Academic Institution

Freud's View of Personality

Purpose Statement

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**Introduction**

According to Freud's theory, human behavior is largely driven by unconscious behavior. The unconscious behavior emerges from memories, feelings, knowledge, and beliefs which define the makeup of human behavior and individuals are unaware of it. Freud believes that to understand an individual’s personality, it is very important to figure out his unconscious. It can be observed through indirect actions such as slip of tongue, dreams or any other actions. However, he further describes that these sudden unconscious behaviors also express the sexual desires[[1]](#footnote-1) of an individual. He further explained that preconscious thought is not threatening because an individual is well prepared for the activities. However, certain unconscious desires such as wants, wishes are harmful because the individual take steps to achieve them at any costs.

**Discussion**

Freud tends to describe the physical structure of the human nervous system by dividing it into different parts, however, in actual the theory represent certain characteristics of personalities which are driven by various forces in the environment. His findings indicate that personality is composed of three indicators i-e id, ego, and superego. He expresses these three as the basis for the understanding of society and foundations for reacting in certain situations. His work is largely focused towards psychosexual stages of development which highly emphasizes on sexual desires. The biological function is important but it only restricts to individual's own self, however, in reality, a person develops traits and relations by the influence of society as discussed by Erickson. Freud theory lacks the explanation of important social factors in the development of personality[[2]](#footnote-2). As the Neo-Freudian emphasizes that social factors are an essential part in determining human behavior. His findings also lack helpful scientific evidence, thus the predictions are not accurate in all cases. Also, these findings may be relevant to a certain restricted group of the population as the survey results do not reflect the personality of every individual.

Bibliography

Adler, Alfred. *Understanding Human Nature: The Psychology of Personality.* Oneworld Publications, 2014.

Feldman, R S. "Chapter 13. Personality." In *Understanding Psychology*, 439-448. 2016.

1. Feldman, R S. "Chapter 13. Personality." In *Understanding Psychology*, 439-448. 2016. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Adler, Alfred. *Understanding Human Nature: The Psychology of Personality.* One world Publications, 2014. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)