Student ONE: Nancy Langaard-Grube

Personality Theory at Work in Social Network

A Closer Look from Freud’s Psychodynamic Perspective, and Jung’s Analytical Psychology: A Personality Profile of “Bobbi” between the Real World and Online Personality.

Slide 1

Welcome to Personality Theory at Work in Social Networks. The chosen social networking site is *Facebook*, and I have chosen to do a personality profile on a friend of mine named “Bobbi.” A closer look from Freud’s psychodynamic perspective, and Jung’s analytical psychology: A personality profile of Bobbi between the real world and online personality.

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What I know about Bobbi outside of *Facebook* and in the “real world” is that she is in her early fifties, and married with two children; a step-daughter and a son from a previous relationship.  Bobbi is very intelligent with a doctorate, two master’s degrees, and teaches at the local university in town. Bobbi has a wonderful husband, but with his job, he is unable to contribute much financially, and he lacks carpentry skills to work around the house. Bobbi has always been able to fix cars, install a new roof, replace windows, and install flooring; basically, she can do almost anything. She hunts; she can gut her deer, and after a long day of fishing, she cleans and cooks the fish. I often wonder where she hides her cape. She is there for everyone 24/7. She takes care of her step-parents and has adopted an elderly man that she met while her mother-in-law was in a convalescent home recovering from surgery. It has been five years, and she goes over to help this elderly gentleman every week. However, with all her long list of attributes, she does have a few character flaws. She doesn’t think before she speaks and this gets her into a lot of trouble. Intelecom (2006) argued that “it is possible for positive self-esteem to get us into trouble. We should let self-esteem flow naturally from achievement.” She teaches communication skills; however, lacks these skills when it comes to her opinion. She doesn’t hold back even if it hurts someone’s feelings. She is the kind of person people love or hate; I love her.

Slide 3

I know a great deal about Bobbi on a personal level. She has had to fight for everything she has. She is a strong woman; she is a fighter. She is the dominant one in her relationship with her husband; he is a good father and a good companion. She does pretty much everything and is exhausted all the time. There have been a couple of times in conversation when she has been tired, and she has said, “Oh, I’ve got to go, I have to pick up my son his car is at the shop. Oops, I mean my husband.” More than once, she has made reference to him in this manner. I used to kid her and say “Now that was a Freudian slip.” She would say, “I know, Right?”  Freud would say Bobbi has an “Oedipus complex” and that it stems from childhood, and that she became her mother and married a man like her father.

Her mother is controlling but is a giver in the same breath. Her mom is awesome, but she can be intimidating.  Her dad is super nice; he is great with the kids, grandkids, and lets Bobbi’s mom make all the decisions and is the disciplinary of the family. Bobbi is the same way.

 From Jung’s perspective, there could be a feeling of inner emptiness or abstraction or she could be diagnosed with a mild case of personality disorder; Dissociative Identity Disorder; also called split personality or multiple personalities. I don’t believe she can fit completely into this category; however, I do believe she has minor symptoms and shows signs of psychological problems. She bears the weight of being the “man” of the house and doing all the womanly duties as well. She is the major breadwinner of the family, and she tends to everyone outside of her inner circle. I believe with the two personalities of man and woman, these roles take its toll on her and therefore wears her down emotionally, physically, cognitively, and socially.

The dilemma with this kind of random observation, Tanaka (2008) claimed that “…dissociation is a psychological phenomenon” (p. 255). Therefore, Tanaka (2008) stated therapists must “…stop focusing on the concept of personality and give up the integration of personality as its own goal…because it is difficult for us to assume a so-called ‘personality’ in the patients” (p, 255).  However, in regards to Bobbi, her two main personalities can be characterized by fragmentation, or splintering of identity rather than by complete separate identities.

As such, Bobbi is in an educational position where she is held to a higher level when it comes to social media because it reflects on how she teaches and the standards the university wants to portray. I have known that Bobbi speaks her mind and thus can create problems for her personally and professionally. Many times she has told me that she has been reprimanded at work for statements she has posted on *Facebook.* I wasn’t on social media at the time to see it.

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However, in Bobbi’s case, I think she is very close to both her parents but has many conflicts with her siblings. There are assessment tools designed today to evaluate the parent-child relationship especially in the area of mother and daughter relationships. The Adult Daughter-Mother Relationship Questionnaire (ADMRQ) “…draws on culturally embedded narratives of adult women on how their relationship with their mother developed over time, including both positive and negative aspects” (Cwikel, 2016, p. 265). This would be a great tool to understand the development of Bobbi’s personality fully.

Slide 5

What I found out on Bobbi’s profile on *Facebook* was that on her Intro Page she has two names. I never noticed this before I started this assignment. She has her married name and her full maiden name including her middle name. I found this to be very interesting, and I feel it strengthens my assessment that she does consciously or mostly unconsciously have two distinct personalities. I found on her page that she is bold and confrontational regarding two situations. One is a statement that boldly confronts a specific person, though she does not mention said person it states “Some people have been given the rope that ends up choking them. It is a tough lesson.” The other is about her middle school daughter and issues with the middle school in town. It blatantly confronts an issue that should clearly be between the school, her daughter and parents. She chose to display both on *Facebook* instead of communicating to the appropriate people and resolving issues. She wanted to stir the pot and cause drama. I am not this way. I chose to “unfollow” her. What I saw on *Facebook* showed me that the person that speaks before she thinks carries it to another level on social media giving way to a stronger behind the scenes persona; a *Facebook* mask if you will; thus creating a “*Facebook* identity.” According to Jung, he may call her episodes of “Facebook identity” as the shadow and that it can become negative (Cloninger, 2013, Sec. 3.2).

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The American Psychological Association (2010) stated that it is vital to provide valid and reliable assessments especially when it pertains to test data and test construction. When interpreting results, professionals need to be qualified and take into account all the factors to reduce biases. Cwikel (2016) stated that future studies to include psychometric evaluations such as the ADMRQ could help young women shed light on their personality from another perspective. Freud and Jung together describe Bobbi. She has childhood issues that may not be resolved and carried into adulthood, and she has distinct dual personalities male/female that carry her through her day. Regardless of her “*Facebook* identity” she is an amazing woman and one that I admire more than I can find fault.

Slide 7

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Student TWO: Laci Ocker

Hello everyone,

I have attached my video below as a Powerpoint Presentation. I am having difficulty uploading the video portion of presentation. I have reported the issue to tech support and will continue to try uploading based on their response.

In regard to this weeks assignment, I enjoy speaking with others and feel that Powerpoint allows me to add contrast and visual aids that help me to relay my information. In comparison, writings themselves can become boring and lose interest of an audience. I believe Powerpoint is best in helping to engage my audience.

We can use information provided to us via social media to understand individual behaviors (Carr & Hayes, 2015). Social cognitive and behavioral theories inform us that people learn by observing others.

It is believed that individuals with narcissistic tendencies may be more pertinent than others to post selfies on social media. A recent study indicated that self-reported frequency of selfie posts on social networking sites was significantly correlated with self-reported narcissism. I is also important to note, most social media sites allows individuals to choose, edit, and delete what is posted or who is allowed to access their posts. It has also been noted that individuals with low self-esteem may be more inclined to self-disclose (i.e., post a selfie) on social media as opposed to making overt displays of their appearance or personality during face-to-face interactions (Barry, et. al., 2017).

Research has suggested that narcissism is connected to a desire to have a large social network and a concern over getting the attention of others. Specific to sharing photos, as previously noted, narcissism is related to self-reported posting of selfies on social media, with the amount of time an individual spends editing photos of themselves on social networking sites and with the selection of profile pictures that highlight physical attractiveness  and or personality (Westaby, et. al., 2014).

References

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