

Cognitive Drivers Threat Analysis

Probable cause includes facts and circumstances that would lead a reasonable person to believe that an individual is attempting to commit a criminal offense (poses a threat to self and/or others).

Examples:

“The West is at war with Islam.”

“Black people are replacing white people.”

“I am going to be a professional school shooter.”

“All abortions are murder.”

**Fixed, False,
Idiosyncratic
(not shared by others)**

Seen in: schizophrenia, mood disorders with psychosis, drug use with psychosis.

Treatment: antipsychotic drugs and sometimes hospitalization.

Examples:

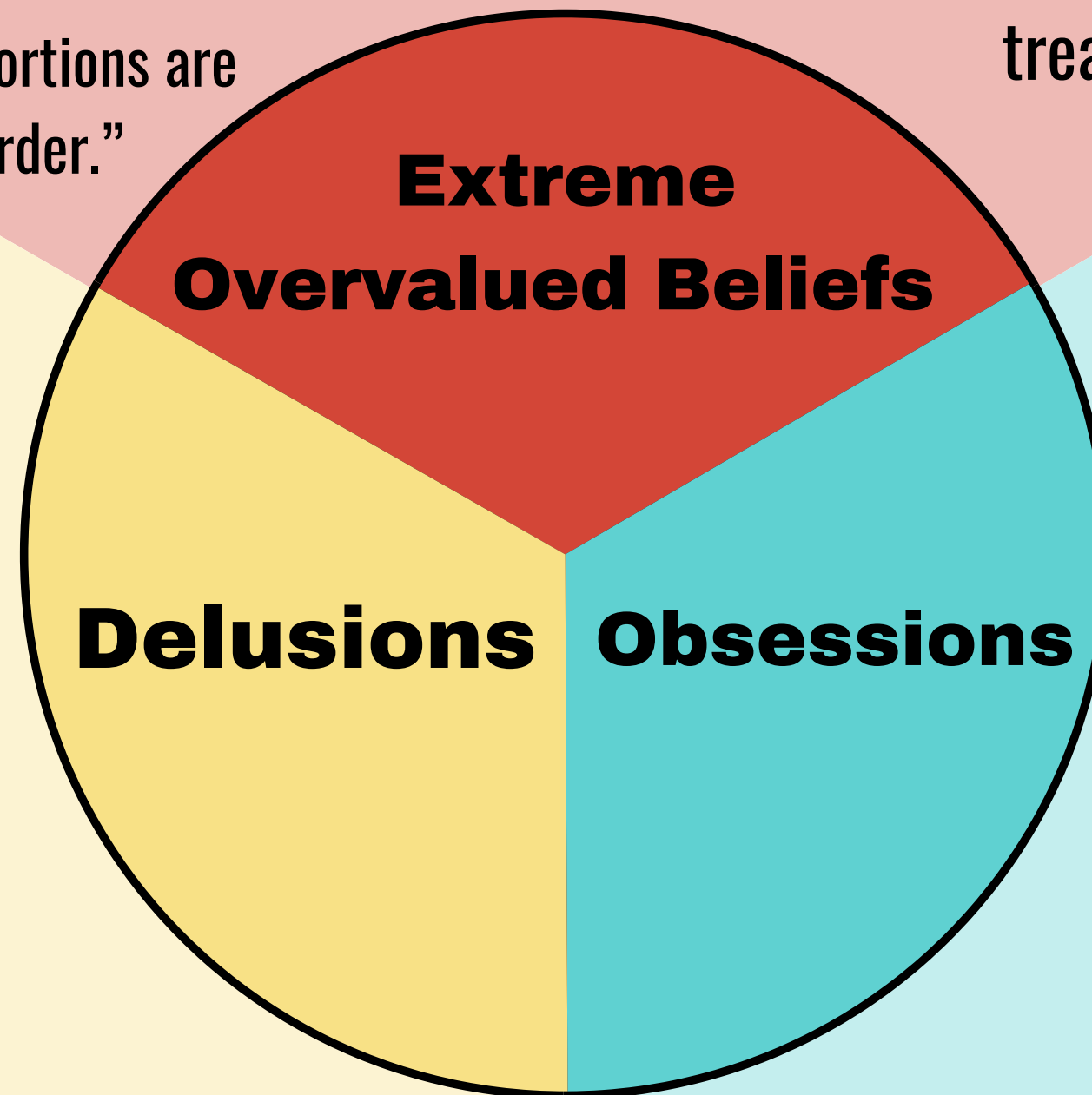
“My neighbor is a space alien and trying to kill me.”

“Satan has instructed me to kill them.”

These beliefs are shared by others, relished, amplified, and defended.

May require a professional threat assessment (warning behaviors)

Treatment: unique behavioral treatment



Intrusive, unwanted thoughts.

Seen in: obsessive-compulsive disorders. Low risk of harm to others.

Treatment: medications for OCD, deep brain stimulation device.

Examples:

“My hands always feel contaminated.”

“I can’t stop thinking that I might hurt someone.”