


SCHIZOPHRENIA

- Most severe disorder
- "Split mind"
- Thought disorder
- Affects about 2 million people (1%), more men than women
- 14% are homeless
- Onset in transition to adulthood

SCHIZOPHRENIA

- **Positive symptoms:**
 - **Delusions:** fixed false belief
 - **Hallucinations:** perception in the absence of stimulus
 - Disorganized speech
 - Disorganized behavior
- **Negative symptoms**
 - Catatonia
 - Affective flattening
 - Alogia
 - Apathy




SCHIZOPHRENIA

- **Main Subtypes:**
 - Paranoid
 - Disorganized
 - Catatonic
- **Brain abnormalities:**
 - Enlarged ventricles (cushion and nourish the brain)
 - While this enlarges, other areas shrink (temporal lobes)
 - Decrease in activation of the amygdala and hippocampus
 - Less active frontal lobes
- **Neurotransmitter differences**
 - Dopamine Hypothesis: excess of dopamine in the brain
- **Genetic influences**



DISSOCIATIVE DISORDERS

- **Dissociation**
 - Sudden, temporary changes in consciousness or self-identity
- **Dissociative amnesia**
- **Dissociative Fugue**
 - Suffering from amnesia and suddenly fleeing to a new location with a "new personality"



DISSOCIATIVE IDENTITY DISORDER


- Formerly called Multiple Personality Disorder
- Two (or more) identities living within the same person
- Each identity has its own memories, feelings, experiences
- Strongly associated with trauma

SOMATOFORM DISORDERS

- Characterized by physical symptoms that suggest physical illness or injury
- BUT the symptoms cannot be explained fully by a general medical condition, a substance, or another mental disorder (i.e. panic disorder)
- Ex: Conversion Disorder
 - Numbness or blindness without physiological cause
 - Thought to arise in response to difficulties in patient's life

DEVELOPMENTAL AND LEARNING DISORDERS

- Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Learning Disabilities



AUTISTIC DISORDER

- Severe deficits in
 - Language
 - Social bonding
 - Imagination
- Usually accompanied by mental retardation
- Genetic influences play a prominent role
- Some have believed it is due to vaccines in childhood
- Symptoms usually become most apparent beginning at age 2-3
- Asperger's = less severe form of Autism
