

The Power Of Language

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NYAPRS

Review of the Medical Model

The Medical Model

- Focuses on treating behavioral health challenges as a physical health challenge.
- Symptoms come from within.
- Symptoms are grouped together and classified under diagnoses.
- Biological causes, psychopathological methodology.



Review of the Medical Model

The Medical Model

- Diagnoses are based on judgments.
- Diagnoses sometimes vary from professional to professional, from doctor to doctor, from hospital to hospital.
- Adds to the stigma and discrimination felt by people with behavioral health challenges.



Words That Pathologize

- ▶ “symptoms” “borderline” “depressed”
 - ▶ “dissociated” “decompensating”
 - ▶ “my consumer” “severe mentally ill”
 - ▶ “chronically ill” “crazy”
 - ▶ “low functioning” “psychotic”
- ▶ “abnormal” “erratic” “mental disorders”
 - ▶ **“SICK, SICK, SICK”**





▶ OPEN DISCUSSION

▶ ANGEL

▶ AND

▶ SASCHA