

MULTIDIMENSIONAL ASSESSMENT PAPER

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Bianca's Biography

Bianca Thomas is a Clinical Social Worker for Mobile Crisis in the Psychiatric Emergency Room Department at Jacobi Medical Center. She earned a Master's Degree in Social Work in 2002. Before Bianca Thomas started her educational journey, she aspired to be a Nun, but that soon changed when she realized she wanted to be married and have children, and that would require being with a man she said. Bianca Thomas married Anthony Alibocas, and they had a son Anthony Jr. Bianca's husband desired to come to America to give his family a better life.

In 1986, Bianca Thomas and her family Migrated to the United States from Tobago, Trinidad, where she was born and raised. When she arrived, Bianca worked as a Housekeeper/Childcare Provider for ten years; things were good for a while, but during that period, her journey suddenly took a sharp turn. In 1990, Bianca and her husband divorced. It was a difficult time for Bianca and A.J. Jr., her son, but determined that she wanted a better life for her son. It was her son Anthony Jr., known as A.J., which compelled her to obtain her G.E.D. and enroll in Borough of Manhattan Community College for Nursing. When she failed her Clinical for nursing, she decided that was not what she wanted, and her educational journey took a slight turn to Human Services. Bianca was determined to make life better for her son.

During Bianca's educational journeys her life journey required attention, as well, a single working mother experienced obstacles out of her control; however, help came on August 6, 1995, Elizabeth Alibocas accepted Jesus Christ as her savior and baptized. Bianca sought the Lord for educational direction after failing her clinical. She heard "study Social Work" she pursued the voice of God and obtained an Associate Degree in Human Services from Borough of Manhattan Community College (BMCC). Bianca continued her Education at Lehman College to earn a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work. She entered the Advanced Standing Program at Adelphi University, where Bianca Thomas attained her Master's Degree in Social Work in the class of 2002.

Bianca's first job was at her home church Bethel Gospel Assembly in the Community Outreach Program for one year. She also worked as a Clinical Social Worker for the New York Housing Authority, and today, she works at Jacobi Medical Center in the Psychiatric Emergency Room as a Clinical Social Worker for Mobile Crisis. Throughout Bianca's life, education, and career God has been a Constant source and strength making away in every endeavor. Although Bianca has accomplished one of her life goals, as of 2020, she is a grandmother of five handsome boys with the newest addition to her family Cameron, born April 24, 2020. Bianca still desires and awaits for a granddaughter soon. When asked if she would mind an interview, Bianca has graciously accepted the request.

**Interview Assessment Questions: Using Erikson's Eight Stages of Psychosocial
Development**

1. How did your parents/family members describe you as an infant?

She described as silent, but stern, and content. She also stated that she described as a thumb sucker; she did not smile much and would stare dead in one's eyes.

2. Do you remember starting preschool or kindergarten? If so, did you feel a sense of independence or a sense of limited abilities in school? Ex. Running, skipping, catching, or bouncing a ball?

Bianca's earliest memory on the first day of preschool or kindergarten was of twin boys from the neighborhood playing on what she called a cylinder. She described the cylinder as a larger concrete object built in the ground. The twins were playing and jumping off of the cylinder, and one twin fell to his death. She also remembers seeing him in a small coffin, and it gripped her with fear. Death was her experience on the first day of school.

3. Did the death of a pupil have any effect on how you interact with peers or teachers?

Yes, I was afraid, when the uncle or aunt would walk me to school, the image of the cylinder and the twin falling off the rock stayed envisioned in my mind for an extended period, and it made me sad. Eventually, I moved on, and things went back to normal, but I have never forgotten that incident. In school, I made friends, and we played cricket, soccer, rounders, and I

was always the captain of teams because I was good at kicking and throwing the ball making points for my team.

4. What was growing up like in your home with your Mom and Dad?

At this time, the question method opened up other memories for Bianca. She begins to share how she did not live with her mother, Bianca stated that she and her sisters lived with her grandmother and later moved with their mom. Now, her mom was always around, but she had her first oldest sister very young. Bianca, the second oldest, and her two sisters lived with their grandparents from birth. She described living with her grandparents as something else.

The grandfather described as being a bad man. His parents were a biracial couple, and he was a light-skinned man. He was stern and who never smiled. Her memory of her grandfather was him cutting her on her feet. Her sister stated that he cut her because she turned up her buttocks towards him, but all Bianca can remember is him cutting her feet. This incident was the only memory of her grandfather.

The grandmother was described as a strange lady, did not talk too much, but she believed that she had a mental illness. Bianca stated that her grandmother likes to cause confusion between her children, and because of that, her uncles and aunts were not close. Until this day, the siblings are not even close. There was one time Bianca and her sisters were so excited to know their mom was coming to visit them that when their grandmother saw how excited they were to see their mother, she got angry and asked them "what they were happy for?" and put them in the streets to wait for their mother. She stated it is weird how they viewed her as being a good person, but her children would never allow her to know where they lived. Although her

grandmother was not welcome in the homes of her sibling, the grandmother would always find them. She stated it was as if she had her on G.P.S. programmed to locate her children.

At the age of thirteen, Bianca and her sisters moved in with her mom; in the beginning, she and her mom had a real good relationship. Her mom enrolled her into a Christian school, and she and her mom used to walk together. She was walking to school, and Mom was going to work. Bianca would witness how Mom would work, come home, cook, and clean and to it all over the next day. Sometime Mom would get home late, and dinner cooked late. God forbid she had to go market than dinner would be extra late; so she decided that she and her sisters could do the cooking and cleaning for her mom so that way she and her sisters would eat at a decent time and it would be less work for her mom, sisters refuse to help, so she did it all. She claimed that she felt like Cinderella because her sisters were not interested in helping out.

Well, Mom found religion, and things began to change. Mom began to wrap up her head and wear long dresses and attend Shango Baptist, where they practiced the Old Testament rituals and danced in a frenzy. She shared that her mother began to make them attend services and participate in a ceremony called to mourn, which is a fasting ritual that requires you to lay down on the floor for seven days without eating. You were only allowed to drink tea and eat crackers after fast. Once you completed the seven days, God was to give you a dream, and you had to share with elders what you saw. She recalls her oldest sister saying she was in a white dress. The youngest sister did not complete the ceremony and excused from participating. So when they asked Bianca what she saw, she said, "I saw myself wearing pants," the elder immediately wrapped up her hair and made her put on a long dress. In Shango Baptist, pant signified

leadership and authority for men only. Afterward, a woman began to tell her that she was going to be able to tell people what God said.

Bianca was not crazy about attending church with her mom; she always felt that something was off about the church. The children were not allowed to talk or move, and they would sit for hours watching the older women "dancing in a frenzy." Bianca decided that she did not want to go to school anymore and told her Mom she was not going to attend. She claimed that she was a little afraid because her mom would "hit you to kill you know," but she said that her big sister was allowed to drop out and take a trade sewing, and she was not good at it at all. Her mom told her that she was not like the others, and she had no choice but to go to school. She said to her that she has something the other siblings do not; therefore, there is no other option for her. Bianca's life has seemed to take a lot of twists and turns as a child, and it does not seem to end, but it is the last twist with her mother that will cause her to leave the home

. The Kiddy Carnival incident between ages sixteen and seventeen changed my relationship with Mom for the second but not the final time. My uncle had had tickets for the famous Kiddy Carnival. It is in town once a year, so I made sure the house was sparkling clean, and the food cooked, and I was showered and ready to go. To hear my mom say, "you are not going anywhere," upset me so much that I said, "I am Going" and left the house. That day I could not go back to the house, so I went to my aunt's house, and after a couple of days I went to stay with my Dad. After hearing Bianca's story thus far, I asked her this question.

5. Who has made a significant impact or positively influenced your life?

Bianca began to reminisce about her childhood. In school, she did not have a desire to be there or the drive to want to make something of her life, at first. At the age of ten years or eleven, Bianca wanted to be a nurse, but she knew for sure that she did not want to be a teacher. Possibly due to a mean nun Sister Luke who would threaten you by saying, "if you misbehave, this is what is going to happen to you," taunting the students to act right. Bianca shared how she knew everybody in school, and they too would tell her she was different and that it was something about her, but when she would ask them to explain, they would reply, "I don't know you just different." Bianca said she would always hear people say she was different from Mom, siblings, and friends, but no one could ever tell her why so she put off as they were crazy.

Bianca's first book changed her thinking about school and began to want more for herself. Her mind changed from not wanting to be in school to desiring to more studious. At age thirteen, she Miss Piggot, described as a big boob lady with gold teeth, gave her her first book to read called "The Family Robinsons." Miss Piggot influenced me to read, and I fell in love with reading. She had others who impacted her life. Sister Mary Elizabeth, a teacher, described as very sweet, loving, and nurturing. Her impact caused her to read the New Testament in the Bible, and at fifteen, she decided that she wanted to be a nun.

However, once she realized that her desire to marry and have children could not happen if she took an oath of Nunship, she decided that being a nun was not an option anymore; she desired marriage and children. There were a host of others who exemplified having love, kindness, and nurturing characteristics Miss Stuart, Miss Roberts, and Mrs. Jean Cant all were

such significant influences in her life. Then she replied yes if it had not been these ladies and her Dad, you do not know what her life would look like today.

6. Where was your father when all these twists and turns were happening in your life?

Bianca's mother and father did not have a good relationship, and she forbade him to have a relationship with Bianca. It was her grandmother that would make sure that she sees her Dad. She said she was not sure if she did it to upset her mom or she wanted him to see her. One day Bianca recalled being at her grandmother's home standing on a chair in front of a big window waiting to see her father, and he never came. Bianca says her Dad was there and not there. She shared how she used to have to sneak to see her Dad because if her mom found out, she would beat her, but she did not let that stop her from seeing him.

Bianca describes her Dad as very attentive. If he focused on you, it was all on you. You could be in a room with hundreds of people, and he made you feel like no one else was in the place, but you as far as he was concerned, his focus was only on you. She said his attention not divided when she was around. "I was a queen, his baby girl" she also claims he was not an affectionate man, but he would let you know he loved you with his words. She said he just knew how to do what he did. It was unexplainable, but you just knew he loved you.

7. Has your Dad ever made you feel uneasy about or cause you to feel mistrust?

Bianca said once, "I had a little mistrust because he hit me at the age of eight, and afterward, I never wanted him to touch me like that again, and he never did. She says that her

father made her feel like she could do anything because he had that kind of confidence in me, but not my mom. She said that he would tell others that she was the best of the best.

8. Now that you are living in a new environment with your Dad, have you ever experienced any conflict? if yes, explain

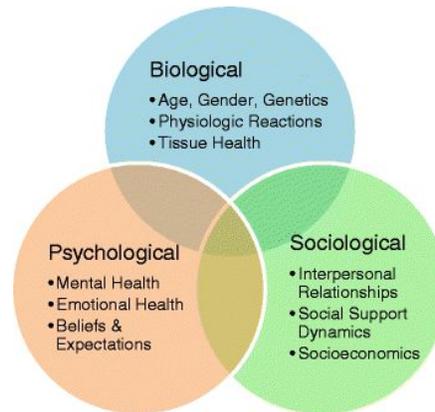
Conflict visited her house when she met her future husband, Mr. Anthony Alibocas Sr. When she introduced him to her father; he did not approve of the relationship. He told her if she married him that she was not going to be happy, and he was not going to be good for her, but she was in love. At this time in her life, Mrs. Jean Cant mentioned as one of the people who impacted her life, kind, nurturing, and loving witness to me about Jesus. She just got married and had son Anthony Jr., and she met Mrs. Jean, and from day one, she was there for me. Whatever she needed for herself or her baby Mrs. Jean made sure she had whatever she needed.

Bianca said she would tell her how Jesus loved her and how she did not make you feel pressured when she spoke about Jesus. One day she asked her if she would like to ask Jesus to come into her heart. That day she received Jesus into her heart.

Last but not least, her Dad was a significant influence on her life. She stated that he knew he loved her with all his being, but he could not accept Tony. Not long after she took Jesus into her heart, her husband Tony decided that he wanted to move them to the States with my in-laws to have a better life for his family. Moving to the states opened up another can of worms sort of speak, things started okay but then turned to worse. She admitted that her father was right about her husband, but she did say that the most significant part of their relationship was her son

Anthony Alibocas Jr. She would not change having him for anything in this world. She said if it meant going through all the negative things in her life to have her son, it was worth it.

Biopsychosocial Aspects of Human Behaviors



In conclusion, Bianca, lack of smile, silence, and stern behavior is a result of her biological environment and genetics. Bianca's grandmother, grandfather, and mother had the same traits. Her temperament and personality are the results of what demonstrated in the home environment. Sociological, she learned from what modeled before her first in the home and secondly in the school environment. She learned how to be compassionate, loving, and nurturing, by observing others in her social environment, such as her teachers who displayed these characteristics to her. Bianca's psychological events in life caused many mental, emotional, and behavioral challenges in an environment of conflict, confusion, depression, and possibly mental illness.

Bianca's life occurrences have led her on a spiritual journey, which has given her the power to shape her life differently than the environment raised. Erikson's stages of development provide a lens or metaphor with which to engage this imagery of spiritual development. Juxtaposing this metaphor of new birth with Erikson's developmental stages allows one to envision a set of spiritual growth stages and the beliefs and behaviors that characterize these stages.

Middle Adulthood Assessment

Trust vs. Mistrust

Bianca's infant stage indicates that her silence, lack of smile, stern facials, and a lack of interaction could be biologically genetic because of traits of grandparents and mother. Her thumb-sucking could also indicate security, which can stem from fear and mistrust. She shared that her grandfather was a bad man, and grandmother liked conflict and stirred up confusion with her children.

Autonomy vs. Shame and Doubt

There is no data for this stage of Autonomy vs. Shame and Doubt, but based on the fact that she was able to cook and clean better than most adults at the age of fourteen could indicate that she had excellent motor skills and a sense of independence. **Without any factual information, my assessment is an assumption** that as an infant, Bianca developed a sense of personal control over physical skills and knowledge of independence.

Initiative vs. Guilt

Attending school Bianca made friends and played cricket, soccer, rounders, and she was always the captain of teams because she was good at kicking and throwing the ball making points for my team. She was competitive, assertive, and showed a lot of control as a captain, and she loved to win. Peers always chose her to be a captain, and most wanted to be on her team.

Industry vs. Inferiority

In the fourth stage, Industry vs. Inferiority, Bianca should have been learning new social challenges amongst her peer groups. Still, instead, Bianca challenged with another type of social learning that caused her to feel a sense of inferiority to death. Nevertheless, later she was able to learn how to cope with death and move on to achieve in the stage of the industry by obtaining a level of competency about death. According to her story, she did not mention that she was not able to cope or have trouble with self-esteem, but I believe the trauma caused her to want to be a nurse between the ages of 10yrs and 11yrs old.

Identity vs. Role Confusion

Bianca's influences in life allowed her to explore who she was as an individual. During this stage of Identity vs. Role Confusion, Bianca's cynical twist and turns in life allowed her to find a sense of self. She also experienced role confusion because she took on the role and activities of adults cooking and cleaning and caring for siblings, which According to Erikson, this is important to the process of forming a strong identity and developing a sense of direction in life.

Intimacy vs. Isolation

Bianca married at 18yrs became a mother at 19 yrs of age she began to experience significant conflict. Moving to the U.S., her marriage fell apart, and her support system was gone. She

became a nanny to make a living for her and her son and to keep her visa so that she could obtain citizenship. Although Erickson states that during this period, the major conflict centers on forming intimate, loving relationships with other people. Success leads to healthy relationships, while failure results in loneliness and isolation. Bianca admits that she was very bitter towards her husband and in-laws, and she did feel alone and isolated from her son, but her son is the one and Jesus who gave her the strength to persevere for her son.

Generativity vs. Stagnation

Presently Bianca, in this stage of life, is a citizen of the United States, and everything that she has experienced had caused her to make a better life for her son. Her focus in life is to do the same for others that Sister Mary Elizabeth, Miss Piggot, and, most importantly, Mrs. Jean Cant, has done for her. The most powerful tool in life Jesus Christ, to equip people to live their best experience no matter what the obstacle they can accomplish whatever they put their minds.

Ego Integrity vs. Despair N/A

(Interviewee is 56yrs old)

This stage takes place after age 65 and involves reflecting on one's life and either moving into feeling satisfied and happy with one's life or feeling a deep sense of regret.

Success at this stage leads to feelings of wisdom, while failure results in regret, bitterness, and despair.

Failure to successfully complete a stage can result in a reduced ability to complete further stages and therefore a more unhealthy personality and sense of self. These stages, however, can be resolved successfully at a later time.

Stage	Psychosocial Crisis	Basic Virtue	Age
1.	Trust vs. Mistrust	Hope	0 - 1½
2.	Autonomy vs. Shame	Will	1½ - 3
3.	Initiative vs. Guilt	Purpose	3 - 5
4.	Industry vs. Inferiority	Competency	5 - 12
5.	Identity vs. Role Confusion	Fidelity	12 - 18
6.	Intimacy vs. Isolation	Love	18 - 40
7.	Generativity vs. Stagnation	Care	40 - 65
8.	Ego Integrity vs. Despair	Wisdom	65+

References

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