

Identity

in Adolescence



JOHN T. GREILICK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dressed To Protest

Dearborn High School junior Bretton Barber stands outside his school in Michigan on Tuesday wearing a T-shirt with the words "international terrorist" framing an image of President Bush. Barber wore the shirt to school Monday to express his anti-war position. School officials told him to take it off, turn it inside out or go home. He went home. The school said it is worried about inflaming passions at the school, where a majority of students are Arab-American.

Defining identity

- ◆ Emerges in adolescence
- ◆ self unity
- ◆ feeling of continuity over time

- ◆ Erikson: need for confirmation by others
- ◆ Psycho-social theory
- ◆ Achievement versus diffusion

James Marcía

- ◆ Builds upon Erikson's model
- ◆ Interview study
 - ◆ experienced a crisis?
 - ◆ made initial commitments?
 - ◆ vocational, values

Identity statuses

- ◆ moratorium (in crisis)
- ◆ achievement (have had crisis)
- ◆ foreclosure (no crisis)
- ◆ diffusion (might have had crisis)

Important Reminder

- ◆ Statuses NOT stages

The end!