

## DISCERNING SCHIZOPHRENIA

### PART 4 – FAILURE TO DIAGNOSE

*The schizophrenia construct fails on at least five counts.*

1. Failure to define

2. Failure to distinguish

**3. Failure to diagnose**

**a. Malingering**

**b. Guilt**

**c. Divine judgment**

**d. Demon possession**

**e. Sickness**

**f. Substance abuse**

**g. Sleep issues**

4. Failure to discern

5. Failure to deliver

## QUOTES

1. Symptoms of schizophrenia
  - Positive symptoms: “delusions (false beliefs held despite compelling contrary evidence) and auditory hallucinations (which may come from the person’s own intrusive verbal thoughts)”<sup>1</sup>
  - Disorganized symptoms: “illogical thought and speech, and behaviors that are inappropriate to the environmental context.”<sup>2</sup>
  - Negative symptoms: “slowed movement, poverty of speech, flattened affect, and the loss of basic drives and the pleasure that comes from fulfilling them.”<sup>3</sup>
2. “Munchausen syndrome (also known as factitious disorder imposed on self) is a mental health disorder where you falsify, exaggerate, or induce physical, emotional or cognitive disorders. People with factitious disorders act this way because of an inner need to be seen as ill or injured, not to achieve a concrete benefit, such as getting medications or financial gain. This is distinguishable from malingering which is where someone exaggerates or fakes an illness to, for example, get out of work.”<sup>4</sup>
3. “In some cases, schizophrenia is marked by *catatonic behavior*, defined as behavior that is unresponsive to the environment. Catatonic behavior may involve excited, restless motor activity that is not directed meaningfully toward the environment; or, at the other extreme, it may involve a complete lack of movement for long periods—a form referred to as a *catatonic stupor*. Such behaviors may be means of withdrawing from a world that seems frighteningly difficult to understand or control.”<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Peter Gray, *Psychology* (New York: Worth Publishers, 1999), 635.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> (<https://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/diseases/9833-munchausen-syndrome-factitious-disorder-imposed-on-self>), accessed August 26, 2023.

<sup>5</sup> Peter Gray, *Psychology* (New York: Worth Publishers, 1999), 627.