

# Erikson's Theory Of Psychosocial Development - Stage 6 (Young Adulthood)

Erikson assumes that a psychosocial crisis occurs at each stage of development. Erikson believes psychological needs of an individual conflict with the needs of society during each 8 stages of life. After we have developed a sense of self and identity during adolescence, it is then time to share our life with others. When young adults are 20-30 years old, it is important for them to develop a sense of intimacy, and ultimately, the virtue of love, at least at some point during this time period.



**PLAY PICMONIC** 

Age

## Young Adult (20-30 Years)

Young Adults

Erikson's sixth stage of psychosocial development occurs during age 20-30 years old.

## **Basic Conflict**

## **Intimacy vs. Isolation**

Intimacy-inn vs. Ice-isolation

Intimacy is becoming emotionally and psychologically close to someone, while still maintaining a sense of one's self. There are different types of intimacy, such as close friendships or romantic relationships. Successful completion of this stage can lead to comfortable relationships and a sense of commitment within a relationship. Adults who do not develop a positive sense of self and identity in adolescence may experience feelings of loneliness and emotional isolation during early adulthood.

## **Important Events**

## Romantic Relationships

Romantic Couple

Intimate, romantic relationships are the highlight of this stage of development. Successful completion of this stage can lead to comfortable relationships and a sense of commitment within a relationship. Avoiding intimacy, or fearing commitment and relationships can result in isolation and loneliness. Success in this stage will lead to the virtue of love.

## Virtue

## Love

Love-hearts

If we are able to develop romantic relationships, then we are often able to grow to develop a feeling of love for the people with which we are in those relationships.