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THE PRINCIPLE OF DIALECTICAL CONGLOMERATION IN THE PERIODIZATION OF THE PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract

Problem of the personal activity is one of the most important in personology. There is wide variety of the points of view on principles, content and mechanisms of the personal activity in different psychological schools and approaches. The principle of dialectical conglomeration declared in the article is one of the possible approaches of analysis of the selective activity of personality in ontogenesis. The content of the suggested principle lets us to represent periodization of the formation of the selective activity of personality in a new way.

Keywords: personality, activity of personality, principle of dialectical conglomeration, periodization of personal activity.

Problem in focus

The purpose of the given research is to develop and analyze the principle of dialectical conglomeration in the content of the personal activity development.

The object of the research is periodization of the personal activity development in ontogenesis.

Theoretical analysis showed the difference in views about systemic fundamentals of personality's activity expressed in three discussed orientations: psychoanalytical orientation in the role of activity determinant deals with the principle of hedonism, behavioristic orientation – with the principle of the reduction of stress, psychology of activity – with the principle of relaxation.

The principle in this case has a constructive role and it determines the guiding strategy of the formation of all motivation architecture of man. It manifests itself as the foundation of man's motivation system forming, so it introduces certain tendencies of personality activity.

The principle of hedonism in this case is viewed as a rule on which the trend of the processes of personality's activity is based and is manifested in the situations where as a result of activity pleasure is gained and avoiding such situations that create unpleasant emotions. All psychoanalytical and models of humanistic orientation are formed according to this principle.

The principle of reduction is based on the fact, that activity of personality is ensured by its tendency towards situations where lessening of physiological, physical and psychic load and tension is possible.

The mentioned principle dominated in the activity models of behaviouristic orientation and is expressed in the theory of "frustration-aggression", A. Bandura's (1969) sociobehaviouristic approach, L. Festinger's (1957) theory of cognitive dissonance and others.

The principle of relaxation ensures the understanding of the driving forces of personality's activity based on the liquidation of conflicts the content of which is determined by contradictions between the needs and the ways of satisfying them. This principle is mostly applied in the psychology of activity to explain and form the models of personality's driving forces.

A theoretical basis of that has been made within a content of L. Vygotsky's theory of "zone of the nearest development".

The model

An important moment is the fact that in every psychological orientation one can observe the tendency to use some of the principles in the process of modeling personality's activity. It means that personality's activity can be guided (managed) from birth till death based only on one principle. Although obvious is the fact that personality's activity as a complicated system of its interaction with the world cannot be guided (managed) only with one principle. The theoretical solution of this problem may be found only by joining the mentioned principles. Their appearance in the ontogenesis of personality's development is subordinated. Shortly analyzing some works in child psychology one can note the description of this fact.

For example, works of A. Freud (1959) in child psychology prove that activity of child's behavior from birth till 1 year of age takes place according to the principle of hedonism. In this stage of ontogenesis "narcissism" of mother passes over to the child, but the child, in its turn, includes mother in its "narcissistic" environment. Such psychobiological unity of mother and child ensure for the child united process of experienced positive emotions. In this stage of development the child forms the "scale of evaluation" which allows him unconsciously to evaluate empathy sent, directed by mother. In this case he learns to recognize empathy and estimate its measure.

In the stage of ontogenesis from 1 till 3 years of age the child, at first, must acquire all the variety of interactions with the surrounding world. He cannot do anything, but he wants to do a lot in communication with the surrounding people. He must learn to speak, to put on his clothes, to eat, to play etc. That is why the leading principle on which child's activity is based is obviously the principle of relaxation. In this case a child actively looks for a sample and a subject that ensures for him the ways how to satisfy the needs which appeared. It is the stage of child's development where the referential scale of process is formed referring to the surrounding world and people. The psychological mechanisms of functioning of child's activity and peculiarities of a child of the mentioned age were studied by Russian psychologists L. Vigotsky (1972), B. Elkonin (1971) and others.

The time from 3 till 6 years of age is an intensive process of acquiring all the possible roles by a child. Based on it he forms the image of "generalized other". Acquisition of socially recognized forms of behavior, positive evaluation of them from the side of adults, give the child psychological comfort and take away psychological tension. It is obvious that the activity of a child of this age is greatly determined by the principle of reduction. The acquisition and the application of such activity promote "polishing" of the evaluation scale of the child's and the surrounding people's behavior roles. The presented theoretical conclusions show that personality's activity during one's lifetime is not ensured by one principle. One should note, that at every age the leading role in the organization of personality's activity is ensured based not on one of the mentioned principles, but on their unity (totality).

From 6 till 16 years of age personality's activity is already determined by all three principles. The processes of interference and integration ensure the joining of these principles. It makes one think that at the age of teenager the disintegration in the logics and

hierarchy of principles may take place and one of the principles may manifest in dominating activity. Most often in the process of disintegration the early-developed principle in ontogenesis dominates, it is the principle of hedonism. This principle often is the leading one in the forms of behavior of youngster, these forms are oriented on gaining pleasure. It shows that in this latent period the child is sensitive to educational activities ensuring his interference and integration process of motivation.

The orientation of youngsters to the future also may influence the principles that determine their activity. Adult people can reorganize these processes depending on social requirements.

As the main thing in our research we consider the fact that personality's activity is ensured by the principle of dialectical conglomeration. This principle is proved by the fact that the whole consists of sequential unification of parts, which further on, can dominate in turn. This statement may be represented schematically (see Figure 1.)

The understanding of the formation of the child's activity and content personality from the point of view of the dialectical conglomeration principle defines the specificity of their measurement's organization.

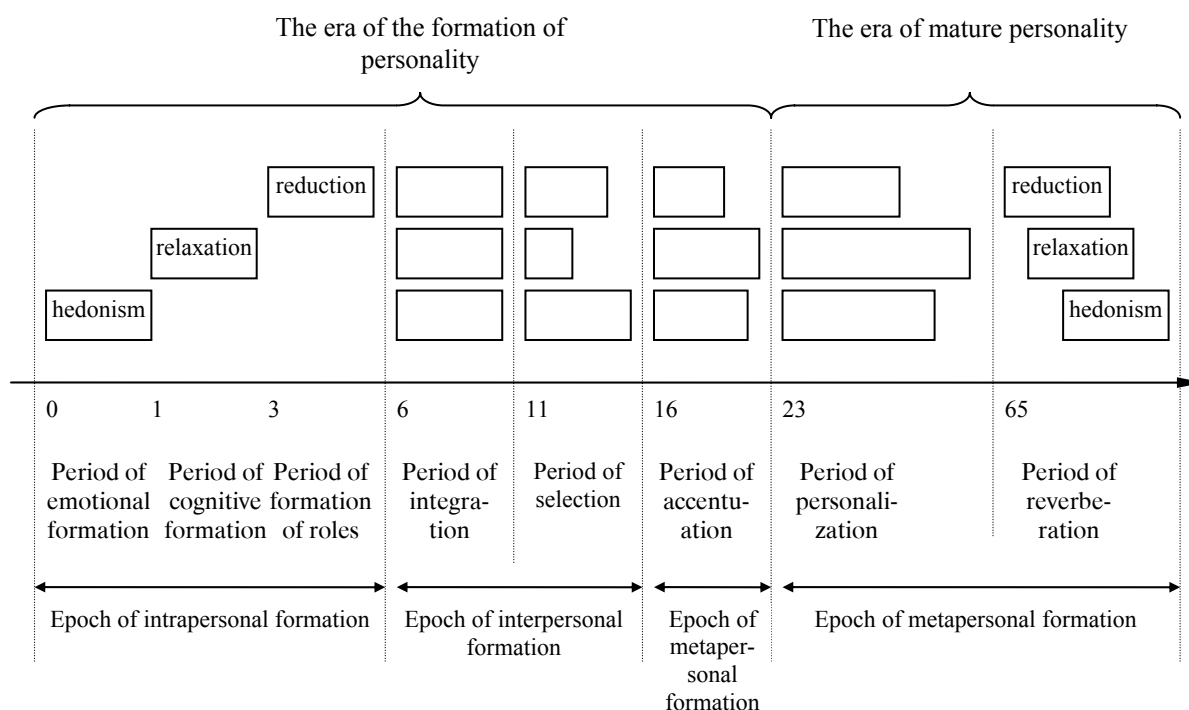


Figure 1. Eras, epochs and periods of the formation of personality's activity in ontogenesis

Shortly analyzing the content of personality at each period, we can mention the following.

In the period of **intrapersonal formation** of personality all basic, systemic characteristics develop. In early stages of personality formation systemic form appears in its content that gives a possibility to estimate empathy of other people and further to manifest one's own personal empathy. Empathy in this case is a phenomenon that "lives" in personality's intra-plane and comprises unconscious-conscious sphere. The period from 0 till 1 year of age may be called the period of emotional formation.

Age period from 1 till 3 years is characterized with the formation of general strategy of the intellectual evaluation of the surrounding world by a child. All the situations the child gets into are evaluated from bipolar scale "I can – I cannot". The process of evaluation in the final result leads to child's basic personal formation of personality that can be termed as operational cognitive "referential" and may be called the period of cognitive formation.

So, the period of intrapersonal formation of personality ensures basic constituent part of personality – the formation of empathy, operational cognitive referential, content of roles – direction of satiation and selection. The “life” of these constituent parts is in “unconscious-conscious” sphere of personality. That is why these constituent parts later appear as stable, difficult to change, core of personality.

Period of interpersonal formation of personality (7–16 years of age) has three stages: stage of integration, stage of personal selection and stage of metapersonal formation.

The manifestations of the conscious constituent part of the mentioned complex ensure – first of all, the process of integration of motivation components; secondly, the “inventory” and reorganization of its content to promote selection based on complementary and sustainability principles.

Complementary principle operates in restructuring of all personality conscious-unconscious values motivation complex only then, if socialization process is based on the principle of dialectical conglomeration and was not implemented in the previous era. In these cases the missing activity part of personality’s content is intensively filled with it. For example, after insufficient realization of activity, based on the principle of hedonism, intensive acquisition of those ways of personality’s activity will follow, that realize this principle. Personality will concentrate on those ways of activity which immediately will create hedonistic effect – the use of alcohol or substances containing drugs, smoking etc.

In the stage of integration and selection, from the point of view of personality, the process of integration of all basal (basic) characteristic values is formed in uniform system and, secondly the approbation of the functioning of the given system through activity that is projected in inter-personal space.

At that time intensive process of comparing basal (basic) components of personality takes place, they are compared with the corresponding content of constituent parts of personality translated by the surrounding people.

All that ensures gaining of experience for personality to translate effectively self-estimation and to take in translation of the influence of other personalities. The running of these stages, mainly, ensures personality’s acquisition of its own interplane strategies’ functioning complex in inter-individual space.

Qualitatively new content of personality In this era is formed in the process of its development, it is characterized by not-destroyable interruptedness and new complex of motivation of evaluations is formed in the conscious plane of personality.

The era of **metapersonal formation** of personality includes the age of youngsters. It is time before maturity of personality. In metapersonal era personality “gains” skills ensuring “translation” of its own content of intra- and inter-plane to the others. It is evident, that the role of these forms is taken by the content of inter-personal cooperation and communication and individual interrelations. The main system forming foundation of personality will be “intertwined” in the content of the first and the second form (way) of communication. The communication of the first way is characterized by the specific features of the usage of all verbal communication forms of personality, but communication of the second way is characterized by real final result of materialized activity. (For example, French engineer Eiffel ensured his personality’s translation through materialized object – his famous tower). Taking into account the principle of “moving aside in time”, one should mention, that in the era of the formation of metapersonal personality adjustment of the personality’s translation ways of the “first circle” takes place. In this case personality approbates a wide spectrum of the communication forms of the first and the second way, and based on their selection and choice accentuates and strengthens later only those forms which are the most effective and ensure the strongest effect of positive influence of personality on others during direct contacts. With it era of the formation of metapersonal personality is the phase of life when it acquires the ways of the translation of its own personality during the direct contact with the surrounding people. That is why in this stage the content of personality is characterized by the volume of the “influence” and the tendency towards the other in real situations of interpersonal cooperation. Through communication and cooperation the translation of the

basic constituent parts of personality (empathy, referential and characterization of roles) is realized.

Conclusion

Firstly, it should be noted, that at the heart of the problem of the motive forces of personal activity in ontogenesis there is only one of third principles in each psychological trend. It is either hedonism or reduction or relaxation. A process of the management of activity, which is formed according to such way, can lead to rather rigid typology of the inner content of personality and its manifestation in behavior. The principle of dialectical conglomeration, which is introduced in the given research, lets us to implement the systemic approach in organization of the selective activity of personality in accordance with sensitive periods of its development.

Secondly, the systemic realization of the substantial aspect of the selective activity of personality provides a possibility to construct the architecture of personality in ontogenesis, and also implement such a construction corresponding to each epoch and period. This can help to predict the development, formation and functioning of personality.

Thirdly, processes of education and socialization of personality based on the principle of dialectical conglomeration provide a new way how to develop a periodization of the selective activity of personality and emphasize dialectical component of criterions of personal growth.

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DIALEKTINĒS KONGLOMERACIJOS PRINCIPAS PERIODIZUOJANT ASMENYBĒS RAIDĀ

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Santrauka

Asmenybės aktyvumas – vienas iš svarbiausių asmenybės raidos periodizavimo aspektų. Asmenybės raidos periodizavimo objektu pasirinktas selektyvusis (atrenkantis, kryptingas) asmenybės aktyvumas. Asmenybės periodizavimui apibrėžti (aktyvumui matuoti) siūlomas dialektinės konglomeracijos principas. Dialektinės konglomeracijos principas pasireiškia tuo, kad tam tikros besiformuojančios aktyvumo dalys, einančios viena po kitos, ne mechaniškai keičia viena kitą, o jungiamos į tam tikrą visumą ir vėliau atsiskleidžia vienu arba kitu momentu.

Pagrindinės sąvokos: asmenybė, asmenybės aktyvumas, dialektinės konglomeracijos principas, asmenybės aktyvumo periodizavimas.