

Dissociative Disorders

Dissociative Identity Disorder (Formerly known as multiple personality disorder)

Host Identity: Original personality

Alter Identity: All other personalities

Cause: Severe childhood trauma

Controversy: Some psychiatrists believe that DID is created as a result of the therapist / client interaction – DID personalities are “planted” in the client’s head.

Depersonalization Disorder: “Out of body” feeling. Feeling of detachedness from one’s body. Feel like a robot, watching yourself move, and have little or no control over your actions.

Retrograde Amnesia – Forget events BEFORE the incident

Anterograde Amnesia – Forget events AFTER the incident

Localized Amnesia – Forgetting of an ENTIRE incident (usually surrounding a traumatic experience)

Selective Amnesia – PARTIAL forgetting of an incident (usually surrounding a traumatic experience)

Dissociative Fugue – Retrograde Amnesia + Relocation

^ Following a traumatic experience, an individual may develop retrograde amnesia, then walk around and rediscover a new life (memory usually comes back after this episode, which may last as short as hours, or as long as months)