Waves of Psychology



- The science of psychology has gone through about 5 different waves since it started. Plus, a 6th newer wave as well.
- Waves are different ways of thinking over time.

Wave One: Structuralism

- •Started with <u>William Wundt's</u> *first psychological laboratory* and his concept of *structuralism*.
- •Basic structure of thought and the brain.
- •<u>Edward Titchner</u>: Use *Introspection*, self reflection to learn about yourself.
 - •What are your thoughts and experiences as you look at a rose?







Wave Two: Functionalism

- Focused on the function or purpose of the conscious mind as well as behaviors.
- <u>William James</u>: Smelling is what the nose does, thinking is what the brain does; why?
 - These things develop because they have adapted to help our survival and the survival of our ancestors.
- Based heavily on **Darwinist** thinking.





Wave Three: Gestalt Psychology

- Led by <u>Max Wertheimer</u>, these guys focused not on how we feel, but on how we experience the world.
- The whole of an experience can be more than the sum of its parts.

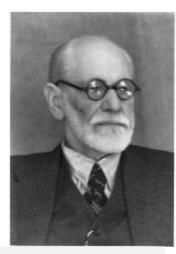


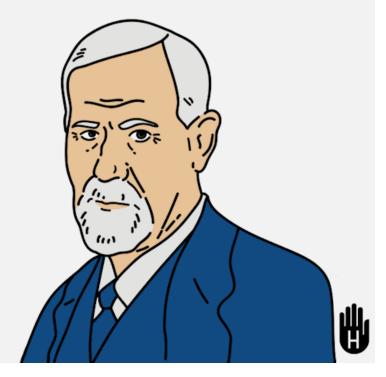
This may seem like one picture, but it can be perceived as 3 different faces. Can you find them?

Think for a moment of all the reasons that you love your mom. If you add all those reasons up, do they equal your love for your mom? Hopefully not!!!

Wave Four: Psychoanalysis

- This wave of thinking started with <u>Sigmund Freud</u>
- In a nutshell, during this time period people believed that most of your feelings come from a hidden place in your mind called the unconscious.
- We protect ourselves from our real feeling by using defense mechanisms.





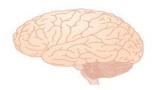
Wave Five: Behaviorism

- During this time period (early to mid 1900s), people started to *ignore how you feel inside*.
- All that mattered was how you acted.
- <u>B.F. Skinner</u> was forerunner of Behaviorism.
- If you could change your behavior, who cares how you feel.
- Very popular during the conservative 1950's when social appearance mattered more than self expression.



Wave Six: Eclectic

• We are now in wave six....which is about variety.

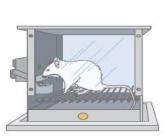


Neuroscience

Views behavior from the perspective of biological functioning Ť

Psychodynamic

Believes behavior is motivated by inner, unconscious forces over which a person has little control



Behavioral

Focuses on observable behavior



Cognitive

Examines how people understand and think about the world 652

Humanistic

Contends that people can control their behavior and that they naturally try to reach their full potential

- Psychologists <u>pick and choose</u> what theories to use depending on the situation and the client.
- <u>Eclectic</u> means a person who derives ideas, style, or taste from a broad and diverse range of sources.
- IE On your IPod you have rock, rap, gospel, and country music.

Today psychologists pick and choose from about 7 schools of thought to help you with your problems.

Thus we have: THE SEVEN SCHOOLS OF PSYCHOLOGY



Behavioral Perspective



Pretend that you fail psychology class. You become depressed. In turn, you begin to binge and gain weight.

What do you think a behaviorist may do?

They would probably ignore the fact that you are depressed and just focus on your overeating.

- Focuses on observable behaviors while putting feelings to the side.
- Deals with how we learn
- We behave in ways because we have been conditioned to do so.

To change behaviors, we have to recondition the client.

B.F. Skinner

<u>Ivan Pavlov</u>

Maybe make you run a mile every time you eat over 2000 calories.

Biological Perspective

- Its all about the function of the brain and body chemistry
- Sample Questions: How are messages transmitted throughout the body? How is blood chemistry linked to moods and motives.



Cognitive Perspective

- Cognitive means thought process or thinking EVERY TIME you see it
- Focuses on how we think (or encode information)





You meet a girl... Hopes are high!!! She rejects you...don't even get a phone number.

How do we see the world?

- How did we learn to act to sad or happy events?
- Cognitive Therapist attempt to change the way you think.

How do you react to the rejection?





Some learned get back on
the horseSome learned to give up
and live a lonely life of
solitude.

<u>Humanist Perspective</u>

- Peaked in the late 1960's and 70's....so it focused on spirituality and free will.
- We have to strive to be the best we can be "selfactualization".
- Happiness is defined by the distance between our "self-concept" and "ideal self".
- <u>Abraham Maslow</u>
- <u>Carl Rogers</u>



Psychoanalytic Perspective

- Any time your see the prefix PYSCHO it means unconscious!!!
- Focuses on the unconscious mind.
- We repress many of our true feelings and are not aware of them.
- In order to get better, we must bring forward the true feelings we have in our unconscious.
- Sigmund Freud
- Carl Jung



If a man has intimacy issues and cannot form relationships with others. What do you think someone from this school may think?

Perhaps they may delve into the man's unconscious and discover that he was bullied when he were younger. The bullying may have caused fear in getting close to others.

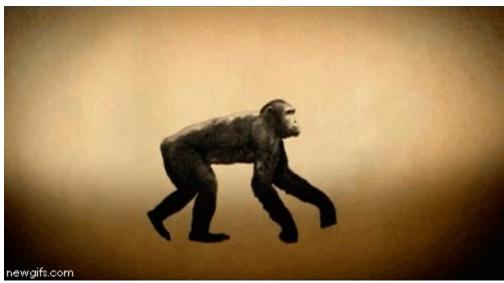
Social-Cultural Perspective



- Says that much of your behavior and your feelings are dictated by the culture you live in.
- Some cultures kiss each other when greeting, some just bow.
- Does your culture place value on individual or the group?

Evolutionary Perspective

- Focuses on Darwinism.
- We behave the way we do because we inherited those behaviors.
- Thus, those behaviors must have helped ensure our ancestors survival.
- How does evolution influence behavior tendencies? Why do men and women have different mating strategies?

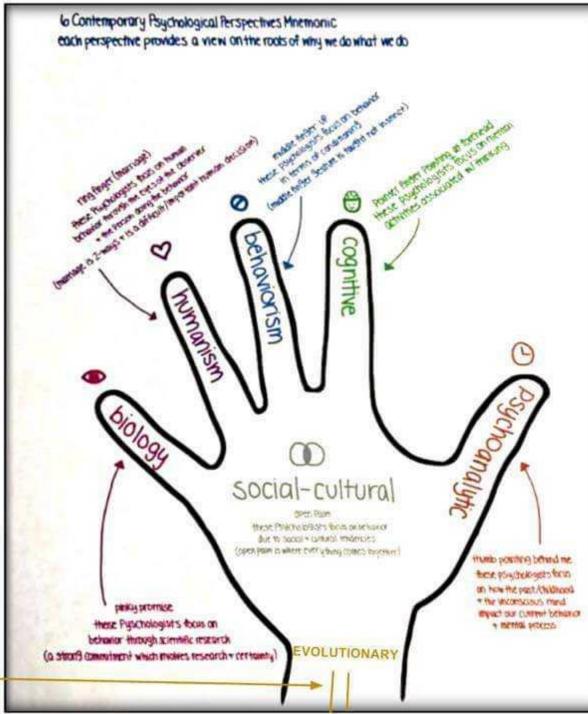


6 Contemporary Psych Perspectives or Approaches

Cognitive
Behaviorism
Humanism
Biological
Psychoanalytic
Socio-Cultural
Evolutionary

If you do not have the extra tendon, your body has 'evolved' - a little evolution at work.





mnemonic Each perspective answers their own questions, and have their own limits, but each are needed in order to fully understand and explain psychology. 500 00 POINTER FINGER Hand Motion, Point to temple as thinking. AUGINOLISIA humanism Explanation These psychologists focus on how benavior is from expectations and things we already know. Middle finger 10 6601019 Hand Motion i middles finger gesture Explanation: external enviro influences behavior, learn from reinforcement and punishment Ring finger FSychodynamic I psychamalync Hand Motton, makea FIST. try to LAR FING finder womoving other fingers, Now social(cultural use fingers on other hand to helpfinger Thumb come to stand ... its full potential Hand motion: Explanation; These tumb is pomting PSUCHOLOGISTS HELP directly behind (to the pottents realize their past) or pointing down Pain full potential, gain "thumbs down" Hand motion: insightfrom own feeling Explanation: mese psychologists each fingers and develop individual muscles and empowerment focus on how past experiences tendons meet (childhood) and the unconscious PINKU nere everything mind impact our current behavior comes took ther Hand motion: tuck all other and mental processes. Anders into palm and look explanation: at the Strong PINKY duscribes awareness of individuals and Explandition: sum of your now their behavior parts, seenownenous is affected Specifically by their barb (esnomione motors) surrounding social+ with ral factors Sumetics affect benavior

6 contemporary psychological perspectives