

Prevalence of externalizing disorders in children

- Difficult diagnoses and very arbitrary cutoffs. Therefore rates vary widely
- Around 8-10% of children will qualify for an externalizing disorder, high comorbidity
- Great Smokey Mountains Study
 - 3% ODD
 - 3% CD
 - 1% ADHD
- British Survey of Mental Health
 - 2% ODD
 - 1.5% CD
 - 2% ADHD

Comorbidity

- Very high between each other – lots of overlap
- Depression
- Anxiety – mostly ODD – CD may be protected?
- Substance use – mostly CD
- Learning difficulties, mental retardation

Age and gender

- Mostly male disorders
 - Especially CD – 4x
 - ADHD – 3-4x
 - Less ODD – 1.5-2x
- Disorders of childhood onset
 - ADHS by definition before age 7
 - ODD usually early childhood
 - CD mid/late childhood – rare after 16

Social/personal correlates

- Academic difficulty/failure
- Truancy
- Peer rejection
- Association with similar deviant peers (esp. CD)
- Family conflict
- Risky behaviours, drug taking, speeding etc.
- Unemployment, marginalization, prison

Antisocial personality disorder

- Adult 'version' of CD
- Violation of social and personal rights and rules
- Early history of CD
- Continued characteristics such as fighting, breaking law, deceitfulness, lack of remorse