

Other". Useful as taxonomies, they are also tools of social coercion and conformity, as Michel Foucault and [Louis Althusser](#) observed. Relegating both the dangerous and the idiosyncratic to the collective fringes is a vital technique of social engineering.

The aim is progress through social cohesion and the regulation of innovation and creative destruction. Psychiatry, therefore, reifies society's preference of evolution to revolution, or, worse still, to mayhem. As is often the case with human endeavor, it is a noble cause, unscrupulously and dogmatically pursued.

Also Read

[*On Disease*](#)

[*The Myth of Mental Illness*](#)

[*In Defense of Psychoanalysis*](#)

[*The Metaphors of the Mind - Part I \(The Brain\)*](#)

[*The Metaphors of the Mind - Part II \(Psychotherapy\)*](#)

[*The Metaphors of the Mind - Part III \(Dreams\)*](#)

[*The Use and Abuse of Differential Diagnoses*](#)

[*Althusser, Competing Interpellations and the Third Text*](#)