



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2008/2009

FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

PSY/PHD/804: DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

DATE: Thursday, 4th December, 2008 TIME: 2.00 p.m. – 5.00 p.m.

INSTRUCTIONS:

This paper has **FIVE** questions. Answer any **THREE** questions.

QUESTION ONE

An expectant mother experiences a headache and sends one of her children to buy for her some remedy from the shopping centre. Whenever there is a party at home alcohol is served and she cannot resist taking a glass or two of the alcoholic drinks. She lives with a spouse who drinks alcohol a lot and smokes cigarettes in the house. Due to the husbands poor management of finances the family is in a constant state of conflict. The house is situated near a busy main road.

Discuss any four concerns you would express from this scenario from the perspective of teratology. (23 marks)

QUESTION TWO

Wambua is a boy in standard five. He looks small for his age. His school uniform is in tatters, his books untidy and he is constantly late for school. His overall performance is below average although it is clear that he has potential to perform better than he is

currently doing. A little investigation in Wambua's life reveals that he comes from a family of eight children. He is the first born and his parents are subsistent farmers. If you would have a talk with Wambua's teacher, identify four theme's within Wambua's social context that would help the teacher to understand Wambua's life and intervene so that his physical and intellectual development improve. (23 marks)

QUESTION THREE

Achieng aged fifteen is a form two student who happens to come from an affluent family background. She is usually dropped at school by the family driver. On several occasions she alights at the gate and rides on public transport into town where she visits video dens and she is a regular worker at some commercial sex joint. She has been introduced into drugs but the parents know nothing about all these things.

Discuss four possible issues that have made Achieng's life take this unfortunate road.

(23 marks)

QUESTION FOUR

Focusing on the theme of intimacy discuss young adulthood development alongside the following issues.

- i) cancer development
- ii) Marriage
- iii) Parenting
- iv) Civic responsibilities

QUESTION FIVE

"Mature adulthood involves the process of integration". Discuss any four relevant themes that define the life path of mature adult who has lived a satisfying life during the middle adulthood and mature adulthood. (25 marks)