**Identity Status**

[Name of the Writer]

[Name of the Institution]

**Identity Status**

James Marcia explained the different stages during the psychological development of individuals. Marcia divided these identity statuses into four stages that are an achievement, moratorium, foreclosure, and diffusion. He believed that identity is directly linked to the two things that are occupation and ideology. Occupation refers to the society in which individuals lives and their role as a parent, worker, son or daughter while ideology refers to the identity based on beliefs, religion, and political thinking (Steinberg, 2014). The early stage of the identity is formed through identity diffusion in which individuals are unable to make any decision or strong opinion. Identity foreclosure refers to a willingness to commit. Identity moratorium explains the stage when the individuals are in an identity crisis and ready to make choice while identity achievement is the last stage in which individuals moved through an identity crisis and already made sense of identity.

My opinion about the identity statuses is in favor of Marcia's definition because these stages can easily be observed. For instance, a child born without any religion or tradition and adopt the religion and culture of their parents as he is in the initial stage where he is unable to make choice. Before reaching the age when he can understand certain things he already adopted his religious, rituals and tradition of the society without any rejection and these ideology and occupation helps him making choice in later stages. Later, he reaches the stage where various question emerge regarding the future goals and finally he reached to the age where he confidently decides the right choice which can be beneficial for him for his future goals. Therefore, identity definitely passes through various stages.

Erikson provided eight stages for identity. Marcia definition is the extension of Erikson work. Erikson provided a great explanation of the psychological development and stages of identity for shaping the individual's sense of self. In simple words, according to the Erickson there is mutual reorganization where individuals try to understand society and their role in society. At the same time society identifies individuals.

**References**

Steinberg, L. D. (2014). *Adolescence* (Tenth Edition). New York, NY: McGraw-Hill.