

Video Essay Response:

Prenatal psychology dives deeper into the earliest form of human development. The topic of development before birth can tend to be controversial in today's age as the rights of women and abortion dominate media and politics. Early human development includes the observation of the genetics, neurobiology, and psychology of a prenat. In this video, we see how the impact of the mother on the prenatal form has proved to be beyond just a physical growth period. The mother transmits nutrients as well as changes based on emotions, stress, and thoughts, fundamentally the prenat is influenced by the environment the mother is in. Just as the mother can feel the baby moving, the baby feels the movements of the mother and is impacted by the movements of the mother, including her feelings and stress levels. More importantly, the baby receives nutrition through her bloodstream. The time in utero has been proven to be the most influential time. Life begins at conception, and the developmental process begins, not then, but soon later.

Chapter 1

2. During the early Western period, many philosophers sought out the relevance of development in the womb. This was the first appearance of a questioning of the connection between the mother and the fetus. Men such as Hippocrates and Aristotle made observations based on examinations and the dissection of fetal remains. From these examinations and dissections, they were able to distinguish a distinctly human form in the mother's womb by day 40. There was speculation that the fetus was separate from the mother. The idea of a preparatory and forming environment was constructed. Many of these philosophers and early western thinkers did not allude to the fact that the fetus had a dependency on the mother. They did note that the fetus was its own being and that this time was a part of human life.

3. Indian writers were more prominent in the early non-western thoughts about prenat. It was widely believed that the child was pre-determined based on genetics. These genetic contributions were based on the mother and father of the prenatal infant. Susruta, as well as Caraka, shared similar theories on genetic contributions, although that specific contribution differed according to the parent. Most of these contributions included characteristics such as intellect, health, or valor. They also observed the importance of the dependency of the fetus on the mother for nourishment. Caraka explains this kind of evolvment of the fetus thanks to the nourishment coming from the mother. Through blood, the umbilical cord, and the placenta are thought to be transmitted nourishment. They also shared the same thoughts on the effect of physical and emotional disturbances of the mother on the fetus. The theory of cause and effect was speculated during this time. Another perception of the prenat by Susruta was the sense of longing for objects and the consciousness of its surroundings. This is particularly advanced as it states the beginning of brain development and activity.

4. During the medieval and early modern periods, the perception of prenat halted and saw little to no advancement. The biggest development was in the 16th century, named epigenetics. This ideology argued that creation occurred sequentially and that life in miniature was pre-existent. After this was developed the idea of preformationism. This explained life as thought to be existent in either the sperm or the ovum. There are many inconsistencies between different

thinkers. John Locke and Jean-Jaques Rousseau had strong opinions about the abilities of the fetus. Locke thought of it as capable to form ideas and Rousseau deemed it as a “tadpole”, with no thought or meaning. Eventually, preformationism was put aside as it was proved to be false by the observation of the development of a fertilized egg.

5. The psychology of the prenatal form in the 19th and 20th centuries was highly dominated by Sigmund Freud. Numerous times, Freud would contradict himself on his thoughts about the pre-nate. But for the most part, his views took a negative turn. He views the prenatal form as without mental structure or ego. One point he made was that birth was the earliest anxiety. In this example, anxiety shows a form of life. Freud fundamentally thought of birth as inconsequential other than the definition of primal anxiety. This was similar to Otto Rank who discovered birth as the first or primal trauma. We go from being in the womb of our mothers, where everything is provided and we are fully dependent on the nutrition of our mothers, to being in a bright and cold, independent world. Later on, Stanislav Grof observed with the help of LSD-assisted abreactations, patients would recall and relate to pre- and peri-natal experiences. For example, humans, and not just LSD-influenced individuals, tend to retreat to a ‘fetal position’, referencing the position we were in when we were in our mother’s womb.

Chapter 2 Maret

9. These three topics are quite similar when it comes to the development and psychology of the prenatal infant. Fetal psychology was described as beginning at 9 weeks up until birth.

Fetal psychology: 22,400,00 results

Prenatal psychology includes the three stages of prenatal development: germinal, embryonic, and fetal. This is more of a general statement grouping specific sections together. It differs from fetal psychology as it includes the former in addition to pre-fetal and post-fetal.

Prenatal psychology: 23,800,000

Birth psychology starts at conception and goes on until one year after birth. This time is much more extensive and is not only prenatal. This section of psychology takes a look at the development of the human in the prenatal period as well as in the environment of the outer world. This is more interesting as through this psychology there is a wider viewpoint of the effects of prenatal development on individuals.

Birth psychology: 20,000,000