

Dr. Rick Grieve
PSY 495
Western Kentucky University

CONTEMPORARY DEVELOPMENTS IN PSYCHOLOGY

1

THE LANDSCAPE OF PSYCHOLOGY

- ✗ Lots of Theoretical Orientations
 - + 250+
 - + Big Three
- ✗ Focus on Empirically Validated Treatment
 - + HMO-driven
 - + 200+ EVTs
- ✗ Positive Psychology
 - + Martin Seligman
 - ✗ 1999 APA President Began Movement

2

THE LANDSCAPE OF PSYCHOLOGY

- + Focus on what people do right, not what they do wrong
- + Virtues
- + Cuts across theoretical orientations
- ✗ Cultural Psychology
 - + Derald Wing Sue
- ✗ Evolutionary Psychology
 - + David Buss
 - + Steven Pinker

3

THE LANDSCAPE OF PSYCHOLOGY

- ✦ Feminist Movement
 - + Coined by Karen Horney
 - + Focuses on removing the oppression of society and working toward equality for all
- ✦ Forensic Psychology
 - + Not CSI or The Profiler
 - + Many of the mentally ill are now being housed in jail rather than hospitals.
 - + Work w/prisoners on improving mental health

4

THE LANDSCAPE OF PSYCHOLOGY

- + Competence to stand trial/Insanity
- + I see this area growing in years to come
- ✦ Cognitive Psychology
 - + Cognitive Therapy
 - ✦ Acceptance and Commitment Therapy
- ✦ Neuropsychology
 - + New frontier
 - + Field is moving in this direction
 - ✦ Many universities are creating "Departments of Brain Sciences" or equivalents

5

THE LANDSCAPE OF PSYCHOLOGY

- ✦ Private Practice vs. Academia
 - + Still more jobs in the private sector than in academia
 - + But, w/Baby Boomers retiring, there are a number of jobs opening up across the field
- ✦ Impact of the Veterans' Administration
 - + Doubled the number of psychologists on payroll
 - + ~6% of psychologists employed @ VAs

6

THE LANDSCAPE OF PSYCHOLOGY

- ✕ State of the Profession
 - + APA
 - ✕ 150,000 members, with a focus on practice
 - + APS
 - ✕ 20,000 members, with a focus on science
 - + Scientist-Practitioner Model
 - ✕ Still alive, but has competition

7

THE LANDSCAPE OF PSYCHOLOGY

- + Psy.D.
 - ✕ Benefits
 - ✕ Problems
- + Internship difficulties
- + Empanelling Difficulties
- + New Laws
- + Holy Cow!!!
- ✕ Final Thoughts

8
