



# The Life Cycle of Groups: Group Developmental Stage Theory

*Roy B. Lacoursiere*

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Janice H. Shopler and Maeda J. Galinsky, "The Life Cycle of Groups: Group Developmental Stage Theory. Roy Lacoursiere ," *Social Service Review* 56, no. 4 (Dec., 1982): 674-675. <https://doi.org/10.1086/644062>. MOST READ. Of all published articles, the following were the most read within the past 12 months. Avoiding Linguistic Neglect of Deaf Children. Humphries et al. Pathways to the Overrepresentation of Aboriginal Children in Canada's Child Welfare System. Trocm   et al. The Consequences of Decentralization: Inequality in Safety Net Provision in the Post-Welfare Reform Era. Bruch et a The goal of most research on group development is to learn why and how small groups change over time. To do this, researchers examine patterns of change and continuity in groups over time. Aspects of a group that might be studied include the quality of the output produced by a group, the type and frequency of its activities, its cohesiveness, the existence of group conflict.

The Life Cycle Of Grou by Roy B. Lacoursiere. Other editions.Â Let us know whatâ€™s wrong with this preview of The Life Cycle Of Groups by Roy B. Lacoursiere. Problem: Itâ€™s the wrong book Itâ€™s the wrong edition Other. Group development theory. As a group or organization forms, it goes through certain predictable stages, progressing from a collection of individuals to a cohesive group working for a common cause. Two dimensions are present in any group and influence its development-task functions and personal relations. Four stages of group development. Stage I: Forming. Â Personal relations are characterized by dependency on the leader to provide structure. Â Major task functions concern the orientation of group members to the work they are being asked to do. The issues have to be specified. Â Common behavior The goal of most research on group development is to learn why and how small groups change over time. To do this, researchers examine patterns of change and continuity in groups over time. Aspects of a group that might be studied include the quality of the output produced by a group, the type and frequency of its activities, its cohesiveness, the existence of group conflict.

Similar sequential models of group development have been proposed and there is some consensus that groups generally proceed through an initial period of ambiguity and insecurity leading to a period of tension, frustration, or conflict which, if resolved, leads to consensus and norm formation that, in turn, allows harmonious, interdependent work (in the performing stage) (Knowles & Knowles, 1972). Unfortunately, the evidence supporting these models of group development is limited (Smith, 1980) and more than 100 different theories of group change have been identified (Arrow, Poole, ...). The Life Cycle of Groups: Group Developmental Stage Theory. Article. Nov 1981. The development of group theory. Algebra index. History Topics Index. The study of the development of a concept such as that of a group has certain difficulties. Cauchy calls two permutations similar if they have the same cycle structure and proves that this is the same as the permutations being conjugate. Abel, in 1824, gave the first accepted proof of the insolubility of the quintic, and he used the existing ideas on permutations of roots but little new in the development of group theory. Group theory really came of age with the book by Burnside Theory of groups of finite order published in 1897. The two volume algebra book by Heinrich Weber (a student of Dedekind) Lehrbuch der Algebra published in 1895 and 1896 became a standard text. Keywords: organisational life-cycle, entrepreneurship, developmental stages, Russia. \* Manuscript received: 02.05.08, accepted: 12.12.08 (1 revision). Each life-cycle stage is supposed to consist of a unique configuration of variables related to the organisation's internal environmental characteristics. The most comprehensive reviews of works on the life-cycle theory are given by (Quinn/Cameron 1983; Smith et al. 1985; Hanks 1990; Lester et al. 2003). Thus, the cluster analysis resulted in distinguishing three groups of companies differing in values of the four major variables: age, organisation structure type, number of managerial hierarchy levels and formalization level.