

## Questions That Psychologists Ask

Issue: Alcohol Abuse

Neurobiologists:

Is alcoholism a disease?  
What role does heredity play?  
How does alcohol affect the brain?

Behaviorists:

Is alcoholism learned?  
If so, can it be unlearned?  
Can new habits replace drinking habits?

Humanists:

Do people drink because they don't feel a sense of worth?  
Does alcohol give people a false sense of worth?

Psychoanalysts:

Is heavy drinking an indication of some deeper problem or conflict raging in the unconscious?  
Does drinking make people less inhibited, allowing their unconscious desires to surface?  
What thoughts lead up to episodes of heavy drinking?  
If these thoughts are analyzed and changed, will the drinking be curbed?

Cognitive Psychologists:

Sociocultural Psychologists:

How does alcoholism differ from one culture to another?  
What are the unique pressures within a certain culture that might contribute to alcohol abuse?

Suppose a millionaire wanted to fund research to find answers to these questions. To which psychologists should the millionaire give money?