I need help shaping an approach or framework to some questions. See attachment. Reading essay first and outline or shape a solid answer to the questions…

* How do we determine the genetically susceptible individuals?
* How do we overcome the effect of their primary environment to create a permanent change in the developmental process?
* How do we determine if the intervention we are suggesting will not make the stressors on the individual worse thus increasing the original problem?

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The "Nature versus Nurture" controversy is all about whether our personality and characteristics are because of biological genes or we are shaped by our environment. This topic has been a subject of discussion for a long time. Scientists have various theories in support of both the sides. I will be discussing my views how nature and nurture can affect a child’ personality and moral development.

Nature is the genetic code that we are born with. It is passed on to us from our parents. Several of our traits for example eye color, height, IQ, and behavior are because of nature or heredity (Michael Rutter, 2002). The genes do not have direct control over our personality traits, but they do have a role in influencing our behavior.

Nature’s impact on child’s personality development can be seen in the studies of twins Jim Lewis, and Jim Springer (Flanagan, 2002). They were separated just four weeks after their birth. They were reunited after almost 40 years to discover that they had many similarities like both of them had the same model of Chevrolet, chewed fingernails, chain-smoked Salems, and even owned dogs named Toy.

The nurture influences a child' behavior. Basic factors like nutrition can be shown to influence the mental and physical abilities of a person. Also, people can be natural outgoing and aggressive but some experiences could change it.

Children’s moral development happens in progressive stages. At a young age, the children will not be able to see the perspective clearly. As the young children mature, they start understanding the moral reasoning in a better way (Vander Zanden, 2002). There are critical periods when the child will be more sensitive to its environmental happenings. At this stage, the child's experiences in the family are critical. The experiences can be whether a child's basic needs are well met and how a child is brought up. This can leave an enduring impact on a child's behavior.

This is in conformance to the Kohlberg’s theory (Vander Zanden, 2002). Kohlberg describes the moral development as a continual process that occurs throughout one’s lifespan. The development takes place in three levels namely: Pre-conventional (young children), Conventional (grown-ups), and Post-conventional (mature stage).

In my opinion, a person is who he is because of a combination of nature and nurture. A child’s environment adds to the genetic personality factors. Thus the children who are genetically predisposed to certain factors, they can be provided a conducive environment and thus overcome their weaknesses.

References

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