Problems with Disorganization

**Empirically**
- Inconsistent with neurology (Le Doux)
- Lacks cultural variation
- Accounts for 2% of the variance overall
- Is epidemiologically unrealistic (approximately 25% of humans)
- Is really a 3-group model
  - Loses Type C in infancy
  - Loses Type A in preschool years

**Theoretically**
- Is inconsistent with evolutionary biology
- Lacks a neurological or information processing basis
- Overlooks development as opportunity for adaptation
- Does not explain what the individual’s mind is doing
- Treats behavior as having assigned and invariant meaning rather than meaning being constructed by dyad
- Discarded by major theoreticians (Belsky, Friedman & Boyle, Rutter, et al., Slade, Thompson & Raikes)
- Is inconsistent with Bowlby (A3, A5, A6, C+ strategies)
- Ignores the context of behavior
- Uses out-of-date constructs: IWM, 3 memory systems

Early & continuing doubts
- Is inconsistent with Bowlby (A3, A5, A6, C+ strategies)
- Is inconsistent with Ainsworth:
  "The suggestion is that young children organize their behavior most easily if the mother’s behavior is predictable regardless of how sensitive or appropriate it is, but that older children who have had to cope with major inconsistencies eventually integrate that information into their set of expectations and develop an organized pattern of responding."
  Crittenden & Ainsworth (1989, pp. 442-443)
- Discarded by major theoreticians (Belsky, Friedman & Boyle, Rutter, et al., Slade, Thompson & Raikes)
Problems with Disorganization

Clinically
- Puts all dysfunction in one category
- Is the least accurate regarding risk in clinical samples
- Fails to identify the function of behavior
- Assumes past is more powerful than present
- Creates no opening for or guide to treatment
- Is evaluative without regard to context or safety

DMM & ABCD Data

1 SSP, 3 PAA, & 2 AAI cross-classified studies.
- Cultural variation in distributions
- Good differentiation between adapted & maladapted individuals
- Good differentiation between mild and severe dysfunction
- Predicted longitudinal change in distributions
- Theoretically consistent results

DMM & ABCD Theories

- Danger (fear) organizes
- Patterns = self-protective strategies
- Strengths approach
- Multiple DRs
- Patterning becomes more complex with development
- Multiple organizations for maladaptation
- Psychological & dyadic definitions
- Danger (fear) disorganizes
- Patterns = states of mind regarding attachment
- Deficit approach
- Single IWM
- Patterning remains constant across the lifespan
- Disorganized-U-cannot classify for maladaptation
- Morphological definitions

DMM & ABCD Theories

- Intergenerational continuity but reversals in insecurity
- Strategies = information processing
- Dimensional model of information processing
- All experience contributes to current functioning
- Emphasis on adaptation (person in context)
- Focus on flexibility
- Sexuality
- Intergenerational continuity in both security & insecurity
- No defined relation with information processing
- Categorical model of attachment types
- Past defines current functioning
- Emphasis on security (first dyadic, then psychological)
- Focus on early determinism
- No sexuality

DMM & ABCD AAI Application

- Danger ≠ unresolved trauma
- 6 + memory systems
- Validated by concurrent adaptation
- Psychological definition of discourse markers
- Assessed function of discourse markers
- Multiple DRs
- Multiple organizations for maladaptation
- Strategies = information processing
- Classification = psychological life narrative
- Danger = unresolved trauma
- 3 memory systems
- Validated by match to infant pattern of attachment
- Morphological definition of discourse markers
- Rated (measured) discourse markers
- Single IWM
- Single disorganized-U-cannot classify category for disorder
- N/A
- Classification = category indicative of risk

Why Accepted

- Easy to understand
- Consistent with psychiatric notions of pathology
- Over-reliance on statistics to define meaning
- Strong & early defense of model against alternatives
- Misrepresentation of others’ work
- Citation without reading the cited work