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Time alone will tell

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Propositions to accompany the dissertation

TIME ALONE WILL TELL

Longitudinal links between social withdrawal and social relationships across adolescence and early adulthood

1. Research is formalized curiosity. It is poking and prying with a purpose. (Zora Neale Hurston)
2. Social withdrawal and social relationships change during adolescence and early adulthood, and only longitudinal studies can capture these changes and the rapid social development that occurs during these ages.
3. Social withdrawal predicts concurrent and future relationship problems across relationships and across adolescence and early adulthood. (Chapters 3-5)
4. Social withdrawal can be exacerbated or mitigated by peer, friendship, and romantic relationships. (Chapters 3-5)
5. When it comes to predicting the development of withdrawal, the quality of friendships is more important than the quantity. (Chapter 4)
6. Transitioning into a new social environment provides a window of opportunity for withdrawal to change and for social development to improve. (Chapters 2-4)
7. Investigating if someone is withdrawn is important, but investigating why someone is withdrawn is more important.
8. The mere fact that doing something is normative at the population level does not make it problematic for an individual not to do it.
9. Making conclusions about psychosocial phenomena without looking at the social environment is like concluding that a plant in a dark room is not growing because it did not water itself.
10. Solitude is different from loneliness, and it doesn't have to be a lonely kind of thing. (Fred Rogers)

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