



Understanding Behavioral Problems in Children

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What would you do in the following situations?

1. Jennifer won't stop making jokes and comments while you are trying to give instruction.
2. Bill disagrees with something you are teaching and starts a confrontation insisting that you are wrong.
3. Terry gets very loud and aggressive with you in front of the class and starts using foul language.
4. John refuses to do anything you say and won't participate. He won't stay in his seat and this is disrupting other students
5. Amy whines, cries and screams.
6. Kennedy knocks over all of the materials for the class and starts throwing things
7. Zach begins to hit another student and a fight ensues
8. Susan starts to get physical with you.

Behavior

☀ Behavior is a choice:

- Is learned
- Can be unlearned (changed)

☀ Behavior has a goal:

- Attention
- Power
- Revenge
- Avoid failure

How do we change behavior?

- ☀ If behavior is reinforced it will continue
 - Positive reinforcement
 - Negative reinforcement
- ☀ To stop behavior (extinguish)
 - Punishment



Cognition and Behavior

Thoughts → Emotions → Behavior



Psychological Implications:

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- Disorders that can be diagnosed at any age.
 - Disorders first diagnosed in infancy and childhood.

Disorders That Can Be Diagnosed at Any age:

- Schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders
 - Schizophrenia
 - Schizophreniform disorder
 - Schizoaffective disorder
 - Delusional disorder
 - Brief psychotic disorder
 - Shared psychotic disorder
 - Psychotic disorder due to medical condition
 - Substance induced psychosis
 - Psychotic disorder NOS

☀ Mood Disorders

☀ Depressive disorders

- ☀ Major depressive disorder

- ☀ Dysthymic disorder

- ☀ Depression NOS

☀ Bipolar disorders

- ☀ Bipolar I

- ☀ Bipolar II

- ☀ Cyclothymic disorder

- ☀ Bipolar disorder NOS

- ☀ Mood disorder due to general medical condition

- ☀ Substance induced mood disorder

- ☀ Mood disorder NOS



☀ Anxiety Disorders

- ☀ Panic disorder w/o agoraphobia
- ☀ Panic disorder with agoraphobia
- ☀ Agoraphobia
- ☀ Specific phobia
- ☀ Social phobia
- ☀ Obsessive-compulsive disorder
- ☀ Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
- ☀ Acute stress disorder
- ☀ Generalized anxiety disorder
- ☀ Anxiety disorder due to medical condition
- ☀ Substance induced anxiety disorder
- ☀ Anxiety disorder NOS



☀ Dissociative disorders

- ☀ Dissociative amnesia

- ☀ Dissociative fugue

- ☀ Dissociative Identity disorder (DID)

- ☀ Depersonalization disorder

- ☀ Dissociative disorder NOS

☀ Gender Identity disorders (GID)

- ☀ GID in children

- ☀ GID in adolescents

- ☀ GID NOS



• Eating Disorders

- Anorexia Nervosa

- Bulimia nervosa

- Eating disorder NOS

• Impulse control disorders

- Intermittent explosive disorder

- Kleptomania

- Trichotillomania

- Impulse control disorder NOS



✿ Adjustment disorders

- ✿ With depressed mood
- ✿ With anxiety
- ✿ With mixed anxiety and depression
- ✿ With disturbance of conduct
- ✿ Mixed disturbance of emotions and conduct
- ✿ Unspecified.



☀ Relational problems

- ☀ Due to mental or medical condition

- ☀ Parent-child

- ☀ Sibling

- ☀ NOS

☀ Problems related to abuse or neglect

- ☀ Physical abuse

- ☀ Sexual abuse

- ☀ neglect



Disorders First Diagnosed in Infancy and Childhood:

☀ Main Concepts of Diagnosis:

- Primarily categorized by time of onset rather than phenomenology.
- Predominantly disorders of abnormal development and maturation.
- Emphasis on inability to attain certain normal developmental milestones.
- Common for individuals to have co-morbid disorders.

Mental Retardation

- Mild MR IQ 50-55 to 70
- Moderate MR IQ 35-40 to 50-55
- Severe MR IQ 20-35 to 35-40
- Profound MR IQ below 20-25
- MR severity unspecified



Learning Disorders

- ✿ Reading Disorder
- ✿ Mathematics Disorder
- ✿ Disorder of written expression
- ✿ Learning disorder NOS

Motor Skills Disorders

- ✿ Developmental coordination disorder
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Communication Disorders

- Expressive language Disorder
- Mixed Receptive Expressive language Disorder.
- Phonological Disorder
- Stuttering
- Communication Disorder NOS

Pervasive Developmental Disorders (PPD)

- Autistic Disorder
- Retts Disorder
- Childhood disintegrative disorder
- Asperger's Disorder
- PPD NOS

Attention Deficit and Disruptive Behavior disorders

ADHD

- Predominantly Inattentive type
- Predominantly hyperactive/impulsive type
- Combined type
- Attention Deficit NOS
- Disruptive Behavior disorders
 - ODD
 - Conduct Disorder
 - Disruptive behavior NOS

Feeding and Eating Disorders of Infancy or Early Childhood:

- ☀ Pica (eating nonnutritive substances)
- ☀ Rumination Disorder (regurgitate and re-chew food)
- ☀ Feeding Disorder of Infancy or Early Childhood (not eating adequately)

Tic Disorders

- ☀ Tourettes Disorder (multiple motor and vocal tics)
- ☀ Chronic Motor or Vocal Tic Disorder (either motor or vocal tics – but not both)
- ☀ Transient Tic Disorder (at least 4 weeks – less than 12 months)
- ☀ Tic Disorder NOS

Elimination Disorders

- ✿ Encopresis (inappropriately passing feces - > 4 years old)
- ✿ Enuresis (urinating in bed or clothes - > 5 years old)

Other Disorders

- Separation Anxiety
- Selective Mutism
- Reactive attachment Disorder (RAD)
- Stereotypic movement disorder
- Disorder of infancy, childhood or adolescence
NOS



Clues to Help with Identifying a Possible Mental Health Concern

- Is the child's predominant symptom an impairment of learning or intellectual functioning?
 - Is the child's predominant symptom abnormal motor activity?
 - Is the child's predominant symptom socially inappropriate or self-injurious behavior?
 - Is the child's predominant symptom an impairment in the ability to communicate or exchange meaningful information with other people?
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The ABC's of Behavior

- A= Antecedent
- B= Behavior
- C= Consequence



Avoiding and defusing confrontations

- ✿ Describe the behavior without evaluating it
 - ✿ Stay in the present
 - ✿ Be friendly but firm (authoritarian)
 - ✿ Control negative emotions
 - ✿ Release negative emotions
 - ✿ Use mental reminders to keep your emotions in check
 - ✿ Remove the audience
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Traps to avoid

- ☀ Yelling
- ☀ Arguing
- ☀ Asserting your authority
- ☀ Degrading
- ☀ Embarrassing
- ☀ sarcasm'
- ☀ Triangulating
- ☀ Making assumptions
- ☀ Giving up control
- ☀ Having a tantrum
- ☀ Double standards
- ☀ Threats
- ☀ Preaching
- ☀ Character attacks
- ☀ Pleading or bribing
- ☀ Brining up past events
- ☀ Making accusations
- ☀ Holding grudges
- ☀ Nagging rewarding
- ☀ Getting psychical



Things to consider

- ☀ Situations are not always what they seem
 - ☀ There may be problems at home
 - ☀ There may be problems at schools with teacher
 - ☀ There may be problems with peers
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Would you do anything different in these situations now?

- 1. Jennifer won't stop making jokes and comments while you are trying to give instruction.
- 2. Bill disagrees with something you are teaching and starts a confrontation insisting that you are wrong.
- 3. Terry gets very loud and aggressive with you in front of the class and starts using foul language.
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Questions ?