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Taxonomy of Disruptive Behavior in Children and Adolescents

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Propositions accompanying the thesis

Taxonomy of Disruptive Behavior in Children and Adolescents

Pieter F.A. de Nijs

1. The top-down *DSM* approach and the bottom-up Latent Class Analysis approach to taxonomy of parent-reported ADHD symptoms in primary school children tend to converge (*This thesis*).
2. ADHD taxonomy is informant-specific (*This thesis*).
3. Disagreement and sometimes conflict between parents and teachers of children with ADHD might be explained by a lack of awareness in informants of the setting-specificity of a child's behavior (*This thesis*).
4. Although cross-setting assessment of ADHD symptoms is frequently used in clinical practice, this does not seem to be a valid procedure to derive a diagnosis (*This thesis*).
5. In referred adolescents, problems with attention, impulsivity, and hyperactivity can be considered as a diagnostic construct that should be distinguished from aggressive or rule-breaking behaviors (*This thesis*).
6. Using a placebo-controlled procedure in initiating methylphenidate treatment only serves to increase the patient's and the parents' motivation.
7. The biopsychosocial model is not a model since it does not describe the relations between its elements and, hence, cannot be verified nor falsified.
8. Because the autistic spectrum is a continuum which extends from PDD-NOS into 'normality', and because *DSM-IV-TR* does not include criteria for distinguishing people with PDD-NOS from 'neurotypicals', it can be concluded from people with PDD moving along the PDD spectrum in time, that PDD-NOS can go into remission.
9. Since genes seldom interact directly with the social environment, 'gene-environment interaction' is a statistical term.
10. Because everything on the pathway between genotype and phenotype can be called an endophenotype, research of endophenotypes can be no more than an intermediate step on the way towards complete knowledge of the mechanisms of health and disease.
11. A characteristic feature of a good proposition is that you have already forgotten it before you write it down.