A behavior which is judged to be deviant (atypical), distressful, and dysfunctional. Could also be maladaptive and unjustifiable.
EARLY THEORIES

Abnormal behavior was evil spirits trying to get out

Trephining was often used – a surgical intervention in which a hole is drilled, incised or scraped into the skull using simple surgical tools
ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY
PSYCHOLOGICAL DISORDERS

EARLY THEORIES
Another way to deal with demons was to make the body extremely uncomfortable.
In the 1800s, disturbed people were no longer thought of as madmen, but as mentally ill. They were first put into mental hospitals.
ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY
PSYCHOLOGICAL DISORDERS

EARLY MENTAL HOSPITALS
They were nothing more than barbaric prisons
The patients were chained up and locked away
Some hospitals even charged admissions for the public to see the “crazy people,” just like a zoo!
French doctor worked to eliminate the institutional mentality
Declared all mental patients to be “sick,” with the need for a cure an utmost priority
Late 1800s...it was believed that mental illness had a physical (organic) cause
No effective treatment
Did not emphasize environmental explanations like stress or upbringing

**BIOPSYCHOSOCIAL APPROACH**

Today’s psychologists say all behavior arises from the interaction of nature and nurture
Nature – depression and schizophrenia
Nurture – eating disorders, phobias
DSM-V

Diagnostic Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders – the “big book” of disorders

Classifies disorders and describes the symptoms

Will not explain the causes or possible cures
 Autism now a condition called “autism spectrum disorder” – includes Asperger’s and all forms of autism

ADHD no longer just a childhood disorder

Childhood bipolar disorder now known as Disruptive Mood Disregulation Disorder

Premenstrual dysphoric disorder (PMDD) and binge eating now disorders

Hoarding now a disorder, not a form of OCD
NEUROTIC DISORDERS
Distressing but one can still function in society and act rationally.

PSYCHOTIC DISORDERS
Person loses contact with reality, experiences distorted perceptions.

DSM CLASSIFICATIONS

NEUROTIC DISORDERS

John Wayne Gacy

Jim Carrey
Rosenhan’s study – his associates were faking symptoms of hearing voices
All admitted for schizophrenia
None exposed as impostors
All diagnosed with schizophrenia in remission
Study showed the biasing power of diagnostic labels
A group of conditions in which the primary symptoms are anxiety or defenses against anxiety. The patient fears something awful will happen to them. They are in a state of apprehension or nervousness.
Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
11% of 4-to-17-year-olds
2.5% of adults
Marked by inattention, hyperactivity, impulsivity
Diagnosed more in boys than girls