

Nature v nurture

Psychology



Nature v. Nurture Nature v. Nurture The debate regarding the impact of nature and nurture on human development has persisted for long. Nature entails the genetic makeup of an individual while nurture encompasses the upbringing of a person. Both nature and nurture have a remarkable impact on the development of adolescents. The influence of these two aspects on the development of adolescents can be regarded as significant. The inherited traits (nature) have an impact on the development of adults in a number of ways. For instance, adolescents may portray some of the traits that they have inherited from their parents. The biologically inherited traits of adolescents may become visible during adolescence. Nature influences the development of adolescents because there tends to be some traits that people have to inherit from their parents. An adolescent may either inherit positive or negative traits from their parents (Dowling, 2011).

On the contrary, nurture entails the various environmental conditions that shape human development. Nurture influences the development of adolescents in that environmental factors influence the acquisition of some traits in adolescents. Some of the environmental factors that influence adolescent development include peer pressure, the media, as the environment of the adolescent's upbringing. The adolescents immediate family, friends, and the society at large influence their development. Adolescents tend to exhibit behaviors that they learn from their parents, peers, and other significant members of the society such as celebrities. One reason why nurture influences adolescent development is because socialization is part of a child's upbringing, and socialization agents have a significant impact on behavior. Moreover, nurture influences the way a person behaves since it instills acceptable norms of behavior in the

adolescent (Dowling, 2011).

References

Dowling, J. E. (2011). *The Great Brain Debate: Nature or Nurture?* Princeton: Princeton University Press.

discuss why and how nature and nurture influence adolescent development