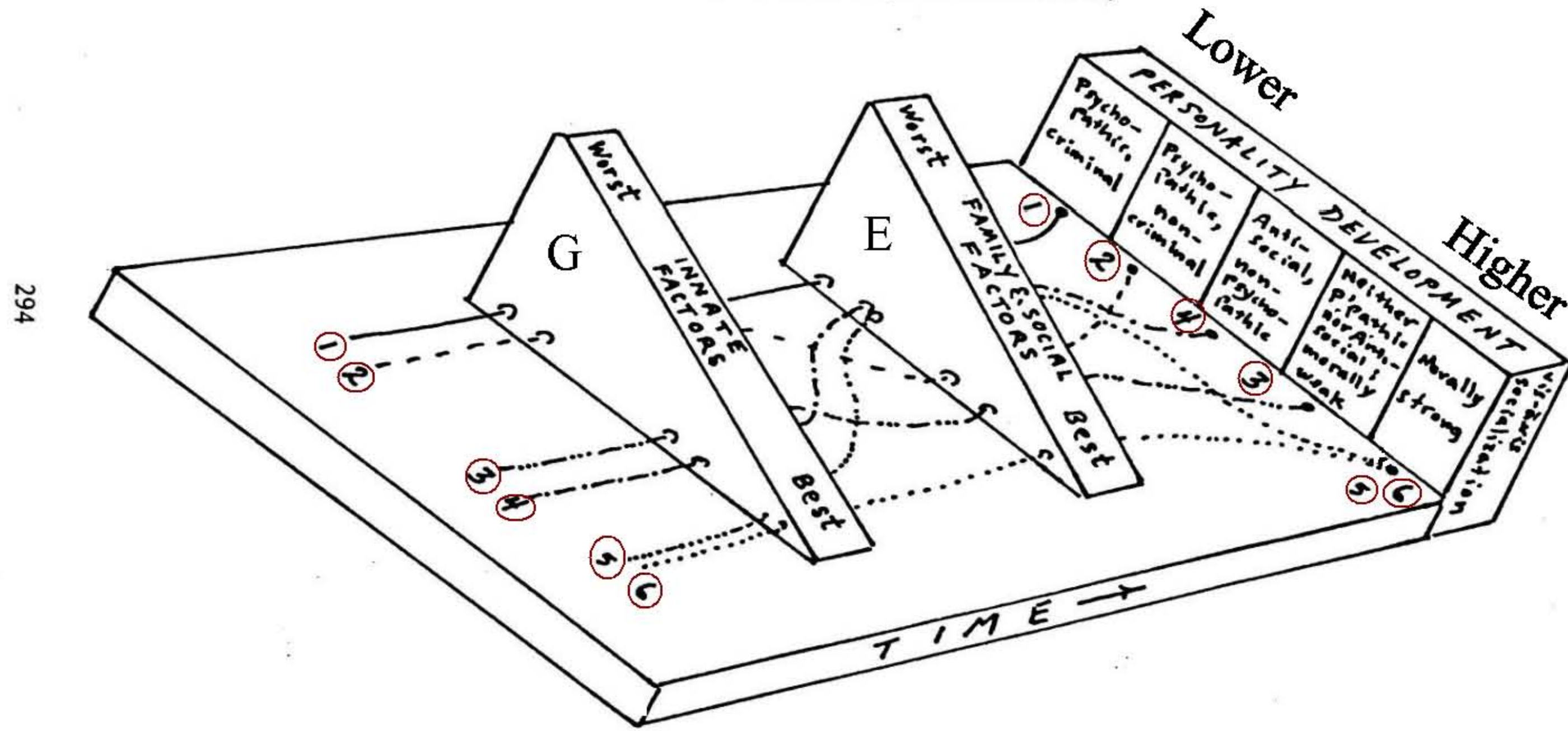


Stone's (1993) diagram illustrates the type of interaction between genetics & environment Dabrowski described.

Figure 25: The Interaction of Innate (Genetic/Constitutional) and Environmental (Intrafamilial/Social) Factors in the Formation of the Moral Aspects of Personality



- < Lower >
- ① Psychopathic/ and Criminal
- ② Psychopathic/ Not criminal
- ④ Antisocial/ Not psychopathic
- Not antisocial
- ③ Not psychopathic But morally weak
- ⑤⑥ **Morally Strong**
- < Higher >

From: Stone, M. H. (1993). Abnormalities of personality, New York: W.W. Norton Co.

Stone's "levels" mirror Dabrowski's approach as illustrated below:

- < Lower >
- Psychopathic and criminal – fits into Dabrowski's lower sublevel of Level I
- Psychopathic but not criminal – fits into Dabrowski's lower sublevel of Level I
- Antisocial but not psychopathic – fits into Dabrowski's lower sublevel of Level I
- Not antisocial, not psychopathic, but morally weak – Dabrowski's higher sublevel of Level I – the “average person” – see next slide
- Morally Strong – fits into Dabrowski's higher of Levels of multilevelness (III and above)
- < Higher >

Stone also mirrors Dabrowski's approach to development:

- Route 1 – worst genetics + worst environment = Worst Outcome: Psychopathic and criminal
 - Routes 3 and 4 – when genetics are equivocal, environment plays the deciding role.
 - Route 5 – best genetics + poor environment = Morally strong
 - Route 6 – best genetics + best environment = Morally strong
-
- To paraphrase Dabrowski, the worst genetics cannot be helped by the best environment and the best genetics cannot be held back by a poor environment. The outcome of equivocal genetics depends greatly on the nature of the environment encountered.

My understanding of Dabrowski's approach was that he saw the "average person" as having a "weaker morality" because it is:

- Based upon an external set of mores (based upon social values and mores that are simply accepted / socialized).
- No individual hierarchy of values (HoV). HoV mirrors society's values, "If it is good for the group, it is good for me."
- Values more susceptible to changes based upon external influence, for example, if the group changes its mind, so do I. Values and behavior very influenced by peer pressure.
- Accepted values have not received a critical and individual scrutiny based upon the individual's "emotional moral compass."

Contrast with “strong morality:”

- Based upon an internalized set of mores – social values and mores are considered and critically examined – the “best” are incorporated into an individual and autonomous hierarchy of values. Societal values that are perceived as “lower” by the individual are REJECTED.
- Values are **chosen** by the individual and thus reflect his or her idealization of personality, “These values, MY values, reflect the person who I aspire to be” – my personality ideal.
- As personality develops, behavior increasingly reflects this individualized hierarchy of values and hierarchy of aims and becomes very resistant to external influence – these people may die for their beliefs, rather than renounce them.
- Characterizes the upper levels of Dabrowski’s approach, Levels IV and V in particular.

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- This figure is from page 294 of Abnormalities of Personality, 1993, published by W. W. Norton Co.