

Historical Perspectives on Abnormal Behavior

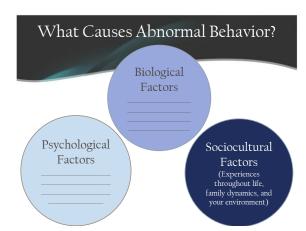
Chapter One Overview to Understanding Abnormal Behavior



Historical Perspectives

What is Clinical Assessment and why is it used?

What assessment methods do professionals use?



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- Abnormal behavior and psychological disorders have been documented for thousands of years.
- Although many early "treatments" are now recognized as cruel and ineffective, they were considered state-of-the-art for their times.

Treatment was influenced by the social perception of mental illness

Ū\	ery early in history (500-
7	700 A.D) the problem was
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	disorders may have natural
	causes and should be

treated as a





■ Later in history (500-1700 A.D) due to the influence of the church witchcraft and demonic

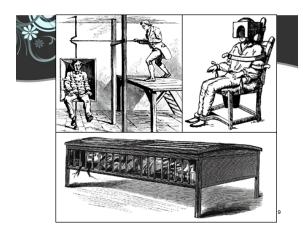




People with psychological disorders or "madmen" were seen as dangerous animals who should be caged in order to protect society.









These are some of the "treatments" that were used to contain and control the mentally ill.

Since mental illness was not seen at this time as a medical condition, ____

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Mental Health Reform

The unfortunate results of the Mental Hygiene Movement:

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Until the 1970's, most people with mental illness were warehoused in psychiatric institutions. The conditions in most psychiatric hospitals were terrible and often inhumane.

These conditions contributed to the



This federal policy promoted the release of psychiatric patients from long-term care facilities

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Did it work as promised? Deinstitutionalization has been criticized for failing to live up to its expectations. Accounting for a very large percentage of the homeless population.



The community mental health movement has had many successes, but continue to remain underfunded.



How are psychological disorders evaluated?

Chapter 3 Assessment

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Assessment is a procedure in which a clinician evaluates a person in terms of the

This evaluation occurs in a person who \underline{may} have a psychological disorder.



Clinical Assessment

- Psychological assessment uses a broad-range of measurement techniques.
- Only after a person is assessed can a <u>diagnosis</u> be given.
 - This is the process of determining whether



The diagnosis of a psychological disorder represents a way of classifying patterns of abnormal behavior

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Why is it important to have a process for assessing and diagnosing people?

Classification promotes Universal standards
Classification is the core of scientific study, which allows
Classification facilitates research on etiology and treatments of disorders, including best practices.
<u> </u>



There is much debate on the classification of mental disorders

Some feel that diagnosis of psychological disorders do more harm than good, fail to truly address the individual's problem and create dehumanizing labels

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Next class

More assessment methods!

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How are disorders assessed?

-Chapter 3: Assessment