



Personality Disorders: Toward Theoretical and Empirical Integration in Diagnosis and Assessment

By Steven K. Huprich

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What are personality disorders? How should they be conceptualized, and how should they be assessed and diagnosed in clinical practice? For over a century these questions have been at the heart of psychological science. Yet even today, as the recent controversy over proposed changes to the classification of PDs in DSM-5 attests, there is hardly consensus on the answers.

This groundbreaking text offers a comprehensive and provocative tour of a field that is ripe for integration. Contributors who rank among the world's most prestigious clinical and personality psychologists guide readers through the state of our knowledge of personality disorders, from conceptual and theoretical concerns to the practical problems faced by assessing clinicians. They address the advantages and disadvantages of categorical and dimensional approaches to diagnosing personality pathology used in the standard diagnostic manuals, as well as the hybrid model described in Section III of DSM-5. Recent advances in statistical, methodological, and biogenetic research strategies are applied to the study of PDs, with a focus on clinical and empirical approaches to assessment and diagnosis. Theorists describe how psychodynamic, attachment, interpersonal, evolutionary, and cognitive processing approaches offer surprisingly similar models of conceptualizing and treating PDs.

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Editorial Review

Review

A state-of-the-art, comprehensive review of PDs...an important book and a milestone. --PsycCRITIQUES

A critically important addition to professional and academic library collections. --Midwest Book Review

From the Inside Flap

What are personality disorders? How should they be conceptualized, and how should they be assessed and diagnosed in clinical practice? For over a century these questions have been at the heart of psychological science. Yet even today, as the recent controversy over proposed changes to the classification of personality disorders in DSM-5 attests, there is hardly consensus on the answers. This groundbreaking text offers a comprehensive and provocative tour of a field that is ripe for integration. Contributors who rank among the world's most prestigious clinical and personality psychologists guide readers through the state of our knowledge of personality disorders, from conceptual and theoretical concerns to the practical problems faced by assessing clinicians. They address the advantages and disadvantages of categorical and dimensional approaches to diagnosing personality pathology used in the standard diagnostic manuals, as well as the "hybrid" model described in Section III of DSM-5. Recent advances in statistical, methodological, and biogenetic research strategies are applied to the study of personality disorders, with a focus on clinical and empirical approaches to assessment and diagnosis. Theorists describe how psychodynamic, attachment, interpersonal, evolutionary, and cognitive processing approaches offer surprisingly similar models of conceptualizing and treating personality disorders.

About the Author

Dr. Steven Huprich is Professor and Director of Clinical Training at Wichita State University. He is the Editor of the Journal of Personality Assessment and the 2013 recipient of the Theodore Millon Award in Personality Psychology.

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