

The structure of the Personality: id, ego, superego

We are all abnormal to some degree! Conflict is inevitable. The id, ego and superego clash!

The id: present at birth, energised by biological and psychic energy. It seeks pleasure and avoids pain. It contains the sexual and aggressive drives, and hidden memories. It is **Unconscious!** It has no sense of time or logic, it seeks immediate gratification. 'Give it to me now!!'



The Superego: pressures the ego to control the id. It is the Moral part of the personality. It consists of the ego ideal (provides a sense of pride) and the conscience (punishes bad behaviour with feelings of guilt). 'That is immoral and wrong!' It is **preconscious** (can become conscious)

The Ego: The Ego has access to the id and the superego. It is the central executive and concerns itself with reality. It aims to gratify the id's impulses in line with what is possible. It employs defence mechanisms to protect the conscious mind against unpleasant experiences. "I can't do that, I will be arrested"

