

# Positive youth development: current perspectives

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**Abstract:** This review outlines the current perspectives on positive youth development (PYD). Besides presenting the diverse theoretical roots contributing to PYD approaches, this review also introduces several PYD perspectives, including Benson's 40 developmental assets, Lerner's 5Cs and 6Cs conceptions, Catalano's 15 PYD constructs, social-emotional learning (SEL) and the "being" perspective (character and spirituality). A comparison of the different PYD models in terms of theoretical orientation, the role of community, spirituality, character/morality, thriving, "being" versus "doing" and origin is also presented. The review suggests three future research directions, including the development of spirituality and character approaches to PYD, differentiating the role of "being" versus "doing" in PYD and construction of PYD models as well as conducting related research in non-Western contexts.

**Keywords:** PYD, adolescents, strength-based perspective, review

## Introduction

Recently, many youth workers have used the positive youth development (PYD) approach to design programs for adolescents (10–18 years) and emerging adults (18–29 years).<sup>1,2</sup> Its vision is to replace the long-held beliefs of the inevitable "storm and stress" in adolescence proposed by Stanley Hall by an emphasis on youth potentials and developmental plasticity.<sup>3–5</sup> Although some reviews on the PYD perspective exist,<sup>6</sup> this article covers the theoretical roots that have not been reviewed (eg, humanistic and character perspectives), summarizes five models of PYD, including Benson's 40 developmental assets, Lerner's 5Cs/6Cs model, Catalano's 15 PYD constructs, Social Emotional Learning (SEL) and the "being" perspective (character and spirituality), and compares them on a number of dimensions. Finally, three future research directions are proposed.

## Theoretical roots of PYD

### Deficit views on adolescence

Hall's Adolescence has been widely regarded as the beginning of adolescent research.<sup>7</sup> His notion of "storm and stress" has established the basis of adolescent psychology, although a number of significant differences exist between Hall's perspective and those of psychologists nowadays.<sup>8</sup> Sigmund Freud was another early contributor to the development of adolescent psychology, where he argued that adolescent and adult development was shaped by early psychosexual development. As Freudian views were criticized to be negative about human development,<sup>9</sup> neo-Freudians attempted to deemphasize sexuality and give a stronger emphasis on the effect of social environment.<sup>10</sup> For example, Erik Erikson's psychosocial theory highlights the importance of social relationships at each stage of personality

# Positive Perspectives Youth

**Nicole Goldin**



## **Positive Perspectives Youth:**

Women in Islam Terence Lovat, 2012-06-12 The role of women in Islamic societies not to mention in the religion itself is a defining issue It is also one that remains resistant to universal dogma with a wide range of responses to women's social roles across the Islamic world Reflecting this heterogeneity the editor of this volume has assembled the latest research on the issue which combines contemporary with historical data The material comes from around the world as well as from Muslim and non Muslim researchers It takes in work from majority Muslim nations such as Bangladesh Iran Iraq Lebanon Pakistan Palestine Tunisia and Turkey as well as countries with troubled interfaith relations such as India and Israel Nations with minority Muslim populations such as France the UK Canada and Australia are also represented The work also features varying Islamic sub groups such as the two main ones Sunni and Shi'a as well as less well known populations such as the Ismaili Muslims In each case the work is underpinned by the very latest socio theological insights and empirical data

Treating and Preventing Adolescent Mental Health Disorders Dwight L. Evans M.D., Edna B. Foa Ph.D., Raquel E. Gur M.D., Ph.D., Herbert Hendin M.D., Charles P. O'Brien M.D., Ph.D., Martin E. P. Seligman Ph.D., B. Timothy Walsh M.D., 2005-07-14 Following on the heels of the widely acclaimed *A Guide to Treatments That Work* OUP 2002 by Nathan and Gorman *Treating and Preventing Adolescent Mental Health Disorders* brings together a distinguished group of psychiatrists and clinical psychologists to provide a groundbreaking evidence based survey of treatments and preventions for adolescents with mental health disorders The book the very first to disseminate the findings of the Adolescent Mental Health Initiative sponsored by the Annenberg Foundation Trust at Sunnylands and the Annenberg Public Policy Center APPC of the University of Pennsylvania addresses the current state of our knowledge about various mental health disorders in the teenage years a developmental period when behavior and the brain are still plastic Here six commissions established by the Sunnylands Trust and APPC pool their expertise on adolescent anxiety schizophrenia substance use disorders depression and bipolar disorders eating disorders and suicide in sections that thoroughly define each disorder outline and assess available treatments discuss prevention strategies and suggest a research agenda based on what we know and don't yet know about these various conditions As a meaningful counterpoint to its primary focus on mental illness the volume also incorporates the latest research from a seventh commission on positive youth development which addresses how we can fully prepare young people to be happy and successful throughout their lives Concluding chapters discuss other critical issues of particular relevance the stigma of mental illness the role of primary care doctors and school based mental health professionals in the detection and treatment of adolescent mental health problems and the research policy and practice context for the delivery of evidence based treatments Integrating the work of eminent scholars in both psychology and psychiatry this work will be an essential volume for academics and practicing clinicians and will serve as a wake up call to mental health professionals and policy makers alike about the state of our nation's response to the needs of adolescents with mental disorders The Association of

American Publishers 2005 Award Winner for Excellence in Professional and Scholarly Publishing Clinical Medicine

**Treating and Preventing Adolescent Mental Health Disorders** Dwight L. Evans, 2005-07-14 Publisher description

**New Frontiers for Youth Development in the Twenty-First Century** Melvin Delgado, 2002-06-26 Practical guide and theoretical manifesto New Frontiers for Youth Development is a vital roadmap to the problems and prospects of youth development programs today and in the future In response to an unprecedented array of challenges policy makers and care providers in the field of youth development have begun to expand the field both practically and conceptually This expansion has thus far outstripped comprehensive analysis of the issues it raises among them the important matter of establishing common standards of legitimacy and competence for practitioners New Frontiers for Youth Development is an overview of the field designed to foster a better understanding of the multifaceted aspects and inherent tensions of youth development Melvin Delgado outlines the broad social forces that affect youth particularly at risk or marginalized youth and the programs designed to address their needs He stresses the importance of a contextualized approach that avoids rigid standardization and is attuned to the many factors that shape a child's development cognitive emotional physical moral social and spiritual The key characteristic of youth development in the twenty first century Delgado suggests is the participation of young people as practitioners themselves Youth must be seen as assets as well as clients incorporated into the educational process in ways that build character maturity and self confidence

Development and Evaluation of Positive Adolescent Training through Holistic Social Programs (P.A.T.H.S.) Daniel T.L. SHEK, Rachel C. F. Sun, 2013-06-28 This book outlines the development implementation and evaluation of a project entitled P A T H S to Adulthood A Jockey Club Youth Enhancement Scheme with P A T H S denoting Positive Adolescent Training through Holistic Social programmes This pioneer project was conducted in Hong Kong between 2005 and 2012 with more than 210 000 participants Its goal was to help students meet various challenges in their path to adulthood with a focus on their psychosocial competencies developmental assets and the promotion of healthy peer relationships The project was initiated by The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust in collaboration with the Government's Social Welfare Department Education Bureau and five universities in Hong Kong Edited by the researchers of the project Development and Evaluation of Positive Adolescent Training through Holistic Social Programs explores the nature of positive youth development PYD the application of PYD constructs to youth programs and implementation issues Using multiple strategies the book evaluates the overall effectiveness of the P A T H S school based programme and reveals that stakeholders had positive perceptions of the project its implementers and benefits Students in the program showed better positive development and displayed lower levels of substance abuse and delinquent behaviour than students in the control schools The book also details lessons learned emergent issues future directions as well as insights into the development of positive youth development programs particularly in Chinese communities Development and Evaluation of Positive Adolescent Training through Holistic Social Programs will appeal to all educators administrators

psychologists social workers and allied professionals looking to promote whole person development in their students especially those with an interest in education in China *Handbook of Prosocial Education* Philip Brown, Michael W. Corrigan, Ann Higgins-D'Alessandro, 2012 Summary This handbook introduces prosocial education as an umbrella term denoting the various ways in which all players in education impact student development **Crime, mental health, and the law: A psycho-criminological perspective** Heng Choon Chan, Lorraine Sheridan, Samuel Adjorlolo, 2023-03-28 **Why's everything so difficult? A youth's Perspective Towards Life** J K Arya, 2025-02-12 Why's Everything So Difficult is not just another self help book it's a deep dive into the real struggles young people face every day Forget the success stories of billionaires and celebrities this book is about YOU the one navigating the chaos of modern life Divided into 24 powerful chapters it explores the everyday battles of overthinking anxiety confidence resilience self doubt and more the things that keep you up at night It unpacks the unspoken struggles the societal pressures the stigma around certain habits and even the small things like your sense of humor or the thoughts that won't leave your head With fresh perspectives and practical solutions this book is your personal guide to making sense of the mess helping you shift your mindset regain control and find clarity If you've ever thought Why is everything so difficult this book is here to show you that you're not alone and more importantly that things can get better I hope to get a fruitful response about my queries I've mentioned above *Freedom dreaming futures for Black youth: Exploring meanings of liberation in education and psychology research* Seanna Leath, Lauren Mims, Misha Inniss-Thompson, 2023-07-21 Research elucidating the developmental processes in Black children and youths schooling and educative experiences is increasing e.g. Carter Andrews et al 2019 Daneshzadeh Jackson Neal Jackson 2018 Yet the notion of freedom dreaming in relation to Black children and youth has received less attention within the fields of education and psychology We draw from U.S. historian Professor Robin D G Kelley's concept of freedom dreaming to illuminate not only what we are fighting against in the education of Black youth e.g. racial bias and discrimination unfair disciplinary practices and criminalization and Black youths overrepresentation in special education and underrepresentation in gifted and talented programs but also what we are fighting for liberatory educational praxis that build on Black youths individual and cultural strengths In the current call freedom dreaming refers to 1 actively uplifting the complex lives and stories of Black children and youth in educational settings 2 elevating Black children and youths intersectional experiences related to ability gender identity sexuality age and socio-economic class and 3 highlighting the innovative work of scholars who understand and value community power in efforts to advance educational change We draw on Dr Bettina Love's 2019 call for educational freedom wherein she states The practice of abolitionist teaching is rooted in the internal desire we all have for freedom joy restorative justice restoring humanity not just rules and to matter to ourselves our community our family and our country with the profound understanding that we must demand the impossible by refusing injustice and the disposability of Black children p. 7 *The Global Youth Wellbeing Index* Nicole Goldin, 2014-04-23 The Youth

Prosperity and Security Initiative at the Center for Strategic and International Studies CSIS in partnership with the International Youth Foundation IYF has developed a groundbreaking Global Youth Wellbeing Index to elevate distinct young people's issues and comparative status from within national and population wide measures of national poverty development and wellbeing The Index comprises 40 representative indicators across six domains of wellbeing citizen participation education economic opportunity health safety and security and information and communications technology This report details the Initiative's findings recommendations and methodology used to construct the Global Youth Wellbeing Index It is the hope of the Initiative that policymakers donors and youth are able to use this tool as the world moves forward with the post 2015 agenda *New Perspectives and Paradigms in Applied Economics and Business* William C. Gartner, 2024-04-23

This book features a collection of high quality and peer reviewed papers from the 2023 7th International Conference on Applied Economics and Business which was held in Copenhagen Denmark during August 24-26 2023 ICAEB is held annually as a platform for the presentation of new advances and research results in the fields of applied economics and business Applied economics is a way of dealing with esoteric economic concepts in a practical and analytical way It allows for decisions to be made that are underlined by theoretical economic principles but utilized in such a way that they transform into real work applications The contributors cover topics such as environment development finance forensics information institutions international labor management mathematics currency tourism and many more Applied Economics affects all aspects of life and science and it is brought to the forefront in this collection of papers The conference with its aim to bring together economists from different fields lends itself to a natural and rich collection of scientific papers all focused on the practical application of economic principles The scope of this collection of papers will be useful to academics and practitioners who look to economics to help solve problems *Handbook of Children and Screens* Dimitri A.

Christakis, Lauren Hale, 2024-12-05 This open access handbook synthesizes the current research about the impacts of digital media on children across development Drawing on the expertise of scientists and researchers as well as clinicians and practitioners the book summarizes research through interdisciplinary expert reviews First it addresses the cognitive physical mental and psychosocial impacts on infants children and adolescents Next the book explores how media influences relationships family culture and society Finally it examines the impacts of specific digital domains pertinent to youth including education technology video gaming and emerging technologies Chapters employ a parallel structure including background on the topic summary of the current state of the research future research directions and recommendations for relevant stakeholders The volume examines the timely issue of optimal child development in an increasingly digital age offering innovative approaches to establish a solid and robust scientific foundation for this field of study as well as evidence based action for adults who support positive youth development Key areas of coverage include Cognition and brain development Physical and mental health Problematic uses of the internet Race Gender and sexuality Parenting in the digital

age Cyberbullying and digital cruelty Media policy The Handbook of Children and Screens is a must have resource for researchers professors and graduate students as well as clinicians therapists educators and related professionals in clinical child school and developmental psychology social work public health epidemiology neuroscience human development and family studies social psychology sociology and communication This is an open access book **Lifespan Perspectives on Natural Disasters** Katie E. Cherry,2009-07-09 Some of our most disturbing images of Hurricane Katrina involve the very old trapped in flooded nursing homes and the very young sick in toxic trailers Using the Katrina Rita nexus as its reference point Lifespan Perspectives on Natural Disasters takes the developmental long view on human strengths and vulnerabilities during large scale devastation and crisis An expert panel of behavioral scientists and first responders analyzes the psychological impact of natural disasters on and coping faculties associated with children adolescents and young middle aged older young old and late life oldest old adults This timely information is invaluable both to mental health service providers and to those tasked with developing age appropriate disaster preparedness intervention and recovery programs In addition the book references other deadly storms as well as other major catastrophic events e g the September 11 attacks the Indian Ocean Tsunami and includes such topics as Young children s understanding of hurricanes Positive adjustment in youth after Katrina How families make meaning out of disaster Disaster recovery in the workplace Recovery services for the frail elderly Coping and health in late life Preparation and training mental health personnel for disasters Unique in the disaster literature Lifespan Perspectives on Natural Disasters serves as a research reference and idea book for professionals and graduate level students in psychology social work and disaster preparedness and services Children and Youth Speak for Themselves Heather Beth Johnson,2010-03-23 The volume is a collection of articles from scholars who pay particular attention to children and or adolescents voices interpretations perspectives and experiences within specific social and cultural contexts Contributions include research stemming from a broad spectrum of methodological and theoretical orientations The Youthful Body and Mind: Reclaiming Vitality and Longevity Pasquale De Marco,2025-04-09 The Youthful Body and Mind Reclaiming Vitality and Longevity is an empowering guide to reclaiming your youthful vitality and embracing the beauty of aging With a holistic approach that encompasses physical mental and emotional well being this book provides a roadmap to rediscovering your zest for life and living a longer healthier and more fulfilling life Drawing on the latest scientific research and inspiring stories Pasquale De Marco offers a wealth of practical strategies for adopting a healthy lifestyle cultivating mindfulness and emotional intelligence enhancing cognitive function and nurturing meaningful relationships Through thought provoking insights and actionable advice The Youthful Body and Mind Reclaiming Vitality and Longevity empowers you to take control of your aging journey and unlock your full potential Inside this comprehensive guide you ll discover The science behind aging and the key factors that influence longevity A comprehensive plan for adopting a healthy lifestyle including diet exercise sleep and stress management Techniques for cultivating mindfulness emotional intelligence and self

compassion Methods for enhancing cognitive function memory and creativity The importance of nurturing meaningful relationships and finding fulfillment in life How to embrace the beauty of aging and find joy in the present moment The Youthful Body and Mind Reclaiming Vitality and Longevity is more than just a book it s a transformative guide that will inspire you to live a longer healthier and more fulfilling life With its accessible writing style relatable anecdotes and evidence based strategies this book is an invaluable resource for anyone seeking to reclaim their youthful vitality and embrace the beauty of aging Unlock the secrets to a vibrant and fulfilling life with The Youthful Body and Mind Reclaiming Vitality and Longevity Join Pasquale De Marco on this extraordinary journey of self discovery and transformation If you like this book write a review

**Addressing Violent Radicalisation and Extremism** Theo Gavrielides,2025-05-02 This book adopts an interdisciplinary approach to confront one of the most urgent global challenges of our time violent radicalisation and extremism It critically examines how restorative justice positive criminology and positive psychology intersect to address the behaviors and social conditions that foster extremism offering a framework that reflects the complexities of our era Grounded in a synthesis of philosophical inquiry normative analysis and empirical evidence from six international pilot projects conducted between 2017 and 2024 the volume navigates the shifting boundaries between punitive and preventive approaches It explores the potential of community based initiatives to foster understanding empathy and empowerment as means to reduce violence and promote reconciliation Through a focus on the psychological and social roots of extremism the book delves into the restorative capacity of justice systems to mend fractured communities and the role of positive psychological interventions in reshaping harmful behaviors In doing so it bridges theoretical advancements with actionable strategies for policymakers practitioners and researchers seeking alternatives to traditional punitive models This collection reflects the depth and breadth of contemporary scholarship in counter extremism offering perspectives from established experts and emerging voices It serves as a vital resource for those engaged in fields such as social work human rights conflict resolution and criminology contributing fresh insights and practical tools to prevent and mitigate radicalisation This book offers a refreshing and holistic perspective on one of the most pressing global issues today violent extremism By integrating restorative justice principles with a psychosocial approach the book moves beyond punitive measures and focuses on healing rehabilitation and the reintegration of individuals into society This book is a thought provoking and important contribution to the discourse on counter extremism Professor Clarence Augustus Martin California State University USA This book is not only a source of knowledge but also a significant advancement in the evolution of thought offering tangible pathways for action Through a genuinely interdisciplinary approach and case studies Theo Gavrielides presents the scientific community with a work where science becomes a lens through which reality can be understood and reshaped Professor Grazia Manmozzi University of Insubria Italy

**Working with Young People** Xavier Úcar,Pere Soler-Masó,Anna Planas-Lladó,2020-02-28 Working with Young People offers a new outlook on social cultural and educational work with young



people It utilizes the perspective of social pedagogy a theoretical and practical perspective that has been developing in continental Europe over the last 150 years in placing young people at the center of socio educational work and giving value to their decisions and actions The text supports youths process of personal construction within the framework of the community in which they live The book is organized into three large blocks of chapters The introduction aims to prepare readers for the social pedagogy approach to work with young people It briefly outlines its current situation in the world and relate it to the main professions in which it is embodied in different socio cultural contexts social pedagogy social education and social work The first block presents the framework and socio pedagogical theoretical and practical parameters in which work with young people takes place in Europe and Latin America The second block of chapters deals with youth policies and the training and professionalization of educators and those who work with young people The last block focuses on some socio educational practices with young people that include youth justice social inclusion process youth participation in digital life or transition to adult life The book is based on a wide perspective of young people from cultural diversity

**National Identity and Millennials in Northeast Asia** Vanessa Frangville,Thierry Kellner,Frederik Ponjaert,2023-09-07 This book examines how the young in Northeast Asia engage with the political especially in terms of the production reformulation or contestation of their national identities Through case studies covering China Japan South Korea North Korea and Taiwan the contributions provide a study of the online spaces where youth engage with current debates regarding national identities The book also unpacks the distinctive forms of expression and negotiation of national identities favoured by younger generations across Northeast Asia and asks questions specifically raised by their political mobilisation For example how their public mobilisation for a given cause has forced them to rethink their place in national and global communities This book will be a valuable resource for scholars and students of East Asian culture and politics media studies and youth studies The Introduction of this book is freely available as a downloadable Open Access PDF at <http://www.taylorfrancis.com> under a Creative Commons Attribution Non Commercial No Derivatives CC BY NC ND 4.0 license

Indigenous knowledge and chronic disease prevention among the first people of north america Nicolette Teufel-Shone,Juliet McMullin,Julie Baldwin,Jamie Wilson,Melinda S. Smith,2023-06-27

*Manchukuo Perspectives* Annika A. Culver,Norman Smith,2019-12-09 This groundbreaking volume critically examines how writers in Japanese occupied northeast China negotiated political and artistic freedom while engaging their craft amidst an increasing atmosphere of violent conflict and foreign control The allegedly multiethnic utopian new state of Manchukuo 1932-1945 created by supporters of imperial Japan was intended to corral the creative energies of Chinese Japanese Koreans Russians and Mongols Yet the twin poles of utopian promise and resistance to a contested state pulled these intellectuals into competing loyalties selective engagement or even exile and death surpassing neat paradigms of collaboration or resistance In a semicolony wrapped in the utopian vision of racial inclusion their literary works articulating national ideals and even the norms of everyday life subtly reflected the complexities

and contradictions of the era Scholars from China Korea Japan and North America investigate cultural production under imperial Japan s occupation of Manchukuo They reveal how literature and literary production more generally can serve as a penetrating lens into forgotten histories and the lives of ordinary people confronted with difficult political exigencies Highlights of the text include transnational perspectives by leading researchers in the field and a memoir by one of Manchukuo s last living writers This first rate collection offers the most comprehensive overview of Manchukuo literature in any language Containing an abundance of very original research and analysis with relevant references to diverse sources in Chinese English Japanese Korean and Russian the essays will be welcomed by scholars dealing with literary historical political and colonization issues in Manchukuo and its neighbors Ronald Suleski Suffolk University Boston Manchukuo Perspectives is an excellent contribution to the field Manchukuo was a fascinating and fraught experiment Colonialism imperialism modernism and nationalism were just some of the many different forces at play there With an impressive set of contributors bringing both breadth and depth to the study of these issues this collection fills a void in our understanding of the cultural and literary production of Manchukuo wonderfully James Carter Saint Joseph s University

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