

# Stages of ego development essay



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Jane Loevinger's stages of ego development believes that an individual's ego matures and evolves through stages throughout an individual's life span. An individual's ego goes through nine stages to evolve and mature. The nine stages are; pre-social stage, impulsive stage, self-protective stage, conformist stage, self-aware level, conscientious stage, individualistic level, autonomous stage, and integrated stage.

The pre-social stage is during the year of infancy where Loevinger does not believe we have an ego, but this is where it is believed that an ego begins to develop with the association of objects to oneself. The impulsive stage is the stage in an individual's life as a child when they are growing with the sense of self. In other words ongoing question of is this making me happy or making me sad, those things that make me happy are seen as good in those things that make me sad are considered bad.

The self-protective stage is the stage where we start showing self-control of our impulses. Self-aware level is considered the transitional stage. It is understood that not many individuals pass this stage before the age of 25. This is a stage where we as individuals are able to increase our self-awareness and see multiple possibilities and situations that may arise. The conscientious stage is when individuals start seeing others in terms of what their motives are and not just what their actions are.

The individualistic level is where individuals demonstrate both the respect for individuality as well as interpersonal ties, meaning it as though they're still trying to find who they are as an individual they still respect what bonds them to others. The autonomous stage is when people start showing and

having what is considered self-acceptance. The last stage is called integrated stage, this is believed to be a rare stage to get to. In this stage people show were in the way of wisdom and the ability to show empathy to not only themselves but two other individuals as well.