Development over the Lifespan
From Womb to Tomb
What is developmental psychology?

...a field of study that seeks to understand all aspects of human growth and development from birth until adulthood.

- Child Development
- Cognitive Development
- Moral Development
- Adolescence
- Adulthood
- Identity
Characteristics of Development

1. Development is similar for everyone
2. Development builds on earlier learning
3. Development proceeds at an individual rate
4. The different areas of development are interrelated
5. Development is continuous throughout life - it does not stop at a certain age.
Five Areas of Development

1. Physical
2. Intellectual
3. Social
4. Emotional
5. Moral development is the process of gradually learning to base one’s behavior on personal beliefs of right and wrong.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Two Influences (and theories) on Development</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Heredity</strong> (Nature)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genetics DNA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Quick Review-
Cognitive Development
“Only education is capable of saving our societies from possible collapse, whether violent or gradual”

Jean Piaget

Was more interested in the incorrect responses given by children and the reasoning behind those than by correct answers.
Basic Components of Piagetian Theory

**Schemas** - building blocks of knowledge, used to understand and respond to situations

**Assimilation** - using existing schemas to deal with a new object or situation

**Accommodation** - occurs when the existing schema or knowledge does not work and needs to be changed in order to deal with a new object or situation
4 Stages of Cognitive Development

Sensorimotor Stage
Birth-2 years

Concrete Operational
Age 7 until about 11

Preoperational Stage
Age Range: 2-7

Formal Operational
11 through Adulthood
Sensorimotor Stage

★ ...is broken down further into more specific stages that better represent smaller age ranges.

★ One important development that occurs in this stage is object permanence.
Preoperational Stage

Children in this stage

★ think from their own point of view
★ think that the world exists only for them
★ are self centered
Concrete Operational Stage

Age 7 until about age 11

Children in this stage...
★ are less egocentric
★ learn to use basic logic
★ start to think more like adults
★ think in concrete terms such as people, places, and things.
★ do not understand concepts such as loyalty or freedom (no abstracts)
Formal Operational Stage

- Abstracts
- Complex thought processes
- Complex reasoning

Your picture here

(well, some of you..)
Kohlberg’s Theory of Moral Development

Kohlberg’s Theory, like Piaget’s, is divided by developmental age. Kohlberg’s theory includes three levels: Preconventional, Conventional, and Postconventional. Each of these levels is further broken into two stages each.
Lawrence Kohlberg

- American Psychologists who established a theory of moral development
- Theory states that moral reasoning and our ethics have six stages of development
  - As we grow, our morals develop and change in regards to all questionable situations
  - Stages shift with cognitive development and maturity
A famous example of moral dilemmas

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5czp9S4u26M
Pre-conventional Stages

Children, early teens

- **Stage 1: Obedience and Punishment**
  - Person makes choice based on direct consequences in fear of punishment
  - "What will happen to me if I do this?"

- **Stage 2: Self Interest**
  - Person makes choice based on what benefits they can receive from the situation
  - “What/How will I get out of this?”
Conventional Stage

Older children, teens

- **Stage 3: Good Boy/Good Girl**
  - Person knows what’s expected of them and tries to please people who care. Driven by a desire to be accepted
  - “Will they be happy if I do this?”

- **Stage 4: Legality and Law**
  - Person makes decisions based on what the law says, whether the law is parental or governmental
  - “Am I allowed to do this?”
Post Conventional

Teens to adults

- **Stage 5: Individual Rights/Human Rights**
  - Person begins to question fairness of restrictions in place, makes decisions that can conflict with laws if they think it is what is truly right
  - “I think this isn’t fair, so I’m going to do this…”

- **Stage 6: Universal Principle**
  - Person does what they think is right, regardless of what the laws say
  - “It doesn’t matter what the law says, this is what I need to do…”
Two Influences (and theories) on Development, whether cognitive or moral

Heredity (Nature)
- Genetics
- DNA

Environment (Nurture)
- the people, places, and things that surround and influence an individual.

http://www.ted.com/talks/jim_fallon_exploring_the_mind_of_a_killer
Which brings us to...

Look for:
- Nature vs Nurture
- Cognitive Development
- Moral Development
- Parenting Styles

...while watching.
Authoritarian

Authoritative

Uninvolved

Permissive

Punishment  Rigid  High standards  enabling

Obedience  Status  flexible

I’m the Boss  Directive  assertive

Rules  Structure  Self-regulation

Low responsiveness,  warmth, supportiveness

distance  uninterested  appeasement  no guidelines

Uninvolved  Non-directive  Over-involved  lenient

neglectful  passive  indulgent

absent  blurred roles

http://perlapalacios.wordpress.com/2012/04/25/parenting-styles/#jp-carousel-144
Definition 1: a person with a psychopathic personality, which manifests as amoral and antisocial behavior, lack of ability to love or establish meaningful personal relationships, extreme egocentricity, failure to learn from experience, etc.

Definition 2: Also called: sociopath a person afflicted with a personality disorder characterized by a tendency to commit antisocial and sometimes violent acts and a failure to feel guilt for such acts.
1. What influences affect development more: nature or nurture? How does *The Bad Seed* address this question?

*Use the foursquare chart on parenting styles to help you consider the influence of nurture on development.*

2. Why does the debate over nature vs nurture matter in regards to moral development?

3. Use Kohlberg’s theory of moral development to assess Rhoda’s behavior.

   Your assessment should include the terms and descriptions found within Kohlberg’s Theory

4. Use Kohlberg’s theory of moral development to assess Christine’s (Rhoda’s mother) behavior and decisions.

5. Recall the Milgram Experiment (if you don’t remember it, google it). Relate the findings of the Milgram Experiment to Kohlberg’s Theory.

6. Why does studying or learning more about moral development matter? Think about it before you record a response.
Criticisms of Kohlberg’s Theory

1. Very rare to find people with postconventional reasoning

2. Research based on all male subjects (Carol Gilligan). Women more likely to have the ethics of care and responsibility, while men more likely to have the ethics of individual rights and justice. This theory favors the male ethic and implies that the female ethic is inferior.

3. Some non-Western cultures have a much greater emphasis on interdependence and concern for welfare of the group. Again, Kohlberg’s theory implies that this ethic is inferior.
Need a little more information?

You will need an ipad or computer and you will be expected to use it for a specific purpose, not looking at NCAA brackets or scores on espn, searching shoes, playing games, or any other reasons other than the following two options:

Watch the short video or read the transcript to learn about Kohlberg's theory:

http://goo.gl/VYH7vJ