

Octavio Choi, MD, PhD

Psychopathy: neuroscience and forensic implications



Session NINE - 1:00 - 2:30 PM

I plan to review neuroscience research that increasingly establishes psychopathy as a biological condition explained by defective neural circuits that mediate empathy. I will talk about how neuroscience evidence is being increasingly used in criminal court proceedings to argue for mitigation, and the limitations and potential of such evidence. Finally, I will discuss moral and ethical dilemmas raised when criminal behaviors are ascribed to biological causes.

Learning Objectives

- To learn about the neural basis for empathy, and how defects in the empathy system may explain predilection to violent behavior
- To learn about how courts currently use neuroscience evidence, and the potential and limits of such evidence.
- To learn about basic neuroimaging techniques such as MRI and functional MRI.

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This session will be recorded and available for
online viewing by attendees of the conference.

Handouts for this presentation will be made
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