



Abnormal Child Psychology

By Eric J Mash, David A Wolfe

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In this current and scholarly text, authors Eric Mash and David Wolfe achieve a balance between developmental, clinical-diagnostic, and experimental approaches to child and adolescent psychopathology. The book traces the developmental course of each disorder and shows how biological, psychological, and sociocultural factors interact with the child's environment. First-person accounts and cases enrich the reader's understanding of what children and adolescents with disorders experience, emphasizing the strengths of individual children. Case materials are integrated throughout each chapter to help students understand the chapter's key topics. Engaging "first-person" accounts frequently introduce the chapters and reflect the authors' clinical experience. In every disorder chapter, the authors present an overview of the most empirically supported approaches to intervention. The authors discuss the unique as well as general aspects of major intervention strategies for each disorder. The authors pay attention to risk and protective factors and the conditions that lead to effective coping in some children, despite adverse early circumstances. The authors have organized the book into logical five-part structure: Understanding Abnormal Child Psychology, Behavioral Disorders (ADHD and disruptive behavior disorders), Emotional Disorders (anxiety and mood disorders), Developmental and Learning Disorders (mental retardation, autism, childhood-onset schizophrenia, and communication and learning disorders), and Problems Related to Physical and Mental Health (health-related disorders, eating disorders, and child abuse and neglect). This organization provides students with a framework for understanding the disorders that will enhance their mastery of the material.

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Editorial Review

Review

"This is an outstanding text, beautifully rendered, visually appealing, and intellectually first-rate. It is undoubtedly the best undergraduate textbook I have encountered on the subject, covering all the major disorders in a way that is informative to both novice and expert alike. Richly referenced and sprinkled throughout with interesting and instructive case anecdotes, this textbook is scientifically state-of-the-art. There simply is no better text for introducing students to the subject of child psychopathology."

"The book's major points are richly studded with relevant citations of the research literature, to which the interested student (or professor!) can turn for more information. . . . The inclusion of illustrative case material greatly enriches the book, without disrupting the 'flow' of the presentation of information. Pedagogically, this is a very good move, as is the inclusion of the occasional flashes of wit and humor, and of the occasional cartoon!. . . Overall, I believe this text to be consistently very readable, characterized by very current scholarship, and a notable advance over available competitors."

"Overall, I'm very impressed with your book, and I plan to continue using it. It is obvious that you both have been extremely careful in covering issues and the research in this field. The book is well-written. And the boxed features and little case vignettes blend nicely with the thorough coverage of research and research issues."

"I find this text much more interesting and engaging than the text I currently use and far better in a number of ways from other books on the market. I am pleased with the integration of empirical findings throughout this book. The use of cases in each chapter will help engage student readers and facilitate communication of key concepts."

About the Author

Eric Mash is a professor of psychology at University of Calgary in Canada, where he enjoys teaching undergraduate classes in abnormal child psychology, behavior modification, and developmental psychopathology as well as graduate classes in clinical psychology, specifically in child psychopathology, child assessment, and child psychotherapy. He earned his Ph.D. in clinical psychology at Florida State University, and completed his residency in clinical child psychology at Oregon Health and Sciences University in Portland, Oregon. Eric commits much of his time and energy outside of the classroom to researching the topics of abnormal child psychology, child and family assessment, child psychotherapy, and child development. Particularly interested in attention-deficit disorder and conduct problems, and in families in which children have been physically abused, Eric has contributed and published many journal articles and books on these topics. He is also a Fellow of the American and Canadian Psychological Associations, and has served on the editorial boards of many prestigious journals and grant agencies at local and federal levels.

David Wolfe is the first recipient of the RBC Investments Chair in Developmental Psychopathology and Children's Mental Health at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, University of Toronto, and the Academic Director of the Center for Research on Violence Against Women and Children. He enjoys teaching abnormal child psychology, child assessment and psychotherapy, and community psychology to undergraduate students. He earned his Ph.D. at University of South Florida in Tampa, and completed his residency in clinical psychology at University of Mississippi Medical Center. David is a founding member of the Center for Research on Violence Against Women and Children, and also a fellow of the American Psychological Association (APA), where he served as president of Division 37, Child, Youth, and Family

Services. He lends special focus to child abuse, domestic violence, and development and developmental psychopathology, as well as the impact of early childhood trauma on later development in childhood, adolescence, and early adulthood. Currently David focuses attention on studying ways to prevent violence in relationships with adolescents.

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