



PARAPHILIC DISORDERS

The term paraphilia refers to a condition in which a person's sexual arousal and gratification are based on fantasies about and/or engaging in sexual behaviour that is considered atypical and extreme. A paraphilic disorder is diagnosed when a paraphilia is causing significant distress or impairment to the individual in one or more aspects of their life, or when the satisfaction of the paraphilia entails the risk of personal harm, or actual personal harm, to others.

However, simply because an individual has a paraphilia does not mean that it would automatically qualify as a disorder, or that it would be harmful to themselves or others.

Paraphilic disorders classified in the DSM-5 are:

1. Voyeuristic disorder
2. Frotteuristic disorder
3. Exhibitionist disorder
4. Sexual sadism disorder
5. Sexual masochism disorder
6. Fetishistic disorder
7. Transvestic disorder
8. Pedophilic Disorder

These disorders are listed in the DSM-5 due to the fact that they are relatively common in relation to other paraphilic disorders, and because some of them entail behaviour that is classed as criminal offences. However these eight disorders do not exhaust the list of possible paraphilic disorders.