Life Cycle Changes - Father/Son Relationships

Age 18 – 23 'Individualisation'	Age 23 - 28	Age 28 - 33	Age 35 – 45 'Deadline Decade'	Age 45 - 60	Age 60 - 65 Repeat 'Deadliners'
Separating from families	Keeping options open	Urgent focus on direction of life	Turbulent life stage	Less competitive	Friends begin to die
 If straight into family business - submit to dad at a time when can least tolerate it 	• Want stability	Re-appraise the past	 Realisation that not all dreams will come true 	Greater internal locus of control	 Retirement looms (Retirement = Death)
Memories of adolescent conflicts with father	 Feel pressured to 'grow up' - find direction, marry 	Looking to the future	Fewer options	More philosophical	Compelled to demonstrate dominance over others
Energy & drives at a high point	 Testing identity in relationships 	Committed to occupational choices that have been made	 Recognition of own mortality - 'time is running out' 	Value possessions less	Striving to give meaning to life
		More secure	 Transition in families - kids grow up, leave home 	More objective	Questioning people only reinforce self doubt and threaten control
		More realistic	 Don't necessarily know what they want when they 'grow up' 	Willing to teach & mentor	
		 Concerned with recognition and advancement 	 Urgently seeking independence & recognition 		
			 Struggling with dependence, sexuality & authority 		
			Stormy relationships with wives & mentors		

* Based on work undertaken by Harvard psychologist Levinson, extracted from 'The Survival Guide for Business Families' - Gerald Le Van

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