

DELUSIONAL DISORDER

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I want to comment on Dr David Wright's excellent articles on spiritualists and psychics and introduce you to a very serious mental illness known as delusion disorder.

A delusional disorder concerns unproven beliefs held with high and often ruthless conviction where the patient holds on to these delusions tenaciously even when there are irrefutable proofs which contradict these unproven beliefs and show them to be false.

Many people who have this disorder appear to be normal people until they begin to major on their beliefs.

Those who suffer from these delusions have distorted views such as aliens created the human race and, even more ridiculous, the notion that aliens can change the DNA of any person. Some still believe that the world is flat and that the Holocaust did not happen and who argue their case often with aggression and anger. Some believe that the Loch Ness Monster does exist and that people are abducted by aliens and write copiously about these kidnappings and their sensational books earn them a lot of money.

As I write, a young woman in Germany, who is a spiritualist, says she is pregnant with twenty German Shepherd Dog puppies. All I can say is that she is heavily pregnant and, undoubtedly, mentally ill.

Delusion Disorder can take over your life. If one has this condition and someone contradicts that person there is usually a strong emotion reaction such as EAD (Explosive Anger Disorder) where the patient becomes verbally aggressive and accuses you, perhaps with foul language. There may also be violence, a criminal assault and a Court case. Abuse is often the defence where there is no defence.

This is linked to another serious mental condition called BPD (Borderline Personality Disorder). Sufferers of this assert that they are always right and all the misfortunes that have befallen them in their life were always someone else's fault and never their own.

Dr Wright refers to many spiritualists and psychics in his articles.

David Icke went around Ryde for a couple of years saying that he WAS Jesus Christ. He was not. He was mentally ill with a delusion disorder. He would also get very angry and threatening when anyone disagreed with him. He was also mentally ill with EAD. Recently, he insists that the moon is hollow and that the North is the South and vice versa. These are delusions. He has also written that a former Prime Minister, Ted Heath, was a child killer, another delusion.

There was that infamous woman who said that she could conduct complicated surgery from a distance including one example of surgery over 6,000 miles away and that all her operations would be successful and confound the medical profession. I have seen hundreds of letters from her 'patients', all of whom testify that she was a fraud. She was suffering from delusions and putting people's health at risk. She was not only a fraud but mentally ill and those who believe in her are also under strong delusions. This woman was Betty Shine.

The Portsmouth woman, Helen Duncan, would use ectoplasm and have a white substance come out of her mouth saying it was the spirit of someone one who was dead. What it usually was was the regurgitation of a white tea towel she had imbibed earlier. She was a fraud and also suffering from delusions. She was mentally ill.

The actress, Shirley MacLaine, has been in trouble with the police for driving offences. Her defence was that spirits or aliens were driving her car. That is both a delusion and a lie. Her articles are also suspect and more than suggest a serious delusional disorder.

People who believe these delusions will say that it is a matter of faith. But it is blind faith. True faith has aspects which are factual and therefore uphold it. It becomes rational faith.

Take the matter of evolution which states that all life began in the sea and that we are descendants from apes. This is only a theory and all the missing links between ape and man have been proved to be false or hoaxes. So evolution is a theory. Is it also a delusion? Are all those who believe in it deluded and mentally ill?

One of the originators of evolution and the survival of the fittest belief, Charles Darwin, suffered from mental illness including depression and consulted over twenty doctors. He would stay in bed for months at a time and be incapable of normal life and intellectual production being irrational in all his thinking. He had repeated spells of vertigo, stomach cramps, vomiting, colic, anxiety, tremors and other complaints. He was also a hypochondriac. And, due to his illnesses, he was irrational in every matter from his private life to his beliefs. With the death of one of his daughters at Easter 1851 ' all reason left him ' wrote his biographer. Darwin was already committed to rubbishing the God of the Bible but now blamed God for the death of his little girl whereas it was due to her partial neglect. He was plagued with mental illness all his adult life. The concept that only the fittest should survive is an irrational idea from an irrational mind.

With his thoughts, science was claimed to be the truth and the only path to follow which attitude prevails today. Science is the religion, the only religion.

To add one comment here about evolution and Darwinism, I remember Dr F A Tatford, a scientist, saying, "I cannot believe in evolution because I am a scientist!"

Several doctors have written about Darwin's mental health which was evident by the time he was sixteen in 1825. He had panic attacks and many phobias; he was an obsessional hypochondriac; he was a sadist; he loved killing birds; he treated his wife and children, even when they were fully grown, as children; his mental disorders revealed his severe emotional problems; he contemplated suicide; he was psychotic, which is a severe mental condition, and his mental instability stemmed from his guilt over his life's desire to debunk and discredit the God of the Bible.

Many spiritualists, psychics and some scientists refuse to believe in the God of the Bible and in Jesus Christ and, consequently, all their beliefs are deliberately in opposition to Christianity and this is often expressed with great hostility. They are anti Christian.

There are many infallible proofs of the Bible some of which are in Dr Wright's article of the same name, Many Infallible Proofs.

The alternative to evolution is Divine Creation and that would explain the similarity both in design of all living creatures, and DNA.

Since beginning this article, the young German woman spiritualist has given birth to two healthy boys and no puppies!

Of course, there are other organisations who have in their respective memberships people with delusions and this includes Christians. But as a Consultant Psychiatrist, I can tell you that for every one with a mental illness connected to Christian beliefs there are 72 mentally damaged people due to spiritualist and psychic matters.

Narcissism is another serious mental condition where the patient is full of himself, self interest and in love with himself. In the world of music, Elgar and Britten were like this and they were also megalomaniacs thus having, at least, two serious mental conditions. They were both mentally ill.

In his piece, An Aspect of Witchcraft, Dr Wright talks about two teenage girls in his class who were forced into witchcraft by their respective parents and had to dance naked round a fire at night with everyone else naked. I do not hesitate to call that child abuse. Those who believe in such activities state that the nakedness is essential so that the spirits can have easier access to you. What they do not say is that after the dancing there is free sex and even virgin girls are taken. This constitutes rape, but it a practice of the occult. It is all based on delusional disorders and promiscuity. Witchcraft is a mental illness and the sufferers are those who believe in it and practice it. Anything that promotes evil and indecency must be wrong.

There are artists and composers who had mental illness and this is often shown in their works and compositions which are subsequently sub standard. Schubert, Chopin and, in particular, Scriabin are cases in point. (See Dr Wright's article Scriabin and mental illness)

What is the cause of delusional disorders?

1. It can be result of the objection and revolt against Christian teaching or other teachings such as morality.

A person goes to church and hears about Heaven and Hell, fire and brimstone, having to live a moral life, that they are a sinner, that there is the grace and mercy of God etc. but they object to something and subsequently call the Bible lies and rubbish and, to justify their position, embrace alternative views such as Jesus Christ does not exist but aliens, flying saucers and other things do.

2. It can be a genetic disorder inherited from a family member.
3. It can be caused by the influence of others who believe these delusions.
4. It can be caused by brainwashing.
5. It can be due to dementia. There are cases of early dementia. It is not confined to the elderly.
6. It can be caused because the patient already has a mental illness. For example, schizophrenia is hearing voices, seeing things that are not there and losing a sense of reality. Seeing flying saucers, hearing voices of the dead are examples of this troublesome illness.
7. Depression could be a cause. Fatigue may also be a factor. Inadequate sleep may be a problem.
8. Nihilism is often a cause (see Dr Wright's article on this mental condition). Nihilism rejects all authority and campaigns against morality. This was advocated by Neitzche who was also mentally ill.
9. Narcissism and megalomania are often linked to delusional disorders. Let me quote an example. Andrew is 65 and for years has put on his headed notepaper that he has impressive qualifications and names the universities from which he received these degrees. Unfortunately, none of these universities know him, have no record of him and have not given him any degrees. These are lies and delusions. He is mentally ill.

It is one thing to have an opinion; it is another to hold tenaciously to such views which have no basis in fact, and to defend them with aggression and irrationality since these views cannot be proved and, in addition, there is proof to show that these beliefs are wrong and/or utterly ridiculous.

Mental illness and other psychiatric disorders can and do affect and damage the brain and such a damaged brain looks different from an unaffected brain. Mental illness such as delusional disorders can and do change personality.

I do not like to use the word mad and it is probably politically incorrect to do so. But let me conclude with the dictionary definition; mentally deranged, insane, extremely foolish senseless. Sometimes this condition is accompanied by ferocious anger (EAD).

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