

Chapter 8

Early Childhood: Emotional and Social Development

INTRODUCTION

Chapter 7 focused on the expanding physical and cognitive competencies of preschool children. In Chapter 8, the early childhood years are once again examined, with primary emphasis on the process of emotional development and socialization. The main topics in Chapter include:

- Emotional development. The ability to express more subtle emotions occurs as well as the ability to engage in forms of symbolic emotional communication such as play.
- The development of self. The development of self includes forms of self-awareness and self-esteem.
- Gender identification. It is at this time that gender roles and gender identity begin to form.
- Family influences. Specific parenting determinants and various child-rearing practices are discussed. Baumrind's four parenting styles and their effects on children's behavior are examined. Research is cited on effective parenting as well as on the sexual abuse of children. The impact of single-parent families and divorce on parents, as well as on children, is illustrated in detail. The final issue focuses on sibling relationships and their role in the socialization process.
- Peer relationships. This section discusses children's peer relationships and friendships. The role of children as reinforcing agents and behavioral models for one another is examined, as is the importance of play in the child's personal and social development. The subject of aggression is addressed, with an emphasis on the effects of media violence on the behavior of the nation's youth. Finally, the impact of preschools and Head Start programs on both parents and children is summarized, and guidelines for selecting a preschool are presented.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After completing Chapter 8, you should be able to:

1. Describe how emotions are displayed and regulated among children.
2. Describe how children link feelings with thoughts.
3. Discuss the child's growing sense of *self*, defining ecological and interpersonal self.
4. Discuss how psychologists assess *self-esteem*.
5. Distinguish between *gender role*, *gender identity*, and *sexual orientation* as they relate to gender identification.

6. Briefly summarize the following theories regarding the acquisition of *gender identity*.

psychoanalytic theory (Freud)

cognitive-learning theory

selective reinforcement

Bandura's research

cognitive-developmental theory (Kohlberg)

self-socialization

gender schemes

7. Appraise the research on the effects of fathers and mothers on gender typing.

8. Define *socialization* and briefly discuss the role of the family in early human development.

9. Identify and briefly discuss Belsky's three major determinants of parental functioning.

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10. Outline the major dimensions underlying child-rearing and *socialization* practices, and discuss the effects of each of these practices and a combination of practices on children's behavior.

warmth-hostility

control-autonomy

combinations

consistency in discipline

11. Analyze each of the following parenting styles. Explain how each contributes to the development of socially responsible and independent behavior from the perspective of Baumrind's research.

authoritarian

authoritative

permissive

harmonious

12. On the basis of Baumrind's research, discuss the impact of spanking on children.

13. Describe the effects of sexual abuse on children.

14. Identify some of the difficulties that each of the following people experience with parenting (e.g., parent-child contact and communication, changes in behavior of parents as well as in children at the time of divorce).

single parents

divorced parents

children of divorced parents

gay or lesbian parents

15. Summarize the research findings on sibling relationships with regard to:

birth order

pioneering function

firstborn

middle children

later-born

family size

confluence theory

resource dilution hypothesis

sex of siblings

“dethroning”

16. Characterize the qualitative changes that occur in *peer* friendship patterns.

17. Describe research findings on aggressive behaviors in children.

18. Describe the purpose and effects of the Head Start program.

19. Discuss the research on children's antisocial behavior.

20. Discuss the media's influence on children's behavior.

WEB SITES

The following Web sites deal with some of the major concepts and issues presented in Chapter 8. Additional resources can be found on the text's Web site at <http://www.mhhe.com/crandell8>.

Center on the Emotional and Social Foundations for Early Learning
<http://csefel.uiuc.edu/>

Child Care and Early Education Research Connections
<http://childcareresearch.org/discover/index.jsp>

The Division for Early Childhood
<http://www.dec-sped.org/usefullinks.html>

Exceptional Parent
<http://www.eparent.com/>

Positive Parenting
<http://www.positiveparenting.com/index.html>

U. S. Administration for Children & Families: Child Care Bureau
<http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/ccb/>

SELF-TESTS

Matching

Match the key terms with their definitions:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a. aggression | i. gender stereotypes | p. resource dilution hypothesis |
| b. authoritarian parenting | j. harmonious parenting | q. scaffolding |
| c. authoritative parenting | k. initiative vs. guilt | r. self |
| d. confluence theory | l. joint custody | s. self-concept |
| e. emotion | m. permissive parenting | t. self-esteem |
| f. gender | n. peers | u. socialization |
| g. gender identity | o. play | |
| h. gender roles | | |

1. ____ being classed as male or female
2. ____ a person's own sense of self-worth or self-image
3. ____ a set of cultural expectations that define the ways in which the members of each sex should behave
4. ____ an arrangement whereby both parents share equally in the making of significant child-rearing decisions and share in regular child-care responsibilities
5. ____ attempts to shape, control, and evaluate a child's behavior in accordance with traditional and absolute values and standards of conduct
6. ____ behavior that is socially defined as injurious or destructive
7. ____ distinguished by parents that seldom exercise direct control over their children in an attempt to cultivate an egalitarian relationship
8. ____ distinguished by providing a nonpunitive, accepting, and affirmative environment in which the children regulate their own behavior as much as possible
9. ____ exaggerated generalizations about male or female behaviors
10. ____ firm direction for a child's overall activities but gives the child considerable freedom within reasonable limits
11. ____ individuals who are approximately the same age
12. ____ states that in large families resources get spread too thinly, to the detriment of all the offspring
13. ____ supports a child's learning through intervention and tutoring that provide helpful task information attuned to the child's current level of functioning
14. ____ the conception that people have of themselves as being male or female
15. ____ the image one has of oneself
16. ____ the process of transmitting culture, transforming children into functioning members of society
17. ____ the psychological changes, subjective experiences, and expressive behaviors that are involved in such feelings as love, joy, grief, and anger
18. ____ the stage when children strive exuberantly to do things and to test developing abilities, sometimes reaching beyond their competence

19. ____ the system of concepts we use in defining ourselves
20. ____ the view that the intellectual development of a family is like a river, with the input of each family member flowing into it
21. ____ voluntary activities that are not performed for any sake beyond themselves

Multiple Choice

Circle the letter of the response that best completes or answers each of the following statements and questions.

Factual Questions

1. The process of transmitting culture to one's children so they can become functioning members of society is called
- acculturation
 - socialization
 - tempering
 - social transformation
2. The system of concepts we use in defining ourselves is best termed
- the self
 - expectations
 - social categories
 - role
3. The self-conceptions that people have as being male or female are called
- gender roles
 - genetic genders
 - biological sexes
 - gender identities
4. Which theory proposes that a child is bisexual at birth but heterosexual identity develops more firmly as the child resolves conflicting feelings of love and jealousy and begins to identify with the parent of the same sex?
- psychoanalytic
 - cognitive learning
 - cognitive-developmental
 - behavioral
5. According to Albert Bandura, children determine which behaviors are appropriate for each sex by
- watching the dominant parent in their primary environment
 - watching the behavior of many male and female models
 - watching clearly defined sex roles in cartoons
 - playing with certain toys and games

6. "I am a boy; therefore, I want to do boy things; therefore, the opportunity to do boy things is rewarded." This best describes the position of which of the following theories?
- psychoanalytic
 - social modeling
 - cognitive-developmental
 - none of these
7. According to the evidence, who plays the most critical role in encouraging "femininity" in females and "masculinity" in males in U.S. society?
- mothers
 - grandparents
 - fathers
 - preschool teachers
8. According to Gilmore's study (1990), fathers' absence from many U.S. homes during the son's formative years may lead to which of the following
- less secure sense of masculinity
 - exaggerated male behavior
 - development of androgynous behavior
 - negative attitudes toward women
9. Which of the following is not included in Jay Belsky's framework for family functioning?
- mother-child
 - parenting practices
 - socioeconomic status
 - marital relations
10. Referring to Schaefer and Becker's four combinations of the warmth-hostility and control-autonomy dimensions of parenting, which style of parenting is associated with impulsive, disobedient, aggressive, and delinquent behavior?
- warm-restrictive
 - warm-permissive
 - hostile-restrictive
 - hostile-permissive
11. Which statement concerning parenting is least accurate according to the chapter?
- Unpredictable discipline is the most effective.
 - Aggressive children usually have the most permissive parents regarding aggression.
 - Boys are less inclined to obey mothers.
 - The majority of parents agree that a spanking is sometimes necessary.
12. According to Diana Baumrind's analysis of parental authority, an authoritative parent is best described as one who
- stresses obedience and conformity to rules in a disciplined environment
 - allows the child to regulate his or her own behavior
 - prefers forced discipline but allows children to make the rules
 - provides firm direction but allows the child freedom within limits

13. Baumrind found that the least self-reliant, explorative, and self-controlled children were those with parents who were
- permissive
 - authoritative
 - harmonious
 - authoritarian
14. _____ supports a child's learning through intervention and tutoring that provide helpful task information attuned to the child's current level of functioning.
- Permissive parenting
 - Scaffolding
 - Socialization
 - Harmonious parenting
15. Which statement is the most accurate regarding the sexual abuse of children?
- Sexually abused children are usually afraid to tell others about their experiences.
 - Most research has dealt with the sexual abuse of males.
 - Most victims of childhood sexual abuse recover from patterns of psychological shame within a few years.
 - There is a decrease in the number of male victims of childhood sexual abuse.
16. Which of the following scenarios most closely illustrates an example of a child asserting his individuality when told to put his toys away?
- When told to put his toys away, the child does so.
 - The child leaves the area without doing so.
 - The child ignores the request completely.
 - The child responds that he is "still playing" with the toys.
17. Studies by McClelland and colleagues have indicated that
- toilet training, spanking, and breast-feeding influence what people think and do as adults
 - how parents feel about their children has an important influence on what their children think and do as adults
 - parents who employ good child-rearing techniques are more likely to raise children who have healthy personalities as adults
 - parents whose child-rearing techniques are inconsistent are more likely to raise children who become aggressive adults
18. The most important message from the Harvard Child-Rearing Study is
- read to your children often
 - enjoy your children and love them
 - spank your oldest child once a week
 - there are "set patterns" that work in nearly all parent-child relationships
19. Single-parent families tend not to be characterized by
- higher delinquency rates among the children
 - poorer school adjustment of the children
 - more serious economic problems
 - male heads of households

20. Which statement is the least accurate about research on the effects of divorce?
- The first year after the divorce is equally stressful for both parents.
 - Divorced parents communicate less well with their children than parents in intact families.
 - Poor parenting seems most evident for divorced mothers one year after divorce.
 - Single-parent families usually experience increased stress and difficulties during the second year of divorce compared with the first year of divorce.
21. Researchers find the quality of children's relationship with _____ is the best predictor of their post-divorce adjustment.
- their mother
 - their siblings
 - both parents
 - their father
22. With respect to school achievement, social adjustment, and delinquent behavior, the differences between children from one-parent and two-parent homes of comparable social status are
- small
 - moderate
 - very large
 - large
23. Studies of sibling relationships have demonstrated that
- a child's position within the family doesn't affect his or her development
 - each child has a unique microenvironment
 - siblings often have similar personality traits
 - sibling interactions usually are less important after high school
24. Which of the following is not a finding from a cross-cultural study of firstborns conducted by Rosenblatt and colleagues?
- Firstborns receive more respect from siblings and society.
 - Firstborns are more likely to be given control of property and power in society.
 - Firstborns often have elaborate birth ceremonies.
 - Firstborns often cannot act as caretakers for siblings because they are usually in positions of power and authority and don't have time.
25. Confluence theory (now under scrutiny by other researchers) as described by psychologist Zajonc says
- the conflicts siblings tend to have with each other influence the intellectual growth of siblings
 - the more older siblings a child has, the lower his or her intellectual level
 - each additional child improves the intellectual climate within a family
 - the oldest sibling experiences the richest intellectual environment
26. The theory that in large families the resources get spread thin, to the detriment of the offspring, is called
- confluence theory
 - crucial resource theory
 - resource dilution theory
 - developmental delay theory

27. Studies of peer relationships of children indicate that
- 4-year-olds spend about one-third of their time playing with peers
 - by 18 months of age, social play predominates
 - spontaneous peer reinforcement decreases with age
 - more social interaction takes place among acquainted toddlers
28. As children grow older, their aggressiveness becomes
- more diffused and less directed
 - less oriented toward temper tantrums
 - less retaliatory in response to others' aggression
 - less verbal
29. Which of the following is not an accurate finding from studies of children's aggressive behavior?
- When an aggressive response is followed by passive behavior by the victim, the aggressor is reinforced to victimize again.
 - When aggressive behavior is followed by punishment, aggressors move to other victims.
 - Children's aggressive behavior comes from home influences.
 - More aggressive children, particularly boys, report that aggression brings rewards.
30. Media violence fosters aggressive behavior in all of the following ways except
- media violence provides opportunities for children to learn new aggressive skills
 - television violence affords occasions for vicarious conditioning
 - watching television violence weakens children's inhibitions against violence
 - television violence links aggression to success in life

Conceptual Questions

1. Your child is playing with an imaginary friend. This usually indicates
- psychosis
 - underlying cognitive changes
 - dissatisfaction with real friends
 - all of these
2. Your child shows evidence of emotional self-regulation, can express feelings in complex ways, plays cooperatively, but hasn't started constructing a gender identity. Her most probable age is
- 4 ½
 - 3
 - 6
 - 2
3. Sam wears clothes that are not traditionally masculine or feminine. Sam's hair is not done in a way that is indicative of a man's style or a woman's style. Sam likes to fish, play baseball, knit, and take ballet lessons. Sam is not conforming to
- gender identity
 - gender roles
 - gender
 - gender bias

4. A girl grows up never once seeing the genitals of another person, so she is unaware of the physical differences between boys and girls, but she still has a strong sense of gender identification. Which theory of gender identity development will this case undermine?
 - a. cognitive learning
 - b. psychoanalytic
 - c. cognitive development
 - d. ecological

5. Theresa is a 5-year-old whose mother rarely asks her to pick up her toys or help around the house and always reasons with Theresa about acceptable standards of behavior. What parenting style does Theresa's mother use?
 - a. permissive
 - b. authoritative
 - c. harmonious
 - d. authoritarian

6. Yan has been raised in a harmonious parenting household. She has just started kindergarten. Which behavior is she most likely to exhibit at school?
 - a. She runs to the teacher often to "tattle" on what other children are doing.
 - b. She is regimented and obedient in her behavior, doing everything she is told to do immediately.
 - c. She is almost oblivious to oral directives, doing very much as she pleases whenever she wants.
 - d. She is not fearful of the classroom environment or the teacher and readily consoles other children if they become upset.

7. In your house, the children are all given rules and responsibilities. However, they negotiate with each other for who does what tasks (e.g., dishes) if there is a special event (e.g., a school play). Based on Baumrind's research, we could predict that
 - a. your sons will be very permissive
 - b. your children will be self-reliant
 - c. your daughters will not be very self-reliant
 - d. your children will be withdrawn

8. Warren is about to become a stepfather. He is most likely to be successful if he
 - a. allows the children's mother to continue being the authority figure
 - b. is authoritarian and warm
 - c. is not demanding but is permissive
 - d. is authoritative and warm

9. Martha's 3-year-old son Cory has thrown his toys all over his room. Which statement demonstrates scaffolding?
 - a. "Please pick up the toys, honey?"
 - b. "Pick up those toys right now!"
 - c. "It's time to pick up your toys, and I'll show you how to put them away."
 - d. "You can pick up the mess whenever you want to."

10. McClelland's Harvard Child-Rearing Study is to _____ as White's Harvard Preschool Project is to _____.
- child abuse; competence
 - parenting techniques; aggressive behavior
 - parenting techniques; spanking
 - personality development; competence
11. Billy's parents have been divorced for one year, and he now lives with his mother. His mother is unsuccessful in her efforts to decrease his acting-out behavior and she spansks him. Billy tells her, "You can't make me stop." She hits him harder. Psychologists could predict that
- as time goes by, Billy's mother will give up on him and make fewer demands for mature behavior
 - as time goes by, Billy's mother will start ignoring him more and showing him less attention
 - Billy's school grades will decrease, and he will become more abusive and demanding
 - Billy would be more obedient for his mother if his father was more psychologically available to him
12. Sue is the artificially inseminated child of a lesbian couple. She is a third grader, age appropriate in all developmental domains, and is a well-adjusted girl. School officials are concerned, however, that being raised in this environment will influence her sexual orientation later. According to the chapter, which response is most accurate in this case?
- Sue will grow up to be a lesbian.
 - It will be very difficult for Sue to ever be attracted to members of the opposite sex.
 - There is no clear evidence as to whether homosexual parents produce homosexual children.
 - Sue will unlikely be a "tomboy" because of her infrequent association with males.
13. Monique is a very social teenager—many phone calls, invitations to parties, a constant stream of friends in her home, and she was just voted "Most Popular" in her graduating class. Based on birth-order research, she is likely to be
- the "baby" in her family
 - the middle child in her family
 - the firstborn in her family
 - the only child in her family
14. As a preschool teacher, what type of peer interaction would you expect when you walk into a play area?
- boys and girls playing together
 - boys playing with boys; girls playing with girls
 - both boys and girls involved in rough-and-tumble play
 - girls playing in larger groups; boys playing in more solitary situations
15. Your husband is always telling the children, "Quit playing around and do something useful with your time." Your best advice to your husband might be that
- although play is a poor use of time, children need to expend energy
 - although most play is a waste of time, middle-class children generally use playtime efficiently
 - telling this to the children will decrease their enjoyment of play
 - play is children's work; it has vital social, cognitive, and physical benefits
16. A pair of young parents is seeking a preschool for their 4-year-old child. There are several options available to them in their community. They have, however, heard conflicting reports about the

educational quality of these preschools and are now confused. Which advice would you supply these parents?

- a. Go to the school and meet the director, teacher, and aides.
- b. Inquire about the academic qualifications of staff, and ask to see verifications, if possible.
- c. Determine the goals of the preschool and their policies.
- d. all of these

17. Your city's mayor is threatening to cut the funding for the local Head Start program. You decide to write a letter to support the continuance of this program based on the findings of more recent research that states

- a. socioeconomically disadvantaged children perform as well as or better than their peers in regular schools and have fewer grade retentions or special education placements because of this program
- b. socioeconomically disadvantaged children have been provided with essential health care through this program
- c. the Head Start program gives parents access to community resources that provide parenting skills and support for the entire family
- d. all of these

18. Ivan is a 12-year-old child who has grown up in a single-parent home with his mother. He has recently been getting detentions in school for misbehavior, which his mother doesn't understand. The school psychologist suggests that Ivan's mother enroll Ivan in the Big Brother program at the local YMCA. Why?

- a. Ivan is just naturally mischievous—you know, "Boys will be boys."
- b. Ivan needs the influence of an older male role model to develop his athletic skills.
- c. An older male role model will probably help Ivan gain some self-control.
- d. Ivan's gender identity might become more feminine if he doesn't have a male role model.

19. Mr. Jones refers to his child as "strong, alert, and well-coordinated." Studies show he's most likely referring to his

- a. son
- b. daughter
- c. either his son or daughter
- d. his oldest daughter

20. Which of the following concepts provides social (cultural) guidelines that define for us our obligations and expectations?

- a. roles
- b. egocentric perspective
- c. self
- d. construct perspective

21. Mom is acting as if she has just declared war on the world and Dad is treating every day as if it's Christmas. What is likely to be going on in this family?

- a. They have gone through a divorce.
- b. They have a child entering puberty.
- c. They are having their first child.
- d. They are becoming stepparents.

Essay Questions

1. How much of your sense of gender identification comes from external factors? How much from biological factors?
2. What are the implications of family and different parenting styles on self-concept and self-esteem?
3. Examine the implications of peer relationships and media influence on emotional development. If possible, ask a 10-year-old and a 75-year-old where their sense of self originated from, and what most influenced their concepts of gender and emotional expression.

ANSWERS FOR SELF-TESTS

Matching

- | | | |
|------|-------|-------|
| 1. f | 8. m | 15. s |
| 2. t | 9. i | 16. u |
| 3. h | 10. c | 17. e |
| 4. l | 11. n | 18. k |
| 5. b | 12. p | 19. r |
| 6. a | 13. q | 20. d |
| 7. j | 14. g | 21. o |

Multiple Choice

Factual

- | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. b | 11. a | 21. a |
| 2. a | 12. d | 22. a |
| 3. d | 13. a | 23. b |
| 4. a | 14. b | 24. d |
| 5. b | 15. a | 25. d |
| 6. c | 16. d | 26. c |
| 7. c | 17. b | 27. a |
| 8. a | 18. b | 28. b |
| 9. b | 19. d | 29. d |
| 10. d | 20. d | 30. d |

Conceptual

- | | | |
|------|-------|-------|
| 1. b | 8. d | 15. d |
| 2. b | 9. c | 16. d |
| 3. b | 10. d | 17. d |
| 4. b | 11. c | 18. c |
| 5. c | 12. c | 19. a |
| 6. d | 13. a | 20. a |
| 7. b | 14. b | 21. a |