

**Simeon, D., Guralnik, O., Knutelska, M., & Schmeidler, J. (2002). Personality factors associated with dissociation: Temperament, defenses, and cognitive schemata. *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 159, 489-491.**

*Objective.* The purpose of this study was to investigate temperamental, psychodynamic, and cognitive factors associated with dissociation.

*Method.* Fifty-three subjects with DSM-IV-defined depersonalization disorder and 22 healthy comparison subjects were administered the Dissociative Experiences Scale, the Tridimensional Personality Questionnaire, the Defense Style Questionnaire, and the Schema Questionnaire.

*Results.* Subjects with depersonalization disorder demonstrated significantly greater harm-avoidant temperament, immature defenses, and overconnection and disconnection cognitive schemata than comparison subjects. Within the group of subjects with depersonalization disorder, dissociation scores significantly correlated with the same variables.

*Conclusions.* Particular personality factors may render individuals more vulnerable to dissociative symptoms. Risk factors associated with dissociative disorders merit further study.