

## Erikson's Theory Of Psychosocial Development - Stage 8 (Older Adult)

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 careers and have the opportunity to care for others as adults, it is then time to reflect on our lives, and hopefully feel a sense of fulfillment in what we have achieved. Failure during this stage results in regret, bitterness and despair.



PLAY PICMONIC

### Age

#### Older Adult (65+ to Death)

##### [Older Adult](#)

Erikson's eighth stage of psychosocial development occurs from age 65 until death.

### Basic Conflict

#### Integrity vs. Despair

##### [Integra vs. Despair-sparrow](#)

When reflecting on life, those who feel proud of their accomplishments will feel a sense of integrity. Successful completion of this stage means looking back with few regrets and an overall feeling of life satisfaction. Failure experienced during this stage results in regret, bitterness, and despair.

### Important Events

#### Reflection on Life

##### [Mirror Reflection](#)

This last stage focuses on reflecting on life. When doing so, a person will likely either feel integrity or despair. If they feel a sense of integrity when reflecting on their lives, they will have gained the virtue of wisdom.

### Virtue

#### Wisdom

##### [Wise-old-owl](#)

Success at the last and final stage in life leads to the virtue of wisdom.