# Abnormal child psychology mash wolfe 5th edition

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Understanding Abnormal Child Psychology with MindTap\*\*

#### What is Abnormal Child Psychology?

Abnormal child psychology is a branch of child psychology that focuses on the study of atypical or unusual behaviors and mental health conditions in children. It explores the causes, symptoms, and treatment of various psychological disorders that affect children.

#### What is Child Psychology Concerned With?

Child psychology encompasses the development, behavior, and mental health of children from infancy to adolescence. It addresses a wide range of topics, including:

- Cognitive development
- Emotional development
- Social development
- Language development
- Behavioral problems
- Mental health disorders

### **Key Points of Abnormal Psychology**

 Abnormal psychology is the study of atypical or deviant behaviors that deviate from societal norms.

- It examines the causes, symptoms, diagnosis, and treatment of psychological disorders.
- Abnormal psychology aims to understand and help individuals who experience significant distress or impairment in their personal, social, or occupational functioning.

#### **Abnormal Psychology Theory**

There are numerous theories in abnormal psychology that attempt to explain the causes of psychological disorders, including:

- Psychodynamic theory
- Behavioral theory
- Cognitive theory
- Social learning theory
- Biological theory

#### **What Abnormal Psychology Teaches**

Abnormal psychology courses provide students with a comprehensive understanding of:

- The definition and classification of mental disorders
- The causes and risk factors for psychological disorders
- Assessment and diagnosis of mental health conditions
- Evidence-based treatments and interventions for various disorders
- Ethical and professional issues in mental health practice

#### Why is it Called Abnormal Psychology?

Abnormal psychology is called "abnormal" because it focuses on behaviors and mental states that deviate from what is considered normal or typical. It does not imply that these behaviors are necessarily negative or undesirable, but rather that they require special attention and understanding.

#### Three Definitions of Abnormal Psychology

Abnormal psychology can be defined in three main ways:

- Statistical infrequency: Behaviors or mental states that occur in less than 2% of the population.
- Dysfunctional impairment: Behaviors that interfere with personal, social, or occupational functioning.
- **Subjective distress:** Behaviors that cause significant subjective discomfort or distress.

#### **Abnormal Psychology Simply Psychology**

Simply psychology defines abnormal psychology as "the study of mental and behavioral disorders that result in significant distress or impairment of functioning." It encompasses the assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of psychological disorders.

#### **Psychology Definition of Atypical Behavior**

Atypical behavior in psychology refers to behaviors or thoughts that deviate from what is considered normal or expected for a particular age, culture, or situation. It can be a symptom of a psychological disorder or simply a sign of individual differences.

#### **DSM Abnormal Psychology**

The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) is a widely used manual that provides diagnostic criteria for various mental health conditions. It is used by clinicians to assess and diagnose psychological disorders in both adults and children.

#### **Abnormal Psychology Approach**

The abnormal psychology approach emphasizes the scientific study of psychological disorders, using empirical methods to gather data, test hypotheses, and develop evidence-based treatments. It aims to provide an objective and comprehensive understanding of the causes, symptoms, and treatment of abnormal behaviors.

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