that self-esteem is a result of the interaction between the individual's self-concept and significant others' evaluations.

# **James' Self-Esteem Theory**

William James believed that self-esteem is a ratio of successes to aspirations. When successes outweigh aspirations, self-esteem is high, and vice versa.

# **Maslow's Theory of Esteem**

Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs places esteem needs above basic physiological and safety needs. High self-esteem is crucial for self-actualization, the highest level of human potential.

# **Rosenberg's Self-Esteem Theory**

Morris Rosenberg developed the Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale, a widely used measure of self-esteem based on statements about self-worth and self-acceptance.

# **Kaplan's Theory of Self-Esteem**

Howard Kaplan proposed a hierarchical model of self-esteem, with four levels:

- Basic self-esteem: Based on basic needs and environmental support.
- Conditional self-esteem: Dependent on external validation.
- Global self-esteem: A general sense of worth based on internal factors.
- Situational self-esteem: Specific to particular contexts or situations.

#### Adler's Self-Confidence Theory

Alfred Adler believed that self-esteem is rooted in a sense of inferiority, which can be compensated for through striving for superiority.

#### Theory of Self-Esteem According to Bednar and Peterson

Randy Bednar and Craig Peterson proposed that self-esteem consists of three dimensions:

- Self-worth: Belief in one's own value.
- **Ego strength:** Ability to cope with life's challenges.
- **Self-integrity:** Consistency between one's values and actions.

# **Self-Esteem According to Bandura**

Albert Bandura's social cognitive theory emphasizes the role of self-efficacy, or belief in one's ability to perform certain tasks, in shaping self-esteem.

# **Hierometer Theory of Self-Esteem**

This theory suggests that individuals have an internal sensor for self-esteem that monitors and regulates their self-worth based on feedback from their environment.

# **Burke's Theory**

Edmund Burke theorized that self-esteem is rooted in a sense of self-sufficiency and control over one's environment.

# **Coopersmith Theory of Self-Esteem**

Stanley Coopersmith's theory focuses on the development of self-esteem through childhood and adolescence, emphasizing the influence of significant others.

# James-Lange Theory of Self

This theory proposes that self-esteem is a result of emotional experiences, rather than being a cause of them.

#### **Self-Esteem Level Theory**

This theory posits that individuals have different levels of self-esteem, which can fluctuate over time depending on experiences and circumstances.

#### The 5 Stages of Self-Esteem

Coopersmith identified five stages of self-esteem development:

- The Early Stage: High self-esteem is based on external validation.
- The Middle Stage: Self-esteem is influenced by personal experiences and peer approval.
- The Adolescent Stage: Self-esteem is characterized by self-consciousness and social comparison.

- The Young Adult Stage: Self-esteem becomes more stable and independent of external factors.
- The Mature Stage: Self-esteem is based on a sense of purpose and selfacceptance.

# **Theory of Abraham Maslow**

Maslow's hierarchy of needs places self-esteem needs above basic physiological and safety needs. He believed that high self-esteem is essential for self-actualization.

# Theory of Self-Esteem by Maslow

Maslow's theory suggests that individuals must satisfy lower-level needs, such as food, shelter, and safety, before they can focus on self-esteem and personal growth.

# **McIntyre Theory of Self-Confidence**

Robert McIntyre's theory emphasizes the role of self-confidence in shaping selfesteem. He proposed that self-confidence is based on four factors:

- **Task competence**: Ability to perform specific tasks.
- **Social competence:** Ability to interact effectively with others.
- Self-efficacy: Belief in one's own abilities.
- Self-worth: Belief in one's own value.

#### **Lauster Theory of Self-Confidence**

Franz Lauster's theory focuses on the development of self-confidence through childhood and adolescence. He proposed that self-confidence is based on:

- Cognitive competency: Ability to think and solve problems.
- **Social acceptance:** Feeling valued and accepted by others.
- Emotional self-regulation: Ability to manage emotions.

# Rosenberg Self Theory

Morris Rosenberg's self theory proposes that self-esteem is a multidimensional construct that includes:

- Global self-worth: A general sense of one's own value.
- **Self-competence:** Belief in one's ability to perform tasks.
- Self-esteem stability: Consistency of self-esteem over time.

# **Korman's Consistency Theory of Self-Esteem**

Abraham Korman's theory suggests that individuals strive for consistency in their self-esteem. When there is a discrepancy between actual and ideal self-esteem, they experience psychological discomfort and engage in behaviors to reduce the discrepancy.

#### **Self-Esteem Paradox**

This phenomenon refers to the tendency for individuals with low self-esteem to overestimate their abilities and accomplishments, while individuals with high self-esteem to underestimate them.

#### **Self-Confidence Bandura**

Albert Bandura's concept of self-confidence refers to the belief in one's own ability to perform specific tasks. He emphasized the role of self-efficacy in shaping self-confidence.

#### **Alfred Adler's Theory**

Adler's theory of inferiority and compensation proposes that individuals strive for superiority to compensate for feelings of inferiority. Self-esteem is linked to the fulfillment of this striving.

# **Self-Esteem According to William James**

James believed that self-esteem is a result of comparing one's successes to one's aspirations. High success-to-aspiration ratio leads to positive self-esteem, while low ratio leads to negative self-esteem.

# Adler's Self-Confidence Theory

Adler's theory of self-confidence emphasizes the role of striving for superiority in shaping self-confidence. Individuals who compensate for feelings of inferiority through striving for superiority develop high self-confidence.

# **Self-Esteem According to Bandura**

Bandura's social cognitive theory proposes that self-esteem is influenced by self-efficacy, or the belief in one's ability to perform specific tasks. High self-efficacy leads to positive self-esteem, while low self-efficacy leads to negative self-esteem.

# Theory of Self-Esteem According to Bednar and Peterson

Bednar and Peterson's three-dimensional theory of self-esteem includes self-worth, ego strength, and self-integrity. Positive self-esteem is characterized by high levels of these dimensions.

# **Concept of Self-Esteem**

Self-esteem is a multidimensional construct that encompasses an individual's overall sense of worth and value. It is influenced by various factors, including personal experiences, environmental factors, and cultural norms.

#### **Alfred Adler's Theory**

Adler's theory of individual psychology proposes that individuals strive for superiority to compensate for feelings of inferiority. This striving can influence self-esteem.

# **McIntyre Theory of Self-Confidence**

McIntyre's theory emphasizes the importance of task competence, social competence, self-efficacy, and self-worth in shaping self-confidence.

#### **Self-Confidence Theory**

Self-confidence theory posits that individuals' belief in their own abilities and capabilities influences their self-esteem and overall well-being.

#### Erikson's Self-Esteem

Erik Erikson's theory of psychosocial development places emphasis on the impact of social experiences on self-esteem. A sense of competence and industry can contribute to positive self-esteem.

# **Lauster Theory**

Lauster's theory of self-confidence development highlights the influence of cognitive competency, social acceptance, and emotional self-regulation on self-confidence.

# **Self-Esteem According to APA**

The American Psychological Association (APA) defines self-esteem as a positive or negative orientation toward oneself that includes feelings, thoughts, and beliefs about one's own worth.

#### Theory of Self-Esteem by Maslow

Maslow's hierarchy of needs suggests that individuals need to satisfy basic needs, such as food and shelter, before they can focus on self-esteem and self-actualization.

#### **Theories of Self-Esteem**

Various theories have been proposed to explain the development and dynamics of self-esteem, including Coopers

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