Chapter 2
Defining Abnormality: What is Psychopathology?

Case Vignette

- The case of Dave
- Is Dave "abnormal?"

Commonly Used Criteria for Defining Abnormality
- Help Seeking
- Irrationality/Dangerousness
- Deviance
- Emotional Distress
- Significant Impairment
Core Concepts in Defining Abnormality

- Cultural and Historical Relativism
- The Continuum Between Normal and Abnormal Behavior

Defining Abnormality: Practical Solutions

- Working Definitions of Normality and Abnormality
  - Freud’s definition
  - DSM-IV-TR’s definition

Related topics

- “Culture-Bound” Syndromes (Table 2.2)
- The “Harmful Dysfunction” Definition and Debate (Box 2.3)