Lifespan Analysis

[Name of the Writer]

[Name of the Institution]

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# Introduction

During the course of this life analysis, the interview of the elderly person is carried out. One of the reasons that the interview of the elderly person was done was due to the fact that they provided an effective insight about the span of their life development. The appropriate questions were posted so that the elicited information was collected and based on that premises, the decision making was being based upon in terms of the way information was collected. It has to be noted that the interview was conducted of an elderly person who was about 87 years old. Despite the fact that I had known this person for a very long time, it was interesting to see some of the insight that was provided by that elderly person at the particular point of time. The person was a close friend of my grandfather and thus the corresponding life development questions were such that most of the information was filtered out during the whole process. The reason that the information was collected in an appropriate manner was also partial to the fact that the interview was carried out in a structured manner.

# Focus of the Interview

The main focus of the interview was to make sure that some sort of insight and knowledge about the life of the individual is being developed. The idea was to ascertain the events and circumstances are being understood that has the ability to bring about the shift in the thought process and the understanding of the person at the particular point of time and how their thought process changes after the course of the incident. The events that were life changing were discussed and clearly there was two distinctions in this regard, there were certain events that were life changing in a sense that they made sense from the perspective of the psychology. There were also questions about the way things were managed from the sociological perspective. At the same time, to make sure that the time span of the interview was being managed, the scope of the interview was limited towards the questions that were dealing with the socio-cultural developmental aspects. Not only that, the developmental issues were also talked about during the course of the interview.

# Central Trajectory and Method of the Interview

The central trajectory and the method that was being followed during the course of the interview was based on the premises as how to ensure that the important aspects of the interview are being taken care off and the certain sense of direction is being given to the interview. The focus was on making sure that the issues that are central to the life development are talked about in terms of how the decision-making process rolls out at the particular point of time. It started with the influences that the person has during the course of this early youth and the developmental years. Some of the common factors that were used during the interview were carried out in the manner were to make sure that the idea can be developed about the individual life of the person. The first thing that was discussed about was that how the initial years of the life of the person were difficult due to the fact that there were issues in terms of the severe pecuniary difficulties that was faced by the person as he was growing up. This initial difficulty can be termed as a major event in terms of the change in the thought process for the person and how the determination of the self-worth of this person was determined.

# Influence and Importance of Peers

One of the major aspects of the interview was that how the peers and the influence of the social groups that surrounded the person had an impact on the life style of the person. The statement that was made by the person that how the negative influences were the one that were hard to avoid in that era but it was important for him to make sure that he stayed clear of the people who were not willing to add any value to the life of the person. That includes the sort of culture which was witnessed at that point of time. One of the things that he was particular talking about was that how during the course of his early thirties, he had a drinking problem and the peer pressure was one of the things that drove him towards it. One of the reasons that he had started to drink was the fact that he had no idea about his self-worth at that point of time and thus being involved in the peer group gave him the sense of self identification. When breaking down the life span into stages such as childhood, adulthood, and late adulthood; the break down seeks to bring unity to the life of human being, and ultimately helps us to understand the development of a person. The science of human developments seeks to understand how and why people change or remain the same over time at all ages in all different circumstances. Human beings are so complex in so many ways and it is important that as humans we understand these crucial developmental stages in our life to better communicate and prepare for these stages in our lives. I additionally wanted to focus on the level of moral development among the interviewees at each of the stages in development.

# Perspective and Thought Process about the Older People

From there on, the interview took an interesting direction as it was talked about some of the negative stereotypes that are associated with the older people. IN sense that how they are senile most of the times and how they are not adding anything new to the society other than the sense of self cynicism. The response that came from his questions that how the influence of the society and the prejudices was also faced during his time period as well and the perception was at times quite unbearding to say the least. He provided an interesting answer to this question as he talked about that if positive care is being given and the wellbeing of these people is being looked after, then there is all the likelihood that these people are also going to be doing something positive about the society at the particular point of time. The idea is that the time and thought must be given to the fact that how these people are supposed to be looked after.

# Difficulties in the Economic Sense

One of the things that was realized during the course of the interview that how different this time period was in terms of the economic survival and thus it was quite hard for these people to make sure that they take care of each other in an appropriate manner. The core essence of their work life was to make sure that they have enough resources that they go through a tough time period. Reflecting upon the time period he was talking about; he did make sense as there were World Wars and the Great Depression that older generation had to look to and these experiences hardened them and showed that how difficult it is at times to make both the ends meet. The technology was also quite limited at that point of time. Not only that, they were battle hardened in a sense that the process and the operations at that point of time were not quite automated, and thus the manual labour was something that was quite important and appreciated. As a matter of fact, one’s job was not considered hard enough if they are not working towards any physical toll.

# Perspective on Gender Roles

When I interviewed him, I was under the impression that he would be quite orthodox when it comes to his views on women as we are talking about a person from an era where the women empowerment movement had not gathered pace. To my surprise, he was quite supportive and one of the reasons that he belongs to the era where the idea of the women empowerment was to make sure that they are provided equal opportunities in the industries rather than superficial ideas of the empowerment.

# Conclusion

During the interview I asked a series of eight questions pertaining to their goals, accomplishments, worries, important people in their lives, fears they currently have as well as a scenario question pertaining to a moral dilemma. After conducting these interviews I was able to analyze the different stages in life span development further and make clear observations of similarities and differences between the interviewees. In the hindsight, it was a good experience carrying out an interview and developing an idea about the lifespan of the elderly person. One of the reasons that it was such a different experience was due to the fact that how much the society has changed and evolved from that time period and how different has the thought process of people become in the given time period.

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