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Abnormal Psychology: An Overview**

Definition of Abnormal Psychology

Abnormal psychology is a branch of psychology that focuses on the study and understanding of mental disorders, their causes, diagnosis, and treatment. It is concerned with deviations from normal or typical mental functioning that result in distress or impairment in various aspects of an individual's life.

The Journal of Abnormal Psychology

The Journal of Abnormal Psychology (JAP) is a peer-reviewed scientific journal published by the American Psychological Association (APA). Established in 1906, it is one of the oldest and most influential journals in the field of abnormal psychology. JAP publishes original research articles, theoretical reviews, and clinical case studies on a wide range of topics related to mental disorders.

Perspectives of Abnormal Psychology

Abnormal psychology can be approached from various perspectives, including:

- **Biological perspective:** Focuses on the role of genetics, neurochemistry, and brain functioning in the development of mental disorders.
- Psychodynamic perspective: Emphasizes the influence of unconscious conflicts, early experiences, and defense mechanisms on abnormal behavior.

- Behavioral perspective: Examines how learning and conditioning processes contribute to the acquisition and maintenance of psychological problems.
- Cognitive perspective: Investigates the role of distorted thinking patterns, beliefs, and perceptions in the development of abnormal behavior.
- Humanistic perspective: Focuses on the importance of free will, personal growth, and self-actualization in understanding and treating mental disorders.
- Social perspective: Examines the influence of social factors, such as poverty, stigma, and discrimination, on the development and expression of mental disorders.
- Cross-cultural perspective: Compares the prevalence, manifestation, and treatment of mental disorders across different cultures.

History of Abnormal Psychology

The concept of abnormal psychology has been around for centuries, with roots in ancient civilizations like Greece and China. However, it formally emerged as a distinct field of study in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Changes in APA Name of Abnormal Psychology

In 2019, the APA changed the name of its Division 12 (Society for Clinical Psychology) to the Division of Clinical, Abnormal, and Developmental Psychology. This change reflects the broader scope of the division, which includes developmental psychology and other specialized areas.

Pages in Abnormal Psychology

There is no specific number of pages dedicated to abnormal psychology. The field is covered in textbooks, research articles, and clinical guidelines that vary in length.

Top Journals in Clinical Psychology

In addition to the Journal of Abnormal Psychology, other top journals in clinical psychology include:

- Psychological Bulletin
- Journal of Clinical Psychology
- Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology
- Journal of Abnormal and Clinical Psychology

Impact Factor of Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology

The Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology has an impact factor of 7.959 (2021), indicating it is a highly influential journal in the field of abnormal psychology.

The Journal of Psychology

The Journal of Psychology is a peer-reviewed scientific journal that publishes original research articles across all areas of psychology, including abnormal psychology, cognitive science, developmental psychology, and social psychology.

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