

## Personality Disorders

The DSM-IV-TR (American Psychiatric Association 2000) definition for a Personality Disorder is:

1. An enduring pattern of inner experience and behavior that deviates markedly from the expectations of the individual's culture. The pattern manifests itself in two (or more) of the following areas:

Cognition (i.e., ways of perceiving and interpreting self, other people, and events).

Affect (i.e., range, intensity, lability, and appropriateness of emotional response).

Interpersonal functioning.

Impulse Control.

2. The enduring pattern is inflexible and pervasive across a broad range of personal and social situations.

3. The enduring pattern leads to clinically significant distress or impairment in social, occupational, or other important areas of functioning.

4. The pattern is stable and of long duration, and its onset can be traced back at least to adolescence or early adulthood.

5. The enduring pattern is not better accounted for as a manifestation or consequence of another mental disorder.

**6. The enduring pattern is not due to direct physiological effects of a substance (i.e., a drug of abuse, a medication) or a general medical condition (i.e., head trauma).**

Diagnostic & Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders. (4<sup>th</sup> Ed.) 2000, Washington, D.C.: American Psychiatric Association.

Frosch (1983) defines psychopathy as a deviant developmental disturbance characterized by an inordinate amount of instinctual aggression and the absence of an object relational capacity to bond.

Frosch, J., (1983). "The Psychotic Process". New York: International Universities Press.

Meloy (1992) adds, "... **a fundamental disidentification with humanity**".

Meloy, J.R., (1992). The psychopathic mind: origins, dynamics, and treatment. North Vale, NJ: Jason Aronson, Inc.

Stephen Huff (2004) comments on the historical evolution of the term “hacker and by inference those who do not abide by society’s rules. The name hacker originates in the railroad club at MIT decades before the invention of home computers or even of computers. This club made a habit of adapting various materials to uses they had not been intended for in engineering the model railroads they made. A really good or **clever** adaptation was called a hack.

When the first computers were invented, long before calculators, or desktop computers were even a realistic dream, many students at MIT who were members of the railroad club also began studying programming. The term hack began to be used to refer to similar exercises in programming. One famous early hack was programming a computer to play music by having it run a series of operations, which changed the tone of its drive to reproduce a famous bit of music. None of the parts involved had ever been intended to produce music. It was a triumph of cleverness and thinking outside the box.

It is worth noting that it was almost traditional in the early community of hackers to also take courses in locksmithing so that they could defeat the campus security and use the facilities as they wished at all hours of the day and night. Many of the most famous hackers who went on to become the most recognized experts in the computer field dropped out of their official MIT curriculum and got jobs based on their hacking without degrees from MIT, frequently with the government.

Hacking means thinking outside the box, implicitly, this means thinking outside the rules and **bending or breaking the rules**. A tool that is intended for one use, has an implicit rule associated with it that defines what it is to be used for. A person, who mindlessly categorizes things by their intended use and does not see the potential for other uses, cannot hack. On the other hand, **if you see things as they are, not as society says they are, then the rules are to some degree both invisible to you and an object of contempt to you because the rules are a false and misleading view of reality. They are literally a handicap to honest intelligent thought. Hence, there is a natural association between hacking and playing loose with the 'rules'.**

The line dividing honest and dishonest is not clearly drawn, however. An attitude of disdain and even contempt of society’s rules is embedded on one side of this line (author’s comment). From: "Stephen H. Huff" [grimwulf@SIGECOM.NET](mailto:grimwulf@SIGECOM.NET) To: [PSYLAW-L@LISTSERV.UNL.EDU](mailto:PSYLAW-L@LISTSERV.UNL.EDU) Subject: Re: psychology of hackers (hacker origins)  
Date: 01 February 2004 07:18

Dr. Robert Hare, U. of BC Psychology Professor and FBI's top consulting psychologist is said to have defined the corporation as the prototypical psychopath in a TV documentary published on Tuesday, January 20, 2004 by the Inter Press Service, "Corporations Need Treatment", Documentary Argues by Stephen Leahy. (<http://www.thecorporation.tv/productdemos.html>)

TORONTO - Corporations are not only the most powerful institutions in the world, they are also psychopathic, a new Canadian documentary on globalization elegantly argues.

While the corporation has the rights and responsibilities of "a legal person", its owners and shareholders are not liable for its actions. Moreover, the film explains, a corporation's directors are legally required to do what is best for the company, regardless of the harm created. What kind of person would a corporation be? A clinical psychopath answers the documentary, which is now playing in four Canadian theatres.

"Everything we do in the world is touched by corporations in some way," says 'The Corporation' writer Joel Bakan.

Six years ago he was researching a book on the subject and teamed up with documentary makers Mark Achbar and Jennifer Abbott, and then set out to drum up enough money to make the film and to do more than 40 interviews.

"Corporations are the most dominant institutions on the planet today. We thought it was worth taking a close look at what that means," Bakan told IPS.

In law, today's corporations are treated like a person: they can buy and sell property, have the right to free expression and most other rights that individuals have.

This legal creativity came as a result of U.S. businesses using the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution -- designed to protect blacks in the U.S. South after the Civil War -- to proclaim that corporations should be treated as "persons".

The filmmakers show four examples of corporations at work -- including garment sweatshops in Honduras and Indonesia -- to demonstrate that this "legal person" is inherently amoral, callous and deceitful.

The corporation, the film points out, ignores any social and legal standards to get its way, and does not suffer from guilt while mimicking the human qualities of empathy, caring and altruism.

Eminent economist Milton Friedman sums up the role of the corporation: it creates jobs and wealth but is inherently incapable of dealing with the social consequences of its actions.

Pinel (1801) described a group of persons who were impulsive and self-destructive, but without defects in reasoning.

*Pinel, P., (1801). Traite medico-philosophique sur l'alienation mentale. Paris: Richard, Caille et Ravier.*

Prichard (1835) coined the term “moral insanity” implying the damage to social relations observed in histories of persons diagnosed with Personality Disorders. Prichard, J.C., (1835). “A Treatise on Insanity”. New York: Hafner.

Freud (1916) viewed psychopaths as; “...those who commit crimes without any sense of guilt, who have developed no moral inhibitions or who, in their conflict with society, consider themselves justified in their actions”.

Freud, S., (1916). “Some character types met with in psychoanalytic work”. Standard Edition 14: 309-333. London: Hogarth Press, 1957.

Cleckley (1976) theorized, ...a selective defect...prevents important components of normal (emotional) experience from being integrated into...human interactions.” The vacuum or absence of genuine emotions may be the biological and psychodynamic hallmark of the psychopath’s existence.

Cleckley, H., (1976). Mask of Sanity. St. Louis: C. V. Mosby.

Living without an “echo chamber of the emotions” eliminates the reflected emotional reverberations, which form the guiding support and “glue” of conceptual activities. The absence of this emotional background activity, or disruptions and distortions in it, produce strained, approximate, situationally bound reasoning to fill the gap. Sensations alone demand fulfillment. Intellect directs the individual’s efforts to satisfy the sensation seeking demands.

The object chosen are frequently other people, substances, fast vehicles, or any other means of increasing pleasurable sensations. Rationalization is a way of life for the psychopath (Wallace 2001). The gulf between the emotions that psychopaths experience and those of other people, with whom the psychopath interacts, remains

an unbridgeable chasm. A healthy person sees the psychopath as “ just not getting it”, i.e., the sense of the emotions involved in interactions.

Wallace, J. L., (2001). “A Clinicians Guide to Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory Interpretation” Ex Libris.

Meloy focuses on the psychopath’s “**disidentification with humanity**”, which takes many forms. Most of these forms fall short of those found in full-blown psychopathy. Character disordered individuals, broadly conceived, may experience temporary emptiness of emotional sensations. This emptiness is plastic, expanding and contracting in turn. Cognitive efficiency deteriorates into flawed thinking as the emotional depletion intensifies.

Meloy, J. R., (1992). *They Psychopathic Mind: Origins, Dynamics, and Treatment*. North Dale, NJ: Jason Aronson.

The absence of the fuel of emotions robs cognition of its energy and capacity to guide the formation of an idea. The dynamic force of the emotions’ capacity to direct cognition’s ability to participate in the creation of ideational mirrors reflecting the pleasure and pain, which could result from future acts, does not exist. An avalanche of interpersonal failures buries the development of empathy, compassion, and caring essential to all successful human acts.

USC study finds faulty wiring in psychopaths.

Psychopaths have physical abnormalities in two key brain structures responsible for functions ranging from fear detection to information processing, a USC clinical neuroscientist has found in two studies that suggest a neuro-developmental basis to the disorder.

Adrian Raine, a professor of psychology and neuroscience in the USC College of Letters, Arts & Sciences, focused his research on two parts of the brain: the hippocampus, a portion of the temporal lobe that regulates aggression and transfers information into memory and the corpus callosum, which is a bridge of nerve fibers that connects the cerebral hemispheres.

"Scientists have implicated different brain regions with respect to antisocial and aggressive behavior, and all are important and relevant," Raine said.

"But it goes beyond that to the wiring. Unless these parts of the brain are properly wired together, they'll never communicate effectively. They'll never result in appropriate behavior," he said.

Although the neurobiological roots of psychopathy are still being explored, the key behavioral features of a psychopath have been clearly defined.

Psychopaths' criminal tendencies are typically coupled with a lack of inhibitions, emotions and a conscience.

"We don't do bad things because we will feel bad about it," Raine said. "Psychopaths don't have those feelings - they do not have a conscience. That means they can be callous and manipulative. [They don't care about other people.](#) If they can get what they want from life by hurting other people, they'll do it."

That lack of emotions often means that psychopaths don't bond with other people in a normal way.

"Friendship does not mean the same thing to them. They'll use the word love a lot, but [they really don't know what love means.](#) They've never properly experienced it," he said.

But while psychopaths may be cold on the inside, they often can appear to be warm and endearing on the outside - a tool used to lure people in to manipulate them.

"They are glib. They use words well and can be charming. That lures people into their devious net," Raine said. "Psychopaths can be the life of the party for a few minutes or a few hours, and it can actually be a wonderful experience brushing shoulders with them. It's when you get to know them in the long term that you begin to see that they are not what they appear to be."

To explore the physical roots to psychopathic behavior, Raine and his colleagues recruited 91 men from Los Angeles' temporary employment pool and gave them a battery of tests to assess cognitive ability, information processing skills and criminal history. They also were given MRIs, or brain scans.

In the study of the hippocampus, the research team expanded the scope of previous studies by comparing the brains of two groups for the first time: "successful" psychopaths - those who had committed crimes but had never been caught - and "unsuccessful" psychopaths - those who had been caught.

The hippocampus plays a critical role in regulating aggression and in learning which situations one should be afraid of - a process called contextual fear conditioning.

With psychopaths, contextual fear conditioning plays a part in learning the concept of what to do and what not to do, Raine said. It has been theorized that the disruption of the circuit linking the hippocampus with the prefrontal cortex could contribute to the impulsiveness, lack of control and emotional abnormalities observed in psychopaths.

"It is learning what is right and what is wrong in a certain situation," he said.

He tested the theory that psychopaths with hippocampal impairments could become insensitive to cues that predicted punishment and capture. As a result, he said, these "impaired" psychopaths were more likely to be apprehended than psychopaths without that deficit.

Fewer than half of both the control subjects and the "successful" psychopaths had an asymmetrical hippocampus.

Ninety-four percent of the unsuccessful psychopaths had that same abnormality, with the right side of the hippocampus larger than the left.

Raine said the results suggest, but don't prove, a neuro-developmental root for psychopathy.

"Abnormal brain development in early life may cause the structural brain abnormalities that result in psychopathy," he said.

These findings were bolstered by the results of the second study, which focused on the corpus callosum.

The corpus callosum is a bundle of nerve fibers that connects the two hemispheres of the brain, enabling them to work together to process information and regulate autonomic function. Raine explored its role in psychopathy for the first time.

"There's faulty wiring going on in psychopaths. They're wired differently than other people," Raine said. "In a way, it's literally true in this case."

From: <Commons@TIAC.NET>  
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Date: 12 March, 2004 00:29

USC study finds faulty wiring in psychopaths. Public release date: 10-Mar-2004. Contact: Usha Sutliff [sutliff@usc.edu](mailto:sutliff@usc.edu). 213-740-0252. University of Southern California.

He found that the psychopaths' corpus callosums were an average of 23 percent larger and 7 percent longer than the control groups'.

"The corpus callosum is bigger, but it's also thinner. That suggests that it developed abnormally," Raine said.

The rate that the psychopaths transmitted information from one hemisphere to the other through the corpus callosum also was abnormally high, Raine said.

But that didn't mean things worked better.

With an increased corpus callosum came less remorse, fewer emotions and less social connectedness - the classic hallmarks of a psychopath, he said.

"These people don't react. They don't care," Raine said. "Why that occurs, we don't fully know, but we are beginning to get important clues from neuro-imaging research."

Raine's colleagues on the studies were from institutions including USC, Hillside Hospital in Glen Oaks and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Goddard's Institute for Space Studies.

The hippocampus and corpus callosum studies were published in the journals Biological Psychiatry (January 2004) and Archives of General Psychiatry (November 2003), respectively.

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Hare (1993) portrays "...**the crux of the issue** (pertaining to the psychopath): **Psychopaths do not feel they have psychological or emotional problems, and they see no reason to change their behavior to conform to societal standards with which they do not agree**". (p. 95). Hare continues saying that psychopaths are satisfied with themselves the way they are. They find their behavior brings them



those rewards they seek. They have no regrets or concerns for the future. "They perceive themselves as superior human beings in a hostile, dog-eat-dog world in which others are competitors for power and resources." (p. 195).

Psychopaths are convinced it is their right to get what they want using any and all means available to them. Hare shares the conviction that psychopaths enjoy a "rock-solid" personality structure that is resilient and unchangeable.

Hare, R. D. (1993). "Without Conscience". New York: The Guilford Press.

Personality Disorders present with common features. Their response to stress is inflexible. They do not seem able to solve the situation leading up to the stress. Their inability to experience satisfaction in work and loving relationships is usually more evident when compared to other peoples' lives. Their inability to share emotions with others and grasp the salient features of the emotions other people experience because of interacting with them eventuates in misunderstanding and emotional upheavals all around. They have an unusually well developed ability to get under the skin of other people. They know how to make other people feel miserable, upset, and angry.

The other person feels they have done something wrong but cannot figure out why. They cannot put their finger on exactly why they feel the way they do after an encounter with a psychopath. The personality-disordered individual leaves a trail of emotional wreckage behind them. This is the hallmark of their journey through life.

The DSM-IV-TR (2000) divides the personality disorders into three groups:

### **Cluster A. Odd or Eccentric**

*Paranoid Personality Disorder.* This is a pervasive distrust of others beginning by early adulthood where others' motives are interpreted as malevolent. The estimated base rate in the general population is 0.5 to 2.5 percent.

*Schizoid Personality Disorder.* This is a pervasive pattern of detachment from social relationships and a restricted range of (emotional) expression in interpersonal settings; beginning by early adulthood and present in a variety of contexts is present. The estimated base rate in the general population is 7.5 percent.

*Schizotypal Personality Disorder.* This is a pervasive pattern of social and interpersonal deficits marked by acute discomfort with, and reduced capacity for, close relations as well as by cognitive or perceptual distortions and eccentricities of behavior; beginning by early adulthood and present in a variety of contexts is present. The estimated base rate in the general population is 3 percent. One fourth of those persons so diagnosed develops schizophrenia.

Cluster B. Dramatic, Emotional, and Erratic.

***Antisocial Personality Disorder.*** This is a pervasive pattern of disregard for and violation of the rights of others occurring since the age of 15 is present.

The estimated base rate in the general population is 1 percent for females and 3 percent for males.

***Borderline Personality Disorder.*** This is a pervasive pattern of instability of interpersonal relationships, self-image, and affects, and marked impulsivity beginning in early adulthood and present in a variety of contexts is present. The estimated base rate in the general population is 2 percent.

***Histrionic Personality Disorder.*** This is a pervasive pattern of excessive emotionality and attention seeking, beginning in early adulthood and present in a variety of contexts is present. The estimated base rate in the general population is 2 to 3 percent.

***Narcissistic Personality Disorder.*** This is a pervasive pattern of grandiosity (in fantasy and behavior), need for admiration, and lack of empathy, beginning in early adulthood and present in a variety of contexts is present.

The estimated base rate in the general population is 1 percent.

### **Cluster C. Anxious and Fearful**

***Avoidant Personality Disorder.*** This is a pervasive pattern of social inhibition, feelings of inadequacy, and hypersensitivity to negative evaluation, beginning in early adulthood and present in a variety of contexts is present. The estimated base rate in the general population is 0.5 to 1 percent.

***Dependant Personality Disorder.*** This is a pervasive pattern and need to be taken care of that lead to submissive and clinging behavior and fear of separation, beginning in early adulthood and present in a variety of contexts is present. The estimated base rate in the general population is among the most frequently encountered in the Personality Disordered group.

***Obsessive-Compulsive Personality Disorder.*** This is a pervasive pattern of preoccupation with orderliness, perfectionism, and mental and interpersonal control, at the expense of flexibility, openness, and efficiency; beginning by early adulthood and present in a variety of contexts is present. The estimated base rate in the general population is 1 percent and is twice as common in males than in females.

## Scale 4 (Pd)

Scale 4 (Pd) has 50 items in both the MMPI and MMPI-2. Twenty-four of the items are scored in the true direction. Twenty-six of the items are scored in the false direction. A K correction of 0.4 (K raw score multiplied by 0.4) is added to the

Scale 4 (Pd) raw score. Item overlap is: **L (0), F (4), K (8), 1 (1), 2 (7), 3 (10), 5 (3), 6 (8), 7 (6), 8 (10), 9 (7), Sie (11)**. Scales 3, 8 and Sie have many items in common with Scale 4 (Pd). Test-retest correlations for Scale 4 (Pd) are 0.74 with an interval of up to 1 year (McKinley and Hathaway 1944). Butcher et al. (1989) reports test-retest correlations of .80 with the MMPI-2 for an interval of one week with samples of healthy people.

McKinley, J. C., & Hathaway, S. R., (1944). "The MMPI: V. Hysteria, hypomania, and psychopathic deviate". *Journal of Applied Psychology* 28, 153-174.

Butcher, J. N., Dahlstrom W. G., Graham, J. R., Tellegen, A., & Kaemmer, B., (1989). "Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory-2 (MMPI-2) Manual for administration and scoring". Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.