

Identifying Defense Mechanisms

Label each statement with the correct defense mechanism from this list:

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|--------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| A. Repression | B. Denial | C. Projection |
| D. Rationalization | E. Displacement | F. Intellectualization |

- ___1. A woman who was assaulted and raped a number of years ago in a terrifying attack has forgotten the incident.
- ___2. Your boss yelled at you, you yelled at your co-worker, your co-worker yelled at his wife, his wife spanked the kid, and the kid kicked the dog.
- ___3. "Stop asking me! I don't want any ice cream. I think YOU want more ice cream!"
- ___4. Laleh has just read several articles describing danger signals for skin cancer. She carefully examines a dangerous looking mole on her own neck, and then with her doctor she calmly and academically discusses the pros and cons of various treatment strategies and the fact that her mother died of skin cancer.
- ___5. Joshua had a bad semester and was put on academic probation. Instead of returning to college, he quits to "pursue something worthwhile."
- ___6. You got fired and couldn't make your car insurance payments, so you're riding your bike. You tell friends, "I really prefer to ride my bike. I need the exercise."
- ___7. The parents of Jim say that "Everyone goes through a drinking stage; it's not a problem" even though Jim just received his third DUI.
- ___8. Soldiers exposed to traumatic experiences in concentration camps sometimes had amnesia and were unable to recall any of their ordeal.
- ___9. A woman with a strong sexual drive constantly criticizes her female co-workers for dressing seductively and flirting.
- ___10. John told his fiancée Susan about his ongoing sexual involvement with other women, but Susan refuses to believe it even when she's seen him kissing other women.

1. A
2. E
3. C
4. F
5. D
6. D
7. B
8. A
9. C
10. B