Psychological Disorders

Chapter 14

Consider:

- List all the disorders you know (clinical names if possible)
- What movies, books, TV shows (etc.) have you seen that portray clinical disorders?
- What makes psychological disorders abnormal?

What is “abnormal”? What is “normal”?

- Characteristics
  - Statistical deviance
  - Cultural deviance
  - Emotional distress
  - Dysfunction; maladaptive behavior
- Psychological disorder as an illness
  - Medical model
  - Biological, cognitive, social, and cultural factors
- Labeling effects and Rosenhan et al. (1973) study
  - How long until doctors recognize ptnts aren’t “abnormal”?

Classification of disorders

- DSM-IV-TR: Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders 4th Ed w/ revisions
- Five axes:
  - Axis I: clinical disorders
  - Axis II: personality disorders
  - Axes III – V: medical conditions, environmental problems, global functions
- Terminology
  - Diagnosis
  - Prognosis
  - Etiology: cause of an illness
  - Epidemiology: prevalence (pp458)
Psychological disorders

- Anxiety disorders
- Somatoform disorders
- Disorders of mood
- Dissociative disorders
- Schizophrenia
- Personality disorders

Anxiety disorders

- Generalized anxiety disorder
  - Feeling of chronic, excessive apprehension
  - Not tied to one specific threat
  - Physical symptoms
- Panic disorder
  - Specific intense fear w/o realistic danger
  - Recurrent: Interferes with everyday behavior
  - Panic attacks: unexpected and feared

Specific phobic disorder
- Animals – spiders
- Locations – heights
- Social situations

Agoraphobia
- Fear of going out to public

Phrenophobia:
- Fear of going crazy

Epidemiology:
Portion of population reporting each phobia (%)

- Bugs, snakes, bats
- Water
- Storms
- Tunnel or bridges
- Public transport
- Eat in public
- Public speak
- Closed places
- Heights
- Public transport

[Bar chart showing percentage of population reporting phobias]
Obsessive-compulsive disorder

- Obsessions: thoughts
- Compulsions: actions
  - Rituals to temporarily relieve anxiety
  - Hand-washing
  - Locking door
- Prevalence:
  - Anxiety: 17%
  - OCD: 2.5%

Eating disorders

- Anorexia nervosa
  - Weighs 85% or less of normal weight
  - Denies dangers of low weight
  - Terrified of becoming fat
  - Can also have depression, anxiety, withdrawal, OCD
- Bulimia Nervosa
  - Binge-purge cycles
  - Can have normal body weight
- Prevalence
  - Anorexia: 1% (only 10% of people with anorexia are male)
  - Bulimia: 4%

Newsweek headline 11/05

- Fighting Anorexia: No One to Blame
- The age of their youngest patients has slipped to 9 years old, and doctors have begun to research the roots of this disease. Anorexia is probably hard-wired, the new thinking goes, and the best treatment is a family affair.

Somatoform disorders

- Somatization disorder
  - History of physical complaints
  - Appear to be psychological origin
- Conversion disorder
  - Paralysis or weakness
  - No clear physical cause and no correspondence to neural substrate
  - “Glove anesthesia”
- Hypochondriasis
  - Excessive concern over disease
Disorders of mood

- E.g.: Abraham Lincoln, Marilyn Monroe, Ernest Hemingway, Winston Churchill, Janis Joplin, Leo Tolstoy

- Major depressive episode
  - Persistent feeling of sadness and despair
  - Loss of interest in previous source of pleasure
  - Changes in weight, sleep, activity, energy, concentration

- Bipolar disorder
  - Depression plus manic state

- Prevalence:
  - Depression: 7 to 17%
  - Bipolar: 1%+

[Links for further reading]
http://mixednuts.net/depression-famous.html
### Etiology of mood disorders

- Twin studies: Concordance rates
  - Identical twins: 67%
  - Fraternal twins: 15%
- Neurochemical factors
  - Norepinephrine
  - Serotonin
- Cognitive factors
  - Learned helplessness
  - Rumination of negative thoughts

### Dissociative disorders

- Loose contact with portion of consciousness resulting in disrupting sense of identity
- Dissociative amnesia
  - Loss of memory for personal information
- Dissociative fugue
  - Dissociative amnesia with “flight” or escape
- Dissociative identity disorder
  - Coexistence of different personalities
  - Usually unaware of multiple personalities
  - Each personality has own name, traits, and behaviors
  - E.g.: Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde; Sybil

### Dissociative identity disorder

- Is it a legitimate disorder?
- Co-occurs with other disorders
- Origin unknown
- Able to be faked
- Research support for existence: Differences in optical tests with distinct personalities!

[Picture of movie “Sybil”]

### Dissociative identity disorder

[Image of movies: Fight Club, Identity, Two Thumbs Up]
Schizophrenia

- Distorted thought and perception
- Symptoms
  - Delusions and irrational thought
  - Deterioration in routine functioning
  - Hallucinations
  - Disturbed emotion
- Categories of symptoms
  - Positive: added
  - Negative: removed
- Prevalence: 1 to 1.5% (1 out of 100 people!)

Types of schizophrenia

- Paranoid type
  - Delusions of grandeur, persecution, and jealousy
- Catatonic type
  - Frozen or rigid posture
  - Extreme resistance
- Disorganized type
  - Inappropriate behavior and emotions
  - Incoherent language
- Undifferentiated type
  - Mix of other types

Paranoid Schizophrenia

- http://www.schizophrenia.com/famous.htm

Schizophrenia

- John Hinckley, Jr.: attempted to assassinate President Reagan
  - To Jodi Foster: “Over the past seven months I've left you dozens of poems, letters and love messages in the faint hope that you could develop an interest in me. Although we talked on the phone a couple of times I never had the nerve to simply approach you and introduce myself. [...] the reason I'm going ahead with this attempt now is because I cannot wait any longer to impress you.”
Schizophrenia

- Dopamine hypothesis
- Enlarged ventricles
- Loss of gray matter in frontal and parietal lobes

Personality disorders

- Chronic, enduring pattern of behavior
- Anxious/fearful
  - Dependent personality disorder
- Odd/eccentric
  - Schizoid and schizotypal personality disorder
  - Paranoid personality disorder
- Dramatic/impulsive
  - Histrionic and narcissistic personality disorder
  - Borderline personality disorder
  - Antisocial personality disorder
Antisocial personality disorder
- Psychopath or sociopath (previous terms)
- Disregard for rights of others
  - Fail to conform to social norms/laws
  - Repeated lying
  - Impulsive
  - Aggressive
  - Reckless
  - Lack of remorse
- Prevalence: 2 to 5% (5:1 male:female ratio)
- Other statistics:
  - 80% abuse drugs and/or alcohol
  - ~65-80% legal offenders have ASPD

Hare’s Psychopath Checklist
- Scoring: 0-absent; 1-maybe; 2-definitely there
- Interpersonal
  - Superficial charm, grandiose, pathological lying, manipulative
- Affective
  - Lacks remorse, shallow affect, callous, no responsibility
- Lifestyle
  - Parasitic lifestyle, lacks goals, impulsivity, irresponsibility
- Antisocial
  - Poor behavioral control, early juvenile delinquency

ASPD: Ted Bundy

Hollywood ASPD
- High intelligence
- Successful
- Somewhat vein, stylish
- Calm, calculating, in control
### Etiology: ASPD

- **Twin concordance rates**
  - Identical: 50%
  - Fraternal: 20%
- **Neurochemical factor**
  - Testosterone
  - Serotonin
- **Brain functions:**
  - Frontal lobe
  - Limbic system
- **Social-Cognitive**
  - Rejection
  - Harsh parenting
- **Deficient arousal**
  - Low resting HR
  - Slow EEG
  - Less fear/anxiety
  - Diminished startle

### Borderline personality disorder

- **Affect**
  - Depression
  - Intense anger (quick mood shifts)
  - Fear of abandonment
- **Cognition**
  - Impaired perception of self
  - Distorted thoughts: Magical thinking, omnipotence
- **Impulsive**
  - Self-destructive behavior
  - Substance abuse
  - Sexual deviance
- **Relationships**
  - Intense, unstable personal relationships

### List of psychological disorders discussed

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Movies

- Beautiful mind
- Patch Adams
- What about Bob
- Memento
- Deuce Bigalow
- Girl interrupted
- As good as it gets
- Me, myself and Irene
- Clockwork Orange
- Mulholland Drive
- Secret Window

- Monk
- Heros
- House
- Law and Order
- CSI
- Lifetime tv
- MTV true life
- One who flew over the cockoo’s nest