

MODELS OF ABNORMAL BEHAVIOR

CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN SPIRITUALISM

Lack of Faith
Demonic Possession

WEAK CHARACTER MODEL

Lazy, Weak Willed
Self Pity (aka Feeling Sorry For Yourself)

BIOLOGICAL MODEL (AKA MEDICAL MODEL)

In its most radical form, the Biological Model is *asocial* and *apsychological* proposing that “inappropriate” behavior is a manifestation of an internal organic malfunction. Underlying anomalies in brain functioning (mostly on a synaptic level) or genetic factors account for mental disorders.

Isaac Newton and classical scientific model of reality

Reductionism

Economic forces prompting this model

Pharmaceutical Industry

Managed Care

The shift of Psychiatry from a psycho-dynamic emphasis
to a medical (I really am a doctor push)

People are more willing to accept biochemical explanation

BIOCHEMICAL THEORIES

Chemical Imbalance at the synapse

Dopamine

Serotonin

Norepinephrine

STRUCTURAL OR WIRING PROBLEMS

ANTONIO DAMASIO

The Somatic Marker Hypothesis

Ventromedial Prefrontal Cortex

GENETIC PREDISPOSITION

Genotype - Phenotype

Gene Expression

DISEASE MODEL

CRITICISM OF BIOLOGICAL MODEL

Simplistic

Does not take into account the whole person

Assumes a correspondence between organic dysfunction and mental dysfunction with little consideration of environmental, social, and cultural considerations (Sue, et al.)

Evidence that psychological disturbances can cause

diseases to the body and brain

There is no direct evidence that there is a deficiency of biogenic amines (neuro transmitters) in depressed patients or an excess in manic patients.

Placebo Effect