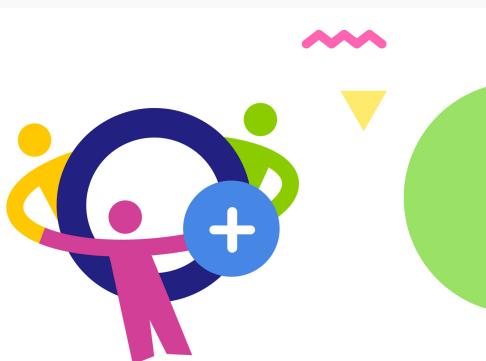


Open Schools Journal for Open Science

Vol 7, No 2 (2024)

Open Schools Journal for Open Science - Special Issue -IDEA Conference Proceedings



Open Schools Journal

For Open Science

VOLUME 7 - ISSUE 2 - 2024
ISSN: 2623-3606

Compulsive Eating

Nikolas Panagiotopoulos, Rania Mousama

doi: [10.12681/osj.39502](https://doi.org/10.12681/osj.39502)

Copyright © 2024, Nikolas Panagiotopoulos, Rania Mousama



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/).

To cite this article:

Panagiotopoulos, N., & Mousama, R. (2024). Compulsive Eating. *Open Schools Journal for Open Science*, 7(2).
<https://doi.org/10.12681/osj.39502>

Compulsive Eating

Nikolas Panagiotopoulos, Rania Mousama

In our presentation we will talk about compulsive eating. More specifically, we will talk about the causes that could possibly start this problem, as well as the possible consequences it may have for the individual. Also, we will refer to possible solutions to deal with compulsive eating.

Key words: *guilty pleasure, unhealthy food, brain*

1. Introduction

We worked as a team and searched for articles about compulsive eating and generally eating habits. We collected all the informations and formed our presentation based on our research. The articles we found were from google search in windows computers.

Ladies and gentlemen welcome to today's TED-Ed talk!

Firstly, I have a question for you... Do you have any guilty pleasures? Well, mine is food!

So, we want to address a topic that often goes unnoticed despite its pervasive presence in our society – compulsive eating. We are going to explore the intricacies of this phenomenon, shedding light on its underlying causes and potential solutions.

Just as substance abuse can grip individuals in its relentless hold, so too can compulsive eating take a toll on one's physical and mental well-being. In a world where tempting and often unhealthy food choices surround us, it's crucial to recognize the signs of compulsive eating and its impact on individuals. The relentless cycle of cravings, overeating, guilt, and subsequent restriction creates a damaging pattern that can lead to serious health issues, including obesity, diabetes, and heart disease.

Compulsive eating, often characterized by an irresistible urge to consume excessive amounts of food, transcends mere hunger. It's a complex interplay of psychological, physiological, and environmental factors that warrants our attention and understanding. So, let's delve deeper into the roots of this compelling behavior.

At the heart of compulsive eating lies the brain. Our brain's reward system plays a pivotal role in orchestrating our cravings and desires. How many of you see yourselves overeating on a daily basis? When we indulge in delicious food, neurotransmitters such as dopamine flood our brain, eliciting feelings of pleasure and satisfaction. However, in individuals prone to compulsive eating, this reward circuitry becomes dysregulated, leading to heightened cravings and an insatiable appetite.

Moreover, compulsive eating is often linked with our emotions. For many, food serves as a coping mechanism—a source of comfort during times of stress, anxiety, or loneliness. The act of eating triggers a temporary alleviation of negative emotions, reinforcing the cycle of compulsive behavior. Thus, it's crucial to recognize the true basis of our eating habits and explore healthier avenues for emotional expression and regulation.

Apart from our psyche, sociocultural factors exert a significant influence on our eating behaviors. In a society filled with food advertising and an abundance of calorie-dense options, resisting the temptation to overindulge becomes increasingly challenging. Additionally, societal norms and expectations surrounding body image can fuel feelings of inadequacy and drive compulsive eating patterns.

So, how do we break free from the shackles of compulsive eating? As a society, we should strive to promote healthier food choices and educate individuals about the consequences of

excessive consumption. Moreover, supporting research into the neurobiology of compulsive eating can pave the way for innovative treatments and interventions.

Importantly, navigating the complexities of compulsive eating necessitates a supportive, non-judgmental environment. Encouraging open dialogue and destigmatizing discussions surrounding mental health and eating disorders are important steps towards fostering empathy and understanding. Together, as a compassionate community, we can dismantle the barriers that hinder individuals from seeking help and support their journey towards healing and recovery.

In conclusion, compulsive eating is a serious issue that requires our attention and understanding. By fostering empathy, promoting healthier environments, and supporting research, we can pave the way towards a healthier, more harmonious relationship with food and ourselves. So, next time you think about eating ask yourselves, do I need it or do I want it? Thank you!

Bibliography

- 1.<https://www.eatingdisorderhope.com/information/compulsive-overeating-disorder>
- 2.<https://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/diseases/17652-binge-eating-disorder>
- 3.<https://www.urmc.rochester.edu/encyclopedia/content.aspx?contenttypeid=56&contentid=4132>