

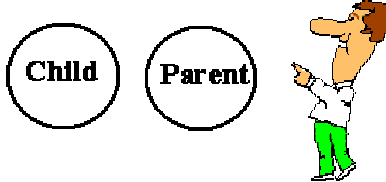
# Parallel Learning Technology

## Passage To Adulthood

There are five stages we pass through on our journey to emotional maturity:

- Childhood
- Adolescence
- Transitional Passage
- Adult/Independent
- Adult/Interdependent

All these stages are important. But probably the most important one is the 'Transitional Passage'.



Let's summarize the perception, attitude, thinking, and behavior going on during this stage and then see why it is so pivotal to growing up emotionally.

The perception we have of life during this stage is that we are 'different but equal' to our parents. We begin to let go of the false ego of adolescence and develop the early signs of a self-identity (attitude).

Our thinking process matures to include reasoning from self-authority, self-responsibility, and self-accountability.

And, our behavior begins to let go of the obsession with control to the possibilities for personal power because we begin to see choices for ourselves.

The most pivotal reality that occurs in this stage is the separation from the parent. This occurs as a result of all the shifts already mentioned, but lets highlight the key concept in this rite of passage.

During this "Transitional Passage", parents are the teachers and the adolescent is the student. Each parent or gender role model contributes differently to this maturing process.

- Girls must get teaching and approval from the mother and unconditional love from the father.
- Boys must get teaching and approval from the father and unconditional love from the mother.

When the adolescent is given and acknowledges the acceptance of this teaching, approval, and unconditional love, this “Transitional Passage” occurs and the child becomes an emotional equal.

This “Transitional Process” gives birth to a true self-identity. The adolescent begins to see themselves as “different but equal” to the parent.

But we live in an imperfect world and sometimes life does not go according to plan.

- Sometimes the teaching, approval, and unconditional love are not given because the parent never received these.  
And...
- Sometimes the teaching, approval, and unconditional love are given, but the child or adolescent is not able to acknowledge that they have received and accepted these.

If the teaching, approval, and love are given, and acknowledged as being accepted, the adolescent makes this essential transition into adulthood.

If the teaching, approval, and love are not given and/or not acknowledged as being accepted, the adolescent stays stuck emotionally in childhood or adolescent perceptions, attitudes, thinking, and behavior.

Is this just so much psychobabble? Many of us may think so but that feeling is usually a reaction to the hurt from a painful childhood.

The truth is, we never emotionally separate from our parents and develop a true self-identity until we make this passage.

So we are left with one pivotal question, “How do I determine if I made it through this passage?”

Life Skills U has developed an owner’s manual for growing up emotionally. A series of software courseware are designed to answer this very important question.

More importantly, there are coaches or mentors available through Life Skills U who have made this passage and are living successful and nurturing lives as a result of their journey.

This journey can start for you today!

(Excerpt: Passage to Adulthood, Chapter 6)