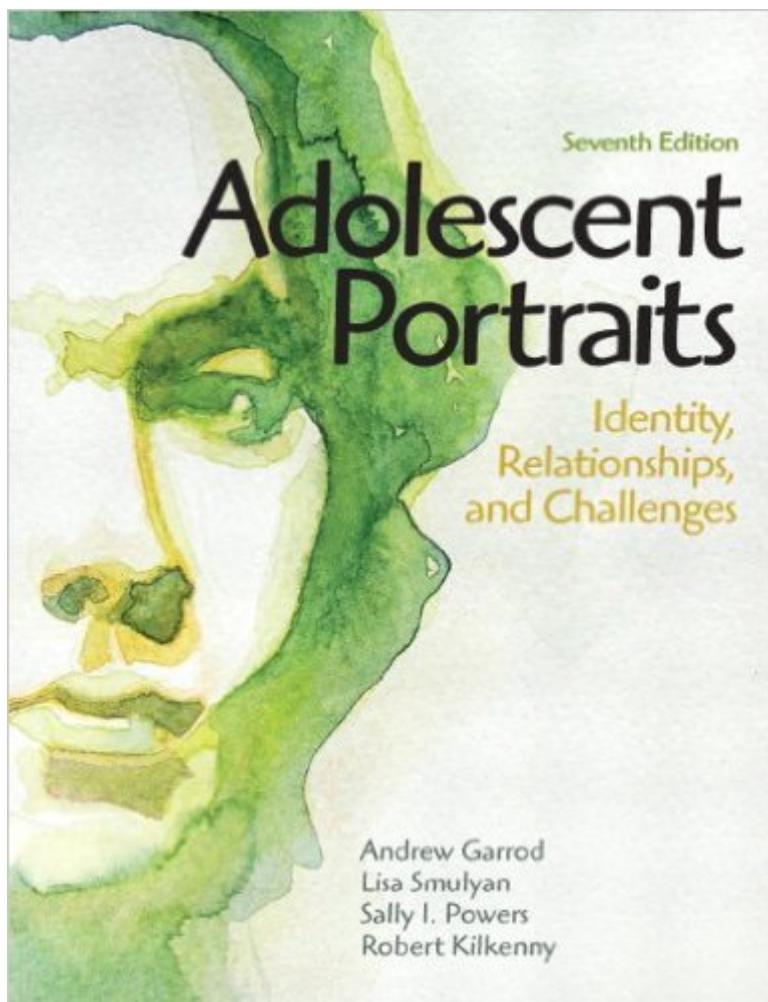


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Adolescent Portraits: Identity, Relationships, And Challenges (7th Edition)



Synopsis

Contemporary cases in development Adolescent Portraits illustrates the contemporary theories and research that surround adolescent development today. The book is a compelling anthology of first-person accounts written by college students. The real-life cases included in the text represent a fascinating, diverse cross-section of contemporary adolescence and cover a variety of issues, including family and peer relationships, eating disorders, self image, illness, and disabilities.

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Book Information

Paperback: 336 pages

Publisher: Pearson; 7th edition (August 6, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0205036236

ISBN-13: 978-0205036233

Product Dimensions: 6.9 x 0.7 x 9.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.7 out of 5 stars – See all reviews (10 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #332,122 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #176 in Books > Medical Books > Psychology > Adolescent Psychology #206 in Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Psychology & Counseling > Adolescent Psychology #464 in Books > Textbooks > Social Sciences > Psychology > Developmental Psychology

Customer Reviews

Adolescent Portraits: Identity, Relationships, and Challenges, written by Garrod, Smulyan, Powers, and Kilkenny (2000), is a collection of personal stories written by college students. The stories consist of the students' recollections of events that occurred during their adolescent years. This book provides much insight into the development of adolescents, while it also aides in the understanding and development of current theories. The case studies collected by the authors are excellent tools for gaining insight into the mind of the adolescent. The authors of the case studies not only narrate events from their past, but also provide personal perspectives as to why they reacted in certain ways and held particular concerns during their adolescent years. "The way in which we view adolescence depends, to a large extent, on our perceptions of human nature and the relationship of the individual to society" (Garrod et al., 2000, p. 1). Current theories are independently and personally based on such perspectives. Before the authors present the adolescents' case studies, they discuss the various contributors to current adolescent theory. These contributors include theorists such as Locke, Rousseau, Hall, and Mead. By presenting the case studies, the authors show these theories at work. The case studies are divided into three sections: "Identity," "Relationships," and "Challenges." The first section, "Identity," involves Erikson's Psychosocial Developmental Theory, particularly the stage of "identity versus role confusion." Believed by Erikson to be the dominating challenge during the adolescent years, this stage is characterized by the need to establish one's individuality in the world.

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