## Expository Paper on A Beautiful Mind

The movie "A Beautiful Mind” is based on the portrayal of a mathematician who is highly intelligent and possesses miraculous cognitive abilities. However, the character is anti-social and therefore, unable to maintain social relationships. The character is extraordinarily rational and measures relationships based on analytical reasoning, sabotaging any emotional leverage. Nevertheless, the developments of his different symptoms provide a different image of his personality and overall behavior.

The major symptoms that the character represents include social apathy which constitutes of lack of normal social relationships, Visual hallucinations such as seeing a young girl, a middle-aged friend whom he calls his friend, and an important FIA agent that are unreal but seem real and exist for the character, Delusions of Grandeur that comprise the feeling of being a very crucial code-breaker in the agency on which the entire system of the country is dependent on. Perceptual Disorganization as the character is unable to differentiate between what is real and what is metaphysical as well as a minor indication of Catatonia symptoms as seen by looping gait and difficulty in precise or motor muscular operations. The presence of psychotic (Hallucinations and Delusions) symptoms along with social apathy, movement disorders, and disorganized speech all constitute the diagnosis of Schizophrenia (Type I Positive) (Ref-s140902)

In the movie, the character is against the normal expectancies of society and is against the social norms of the character as a Harvard student. The behavior is evidently against the expectations of society for an intelligent student of mathematics. Moreover, the character is in severe distress and has to adhere to maladaptive practices to procure a sane state of mind. The behavior is rare and not seen normally in any of his peers or his friends as the mannerisms and self-talking do not constitute normalcy. Additionally, the character is also facing distress and is unable to cope with the disequilibrium that has been caused by the psychotic episodes (Pearse et al. 117); therefore the behavior can be characterized as abnormal.

The presence of psychotic symptoms channelizes the diagnosis towards Type I Positive symptoms of Schizophrenia and therefore, hampers any other kinds of misdiagnoses being made. The main reason is that Psychosis, which defines the loss of contact with reality, is the distinguishing symptom of Schizophrenia, and the presence of Hallucinations, as well as Delusions, are the main symptoms in Type I Schizophrenia (Ref-f383968). The presences of these symptoms limit the diagnosis of Schizophrenia and rules out all other possibilities of mental disorders.

Although the character was immediately diagnosed and rectified that resulted in early treatment, many factors can influence the diagnosis and hamper the treatment to be performed. The main problem was societal expectations and lack of attention towards failing mental health. The problems that are later manifested in severity are normally ignored and taken as minor emotional disturbances that have an inevitably disastrous effect on the life as well as diagnosis of the patient (Ref-u794169). However, the patient was treated immediately and the support from his peers proved to be beneficial in treatment.

The immediate diagnosis, as well as the proper treatment of the patient, proved to be effective and beneficial as the character was given appropriate treatments and also received social support from his peers and partners that influenced effectiveness. Social support is a very important factor in downplaying any mental disorder and the presence of a support group is believed to have a beneficial impact on the mental health of the patient (Al-Sayed, 1998). The behavior in the movie was however effective and according to the standards by which a patient must be treated in case of any problem.