Chapter 18
PSYCHOLOGICAL DISORDERS

Section 1: What Are Psychological Disorders?
Section 2: Anxiety Disorders
Section 3: Dissociative Disorders
Section 4: Somatoform Disorders
Section 5: Mood Disorders
Section 6: Schizophrenia
Section 7: Personality Disorders
Question: What is the basis for classifying psychological disorders?

CLASSIFYING PSYCHOLOGICAL DISORDERS

- Most psychologists believe that it is important to have a widely agreed upon classification of psychological disorders.
- It is important to classify psychological disorders so that individuals can be correctly diagnosed and treated.
Question: What are anxiety disorders?

ANXIETY DISORDERS

- Feeling anxious all or most of the time or having anxiety that is out of proportion to the situation provoking it
- Anxiety that interferes with effective living, the achievement of desired goals, life satisfaction, and emotional comfort
FOUR DISSOCIATIVE DISORDERS

- **Dissociative Amnesia** – characterized by a sudden loss of memory usually following a particularly stressful or traumatic event.

- **Dissociative Fugue** – characterized not only by forgetting personal information and past events but also by suddenly relocating from home or work and taking on a new identity.
Question: What are the four dissociative disorders?

FOUR DISSOCIATIVE DISORDERS (continued)

- Dissociative Identity Disorder – involves the existence of two or more personalities within a single individual
- Depersonalization Disorder – feeling of detachment from one’s mental processes or body
Question: How do the two most common somatoform disorders differ?

Differences in Somatoform Disorders

- **Conversion disorder** is characterized by a sudden and severe loss of physical functioning that has no medical explanation.
- **Hypochondriasis** is the unhealthy fear of having a serious disorder.
Question: How do psychologists attempt to explain mood disorders?

**PSYCHOLOGICAL EXPLANATION OF MOOD DISORDERS**

- Some people are prone to depression because they suffered a real or imagined loss of a loved object or person in childhood.
- Some believe that *learned helplessness* makes people prone to depression.
- Others believe that some people are prone to depression because of their habitual style of explaining life events.
Question: What are the subtypes of schizophrenia?

**SUBTYPES OF SCHIZOPHRENIA**

- **Paranoid Schizophrenia** – delusions or frequent auditory hallucinations relating to a single theme
- **Disorganized Schizophrenia** – incoherent in their thoughts and speech and disorganized in their behavior
- **Catatonic Schizophrenia** – disturbance of movement
Question: How do personality disorders differ from other psychological disorders?

PERSONALITY DISORDERS

- A personality disorder is part of an individual’s makeup influencing virtually all behavior and thought.

- Other psychological disorders tend to be discrete episodes of illness than can be distinguished from the individual’s usual behavior.
Question: How are psychological disorders identified, what are their symptoms, and how are they classified?