

Creating a stronger community one person at a time.

ADOLESCENT STAGE - There are eight stages of development during a person's life.* During the **adolescent stage**, from the age of 12 to 18 years, it's a time of questioning ones self. Who am I, how do I fit in? Where am I going in life?

An adolescent must struggle to discover and find his or her own identity, while negotiating and struggling with social interactions and "fitting in", and developing a sense of morality and right from wrong. Some attempt to delay entrance to adulthood and withdraw from responsibilities. Those unsuccessful with this stage tend to experience role confusion and upheaval. Adolescents begin to develop a strong affiliation and devotion to ideals, causes, and friends.

Whether an adolescent experiences the feeling of identity or role confusion, being confronted with conflicting questions about ones self can be unsettling. It's comforting to know that you can turn to Northwestern Counseling & Support Services (NCSS) in your time of need. NCSS provides a continuum of support to adolescents experiencing emotional and behavioral problems, mental illness and developmental disabilities.

* According to Erik Erikson (1902-1994), a noted Danish-German-American developmental psychologist, every person must pass through a series of eight interrelated stages over the entire life cycle.

Among the NCSS staff providing services for adolescents are:



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Paul Brown
Science Teacher, Soar Learning Center
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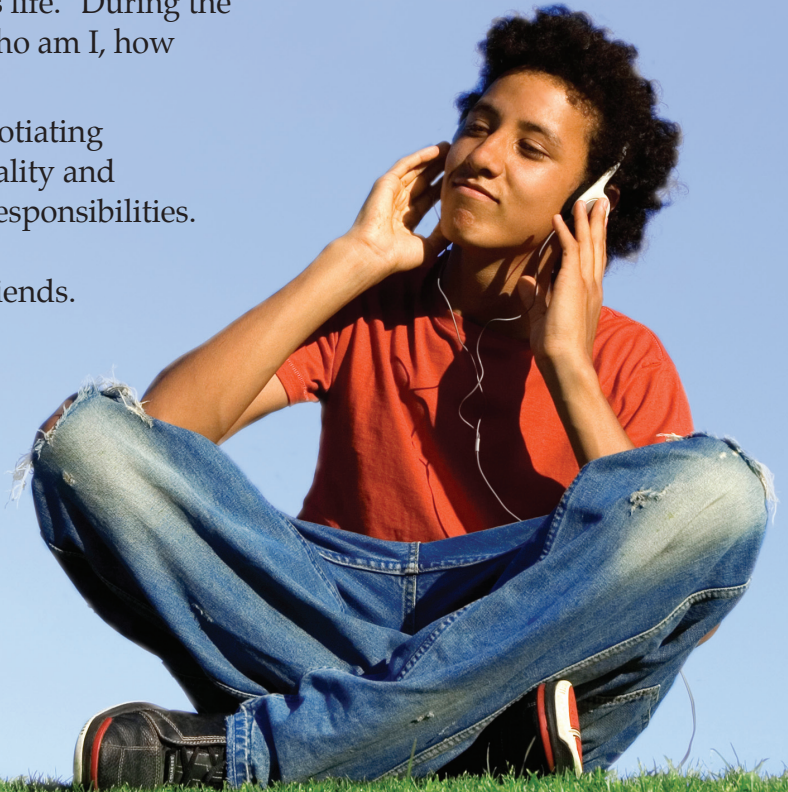
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