

Applying Definitions of Abnormality

Go back to the examples on the previous handout. Would each of the definitions we have seen classify these people as abnormal? Which do you think is the best definition for capturing each example? Write some brief notes explaining your views.

Example	Definitions	Which is the best definition for capturing this example? Why?
The woman with a fear of snakes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Statistical infrequency <input type="checkbox"/> Violation of social norms <input type="checkbox"/> Failure to function adequately <input type="checkbox"/> Deviation from ideal mental health 	
The man who hears voices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Statistical infrequency <input type="checkbox"/> Violation of social norms <input type="checkbox"/> Failure to function adequately <input type="checkbox"/> Deviation from ideal mental health 	
The woman who is obsessed with germs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Statistical infrequency <input type="checkbox"/> Violation of social norms <input type="checkbox"/> Failure to function adequately <input type="checkbox"/> Deviation from ideal mental health 	