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# PERSON

A **person** (plural people or persons) is a being that has certain capacities or attributes **such** as reason, morality, consciousness or self-consciousness, and being a part of a culturally established form of social relations **such** as kinship, ownership of property, or legal responsibility. The defining features of personhood and, consequently, what makes a **person** count as a **person**, differ widely among cultures and contexts.

In addition to the question of personhood, of what makes a being count as a **person** to begin with, there are further questions about personal identity and self: both about what makes any particular **person** that particular **person** instead of another, and about what makes a **person** at one **time** the same **person** as they were or will **be** at another **time** despite any intervening changes.

The plural form people, is often used to refer to **an** entire nation or ethnic **group** (as in a people), and this was the original meaning of the word; it subsequently acquired its use as a plural form of **person**. The plural form persons is often used in philosophical and legal writing.

## Personal identity

Personal identity is the unique identity of persons through **time**. That is to say, the necessary and sufficient conditions under which a **person** at one **time** and a **person** at another **time** can **be** said to **be** the same **person**, persisting through **time**. In the modern philosophy of **mind**, this concept of personal identity is sometimes referred to as the diachronic problem of personal identity. The synchronic problem is grounded in the question of what features or traits characterize a given **person** at one **time**.

- personality
- behaviour
- character
- mood
- ability
- volition
- consciousness
- memory

## Disorders

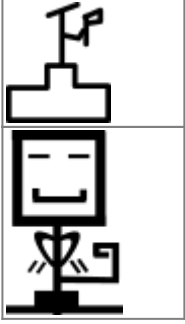
personality disorders impulse control disorders

- Dissociative disorder: People who suffer severe disturbances of their self-identity, memory, and general awareness of themselves and their surroundings may **be** classified as having these types of disorders, including depersonalization disorder or dissociative identity disorder (which was previously referred to as multiple personality disorder or split personality).
- Impulse control disorder: People who are abnormally unable to resist certain urges or impulses that could **be** harmful to themselves or others, may **be** classified as having **an** impulse control disorder, and disorders **such** as kleptomania (stealing) or pyromania (**fire**-setting). Various

behavioral addictions, **such** as gambling addiction, may **be** classed as a disorder. Obsessive-compulsive disorder can sometimes involve **an** inability to resist certain acts but is classed separately as being primarily **an** anxiety disorder

- Cognitive disorder: These affect cognitive abilities, including learning and memory. This category includes delirium and mild and major neurocognitive disorder (previously termed dementia).
- Somatoform disorders may **be** diagnosed when there are problems that appear to originate in the **body** that are thought to **be** manifestations of a mental disorder. This includes somatization disorder and conversion disorder. There are also disorders of how a **person** perceives their **body**, **such** as **body** dysmorphic disorder. Neurasthenia is **an** old diagnosis involving somatic complaints as well as fatigue and low spirits/**depression**, which is officially recognized by the ICD-10 but no longer by the DSM-IV
- Factitious disorders are diagnosed where symptoms are thought to **be** reported for personal gain. Symptoms are often deliberately produced or feigned, and may relate to either symptoms in the individual or in someone close to them, particularly people they care for.





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Last update: **2022/03/13 07:01**

