

ANN M. KRING • SHERI L. JOHNSON



# Abnormal Psychology

THE SCIENCE AND TREATMENT OF PSYCHOLOGICAL DISORDERS

THIRTEENTH EDITION

GERALD DAVISON • JOHN NEALE

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# DSM-5 Diagnoses

## Neurodevelopmental Disorders

### Intellectual Disability

Intellectual Disability (Intellectual Development Disorder)

### Communication Disorders

Language Disorder / Social (Pragmatic) Communication Disorder / Speech Sound Disorder / Childhood Onset Fluency Disorder (Stuttering)

### Autism Spectrum Disorder

Autism Spectrum Disorder

### Attention-Deficit / Hyperactivity Disorder

Attention-Deficit / Hyperactivity Disorder

### Specific Learning Disorder

### Motor Disorders

Developmental Coordination Disorder / Stereotypic Movement Disorder / Tourette's Disorder / Persistent (Chronic) Motor or Vocal Tic Disorder / Provisional Tic Disorder

## Schizophrenia Spectrum Disorders

Schizophrenia / Schizotypal (Personality) Disorder / Schizophreniform Disorder / Brief Psychotic Disorder / Delusional Disorder / Schizoaffective Disorder

## Bipolar and Related Disorders

Bipolar I Disorder / Bipolar II Disorder / Cyclothymic Disorder

## Depressive Disorders

Disruptive Mood Dysregulation Disorder / Major Depressive Disorder / Persistent Depressive Disorder (Dysthymia) / Premenstrual Dysphoric Disorder

## Anxiety Disorders

Panic Disorder / Agoraphobia / Specific Phobia / Social Anxiety Disorder (Social Phobia) / Generalized Anxiety Disorder / Separation Anxiety Disorder / Selective Mutism

## Obsessive-Compulsive and Related Disorders

Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder / Body Dysmorphic Disorder / Hoarding Disorder / Trichotillomania (Hair-Pulling Disorder) / Excoriation (Skin-Picking Disorder)

## Trauma- and Stressor-Related Disorders

Reactive Attachment Disorder / Disinhibited Social Engagement Disorder / Acute Stress Disorder / Posttraumatic Stress Disorder / Adjustment Disorders

## Dissociative Disorders

Depersonalization-Derealization Disorder / Dissociative Amnesia / Dissociative Identity Disorder

## Somatic Symptom and Related Disorders

Somatic Symptom Disorder / Illness Anxiety Disorder / Conversion Disorder / Psychological Factors Affecting Other Medical Conditions / Factitious Disorder

## Feeding and Eating Disorders

Pica / Rumination Disorder / Avoidant/Restrictive Food Intake Disorder / Anorexia Nervosa / Bulimia Nervosa / Binge Eating Disorder

## Elimination Disorders

Enuresis / Encopresis

## Sleep-Wake Disorders

Insomnia Disorder / Hypersomnolence Disorder / Narcolepsy / Obstructive Sleep Apnea Hypopnea / Central Sleep Apnea / Sleep-related Hypoventilation / Circadian Rhythm Sleep-Wake Disorders / Nightmare Disorder / Rapid Eye Movement Sleep Behavior Disorder / Restless Legs Syndrome / Non-Rapid Eye Movement Sleep Arousal Disorders

## Sexual Dysfunctions

Erectile Disorder / Female Orgasmic Disorder / Delayed Ejaculation / Early Ejaculation / Female Sexual Interest/Arousal Disorder / Male Hypoactive Sexual Desire Disorder / Genito-Pelvic Pain / Penetration Disorder

## Gender Dysphoria

Gender Dysphoria in Children, in Adolescents, or Adults

## Disruptive, Impulse-Control, and Conduct Disorders

Oppositional Defiant Disorder / Intermittent Explosive Disorder / Conduct Disorder

## Substance Use and Addictive Disorders

Alcohol Use Disorder / Amphetamine Use Disorder / Cannabis Use Disorder / Stimulant Use Disorder / Other Hallucinogen Use Disorder / Inhalant Use Disorder / Nicotine Use Disorder / Opioid Use Disorder / Phencyclidine Use Disorder / Sedative, Hypnotic, or Anxiolytic Use Disorders / Tobacco Use Disorder / Gambling Disorder

## Neurocognitive Disorders

Delirium / Mild Neurocognitive Disorder / Major Neurocognitive Disorder

## Personality Disorders

Antisocial Personality Disorder / Avoidant Personality Disorder / Borderline Personality Disorder / Narcissistic Personality Disorder / Obsessive-Compulsive Personality Disorder / Schizotypal Personality Disorder / Dependent Personality Disorder / Schizoid Personality Disorder / Paranoid Personality Disorder / Histrionic Personality Disorder

## Paraphilic Disorders

Exhibitionistic Disorder / Fetishistic Disorder / Frotteuristic Disorder / Pedophilic Disorder / Sexual Masochism Disorder / Sexual Sadism Disorder / Transvestic Disorder / Voyeuristic Disorder

## Conditions for Further Study

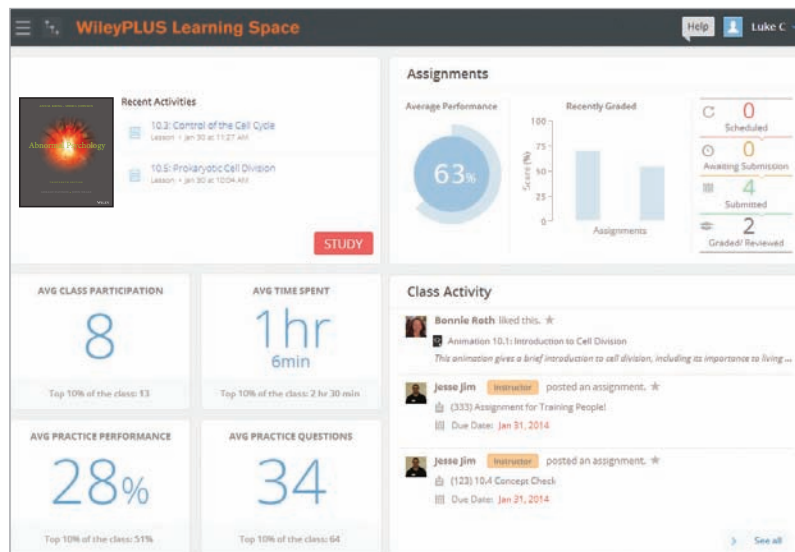
Attenuated Psychosis Syndrome / Depressive Episodes with Short-Duration Hypomania / Persistent Complex Bereavement Disorder / Caffeine Use Disorder / Internet Gaming Disorder / Neurobehavioral Disorder Associated with Prenatal Alcohol Exposure / Suicidal Behavior Disorder / Non-Suicidal Self Injury

## DSM-5 Classification System

Neurodevelopmental Disorders  
Schizophrenia Spectrum and Other Psychotic Disorders  
Bipolar and Related Disorders  
Depressive Disorders  
Anxiety Disorders  
Obsessive-Compulsive and Related Disorders  
Trauma- and Stressor-Related Disorders  
Dissociative Disorders  
Somatic Symptom and Related Disorders  
Feeding and Eating Disorders  
Elimination Disorders  
Sleep-Wake Disorders  
Sexual Dysfunctions  
Gender Dysphoria  
Disruptive, Impulse-Control, and Conduct Disorders  
Substance-Related and Addictive Disorders  
Neurocognitive Disorders  
Personality Disorders  
Paraphilic Disorders  
Other Mental Disorders  
Medication-Induced Movement Disorders and Other Adverse Effects of Medication  
Other Conditions That May Be a Focus of Clinical Attention

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# Abnormal Psychology

The Science and Treatment  
of Psychological Disorders

Thirteenth Edition

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# Abnormal Psychology

The Science and Treatment  
of Psychological Disorders

Thirteenth Edition

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**University of California, Berkeley**

Sheri L. Johnson

**University of California, Berkeley**

*With former contributions from*

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To

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# About the Authors



**ANN M. KRING** is Professor of Psychology at the University of California at Berkeley, where she will assume the role of Department Chair in July 2015. She received her B.S. from Ball State University and her M.A. and Ph.D. from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Her internship in clinical psychology was completed at Bellevue Hospital and Kirby Forensic Psychiatric Center, in

New York. From 1991 to 1998, she taught at Vanderbilt University. She joined the faculty at UC Berkeley in 1999 and has served two terms as Director of the Clinical Science Program and Psychology Clinic. She received a Distinguished Teaching Award from UC Berkeley in 2008. She is on the editorial board of *Schizophrenia Bulletin*, *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*, and *Psychological Science in the Public Interest*, and is a former Associate Editor for *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*, *Cognition and Emotion*, and *Applied and*

*Preventive Psychology*. She was elected President of the Society for Research in Psychopathology, and she is a member of the Executive Board of the Society for Affective Science.

She has won several awards, including a Young Investigator Award from the National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression in 1997 and the Joseph Zubin Memorial Fund Award in recognition of her research in schizophrenia in 2006. In 2005, she was named a fellow of the Association for Psychological Science. Her research has been supported by grants from the Scottish Rite Schizophrenia Research program, the National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression, and the National Institute of Mental Health. She is a co-editor (with Denise Sloan) of the book *Emotion Regulation and Psychopathology* (Guilford Press) and co-author (with Janelle Caponigro, Erica Lee, and Sheri Johnson) of the book *Bipolar Disorder for the Newly Diagnosed* (New Harbinger Press). She is also the author of more than 100 articles and chapters. Her current research focus is on emotion and psychopathology, with a specific interest in the emotional features of schizophrenia, assessing negative symptoms in schizophrenia, and the linkage between cognition and emotion in schizophrenia.



**SHERI L. JOHNSON** is Professor of Psychology at the University of California at Berkeley, where she directs the Cal Mania (Calm) program, and she is a visiting professor at the University of Lancaster, England. She received her B.A. from Salem College and her Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh. She completed an internship and postdoctoral fellowship at Brown University, and she was a clinical assistant professor at Brown from 1993 to 1995. From 1995 to 2008,

she taught in the Department of Psychology at the University of Miami, where she was recognized three times with the Excellence in Graduate Teaching Award. In 1993, she received the Young Investigator Award from the National Alliance for Research in Schizophrenia and Depression. She is a consulting editor for *Clinical Psychological Science*

and *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*, she was an associate editor for *Applied and Preventive Psychology* and *Cognition and Emotion*, and she has served on editorial boards for six journals, including *Psychological Bulletin*. She has served as the secretary for the Society for Research in Psychopathology and is a Fellow of the Academy of Behavioral Medicine Research and the Association for Psychological Science.

For the past 25 years, her work has focused on understanding the factors that predict the course of mania and depression. She uses social, psychological, and neurobiological paradigms to understand these processes. Her work has been funded by the National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression, the National Cancer Institute, the National Science Foundation, and by the National Institute of Mental Health. She has published over 175 articles and chapters, and her findings have been published in leading journals such as the *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*, *Psychological Bulletin*, and the *American Journal of Psychiatry*. She is co-editor of several books, including *Psychological Treatment of Bipolar Disorder* (Guilford Press), *Bipolar Disorder for the Newly Diagnosed* (New Harbinger Press), and *Emotion and Psychopathology* (American Psychological Association).

### A bit of authorship history...

For the past 10 years, Ann Kring and Sheri Johnson have been the sole authors of the book. However, the book's history dates back 40 years. Back then, Gerald Davison and John Neale sat down to share their experiences teaching the undergraduate abnormal psychology course at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Arising from that conversation was the outline of a textbook on which they decided to collaborate, one that was different from the texts available at the time. The first edition of this book, co-authored by Davison

and Neale, was published in 1974. Ann Kring joined the team in 2001, and she invited Sheri Johnson to join in 2004, when Kring and Johnson took over full authorship responsibilities. The legacy of Davison and Neale remains in this and every edition, and we are forever indebted to these two pioneering authors who developed and wrote many editions of this textbook. Near the end of our work on the twelfth edition, we learned that John Neale had passed away after a long illness. He is greatly missed by many.



Photo by Christine McDowell

**GERALD C. DAVISON** is Professor of Psychology at the University of Southern California. Previously he was Professor and Chair of the Department of Psychology at USC and served also as Director of Clinical Training. He recently served as Dean of the USC Davis School of Gerontology. He earned his B.A. in social relations from Harvard and his Ph.D. in psychology from Stanford. He is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association, a Charter Fellow of the Association for Psychological Science, and a

Distinguished Founding Fellow of the Academy of Cognitive Therapy. Among his other honors are the USC Associates Award for Excellence in Teaching, and the Outstanding Educator Award and the Lifetime Achievement Award of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies. Among his more than 150 publications is his book *Clinical Behavior Therapy*, co-authored in 1976 with Marvin Goldfried and reissued in expanded form in 1994. It is one of two publications that have been recognized as Citation Classics by the Social Sciences Citation Index. He is also on the editorial board of several professional journals. His research has emphasized experimental and philosophical analyses of psychopathology, assessment, therapeutic change, and the relationships between cognition and a variety of behavioral and emotional problems via his articulated thoughts in simulated situations paradigm.



Photo by John M. Neale

**JOHN M. NEALE** was Professor of Psychology at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, retiring in 2000. He received his B.A. from the University of Toronto and his M.A. and Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University. He won numerous awards, including the American Psychological Association's Early Career Award (1974), the Distinguished Scientist

Award from the American Psychological Association's Society for a Science of Clinical Psychology (1991), and the Sustained Mentorship Award from the Society for Research in Psychopathology (2011). Besides his numerous articles in professional journals, he published books on the effects of televised violence on children, research methodology, schizophrenia, case studies in abnormal psychology, and psychological influences on health. Schizophrenia was a major focus of his research, and he also conducted research on the influence of stress on health.

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# Preface

It has been nearly 40 years since the first edition of this book was published. From the beginning, the focus of the book has always been on the balance and blending of research and clinical application; on the use of paradigms as an organizing principle; and on the effort to involve the reader in the problem solving engaged in by clinicians and scientists. These qualities have continued to be the cornerstones of subsequent editions, and we have been both surprised and delighted at the favorable reception the book has received and, perhaps more importantly, the impact it has had on the lives of so many students of psychopathology throughout the years.

With the thirteenth edition, we continue to emphasize the recent and comprehensive research coverage that has been the hallmark of the book as well as to expand the pedagogical features. We have added more questions to the Check Your Knowledge boxes, additional clinical cases, figures, tables, and clear writing to make this material accessible to a broad audience. Now more than ever, we emphasize an integrated approach, showing how psychopathology is best understood by considering multiple perspectives and how these varying perspectives can provide us with the clearest accounting of the causes of these disorders as well as the best possible treatments.

The cover image is a kaleidoscope of lights chosen to represent the myriad factors that contribute to psychological disorders. This image illustrates a number of key principles about our book. Just as a kaleidoscope offers an extensive and diverse array of colorful patterns, many people are differently impacted by psychological disorders. People are shaped by the interaction of their neurobiology and environment, which is what the study of psychological disorders is all about: different paradigms (genetic, neuroscience, cognitive behavioral) coming together to shape the development and course of different psychological disorders. This is also how science works. New discoveries help to reshape the domains of scientific inquiry, shifting the perspective of our current understanding of psychological disorders in the same way as moving the lights in a kaleidoscope changes the way we see the colors. Our book is first and foremost grounded in the latest science of psychological disorders. As new discoveries and new treatments are developed, our understanding moves toward a better conceptualization of psychological disorders.

## Goals of the Book

With each new edition, we update, make changes, and streamline features to enhance both the scholarly and pedagogical characteristics of the book. We also devote considerable effort to couching complex concepts in prose that is sharp, clear, and vivid. The domains of psychopathology and intervention continue to become increasingly multifaceted and technical. Therefore, a good textbook covering psy-

chological disorders must engage the careful and focused attention of students so that they can acquire a deep and critical understanding of the issues and the material. Some of the most exciting breakthroughs in psychopathology research and treatment that we present in the book have come in areas that are complex, such as molecular genetics, neuroscience, and cognitive science. Rather than oversimplify these complex issues, we have instead added a number of pedagogical features to enhance understanding of this vital material.

We endeavor to present up-to-date theories and research in psychopathology and intervention as well as to convey some of the intellectual excitement that is associated with the search for answers to some of the most puzzling questions facing us today. We try to encourage students to participate with us in a process of discovery as we sift through the evidence on the origins of psychopathology and the effectiveness of specific interventions.

In this edition, we continue to emphasize ways in which we can do away with the stigma that is unfortunately still associated with psychological disorders. Despite the ubiquity of psychopathology, the stigma associated with it can keep some individuals from seeking treatment, keep our legislatures from providing adequate funding for treatment and research, and keep some terms as accepted popular vernacular (e.g., *crazy, nuts*). Thus, another of our goals for the book is to combat this stigma and present a positive and hopeful view on the causes and treatments of mental illness.

Another change to this edition is the broadening of our title. Older terms such as abnormal psychology reflect vestiges of the past in many ways, even though many courses that cover the causes and treatment of psychological disorders retain this title. It is our hope that the term *abnormal psychology* will soon be replaced, as it can unwittingly perpetuate the stigma that people with psychological disorders are “abnormal” in many ways. Our contention is that people with psychological disorders are first and foremost people and that the term *abnormal* can be overly broad and misconstrued to the detriment of people impacted by psychological disorders.

## Organization of the Thirteenth Edition

In Chapters 1 through 4, we place the field in historical context, present the concept of paradigms in science, describe the major paradigms in psychopathology, describe the fifth edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (DSM-5), critically discuss its validity and reliability, provide an overview of major approaches and techniques in clinical assessment, and then describe the major research methods of the field. These chapters are

the foundation on which the later chapters can be interpreted and understood. As in the twelfth edition, specific psychological disorders and their treatment are discussed in Chapters 5 through 15.

A recurrent theme in the book is the importance of perspectives, or, to use Kuhn's (1962/1970) phrase, paradigms. Throughout the book we discuss three major paradigms: genetic, neuroscience, and cognitive behavioral. We also emphasize the importance of factors that are important to all paradigms, including emotion, gender, culture, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status. A related issue is the use of more than one paradigm in studying psychological disorders. Rather than force an entire field into, for example, a cognitive behavioral paradigm, we argue from the available information that different problems in psychopathology are amenable to analyses within different frameworks. For instance, genetic factors are important in bipolar disorder and attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, but genes do their work via the environment. In disorders such as depression, cognitive behavioral factors are essential, but neurotransmitters also exert an influence. For still other disorders—for example, dissociative disorders—cognitive factors involving consciousness are important to consider. Furthermore, the importance of a diathesis–stress approach remains a cornerstone to the field. Emerging data indicate that nearly all psychological disorders arise from subtle interactions between genetic or psychological predispositions and stressful life events.

We continue to emphasize that psychopathology is best understood by considering how genes do their work via psychological processes and the environment. Thus, rather than asking whether genes or the environment is more important in a particular disorder, we emphasize that both of these factors are important. Exciting new discoveries have made it clear that nature and nurture work together, not in opposition to each another. Without the genes, a behavior might not be possible. But without the environment, genes could not express themselves and thus contribute to the behavior. Genes are remarkably flexible at responding to different types of environments. In turn, human beings are quite flexible at adapting to different environments. In this edition, we have added several examples to highlight how genetic, social, and cognitive risk factors operate in tandem.

We continue to include considerable material on culture and ethnicity in the study of causes and treatment of psychological disorders. In Chapter 2, we present a separate section that emphasizes the importance of culture and ethnicity in all paradigms. We point to the important role of culture and ethnicity in the other chapters as well. For example, in the Diagnosis and Assessment chapter (3), we discuss cultural bias in assessment and ways to guard against this selectivity in perception. We have updated coverage of culture and ethnicity in substance use disorders (Chapter 10).

## New to This Edition

The thirteenth edition has many new and exciting additions and changes. We have added significant new material about the impact of DSM-5 in every chapter, and we continue to organize the chapters to reflect the organization of the DSM-5. Now that DSM-5 is in use, material on DSM-IV-TR has been largely removed. In addition, we continue to update and innovate. We no longer apologetically

cover theories that don't work or don't have empirical support. As the research on each disorder has burgeoned, we've moved to just highlighting the most exciting and accepted theories, research, and treatments. This edition, as always, contains hundreds of updated references. Throughout the book, we have further streamlined the writing to increase the clarity of presentation and to highlight the key issues in the field. We have included new figures to carefully illustrate the genetics and brain networks involved in different disorders. Finally, we have added new photos to illustrate current events and news regarding mental health.

We have continued to add additional pedagogy based on feedback from students and professors. In addition to multiple new Clinical Case boxes, we have also included a number of new Focus on Discovery boxes in order to illustrate what the different disorders look like in the context of real people's lives as well as to showcase cutting-edge research on particular topics. In addition, we have modified and added new Check Your Knowledge questions in nearly all chapters so that students can do a quick check to see if they are learning and integrating the material. Drawing on evidence for the importance of generative thinking for learning, many of the new questions are open-ended. There are many new photos to provide students with additional real-world examples and applications of psychopathology, including examples of some of the highly successful and well-known people who have come forward in the past several years to discuss their own psychological disorders. The end-of-chapter summaries continue to be consistent across the chapters, using a bulleted format and summarizing the descriptions, causes, and treatments of the disorders covered.

## New and Expanded Coverage

We are really excited about the new features of this edition. Some of the major new material in this edition includes:

### Chapter 1: Introduction and Historical Overview

- New material on stigma, including updates to current legislation and support/advocacy groups and stigma reduction efforts
- Some of the history sections are streamlined
- New section on what we can learn from history
- New material on the mental health professions

### Chapter 2: Current Paradigms in Psychopathology

- New material on cultural factors that cut across paradigms
- New material on cutting-edge molecular genetics, including single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs), copy number variations (CNVs), and genome-wide association studies
- Updated coverage of the latest neuroscience findings
- Updated coverage on cognitive science contributions to the cognitive behavioral paradigm
- Updated material in the Focus on Discovery boxes on gender and health and socioeconomic and health



### Chapter 3: Diagnosis and Assessment

New information on DSM-5, including reliability from the field trials, additional material on cultural assessment, and cross-cutting symptom assessment materials

New information on the Research Domain Criteria (RDoC)

Clinical cases presented with DSM-5 diagnoses

Older diagnostic information moved to the Focus on Discovery box covering the history of diagnosis

Updated data on cultural bias in assessment

Updated information on assessment measures

Updated information on underreporting of stigmatized behaviors

### Chapter 4: Research Methods

New material on genome-wide association studies (GWAS)

New content on the efficacy of culturally competent psychotherapies

### Chapter 5: Mood Disorders

Added a dual-factor model of seasonal affective disorder

Described the high prevalence of depression in the offspring of mothers with depression

Added a population-based study that supports the link of creativity with bipolar disorder

Added a richer clinical description of mania

Updated findings on the mechanisms through which the serotonin transporter polymorphism may interact with environmental risk factors to influence neurobiological and cognitive risk factors for depression

New discussion of the importance of childhood adversity in depression

New material on the role of interpersonal stress in depression, and the debate about whether bereavement-related depressive symptoms should be distinguished from other forms of depression

New studies on the prospective evidence for cognitive models of depression

New theory and data regarding the mechanisms driving rumination in depression

New Focus on Discovery Box on how research on cytokines serves as a link between biological and social risk factors for depression

Updates on the number of people who have tried antidepressants

New data on mindfulness treatment for depression

New findings on deep brain stimulation

New data on transcranial magnetic stimulation, now licensed by the FDA for treatment-resistant depression

New material on public health approaches to suicide prevention

### Chapter 6: Anxiety Disorders

New data on the prevalence and functional outcomes of anxiety disorders

Enhanced clinical description of generalized anxiety disorder

New evidence regarding a specific genetic polymorphism relevant across the anxiety disorders (PPARGC1A gene) and one that is relevant to panic disorder (neuropeptide S NPSR gene)

Better discussion of the nature of attentional impairment in anxiety disorder

New evidence that attentional training can reduce cortisol response to daily stress

Summary of findings on mindfulness and acceptance-based treatments

### Chapter 7: Obsessive-Compulsive-Related and Trauma-Related Disorders

More detail and a new clinical case to enrich understanding of the clinical picture of obsessions and compulsions

New data on the high rate of absenteeism associated with body dysmorphic disorder

New section more concisely reviewing the epidemiology of obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) and related disorders as a whole, given the substantial parallels across the three disorders

New data on the heritability of the obsessive-compulsive and related disorders

New studies showing that hoarding disorder is related to neural activation in regions that are similar to those implicated in OCD and body dysmorphic disorder

New behavioral model for OCD, emphasizing difficulties stopping engagement in a behavior that effectively warded off threat in the past

Greater detail on the process of conducting exposure and ritual prevention for a person with OCD, with less emphasis on the historical development of this approach

New section on deep brain stimulation for OCD

New information on the definition of complex posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and on the reasons this was not included as a subtype in the DSM-5

New clinical case for PTSD focused on a college student who was raped

Refined discussion of the hippocampus as helping organize memories but also placing them in context, and how this might lead to PTSD

Coverage of the PTSD specifier for depersonalization or derealization

### Chapter 8: Dissociative Disorders and Somatic Symptom-Related Disorders

More description of the different forms of dissociation

More detail on the difficulties in estimating the prevalence of dissociative disorders

Reorganized to cover controversies about memory as part of the discussion of dissociative amnesia

New case study for dissociative amnesia, fugue subtype

Updates on the high prevalence of depersonalization and derealization symptoms among college students, and the most typical dissociative experiences

New criticisms regarding the case of Sybil

New evidence on the medical costs of treating somatic symptom disorders

More detail on how somatic symptom disorders relate to disorders with contentious etiology

Updated theory on whether conversion disorder has truly changed in prevalence over time

Neurofeedback for pain control discussed

- New example of mass hysteria, illustrating an important social facet of conversion disorder
- Enhanced description of cognitive techniques for somatic symptom disorders
- New treatment outcome data for somatic symptom disorders

### Chapter 9: Schizophrenia

- New research on genetics
- New material on schizophrenia and the brain
- New section on brain connectivity
- New material on culture and expressed emotion
- New findings on clinical high risk for schizophrenia
- New material on cannabis use as a risk factor for schizophrenia
- Updated material on first and second-generation antipsychotic medications
- Updated material on psychosocial treatments for schizophrenia
- New Focus on Discovery Box on misdiagnosis of schizophrenia

### Chapter 10: Substance Use Disorders

- New material on DSM-5 indicators of severity of alcohol and drug use disorders
- New statistics on use of all drugs
- New material on e-cigarettes
- New material on marijuana
- New material on the neuroscience of addiction
- New material on tobacco and stimulants, including cocaine
- New treatment studies for smoking, alcohol, and cocaine
- New section on delayed versus immediate rewards in the neurobiology of addiction

### Chapter 11: Eating Disorders

- Expanded section on binge eating disorder, consistent with its inclusion in DSM-5, including physical consequences and prognosis
- Updated and expanded material on obesity
- New information on cognitive behavior therapy for anorexia
- New information on DSM-5 severity ratings for all eating disorders
- New material on prevention of eating disorders

### Chapter 12: Sexual Disorders

- Description of a more accurate penile plethysmograph
- New case studies of orgasmic disorder and voyeuristic disorder
- New data on the prevalent use of testosterone off-label, and the sexual side effects of such usage
- Now noted that more than 20 trials have tested cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) for sexual dysfunction disorders
- Updated statistics on success rates with directed masturbation treatment for orgasmic disorders
- Additional detail regarding cognitive interventions for sexual dysfunction
- New data on the percentage of people who have engaged in sado-masochistic sexual practices
- More detail on the DSM-5 diagnostic criteria for pedophilia
- New data on lower IQ and neurocognitive problems among men diagnosed with pedophilia

- Updated material on the etiology of pedophilia and sexual coercion, with attention to the idea that there may be multiple pathways to both problems
- Research evidence for the role of impulsivity in paraphilias added
- Satiation treatment described for paraphilias
- New information about civil liberties and diagnoses of paraphilias

### Chapter 13: Disorders of Childhood

- Updated material on attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)
- New material on prevalence rates, risk factors, and treatment in childhood ADHD and expanded information on ADHD in adulthood
- New information on genetics and conduct disorder
- New information on preventing conduct disorder
- New material on intermittent explosive disorder
- New material on disruptive mood dysregulation disorder
- New information on genetics, neuroscience, and prevention of conduct disorder
- New information on treatment of anxiety in childhood
- New information on etiology of depression in childhood
- Updated material on dyslexia
- New clinical case box on dyslexia
- New material on stimulant medications in children
- Updated prevalence data for all disorders
- Updated material on genetics in autism spectrum disorder
- Updated material in the Focus on Discovery box covering controversies in the field
- New information on autism spectrum disorder

### Chapter 14 Late Life and Neurocognitive Disorders

- New section on the negative consequences of internalizing negative stereotypes about aging
- New data regarding specific genes and immune function in Alzheimer's disease
- New information about the prevalence of frontotemporal dementia (FTD)
- Updated information about prevention trials
- New information about training programs for memory in dementia

### Chapter 15 Personality Disorders

- Emphasis on the pervasive influence of personality on a broad range of outcomes
- Added data on unstructured clinical interviews, noting poor inter-rater reliability in the DSM-5 field trials and poor validity compared to structured interviews
- Discussion of findings from several studies showing that personality disorders are more common during adolescence and that the prevalence decreases over the life course, and that many people recover from personality disorders
- Richer clinical descriptions throughout the chapter and new case vignettes to illustrate paranoid personality disorder, antisocial personality disorder, and obsessive-compulsive personality disorder
- Reorganized to discuss evidence that heritability, parenting styles, and child abuse are important as common risk factors across the

personality disorders. The etiology of more specific personality disorders is then focused strictly on those disorders with more available research.

- New Focus on Discovery box on media images of psychopathy
- New Focus on Discovery box on whether narcissism is increasing over time among college students
- New data from discordant twin studies regarding the relative weight of family risk and abuse in risk for borderline personality disorder
- Data on parenting styles related to narcissism and dependent personality disorder
- More discussion of the implications of dependent personality disorder for outcomes
- Streamlined discussion of the risk factors for antisocial personality disorder and borderline personality disorder, and of psychotherapy for borderline personality disorder

## Chapter 16: Legal and Ethical Issues

- Reorganized for better readability
- New material on intellectual disability and capital punishment
- New Clinical Case box
- New information on specific states and the insanity defense

## Special Features for the Student Reader

Several features of this book are designed to make it easier for students to master and enjoy the material.

**Clinical Case Boxes** We have updated for DSM-5 and added a number of new Clinical Cases throughout the book to provide a clinical context for the theories and research that occupy most of our attention in the chapters and to help make vivid the real-life implications of the empirical work of psychopathologists and clinicians.

**Focus on Discovery Boxes** There are many in-depth discussions of selected topics throughout the book. This feature allows us to involve readers in specialized topics in a way that does not detract from the flow of the regular text. Sometimes a Focus on Discovery box expands on a point in the text; sometimes it deals with an entirely separate but relevant issue, often a controversial one. We have added a number of new boxes in this edition, replacing a number of the older ones. Additional boxes feature real-life examples of individuals living with different disorders.

**Quick Summaries** We include short summaries throughout the chapters to allow students to pause and assimilate the material. These should help students keep track of the multifaceted and complex issues that surround the study of psychopathology.

**End-of-Chapter Summaries** Summaries at the end of each chapter are in bulleted form. In Chapters 5–15, we organize these by clinical descriptions, etiology, and treatment—the major sections of every chapter covering the disorders. We believe this format will make it easier for readers to review and remember the material. In

fact, we even suggest that students read the summary before beginning the chapter itself in order to get a good sense of what lies ahead. Then rereading it after completing the chapter itself will enhance students' understanding and provide an immediate sense of what has been learned in just one reading of the chapter.

**Check Your Knowledge Questions** Throughout each chapter, we provide between three and six boxes that ask questions about the material covered in the chapter. These questions are intended to help students assess their understanding and retention of the material as well as provide them with samples of the types of questions that often are found in course exams. The answers to the questions in these boxes are at the end of each chapter, just before the list of key terms. We believe that these will be useful aids for students as they make their way through the chapters.

**Glossary** When an important term is introduced, it is boldfaced and defined or discussed immediately. Most such terms appear again later in the book, in which case they will not be highlighted in this way. All these terms are listed again at the end of each chapter, and definitions appear at the end of the book in a glossary.

**DSM-5 Table** The endpapers of the book contain a summary of the psychiatric nomenclature for the fifth edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*, known as DSM-5. This provides a handy guide to where particular disorders appear in the “official” taxonomy or classification. We make considerable use of DSM-5, though in a selective and sometimes critical vein. Sometimes we find it more effective to discuss theory and research on a particular problem in a way that is different from DSM's conceptualization.

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From time to time, students and faculty colleagues have written us their comments on the book; these communications are always welcome. Readers can e-mail us at [akring@berkeley.edu](mailto:akring@berkeley.edu), [sljohnson@berkeley.edu](mailto:sljohnson@berkeley.edu).

Finally and most importantly, our heartfelt thanks go to the most important people in our lives for their continued support and encouragement along the way. A great big thanks to Angela Hawk (AMK) and Daniel Rose (SLJ), to whom this book is dedicated with love and gratitude.

SEPTEMBER 2014

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# Brief Contents

## Part One Introduction and Fundamental Issues

- 1 Introduction and Historical Overview 1
- 2 Current Paradigms in Psychopathology 31
- 3 Diagnosis and Assessment 66
- 4 Research Methods in Psychopathology 105

## Part Two Psychological Disorders

- 5 Mood Disorders 132
- 6 Anxiety Disorders 173
- 7 Obsessive-Compulsive-Related and Trauma-Related Disorders 200
- 8 Dissociative Disorders and Somatic Symptom-Related Disorders 224
- 9 Schizophrenia 250
- 10 Substance Use Disorders 286
- 11 Eating Disorders 327
- 12 Sexual Disorders 356
- 13 Disorders of Childhood 385
- 14 Late Life and Neurocognitive Disorders 429
- 15 Personality Disorders 451
- 16 Legal and Ethical Issues 480

Glossary G1

References R1

Name Index N1

Subject Index S1

# Contents

## 1

---

### Introduction and Historical Overview 1

#### Defining Psychological Disorder 5

- Personal Distress 6
- Disability 7
- Violation of Social Norms 7
- Dysfunction 7

#### History of Psychopathology 9

- Early Demonology 9
- Early Biological Explanations 9
- The Dark Ages and Demonology 10
- Development of Asylums 11

#### The Evolution of Contemporary Thought 15

- Biological Approaches 15
- Psychological Approaches 17

#### Have We Learned from History? 27

#### The Mental Health Professions 28

#### Summary 30

## 2

---

### Current Paradigms in Psychopathology 31

#### The Genetic Paradigm 32

- Behavior Genetics 33
- Molecular Genetics 34
- Gene–Environment Interactions 36
- Evaluating the Genetic Paradigm 37

#### The Neuroscience Paradigm 39

- Neurons and Neurotransmitters 39
- Structure and Function of the Human Brain 41
- The Neuroendocrine System 42
- The Immune System 43
- Neuroscience Approaches to Treatment 46
- Evaluating the Neuroscience Paradigm 46

#### The Cognitive Behavioral Paradigm 48

- Influences from Behavior Therapy 48
- Cognitive Science 49
- The Role of the Unconscious 50
- Cognitive Behavior Therapy 51
- Evaluating the Cognitive Behavioral Paradigm 52

#### Factors That Cut Across the Paradigms 53

- Emotion and Psychopathology 53
- Sociocultural Factors and Psychopathology 54
- Interpersonal Factors and Psychopathology 58

#### Diathesis–Stress: An Integrative Paradigm 61

#### Summary 64

## 3

---

### Diagnosis and Assessment 66

#### Cornerstones of Diagnosis and Assessment 67

- Reliability 68
- Validity 68

#### Classification and Diagnosis 70

- The Diagnostic System of the American Psychiatric Association: DSM-5 70
- Changes in DSM-5 73
- Specific Criticisms of the DSM 78
- General Criticisms of Diagnosing Psychological Disorders 80

#### Psychological Assessment 82

- Clinical Interviews 82
- Assessment of Stress 85
- Personality Tests 86
- Intelligence Tests 91
- Behavioral and Cognitive Assessment 92

#### Neurobiological Assessment 95

- Brain Imaging: “Seeing” the Brain 95
- Neurotransmitter Assessment 96
- Neuropsychological Assessment 98
- Psychophysiological Assessment 99
- A Cautionary Note About Neurobiological Assessment 99

Cultural and Ethnic Diversity and Assessment	101
Cultural Bias in Assessment	101
Strategies for Avoiding Cultural Bias in Assessment	102
Summary	103

## 4

---

### Research Methods in Psychopathology 105

Science and Scientific Methods	105
Approaches to Research on Psychopathology	106
The Case Study	106
The Correlational Method	109
The Experiment	117
Integrating the Findings of Multiple Studies	128
Summary	130

## 5

---

### Mood Disorders 132

Clinical Descriptions and Epidemiology of Mood Disorders	133
Depressive Disorders	133
Bipolar Disorders	138
Subtypes of Depressive Disorders and Bipolar Disorders	142
Etiology of Mood Disorders	143
Genetic Factors	143
Brain Function: Regions Involved in Emotion	146
The Neuroendocrine System: Cortisol Dysregulation	147
Social Factors in Depression: Childhood Adversity, Life Events, and Interpersonal Difficulties	149
Psychological Factors in Depression	150
Social and Psychological Factors in Bipolar Disorder	154
Treatment of Mood Disorders	156
Psychological Treatment of Depression	156
Psychological Treatment of Bipolar Disorder	159
Biological Treatment of Mood Disorders	160

### Suicide 165

Epidemiology of Suicide and Suicide Attempts	165
Risk Factors for Suicide	167
Preventing Suicide	169
Summary	171

## 6

---

### Anxiety Disorders 173

Clinical Descriptions of the Anxiety Disorders	175
Specific Phobias	175
Social Anxiety Disorder	177
Panic Disorder	178
Agoraphobia	179
Generalized Anxiety Disorder	179
Comorbidity in Anxiety Disorders	180
Gender and Cultural Factors in the Anxiety Disorders	180
Gender	180
Culture	181
Common Risk Factors Across the Anxiety Disorders	182
Fear Conditioning	183
Genetic Factors	184
Neurobiological Factors: The Fear Circuit and the Activity of Neurotransmitters	184
Personality: Behavioral Inhibition and Neuroticism	185
Cognitive Factors	185
Etiology of Specific Anxiety Disorders	187
Etiology of Specific Phobias	187
Etiology of Social Anxiety Disorder	188
Etiology of Panic Disorder	189
Behavioral Factors: Classical Conditioning	189
Etiology of Agoraphobia	191
Etiology of Generalized Anxiety Disorder	191
Treatments of the Anxiety Disorders	193
Commonalities Across Psychological Treatments	193
Psychological Treatments of Specific Anxiety Disorders	195
Medications That Reduce Anxiety	197
Medication to Enhance Learning During Psychological Treatment	197
Summary	198

## 7

## Obsessive-Compulsive-Related and Trauma-Related Disorders 200

### Obsessive-Compulsive and Related Disorders 201

- Clinical Descriptions of the Obsessive-Compulsive and Related Disorders 202
- Prevalence and Comorbidity of the Obsessive-Compulsive and Related Disorders 205
- Etiology of the Obsessive-Compulsive and Related Disorders 207
- Treatment of the Obsessive-Compulsive and Related Disorders 209

### Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and Acute Stress Disorder 213

- Clinical Description and Epidemiology of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and Acute Stress Disorder 213
- Etiology of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder 216
- Treatment of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and Acute Stress Disorder 219

### Summary 222

## 8

## Dissociative Disorders and Somatic Symptom-Related Disorders 224

### Dissociative Disorders 226

- Depersonalization/Derealization Disorder 227
- Dissociative Amnesia 228
- Dissociative Identity Disorder 231
- Treatment of DID 235

### Somatic Symptom and Related Disorders 236

- Clinical Description of Somatic Symptom Disorder 237
- Clinical Description of Illness Anxiety Disorder 238
- Clinical Description of Conversion Disorder 238
- Etiology of Somatic Symptom-Related Disorders 240
- Treatment of Somatic Symptom and Related Disorders 245

### Summary 248

## 9

## Schizophrenia 250

### Clinical Descriptions of Schizophrenia 252

- Positive Symptoms 252
- Negative Symptoms 255
- Disorganized Symptoms 256
- Schizophrenia and the DSM-5 258

### Etiology of Schizophrenia 260

- Genetic Factors 260
- The Role of Neurotransmitters 264
- Brain Structure and Function 266
- Connectivity in the Brain 268
- Environmental Factors Influencing the Developing Brain 269
- Psychological Factors 270
- Developmental Factors 273

### Treatment of Schizophrenia 275

- Medications 275
- Psychological Treatments 279

### Summary 285

## 10

## Substance Use Disorders 286

### Clinical Descriptions, Prevalence, and Effects of Substance Use Disorders 286

- Alcohol Use Disorder 288
- Tobacco Use Disorder 291
- Marijuana 293
- Opiates 297
- Stimulants 299
- Hallucinogens, Ecstasy, and PCP 302

### Etiology of Substance Use Disorders 305

- Genetic Factors 305
- Neurobiological Factors 306
- Psychological Factors 308
- Sociocultural Factors 311

### Treatment of Substance Use Disorders 313

- Treatment of Alcohol Use Disorder 314
- Treatments for Smoking 317
- Treatment of Drug Use Disorders 319



Prevention of Substance Use Disorders 324

Summary 326

## 11

### Eating Disorders 327

Clinical Descriptions of Eating Disorders 328

- Anorexia Nervosa 328
- Bulimia Nervosa 332
- Binge Eating Disorder 334

Etiology of Eating Disorders 337

- Genetic Factors 337
- Neurobiological Factors 338
- Cognitive Behavioral Factors 340
- Sociocultural Factors 343
- Other Factors Contributing to the Etiology of Eating Disorders 347

Treatment of Eating Disorders 349

- Medications 349
- Psychological Treatment of Anorexia Nervosa 350
- Psychological Treatment of Bulimia Nervosa 351
- Psychological Treatment of Binge Eating Disorder 352
- Preventive Interventions for Eating Disorders 353

Summary 354

## 12

### Sexual Disorders 356

Sexual Norms and Behavior 356

- Gender and Sexuality 358
- The Sexual Response Cycle 360

Sexual Dysfunctions 361

- Clinical Descriptions of Sexual Dysfunctions 361
- Etiology of Sexual Dysfunctions 366
- Treatments of Sexual Dysfunctions 368

The Paraphilic Disorders 372

- Fetishistic Disorder 373
- Pedophilic Disorder and Incest 374
- Voyeuristic Disorder 376
- Exhibitionistic Disorder 377

Frotteuristic Disorder 377

Sexual Sadism and Masochism Disorders 377

Etiology of the Paraphilic Disorders 378

Treatments for the Paraphilic Disorders 380

Summary 383

## 13

### Disorders of Childhood 385

Classification and Diagnosis of Childhood Disorders 386

Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder 388

- Clinical Descriptions, Prevalence, and Prognosis of ADHD 388
- Etiology of ADHD 391
- Treatment of ADHD 393

Conduct Disorder 394

- Clinical Description, Prevalence, and Prognosis of Conduct Disorder 395
- Etiology of Conduct Disorder 397
- Treatment of Conduct Disorder 399

Depression and Anxiety in Children and Adolescents 402

- Depression 402
- Anxiety 405

Specific Learning Disorder 411

- Clinical Descriptions 411
- Etiology of Specific Learning Disorder 411
- Treatment of Specific Learning Disorder 413

Intellectual Disability 414

- Diagnosis and Assessment of Intellectual Disability 414
- Etiology of Intellectual Disability 415
- Genetic or Chromosomal Abnormalities 415
- Treatment of Intellectual Disability 417

Autism Spectrum Disorder 419

- Clinical Descriptions, Prevalence, and Prognosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder 419
- Etiology of Autism Spectrum Disorder 422
- Treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorder 425

Summary 427

## 14

## Late Life and Neurocognitive Disorders 429

## Aging: Issues and Methods 430

- Myths About Late Life 431
- The Problems Experienced in Late Life 432
- Research Methods in the Study of Aging 432

## Psychological Disorders in Late Life 434

- Estimating the Prevalence of Psychological Disorders in Late Life 434
- Methodological Issues in Estimating the Prevalence of Psychopathology 435

## Neurocognitive Disorders in Late Life 437

- Dementia 437
- Delirium 447

## Summary 450

## 15

## Personality Disorders 451

## The DSM-5 Approach to Classification 452

- Assessment of DSM-5 Personality Disorders 453
- Problems with the DSM-5 Approach to Personality Disorders 455

## Alternative DSM-5 Model for Personality Disorders 456

## Common Risk Factors Across the Personality Disorders 458

## Clinical Description and Etiology of the Odd/Eccentric Cluster 459

- Paranoid Personality Disorder 460
- Schizoid Personality Disorder 460
- Schizotypal Personality Disorder 460

## Clinical Description and Etiology of the Dramatic/Erratic Cluster 461

- Antisocial Personality Disorder and Psychopathy 461
- Borderline Personality Disorder 464
- Histrionic Personality Disorder 466
- Narcissistic Personality Disorder 467

## Clinical Description and Etiology of the Anxious/Fearful Cluster 470

- Avoidant Personality Disorder 470
- Dependent Personality Disorder 471
- Obsessive-Compulsive Personality Disorder 472

## Treatment of Personality Disorders 474

- General Approaches to the Treatment of Personality Disorders 474

## Summary 478

## 16

## Legal and Ethical Issues 480

## Criminal Commitment 482

- The Insanity Defense 482
- Landmark Cases and Laws 482
- Competency to Stand Trial 488
- Insanity, Intellectual Disability, and Capital Punishment 493

## Civil Commitment 495

- Preventive Detention and Problems in the Prediction of Dangerousness 496
- Protection of the Rights of People with Psychological Disorders 497
- Deinstitutionalization, Civil Liberties, and Mental Health 502

## Ethical Dilemmas in Therapy and Research 504

- Ethical Restraints on Research 505
- Informed Consent 506
- Confidentiality and Privileged Communication 507

## Summary 508

## Glossary G1

## References R1

## Name Index N1

## Subject Index S1

## EULA

# Introduction and Historical Overview

## LEARNING GOALS

1. Be able to explain the meaning of stigma as it applies to people with psychological disorders.
2. Be able to describe and compare different definitions of psychological disorder.
3. Be able to explain how the causes and treatments of psychological disorders have changed over the course of history.
4. Be able to describe the historical forces that have helped to shape our current view of psychological disorders, including biological, psychoanalytic, behavioral, and cognitive views.
5. Be able to describe the different mental health professions, including the training involved and the expertise developed.

## Clinical Case: Jack

Jack dreaded family gatherings. His parents' house would be filled with his brothers and their families, and all the little kids would run around making a lot of noise. His parents would urge him to "be social" and spend time with the family, even though Jack preferred to be alone. He knew that the kids called him "crazy Uncle Jack." In fact, he had even heard his younger brother Kevin call him "crazy Jack" when he'd stopped by to see their mother the other day. Jack's mother admonished Kevin, reminding him that Jack had been doing very well on his new medication. "Schizophrenia is an illness," his mother had said.

Jack had not been hospitalized with an acute episode of schizophrenia for over 2 years. Even though Jack still heard voices, he learned not to talk about them in front of his mother because she would then start hassling him about taking his medication or ask him all sorts of questions about whether he needed to go back to the hospital. He hoped he would soon be able to move out of his parents' house and into his own apartment. The landlord at the last apartment he had tried to rent rejected his application once he learned that Jack had schizophrenia. His mother and father needed to cosign the lease, and they had inadvertently said that Jack was doing very well with his illness. The landlord asked about the illness, and once his parents mentioned schizophrenia, the landlord became visibly uncomfortable. The landlord called later that night and said the apartment had already been rented. When Jack's father pressed him, the landlord admitted he "didn't want any trouble" and that he was worried that people like Jack were violent.

## Clinical Case: Felicia

Felicia didn't like to think back to her early school years. Elementary school was not a very fun time. She couldn't sit still or follow directions very well. She often blurted out answers when it wasn't her turn to talk, and she never seemed to be able to finish her class papers without many mistakes. As if that wasn't bad enough, the other girls often laughed at her and called her names. She still remembers the time she tried to join in with a group of girls during recess. They kept running away, whispering to each other, and giggling. When Felicia asked what was so funny, one of the girls laughed and said, "You are hyper, girl! You fidget so much in class, you must have ants in your pants!"

When Felicia started fourth grade, her parents took her to a psychologist. She took a number of tests and answered all sorts of questions. At the end of these testing sessions, the psychologist diagnosed

Felicia with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). Felicia began seeing a different psychologist, and her pediatrician prescribed the medication Ritalin. She enjoyed seeing the psychologist because she helped her learn how to deal with the other kids' teasing and how to do a better job of paying attention. The medication helped, too—she was able to concentrate better and didn't seem to blurt out things as much anymore.

Now in high school, Felicia is much happier. She has a good group of close friends, and her grades are better than they have ever been. Though it is still hard to focus sometimes, she has learned a number of ways to deal with her distractibility. She is looking forward to college, hoping she can get into the top state school. Her guidance counselor has encouraged her, thinking her grades and extracurricular activities will make for a strong application.

**WE ALL TRY TO** understand other people. Determining why another person does or feels something is not easy to do. In fact, we do not always understand our own feelings and behavior. Figuring out why people behave in normal, expected ways is difficult enough; understanding seemingly abnormal behavior, such as the behavior of Jack and Felicia, can be even more difficult.

In this book, we will consider the description, causes, and treatments of a number of different **psychological disorders**. We will also demonstrate the numerous challenges professionals in this field face. As you approach the study of **psychopathology**, the field concerned with the nature, development, and treatment of psychological disorders, keep in mind that the field is continually developing and adding new findings. As we proceed, you will see that the field's interest and importance are ever growing.

One challenge we face is to remain objective. Our subject matter, human behavior, is personal and powerfully affecting, making objectivity difficult. The pervasiveness and potentially disturbing effects of psychopathology intrude on our own lives. Who has not experienced irrational thoughts, or feelings? Most of us have known someone, a friend or a relative, whose behavior was upsetting or difficult to understand, and we realize how frustrating and frightening it can be to try to understand and help a person suffering psychological difficulties. You can see that this personal impact of our subject matter requires us to make a conscious, determined effort to remain objective.

The other side of this coin is that our closeness to the subject matter adds to its intrinsic fascination; undergraduate courses in clinical or abnormal psychology are among the most popular in the entire college curriculum, not just in psychology departments. Our feeling of familiarity with the subject matter draws us to the study of psychopathology, but it also has a distinct disadvantage: we bring to the study our preconceived notions of what the subject matter is. Each of us has developed certain ways of thinking and talking about psychological disorders, certain words and concepts that somehow seem to fit. As you read this book and try to understand the psychological disorders it discusses, we may be asking you to adopt different ways of thinking and talking from those to which you are accustomed.

Perhaps most challenging of all, we must not only recognize our own preconceived notions of psychological disorders, but we must also confront and work to change the **stigma** we often

associate with these conditions. Stigma refers to the destructive beliefs and attitudes held by a society that are ascribed to groups considered different in some manner, such as people with psychological disorders. More specifically, stigma has four characteristics (see Figure 1.1):

1. A label is applied to a group of people that distinguishes them from others (e.g., “crazy”).
2. The label is linked to deviant or undesirable attributes by society (e.g., crazy people are dangerous).
3. People with the label are seen as essentially different from those without the label, contributing to an “us” versus “them” mentality (e.g., we are not like those crazy people).
4. People with the label are discriminated against unfairly (e.g., a clinic for crazy people can't be built in our neighborhood).

### The Four Characteristics of Stigma

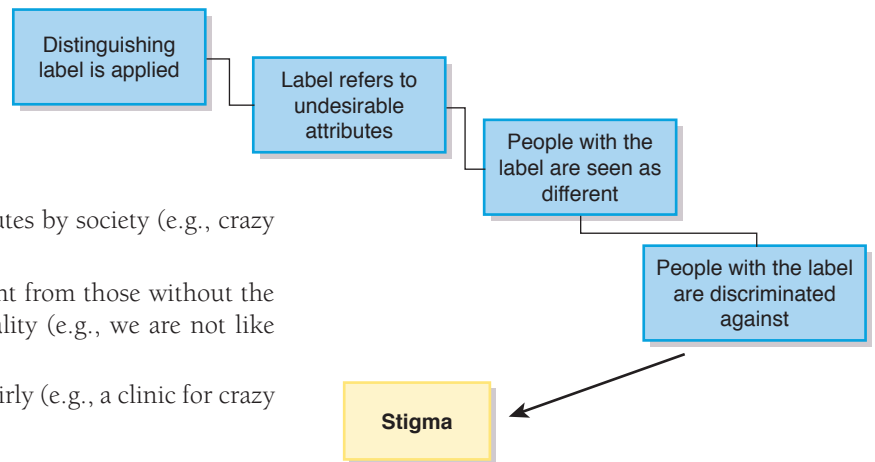


Figure 1.1 The four characteristics of stigma.

The case of Jack illustrates how stigma can lead to discrimination. Jack was denied an apartment because of his schizophrenia. The landlord believed Jack's schizophrenia meant he would be violent. This belief is based more in fiction than reality, however. A person with a psychological disorder is not necessarily any more likely to be violent than a person without such a disorder (Steadman, Mulvey, Monahan, et al., 1998; Swanson, Holzer, Ganju, & Jono, 1990), even though people with psychological disorders can be violent if they do not receive treatment (Torrey, 2014).

As we will see, the treatment of people with psychological disorders throughout recorded history has not generally been good, and this has contributed to their stigmatization, to the extent that they have often been brutalized and shunned by society. In the past, torturous treatments were held up to the public as miracle cures, and even today, terms such as *crazy*, *insane*, *retard*, and *schizo* are tossed about without thought of the people who actually suffer from psychological disorders and for whom these insults and the intensely distressing feelings and behaviors they refer to are a reality of daily life. The cases of Jack and Felicia illustrate how hurtful using such careless and mean-spirited names can be.

Psychological disorders remain the most stigmatized of conditions in the twenty-first century, despite advances in the public's knowledge about the origins of psychological disorders (Hinshaw, 2007). In 1999, then Surgeon General of the United States David Satcher, in his groundbreaking report on mental illness, wrote that stigma is the “most formidable obstacle to future progress in the arena of mental illness and mental health” (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 1999). Sadly, this remains true more than 15 years later.

Throughout this book, we hope to fight this stigma by showing you the latest evidence about the nature and causes of these disorders, together with treatments, dispelling myths and other misconceptions as we proceed. As part of this effort, we will try to put a human face on psychological disorders by including descriptions of actual people with these disorders. Additional ways to fight stigma are presented in Focus on Discovery 1.1.

But you will have to help in this fight, for the mere acquisition of knowledge does not ensure the end of stigma (Penn, Chamberlin, & Mueser, 2003). As we will see in Chapter 2, in the last 20 years we have learned a great deal about neurobiological contributors to psychological disorders, such as neurotransmitters and genetics. Many mental health practitioners and advocates hoped that the more people learned about the neurobiological causes of psychological disorders, the less stigmatized these disorders would be. However, results from an important study show that this may not be true (Pescosolido, Martin, Long, et al., 2010). People's knowledge has increased, but unfortunately stigma has not decreased. In the study, researchers surveyed people's attitudes and knowledge about psychological disorders at two points in time: 1996 and 2006. Compared to 1996, people in 2006 were more likely to believe that psychological disorders such as schizophrenia, depression, and alcohol addiction had a neurobiological cause, but stigma toward these disorders did not decrease. In fact, in some cases it increased. For example, people in 2006 were less likely to want to have a person with schizophrenia as their neighbor compared to people in 1996. Clearly, there is work to be done to reduce stigma.

## FOCUS ON DISCOVERY 1.1

### Fighting Against Stigma: A Strategic Approach

In 2007, psychologist Stephen Hinshaw published a book entitled *The Mark of Shame: The Stigma of Mental Illness and an Agenda for Change*. In this important book, Hinshaw outlines several steps that can be taken to end stigma surrounding psychological disorders. Here we briefly discuss some of the key suggestions for fighting stigma across many arenas, including law and policy, community, mental health professions, and individual/family behaviors and attitudes.

#### Policy and Legislative Strategies

**Parity in Insurance Coverage** In 1996, the Federal Mental Health Parity Act required that insurance coverage for mental illness be at the same level as for other illnesses, which was an important first step. However, the law had a number of problems (e.g., addiction was not included; companies could set limits on coverage). In 2008, an even broader parity bill, the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (MHPAE), came closer to offering true parity. With this law, insurance companies cannot charge higher co-payments or deductibles for mental illness than they do for other types of illnesses. Rules regarding the implementation of the law were put into place in 2010. The Affordable Care Act, the large expansion of all types of health care in the United States, continues to honor the provisions set forth by the MHPAE with a set of regulations signed by President Barack Obama in 2013. These regulations specify that insurers cannot approve fewer doctor visits or less time in a hospital for people with psychological disorders than for people with other disorders and illnesses. Unfortunately, however, these regulations do not yet apply to the broad health care programs in the United States for the elderly (Medicare) and the poor (Medicaid). One recent study found that the number of psychiatrists who accepted new people under Medicare or Medicaid declined by nearly 20 percent between 2005 and 2010 (Bishop, Press, Keyhani, & Pincus, 2014).

**Discriminatory Laws** Some states have rules banning people with a psychological disorder from voting, marrying, serving on juries, or holding public office. In an analysis of bills submitted for consideration in state legislatures in 2002, there were about as many bills to take away liberties as there were to grant liberties to people with psychological disorders. Similarly, there were roughly equal numbers of new bills that would effectively increase discrimination against people with psychological disorders as there were bills that would diminish discrimination (Corrigan, Watson, Heyrman, et al., 2005). Speaking to state legislators about the importance of nondiscriminatory laws is something we can all do to help fight stigma in this arena.

**Employment** Unemployment rates among people with psychological disorders are extremely high, despite provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) that make it illegal to keep someone with a psychological disorder from obtaining or keeping a job. The cruel irony here is that only a small number of ADA claims deal with job discrimination for people with a psychological disorder (likely because people with psychological disorders are afraid to come forward due to the stigma surrounding their illness). Yet these claims are among the easiest, at least in terms of cost, to fix (e.g., contrast the cost of allowing time off for therapy to the cost of redesigning and building a wheelchair-accessible area). Further training in job-relevant skills, such as provision of extra educational benefits to those whose education might have been curtailed

by a psychological disorder, would help with employment opportunities. Similarly, training in social skills relevant to the workplace and other structured programs to enhance workplace success is an important goal.

**Decriminalization** People with psychological disorders, particularly substance use disorders, often end up in jail rather than a hospital. Large urban jails, such as the Los Angeles County jail, Riker's Island in New York, and Cook County jail in Chicago, now house more people with psychological disorders than any hospital, public or private, in the United States. Many substance use problems are first detected within the criminal justice system, and people may need more intensive treatment to address these issues. Minimal or no treatment is provided in jail, and so this is not an optimal place for people with psychological disorders. Many states have adopted assisted outpatient treatment (AOT) laws that provide court-mandated outpatient treatment rather than jail time for people with psychological disorders.

#### Community Strategies

**Housing Options** Rates of homelessness in people with psychological disorders are too high, and more programs to provide community residences and group homes are needed. However, many neighborhoods are reluctant to embrace the idea of people with a psychological disorder living too close by. Lobbying legislatures and community leaders about the importance of adequate housing is a critically important step toward providing housing for people with psychological disorders and reducing stigma.

**Personal Contact** Providing greater housing opportunities for people with psychological disorders will likely mean that people with these disorders will shop and eat in local establishments alongside people without these disorders. Research suggests that this type of contact—where status is relatively equal—can reduce stigma. Informal settings, such as local parks and churches, can also help bridge the personal contact gap between people with and without psychological disorders.

**Education** Educating people about psychological disorders (one of the goals of this book!) is an important step toward reducing stigma. Education alone won't completely eradicate stigma, however. By learning about psychological disorders, though, people may be less hesitant to interact with people who have different disorders. Many of you already know someone with a psychological disorder. Sadly, though, stigma often prevents people from disclosing their history with a psychological disorder. Education may help lessen people's hesitancy to talk about their illnesses.

#### Mental Health and Health Profession Strategies

**Mental Health Evaluations** Many children see their pediatricians for well-baby or well-child exams. The goal of these visits is to prevent illness before it occurs. Hinshaw (2007) makes a strong case for including similar preventive efforts for psychological disorders among children and adolescents by, for example, including rating scale assessments from parents and teachers in order to help identify problems before they become more serious.

**Education and Training** Mental health professionals should receive training in stigma issues. This type of training would undoubtedly help professionals recognize the pernicious signs of stigma, even within the

very profession that is charged with helping people with psychological disorders. In addition, mental health professionals need to keep current on the descriptions, causes, and empirically supported treatments for psychological disorders. This would certainly lead to better interactions with people and might also help educate the public about the important work being done by mental health professionals.

### Individual and Family Strategies

**Education for Individuals and Families** It can be frightening and disorienting for families to learn that a loved one has been diagnosed with an illness, and this may be particularly true for psychological disorders. Receiving current information about the causes and treatments of psychological disorders is crucial because it helps to alleviate blame and stereotypes families might hold about psychological disorders. Educating people with a psychological disorder is also extremely important. Sometimes termed *psychoeducation*, this type of information is built into many types of treatments, whether pharmacological or psychosocial. In

order for people to understand why they should adhere to certain treatment regimens, it is important for them to know the nature of their illness and the treatment alternatives available.

**Support and Advocacy Groups** Participating in support or advocacy groups can be a helpful adjunct to treatment for people with psychological disorders and their families. Websites such as Mind Freedom International (<http://www.mindfreedom.org>) and the Icarus Project (<http://www.theicarusproject.net>) are designed to provide a forum for people with psychological disorders to find support. Some such groups also encourage people not to hide their disorders, but rather to consider it a point of pride—“Mad Pride” events are scheduled all over the world (Quart, 2013). These sites, developed and run by people with psychological disorders, contain useful links, blogs, and other helpful resources. In-person support groups are also helpful, and many communities have groups supported by the National Alliance on Mental Illness (<http://www.nami.org>). Finding peers in the context of support groups can be beneficial, especially for emotional support and empowerment.

Recent efforts to reduce stigma have been quite creative in their use of social media and other means to get the message out that psychological disorders are common and affect us all in one way or another. Indeed, one of the largest and most recent epidemiological studies (see Chapter 4 for more on epidemiology) reported that the lifetime prevalence of any psychological disorder in the United States was 46.4 percent (Kessler, Berglund, Demler, et al., 2005), suggesting that nearly half of the U.S. population may experience some type of psychological disorder in their lifetimes. Many people with blogs have talked poignantly about their lives with different psychological disorders, and these accounts help to demystify and therefore destigmatize it. For example, Allie Brosh writes a blog called *Hyperbole and a Half* and discusses her experiences with depression on her blog (<http://hyperboleandahalf.blogspot.com>) and in a book (Brosh, 2013). The site *Patients Like Me* (<http://www.patientslikeme.com>) is a social networking site for people with all sorts of different illnesses. Other creative efforts include the design of T-shirts by a graphic designer named Dani Balenson (<http://danibalenson.com>). In her work, she seeks to use color and graphics to depict the symptoms, behaviors, and struggles that characterize psychological disorders such as ADHD, obsessive-compulsive disorder, depression, and bipolar disorder (<http://www.livingwith.co>).

In this chapter, we first discuss what we mean by the term *psychological disorder*. Then we look briefly at how our views of psychological disorders have evolved through history to the more scientific perspectives of today. We conclude with a discussion of the current mental health professions.

## Defining Psychological Disorder

A difficult but fundamental task facing those in the field of psychopathology is to define psychological disorder. The best current definition of psychological disorder is one that contains several characteristics. The definition of *mental disorder* presented in the fifth edition of the American diagnostic manual, the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (DSM-5), which was released in May 2013, includes a number of characteristics

essential to the concept of psychological disorder (Stein, Phillips, Bolton, et al., 2010), including the following:

- The disorder occurs within the individual.
- It involves clinically significant difficulties in thinking, feeling, or behaving.
- It usually involves personal distress of some sort, such as in social relationships or occupational functioning.
- It involves dysfunction in psychological, developmental, and/or neurobiological processes that support mental functioning.
- It is not a culturally specific reaction to an event (e.g., death of a loved one).
- It is not primarily a result of social deviance or conflict with society.

In the following sections, we consider four key characteristics that should be part of any comprehensive psychological disorder definition: personal distress, disability, violation of social norms, and dysfunction (see Figure 1.2). We will see that no single characteristic can

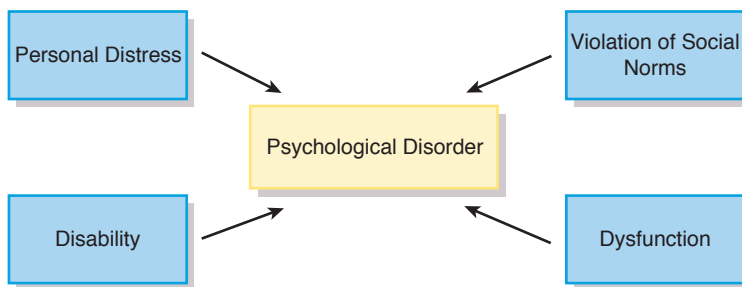
fully define the concept, although each has merit and each captures some part of what might be a full definition. Consequently, psychological disorder is usually determined based on the presence of several characteristics at one time.

### Personal Distress

One characteristic used to define psychological disorder is personal distress—that is, a person’s behavior may be classified as disordered if it causes him or her great distress. Felicia felt distress about her difficulty in paying attention and the social consequences of this difficulty—that is, being called names by other schoolgirls. Personal distress also characterizes many of the forms of psycho-

logical disorder considered in this book—people experiencing anxiety disorders and depression suffer greatly. But not all psychological disorders cause distress. For example, an individual with the antisocial type of personality disorder may treat others coldheartedly and violate the law without experiencing any guilt, remorse, anxiety, or other type of distress. And not all behavior that causes distress is disordered—for example, the distress of hunger due to religious fasting or the pain of childbirth.

#### Defining Psychological Disorder



**Figure 1.2** Four characteristics of a comprehensive definition of psychological disorder.

### Clinical Case: José

José didn’t know what to think about his nightmares. Ever since he returned from the war, he couldn’t get the bloody images out of his head. He woke up nearly every night with nightmares about the carnage he witnessed as a soldier stationed in Fallujah. Even during the day, he would have flashbacks to the moment his Humvee was nearly sliced in half by a rocket-propelled grenade. Watching his friend die sitting next to him was the worst part; even the occasional pain from shrapnel still embedded in his shoulder was not as bad as the recurring dreams and flashbacks. He seemed to be sweating all the time now, and whenever he heard a loud noise, he jumped out of his chair. Just the other day, his grandmother stepped on a balloon left over from his

“welcome home” party. To José, it sounded like a gunshot, and he immediately dropped to the ground.

His grandmother was worried about him. She thought he must have *ataque de nervios*, just like her father had back home in Puerto Rico. She said her father had been afraid all the time and felt like he was going crazy. She kept going to Mass and praying for José, which he appreciated. The army doctor said he had posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). José was supposed to go to the Veterans Administration (VA) hospital for an evaluation, but he didn’t really think there was anything wrong with him. Yet his buddy Jorge had been to a group session at the VA, and he said it made him feel better. Maybe he would check it out. He wanted these images to get out of his head.



## Disability

Disability—that is, impairment in some important area of life (e.g., work or personal relationships)—can also characterize psychological disorder. For example, substance use disorders are defined in part by the social or occupational disability (e.g., serious arguments with one's spouse or poor work performance) created by substance abuse. Being rejected by peers, as Felicia was, is also an example of this characteristic. Phobias can produce both distress and disability—for example, if a severe fear of flying prevents someone living in California from taking a job in New York. Like distress, however, disability alone cannot be used to define psychological disorder because some, but not all, disorders involve disability. For example, the disorder bulimia nervosa involves binge eating and compensatory purging (e.g., vomiting) in an attempt to control weight gain, but it does not necessarily involve disability. Many people with bulimia lead lives without impairment, while bingeing and purging in private. Other characteristics that might, in some circumstances, be considered disabilities—such as being blind and wanting to become a professional race car driver—do not fall within the domain of psychopathology. We do not have a rule that tells us which disabilities belong in our domain of study and which do not.



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Personal distress can be part of the definition of psychological disorder.

## Violation of Social Norms

In the realm of behavior, social norms are widely held standards (beliefs and attitudes) that people use consciously or intuitively to make judgments about where behaviors are situated on such scales as good–bad, right–wrong, justified–unjustified, and acceptable–unacceptable. Behavior that violates social norms might be classified as disordered. For example, the repetitive rituals performed by people with obsessive-compulsive disorder (see Chapter 7) and the conversations with imaginary voices that some people with schizophrenia engage in (see Chapter 9) are behaviors that violate social norms. José's dropping to the floor at the sound of a popping balloon does not fit within most social norms. Yet this way of defining psychological disorder is both too broad and too narrow. For example, it is too broad in that criminals violate social norms but are not usually studied within the domain of psychopathology; it is too narrow in that highly anxious people typically do not violate social norms.

Also, of course, social norms vary a great deal across cultures and ethnic groups, so behavior that clearly violates a social norm in one group may not do so at all in another. For example, in some cultures but not in others, it violates a social norm to directly disagree with someone. In Puerto Rico, José's behavior would not likely have been interpreted in the same way as it would be in the United States. Throughout this book, we will address this important issue of cultural and ethnic diversity as it applies to the descriptions, causes, and treatments of psychological disorders.

## Dysfunction

In an influential and widely discussed paper, Wakefield (1992) proposed that psychological disorders could be defined as **harmful dysfunction**. This definition has two parts: a value judgment ("harmful") and an objective, scientific component—the "dysfunction." A judgment that a behavior is harmful requires some standard, and this standard is likely to depend on social norms and values, the characteristic just described. Dysfunctions are said to occur when an internal mechanism is unable to perform its natural function—that is, the function that it evolved to perform. By grounding this part of the definition of psychological disorder in evolutionary theory, Wakefield hoped to give the definition scientific objectivity.

Numerous critics have argued that the dysfunction component of Wakefield's definition is not so easily and objectively identifiable in relation to psychological disorders (e.g., Houts, 2001; Lilienfeld & Marino, 1999). One difficulty is that many internal mechanisms involved in psychological disorders are unknown; thus, we cannot say exactly what may not be functioning properly.



Roger Spooner/Getty Images, Inc.

To some people, extreme tattoos are a violation of the social norm. However, social norm violations are not necessarily signs of a psychological disorder.

Wakefield (1999) has tried to meet this objection by, in part, referring to plausible dysfunctions rather than proven ones. In the case of Jack, for example, hallucinations (hearing voices) could be construed as a failure of the mind to “turn off” unwanted sounds. Nevertheless, we have a situation in which we judge a behavior or set of behaviors to be harmful and then decide that the behavior represents a psychological disorder because we believe it is caused by a dysfunction of some unknown internal mechanism. Clearly, like the other definitions of psychological disorder, Wakefield’s concept of harmful dysfunction has its limitations.

The DSM definition provides a broader concept of dysfunction, which is supported by our current body of evidence. Specifically, the DSM definition of dysfunction refers to the fact that developmental, psychological, and biological dysfunctions are all interrelated. That is, the brain impacts behavior, and behavior impacts the brain; thus dysfunction in these areas is interrelated. This broadening does not entirely avoid the problems associated with Wakefield’s definition, but it is an attempt to formally recognize the limits of our current understanding.

Indeed, it is crucial to keep in mind that this book presents human problems that are currently considered psychological disorders. Over time, because the field is continually evolving, the disorders discussed in books like this will undoubtedly change, and so will the definition of psychological disorder. It is also quite possible that we will never be able to arrive at a definition that captures psychological disorder in its entirety and for all time. Nevertheless, at the current time, the characteristics included in the definition constitute a useful partial definition, but keep in mind that they do not equally or invariably apply to every diagnosis.

## Quick Summary

This book focuses on the description, causes, and treatments of a number of different psychological disorders. It is important to note at the outset that the personal impact of our subject matter requires us to make a conscious, determined effort to remain objective. Stigma remains a central problem in the field of psychopathology. Stigma has four components that involve the labels for psychological disorders and their uses. Even the use of everyday terms such as *crazy* or *schizo* can contribute to the stigmatization of people with psychological disorders.

Defining psychological disorder remains difficult. A number of different definitions have been offered, but none can entirely account for the full range of disorders. Whether or not a behavior causes personal distress can be a characteristic of psychological disorder.

But not all behaviors that we consider to be part of psychological disorders cause distress. Behaviors that cause a disability or are unexpected can be considered part of a psychological disorder. But again, some behaviors do not cause disability, nor are they unexpected. Behavior that violates social norms can also be considered part of a psychological disorder. However, not all such behavior is considered part of a psychological disorder, and some behaviors that are characteristic of psychological disorders do not necessarily violate social norms. Harmful dysfunction involves both a value and a scientific component. Like the other definitions, however, it cannot fully account for what we study in psychopathology. Taken together, each definition of psychological disorder has something helpful to offer in the study of psychopathology.

## Check Your Knowledge 1.1 (Answers are at the end of the chapter.)

- Characteristics of stigma include all of the following *except*:
  - a label reflecting desirable characteristics
  - discrimination against those with the label
  - focus on differences between those with and without the label
  - labeling a group of people who are different
- Which of the following definitions of psychological disorder is currently thought best?
  - personal distress
  - harmful dysfunction
  - norm violation
  - none of the above
- Why is the DSM definition of psychological disorder perhaps the best current definition?
  - It includes information about both violation of social norms and dysfunction.
  - It includes many components, none of which alone can account for psychological disorder.
  - It is part of the current diagnostic system.
  - It recognizes the limits of our current understanding.

# History of Psychopathology

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Many textbooks begin with a chapter on the history of the field. Why? It is important to consider how concepts and approaches have changed (or not) over time, because we can learn from mistakes made in the past and because we can see that our current concepts and approaches are likely to change in the future. As we consider the history of psychopathology, we will see that many new approaches to the treatment of psychological disorders throughout time appear to go well at first and are heralded with much excitement and fanfare. But these treatments eventually fall into disrepute. These are lessons that should not be forgotten as we consider more contemporary approaches to treatment and their attendant excitement and fanfare.

The search for the causes of psychological disorders has gone on for a considerable period of time. At different periods in history, explanations for psychological disorders have been supernatural, biological, and psychological. As we quickly travel through these different periods, ask yourself what level of explanation was operating at different times.

## Early Demonology

Before the age of scientific inquiry, all good and bad manifestations of power beyond human control—eclipses, earthquakes, storms, fire, diseases, the changing seasons—were regarded as supernatural. Behavior seemingly outside individual control was also ascribed to supernatural causes. Many early philosophers, theologians, and physicians who studied the troubled mind believed that disturbed behavior reflected the displeasure of the gods or possession by demons.

The doctrine that an evil being or spirit can dwell within a person and control his or her mind and body is called **demonology**. Examples of demonological thinking are found in the records of the early Chinese, Egyptians, Babylonians, and Greeks. Among the Hebrews, odd behavior was attributed to possession of the person by bad spirits, after God in his wrath had withdrawn protection. The New Testament includes the story of Christ curing a man with an unclean spirit by casting out the devils from within him and hurling them onto a herd of swine (Mark 5:8–13).

The belief that odd behavior was caused by possession led to treating it by **exorcism**, the ritualistic casting out of evil spirits. Exorcism typically took the form of elaborate rites of prayer, noisemaking, forcing the afflicted to drink terrible-tasting brews, and on occasion more extreme measures, such as flogging and starvation, to render the body uninhabitable to devils.

## Early Biological Explanations

In the fifth century B.C., Hippocrates (460?–377? B.C.), often called the father of modern medicine, separated medicine from religion, magic, and superstition. He rejected the prevailing Greek belief that the gods sent mental disturbances as punishment and insisted instead that such illnesses had natural causes and hence should be treated like other, more common maladies, such as colds and constipation. Hippocrates regarded the brain as the organ of consciousness, intellectual life, and emotion; thus, he thought that disordered thinking and behavior were indications of some kind of brain pathology. Hippocrates is often considered one of the earliest proponents of the notion that something wrong with the brain disturbs thought and action.

Hippocrates classified psychological disorders into three categories: mania, melancholia, and phrenitis, or brain fever. Further, Hippocrates believed that normal brain functioning, and therefore mental health, depended on a delicate balance among four humors, or fluids of the body, namely, blood, black bile, yellow bile, and phlegm. An imbalance of these humors produced disorders. If a person was sluggish and dull, for example, the body supposedly contained a preponderance of phlegm. A preponderance of black bile was the explanation for melancholia; too much yellow bile explained irritability and anxiousness; and too much blood, changeable temperament.