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SWK 554

03/13/2023

Reflection 7

Havar and the Restaurant

Contextual Analysis Questions

How can parents, teachers, and friends promote or impede identity exploration in this case?

Havar is fifteen years old and lives in Southern Florida. His father, Emanuel, migrated from Cuba, and his mother, Gezelle, is from Mexico. His father is a restaurateur, and his specialty is Cuban cuisine. Gezelle also cooks and collaborates with Emanuel in business. Havar's rich heritage and ethnicity condition his identity. In his Hispanic culture, children are knitted into the family dynamic and are very close not to the immediate family members but to extended family also. Havar identifies with both Cuban and Mexican cultures and embraces them. This shows his individuation as interdependent because loyalty, support from his family and community, and honor are expected to be the protective factors. This is what promotes identity exploration because it's what Havar identifies with.

How may culture influence Havar's identity exploration process?

The social learning within Havar's circle enhances Havar's ethnic identity and relates to a more vital sense of purpose and increased self-confidence and social competence.

How typical is Havar's identity formation process for children born to immigrant parents?

Children born to immigrant parents, such as Havar's case, are typical in the Hispanic culture. Children take on the roles and customs of their parents. The biculturalism that Havar is experiencing allows him to blend both cultures. With the blending of his Cuban/Mexican and American, Havar learn to value both cultures.

Psychosocial Analysis Questions

How does psychosocial theory explain why Havar wants to be just like his father?

According to Erikson's stages, identity versus identity confusion, Havar identifies with his culture. His caring relationship with his parents, uncle, cousin, and friends in the community is the support system that Havar has as a protective factor. Havar has a sound support system and social skills (the case study states that everyone loves him). There is also room for independence; it is Havar's dream to be just like his father, which is a goal of his that is encouraged.

Imagine Havar fifteen years in the future. What might his life be like? What challenges may he be facing that are a result of career, educational, and lifestyle decisions he is making now?

In fifteen years, Havar will be successful in the restaurant industry. Havar, now thirty, can invest in himself and go to Culinary School to enrich his skills and learn more about the industry. He will probably open more restaurants and provide job opportunities for residents in the community. It would be customary that he'll find his wife within his current settings, just like how his parents met. I believe Havar is living his dream, and because he's also

American, he will encourage his children to be independent and explore their dreams and purpose for their lives.