Richard J. Bonnie LL.B.
University of Virginia School of Law

Key Themes and Future Directions
Have social changes lengthened the window of vulnerability for young adults and, if so, what can be done to provide necessary interventions and supports?
Rapid changes in communication technology are especially salient for young adults.

- Opportunities for health services
- Opportunities for health promotion
- Opportunities for facilitating self-expression, providing social support and enhancing well-being
Corporate Social Responsibility

Product manufacturers and entertainment media have an obligation to assist collective efforts to reduce risks to health and safety of adolescents and young adults.
A Challenge for Research: The Missing Half
Increasing Mental Health Awareness and Facilitating Crisis Interventions
Thinking about the Transitional Ages of Adulthood

- The missing rite of passage
- There is no longer a single “age of majority”
- Supporting transitions to adult roles and enhancing autonomy (health care privacy, voting)
- Vulnerability (e.g. driving, alcohol, tobacco, marijuana)
- Eligibility for supports and services of modern state (education, health care, economic support)
A Final Thought

- 40/ 50 is the new 35
- 60/ 65 is the new 50
- Is 21/25 is the new 18?