



THE LONGEST ENGLISH WORD MADE ON THE
TOP LINE OF A TYPEWRITER IS

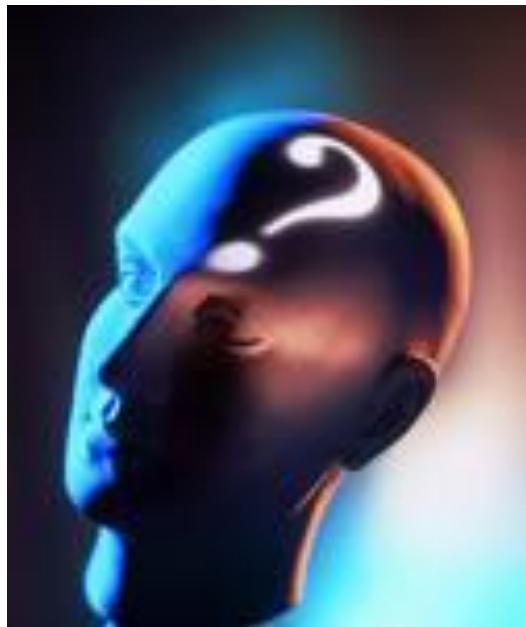
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Journal Entry: May 17, 2017

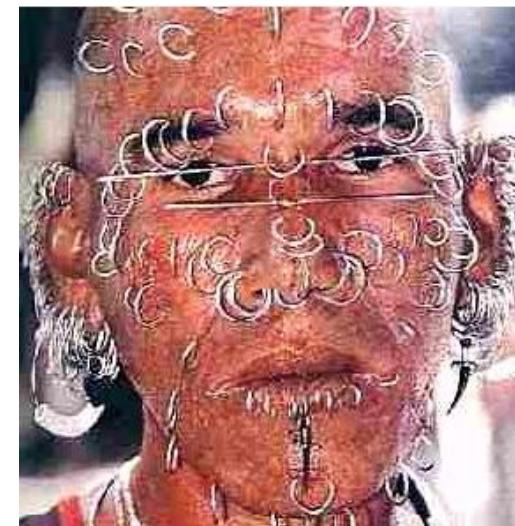
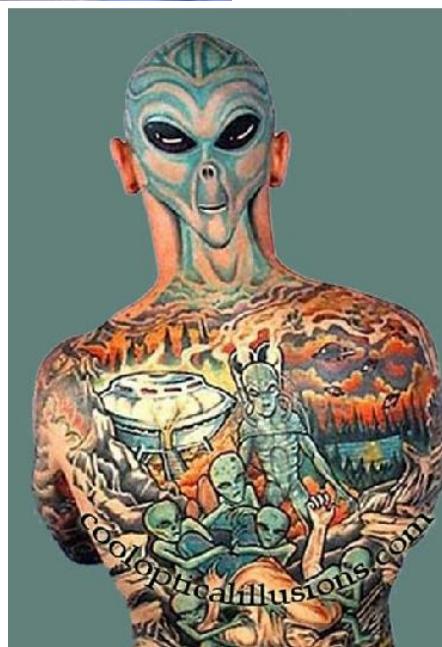
- **Objective:** Define psychological disorder; Distinguish between the concepts of normality and abnormality
- **Warm-Up/Journal Entry Question:**
 - Pick up Goal sheet and answer the following question inside your notebooks:
“What do you consider to mentally ill (what characteristics)?”
- **Agenda:**
 - Journal Entry
 - PPT/Notes: Intro to Abnormal Psych
 - Defining Abnormal Psychology
 - Begin Phobia Assignment
- **Homework:**
 - Finish Phobia Worksheet
 - TEST & Goal Sheet: Unit 10, Abnormal Psychology: Thursday May 25

Intro to... **Abnormal Psychology** *A.K.A. Psychological Disorders*



behavior is judged to be deviant,
distressful, and dysfunctional.

Deviant: being different from most other people in one's culture; may vary by context (example – wartime) and time (example - homosexuality was classified as an illness from 1952 to 1973)





©Werner Herzog Film

- Men of the West Africa Wodaabe tribe put on elaborate makeup and costumes to attract women. In Western society, the same behavior would break behavioral norms and might be judged abnormal.

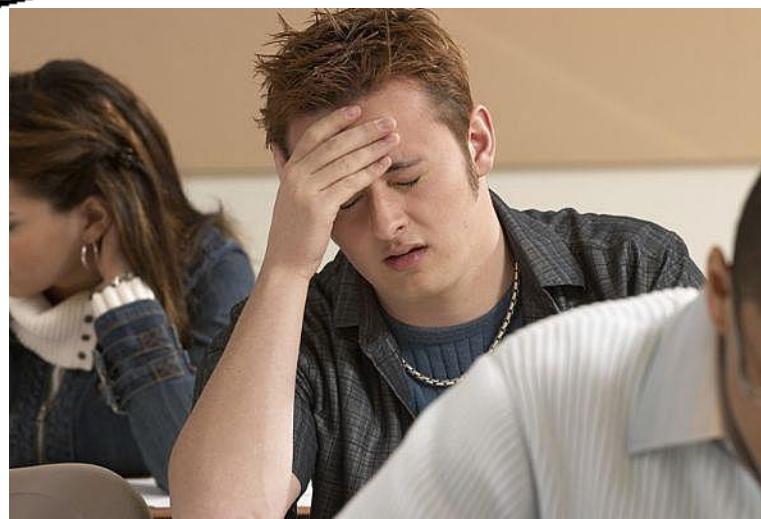
Normal or Not

A man living in the Ozark Mountains has a vision in which God speaks to him. He begins preaching to his relatives and neighbors, and soon he has the whole town in a state of religious fervor. People say he has a “calling.” His reputation as a prophet and healer spreads, and in time he is drawing large audiences everywhere he goes. However, he ventures into St. Louis and attempts to hold a prayer meeting, blocking traffic on a main street at rush hour, he is arrested. He tells the policemen about his conversations with God, and they hurry him off to the nearest mental hospital.

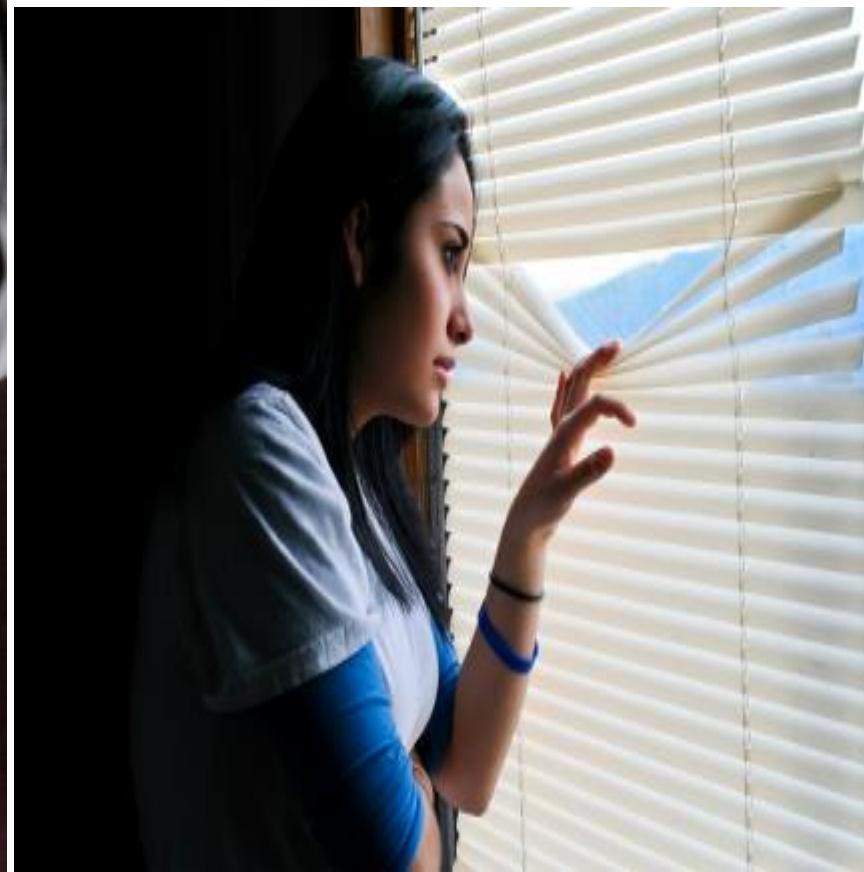
Who is right? The prophet or the police officers?

How can a person be viewed as normal in one community and abnormal in another?

Distressful: causes the individual stress (pain, anxiety, sorrow, etc.)



Dysfunction: considered to be disorderly if it
impairs your everyday life

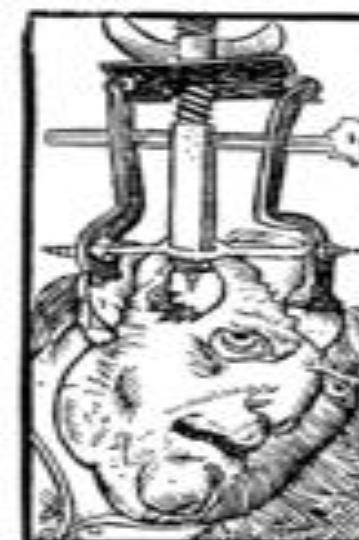
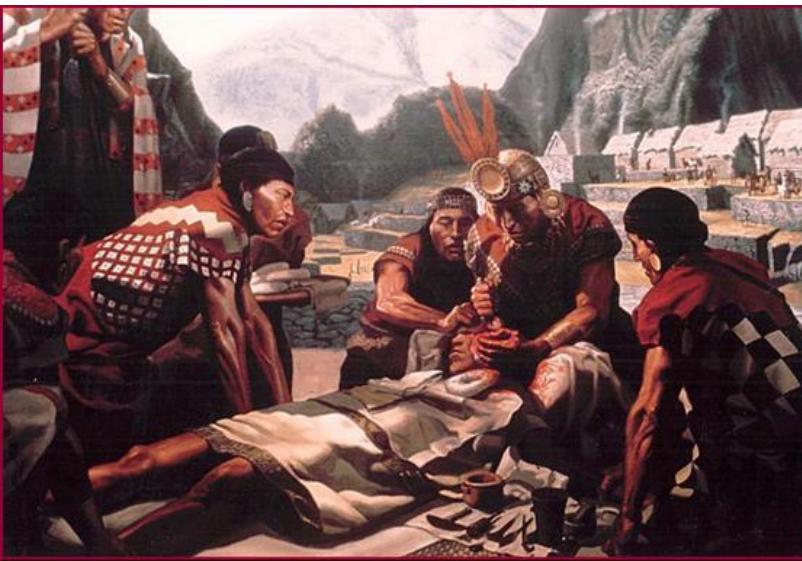




Early Theories



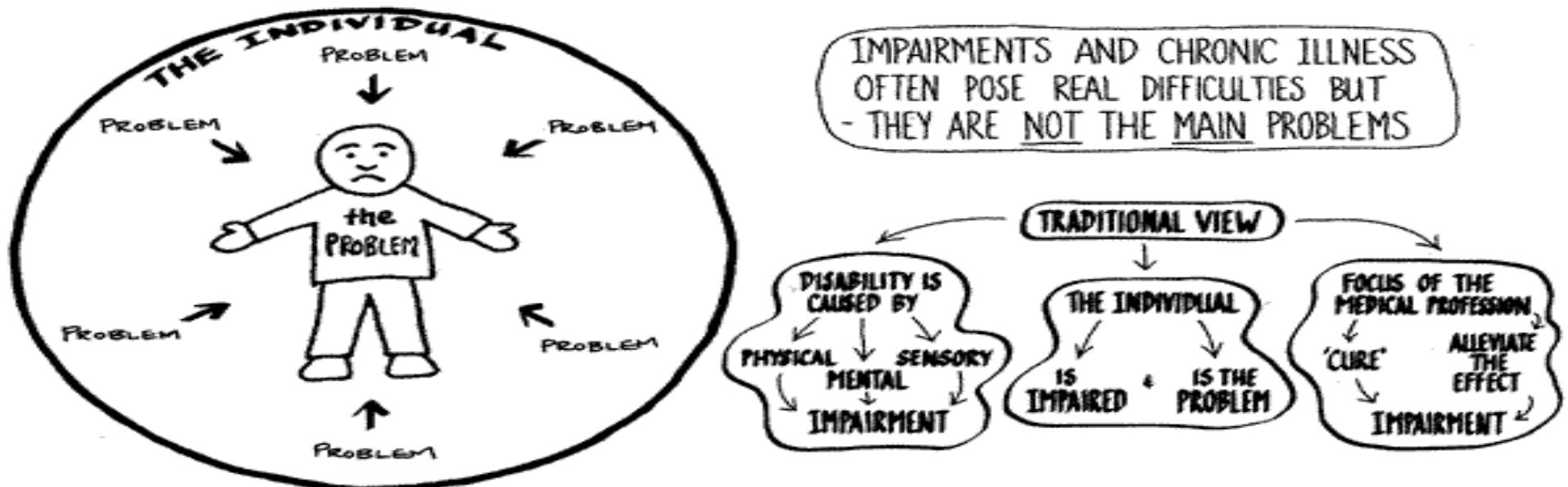
- Abnormal behavior was evil spirits trying to get out, godlike powers, movement of stars
- Treatments: institutionalized, drilling holes in skull, removing intestines, transfusion of animal blood, and more



Medical Model

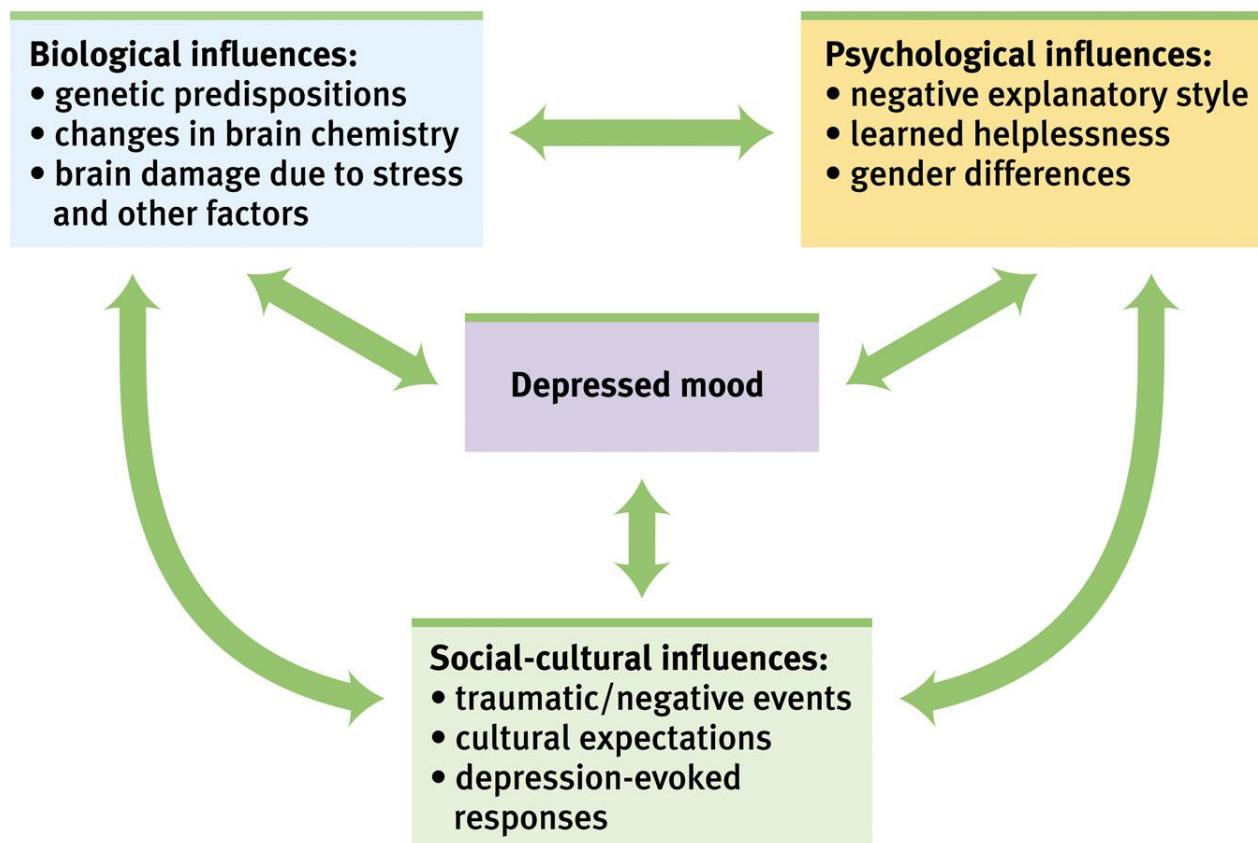
- By the 1800s, we started reforming the way we looked at mental illness and developed the medical model
- Mental illness needs to be diagnosed on basis of symptoms and cured through therapy and treatment

THE MEDICAL MODEL OF DISABILITY



Biopsychosocial Approach

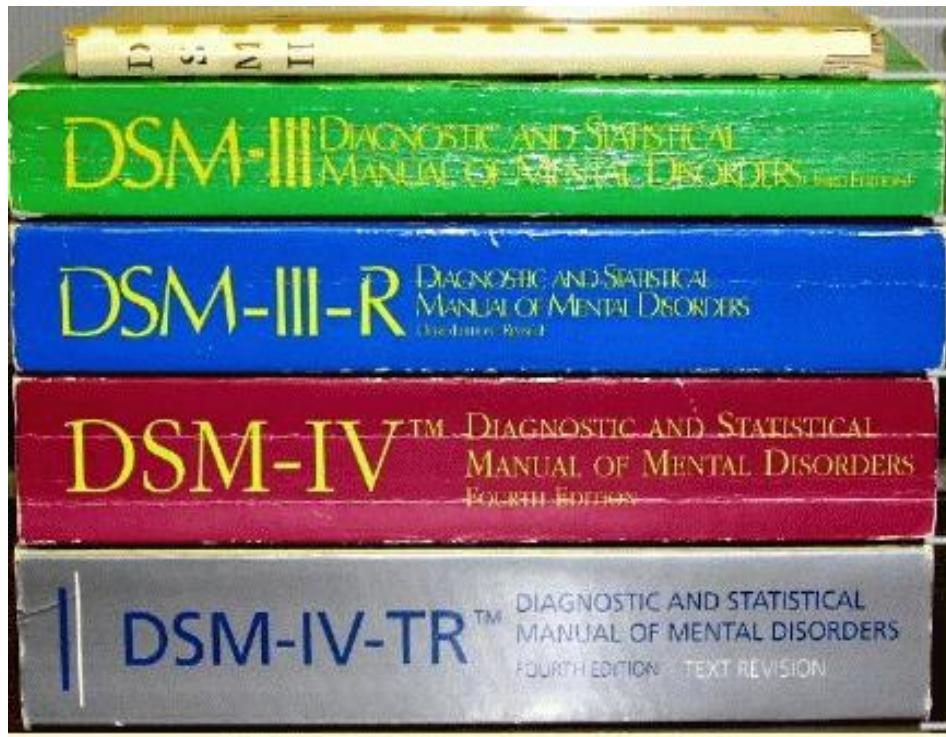
- considers combination of biological, psychological, and social factors as contributing to development of disorders



Perspectives and Disorders

Psychological School/Perspective	Cause of the Disorder
Psychoanalytic/Psychodynamic	Internal, unconscious drives
Humanistic	Failure to strive to one's potential or being out of touch with one's feelings.
Behavioral	Reinforcement history, the environment.
Cognitive	Irrational, dysfunctional thoughts or ways of thinking.
Sociocultural	Dysfunctional Society
Biomedical/Neuroscience	Organic problems, biochemical imbalances, genetic predispositions.

DSM IV

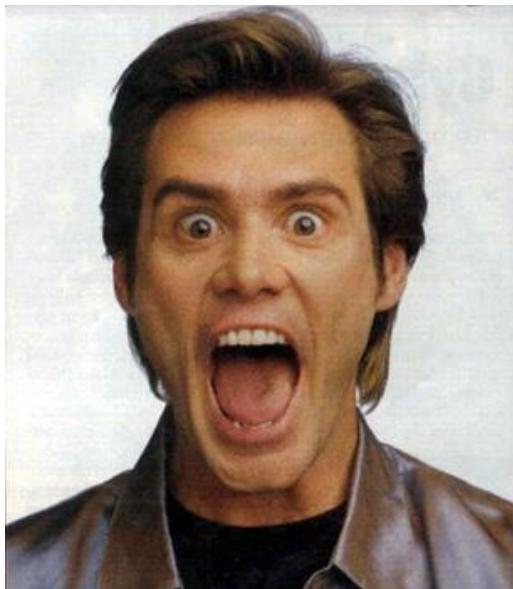


- American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, a widely used system for classifying psychological disorders
- Lists symptoms, examples, etc.
- Helps psychologists diagnose disorders
- Used by insurance companies
- DSM will NOT explain the causes or possible cures.

Two Major Classifications in the DSM

Neurotic Disorders

- Distressing but one can still function in society and act rationally.



Psychotic Disorders

- Person loses contact with reality, experiences distorted perceptions.



John Wayne Gacy

People First Language

- seeing individuals as **people first** and not defined by their disorder
- Ex: “a person with schizophrenia,” not “a schizophrenic”
- Labels can **negatively** affect the way we perceive people
 - Example: What emotions come to you when you hear the words “cancer patient?”
- Labels can result in **self-fulfilling prophecies**



Criticisms

- Are people with disorders truly mentally ill or are they just deviating from social norms?



The Rosenhan Study

- The Rosenhan Experiment highlights the power of roles and the expectations of roles and statuses.
- Findings: when an individual is labeled, they are occupying a certain status in society with a stereotypical role
- *Altering the perceptions of others is very difficult.*



The Rosenhan Study (cont.)

- Rosenhan notes that often there is only a loose association between the person labeled mentally ill and the actual act of being mentally ill.
- Often the label or status that we impose upon others becomes the primary tool for knowing how to respond to other individual.
- To put it in other words, if we see a person in a given role, certain expectations accompany that role.
- It becomes very difficult for ordinary people to "know an individual" outside those perceptions and expectations.

The Rosenhan Study (cont.)

- To demonstrate this point, Rosenhan asked: "**what would happen if sane people sought admission to a psychiatric hospital?**"
- To explore this question, several of his graduate students went to psychiatric hospitals complaining of hearing voices. Professional staff diagnosed all as having mental disorders. All the students were admitted to the psychiatric hospitals.
- After their admission, however, they stopped displaying all inappropriate behavior (i.e., hearing voices).
- **Their goal after admission was to convince the staff that they were sane.**

The Rosenhan Study (cont.)

- **Hospital staff diagnosed most of the pseudo patients as schizophrenic.** The graduate students were hospitalized for an average of 19 days.
- The staff never did realize that the pseudo patients were frauds. Other patients, however, did realize.
- 35 out of 118 real patients expressed suspicions like: "*you're not crazy, you're journalists or protesters*" or "*you're checking up on the hospital.*"

The Rosenhan Study (cont.)

- Once the doctors labeled the students, nothing the students could do would change the expectations of the professional staff.
 - Rosenhan notes that in all likelihood some of the professional staff also realized that the students were not really "sick," but said nothing in order to save face.
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- Think of 5 labels placed on students today and how you view that student.