

MODULE 69 OTHER DISORDERS

SOMATIC SYMPTOM AND RELATED DISORDERS

- **SOMATIC SYMPTOM DISORDER** is a psychological disorder in which the symptoms take a somatic (bodily) form without apparent physical cause.
- **CONVERSION DISORDER** is a disorder in which a person experiences very specific genuine physical symptoms for which no physiological basis can be found.
- **ILLNESS ANXIETY DISORDER** is a disorder in which a person interprets normal physical sensations as symptoms of a disease.

DISSOCIATIVE DISORDERS

- **DISSOCIATIVE DISORDERS** are disorders in which conscious awareness becomes separated (dissociated) from previous memories, thoughts, and feelings.
- Facing trauma, dissociative detachment may actually protect a person from being overwhelmed by emotion.
- **DISSOCIATIVE IDENTITY DISORDER** (DID) is where two or more distinct identities are said to alternately control the person's behavior. Each personality has its own voice and mannerisms. Thus the person may be prim and proper one moment, loud and flirtatious the next. Multiple personality disorders.
- Skeptics also find it suspicious that the disorder is so localized in time and space. No findings what so ever in Japan yet here in the US have quadrupled over the past decade. Cultural phenomenon.
- "Allow me to introduce myself."

EATING DISORDERS

- **ANOREXIA NERVOSA** is an eating disorder in which a person (usually an adolescent female) maintains a starvation diet despite being significantly (15% or more) underweight.
- **BULIMIA NERVOSA** is an eating disorder in which a person alternates binge eating (usually of high-calorie foods) with purging (by vomiting or laxative use), excessive exercise, or fasting.
- **BINGE-EATING DISORDER** is significant binge-eating episodes, followed by distress, disgust, or guilt, but without the compensatory purging or fasting that marks bulimia nervosa.

PERSONALITY DISORDERS

- A **PERSONALITY DISORDERS** is disruptive, inflexible, and enduring behavior patterns that impair one's social functioning. Anxiety is a feature of one cluster of these disorders, such as a fearful sensitivity to rejection that predisposes the withdrawn

avoidant personality disorder. A second cluster expresses eccentric or odd behaviors, such as the emotionless disengagement of the schizoid personality disorder. A third cluster exhibits dramatic or impulsive behaviors, such as the attention-getting histrionic personality disorder and the self-focused and self-inflating narcissistic personality disorder.

- **ANTISOCIAL PERSONALITY DISORDER** is a personality disorder in which a person (usually a man) exhibits a lack of conscience for wrongdoing, even toward friends and family members. May be aggressive ruthless or a clever con artist. Genetic predispositions may interact with the environment to produce the altered brain activity associated with antisocial personality disorder.

BE ABLE TO ANSWER: What does somatic mean?

The psychodynamic and learning perspectives agree that dissociative identity disorder symptoms are ways of dealing with anxiety. How do their explanations differ?

What contribution do genes make to the development of antisocial personality disorder?

PRACTICE FRQ: Name and briefly describe three eating disorders.