Labeling Troubled and Troubling Youth: The Name Game

Problems Categorized on a Continuum Using a Transactional View of the Primary Locus of Cause

- **Type I**: Problems caused by Environmental / Systems factors
  - Problems caused primarily by environments and systems that are deficient and/or hostile
  - Problems are mild to moderately severe and narrow to moderately pervasive

- **Type II**: Problems caused by an interaction between Environmental factors and Personal factors
  - Problems caused primarily by a significant mismatch between individual differences and vulnerabilities and the nature of that person’s environment (not by a person’s pathology)
  - Problems are mild to moderately severe and pervasive

- **Type III**: Problems caused by factors in the Person / Biological or Psychological factors
  - Problems caused primarily by person factors of a pathological nature
  - Problems are moderate to profoundly severe and moderate to broadly pervasive

In this conceptual scheme, the emphasis in each case is on problems that are beyond the early stage of onset.