Psychoanalytic Theory

Sigmund Freud
Freud 1856 1939

- Psychoanalytic theory
- Biological emphasis!drives
- Libido!sex instinct
- Psychic energy!id, ego, superego
- Unconscious
Key developmental ideas

- pessimistic view of human nature
- emphasis on nature, biological forces
- early experiences shape personality! age 5
- universal developmental stages
Freud’s stage theory

- Infancy to adolescence
- Oral, anal, phallic, latency period, genital
Weaknesses

- Based on limited “sample”
- Little empirical support
Freud’s impact

- Sets the agenda
- New emphasis on children’s needs
- Talking cure! psychoanalysis
- It gets cool to be neurotic!
Cultural Icon

Major impact in United States

! Inspires a lot of other work!