

Karen Horney challenges Freud's Oedipus ideas

She believed men possessed jealousy of female anatomy and that intrinsically women are smarter than men.

Horney did agree with Freud regarding females' envy of males, although, it was not because of the male anatomy (as Freud believed) but through the hierarchical status men had within society.

Ten Neurotic Needs



Horney believes that neurosis resulted from basic anxiety caused by interpersonal relationships. Horney's theory proposed that strategies used to cope with anxiety can be overused, causing them to take on the appearance of needs

Ten Neurotic Needs

Aggression – Moving Against People

4. The need for personal admiration; for both inner and outer qualities – to be valued.

5. The need for power; the ability to bend wills and achieve control over others – while most persons seek strength, the neurotic may be desperate for it.

6. The need to exploit others; to get the better of them. To become manipulative, fostering the belief that people are there simply to be used.

7. The need for personal achievement; though virtually all persons wish to make achievements, as with No. 3, the neurotic may be desperate for achievement.

8. The need for self-sufficiency and independence; while most desire some autonomy, the neurotic may simply wish to discard other individuals entirely.

Compliance – Moving Toward People

1. The need for affection and approval; pleasing others and being liked by them.

2. The need for a partner; one whom they can love and who will solve all problems.

3. The need for social recognition; prestige and limelight.

Withdrawal – Moving Away from People

9. The need for perfection; while many are driven to perfect their lives in the form of well-being, the neurotic may display a fear of being slightly flawed.

10. Lastly, the need to restrict life practices to within narrow borders; to live as inconspicuous a life as possible.

(...and nr.3 again also exhibits Withdrawal)