### The psychoanalytic approach

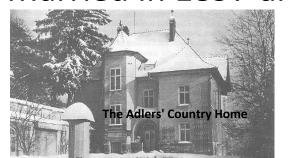
Neo Freudian theory, application and assessment

# ALFRED ADLER Biography



Alfred Adler as a Student, age 15

- Born on February 7, 1870 in Penzing, Austria
- Second of six children; was raised in Vienna in the suburbs
- Age of 5 developed pneumonia; this life threatening experience motivated Adler to pursue medicine
- In 1895, received medical degree at University of Vienna; here he met a group of social students & his future wife, Raissa Timofeyewna Epstein, an intellect\*
- Married in 1897 and had four children



## ALFRED ADLER Theory of Inferiority

- Need for self-esteem can be thought of as one of the social needs
- A person's sense of self-esteem depends on feedback from others
- The need and anxiety it produces was emphasized by Adler\*
- Everyone feels inferior to a certain degree, this motivates us to get better
- Common cause: parental neglect

#### 5 types of inferiority:

- 1. Physical
- 2. Intellectual
- 3. Psychological
- 4. Social
- 5. Economical



- 2 methods of coping with inferiority-> inferiority complex\*, superiority complex\*
- to deal with inferiority, people either overcompensate\* by engaging in vocal behavior\*, or become lazy, tentative, and helpless
- Overall the way people overcome inferiority provides the basis for their lifelong personality\*

## ALFRED ADLER Theory of Psychological Types

- All humans have unique lifestyles
- They include patterns of thinking, feeling, emotion, and behavior

The 4 types of lifestyle:\*

Ruling Getting

Avoiding

Socially Useful









## ALFRED ADLER Theory of Childhood Development

- Parenting and childhood development influences one's personality
- Parental "over pampering": a child becomes spoiled and may fail to find love
- Parental neglect: a child may lack confidence in their ability to complete tasks and attract love

## ALFRED ADLER Theory of Sibling Rivalry

- Position in birth order could affect a child's development
- First born:
- Case 1. May act out and misbehave to gain attention
- Case 2. Accept authority and conservative values
- Second born: competitive need to catch up with the first born
- Youngest: fail to become independent while having a high self-esteem due to pampering



Alfred Adler's Older Brother Sigmund





### Birth order...

#### First born:

Perfectionistic
Reliable
Well-organized
Hard driving
Critical
Natural Leader

#### Middle child:

Mediator
Avoids conflict
Independent
Diplomatic
Loyal
Has many friends

#### Youngest Baby:

Charming
Attention-seeker
Affectionate
People person
Manipulative
Determined/stubborn





1870 - 1937

Austrian psychologist Alfred Adler, theorized on the personality influences attributed to birth order. These characteristics would be developed within, and as the result of the family environment rather than as a inborn temperament.

### The only child...

Research indicates that only-children may be slightly less affiliative than their peers, belonging to fewer organizations, having fewer friends, and leading a less intense social life. They do, however, have a comparable number of close friends, assume leadership positions in clubs, and feel satisfied and happy with their lives. Parents of an only-child have higher expectations, which may result in higher pressure. Only-children and first-born children demonstrate a less cooperative interactive style than do other children; especially in the area of sharing. They are often described as self-motivated, thorough, adult-like early in life, high achiever, can't bear to fail, and avid readers. They are rated as highly "likeable" by peers.

Research indicates that only-children have a slight edge over children with siblings on measures of intelligence and achievement--and that they suffer no serious interpersonal deficits. In fact, only-children may have some advantages as a result of their special status: more attention from parents, freedom from sibling rivalry and comparison, and access to more family resources.

