

Life span development

Analysis of Michael Jackson

Introduction

Within the contents of this piece of work the main emphasis is on Michael Jackson's life specifically his childhood and early adulthood then applying two particular theories to help analysis him. The main source where most of the quotes from him will come from is his autobiography Moonwalk (1998). The first theory under discussion is Bowlby's (1969) attachment theory which will be related to Michael's childhood and his attachments with his parents. The second theory used for the purpose of this report is Erickson's psychosocial stages of development which will aid in the establishment and analysis of Michael's adolescents and issues with the true him. An evaluation of which theory has shown to be more superior in relation to the case will conclude and finalize this report.

Outline of the case

This section will discuss and outline the specific areas of Michael Jackson's life that will be analysed. The main sources drawn upon include: the Moon Walk by Michael Jackson (2009) and also interviews which Michael has spoken about his experiences. For the purpose of this piece of work a great deal of attention has been paid to his childhood and early adulthood as many argue this is where some of his problem and issues arose from. Michael's kindergarten teacher Miss Childress stated that "becoming a star so young meant he missed out on important developmental stages of his childhood; he simply had no time to be a child" (Kern, 2009).

Michael was born in Indiana in 1958, he was the seventh of nine children. From what Michael has written about in this book he clearly had a good bond with his mother but maybe not as positive with his father (Jackson, 1998). At first Joe Jackson Michael's father does not approve of the 5 brothers making a band however he ends up managing them. Michael was only 8 years old when he became spotlight famous and under intense public scrutiny from such commercial success (A Michael Jackson timeline, 2009). He stated in his autobiography "I was so little when we began to work on our music that I really don't remember much about it" (Jackson, 1998, p. 6)

In an interview with Oprah Winfrey (1993) Michael stated that he does not really know his father. He also stated within this interview that he wanted to play he didn't want to go on stage. "When I was a kid, I was denied not only a childhood but I was denied love. My childhood was completely taken away from me, there was no Christmas. There was no birthday's it was not a normal childhood, nor the normal pleasures of childhood those were exchanged for hard work, struggle and pain" Oprah (1993).