Ideas of Reference

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(i.e., comments, book passages, song lyrics, etc.) concern or are directed at him or her (have “reference” to one’s self). Ideas of reference, like other delusions, are a symptom of psychosis.

Synonyms

[Referential delusion](#)

Cross-References

- ▶ [Delusion](#)
- ▶ [Psychosis](#)

Definition

A type of delusion in which a person incorrectly believes that circumstances or external events

References and Readings

American Psychiatric Association. (2013). *Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders* (5th ed.). Arlington: American Psychiatric Publishing.