<u>**Essay: Human Development**</u> (Due Week 10)

For this assignment, you will compose a 3- to 4-page essay in which you will review **one** of two development theorists listed below, either Kohlberg or Elkind, and relate their concepts to your observations and life experience.

<u>**Choose one of the two options below**</u> **and write 750-1000 words on your chosen topic. Please use Times New Roman 12-point font and double-space the entire document – except the title page. The title and reference pages are not included in the total word count.**

The essay consists of five parts:
- Title page
- Introduction (A)
- Literature review (B)
- Conclusion (C)
- Reference page (D)

A. Introduction (1 – 2 pages) CHOOSE AN OPTION:

OPTION 1: Lawrence Kohlberg's theory of moral development consists of three main stages. At the *preconventional* level, moral reasoning is related to the physical consequences of an act. An action is considered "right" when it averts punishment or brings a reward. At the next stage, the *conventional* level, right and wrong are based on the internalized standards of others. "Right" is whatever is thought to be helpful or approved of by others, or that which is consistent with the laws of society. At the final stage, *postconventional* moral reasoning tends to involve weighing moral alternatives. "Right" is the action or attitude that advances basic human rights.

Discuss Kohlberg's three main stages of moral reasoning and explain what stage of moral development you believe yourself to be currently in. Give one example that demonstrates your present level of moral reasoning.

<u>**OR**</u>**:**

OPTION 2: David Elkind believed that the teenage years are marked by *adolescent egocentrism*, a theory of human development that consists of two concepts. The first concept, the *imaginary audience* is the common belief among adolescents that they are or will be the focus of attention in social situations, and that others are as critical or approving as they are of themselves. The

second concept, *personal fable* is an exaggerated sense of one's personal uniqueness and indestructibility, which can be the basis of the risk-taking commonly seen in adolescence.

Discuss how the main concepts of Elkind's theory of adolescent egocentrism play out in the modern context in which social media, games, and apps dominate many teenagers' lives.

B. **Literature Review (1 – 2 pages)**

After you have written your introduction describing your chosen theory of development, present the research in further depth. You may state a hypothesis (i.e., prediction) about your topic, if you wish. Remember to **cite academic sources**, which provide evidence for the theory**. Include <u>at least two</u> academic journal articles or books – in addition to the textbook**. All sources should be cited within the text after every quote or paraphrase, and listed in the references section of your paper.

You have access to major academic databases, including PsychArticles and EBSCO, and can locate journal articles using the GBC library website or Google Scholar.

To find academic sources, go to: https://www.georgebrown.ca/llc

or https://scholar.google.com

C. **Conclusion (0.5 – 1 page)**

Tie the theory of development and your observations together in one paragraph.

D. **References**

The last page of your paper should be a reference section, which lists all the sources you have used in the writing of your paper. The references should be ordered alphabetically by the first-listed authors' last name. And both the in-text citations and the references should be written in APA-style formatting. Consult the OWL at Purdue APA website: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01

NOTE: Part of your grade will be based on writing style. As a college student, you should make sure that you check your spelling, use correct punctuation and syntax, and write in complete sentences.

- *Remember that the paper should be* **750-1,000 words** *in length*. If you go over 1,000 words, simply keep it within reason. One thousand words is approximately four pages in 12-point Times New Roman, double spaced type. The cover and reference pages are not included in the total word count. See the following page for how to format them properly.

<u>Instructions for Title and Reference Pages</u>

How to set up your title page:

• One-third of the way down the page, write your Title in Title Case so that Each Major Word is Capitalized. Do not write the title in **Bold**, or <u>Underline</u> It, or put it ALL IN CAPS. Centre the title.

• Two-thirds of the way down the page and centered include the following information:

Your Name
Course Code and Title
Professor's Name
Date
(See example below)

Do NOT double space the cover page

Example:

Title of Paper

Your Name
GSSC 1058 – Introduction to Psychology
Professor (Name)
Month Day, Year

In your essay, be sure to include a citation after every quote or paraphrase. For every citation there should be a reference and vice versa. Include a page, paragraph, or section number in the citation that follows a quote. If the source that you are using does not have an author, publication date, or publisher, consider choosing another source. Use only reputable, academic sources and not popular websites, such as Wikipedia. Do not include extra spaces between your reference entries. If you have questions regarding APA-style formatting for citations or references, please consult the GBC library or the OWL Purdue APA website. Use the titles on the left in to navigate the site.

How to set up your reference page:

<div align="center">References</div>

Your reference section should start on a separate page. The title "References" is centred with no caps, bold, or underlining, as above. List all the references alphabetically, by the first-listed author's last name, in standard APA format. Double space the page, and set a hanging indent to 1.27 centimeters, if you like.

Please refer to the OWL at Purdue APA website for more information and/or check the proper formatting for citations and references using your textbook as a guide.