

CH. 12 Mental Disorder

Behavioral problems are treating them as medical issues

Medicalization of deviance

By Foucault

As religion has been weighed as a deviance control, it has now moved to a medical control

The causes of these behaviors is unknown. "We know you have a prob and we are gonna try to find the cause, but in the mean time, heres a drug to fix it"

APA- American psychiatric association

List a bunch of mental disorders

DSM- book that lists them all (diagnostic and statistical manual of disorders)

Every time a new list comes out, more and more disorders are listed

"illness" - whats considered "ill", what considered a disease/disorder.

Whats the difference between a disease and a disorder

Disorder is totally dif than disease

Disease- you can diagnostically prove that it exists. Physiological function. A pathology in medicine. Biological in origin. "biology/heredity"

Pathology-driven: focus on def type of pathologies that undermine physical. objective

Disorder- probs that ppl face in their reg day living. Problems in mood, how do you feel?. Look at certain behaviors and label them. Social behavior.

Clinically- driven: based on opinion. Subjective

Essentialists (positivists)- mental disorder exhibits objective traits

The mentally ill can be distinguished from the non-ill

Constructionaliss- mental disorder reflects "labels"

" " is subjective in nature

What is the difference objectively in what a minister will tell you vs what a schizophrenic will tell you?

Biological side vs trama as the cause of mental disorders

Biological- saying delusions or hallucinations are *symptoms* of schiz

Serotonin is correlated to depression (a positivists view) Weaknesses in argument:

Changes in serotonin leads to changes in mood

Must be time correlated: after serotonin goes up, mood goes ?

Other factors play into someones mood

BOOK-----

Mental disorder is seen as a mental condition that presumably manifests itself in certain behaviors, thought patterns, and verbal utterances.

Mental disorder is a set of conditions that exhibits itself in a wide range of behaviors

Sociologists study epidemiology-the distribution of mental disorders in the population

DSM-IV's definition of mental disorder is seen in all of the disorders listed: "is conceptualized as a clinically significant behavioral or psychological syndrome or pattern that occurs in an individual and that is associated with present distress (ie painful symptom) or disability or an important loss of freedom

Temporary pain such as loss of a loved one is not considered a mental disorder

There are degrees of mental disorders

Psychosis = those cases that are considered more serious, and vastly less common than neurosis without medication, the psychotic's condition, unlike the neurotics, is always a barrier to academic and occupational achievement and social relationships.

Two questions to characterize mental disorders

- 1) How is the reality of mental disorder defined
- 2) What causes mental disorder

Essentialists approaches to mental disorders

Behaviors and verbalizations are outward signs of manifestations of mental disorders

Mental disorders are identifiable

There is a common core to all mental disorders

Most extreme version of the essentialistic approach is referred to as the medical model

Mental disorder is like a mental disease. A disease of the mind is like a disease of the body

There are symptoms that can be categorized and the sane are clearly distinguishable from the insane

Stresses intrapsychic forces-it is an internal condition within the psyche of the disordered person

Mental disorder is largely or always a manifestation of abnormal biophysical functioning- brain damage, a chemical imbalance, pathological genes, etc

Any therapy must be physical in treatment- drugs, surgery, electroshock therapy

Some people are more crazy than other

Interested in the study of epidemiology and etiology of mental disorder

Epidemiology = how mental disorders are distributed in categories in the population

Etiology= explanations of the causes of mental disorder

There is a true rate or incident of mental disorder in a given population

What classes of ppl experience similar mental disorders

It doesn't matter how the disorder is socially defined- the reality exists independently of the definition

What is mental disorder, how does it work, what causes it

Epidemiology is usually seen as being in the service of etiology

Mental disorders are caused by social factors: ie stress

Biological theories believe that there is hard evidence whereas psychological theories are seen as soft

Psychological theories stress Nurture rather than nature- mental disorders are caused by the patient's experiences

Biological theories say that mental disorders can be cured or treated by changing the physical factors that cause them

Some sociologists and psychologists believe that mental disorder will manifest itself more under certain conditions than others vs. the medical model which says it will be evident in ALL conditions

Essentialists that don't agree to the medical model say the mental disorder may be a temporary condition

Constructionism