

Schizophrenia

The artwork of Louis Wain (1860-1939)



onset of schizophrenia

- Nearly 1% of the population suffers from schizophrenia
- Schizophrenia strikes young people as they mature into adults. (18-24 years old is the average age of onset)
- It affects men and women equally, but men suffer from it more severely than women.

schizophrenia

The literal translation is “split mind” which refers to a split from reality. A group of severe disorders characterized by the following:

1. Disorganized and delusional thinking.
2. Disturbed perceptions.
3. Inappropriate emotions and actions.

symptoms of schizophrenia

Positive symptoms

the presence of inappropriate behaviors

- Hallucinations (false perceptions)
- Delusions (false beliefs)
- Disorganized speech (“Word salad”)

Negative symptoms

the absence of appropriate behaviors

- Flat affect (expressionless face),
- Catatonia (rigid body, no movement)

hallucinations (false perceptions)

A person suffering from schizophrenia may perceive things that are not there.

Frequently such hallucinations are auditory and then to a lesser degreee, visual, somatosensory (touch), olfactory, or gustatory (taste).



August Natter, *Witches Head*. The Prinzhorn Collection, University of Heidelberg

Photos of paintings by Kranner Museum, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign



L. Berthold, *Untitled*. The Prinzhorn Collection, University of Heidelberg

positive symptom

delusions (false beliefs)

“This morning when I was at Hillside [Hospital], I was making a movie. I was surrounded by movie stars ... I'm Mary Poppins. Is this room painted blue to get me upset? My grandmother died four weeks after my eighteenth birthday.”

(Sheehan, 1982)

Other forms of delusions include

delusions of persecution (“someone's trying to kill me”)

delusions of grandeur (“I am a king”).

disorganized speech (word salad)

“Colorless green ideas sleep furiously.”

– Noam Chomsky

Many psychologists believe disorganized thoughts occur because of **selective attention** failure (fragmented and bizarre thoughts).

positive symptom

Experience what it's like to be a schizophrenic

(<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b69pOQYve4Q>)

flat affect (emotionless)

- A person suffering from schizophrenia may laugh at the news of someone dying (inappropriate emotion) OR show no emotion at all (flat affect).

catatonia (rigid body, motionless)

Patients with schizophrenia may continually rub
an arm, rock, or
remain motionless for hours



negative symptom

types of schizophrenia

Disorganized

- Late teen onset
- Worst personality deterioration
- Incoherent speech (word salad)
- Very primitive or inappropriate behavior (laughing at a funeral)
- Inappropriate affect (mood)
- Uncontrolled grinning and laughter
- Shabby appearance

Catatonic

- Onset in early 20's
- Mostly negative symptoms
- Periods of excitability followed by deep withdrawal
- [Waxy flexibility](#)

(http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=waxy+flexibility&aq=f)

Paranoid

- Late teens to early 20's onset
- Delusions of persecution or grandeur that result from a misinterpretation of reality
- Person is often very agitated
- Popularized on television

Undifferentiated

- A type of schizophrenia in which symptoms do not fit neatly into any of the specific categories.

causes/effects(?) of schizophrenia

Dopamine Overactivity

Researchers found that schizophrenic patients express higher levels of dopamine receptors in the brain.

Knowing this, what kind of medication would a person suffering with schizophrenia most likely be prescribed:

a dopamine AGONIST

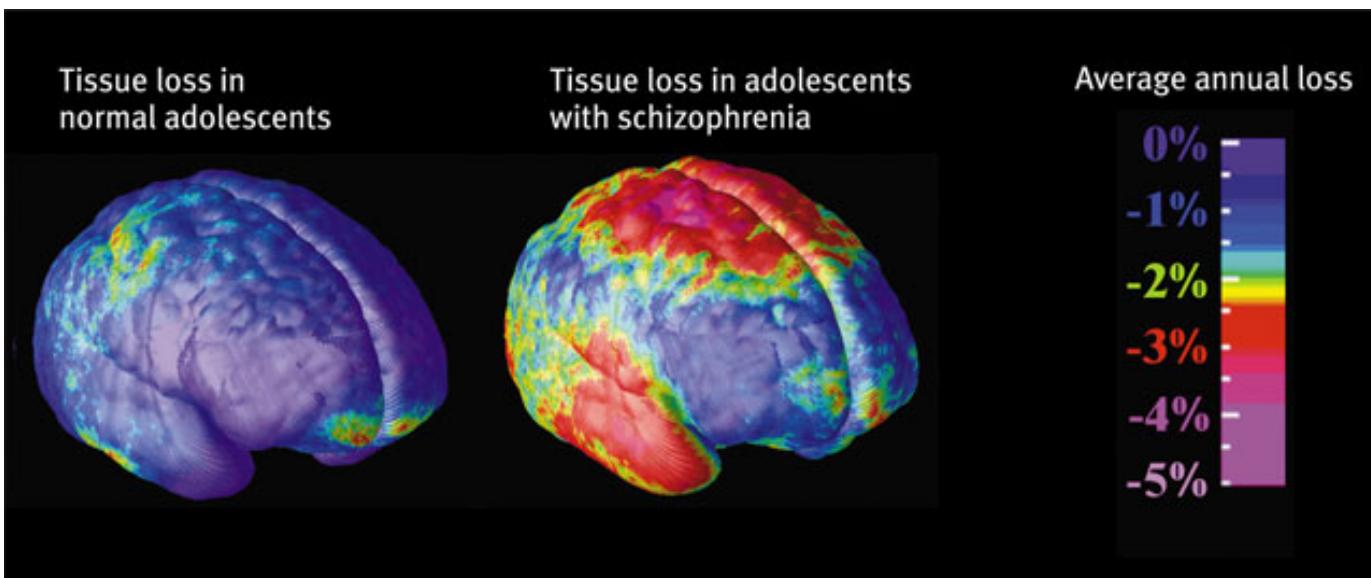
OR

a dopamine ANTAGONIST?

causes/ effects (?) of schizophrenia

Abnormal Brain Activity

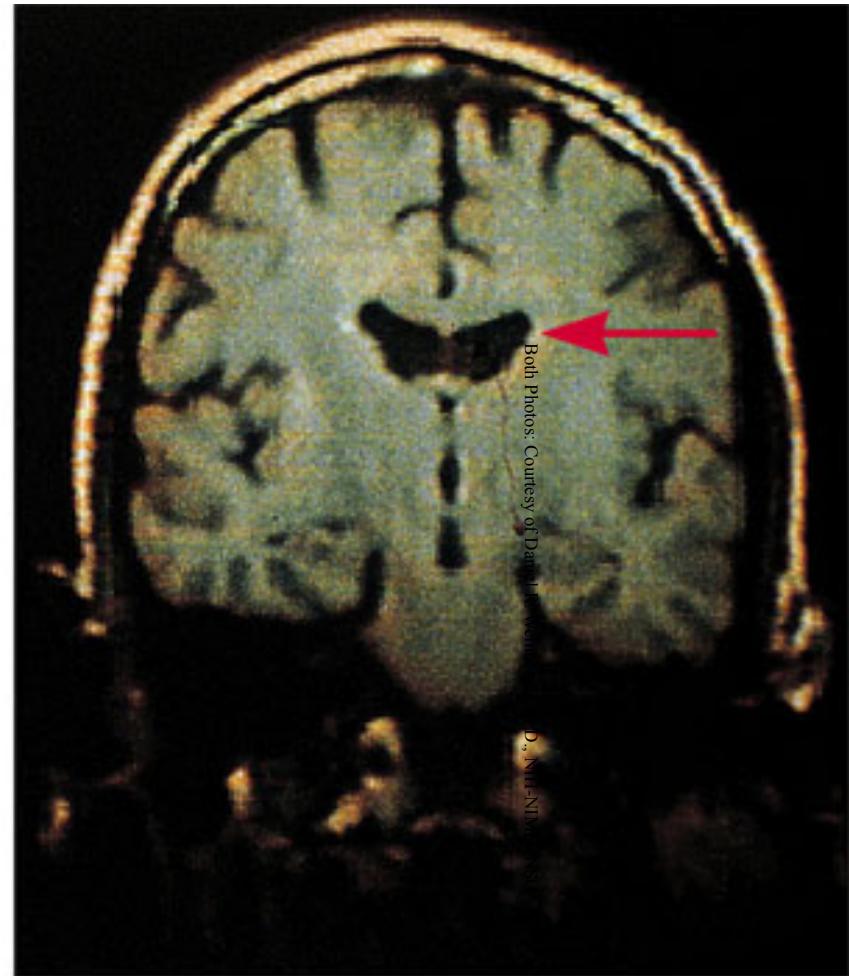
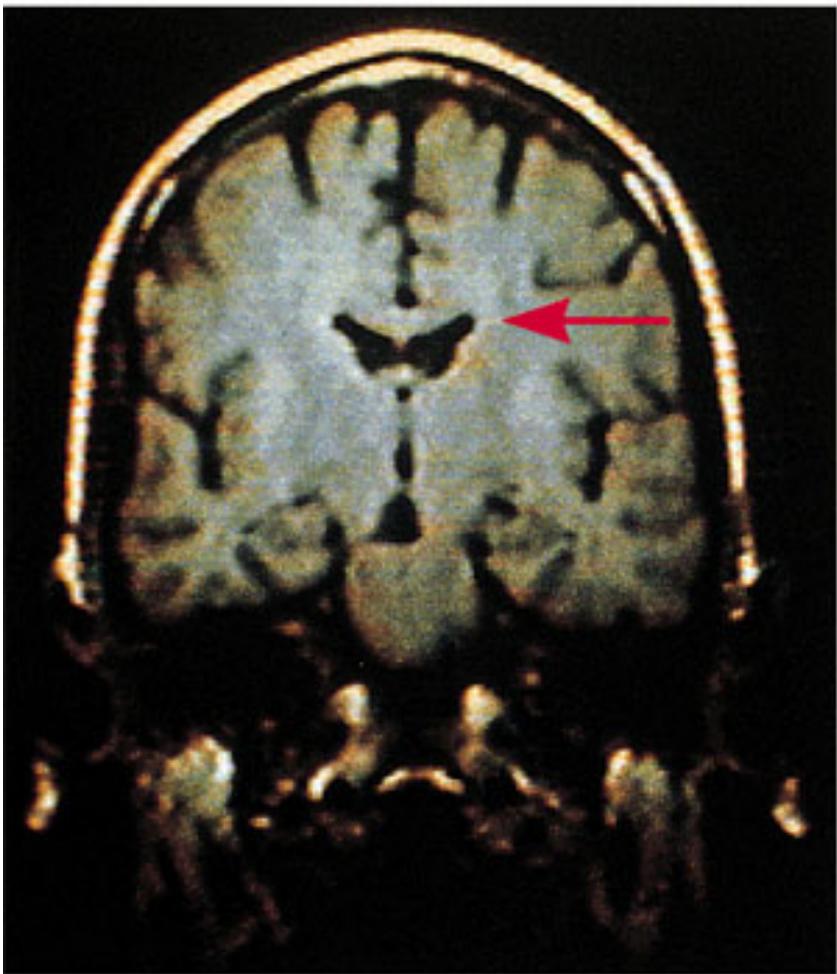
Brain scans show abnormal activity in the frontal cortex, thalamus, and amygdala of schizophrenic patients.



Paul Thompson and Arthur W. Toga, UCLA Laboratory of Neuro Imaging and Judith L. Rapoport, National Institute of Mental Health

causes/ effects (?) of schizophrenia

Enlarged Ventricles

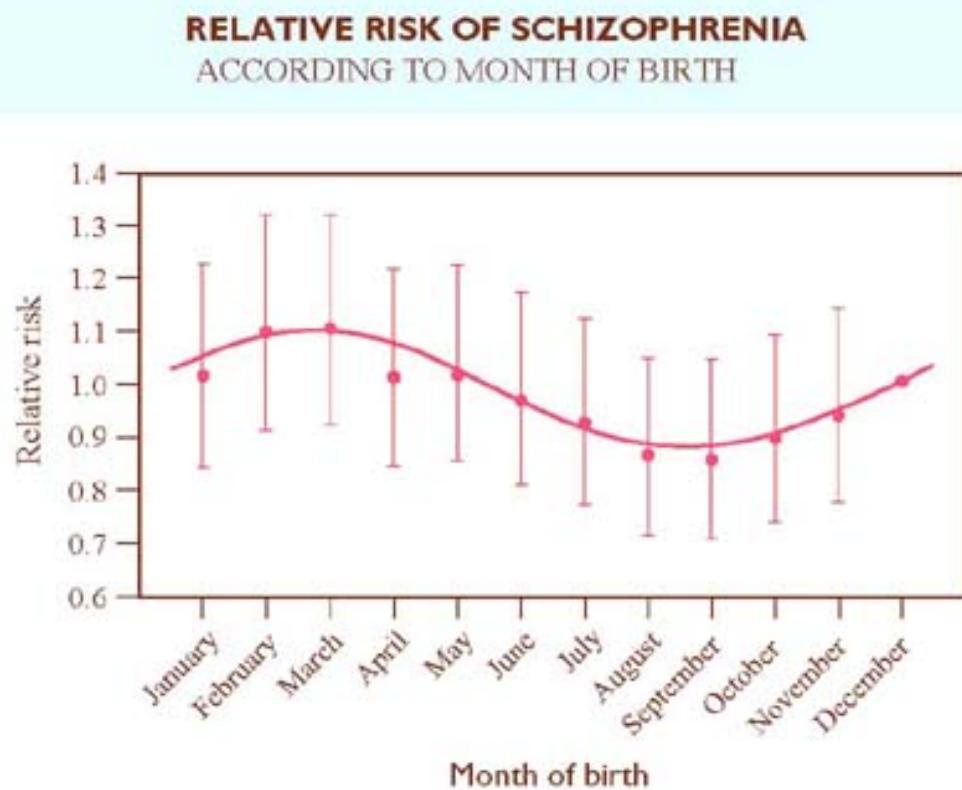


Both Photos: Courtesy of Daniel Weintraub, D., M.D., NIMH

causes (?) of schizophrenia

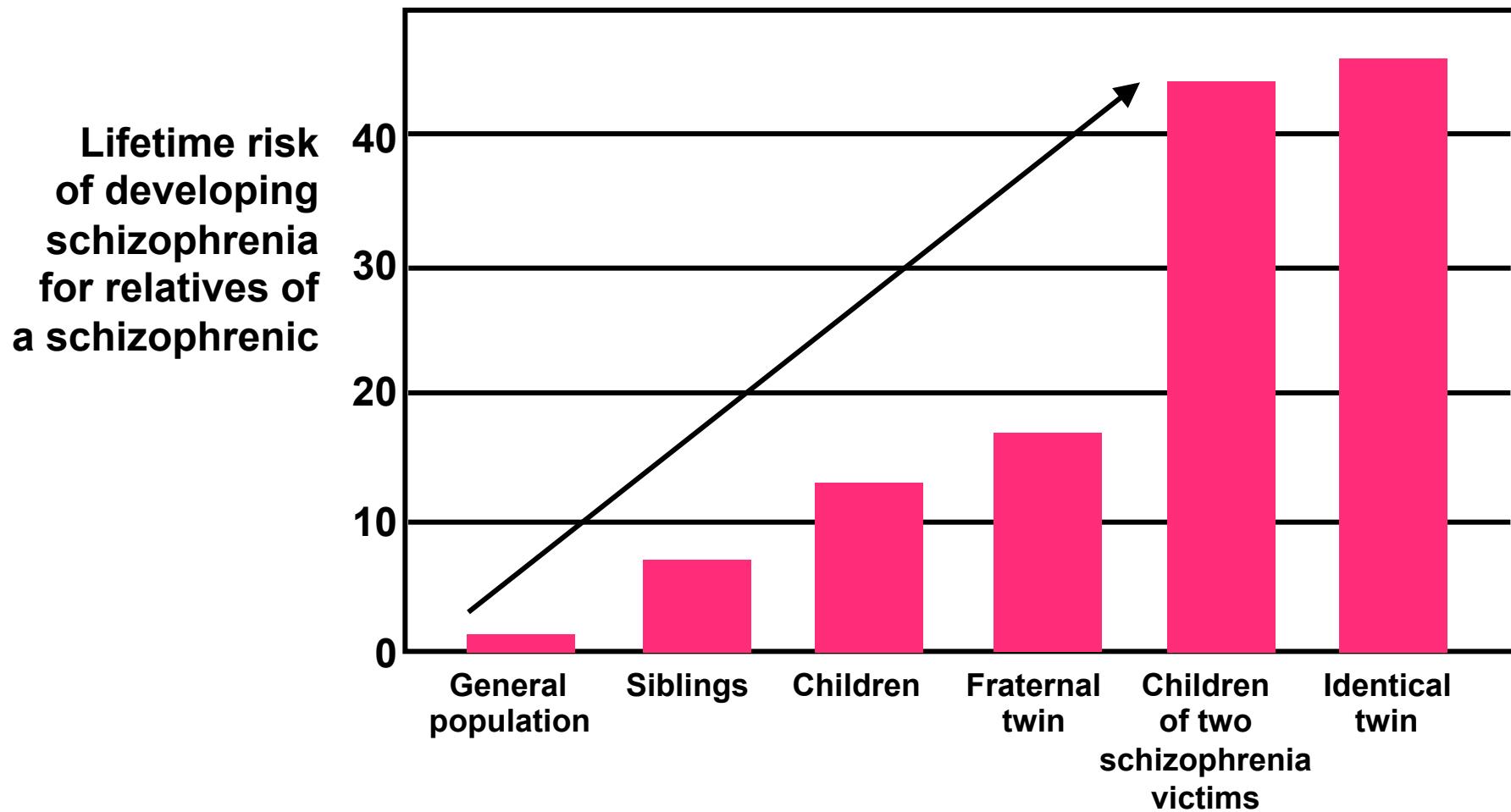
Viral Infection

Schizophrenia has also been observed in individuals who contracted a viral infection (flu) during the middle of their fetal development.



genetic factors

The likelihood of an individual suffering from schizophrenia is almost 50% if their identical twin has the disease



psychological factors

Psychological and environmental factors can trigger schizophrenia if the individual is genetically predisposed.

(remember the diathesis-stress model)?



Genain Sisters

The genetically identical Genain sisters suffer from schizophrenia. Two more than others, thus there are contributing environmental factors.

The Soloist

(<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kjr82pzsVSY>)

Personality and Factitious Disorders



Personality Disorders are a diagnostic category which describes inflexible behavior patterns that impair social relationships and functioning.

Types of Personality Disorders:

Paranoid Personality Disorder

Histrionic Personality Disorder

Borderline Personality Disorder

Narcissistic Personality Disorder

Antisocial Personality Disorder

Types of Personality Disorders:

Paranoid Personality Disorder:

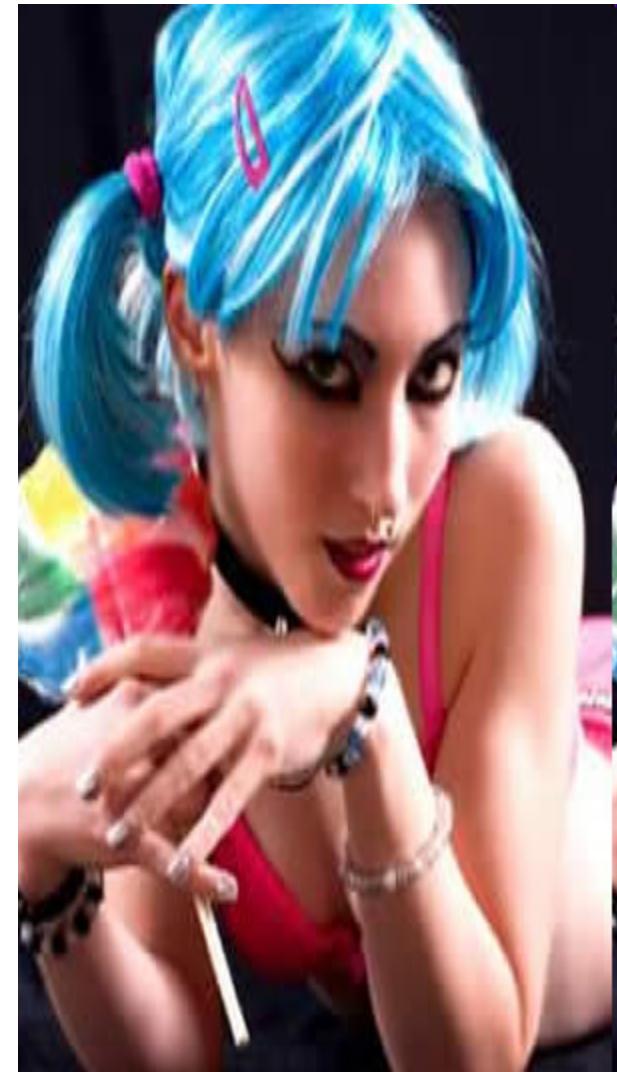
constant and longstanding mistrust of others; believe others are out to get you.
(more common in males)



Types of Personality Disorders:

Histrionic Personality Disorder

characterized by excess and extreme emotions and attention seeking behavior. Always need to be center of attention, overly dramatic, and often inappropriately sexually provocative.



Types of Personality Disorders:

Borderline Personality:
characterized by instability
in relationships and moods.
Tend to have poor self-
image and are very
impulsive and unpredictable.
Black and white thinking.



Types of Personality Disorders:

Narcissistic Personality:

characterized by an exaggerated sense of self-importance. Often believes they are overly “special,” and that they are entitled to special treatment. “Don’t you know who I am?” Very self-absorbed.



5 signs that should alert you to a potential Facebook narcissist:

- 1. They have an astoundingly high number of Facebook friends and wallposts.**
Just like in real life narcissists focus on quantity of friends over quality and have many superficial friendships.
- 2. Their profile photo is posed, glamorous and otherwise artificial.** A narcissist will use a glamorous, posed and otherwise artificial picture of themselves while people with a more healthy sense of self are content with an honest snapshot of what they really look like.
- 3. They have opened profiles on more than one self-promotion site like Facebook, YouTube and MySpace.** A narcissist never gets tired of speaking or writing about themselves.
- 4. They were born after the 1980's.** Since the 1980's there has been a wave of overly empathic parenting. "Instead of teaching children and teens to figure things out, accept consequences for their actions, and feel any real pain, parents rush in to rescue, solve and eliminate all struggle for their kids."
- 5. They tend to use their site to put other people down.**

5 signs that should alert you to a potential Facebook narcissist:

Don't worry if this sounds a little bit like you. A small amount of narcissism is a healthy thing. It shows you have self-esteem, protects you against others, and allows you to take care of yourself.

It's only when the scales tip too far the other way, when you no longer care about other people or what they need, that could indicate that you may have stepped into the narcissist trap.

Types of Personality Disorders:

Narcissistic Personality Inventory:

Want to check you rate on seven component traits of narcissism? Go to the following website:

<http://psychcentral.com/cgi-bin/narcissisticquiz.cgi>

Antisocial Personality Does Not Mean Shyness/Not Good With People

Anti-Social Personality Disorder:

(<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0qyCR9tPDgM&feature=related>)

characterized by a lack of conscience for wrong-doing toward anyone. Fail to conform to social norms and laws. Very deceitful, irresponsible, and dangerous.

Often aggressive or con artists and fearless. No remorse for wrongdoing.

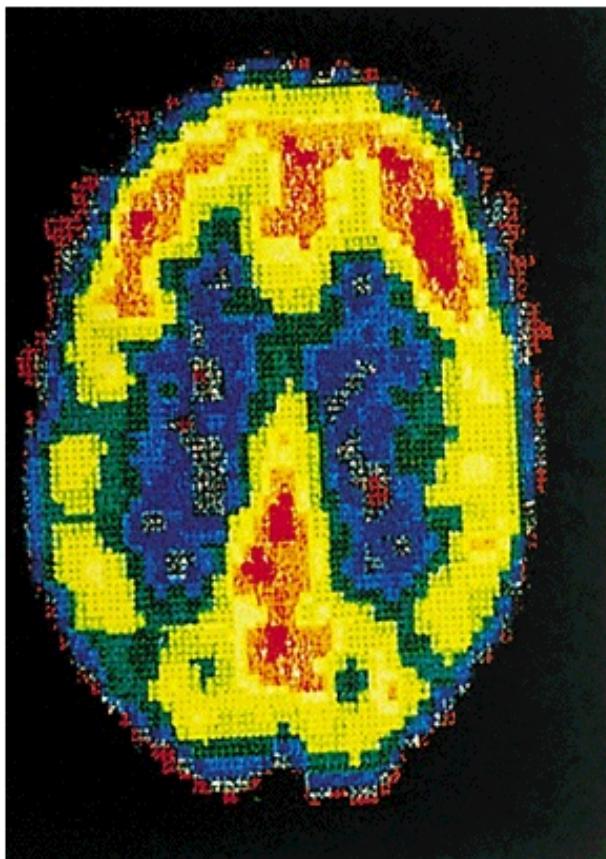
Murderers like Charles Manson.



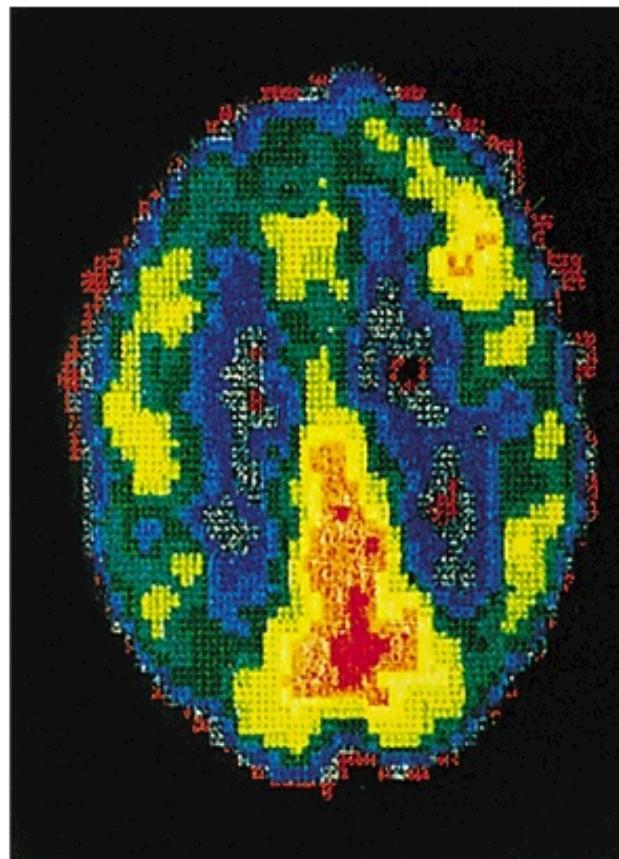
Biological Link to Anti-Social Behavior?

- PET scans illustrate reduced activation in a murderer's frontal cortex

Normal



Murderer



Factitious Disorders

Factitious Disorders: are conditions in which a person acts as if he or she has an illness by deliberately producing, feigning, or exaggerating symptoms.

Ex. **Münchausen syndrome:** psychiatric disorder where one fakes physical or psychological illnesses or diseases to gain sympathy for themselves.

Münchausen syndrome by proxy: involves inflicting physical symptoms on others usually a child to gain sympathy.

(<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UVLqADEdrig&feature=related>)

Miscellaneous Disorder

Phenylketonuria (PKU): a genetic disorder that makes metabolizing certain foods (most proteins for example) impossible.

If undetected or untreated, it can cause mental retardation, seizures and / or brain damage.

Treatment usually consists of a special diet that a person must be on for life.

Percentage of Americans Who Have Ever Experienced Psychological Disorders

Disorder	Ethnicity			Gender		Totals
	White	Black	Hispanic	Men	Women	
Alcohol abuse or dependence	13.6%	13.8%	16.7%	23.8%	4.6%	13.8%
Generalized anxiety	3.4	6.1	3.7	2.4	5.0	3.8
Phobia	9.7	23.4	12.2	10.4	17.7	14.3
Obsessive-compulsive disorder	2.6	2.3	1.8	2.0	3.0	2.6
Mood disorder	8.0	6.3	7.8	5.2	10.2	7.8
Schizophrenic disorder	1.4	2.1	0.8	1.2	1.7	1.5
Antisocial personality disorder	2.6	2.3	3.4	4.5	0.8	2.6

Source: Data from Robins & Regier, 1991. Similar gender differences, though with somewhat higher rates of disorder, come from the U.S. National Comorbidity Survey (Kessler & others, 1994).