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Human Development Theories Psychoanalytic theory postulates that a person’s development is characterized by three key parts, whichinclude ego, superego and id. Within these developmental parts are five additional stages include oral, latency, anal, phallic and genital phases. Ego, according to Sigmund Freud, is the self-image (Thomas, 2001). Superego, on the other hand, includes a societal moral and ethics that are learned from parents and guardians. Lastly, id is an individual’s instant pleasure principles of instant gratification (Thomas, 2001).
According to Erik Erickson, psychosocial theory explains human developmental stages in relation to nurture and nature. This theory postulates that early stages of human development through the adolescent stage are highly determined by nurture and nature aspects in relation to the socialization process.
The cognitive theory, on the other hand, focuses on an individual’s thoughts and behaviours. This is what marks it as a personality theory. This is because thoughts determine individual’s emotions and behaviours. Most cognitive theorists explain this philosophy metaphysically that individuals who lack emotions and behaviours could not function (Thomas, 2001). This is a value laden assumption of the theory, which can easily be explained rather philosophically than scientifically.
In conclusion, cognitive theory is much more inclined towards the Christian perceptive of human development explanations. This is because it postulates that thoughts often come first before any actions or feelings. This could only be in the spiritual world, which is a more appropriate environment for a Christian believer. Christians strongly believe in the existence of the supernatural forces behind an individual’s social actions through his or her beliefs. After discussion about these theories, I conclude by postulating a question that is the belief that a leader’s rate of success depends on the way different people behave?
References
Thomas, R. M. (2001). Recent Theories of Human Development. Thousand Oaks, Calif. [u. a.: Sage Publications.