

## Erikson's Theory Of Psychosocial Development - Stage 7 (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 intimacy and have developed romantic relationships, it is time for adults to create and nurture things that will outlast them. This is often achieved by having children or creating a positive change that benefits others. Success during this stage leads to feelings of accomplishment and usefulness, whereas failure will result in feeling of stagnation and feel as though they are not leaving a mark on the world in a meaningful way.



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### Age

#### Adulthood (Age 30 - 65 Years)

##### Adults

Erikson's seventh stage of psychosocial development occurs during age 30-65 years old.

### Basic Conflict

#### Generativity vs. Stagnation

##### General vs. Stag

Generativity involves finding work you love and contributing to the development of others through activities such as mentoring, volunteering and raising children. During this stage, middle-aged adults begin contributing to the next generation, often through having children or caring for others. They also begin to engage in meaningful, productive work which contributes to society. Success during this stage leads to feelings of accomplishment and usefulness, whereas failure will result in feeling of stagnation, and may feel as though they are not leaving a mark on the world in a meaningful way.

### Important Events

#### Career & Parenthood

##### Career-case and Parents

During this stage, middle-aged adults begin contributing to the next generation, often through having children or caring for others. During this time they also engage in meaningful, productive work which contributes to society.

### Virtue

#### Care

##### Care-bear

During this stage, middle-aged adults begin contributing to the next generation, often through having children or caring for others. If adults are able to care for others during adulthood, then they are then able to move on to the next stage, where it is important for them to be able to reflect on their life.