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Emerging adulthood

The interviewees include two girls in their 20s and a girl in his 30s. They were asked, "when was the first time you felt like an adult?" The girl mentioned that “I felt adult for the first time when my mom told me I didn’t have to keep a strict 8.30 p.m bedtime. The second girl mentioned that “I felt an adult when I had to get my tattoo”. The third girl in her 30s mentioned that “I felt adult for the first time when I had to commute for an hour to get to work”.

The comments made by the three interviewees reflect its relevance with Arnett's idea of how teens feel about adulthood. According to Arnett children could experience adulthood only when they have viewed change. This reflects their relative e independence from the social norms and normative expectations. Emerging adulthood is a time period when teens remain uncertain about their future and acquire a certain degree of independence. The Mid-20s is the period when adults are able to violate laws and rules of society (Arnett, 2000). Emerging adulthood according to the interviewees is a stage when they are able to do something exceptional that was not allowed in their childhood or adolescence. The theory of Arnett states that the role of cultural and social norms gets vague and least effective in reaching adulthood. This is because adulthood is linked to freedom, independence and uncertainty. Adults are more focused on taking their own decisions.

Reference

Arnett, J. J. (2000). Emerging Adulthood A Theory of Development From the Late Teens Through the Twenties. *American Psychologist, 55* (5), 469-480.