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Paper- Psychopathology

Topic- Dynamic Aspects of Mind: Id- Ego- Superego

Freud proposed a model of personality in terms of three interconnected sections, i.e., id, ego and superego. However, these parts come into the dynamic aspects of personality.

Id: It is the source of one's biological based energy. It operates with immediate gratification of primitive needs; for example, sexual desires and aggressive impulses. It works as 'pleasure principle', which believes that people seek pleasure and try to avoid pain. It doesn't mind for moral values, societal norms, or other individuals reactions.

Ego: It rises out of id, and seeks to satisfy an individual's biological needs in terms with reality.

It works as 'reality principle', which directs the id towards more appropriate ways of behaving. The id is demanding, unrealistic and works as to pleasure principle, while the ego is patient, reasonable, and works by the reality principle.

Superego: It corresponds closely to what we commonly call the conscience. It comprises of prohibitions learned from parents and other authorities. The superego may condemn as 'wrong' several things which the ego do to satisfy the id. Superego also deals the id and the ego whether gratification is ethical.

Freud believed of the unconscious as being consisted of three competing forces. In some people, id is stronger than superego, while in others superego stronger than id. The relative strength of id, ego and superego determines each person's stability. Freud also believed that id is energised by two biological forces, i.e., life and death instinct. He paid more attention to life instinct than death instinct.