**The Learning Theory** – Millar & Dollard

* Learning theory suggests that all infants are born as ‘\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_’
* All behaviour is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_rather than innate. In other words, attachment is a result of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_rather than nature.
* The infant becomes attached to a caregiver because it ‘learns’ that the caregiver will meet their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (nutritional) needs (i.e.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_).
* The learning of attachments occurs through \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, which is learning by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* The child learns to associate their caregiver with their needs being met (i.e. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)
* Over time an association is formed and the food-giver becomes a source of pleasure regardless of whether \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ they provide food.

A01 - description

A01 - description

Classical conditioning schedule

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Key words

**After**

**Before**

**During**

A01/A03

**Potential Evaluation**

A03 - evaluation

**Point:**

**Evidence:**

**Evaluation:**

**Point:**

**Evidence:** **For example, in Schaffer and Emerson’s (1964) study,** the first attachments formed by 39% of babies was not to the person who carried out physical care, such as feeding and changing the baby’s nappy. Attachments were more likely to be formed to those individuals who are sensitive and rewarding to the baby and who play with the infant.

**Evaluation:**

**Point: Learning theory can provide an adequate explanation of how attachments form**

**Evidence:** For example we do seem to learn in a number of ways through association in real-life (e.g. we associate certain situations with danger when we develop phobias even if that association is irrational). Watson & Raynor conditioned Little Albert to have a phobia of fluffy animals and toys through classical conditioning by banging a metal bar whenever he interacted with the fluffy toy.

**Evaluation: This is positive** because