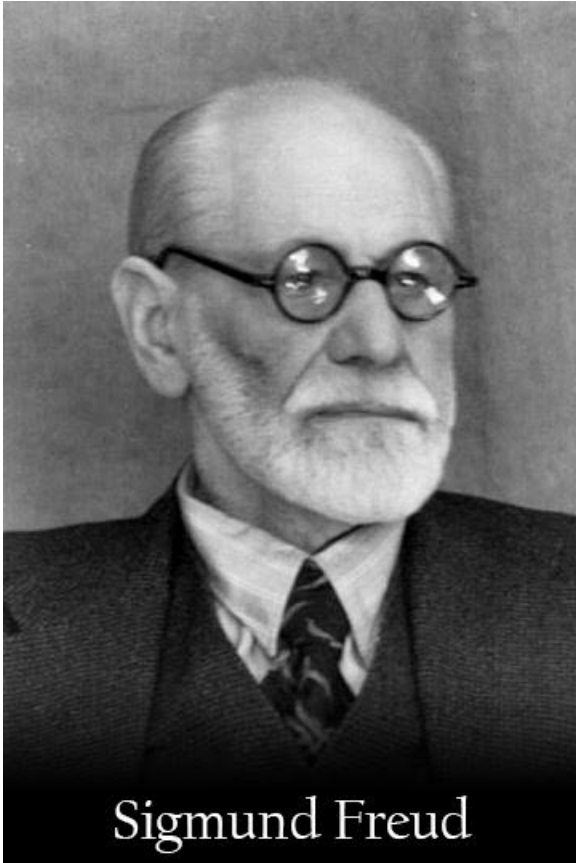


Module 8: Personality
Topic 1 Content: Neo-Freudians


Introduction



Sigmund Freud

Neo-Freudians

Followers of Sigmund Freud that went on to make their own contributions to the field of psychology



Sigmund Freud gained many followers in his lifetime. Some of these followers went on to make their own contributions to the field of psychology. You will examine a few of Freud's followers and learn how their psychological work ultimately differed from his.

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Carl Jung



Was once a part of Freud's inner circle

Believed that humans possess a collective unconscious

Proposed that the collective unconscious contained images called archetypes

Archetypes reflect the universal experiences of humans in dreams, art, and literature

Include universal themes: young hero, wise old man, fairy godmother, etc.

Once a part of Freud's inner circle, Carl Jung eventually broke away from his friend. He believed that humans possess a collective unconscious, or a store of accumulated ideas and images that were passed down from our ancestors. Jung proposed that this collective unconscious contains primitive images called archetypes. These images reflect the universal experiences of humans, which are revealed in dreams and expressions of art and literature. Archetypes also include universal themes such as the young hero, the wise old man, and the fairy godmother.

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Alfred Adler



Follower who eventually broke away from Freud

Known for coining the term inferiority complex

Believed personality develops from efforts to overcome feelings of inferiority

Thought feelings of inferiority arise from areas perceived to be lacking


This results in a desire to overcompensate and achieve other goals

Alfred Adler is another follower who eventually broke away from Freud. Adler is known for coining the term 'inferiority complex.' He believed that a large part of personality development is the result of one's effort to overcome obstacles and feelings of inferiority. He thought that all small children feel some degree of inferiority because of their size. As children grow, feelings of inferiority arise from areas that are perceived to be lacking. This results in a desire to overcompensate and achieve other goals to make up for inferior areas. For example, children who are not athletic may begin to excel elsewhere.

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Karen Horney



A black and white portrait of Karen Horney, an elderly woman with short, curly, light-colored hair. She is looking slightly to the right of the camera with a neutral expression. She is wearing a dark top with a white, ruffled collar. The background is dark.

Karen Horney

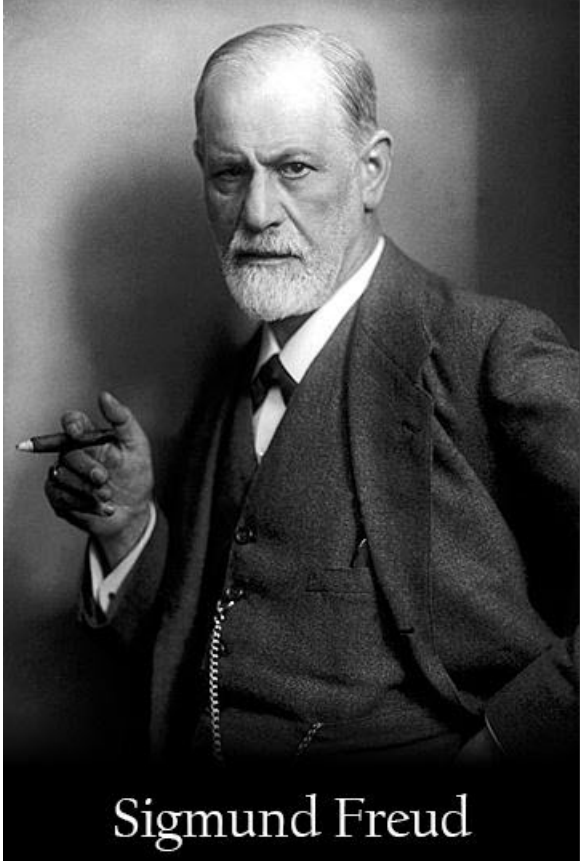
- An outspoken critic of Freud's ideas about women
- Argued that Freud had a negative bias toward women
- Early psychoanalyst who agreed on the role of the unconscious mind
- Felt Freud placed too much emphasis on sexual drives
- Believed social and cultural forces emphasized the role of the parent-child relationship in personality development

Karen Horney was an outspoken critic of Freud's ideas about women. She argued that he had a negative bias toward the female gender. She was an early psychoanalyst who agreed on the role of the unconscious mind, but felt Freud placed too much emphasis on sexual drives. She also believed that social and cultural forces emphasized the role of the parent-child relationship in personality development.

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Summary



Sigmund Freud

- Modern day critics suggest Freud's theories lack scientific evidence
- Work was based on a limited number of case studies
- Freud was a pioneer in the field of psychology
- Most reject his emphasis on sex in personality development
- He is credited with starting a conversation about the role of the unconscious mind

Modern day critics suggest that many of Freud's theories lack scientific evidence. Moreover, his work was based on a limited number of case studies that focused on middle-aged Austrian women. Because he used such a small number of participants, it is difficult to generalize the results of his theories to other populations.

Despite this, it is important to understand that Freud was a pioneer. Because he was one of the first, his ideas are known to all students of psychology. Most people today reject Freud's emphasis on sex in personality development; however, he is credited with starting a conversation about the role of the unconscious mind.