RUNNING HEAD: Robin Williams

Robin Williams According to Our Six Theories of Personality

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Personality Theories

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Robin McLaurim Williams was born July 21st, 1951 in Chicago, Illinois. He was born to parents Robert and Laurie Williams, a CEO of Ford Motor Company, and a former model respectively (Robin Williams Biography, 2011). From here Robin has grown into one of the best known actors and standup comedians on the planet. His energetic, and random styling have made him an interesting character that I have decided would be an exciting venture to investigate how his personality fits into the six theories we have covered in class.

The first theory we covered in class was Psychoanalytic Theory. Going chronologically this will be the first theory I will hold Robin Williams to. “Putting him up to the light of Psychoanalytic Theory” if you will. Psychoanalytic theory is an aspect of personality theories first developed by Freud that covers a variety of aspects. Many of his theories cover development through the childhood years, which for the purposes of this paper are difficult to apply. Instead I am going to be focusing on his other theories that Robin Williams can be described under.

 Something that happens to everyone is something commonly called a “Freudian Slip.” This is when something is said that the person did not intend. It is said to be a reflection of the unconscious levels of the brain. Such an example would be “I am happy you didn’t stay” instead of “I am sorry you didn’t stay. (Cloninger, 2008, p. 35).” These are interesting because Robin Williams makes frequent use of them in his stand up routines. It is possible that he has had past experiences with them, and seeing their humor value has started using them (Robin McLaurim Williams, 2011).

 Freud is perhaps most famous for his development of the three structures of personality. The Id, Ego, and Superego all work together collectively, after developing over time, to form the functioning personality (Cloninger, 2008, p. 37-38).

 The Id is the most primitive of the three structures. The Id is in charge of all of our basic instincts such as food, sex, and the drive to live (Cloninger, 2008, p. 38). Being so primitive and innate it is most certain that this is instilled within Robin Williams. He obviously has not died yet so he has the strive to live. He obviously also eats, and has had children showing the Id to be present.

 The Ego is the middle man of the three structures. It is the rational counterpart to the impulsive, reckless forces of the Id, and the restrictive, ideological forces of the Superego (Cloninger, 2008, p. 40). Because Robin is a rational well put together adult, such that he is a family man and has a very successful career. Along with this, he has a lot of charity works especially with charities for children (Robin Williams, 2011). He has a successful grasp on the reality of the world around him showing that his Ego is in good balance with his Id and Superego.

 The final structure is the Superego. This is the internal representation of the rules placed upon us by our parents and society. It is how we know how to behave in civilized situations, instead of behaving off of the irrational impulses of the Id. As stated this is kept under control by the Ego, lest the restrictions over power our personality (Cloninger, 2008, p. 40). As I stated before, Robin Williams has shown that he is a rational adult; he is not overly reserved and has an effective perception of reality. Being able to maintain his successful career as an actor, while not falling prey to some of the scandals that many people in the public eye are known for (Robin Williams, 2011). His perception on what people think about him combined with his rational impulses, shows that his Id, Ego, and Superego are all in balance.

 However, though they may be in balance now, everyone has what is called the intrapschic conflict. Freud described this as the consistent struggle between the Id’s impulses, the Superego’s restrictions, and the Ego’s fight to maintain balance. The Ego is trying to repress the unacceptable desires of the other two forces (Cloninger, 2008, p. 41). For Robin Williams, a threat that could always be on the surface of returning would be his cocaine addiction he had in the 1970s and 1980s (Robin Williams, 2011). Though he has been clean since then, quitting drugs and staying off of them is no small feat. It is plausible that the urges are still below the surface.

Robin William’s past drug use feeds into Defense Mechanisms. These are mental defenses used to repress or change unwanted thoughts. They are also used to mask the thoughts, redirecting or distracting them (Cloninger, 2008, p. 43). Robin made use of the displacement defense mechanism when he used cocaine, and later on alcohol. Having bouts with depression and no sense of direction in his life, Robin transferred his energy of coping with life to his drug use, effectively moving his focus to something more bearable. It was not until his friend John Belushi died that he finally realized what he was doing and quit. Robin would also add “The Grand Jury didn’t hurt either (Robin McLaurim Williams, 2011)”

Robin’s use of drugs could also feed into Jung’s theory of the shadow. The shadow is described as the unconscious compliment to someone’s identity. Usually it is seen as dark or evil (Cloninger, 2008, p. 71).Robin’s drug use is the darker side to his otherwise bright and cheery personality. He knows he is not his true self when on them and that is why he admitted himself to treatment when he knew he had alcohol problems in 2006 (Robin Williams, 2011).

Now, before I said that Robin would add the comment “The Grand Jury didn’t hurt either” when discussing kicking the cocaine habit. This shows one of the more explicit aspects of Robin’s personality, humor. Humor is a safe expression of repressed conflict and is usually considered one of the most mature defense mechanisms (Cloninger, 2008, p. 36). Robin is a standup comedian on Broadway and an actor in comedies for a living. He is well known for his part of Genie in Aladdin where he applied his brand of humor to the character. They had over 16 hours worth of material when he was finished. Humor is something that he applies to everyday life (Robin Williams, 2011). I believe it is one of the reasons he has such a healthy personality all around because he has a great outlet for everything.
 Working in a similar vein as Freud, Adler and Erikson developed psychoanalytic-social theory of personality. Using the research started by Freud they built off his past work and added to it. The researchers also took it a step further by adding in how social and cultural influences affected the person’s personality (Cloninger, 2008, p. 98).

 One of Adler’s main components to his theory is the idea of striving from inferiority to superiority (Cloninger, 2008, p. 101-103). When Robin was younger he was bullied quite badly by his peers for being smaller and slightly pudgy. He described himself as “short, shy, chubby, and lonely.” Because of this he would find new routes home and play alone with his toy soldier army (Robin Williams Biography, 2011). Another interesting note is that he was voted least likely to succeed in High School (Robin McLaurim Williams, 2011). This probably also fed into his inferiority.

 However, because of this he gained Superiority Striving. This is his sense of going from your inferior stage to a superior one (Cloninger, 2008, p. 102). He became involved with athletics as he became older. With him being on both the wrestling and track teams he was able to gain some respect. Additionally, he would use humor in order to distract those that were bullying him. Seeing that this was a potent way of getting them to not harm him he began to develop this skill.

 This is where Adler’s theory of the Creative Self comes in to play. The creative self is the idea that the person actively chooses what they want to create within themselves who they want to be (Cloninger, 2008, p. 103). At his first college, Claremont, Williams began taking improvisation classes because it suited his quick wit. Seeing that he had talent he won a full scholarship to the prestigious Juilliard School in New York. Here he studied under great comedians and got his first big break with a character called Mork. Robin was so good at improvisation that scripts would be marked “Mork can go off here” showing that Robin was free to start ad-libbing what he pleased (Robin Williams, 2011). I do not know for sure if being a famous comedic actor was Robin’s Fictional Finalism, that is his ultimate goal for his creative self, but he took all of the right steps to get himself there.

 Adler’s styles of life are another key aspect to his theory. As stated when Robin was tormented as a younger child, he would take different routes to avoid the bullies, as well as seal himself inside his home playing alone. At this point in his life Robin was the Avoiding Type style of living. However, as he grew older and came into his own he transitioned into the Socially Useful Style of life. He has provided countless laughs and is a great actor at everything he is in (Robin Williams, 2011). Ergo, he is providing something back to society and is being useful with his life (Cloninger, 2008, p. 106-107).

 Robin had a very unique set up when it came to his siblings. It was almost akin to Freud in that he had two older brothers, one by each parent, who were already grown and out of the house by the time he was born. Unlike Freud however his parents did not have any more children. This lead to him essentially being an only child while being the youngest child at the same time. On top of this, he was for the most part neglected. His father was always away on business and his mother worked as well leaving him to be raised by a nanny (Robin Williams, 2011).

 Being neglected could be a reason why Robin is famous now. He wants everyone to look at him. However, I feel that is quite the stretch and instead feel that he grew up into a well adjusted adult due to the fact that later in his life, around age 16, both of his parents had early retirement and therefore were able to finally discover each other as a family (Robin Williams, 2011).

 The final portion of Adler’s theory is Social Interest (Cloninger, 2008, p. 113). Robin has a great deal of interest in social interests that revolve around children’s charities. He donated a great deal of time and money to these charities. He is also well educated and loves to interact with people. He takes great pride in his work always giving outstanding performances. Finally, he has found love in his children and his relationships with them (Robin Williams, 2011).

 Erikson’s 8 stages were the main portion of his theory and are what we will examine for this last section. For the first stage, Trust vs. Mistrust (Cloninger, 2008, p. 130), where a child learned to trust those around them, I would say that Robin probably had trouble in this stage. Robin was quoted as saying when he was younger he “found his father frightening” and his mother was away on work so the odds that he came out of this stage swimmingly seem slim to me (Robin Williams, 2011).

For Erikson’s second stage, Autonomy vs. Shame & Doubt (Cloninger, 2008, p. 130-131) Robin probably also had trouble here. He was picked on while he was younger and had no one to turn to leaving him full of shame. It was not until he came into his own that he was able to overcome this (Robin Williams, 2011).

 For Initiative vs. Guilt as well as Industry vs. Inferiority, Robin probably came out of them relatively well. These stages are where someone develops who they are and what they can do based upon how they are reinforced to do it (Cloninger, 2008, p. 131-132). He was able to make choices to develop his humor in order to escape those that would bully him. And in doing was able to produce laughter which everyone enjoyed (Robin Williams, 2011).

 Identity vs. Identity Confusion was probably the one that Robin had the easiest time with. Here the person pins down who they are as a person and come into their own as a person (Cloninger, 2008, p. 132). This is because he saw that he was good at improvisation and comedy, and everyone else could see it too. After being accepted to one of the best schools for this field, it took off from there and he was able to become the person that he is today (Robin Williams, 2011). Robin seems to have settled well into his life as an actor and comedian and so I would say he is in Identity Achievement.

###  For the sixth and seventh stages, Generativity vs. Stagnation and Integrity vs. Despair Robin is still in them and at the same time wrapping them up. These are the later staged in life concerned with finding love and make sure that you can still do something new with your life (Cloninger, 2008, p. 133). Robin has been married twice, right now being divorced from the second. So he may still striving for intimacy, it is unknown if it will last and if this means he successfully accomplished this stage. Additionally, he does a great deal of charity work, so this leads me to say that he is passing through stage seven on the positive end. However, as he is still moving through his life it is unknown what may yet happen (Robin Williams, 2011).

### The final stage may not yet have approached Robin. Integrity vs. Despair (Cloninger, 2008, p. 133). It is true, he is getting on in years however I cannot honestly say that he has experienced this stage yet as the information is inconclusive.

There are many varying theories as to why people have the personality that they do. Biological theories have been discussed as reasoning behind a person’s personality and being for quite some time. It is suggested that people are predisposed, through various genetic traits passed down through their parents, to be one thing or another. This frequently comes up in twin studies as they are a good indication of genetic links to personality factors (Biological Handout).

 In the case of Robin, it is difficult to pin down a lot of information on what may have been passed down to him from his parents, as there is not a lot of information on them. However, it is known that his mother was a model. This perhaps could have helped to give him his body type, Mesomorph, which will be discussed later. His father was an executive for Ford, this shows that he is very intelligent and has a strong desire to achieve (Robin McLaurim Williams, 2011). This may have passed down to Robin, as he is very successful in all of his work. Sadly, I have no where to find from his parents where he may have gotten his spontaneity and creativity from.

 Biological theory is unique in that it looks at what you physically do to your body that could cause alterations to your personality. One such alteration is through different forms of drugs that one may put into their body (Biological Handout). In the case of Robin Williams, during the 1970s and the 1980s he had developed a pretty severe cocaine addiction. Cocaine increases alertness, feelings of well-being and euphoria, energy and motor activity. Anxiety, paranoia and restlessness are also frequent. Because of this, they could have been an original start to his creativity. Even now, he is known for bopping around the stage during a stand up special and for having extremely high energy during them. His comedy also focuses on some paranoid or “crack-pot” theories, such as why we are really in Iraq, or what the government may be up to. This is not to suggest that he is still on cocaine, rather he quit after a good friend of his, John Belushi, died from cocaine use (Robin Williams, 2011). However, it is interesting to note that it may have had some lasting effects.

 Another additive drug that Robin Williams was on was alcohol. He admitted himself to a treatment center in 2006 and has sense been treated and released (Robin Williams, 2011). This addiction may have been fed from the pressures he was feeling from all of his projects as well as from a mild depression as a result of his marriage troubles. However, I do not wish to give this too much thought as it has not shown any lasting effects yet.

 As I mentioned before, Robin Williams has a Mesomorph body type. This means that he is more muscular and athletic compared to Ectomorphs (Slender and Skinny) and Endomorphs (Larger or “Rolly-Polly” people). Now, naturally this has started to decline as he has gotten older, however it is still roughly his body type. These body types tend to receive the most positive social inferences from others (Biological Handout). This could have fed into his success in life as everyone naturally built him up because they felt the attraction reaction to him versus had he been a larger or skinnier person.

 A final area to note about Robin’s personality under the biological theory is that diagnosed diseases and mental illnesses also affect out personalities. Robin has been diagnosed with Bi-Polar disorder. This is when a person has violent mood swings toward manic episodes and depressed episodes. I can imagine how it would affect him in his comedic career if he were depressed or moping. It is something that he struggles to keep under control (Robin Williams, 2011).

Trait theory was the fourth theory we looked at among the six examined in this class. This theory was developed by Gordon Allport and is a unique perspective when examining personality. The reason for this uniqueness is Trait Theory does not necessarily seek to explain why people have certain behaviors. Instead, this theory merely seeks to group people and to break down their personalities based upon the traits that describe them (Cloninger, 2008, p. 187-188).

 There are three main trait categories examined by Allport. Everyone has the ability to be described by every trait at some point to some capacity. So these categories seek to take the over 18,000 trait terms and place them into categories (Cloninger, 2008, p. 201).

 A Cardinal Trait is a trait that is so integrated into a person it dominated nearly everything else that a person does. It is a trait that can be used to describe someone nearly all the time (Cloninger, 2008, p. 201). For Robin Williams this trait would be “Spontaneous.”

 Robin Williams is known for his peerless improvisation skills. When on his first acting job as the robot Mort, he frequently was never given a formal script. Rather it was it written “Mort can go off here” and he was free to say what he please (Robin Williams, 2011). This was also parodied in the show “Family Guy” when the main character, Peter, had a scene where he was “Robin Williams jumping off point.” This gag consisted of Peter saying one line, such as “Politics” and Robin Williams would follow with a short made-up-on-the-spot rant (Wild, Iles, 2008).

 Central traits are those traits that can be used to describe a person most of the time. None of them are as dominate as a Cardinal trait, but they are all very well integrated into who the person is. Usually, this is a set of about six traits (Cloninger, 2008, p. 201). For Robin Williams the six traits that seem to fit him best are, offbeat, eccentric, energetic, daring, impulsive, and creative.

 The final area to look at is the idea of Secondary Traits. These are traits that are present only some of them time and only have an impact on a limited area of the personality (Cloninger, 2008, p. 201). Such a trait for Robin Williams is that he enjoys acting as a father figure in his movies. It is something in his personality but it does not overtly affect who he is as a person. Another would be his trade mark where he is clean shaven is his comedy roles and has a beard in his more serious ones (Robin McLaurim Williams, 2011). Again, while apart of his personality it has very little to do with who he is.

 Another aspect of Trait Theory is McCrae’s and Costa’s five factor theory. Those who study this look at the 18,000 traits that Allport examined in his theory and scale it down to fit all of them into only 5 traits. A person is scored high or low on either of the 5, and this is used to describe their personality (Cloninger, 2008, p. 237).

 The first trait is Extraversion. This trait is how outgoing a person is and how they respond to the world around them. For this I would say that Robin scored high on this scale. Someone who is high is very talkative, and passionate in everything they do. They also take highly active roles in things and are seen as very sociable (Cloninger, 2008, p. 237-238). Robin is always willing to meet new people, along with this he loves to employ his humor in every situation to brighten up a room and to evoke conversation. When a good friend of his, Christopher Reeve, was paralyzed he dressed as a doctor and proceeded to give a joking examination. It was the first time his friend smiled sense the accident. He wanted to bring the energy back to his friends to be more in their original element (Robin Williams, 2011).

 The second trait is Agreeableness. This trait is frequently called social adaptability or likability. It is the extent that someone will get along with others in a social setting (Cloninger, 2008, p. 238). Again for this scale Robin Williams would score high. The three main traits given in the book are Good-Natured, Soft Hearted, and Trusting. Robin has shown that he loved to give to charities and that he is a helpful and kind person. He started the Windfall Foundation. This is an organization that sees to raise money for various different charities. He does this because he believes in helping the less fortunate, which feels into his likableness (Robin Williams, 2011). This is why I would have him falling toward the higher end.

 The third trait is Neuoticism. This is used to describe people who are frequently troubled by negative emotions (Cloninger, 2008, p. 238-239). For this trait I would say that Robin falls toward the lower end of the scale but is still a bit closer to the middle. He has shown in the past to have had emotional troubles, and in his stand up he is highly emotional. His Bi-Polar Disorder may at times give him trouble with negative emotions, but I do not feel enough to impact his over all stature (Robin Williams, 2011). In his personal life he is usually very calm and collected, but I would still rank him a bit closer to the middle.

 Openness is the fourth of the 5 traits. This would defiantly be a trait that Robin scores high one. According to the textbook, Creative, Imaginative, and Prefers Variety are the three central themes to someone who scores high on this scale (Cloninger, 2008, p. 239-240). Again, I will bring up when he did the movie Aladdin. After he was finished there was over 16 hours of content generated from him, all of it original because he was given very little of a script to go from.

 The final area is conscientiousness. This is also known as Will to Achieve. The main areas for this are Hard Working, Ambitious and Responsible (Cloninger, 2008, p. 239). Looking at Robin’s life, how he worked through school, how he dedicated himself to developing his art. Even after no one expected anything from him he strived to become the professional that he is today. He has achieved so much more than anyone thought, because of this I ranked him high (Robin Williams, 2011).

One of the more predominate theories of personality is the Cognitive Social Learning theory. In this theory aspects such as modeling and expectancies are examined to determine how and why people learn certain aspects of their personality over others. Walter Mischel and Albert Bandura are the main two theorists behind the Cognitive Social Learning theory (Cloninger, 2008, p. 342).

 In order to examine someone’s expectancies it is first important to examine how someone describes themselves. This is called someone’s personal construct (Cloninger, 2008, p. 347). For Robin Williams, I feel as if he knows that, while he has amazing spontaneity and is humorous, he also knows he can be a little nutty as well. He is quoted saying “You are only given one spark of madness, you mustn’t lose it” showing that he encourages his brand of crazy creativity (Robin McLaurim Williams, 2011).

 Building off of this, Mischel developed the theory of competencies. This is what a person is able to do and what they think they can do (Cloninger, 2008, p. 348). As stated before, Robin is a brilliant comedian and actor. His competencies would lean toward acting and having live stand up shows, as he has had schooling and has demonstrated that he has a natural knack for them.

 Moving along with this, Expectancies, specifically behavior-outcome expectancies, are what the person expects to happen if they were to behave in a particular way (Cloninger, 2008, p. 348-349). For Robin Williams, he has the natural assumption that when he goes onto stage to perform a live show, people will laugh. He presents it in a way that people both expect from him and that he expects they want to see. He gives his spontaneous, and energetic behavior to produce the desired effect of laughter (Robin Williams Biography, 2011).

 One of Bandura’s better known areas of research is on that of modeling and vicarious learning. Taken from his Bo-Bo Doll study where he researched children’s aggression after they watched a model use aggression to a Bo-Bo doll, the idea was that by seeing someone behave aggressively, they would also behave aggressively. These studies were consistent with this theory (Cloninger, 2008, p. 361). While Robin was at Julliard College, he studied under the legendary John Houseman. While learning under him he modeled himself after him and used him for vicarious learning. He applied this to his life to become the successful actor he is today (Robin Williams Biography, 2011).

The final theory that was discussed in class, and the final theory that will be discussed in this paper is Humanistic Theory. Humanistic theory is a stark difference to what we as Christians believe. This theory is all about the self and using your internal feelings and actions to make a better version of yourself (Cloninger, 2008, p. 401).

 Carl Rogers, one of the developers of this theory, discusses the Organismic Valuing Process. This is the idea that within all of us there is an inner sense that will guide us to what we want to be, and what will provide us with the best possible growth (Cloninger, 2008, p. 404). For Robin Williams, this inner sense would have been pointed at his acting and comedic career. It lead him to take the classes at Julliard, and eventually to become the famous actor he is today. It also lead him to develop his spontaneous stand up comedy specials that he is well known for (Robin Williams Biography, 2011).

 Rogers developed his theory for how he described the fully functioning person. This is how he would describe someone who has a healthy personality and mentality. The first step to this is called Openness to Experience. Someone who has this openness is receptive to everything that comes their way in life. They do not block out certain aspects of their life using defenses (Cloninger, 2008, p. 405). Robin has always had an appetite for life. He meets challenges head on, such as his charity functions, and any acting role that he perceives is good. He gives it his all and never looks back. It is one of the main reasons that people enjoy acting with him and why he has become such a great actor (Robin Williams, 2011).

 The second area is Existential Living. Someone who has existential living takes each moment and lives it to its fullest. Experience is not rigid or structured, it is consistently changing (Cloninger, 2008, p. 405). Robin also has shown this. He takes on several different movie roles from serious to comical because he knows that he should not just stick with one type of role. One such role being Hector in “Being Human.” He also enjoys everything in life he can, from video games to rugby. He has gone so far as to name his daughter Zelda after one of his most loved game franchises. He is also highly involved and supportive of the Rugby Unions (Robin McLaurim Williams, 2011).

 Organismic Trusting is the third dynamic. Here the person relies on inner experiences to guide actions. They see their own inner needs and use it as the guideline (Cloninger, 2008, p. 405). Robin has shown this through his drug habits. After he got clean from being addicted to cocaine, he knew the dangers and destructive powers of drugs. Seeing this, he checked himself into a help clinic after he was becoming an alcoholic in 2006. He relied on his past experiences and his inner sense to do this (Robin Williams Biography, 2011).

 Experiential Freedom is when a person as at each moment the ability to choose their own actions (Cloninger, 2008, p. 405). I cannot think of an instance in Robin’s life where he was not able to choose his own course. He can choose everything he does professionally, from movie roles to where and when he will tour, and in his home and family life there are no perceivable restrictions. Therefore he meets this as well.

 The final aspect is Creativity. This type of person finds new ways of living each moment (Cloninger, 2008, p. 406). Through out this paper I have discussed how Robin is a very creative and talented person; I think it is obvious why he meets these criteria in his professional and personal life.

 The final aspect of personality theories I am going to apply to Robin is Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs. This is a pyramid structure of what he describes every person needs to be a fully functioning person. They must be met from bottom up, and if one is not met nothing above it can be met either (Cloninger, 2008, p. 430).

 The first tier is physiological needs. Things such as food, air, water, all of the very base level needs that people need to live. This need technically needs to be consistently met, as after you eat you become hungry again and so on (Cloninger, 2008 p. 430). I would say there is nothing preventing Robin from meeting this need at all.

 Safety needs are a persons need to have a safe situation to live in. This involves such things as shelter and people you can trust (Cloninger, 2008 p. 430). Like physiological needs these usually arise again and again and must be met in many different ways. For Robin, he has a nice house and a loving family. Therefore, there is no reason to believe that his safety needs are not met on a somewhat consistent basis. Surly there are those who do not like them. For instance, an audience heckler at a stand up show may pose a threat to his safety, but these at most are small matters and quickly resolved.

 Belongingness and Love Needs are the second to last tier of needs that must be met by a person. This is that a person has the sense that they need to belong to a crowd and have someone to love them (Cloninger, 2008 p. 431). In the area, Robin has children and many friends. Robin might be suffering in this area due to the fact that in 2008 his wife, Marsha Garces, filed for divorce (Robin Williams, 2011). His love may be low making it difficult to move into the upper tiers, but I think he still has enough sense of belonging from his children and friends that he is able to move up.

 The final level of deficiency needs is Esteem Needs. This is the need to have self respect and the respect of others resulting from our actual abilities and achievements. If these needs are not met we tend to feel inferior, and we lose self confidence and our sense of worth to the world (Cloninger, 2008 p. 432). For Robin, this would mostly likely be met through his outstanding acting career. Robin is well known for his spontaneous acting abilities, and is well known for various roles in movies such as “Mrs. Doubtfire” and “Aladdin (Robin McLaurim Williams, 2011).”

 Moving on from the Deficiency the second and final tier is known as being needs. Maslow described these needs as higher-level motivations in which the person has the need to actualize or fulfill their potential. This level, unlike the previous, is specific to the individual. Everyone has their own “fullest potential (Cloninger, 2008 p. 432-433).” This is difficult to pin down on a person, especially Robin Williams. Only the person truly knows what they need to be self actualize. I am going to say he is, at least striving to fulfill this. I am sure there are particular roles he wants to play in a movie or certain charities he wants to be apart of to be self actualized, but again it is hard to tell (Robin Williams, 2011).

 Though we could only look at six of the different theories over the coarse of this class, I feel that is enough. There are so many different ways to describe a person that there is almost an infinite possibility for a new theory. After examining Robin Williams according to these three theories, I feel as though he is a very well adjusted person who is living a very pleasurable life. He would have one of the healthy personalities that most of our theorists developed as a part of their theory. Yes, he may have some problems but that is just a part of life. The important thing is that he does not let it overwhelm him, and the same needs to apply to us.

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