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Community development

Assignment 1

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Transforming Education; Transforming Lives



www.uwtsd.ac.uk

Introduction

A community is a group of people who share common values, interests, and geographical location (MacQueen et al., 2001).



Community development plan

- Community development is a collaborative process in which individuals unite to address matters of significance to them and adopt appropriate measures.
- Community development is fundamentally based on the principle that every individual should have equal access to health, well-being, prosperity, fairness, and opportunities (SCDC, 2019).

Youth Crime in Lewisham

- Youth crime includes activities such as theft, vandalism, drug offenses, and violent crimes.
- Recent statistics show a concerning rise in youth crime rates in Lewisham
- 284 victims of serious youth violence in Lewisham (crimeraite.co.uk, 2024).

Demographics

Population- 312,800

Ethnicity:

White: 41.5%

Black African and
Caribbean: 27.2%

Asian: 9.3%

Mixed Ethnic Groups: 6.4%

Other Ethnic Groups: 15.6%
(Office for National Statistics,
2022)



Demographics

Religion:

- Christianity: 52.8%
- Islam: 6.4%
- No religion: 27.2%
- Other religions: 13.6% (Lewisham-central.localstats.co.uk, 2024)

Key issues

- High Youth Crime Rates
- Family and Social Issues
- Gang Activity and Peer Pressure
- Lack of Community Resources
- Educational Challenge
- Safety and Public Perception(Lewisham Safer Neighborhood Board, 2024)

Principles Supporting Community Development

- Ensuring all community members have a voice and are represented
- Encouraging individuals and groups to take control of their development.
- Fostering partnerships and cooperative efforts among various stakeholders (Master, 2022).

Principles Supporting Community Development



Figure created by Author based on Brown & Hannis, 2012, p.84

- Equity- Ensuring fair access to resources and opportunities for all community members.
- Participation- Encouraging active engagement and involvement from community members (GOV.UK, 2017).

Stakeholders

Working together is the most appropriate supporting community development principle that can be part of this development program

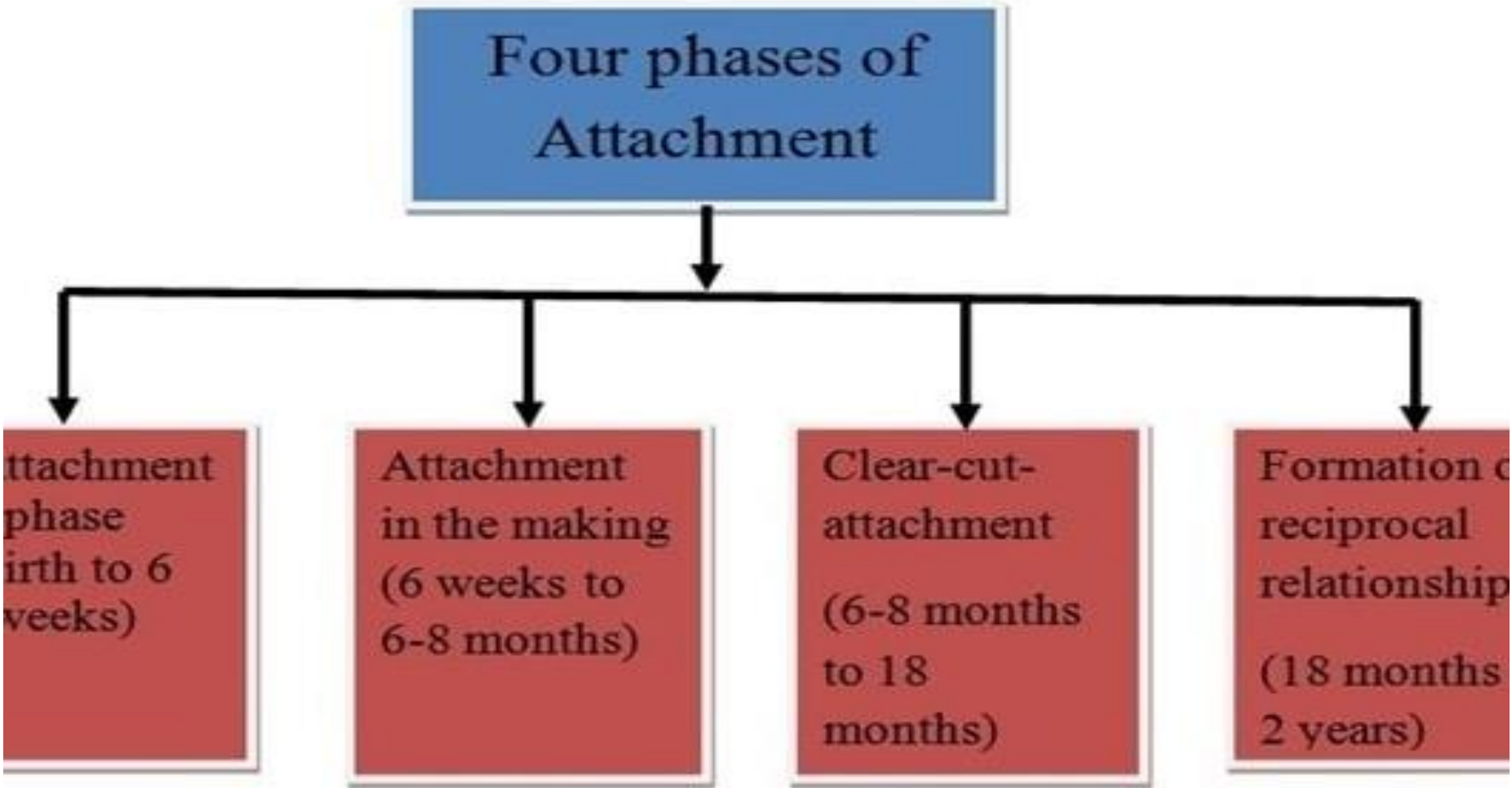
- Local Government
- Community Members
- Non-Profit Organizations
- Educational Institutions
- Law Enforcement
- Health Services
- Religious and Cultural Organizations



Maslow's hierarchy of needs

(McLeod, 2024)

Four phases of Attachment



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graph TD; A[Four phases of Attachment] --> B[Attachment phase (birth to 6 weeks)]; A --> C[Attachment in the making (6 weeks to 6-8 months)]; A --> D[Clear-cut attachment (6-8 months to 18 months)]; A --> E[Formation of reciprocal relationship (18 months to 2 years)];
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Attachment phase
(birth to 6 weeks)

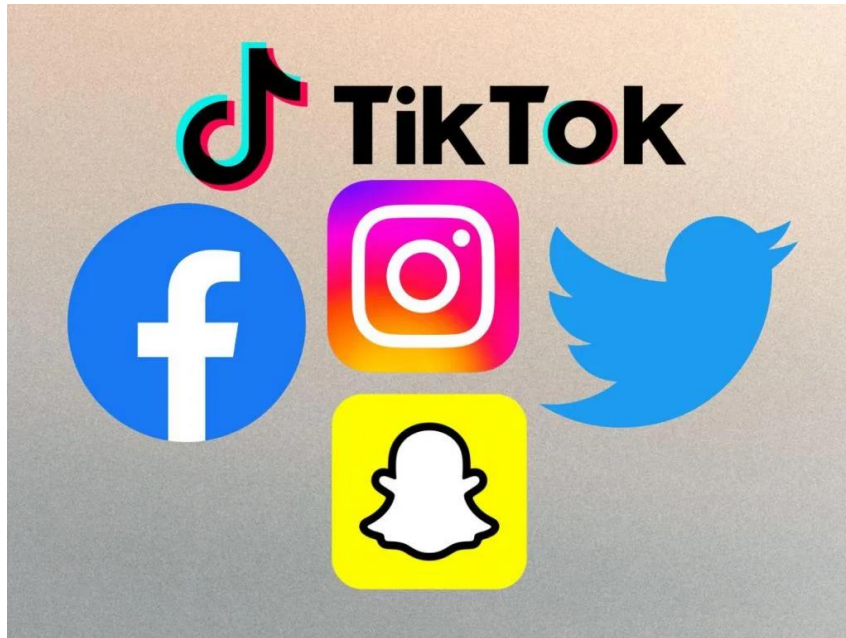
Attachment in the making
(6 weeks to 6-8 months)

Clear-cut attachment
(6-8 months to 18 months)

Formation of reciprocal relationship
(18 months to 2 years)

(Art Psychotherapy, n.d.)

Use of digital media and technologies for community development



#BeTheChange

- ✓ Social Media Campaigns
- ✓ Mobile Apps
- ✓ Online Workshops and Webinars
- ✓ Digital Storytelling
- ✓ Email Newsletters

Legislation and policy impact the support and growth of a community



(Aklimaahmed, 2014)

- Youth Crime Action Plan – focuses on early intervention, prevention, and rehabilitation (Home Office, 2009).
- Children's Act 1989
- Quality Act
- Human Rights Act
- Youth Justice Board – oversees the youth justice system, promoting effective interventions (Youth Justice Board, 2019).

Barriers to community development

- Limited Funding
- Lack of Community Engagement:
- Fragmented Efforts
- Stigma and Mistrust
- Safety Concerns

Recommendations

- Increased funding and resources
- Community Engagement Methods
- Educational and Career Options
- Support Services
- Mentors and Positive Roles
- Safe Spaces and Recreation
- Awareness and Education Campaigns

Conclusion

To lower teenage crime in Lewisham, social, economic, and educational factors must be taken into consideration. Funding, resources, safe spaces and leisure, mentorship and positive role models, and youth development awareness activities are among the priorities. Monitoring and evaluation are essential to the progress and success of a project. Everybody has to look out for and help Lewisham's young.

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