

"To sleep, perchance to dream..."

--Hamlet [William Shakespeare]

States of consciousness

Why do we sleep?



- Hypothalamus regulates sleep
- Melatonin: hormone linked to sleep
- Preservation: dangerous to travel at night—protects you (adaptation)
- *Restoration:* rest & recuperate



Sleep stages: 90 min. rhythm

- Brain cycles (*alpha waves*) slow down...
- **Stage 1:** 5 min., light sleep, easy to wake
- Stage 2: slower brain waves; 20 min. each time half sleep time in this stage
- Stages 3 & 4: large, slow delta waves; cycles back up to stage 3, 2, 1, then *REM (rapid eye movement)*—dream stage. Brain stem blocks muscle movement—brain is awake, but muscles are paralyzed. You dream every night.
- Continues to cycle...

Why do we dream?



- Information processing—helps with memory storage (sleep helps you retain information)
- Physiological function: stimulation for our brains (especially children—growth hormone)
- Activation-synthesis: mind's attempt to make sense of random neural activity in the brain
- Almost all animals have REM sleep (dream!) except fish!

Sleep disorders

- Insomnia: recurring problems falling or staying asleep. Sleep meds can make it worse!
- Sleep apnea: repeated awakening during the night because of an inability to breathe—snoring
- Narcolepsy: uncontrollable sleep attacks from arousal of the nervous system (laughter, fear, anger, sadness). Runs in families. Dangerous.



Other sleep disorders

- Somnambulism: sleepwalking
- Night terrors: usually in children
- *Bruxism:* teeth grinding
- Enuresis: bed wetting
- *Myclonus:* sudden jerking of a limb during sleep





Hypnosis

- Social influence theory: peer pressure, "mob mentality"...can these explain hypnosis?
- Divided consciousness: the idea that your brain can divide it's attention
- Hilgard's experiment (pg. 398)
- About 80% of people are hypnotizable
- Very relaxing





Hypnosis, continued...

- Posthypnotic suggestions: lose weight, stop smoking, pain control; posthypnotic amnesia
- Danger in hypnotically enhanced memories
- Studies? Research can't prove definitively that hypnosis caused the changes—or that it didn't!



Psychological Disorders

- A maladaptive, unjustified, destructive, disturbing, or atypical behavior
- Causes: can be social or medical, or combination of the two
- DSM-IV-TR: Diagnostic & Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 4th edition (text revision)
- Rates: alcoholism (M: 24%, F: 5%; mood disorders: M: 5%, F: 10%; schizophrenia: M: 1%, F: 1%)

Anxiety disorders

- Generalized anxiety disorder: persistent, unexplained feelings of apprehension & tension
- Panic disorder: sudden intense, unexplained panic
- *Phobia:* irrational, disruptive fears of objects or situations (see pg. 537)
- OCD: obsessive-compulsive disorder: unwanted, repetitive thoughts or actions
- PTSD: post-traumatic stress disorder: memories/dreams of severely upsetting event

Causes?

- Heredity
- Brain function: chemical, injury
- Evolution: fear of things that are dangerous
- Conditioning
- Observation
- reinforcement



Mood Disorders

- Major depressive disorder: lasts at least 2 weeks, uninterested in activities, weight/appetite loss, sleeping, fatigue, guilt, inability to concentrate, thoughts of death or suicide
- Dysthymic disorder: similar to above, but less severe/shorter
- Bipolar disorder: alternating periods of mania & depression
- Mania: abnormally high emotional period (thoughts race, can't focus, bursts of energy)
- Learned helplessness: give up & stop trying
- Attributions: depressed tend to internalize, assume the worst, apply it to everything



Dissociative disorders

- Amnesia: head injuries, disease (Alzheimer's), fatigue, repression (blocking)
- Fugue: extended form of amnesia—loss of identity due to travel to another location. Caused by extreme stress.
- Identity disorder: multiple personalities (usually 3-12)

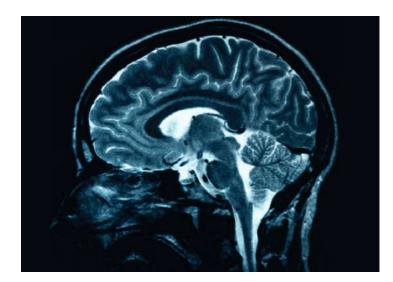


Schizophrenia disorders

- Delusions of grandeur, persecution, sin/guilt, influence
- Hallucinations: false perception (usually auditory, but can be visual or tactile)
- Inappropriate emotions or behavior: laughter or crying, no emotion, word salad, waxy inflexibility
- 4 types: *paranoid, catatonic, disorganized, undifferentiated* (other)

Causes:

Genetics/heredity



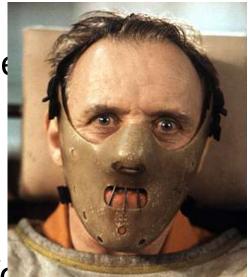
- Brain structure (thalamus is smaller)
- Brain function: frontal lobes show less activity on a PET scan & 6 times as many dopamine receptors
- prenatal viruses: viral infections like the flu
- Psychological factors: stress & family can set it off in those who are predisposed to it

Personality disorders

- Related to anxiety: avoidant & dependent (avoid relationships or clingy & needy)
- Odd or eccentric behaviors: hermits, lone —avoid contact with others at all costs
- Dramatic or impulsive behaviors: unstable life
- Antisocial personality disorder:

psychopathic/sociopathic—no concern for feelings of others, no remorse. Often criminals, often charming/clever. Extremely difficult to treat—usually end up in jail.

Narcissism: self-absorbed, indifference to others' problems



Treatments



- Psychoanalysis & therapy: free association, dream interpretation, memories, childhood, unconscious drives/conflicts
- Humanistic: self-awareness & acceptance, conscious thoughts, future, feelings, positive
- Behavioral: classical & operant conditioning (*aversion* & *desensitization*)
- Cognitive therapy: changing thinking & behavior together
- **Group/family therapy:** discussion of issues
- Alternative therapies: touch/energy fields, light exposure, animal therapy