

# Origins of Adolescence

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- \* How do you define an adolescent?
- \* What is more important in determining adolescence?
  - \* Age
  - \* Maturity
  - \* Responsibility



# Adolescence

- \* A transitory period that happens at the onset of puberty, lasting until 18 to 21



Write this  
down



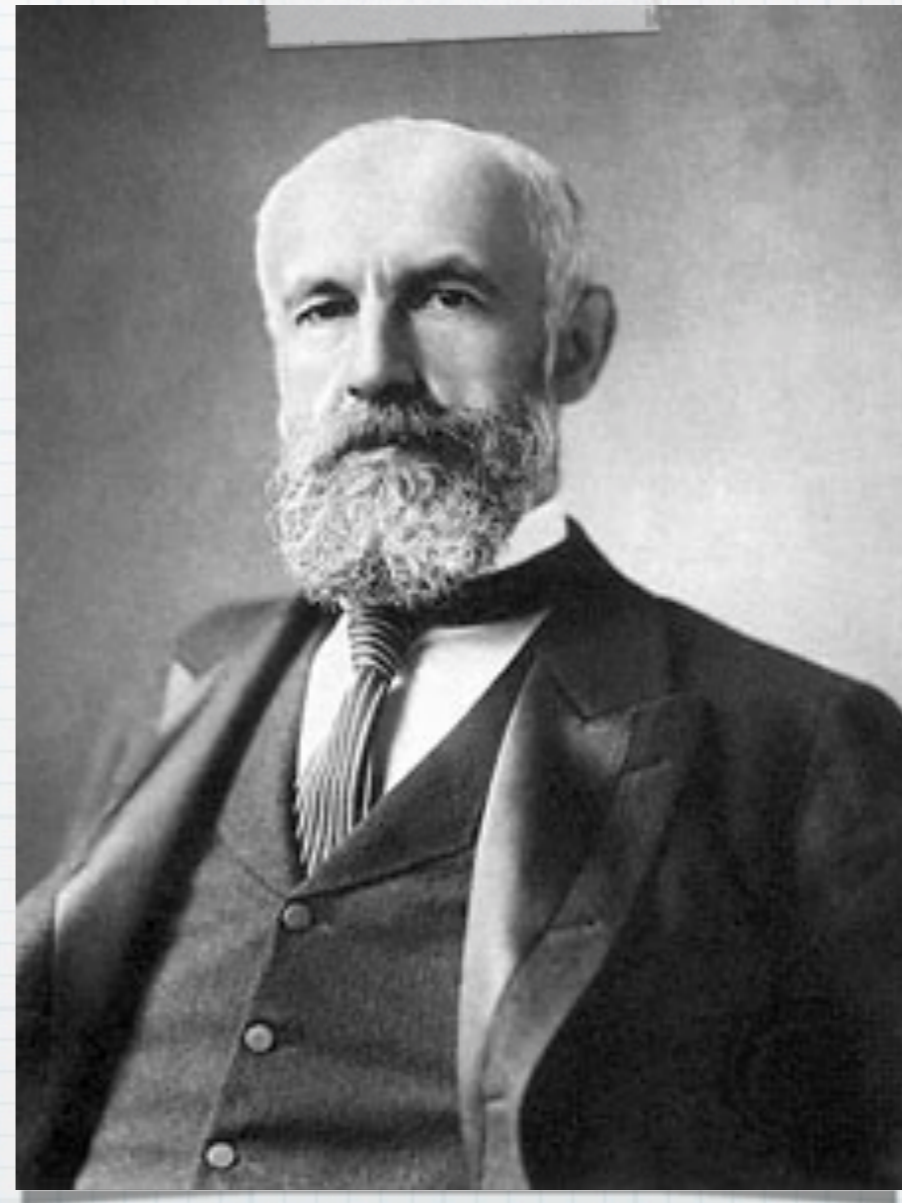
# Adolescence

- \* A transitory period that happens at the onset of puberty, lasting until 18 to 21
- \* Culturally created, many cultures transition from childhood into adulthood



# Case Study: Hall's Storm and Stress

- \* In 1904 G. Stanley Hall preformed a study on the emotional development of teenagers.
- \* Describes a 'pendulum swing' of emotions
  - \* Indifference and Enthusiasm
  - \* Solitude and Socialization
  - \* Empathy and Cruelty



Write this  
down



# Origin of Adolescence

- \* As we instituted child labour laws, more secondary institutions became the norm
- \* This prolonged the child's dependency on parents



Write this  
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# Origin of Adolescence

- \* Delayed transition into adulthood means that young people can develop socially and psychologically at a much slower pace



# Case Study: Margret Mead and Samoan Teenage Girls

- \* In 1925 Margret Mead studied 68 females age 8 to 20
- \* Mead determined cultural factors (not biological factors) lead to stress in teenagers.



Write this  
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# Adolescent Egocentrism

- \* David Elkind: tries to explain adolescent behavior through egocentrism.





# Adolescent Egocentrism

- \* Egocentrism: Heightened self-awareness and self-consciousness.
- \* Teenagers believe others are interested in them as much as they are interested in themselves.





# Adolescent Egocentrism

- \* Imaginary audience: phenomenon in which an individual believes that he or she is the centre of other people's attention.



Write this  
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# Adolescent Egocentrism

- \* Personal Fable: A personal drama which unfolds before an imaginary audience





# Teenagers can be characterized as

- \* Argumentative
- \* Teenagers have underdeveloped formal reasoning abilities





# Teenagers can be characterized as

- \* Indecisive
- \* This may be explained by the exaggerated self-consciousness of youth





# Teenagers can be characterized as

- \* Thinking they are invincible
- \* This can be due to an under developed frontal cortex and lead to risk taking behaviour

