

Concept, dimensions and source of emerging adulthood: Reviewing this phenomenon among Malaysian youth

Abstract

Emerging Adulthood Theory was introduced by Arnett in the year 2000 as a new concept to describe a new stage of life between the ages of 18 to 25. Hence, this concept paper aims to discuss briefly the concept, dimensions and source of Emerging Adulthood. Past literatures have referred the 20's as youth, late adolescence, early adult or groups of people who are in the transition to adulthood by the scholars. However, in his argument, Arnett mentioned that this transitional period is prolonged and no longer called as a transition. Research on emerging adulthood has been widely conducted in the western countries and only two countries in Asia which is China and India. Emerging adulthood phenomenon is not a universal period of human development and is a characteristic of culture rather than countries, therefore Arnett pointed out the need to conduct this research in a diverse culture in different countries to extend and improve this newly emerged theory.