Previously presented as “How do the ‘mentally ill’ view mental illness?”

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Proposed Research:

The meanings attached to the phrase ‘Mental Illness’ amongst those who experience it
What is Mental Illness/Disorder?

- Whatever the scientists say…

“… although this manual provides a classification of mental disorders, it must be admitted that no definition adequately specifies precise boundaries for the concept of ‘mental disorder.’”

(APA, 2000)
What is Mental Illness/Disorder?

- What the DSM says it is
- We don’t know
The DSM, DSM-IV-TR

- Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders
- 5th Revision
- Controversy
Expansion and Over-diagnosis

➢ CRITICISM

Allen Frances

Robert Spitzer

➢ Thomas Insel (NIMH)

➢ British Psychological Society (BPS)
What is the alternative?

?),???,???????,????,????????????,???????
Let’s ask them…

- 26.2% of Americans (Kessler, Chiu, Demler & Walters, 2005)
- 27% Europeans (WHO, 2013)
The Proposal

- Consult those with ‘mental disorders’
- Qualitative approach
- Add to public debate through publication
ISSUES

- Defining the sample?
- Accessing the sample?
  - ethics
- The questions?
- The analysis?
References


