Psychology 2030B

Lecture 5

Anxiety and Related

Disorders

Week of 3 February 2025

Western Social Science



Diagnostic Criteria for OCD

Compulsions are defined by (1) and (2):

- 1. Repetitive behaviours (e.g., hand washing, ordering, checking) or mental acts (e.g., praying, counting, repeating words silently) that the individual feels driven to perform in response to an obsession or according to rules that must be applied rigidly.
- 2. The behaviours or mental acts are aimed at preventing or reducing anxiety or distress, or preventing some dreaded event or situation; **however**, these behaviours or mental acts are not connected in a realistic way with what they are designed to neutralize or prevent, or are clearly excessive.

Note: Young children may not be able to articulate the aims of these behaviours or mental acts.

Diagnostic Criteria for OCD

B. The obsessions or compulsions are time-consuming (e.g., take more than 1 hour per day) or cause clinically significant distress or impairment in social, occupational, or other important areas of functioning.

C. The obsessive-compulsive symptoms are not attributable to the physiological effects of a substance (e.g., a drug of abuse, a medication) or another medical condition.

D. The disturbance is not better explained by the symptoms of another mental disorder (e.g.,

- a. excessive worries, as in generalized anxiety disorder;
- b. preoccupation with appearance, as in body dysmorphic disorder;
- c. difficulty discarding or parting with possessions, as in hoarding disorder;
- d. hair pulling, as in trichotillomania [hair-pulling disorder];
- e. skin picking, as in excoriation [skin-picking] disorder;
- f. stereotypies, as in stereotypic movement disorder;
- g. ritualized eating behaviour, as in eating disorders;
- h. preoccupation with substances or gambling, as in substance-related and addictive disorders;
- i. preoccupation with having an illness, as in illness anxiety disorder;
- j. sexual urges or fantasies, as in paraphilic disorders;
- k. impulses, as in disruptive, impulse-control, and conduct disorders;
- I. guilty ruminations, as in major depressive disorder;
- m. thought insertion or delusional preoccupations, as in schizophrenia spectrum and other psychotic disorders;
- n. or repetitive patterns of behaviour, as in autism spectrum disorder).

Diagnostic Criteria for OCD

Specify if:

With good or fair insight: The individual recognizes that obsessive-compulsive disorder beliefs are definitely or probably not true or that they may or may not be true.

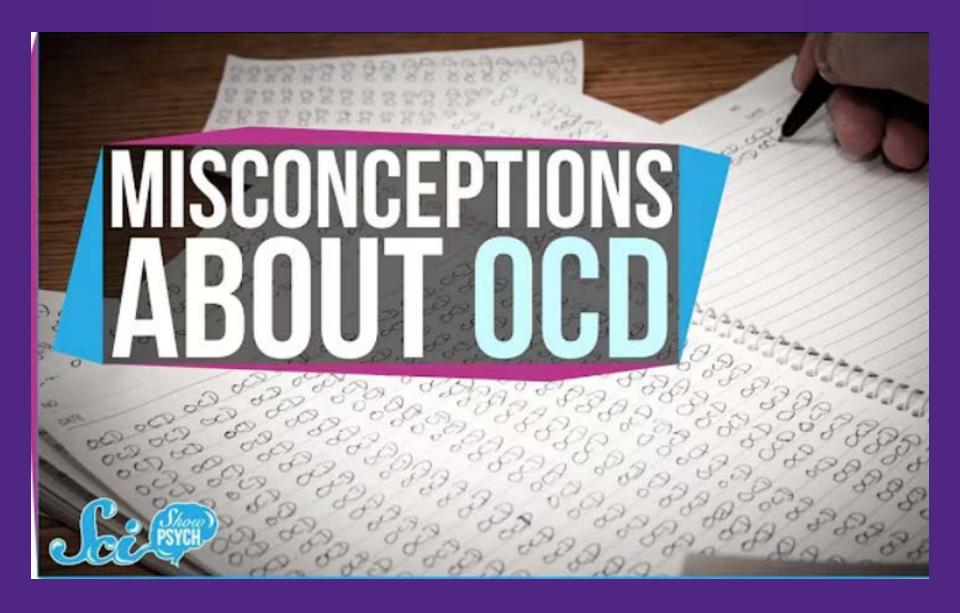
With poor insight: The individual thinks obsessivecompulsive disorder beliefs are probably true.

With absent insight/delusional beliefs: The individual is completely convinced that obsessive-compulsive disorder beliefs are true.

OCD Subtypes

Common OCD subtypes include:

- 1. Contamination
- 2. Checking
- 3. Symmetry and Order
- 4. Forbidden Thoughts



OCD a frequent pop culture punchline









Jason Osler - CBC News - Posted: Feb 25, 2015 3:11 PM ET | Last Updated: March 3, 2015



Sorting and organizing can be a marker for OCD. (Ryan Leighty/Flickr)

OCD and Stigma

- Belief that OCD has less stigma than some mental illnesses
- For example, the phrase "so OCD" is colloquially employed to demonstrate a preference for neatness or cleanliness
- Or, the general public is so unaware of many OCD symptoms that stigma has not developed around them

OCD and Stigma

Social Distancing

- Greater desire for distance in relation to Forbidden Thoughts (sexual) and Forbidden Thoughts (violence)
- Greater desire for distance in certain religious groups for Scupulousity

OCD and Stigma

Perceived Dangerousness

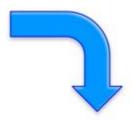
 Greater perceptions for people with Forbidden Thoughts related to harm and aggression

The OCD Cycle



Obsessions

Unwanted distressing thoughts, urges, mental images. May include "what if..." and doubts.



Anxiety

May be distress, fear, worry, or disgust. It's a false alarm. Feel the need to do something.





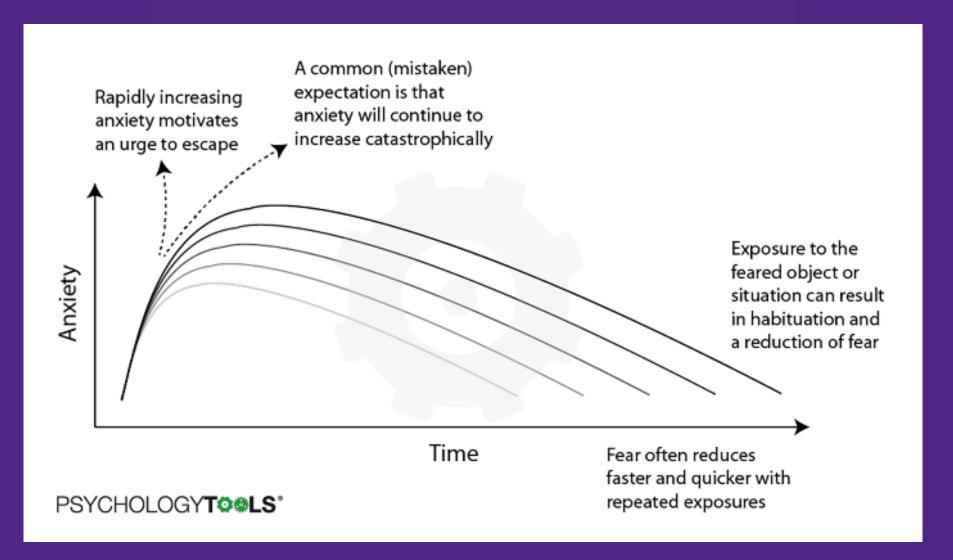
Compulsions

Any behavior performed to help make the anxiety go away, including checking.

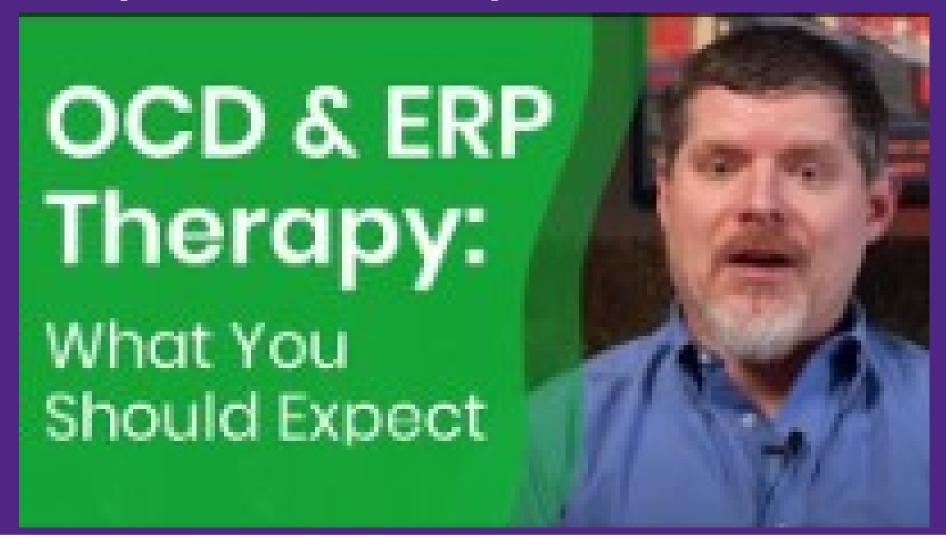


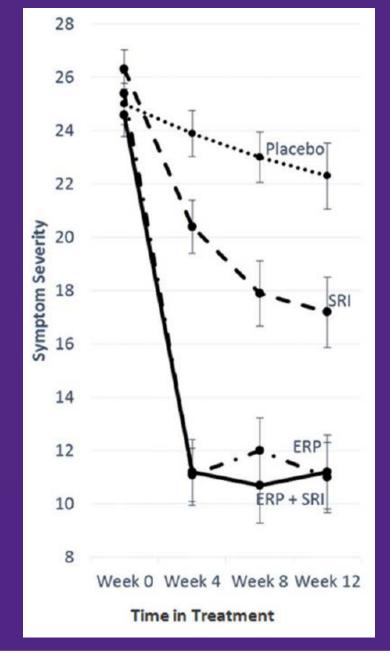
Exposure with Response Prevention

- Rituals are actively presented, and the patient is systematically and gradually exposed to the feared thoughts or situations
- How the rituals are prevented does not matter, only that you learn that the fear will lessen
- For some, cognitive interventions such as confronting certainty or de-catastrophization may augment treatment



Exposure with Response Prevention









#5: Anxiety isn't a Disorder

A. Marked fear or anxiety about one or more social situations in which the individual is exposed to possible scrutiny by others. Examples include social interactions (e.g., having a conversation, meeting unfamiliar people), being observed (e.g., eating or drinking), and performing in front of others (e.g., giving a speech).

Note: In children, the anxiety must occur in peer settings and not just during interactions with adults.

B. The individual fears that he or she will act in a way or show anxiety symptoms that will be negatively evaluated (i.e., will be humiliating or embarrassing; will lead to rejection or offend others).

C. The social situations almost always provoke fear or anxiety.

Note: In children, the fear or anxiety may be expressed by crying, tantrums, freezing, clinging, shrinking, or failing to speak in social situations.

- D. The social situations are avoided or endured with intense fear or anxiety.
- E. The fear or anxiety is out of proportion to the actual threat posed by the social situation and to the sociocultural context.

- F. The fear, anxiety, or avoidance is persistent, typically lasting for 6 months or more.
- G. The fear, anxiety, or avoidance causes clinically significant distress or impairment in social, occupational, or other important areas of functioning.
- H. The fear, anxiety, or avoidance is not attributable to the physiological effects of a *substance* (*e.g.*, *a drug of abuse*, *a medication*) or another medical condition.

- I. The fear, anxiety, or avoidance is not better explained by the symptoms of another mental disorder, such as panic disorder, body dysmorphic disorder, or autism spectrum disorder.
- J. If another medical condition (e.g., Parkinson's disease, obesity, disfigurement from burns or injury) is present, the fear, anxiety, or avoidance is clearly unrelated or is excessive.

Specify if:

Performance only

If the fear is restricted to speaking or performing in public.

Consequences of Social Anxiety Disorder

- elevated rates of school dropout and with decreased well-being, employment, workplace productivity, socioeconomic status, and quality of life
- being single, unmarried, or divorced and with not having children, particularly among men
- in older adults, there may be impairment in caregiving duties and volunteer activities
- impedes leisure activities
- despite the extent of distress and social impairment associated with social anxiety disorder, only about half of individuals with the disorder in Western societies ever seek treatment
 - they tend to do so only after 15–20 years of experiencing symptoms
- not being employed is a strong predictor for the persistence of social anxiety disorder



Who is Barry Manilow?

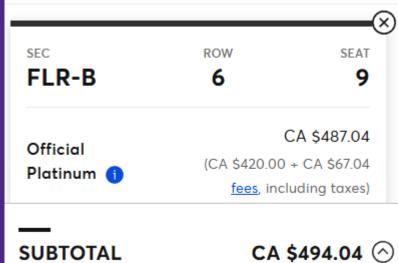


- Has won a
 Grammy, Tony, and
 an Emmy (EGOT)
- 10 top ten songs including 3 at number one
- Career Peak
 - -1975-1978



1 Ticket

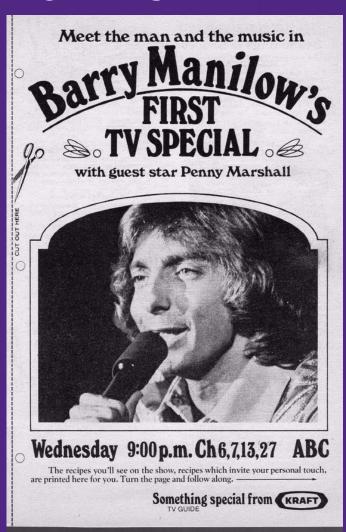




Tickets: CA \$487.04 + Order Processing Fee: CA \$7.00

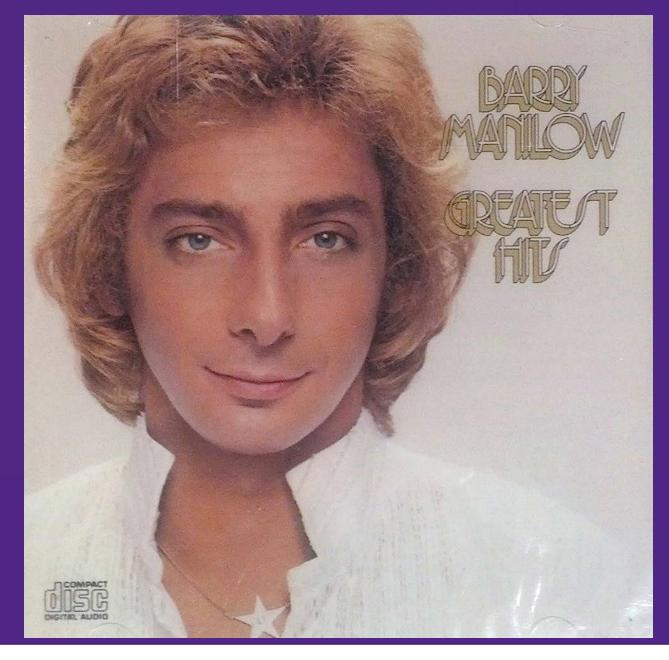
Who is Barry Manilow?

- Mandy
- I Write the Songs
- Could It Be Magic?
- New York City Rhythm
- Can't Smile Without You
- Looks Like We Made It
- Copacabana





But why is he talking about Barry Manilow?



Spotlight effect



Normal Shyness

- shyness (i.e., social reticence) is a common personality trait and is not by itself pathological.
- in some societies, shyness is even evaluated positively
- when there is a significant adverse impact on social, occupational, and other important areas of functioning, a diagnosis of social anxiety disorder should be considered
- only a minority (12%) of self-identified shy individuals have symptoms that meet diagnostic criteria for social anxiety disorder



Extroversion - Ambiversion - Introversion

Preference for **more** stimulating environments Preference for **less** stimulating environments

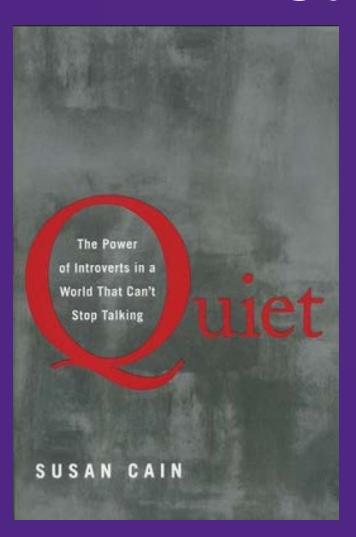
Introversion

Seek less stimulation
Recharge, reflect in quiet
Think before speaking
Value 1:1 friendships
Favor independence
Avoid: center of attention
Value deep experience

Extraversion

Seek greater stimulation
Energize around people
Think out loud
Large social network
Thrive in teams, crowds
Enjoy: center of attention
Value broad experience

Susan Cain



Extravert Ideal

popular ideal in Western Society

the omnipresent belief that the ideal self is gregarious, alpha, and comfortable in the spotlight

Susan Cain

BUT...

No relationship between being a good speaker and having good ideas

Forcing teamwork can cause problems such as Groupthink



An abrupt surge of intense fear or intense discomfort that reaches a peak within minutes, and during which time four (or more) of the following symptoms occur:

Note: The abrupt surge can occur from a calm state or an anxious state.

- 1. Palpitations, pounding heart, or accelerated heart rate.
- 2. Sweating.
- 3. Trembling or shaking.
- 4. Sensations of shortness of breath or smothering.
- Feelings of choking.
- 6. Chest pain or discomfort.
- 7. Nausea or abdominal distress.

- 8. Feeling dizzy, unsteady, light-headed, or faint.
- Chills or heat sensations.
- 10. Paresthesias (numbness or tingling sensations).
- 11. Derealization (feelings of unreality) or depersonalization (being detached from oneself).
- 12. Fear of losing control or "going crazy."
- 13. Fear of dying.

The essential feature of a panic attack is an abrupt surge of intense fear or intense discomfort that reaches a peak within minutes and during which time four or more of 13 physical and cognitive symptoms occur.

The term within minutes means that the time to peak intensity is literally only a few minutes.

Expected panic attacks are attacks for which there is an obvious cue or trigger, such as situations in which panic attacks have typically occurred.

Unexpected panic attacks are those for which there is no obvious cue or trigger at the time of occurrence (e.g., when relaxing or out of sleep [nocturnal panic attack]).

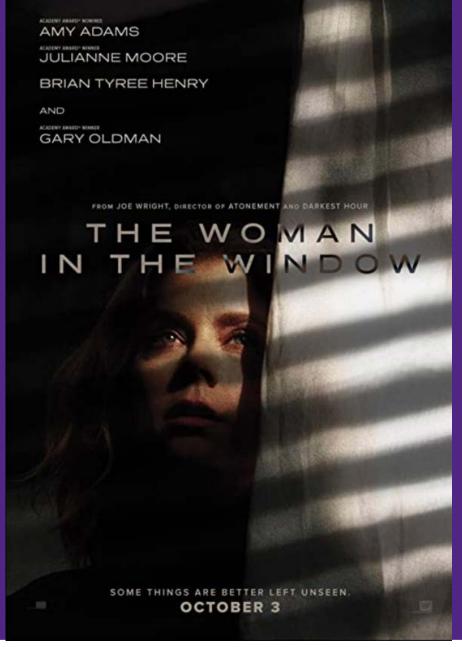
Panic Disorder

At least one of the attacks has been followed by 1 month (or more) of one or both of the following:

- 1. Persistent concern or worry about additional panic attacks or their consequences (e.g., losing control, having a heart attack, "going crazy").
- 2. A significant maladaptive change in behaviour related to the attacks (e.g., behaviours designed to avoid having panic attacks, such as avoidance of exercise or unfamiliar situations).







- A. Marked fear or anxiety about two (or more) of the following five situations:
 - Using public transportation (e.g., automobiles, buses, trains, ships, planes).
 - 2. Being in open spaces (e.g., parking lots, marketplaces, bridges).
 - 3. Being in enclosed places (e.g., shops, theatres, cinemas).
 - 4. Standing in line or being in a crowd.
 - 5. Being outside of the home alone.

B. The individual fears or avoids these situations because of thoughts that escape might be difficult or help might not be available in the event of developing panic-like symptoms or other incapacitating or embarrassing symptoms (e.g., fear of falling in the elderly; fear of incontinence).



- C. The agoraphobic situations almost always provoke fear or anxiety.
- D. The agoraphobic situations are actively avoided, require the presence of a companion, or are endured with intense fear or anxiety.
- E. The fear or anxiety is out of proportion to the actual danger posed by the agoraphobic situations and to the sociocultural context.

F. The fear, anxiety, or avoidance is persistent, typically lasting for 6 months or more.

G. The fear, anxiety, or avoidance causes clinically significant distress or impairment in social, occupational, or other important areas of functioning.



Anxiety Disorders in Children

 anxiety disorders are the most frequent mental disorders in children and adolescents

 the vast majority of children and adolescents that have developed a threshold anxiety disorder will be affected by the same condition or other mental disorders (including other anxiety disorders, depressive disorders, or substance use disorders) over the further course of life

 Selective mutism is diagnosed when a child consistently does not speak in some situations, but speaks comfortably in other situations.

 For example, a child may not be able to speak at school, but can speak with no problem at home.

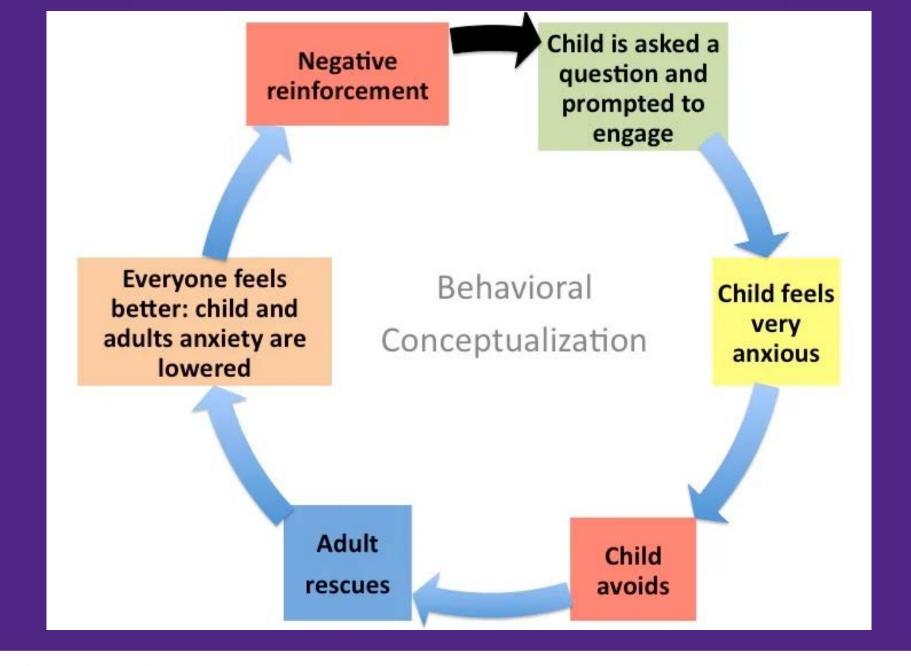
A. Consistent failure to speak in specific social situations in which there is an expectation for speaking (e.g., at school) despite speaking in other situations.

B. The disturbance interferes with educational or occupational achievement or with social communication.

- C. The duration of the disturbance is at least 1 month (not limited to the first month of school).
- D. The failure to speak is not attributable to a lack of knowledge of, or comfort with, the spoken language required in the social situation.
- E. The disturbance is not better explained by a communication disorder (e.g. childhood-onset fluency disorder) and does not occur exclusively during the course of autism spectrum disorder, schizophrenia, or another psychotic disorder.

- Associated features of selective mutism may include excessive shyness, fear of social embarrassment, social isolation and withdrawal, clinging, compulsive traits, negativism, temper tantrums, or mild oppositional behavior
- In clinical settings, children with selective mutism are almost always given an additional diagnosis of another anxiety disorder—most commonly, social anxiety disorder

- The onset of selective mutism is usually before age 5 years, but the disturbance may not come to clinical attention until entry into school, where there is an increase in social interaction and performance tasks, such as reading aloud
- Although clinical reports suggest that many individuals "outgrow" selective mutism
- In most cases, selective mutism may fade, but symptoms of social anxiety disorder often remain





- It is normal for young children to sometimes feel worried or upset when faced with routine separations from their parents or other important caregivers causing children to cry, cling, or refuse to part
- Usually such separation anxiety fades as they grow up, begin school, and gain confidence
- However, for some children their response to actual or anticipated separations is far more extreme than their peers, and/or continues well beyond the first 1-2 years of school

- A. Developmentally inappropriate and excessive fear or anxiety concerning separation from those to whom the individual is attached, as evidenced by at least three of the following:
 - 1. Recurrent excessive distress when anticipating or experiencing separation from home or from major attachment figures.
 - 2. Persistent and excessive worry about losing major attachment figures or about possible harm to them, such as illness, injury, disasters, or death.
 - 3. Persistent and excessive worry about experiencing an untoward event (e.g., getting lost, being kidnapped, having an accident, becoming ill) that causes separation from a major attachment figure.

- A. Developmentally inappropriate and excessive fear or anxiety concerning separation from those to whom the individual is attached, as evidenced by at least three of the following:
 - 4. Persistent reluctance or refusal to go out, away from home, to school, to work, or elsewhere because of fear of separation.
 - 5. Persistent and excessive fear of or reluctance about being alone or without major attachment figures at home or in other settings.

- A. Developmentally inappropriate and excessive fear or anxiety concerning separation from those to whom the individual is attached, as evidenced by at least three of the following:
 - 6. Persistent reluctance or refusal to sleep away from home or to go to sleep without being near a major attachment figure.
 - 7. Repeated nightmares involving the theme of separation.
 - 8. Repeated complaints of physical symptoms (e.g., headaches, stomachaches, nausea, vomiting) when separation from major attachment figures occurs or is anticipated

B. The fear, anxiety, or avoidance is persistent, lasting at least 4 weeks in children and adolescents and typically 6 months or more in adults.

C. The disturbance causes clinically significant distress or impairment in social, academic, occupational, or other important areas of functioning.

D. The disturbance is not better explained by another mental disorder, such as

refusing to leave home because of excessive resistance to change in autism spectrum disorder;

delusions or hallucinations concerning separation in psychotic disorders;

refusal to go outside without a trusted companion in agoraphobia;

worries about ill health or other harm befalling significant others in generalized anxiety disorder; or

concerns about having an illness in illness anxiety disorder.

- Depending on their age, children may have fears of animals, monsters, the dark, muggers, burglars, kidnappers, car accidents, plane travel, and other situations that are perceived as presenting danger to the family or themselves
- Some become homesick and extremely uncomfortable when away from home
- Separation anxiety disorder in children may lead to school refusal, which in turn may lead to academic difficulties and social isolation

- When extremely upset at the prospect of separation, children may show anger or occasionally aggression toward someone who is forcing separation
- When alone, especially in the evening or the dark, young children may report unusual perceptual experiences (e.g., seeing people peering into their room, frightening creatures reaching for them, feeling eyes staring at them)

- Periods of heightened separation anxiety from attachment figures are part of normal early development and may indicate the development of secure attachment relationships (e.g., around age 1 year, when infants may experience stranger anxiety)
- Onset of separation anxiety disorder may be as early as preschool age and may occur at any time during childhood and in adolescence

