# Chapter 10 Personality

#### FIRST BORNS

feels left out responsible motivated peacemaker conscientious social controlling adaptable cautious people-pleaser reliable perfectionist can be rebellious achiever independent leader go-between bossy

#### MIDDLE BORNS

#### LAST BORNS





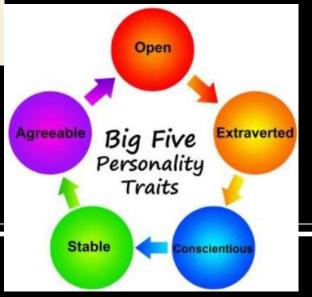
uncomplicated manipulative seeks attention self-centered fun social charming outgoing



seeks approval
sensitive
leader
confident
center of attention
mature for their age
conscientious
responsible
perfectionist







## Lecture Overview

Psychoanalytic/Psychodynamic Theories

**Humanistic Theories** 

Trait Theories

Social-Cognitive Theories

**Biological Theories** 

Personality Assessment



### Key Definition

Personality: unique & relatively stable pattern of thoughts, feelings, & actions



# Psychoanalytic/Psychodynamic Theories

Psychoanalytic/Psychodynamic Theories:

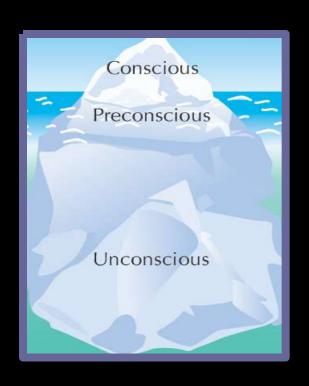
examine how unconscious mental forces interplay with thoughts, feelings, & actions

Early Key Figures:

Founding Father--Freud

Neo-Freudians--Adler, Jung, Horney

## Psychoanalytic/Psychodynamic Theories: Levels of Consciousness



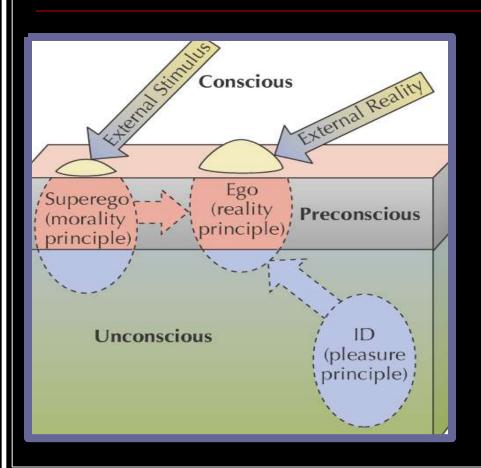
Conscious: thoughts or motives person is currently aware of or remembering

Preconscious: thoughts, motives, or memories that can be voluntarily brought to mind

Unconscious: thoughts, motives, or memories blocked from normal awareness

# Psychoanalytic/Psychodynamic Theories: Personality Structures

Id: instinctual energy



(pleasure principle)

Ego: rational part of psyche (reality principle)

Superego: the conscience (morality principle)

Id, Ego, Superego

## Psychoanalytic/Psychodynamic Theories: Defense Mechanisms



Defense mechanisms: ego's protective method of reducing anxiety by distorting reality



Defense Mechanism	Description	Example	
Repression	Preventing painful or unacceptable thoughts from entering consciousness	Forgetting the details of your parent's painful death	
Sublimation	Redirecting unmet desires or unacceptable impulses into acceptable activities	Rechanneling sexual desires into school, work, art, sports, hobbies that are constructive	
Denial	Protecting oneself from an unpleasant reality by refusing to perceive it	Alcoholics refusing to admit their addiction	
Rationalization	Substituting socially acceptable reasons for unacceptable ones	Justifying cheating on an exam by saying "everyone else does it"	
Intellectualization	Ignoring the emotional aspects of a painful experi- ence by focusing on abstract thoughts words, or ideas	Emotionless discussion of your divorce while , ignoring underlying pain	
Projection	Transferring unacceptable thoughts, motives, or impulses to others	Becoming unreasonably jealous of your mate while denying your own attraction to others	
Reaction formation Refusing to acknowledge unacceptable urges, Promoting a per thoughts, or feelings by exaggerating the opposite even though you pernography		Promoting a petition against adult bookstores even though you are secretly fascinated by pornography	
Regression	Responding to a threatening situation in a way appropriate to an earlier age or level of development	Throwing a temper tantrum when a friend doesn't want to do what you'd like	
Displacement	Redirecting impulses toward a less threatening person or object	Yelling at a coworker after being criticized by your boss	

## Psychoanalytic/Psychodynamic Theories: Psychosexual Stages of Development

Psychosexual Stages: Freudian idea of five developmental periods key to personality development

Oral Stage: birth-18 months

Anal Stage: 18 months-3 yrs

Phallic Stage: 3-6 yrs

Latency Stage: 6 yrs-puberty

Genital Stage: puberty-adulthood

Psychosexual Stages

Freud believed all children pass through five psychosexual stages. At each stage the id's pleasure seeking energies focus on specific pleasure areas of the body (erogenous zones).



# Problems with Freud?



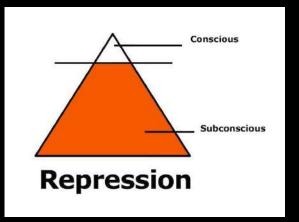
Freud's theory offers only an after-the-fact explanation of behavior or characteristics but

# fails to predict behavior

Good theories make "testable" predictions

# Repression

Many argue repression is rare-Stress damages the hippocampus but bad memories aren't repressed because they are "burned" into the soul



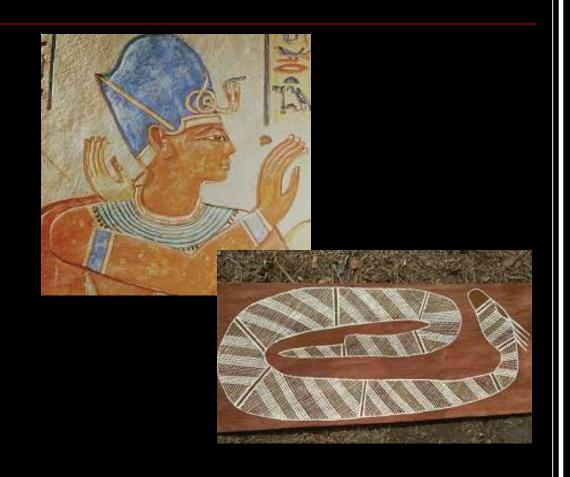
### Psychoanalytic/Psychodynamic Theories: Neo-Freudian Theorists



Adler: suggested that most people experience an inferiority complex, which later results in a "will-to-power" that can be either positive or negative-Overcoming childhood inferiority is the goal

### Psychoanalytic/Psychodynamic Theories: Neo-Freudian Theorists

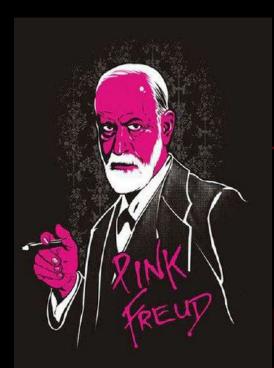
Jung: proposed an inherited collective unconscious consisting of archetypes
Intro to Jung



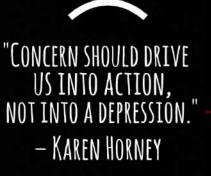
### Psychoanalytic/Psychodynamic Theories: Neo-Freudian Theorists



Horney: believed some adults experience basic anxiety due to childhood feelings of helplessness and isolation and it triggers a desire for love and affection







Horney took exception to Freud's assertion: "women have weak superego's and suffer from penis envy"

### Horney

### Freud

- Believed childhood social tensions crucial for personality formation
- Said childhood anxiety, caused by a dependent child's sense of helplessness, triggers our desire for love and security
- Countered assumption that women have weak superegos and suffer "penis envy"

- Id, ego, superego
- Importance of unconscious
- Shaping of personality in childhood
- Dynamics of anxiety and defense mechanisms

- Believed that childhood sexual experiences shaped personality in childhood.
- Placed more emphasis on the unconscious mind and desire's influences on personality.
- Biased against females, believing that they suffered from "penis envy" and had weaker superegos.

# How do Neo-Freudians differ from Freud?

- 1. Placed more emphasis on conscious mind's role in interpreting experience and coping with life
- 2. Doubt that sex & aggression were "all consuming" motivators



# The Modern Unconscious Mind

False Consensus Effect: Tendency to believe more people agree or share our beliefs and behavior-Modern day Freudian "projection"





Terror Management Theory: Death-related anxiety provokes defenses like seeking meaning of life, religious convitions, and cleaving to close relationships-increases contempt for others and increases our self esteem

# Projective Tests to measure Personality

Tests to psychologically x-ray or show inner feelings

Examples:

TAT Thematic Apperception Test-Patient given ambiguous picture and must make up a story which will reflect inner feelings RORSCHACK Inkblot Test: Patient describes what they see in images which reflects inner thoughts

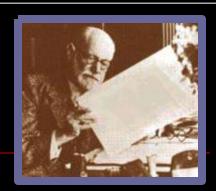
Ink Blots number 1-10- Put first thing that

comes to mind for each image

# Rorschach & Freudians

Crash Course #21

# Evaluating Psychoanalytic/ Psychodynamic Theories



### Pro:

Emphasis on unconscious, intrapsychic conflicts, development of influential therapy (e.g., psychoanalysis)
Modern psychodynamic theories use more empirical methods

### Con:

Difficult to test
Overemphasizes biology &
unconscious forces
Inadequate evidence
Sexism
Lack of cross-cultural
support



## Pause & Reflect: Assessment

1. Using the iceberg analogy, explain Freud's three levels of consciousness.

2. Briefly describe Freud's five psychosexual stages.



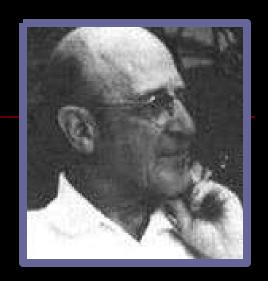
### Humanistic Theories

### Emphasis:

Personality develops from internal experiences (feelings & thoughts) & individual feelings of basic worth. Focus on the ways people strive for self determination

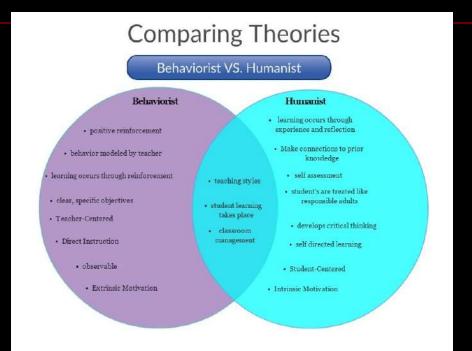
People are innately good (or, at worst, neutral) with a positive drive toward self-fulfillment.

Key Figures: Rogers & Maslow





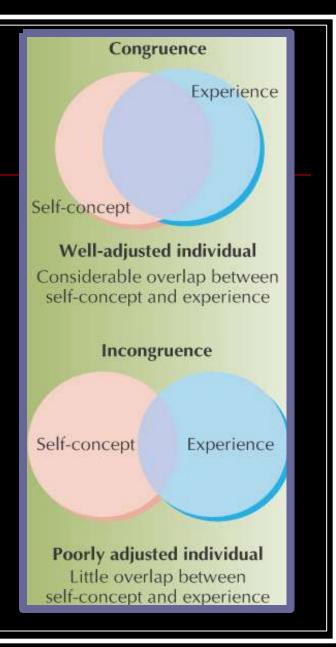
**Humanistic theory** is different than **Behaviorism** because behaviorists study scientifically with observations and objectivity while humanists study through selfreported study



# Humanistic Theories: Rogers' Key Concepts

Key component of personality is the self, what a person defines as "I" or "me"

Mental health is related to the degree of congruence between the self-concept & life experiences.



## Humanistic Theories: Rogers's Key Terms (Continued)

Unconditional
Positive
Regard: love &
acceptance
with no
contingencies
attached



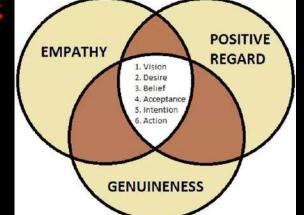
# 3 Main Conditions Of Unconditional Positive Regard

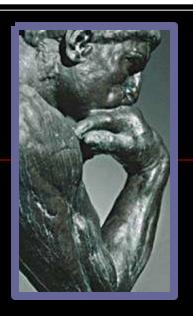
Genuineness: Open with feelings

Acceptance: Unconditional Positive

Regard-attitude of grace

Empathy: Ability to share & mirror other's feelings





## Pause & Reflect: Critical Thinking

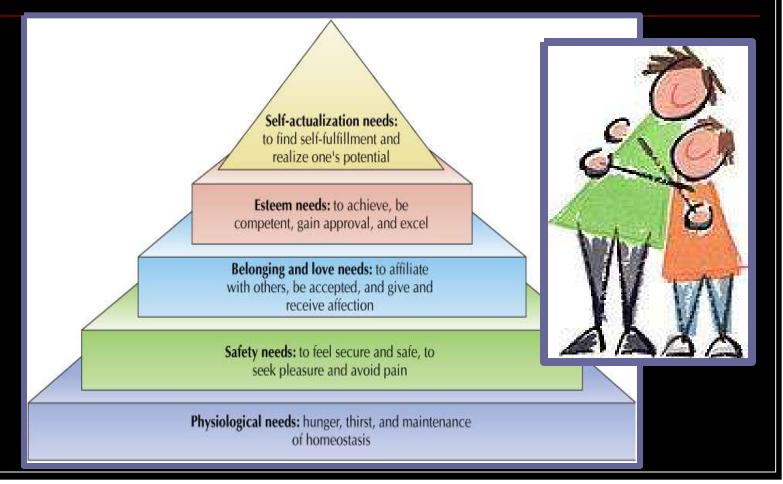
As a child did you receive primarily conditional or unconditional positive regard? According to Rogers, how might this have affected your adult personality?

### Humanistic Theories: Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs

Hierarchy of Needs: Maslow's proposal that basic physical necessities must be satisfied before higher-growth needs

Self-Actualization: Maslow's term for the inborn drive to develop all one's talents & capabilities and reach potential

# Humanistic Theories: Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs



# Self Actualized?

Are you self aware and self accepting?
Are you open & spontaneous?
Are you loving & caring, problem centered
Not self centered?

Do you escape being paralyzed by others opinions of you?

Do you have deep relationships? Are you moved by "peak", spiritual, experiences?



Are you task oriented and focused?

### **Evaluating Humanistic Theories**

### Pro:

Many concepts incorporated into

successful therapy



Naive assumptions (Aren't some humans evil?)

Poor testability (subjective) & inadequate evidence

Narrowness or self indulgent while pursuing self fulfillment



# Trait Theories-Allport & Freud

Trait: relatively stable personal characteristic used to describe someone-identifiable behavior patterns (Allport) Concerned with describing behavior

Key Figures:

Early Trait Theorists: Allport & Eysenck Introvert v Extrovert

Number 1-8 answering A or B on back of CH 10 Personality Packet

Introvert v Extrovert (4 min)

Modern Trait Theorists: McCrae & Costa--Five-Factor Model (FFM)

Big 5 (3 min)

# Trait Theorists: Costa & McCrae The Five-Factor Model (FFM)

Openness (open to new ideas vs. conventional & narrow in interests)

Conscientiousness (responsible & organized vs. irresponsible & careless)

Extroversion (sociable & talkative vs. withdrawn & quiet)

Agreeableness (trusting & good-natured vs. suspicious & ruthless)

Neuroticism (emotionally unstable & moody vs. emotionally stable & easygoing)

\*Used more today

Your book uses CANOE whatever works for you! You need to know the 5 traits:

Study
O Tip: Note
C the first
E letter of
A each
N factor



Big Five Traits		Low Scorers	High Scorers
1	Openness	Down-to-earth Uncreative Conventional Uncurious	Imaginative Creative Original Curious
2	Conscientiousness	Negligent Lazy Disorganized Late	Conscientious Hard-working Well-organized Punctual
3	Extroversion	Loner Quiet Passive Reserved	Joiner Talkative Active Affectionate
4	Agreeableness	Suspicious Critical Ruthless Irritable	Trusting Lenient Soft-hearted Good-natured
5	Neuroticism	Calm Even-tempered Comfortable Unemotional	Worried Temperamental Self-conscious Emotional
10			•





Source: Adapted from McCrae & Costa (1986, 2008).

#### Trait Theorists: The Five-Factor Model (FFM)

Researchers asked over 10,000 men & women from 37 countries what they wanted in a mate.

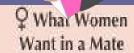
They found:

high degree of agreement.

five-factor traits are at the top of both lists.

#### O What Men Want in a Mate

- Mutual attraction love
- Dependable character
- 3. Emotional stability and maturity
- 4. Pleasing disposition
- 5. Good health
- 6. Education and intelliger
- 7. Sociability
- 8. Desire for home and ch
- Refinement, neatness
- Good looks



- 1. Mutual attraction love
- 2. Dependable character
- 3. Emotional stability and maturity
- 4. Pleasing disposition
- 5. Education and intelligence
- 6. Sociability
- 7. Good health
- 8. Desire for home and children
- 9. Ambition and industriousness
- 0. Refinement, neatness

TABLE 4-7	Clinical Scales for the MMPI	
Scale Number	Scale Name	Interpretation of High Scores
1	Hypochondriasis	Excessive bodily concern; somatic symptoms
2	Depression	Depressed; pessimistic; irritable; demanding
3	Hysteria	Physical symptoms of functional origin; self-centered; demands attention
4	Psychopathic Deviate	Asocial or antisocial; rebellious; impulsive, poor judgment
5	Masculinity–Femininity	Male: aesthetic interests Female: assertive; competitive; self-confident
6	Paranoia	Suspicious, sensitive; resentful; rigid; may be frankly psychotic
6	Paranoia	Suspicious, sensitive; resentful; rigid; may be frankly psychotic
7	Psychasthenia	Anxious; worried; obsessive; lacks self-confidence; problems in decision making
8	Schizophrenia	May have thinking disturbance, withdrawn; feels alienated and unaccepted
9	Hypomania	Excessive activity; lacks direction; low frustration tolerance; friendly
0	Social-Introversion	Socially introverted; shy, sensitive; overcontrolled; conforming

### MMPI

Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory

Measures abnormal traits rather than normal and based on empirical, observable, evidence rather than logic or theory

TABLE 13.4 SUBSCALES OF THE MMPI-2		
Clinical Scales	Typical Interpretations of High Scores	
1. Hypochondriasis	Numerous physical complaints	
2. Depression	Seriously depressed and pessimistic	
3. Hysteria	Suggestible, immature, self-centered, demanding	
4. Psychopathic deviate	Rebellious, nonconformist	
5. Masculinity-femininity	Interests like those of other sex	
6. Paranoia	Suspicious and resentful of others	
7. Psychasthenia	Fearful, agitated, brooding	
8. Schizophrenia	Withdrawn, reclusive, bizarre thinking	
9. Hypomania	Distractible, impulsive, dramatic	
10. Social introversion	Shy, introverted, self-effacing	
Validity Scales	Typical Interpretations of High Scores	
1. L (lie)	Denies common problems, projects a "saintly" or false picture	
2. F (confusion)	Answers are contradictory	
3. K (defensiveness)	Minimizes social and emotional com- plaints	
4. ? (cannot say)	Many items left unanswered	

### **Evaluating Trait Theories**

#### Pro:

Five-factor model (FFM) helps describe & organize personality characteristics using the fewest number of traits.

Evolutionary, cross-cultural, & cross-species studies support five-factor model (FFM).

#### Con:

Lacks explanation
Stability vs. change
Ignores situational effects



#### Pause & Reflect: Assessment

1. A relatively stable personal characteristic used to describe someone is called a .

Tending to be withdrawn, quiet, passive,
 & reserved is known as \_\_\_\_ on the five-factor model (FFM).



## Social-Cognitive Theories

Personality reflects: individual's interactions with the environment how people think about their world & interpret what what happens to them Interactions of our traits & our situations-what we think of our situations **Key Figures Albert Bandura** 

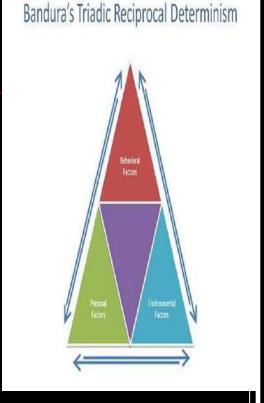


# Social Cognitive theorists consider Behavioral approach:

Focuses on the effects of learning on our personality

e.g. A child who takes orders from a controlling parent will not be able to think for themselves

Bandura views the person-environment interaction as reciprocal determinism which is the interlocking of behavior, internal personal factors, and environmental influences e.g. A child's tv viewing habits (behavior) influences his/her tv preferences (internal), which may affect their current behavior (environment)



We are products of and architects of our environment

# Optimism v. Pessimism

Optimism

Social Cognitive Psychologists emphasize our sense of personal control whether we see ourselves as controlling or being controlled by our environment

Pessimistic attributional style: "I can't do this" or "I can't do anything about this" attributing poor performance to lack of ability

Excessive optimism: blinds us to real risk making us likely to expose ourselves to temptations and ultimately to fail

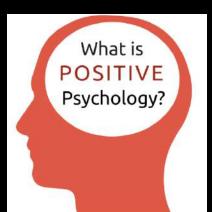


# Positive Psychology (Martin Seligman)

is concerned with weakness,
damage, strength, and virtue along
with the humanists wanting to

with the humanists wanting to advance human fulfullment

- 3 Pillars of Positive Psychology
- 1. Positive Emotions
- 2. Positive Character
- 3. Positive Groups, Community and Culture



# Why are we confused after doing badly on a test?



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Ignorance of own incompetence-We are not in denial but just unaware that we don't know-Ignorance sustains confidence

# Best way to predict behavior in situations?

Observe behavior in realistic situations- if situation and person remain constant (no change) the best predictor is past performance or behavior



## Evaluating Social-Cognitive Theories

Crash Course 22 Trait & Social Cognition Measuring Personality

#### Pro:

Emphasizes how environment affects personality & is affected by individuals Meets most standards for

scientific research

#### Con:

Narrow focus
Ignores
unconscious &
emotional
aspects of
personality and
inner traits



Four methods to measure personality:

Interviews

Observations

**Objective Tests** 

(MMPI)

**Projective Tests** 

(Rorschach, TAT)



# Evaluating Methods of Personality Assessment

Interviews & Observations

Pro: insights

Con: time consuming &

expensive

**Projective Tests** 

Pro: insights

Con: low reliability &

validity

Objective Tests

Pro: standardized

information

Con: possible

deliberate deception,

social desirability bias,

diagnostic difficulties,

possible cultural bias,

& inappropriate use

## Two Key Criteria for Test Assessment

Reliability: Measure of the consistency & reproducibility of a test's scores when test is given again

Validity: Ability of a test to measure what it was designed measure