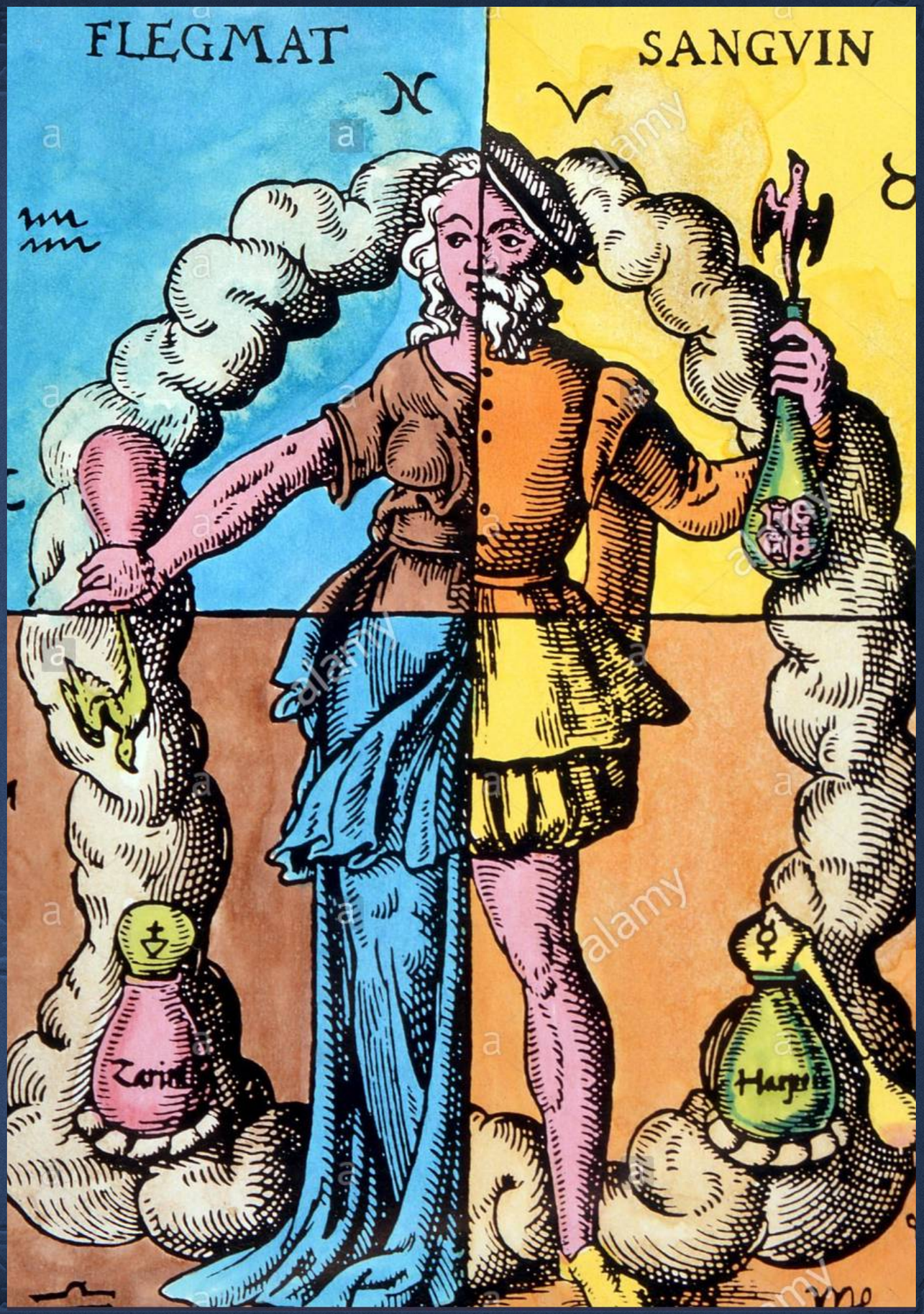
Psychological Assessment and Its History



Psychological Testing vs Psychological Assessment

Psychometrists vs Clinicians

What is the distinction between psychological testing and psychological assessment?

Psychological Assessment

Clinicians conduct assessments to answer specific questions, make clear, specific recommendations to improve the functioning of the patient and come to a decision.

- **Psychological testing** - Measuring psychology related materials by means of tools or procedure to obtain info regarding to behavior.
- **Psychological assessment** - Gathering and integrating data for the purpose of problem solving and decision making.

Role of Clinician

- Clinicians understand test scores in the context of a person's life.
- S/he must have knowledge concerning problem areas, observe behaviors, collect relevant data, appreciate multiple causation, interactional influences and evaluate data within relevant context.

Role of Clinician

- Assessment includes;
  - Intelligence
  - Personality
  - Brain functioning
  - Performance at work
  - Social functioning
  - Psychological functioning
  - Social context
  - Developmental level/ age
  - Cultural aspects

Role of Clinician

- During the assessment process, the clinical gather information/data as much as possible and develop hypothesis related to the assessed individual.
- The clinician should be familiar with knowledge related to measurement.

- Descriptive statistics
- Reliability
- Validity
- Normative interpretation

- Selection of appropriate test
- Administration processes
- Variables related to diversity

- EXPERIENCE

Role of Clinician

- Clinicians should integrate his/her coursework such as abnormal psychology, theories of personality, psychotherapy.

Main Tools of Psychological Assessment

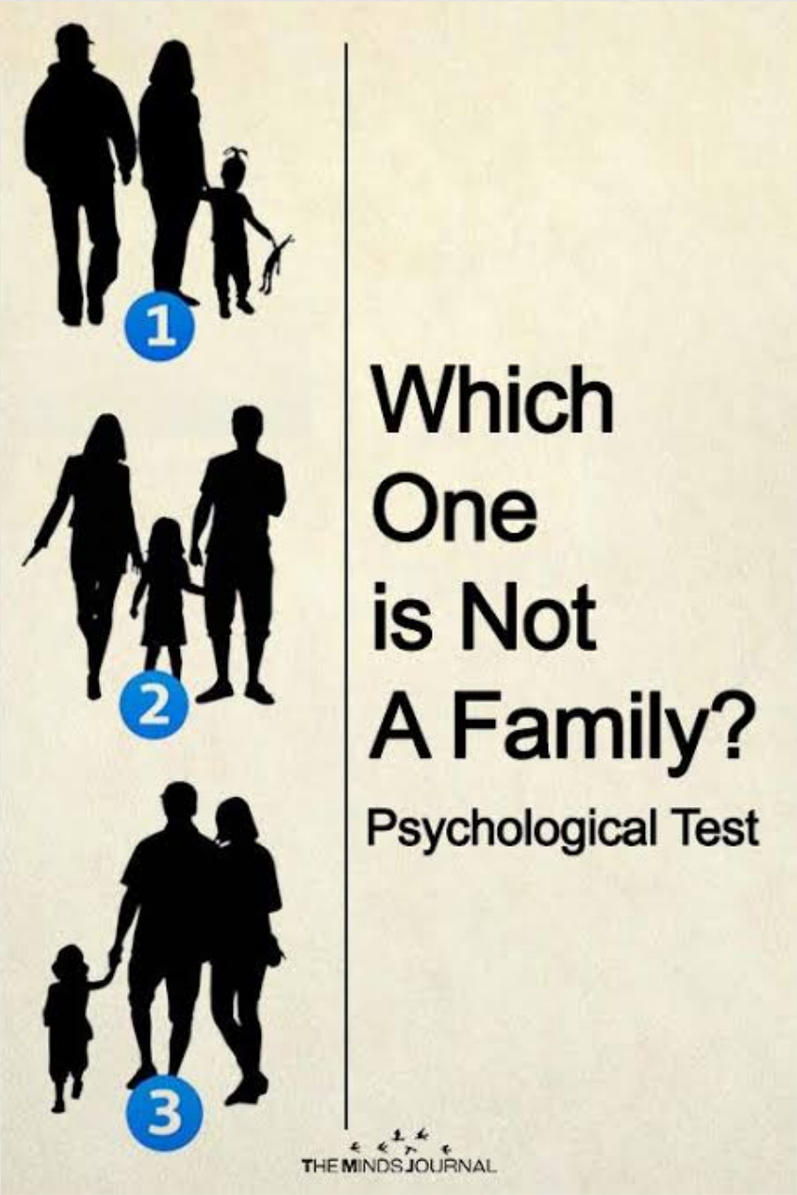
- Interview
- Tests
- Case history
- Behavioral observations

Main Tools of Psychological Assessment: Interview

- Comprehensive assessment of behavior.
- What they say + The way they say
  - Body language, facial expression, eye contact, willingness to cooperate

Main Tools of Psychological Assessment: Tests

- A measurement device or technique used to quantify behavior or aid in understanding and predicting behavior.
- *Psychological tests* are designed to assess behavior of individuals.



Main Tools of Psychological Assessment: Case History

- Records, transcriptions, data provided from schools, hospitals, family members etc.

Main Tools of Psychological Assessment: Behavioral Observation

- Monitoring actions of other/or oneself by visual or electronic devices.
- Naturalistic observations in the natural settings