Prof Patrick C. L. Heaven

Qualifications: BA (University of Stellenbosch), MA (University of the Orange Free State), D.Litt et Phil (University of South Africa).

Title of presentation: Longitudinal perspectives on the social and emotional development of adolescents

Abstract:
Using multi-wave data from the Wollongong Youth Study, I examine the impact of a number of individual difference and group-related factors on the academic, social, and behavioural outcomes of high school students. I examine the differential impact of personality factors on academic performance, and the differential impact of self-nominated friendship groups on academic achievement and psychological adjustment. Relative to personality traits, I note the important role that religious values play as a buffer against behavioural maladjustment once gender and religious denomination have been controlled. Results are discussed in the context of models of personality development and some suggestion for further research are made.

Biography:
Patrick Heaven is Associate Professor and Head of Psychology at the University of Wollongong. He completed his doctoral training at the University of South Africa and has published extensively on the role that personality and individual difference factors play in shaping behaviour, in particular adolescent adjustment, but also prejudice and close relationships. He is the recipient of the H. J. Eysenck Memorial Award for 2007. He coordinates the Wollongong Youth Study, a longitudinal study of the social, emotional, and behavioural development of over 700 teenagers in the Wollongong/Sydney area. Begun when students entered high school, this project is now in its 5th year of data collection. He is an Associate Editor for the Journal of Adolescence, and is the newly appointed Editor of the Australian Journal of Psychology. Patrick has published six books and numerous journal articles. His text Contemporary adolescence: A social psychological approach (Melbourne: Macmillan, 1994) appeared in its second edition as The social psychology of adolescence (London: Palgrave/ Macmillan) in 2001 and his text (with A. Furnham) Personality and social behaviour (New York: Oxford University Press; London: Arnold, 1999) received favourable reviews. He enjoys body surfing.
Erica Frydenberg PhD

Brief Profile

Erica Frydenberg is a clinical, organisational, counselling and educational psychologist who has practiced extensively in the Australian educational setting before joining the staff of the University of Melbourne. She is a Fellow of the Australian Psychological Society. She has authored over 100 academic journal articles and chapters in the field of coping, published psychological instruments to measure coping and developed programs to teach coping skills including The Best of Coping (Instructor and Teacher workbooks) (co-authored with Cathy Brandon) and published by the Australian Council for Educational Research in 2007 and a CD-Rom Coping for Success shortly. Her most recent volumes The Australian Leadership Reader (with Helen Sykes) (2006) and Morton Deutsch: A Life and Legacy of Mediation and Conflict Resolution (2005), both published by Australian Academic Press and Thriving, surviving or going under: Coping with everyday lives published by Information Age Publishing in 2004. She has co-authored the Schooling Issues Digest Motivation and Engagement which was published by DEST in 2005 and the Australian entry in the four-volume Routledge (New York) Encyclopaedia on Adolescence published in 2006.

Books

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