

# Exploring Cultural Conceptions Of The Transition To Adulthood

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## Friendship and Romantic Relationship Qualities in Emerging Adulthood: Differential Associations with Identity Development and Achieved Adulthood Criteria

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**Abstract** This study examined how emerging adults' identity development and achievement of adulthood criteria were related to qualities of their friendships and romantic relationships. Participants included 710 emerging adults (ages 18–26). Results indicated that identity achievement was related positively to four romantic relationship qualities, but not to any friendship qualities. Several achieved adulthood criteria were related positively to romantic relationship qualities; however, achieved adulthood criteria were related negatively to friendship qualities. It appears that progress on salient developmental tasks of adulthood carries important implications for emerging adults' social relationships, but in ways that are more differentiated than commonly assumed.

**Keywords** Relationship quality · Romantic relationship · Friendship · Identity · Adulthood criteria

### Introduction

In recent years, scholars have recognized that individuals from 18 years of age through the middle 20s experience particular challenges and opportunities (Cohen et al. 2003; Reisman et al. 2004). In fact, Arnett (2000) contends that as a result of demographic shifts in industrialized nations, many of these individuals are experiencing a new stage in the lifespan known as "emerging adulthood." Erikson's (1968) psychosocial theory specifies that these emerging adults are facing the intimacy against isolation crisis; however, in reality the task of forming intimate partnerships is complicated by competing developmental demands. Most emerging adults not only are engaged in forming intimate relationships, but are also doing so while establishing secure identities (Erikson 1968), managing other close relationships such as friendships (Hartup and Stevens 1997), and gradually assuming adult roles in society (Havighurst 1948). In an effort to examine emerging adults in a more holistic fashion and to capture the multidimensional nature of their close relationships, the current study examined the interrelations of identity development and the achievement of adulthood criteria (e.g., becoming self-reliant and complying with societal norms) with qualities of emerging adults' romantic relationships and friendships.

### Interpersonal Relationships in Emerging Adulthood

Most emerging adults have both close friendships and romantic relationships (Collins and Madsen 2006), and some similarities between these two forms of relationships have been reported. Emerging adults consider their friends and their romantic partners to be important persons within their social networks (Fraleigh and Davis 1997). They spend

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The transition to adulthood has been studied for decades in terms of transition events such as leaving home, finishing education, and entering marriage and. [lisamariekiss.com](http://lisamariekiss.com): Exploring Cultural Conceptions of the Transitions to Adulthood: New Directions for Child and Adolescent Development, Number Exploring cultural conceptions of the transition to adulthood / Jeffrey Jensen Arnett, Nancy L. Galambos, editors. Other Authors. Galambos, Nancy L. Arnett. Exploring cultural conceptions of the transition to adulthood. Responsibility: Jeffrey Jensen Arnett, Nancy L. Galambos, editors. Imprint: San Francisco. The focus was on whether conceptions of the transition to adulthood would be different among majority culture from adolescence through midlife. The participants is related to later occupational status, and Marini () explored the. EXPLORING CULTURAL CONCEPTIONS OF THE TRANSITION TO ADULTHOOD The cultural distinctiveness of conceptions of adulthood is one of the. Their Conceptions of the Transition to Adulthood. American Transition to Adulthood in Cultural and Historical Context. . Scharf, M., and Mayseless, O. The Capacity for Romantic Intimacy: Exploring the Contribution of Best. In the United States, research on conceptions of the transition to adulthood has been on mostly white samples. The study examined here. Exploring Cultural Conceptions of the Transitions to Adulthood by Jeffrey Jensen Arnett, , available at Book Depository with. Similarly to other developed countries with different cultural Key words: emerging adulthood, conceptions of adulthood, transition to adulthood . are explored. Exploring Cultural Conceptions Of The Transitions To Adulthood New Directions free pdf ebook downloads is give to you by exclusiveafrica that. In Italy, Identity exploration and Self-focus were the highest, whereas in Emerging adults in various cultures feel optimistic about their quality of life, Scale of Conceptions of the Transition to Adulthood (Arnett, , ). This study explored the roles and psychological experiences identified as Keywords: conceptions of adulthood, emerging adulthood, identity issues, development: Cultural conceptions of the transition to adulthood. Vol. Young people's conceptions of the transition to adulthood. Youth & Society, 29 Learning to stand alone: The contemporary American transition to adulthood in cultural and historical context. Human . Youth in exploration and man emergent. Conceptions of the transition of adulthood among emerging adults in American ethnic groups. In J. Arnett & N. Galambos (Eds.), Exploring cultural conceptions. ISBN CAD Exploring Cultural Conceptions of the Transitions to Adulthood Jeffrey Jensen Arnett, Editor The transition to adulthood has. Conceptions of the transition to adulthood among emerging adults in American ethnic groups. In: J. J. Arnett & N. Galambos (Eds), Exploring cultural conceptions . Conceptions of the transition to adulthood among emerging adults in American ethnic groups. In J.J. Arnett and N.L. Galambos (Eds.), Exploring cultural.

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