

EPISODE 4 UNTHINKING BODIES

What is medical anthropology?



BENEFITS OF EMPATHY

- SURVIVAL
- CONNECTS YOU TO OTHERS
- LOWER STRESS
- WORKS AGAINST BURN-OUT
- GUIDES OUR MORAL COMPASS
- BENEFITS EVERYONE

MOVIE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM ANDREW AND SHUTING:

- Agnes Varda's *Cleo from 5 to 7* (1962)
- *The Reason I Jump* by Jerry Rothwell
- *Raging Bull* (1980)

PLAYLIST:

MY BODY IS A CAGE
BY PETER GABRIEL

SOMEBODY'S DAUGHTER
BY TENILLE TOWNES

MASS HYSTERIA / PHOGENIC DISORDERS (LE ROY)









Specialists who have taken an interest in this phenomenon say that it is a type of “psychogenic illness” — that is, a condition that begins in the mind, rather than in the body. Physiological symptoms, however, are often not illusory but very much real.

Mass hysteria is also described as a “conversion disorder,” in which a person has physiological symptoms affecting the nervous system in the absence of a physical cause of illness, and which may appear in reaction to psychological distress.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

- Work out a concise definition of the ‘body politic.’
- How does society, in your view, ‘reproduce and socialize the kinds of bodies it needs’ (p. 25)?
- Can you think of examples of ways in which biomedicine serves the interests of the state’ (p. 28)?
- Think about how the body politic intersects the response to the mysterious illness in LeRoy.
- Think about the term “normal”? How does this term operate and reflect moral and political commitments?

How Trauma Impacts Four Different Types of Memory

EXPLICIT MEMORY		IMPLICIT MEMORY	
SEMANTIC MEMORY	EPISODIC MEMORY	EMOTIONAL MEMORY	PROCEDURAL MEMORY
<p>What It Is The memory of general knowledge and facts.</p> <p>Example You remember what a bicycle is.</p> 	<p>What It Is The autobiographical memory of an event or experience - including the who, what, and where.</p> <p>Example You remember who was there and what street you were on when you fell off your bicycle in front of a crowd.</p> 	<p>What It Is The memory of the emotions you felt during an experience.</p> <p>Example When a wave of shame or anxiety grabs you the next time you see your bicycle after the big fall.</p> 	<p>What It Is The memory of how to perform a common task without actively thinking</p> <p>Example You can ride a bicycle automatically, without having to stop and recall how it's done.</p> 
<p>How Trauma Can Affect It Trauma can prevent information (like words, images, sounds, etc.) from different parts of the brain from combining to make a semantic memory.</p> <p>Related Brain Area The temporal lobe and inferior parietal cortex collect information from different brain areas to create semantic memory.</p>  <p>Temporal lobe Inferior parietal lobe</p>	<p>How Trauma Can Affect It Trauma can shutdown episodic memory and fragment the sequence of events.</p> <p>Related Brain Area The hippocampus is responsible for creating and recalling episodic memory.</p>  <p>Hippocampus</p>	<p>How Trauma Can Affect It After trauma, a person may get triggered and experience painful emotions, often without context.</p> <p>Related Brain Area The amygdala plays a key role in supporting memory for emotionally charged experiences.</p>  <p>Amygdala</p>	<p>How Trauma Can Affect It Trauma can change patterns of procedural memory. For example, a person might tense up and unconsciously alter their posture, which could lead to pain or even numbness.</p> <p>Related Brain Area The striatum is associated with producing procedural memory and creating new habits.</p>  <p>Striatum</p>

Scheper-Hughes & Lock:

The body as simultaneously a physical and symbolic artifact, naturally and culturally produced, anchored in a particular historical moment. Four bodies: individual body, social body, and body politic, the mindful body. Separate but overlapping units of analysis. Different theoretical approaches: phenomenology, structuralism and symbolism, post-structuralism (practice theory, structure, agency).

The Individual Body -- lived experience of the body-self, body, mind, matter, psyche, soul

The Social Body -- representational uses of the body as a natural symbol with which to think about nature, society, culture

The Body Politic -- regulation, surveillance, control of bodies (individual, collective) in reproduction, sexuality, in work, leisure, in sickness, other forms of deviance

The Mindful Body -- the most immediate, the proximate terrain where social truths and social contradictions are played out. Locus of personal and social, and struggle. Emotions form the mediatrix between the individual, social and political body, unified through the concept of the 'mindful body.'

I have included in WEEK 5's folder to of my pieces which I reference, "Crisis of Size" and "Beauty weighs in Argentina"

The Body Politic-regulation, surveillance, control of bodies(individual collective) in reproduction, sexuality, in work, leisure, in sickness, other forms of deviance



We have a new member to our community, CA- Ashley Jackson
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