Chapter 1 Biological, Ecological-Social, Psychological, and Moral Dimensions of the Person: Overview of Theories

4. The potential inherent in each person evolves if given adequate chance to survive and grow. Anything that distorts the environment essential for development interferes with evolution of the person. Society attempts to safeguard and encourage the proper rate and sequence of the unfolding of human potential so that humanity is maintained.

5. Each developmental task is redeveloped, reworked, and redefined in subsequent stages. Potential for further development always exists.

6. Internal organization is central to development. Maturity increases as the tasks of each era are accomplished, at least in part, in proper order.

Utilize Erikson’s theory as described in relation to each developmental era. His theory is pertinent to assessing and understanding the developing person and in implementing nursing and health care.

**Jung’s Theory**

Carl Jung, another neo-analytic theorist, proposed the following assumptions about personality structure (19, 38, 44, 45, 61):

1. **Ego** or **consciouness** includes awareness of self and the external world.
2. **Persona** is the image presented to the outer world, depending on the person’s role.
3. **Shadow** consists of traits and feelings that cannot be admitted to the self; it is the opposite of ego or self-image.
4. **Anima** and **animus** in the personality refer to the characteristics traditionally considered feminine and masculine. Each person has both characteristics or is androgynous or bisexual with the feminine, nurturing, feeling side and the masculine, logical, assertive side. Socialization forces the person to overemphasize gender characteristics so that the opposite aspect of the person is not usually fully developed.
5. **Personal unconscious** is unique, contains all the repressed tendencies and feelings that build over the lifetime, and includes the shadow and some of the anima or animus.
6. **Self** is the most important force, the unconscious centeredness, wholeness, and meaning. There is an inner urge to balance and reconcile the opposing aspects of personality.
7. **Individuation** involves finding the unique way, achieving a measure of psychic balance while separating self from social conformity to goals and values.
8. There are two basic personality types or tendencies:
   a. **Introvert** refers to being inner-reflective; caught up in one’s inner state, fears, hopes, and feelings. The introvert hesitates in relationships, is more secure in his or her inner world, and takes pleasure in activities that can be done alone.
   b. **Extrovert** refers to direct and confident initiation of interactions with others. The extrovert moves outward toward the world and prefers and seeks activities with people.

The early childhood years are not emphasized in this developmental theory. The first period, until age 35 or 40, is a time of outward expansion. After age 40, the person undergoes a transformation and