# La psychose et la ville

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Un webinaire présenté par les axes Éthique et Santé mentale des populations du RRSPQ en collaboration avec le réseau Qualaxia

25 septembre 2019









# **Psychosis**

Positive symptoms

- Delusions
- Hallucinations
- Thought disorder

Negative symptoms

- Blunted affect
- Poverty of thought, speech
- Avolition

Chronic vs. brief

Schizophrenia



# **Psychosis**

- Lifetime prevalence: about one person in 100
- Of symptoms: 5.3 in 100
- Annual incidence: about one person in 250
- Psychotic symptoms vs. disorder
- Continuum hypothesis
- Median prevalence: about 5%



# **Psychosis**

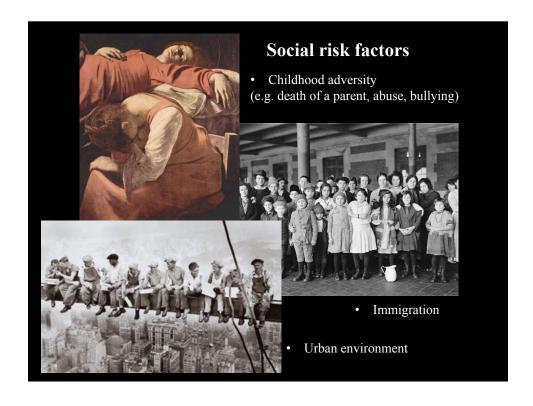
- Genetic factors important
- About 40% monozygotic concordance rate
- The psychotic brain
- Aside: the dopamine hypothesis



# **Psychosis**

Some risk factors:

- Problems during pregnancy
- Winter birth
- Older father
- Drugs of abuse (esp. cannabis and methamphetamine)



## **Immigration**

- First and second generation
- First: roughly double the risk
- Second: effect of skin colour up to five times the risk



### MENTAL DISORDERS IN URBAN AREAS

AN ECOLOGICAL STUDY OF SCHIZOPHRENIA AND OTHER PSYCHOSES

> BY ROBERT E. L. FARIS AND H. WARREN DUNHAM

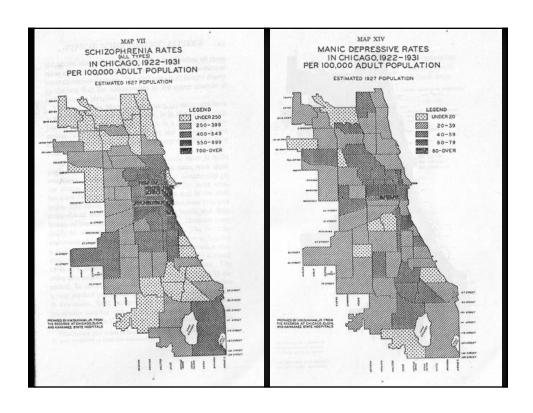
With a sew preface by the authors



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### Cities

- Faris and Dunham (1939)
- Higher rates of schizophrenia in inner-city neighborhoods
- Characterized by social disorganization and social isolation
- No parallel differences in the rates of bipolar disorder
- Subsequent research: the city effect is really a population (and population density) effect
- Meta-analysis in 2012: near-linear effect



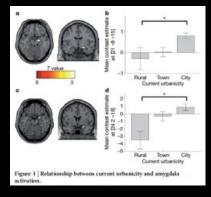
Reference	Exposure factor	Outcome	Effect size	\$5% CI [Lower level; upper level]
Peen et al. (2010) (6)	Urban vs. rural	Any disorder*2	1.38 (OR)	[1.17; 1.64]
	Urban vs. rural	Mood disorder*2	1.39 (OR)	[1.23; 1.58]
	Urban vs. rural	Anxiety disorder*2	1.21 (OR)	[1.02; 1.42]
	Urban vs. rural	Substance use disorder*2	1.31 (OR)	[0.97; 1.78]
/assos et al. 2012) (15)	Continuous urbanicity index	Schizophrenia	2.38 (OR)	[2.01; 2.81]
Pedersen	Per 15 years lived in capital city vs. rural area	Schizophrenia*3	2.75 (RR)	[2:31; 3:28]
& Mortensen (2001) (14)	Per 15 years lived in capital suburb vs. rural area	Schizophrenia*3	1.69 (RR)	[1.43; 1.99]
	Per 15 years lived in provincial city vs. rural area	Schizophrenia*3	1.71 (RR)	[1,41; 2.06]
	Per 15 years lived in provincial town vs. rural area	Schizophrenia*3	1.32 (RR)	[1.13; 1.54]
Mortensen et al.	Place of birth: Capital vs. rural area	Schizophrenia*3	2.40 (RR)	[2.13; 2.70]
1999) (23)	Place of birth: Capital suburb vs. rural area	Schizophrenia*3	1.62 (RR)	[1:37; 1:90]
	Place of birth: Provincial city vs. rural area	Schizophrenia*3	1.57 (RR)	[1.36; 1.81]
	Place of birth: Provincial town vs. rural area	Schizophrenia*3	1.24 (RR)	[1.10; 1.41]
Cantor-Graae	First generation migrants vs. natives	Schizophrenia	2.7 (RR)	[23, 3.2]
& Selten (2005) (e10)	Second generation migrants vs. natives	Schizophrenia	4.5 (RR)	[1.5; 13.1]
	First and second generation migrants vs. natives	Schizophrenia	2.9 (RR)	[2.5; 3.49]
/eling et al. 2006) (34)	Immigrant vs. Dutch in urban area of low ethnic density	Psychotic disorder*3	2.36 (IRR)	[1.89; 2.95]

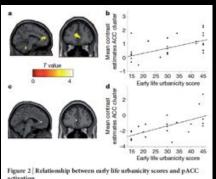
Country	No. of Respondents	OR (95% CI)		
Bangladesh	5942	0.95 (0.63-1.42)		
Burkina Faso	4948	1.40 (0.98-2.00)		
Chad	4870	1.37 (0.87-2.16)		
Ethiopia	5089	1.00 (0.64-1.57)		
Ghana	4165	0.74 (0.49-1.12)		
Kenya	4640	0.60 (0.34-1.04)		
Laos	4988	1.59 (1.09-2.33)		
Molawi	5551	0.80 (0.48-1.32)		
Mali	4886	1.52 (1.09-2.12)		
Mauritania	3902	1.71 (0.89-3.28)		
Myanmar	6045	0.71 (0.21-2.47)		
Nepal	8820	0.76 (0.62-0.92)		
Pakistan	6501	1.89 (0.98-3.62)		
Senegat	3461	1.16 (0.81-1.65)		
Vietnam	4174	0.26 (0.07-0.98)		
Zambia	4165	0.79 (0.56-1.11)		
Zimbabwe	4290	0.89 (0.55-1.42)		
Overall heterogeneity: 12=63.6%, P<.001	86 437	1.03 (0.86-1.23)		

Country	No. of Respondents	OR (95% CI)		
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1031	1.70 (0.54-5.38)		
Brazil	5000	1.08 (0.83-1.40)		
Croatia	993	0.73 (0.38-1.39)		
Czech Republic	949	0.48 (0.24-0.97)		
Dominican Republic	5027	0.95 (0.64-1.42)		
Ecuador	5675	1.11 (0.67-1.85)		
Estonia	1020	2.11 (1.20-3.72)		
Georgia	2950	0.76 (0.24-2.42)		
Hungary	1419	0.63 (0.41-0.97)		
Kazakhstan	4499	0.42 (0.17-1.03)		
Latvia	929	0.77 (0.44-1.37)		
Malaysia	6145	0.86 (0.64-1.14)		
Mauritius	3968	0.68 (0.37-1.26)		
Mexico	38746	1.26 (1.03-1.54)		
Morocco	5000	1.56 (1.13-2.17)		
Namibia	4379	1.25 (0.91-1.72)		
Paraguay	5288	1.24 (0.96-1.59)		
Philippines	10063	0.95 (0.68-1.34)		
Slovakia	2535	1.21 (0.45-3.25)		
South Africa	2629	0.43 (0.27-0.70)		
Sri Lanka	6805	1.77 (0.91-3.43)		
Swaziland	3117	0.90 (0.62-1.31)		
Tumisla	5202	0.75 (0.53-1.07)		
Ukraine	2860	0.86 (0.48-1.53)		
Uruguay	2996	1.28 (0.58-2.82)		
Overall heterogeneity: 13 = 59.8%, P < 001	129245	0.97 (0.84-1.12)		

# Cities and the brain

- Current city living: increased amygdala activity
- Urban upbringing: perigenual anterior cingulate cortex (pACC: regulation of amygdala, negative affect, stress)





Lederbogen et al. (2011)

## Physical causes

Obstetric complications

Maternal influenza and nutrition

Winter birth excess of schizophrenia is stronger in cities

Drug use (some contribution)

#### Social drift

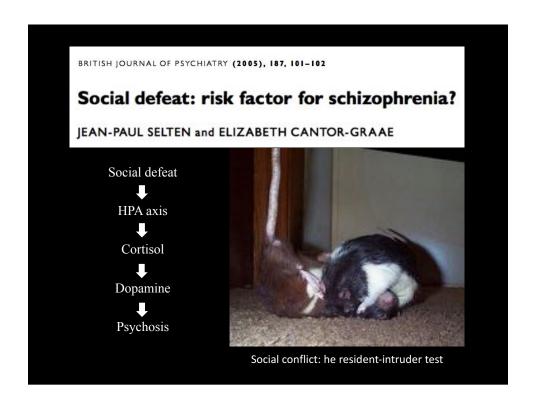
Prospective study of 1.89 million Danes: moving to a more urban environment raised the risk of schizophrenia, and movement in the other direction lowered it

Diagnosis of schizophrenia not associated with increased likelihood of moving to a city

Generational social drift?

### **Social causes**

- Socioeconomic status increases the risk (?)
- Isolation increases the risk
- Fragmentation: up to 13-fold greater in the most fragmented neighborhoods compared to the least fragmented.
- Cohesion: ethnic density as protective



#### **Social Defeat as Actual Encounter**

• By social defeat I mean what the ethologists mean: an actual social encounter in which one person physically or symbolically loses to another one . . . [in which] another person . . . [d]emeans them, humiliates them, subordinates them. (Luhrmann, 2007:151)

#### Social Defeat as Social Disadvantage

Intersectionality

#### **Social Defeat as Sensitization**

• Anticipation and response to social encounters

#### Social Defeat as Aspiration-achievement Discrepancy

• Second-generation immigrants

### Social defeat in cities

#### **Social Defeat as Actual Encounter**

- more encounters in cities?
- more frequent negative encounters (e.g., crime)?
- encounters are more negative?

#### Social Defeat as Social Disadvantage

- greater inequality in cities independent of the city?
- rises with population?
- unemployment vs. vulnerable employment: a function of population?

#### **Social Defeat as Sensitization**

- more anticipation? because more encounters?
- will it rise with population?

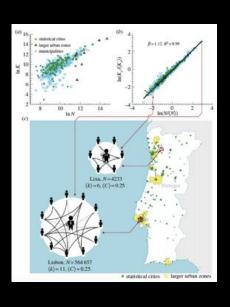
#### Social Defeat as Aspiration-achievement Discrepancy

- relevance of socioeconomic structure of different cities?
- rises with population?

## Methodological issues

- The need for (a) determine hypotheses and (b) fine-grained data
- Illustration of (b): voter turnout as a measure of cohesion: for every 1 percent increase in voter numbers, a 5 percent decrease in cases of psychosis (Kirkbride et al., 2007)
- Computational social science: possibilities of big data

Schläpfer et al (2014)



## Implications for theory

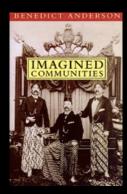
Need for inter-disciplinary:

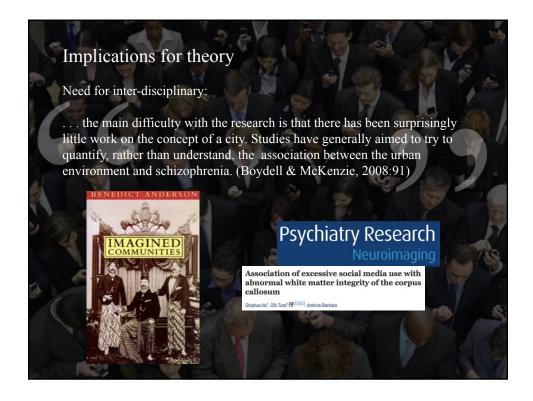
... the main difficulty with the research is that there has been surprisingly little work on the concept of a city. Studies have generally aimed to try to quantify, rather than understand, the association between the urban environment and schizophrenia. (Boydell & McKenzie, 2008:91)

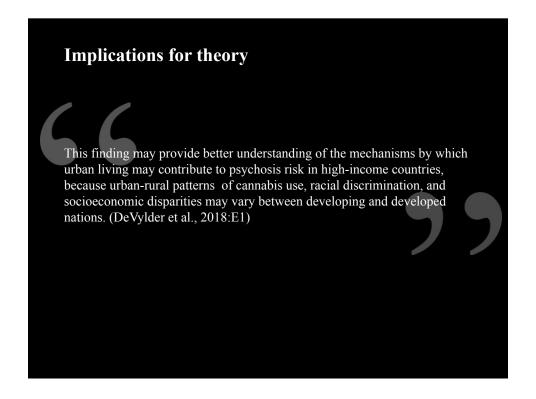
## Implications for theory

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## **Implications for theory**

- Environment as subordinate in explanation: modulator of biology
- Why? A conflation between **illness** (biological) and **theory of illness** (who knows?)

## Implications for theory

The nature of explanation

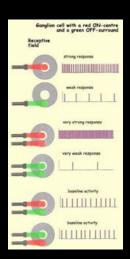
Analogy: receptive fields in visual neurons

To understand neurons, we have to understand what the neuron is supposed to be doing.

Neural function here is characterized with reference to properties of the environment.

The case of social life

We need a (prior) theory of the social environment no less than a neural theory.



The situated brain: Real social science and new biological hypotheses

### **Delusions**

The NSA is listening to my phone conversations.

My girlfriend is cheating on me with President Obama.

My actions are being controlled by the CEO of Apple.

Vladimir Putin is putting thoughts into my head.

I can fly.

I am the chief disciple of the Buddha.

Meryl Streep is madly in love with me.

My organs are rotting.

I caused the earthquake in Haiti.

God has destroyed all human life.

The television is sending me messages.

There is a stranger living in my bathroom mirror.

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There is a stranger living in my bathroom mirror.

My penis is being absorbed into my body.

Having been bitten by a dog, I'm pregnant with puppies.

I'm being buried in sand.

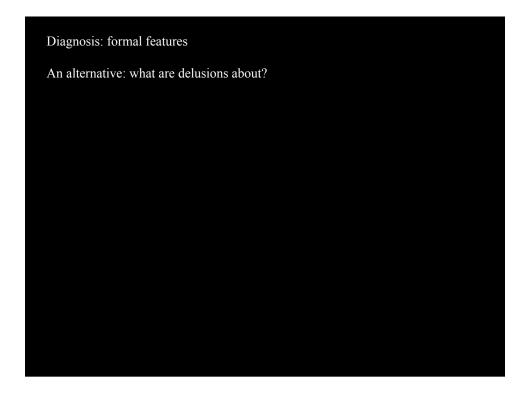


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