

Psychopathy



"Compared with other major clinical disorders, little systematic research has been devoted to PSYCHOPATHY, even though it is responsible for far more social distress and disruption than all other psychiatric disorders combined." -Dr Robert Hare



Psychopath versus Sociopath

- **Psychopath** = individual suffering from one of the personality disorders.
- What is a psychopath?
- **Sociopath** = a type of psychopath that, moreover, does not respect social standards, violates the law.

• <u>Sociopath</u>

- The diagnosis of psychopathy is determined only by a psychologist or psychiatrist trained in the relevant course.
- It is not punishable to be a psychopath.
- It does not change.
- Sociopath vs Psychopath





Similarities

Here are similarities between psychopathy and sociopathy. They are both:

- Variants of the DSM-IV Antisocial Personality disorder.
- Lack of concern for the well-being of others.
- Little regard for rules and social values.
- Lack of guilt when wrong things are done

Because of the social and 'nurture' aspects of sociopaths, they may be of less interest to psychiatrists who are interested in illnesses. However, the neural source of psychopathy means that psychopaths seem beyond therapy, while sociopaths could be influence to some extent.



Differences

Psychopathy

- Caused by nature, though parents may well not be psychopathic.
- Abnormal brain structure.
- Unable to form emotional attachments.
- Driven by a need to control.
- About 1% of the population.
- May well be intelligent, educated and clever.
- Can be from any socio-economic demographic.
- Of concern to psychiatrists.
- Driven by thoughts.
- High level of self-control.
- Highly deceptive and manipulative.
- Plans actions.
- Hides own involvement in antisocial activity.

Sociopathy

- Caused by nurture, for example traumatic experiences in childhood.
- Normal brain structure.
- Can form emotional attachments.
- Driven by fear and anger.
- About 4% of the population.
- May well have a lower level of education.
- Likely from a lower socio-economic demographic.
- Of concern to sociologists.
- Driven by emotions.
- Low level of self-control.
- Highly aggressive.
- Impulsive actions.
- Obvious involvement in antisocial activity



Who is a Psychopath I.

- Generally, a psychopath is one who behaves as a psychopath psychopathy is behaviour. It's a parasitic life strategy. You can recognize them by their actions. Only according to their actions they also receive punishment. Not because of what they are, but ONLY for how they behave.
- They are 100% responsible for their actions. They are fully sane. They do not suffer from delusions. They are not schizophrenic. If they are tried, the court judges them to their full extent.
- The true definition of a psychopath in psychiatry is **antisocial personality disorder** (ASPD).
- <u>Signs of psychopaths</u>



Who is a Psychopath II.

- The range of psychopaths is wide. They range from serial and mass murderers to "sub-criminal", "socially successful" psychopaths, referred to as "deprivants" (they form the largest group).
- Psychopaths who live undiscovered among us. Those who are rarely prosecuted. Those who drive their fellow men to suicide. Those whose aim is control, manipulation, tyranny - thus enjoying themselves elatedly.
- They do not know regret or guilt (they only regret themselves). They have no conscience.



Who is a Psychopath III.

- Psychopathy is, unfortunately, a parasitic life strategy: the "sport" of those who regard aggression as strength and courtesy as a weakness.
- We should be able to distinguish psychopathy when we meet it.
- We shall never tolerate this behaviour.
- We shall never conceal or apologize this behaviour in anyone.
- Never give such people a second chance.



Who is a Psychopath IV.

- The behaviour of psychopaths is different from other problematic personalities, they ha a more predatory character, they are *insensitive and without emotional context*.
- The behaviour of a psychopath may not be a mere reaction to the surrounding events, but an attempt to *show* oneself and others *their strength*.
- They *do not have very close relationships* and contacts *with family*, friends and generally, they often change their place of work and do not plan in the long term.
- Compared to other problematic personalities, their victims (violence) are less often family members, friends and relatives



Statistics

- According to recent stricter research (University of Huston), psychopathic personalities in society are *up to a quarter of the population*, in most cases (three quarters) they are male.
- Very often they are male who enchant every woman's heart, they are eloquent, they can attract attention, but they only care about their own importance and power.
- They are often executives, dominant, egotistical and disregarding the feelings of others.



How to Recognize Psychopaths I.

- Are you dealing with a psychopath?
- According to Robert Hare, the author of the PCL-R method, psychopaths are characterized by four basic characteristics:
- Interpersonal: Psychopaths are capable of so-called superficial charm. They can create a very good impression. They are insincere, manipulative, have a commanding tendency, and are self-centred. They lie often, to everyone and everything.
- Affective: Psychopaths have very shallow emotions, are unable to feel guilt or regret, and are unable to take responsibility for their actions.



How to Recognize Psychopaths II.

- <u>Traits of a Psychopath</u>
- Lifestyle: irresponsibility, impulsiveness, inability to have realistic or long-term goals. They often live at the expense of others. They are often bored and therefore seek dangerous activities, like drinking alcohol or using drugs.
- Antisocial: Hard to control their behaviour. In leadership positions, they are insensitive to their subordinates. They are proud to show that they have had behavioural problems as a child. When they start committing crimes, they go in bulk. For example, psychopaths in bank management can contribute to a severe financial crisis.
- Antisocial person





- excessive noise, particularly late at night
- drunken or rowdy behaviour
- drug dealing or drug use
- insulting or aggressive behaviour and verbal abuse
- vandalism and graffiti
- domestic violence
- garden nuisance (for example: not keeping the garden maintained or dumping stuff in the garden)
- fly-tipping
- misuse of communal areas or public spaces / loitering
- nuisance from vehicles
- pets and animal nuisance
- other criminal behaviour like: hate crime and harassment.



Causes of Origin I.

1. Physical and mental hardship

Much of the personality disorder arises after birth, most psychopaths in childhood perceived a lack of love from their loved ones, about half have been abused (most often mother).

Some individuals were affected by upbringing, which was very inconsistent, parents unknowingly raised the "tyrant", made slaves to the child and taught him/her the manipulative behaviour (for peace, not to let him/her cry, etc.).



Causes of Origin II.

- In adulthood, affected individuals want to make up for emotional hardship by being admired and acknowledged by others.
- They are unfortunate people who will never be completely satisfied, too dependent on power.
- They like taking but are unable to give.
- A psychopathic type manipulator cannot be "remodeled" or completely cured. The only option is psychotherapy, which is not always successful.



Causes of Origin III.

2. Genetic load

This group of psychopaths is called primary.

They are mostly children from well-economically secure families.

The child seems to be problematic - parents do not manage to raise children, they make gross educational mistakes.

Psychopathy is inherited from the mother - 4% male, 1% female (testosterone is the trigger hormone).



How to deal with psychopaths

- Great Britain a few years of sharp discussion what to do with psychopaths.
- Isolate them from the rest of the population before they commit something?
- Suggestions: an order to detain a dangerous individual with a severe personality disorder (without committing a crime), the possibility of detention for professional examination, and frequent use of life imprisonment.



Summary of Basic Signs of Psychopathy

- Superficiality, shallowness, flattened affection, heartlessness.
- Absence of remorse or feeling of guilt.
- Manipulation and cheating, use of others, pathological lying, lack of realistic, longterm goals.
- Extreme narcissism, poor self-control.
- Failure to fulfil obligations, promises, given word repeatedly. He won't apologize.
- Impulsiveness and the constant need for impulses from the outside.
- Promiscuity, numerous partnerships.
- Failure to follow instructions, tasks, social standards.





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