

Cross-cutting Indices in Modern North American Culture:

- 1.) at 13 may have a special birthday party, on becoming a "teenager"
- 2.) at 16 one can drive a car
- 3.) at 18 one becomes a consenting adult for sex, one can watch "R"-rated movies, one can also vote, join the military, marry, own a gun and smoke cigarettes
- 4.) at 21 one can drink
- 5.) at 25 one can get a credit card in one's own name & rent a car

Chomsky=Innate Faculty for Language (an "organ")=L.A.D.

"Baby Talk" (by 9 months American infants detect stress patterns in English words, ignoring words in other languages)

Imitative Play (of adult activities) is more significant in traditional society than modern, which uses formal instruction

Culture & Personality=in U.S. first influenced by Sigmund Freud who emphasized child-rearing, e.g., Margaret Mead, 1st students of Franz Boas, 1930s Samoa, no adolescent stife; 1935 "Sex & Temperament" published; she said gender was culturally malleable; New Guinea Tchambuli had "masculine" assertive females/ Arapesh had passive, gentle males!

Erik Erikson (1963) psychoanalyst influenced by anthropology, broadened Freud to other cultures, related economic behavior to toilet training, contrasting 2 Indian tribes: Sioux of N. Dakota=lax toilet training=generous adult/Yurok of Calif, abrupt toilet training=miserly adults, one of few Indian groups to have shell money; adapted well to American capitalism, Sioux didn't.

Culture & Mental Illness (if a man hallucinates & speaks to spirits we call him mentally ill; to the Crow Indians on a Spirit Quest he is healthy & normal! Or, in Communist Russia if you were a dissident you suffered from "creeping schizophrenia" & were

institutionalized & medicated!
"abnormal behavior"=relativistic
"Windigo psychosis" Algonquian NE.,
persecuted by spirits, cannibal
fantasies, like Western paranoid
schizophrenia
"To Run Amok"=Indonesia, kill
people in temporarily deranged
state
"Artic Hysteria" Siberia, shout
obscenities, immodest acts &
imitate others; all animistic
cultures & use trance
Socially-constituted **person** versus the
biological individual **self**;
Geertz & Western autonomous &
bounded self (ego-centric)/
Balinese person as representative
of a status (mask=socio-centric)

Some social roles we would also consider "abnormal" but aren't, e.g., Plains Indian (Sioux) "Contrary" & Viking "Berserker" ("to go berserk")