

The psychopath personality

A psychopath is a person suffering from a personality disorder that finds its expression in anti-social behaviours with no apparent guilt .

A psychopath had a disturbed childhood, and was often brought up in an underprivileged single family or outside his own family; he might even have been raped or neglected. Moreover he was an irritable, lying, child, unruly at school and prone to steal (more than the average). At adulthood, he has social integrations problems because of his obvious instability and frequently changes jobs. Instability and violence will be the driving force of his adult life (violence against others but against himself too). His emotional instability is characterised by separations, divorces, brief relationships: inter-personal ties are rejected, but an important and underlying affection demand underlies his behaviour. He develops a superficial attitude of seduction and a sugary speech because he thinks too highly of his personal capacities. Yet he is unable to improve deep emotions.

Even if most of the time psychopaths look like ordinary citizens, they can turn into criminals who commit horrifying murders, sometimes, become serial killers, thus fascinate crowds.

When acting out their fantasies, they don't feel any shame or remorse and look for dangerous situations and exciting stimulations against boredom.

They can take on some hysterical features (nervous fits, suggestibility), some depressive ones (feeling of emptiness, suicidal tendencies, auto-mutilations, suicide), others close to mythomania, manipulation of others, or complete amorality.

Such delinquency is polymorph: robberies, wandering, break of trust, uses and possession of drugs, rapes and violent and aggressive murders. However psychopaths do not belong to the world of organized crime, because of their impulsiveness and waywardness.

In spite of the obvious fright we have of them, psychopaths have much influenced movies (Seven, the Silence of the Lambs) with personalities such as Ted Bundy, Charles Manson or Jack "The Ripper". Their apparent impunity and invulnerability are very attractive for some.

Usually, psychiatric treatment is useless and few personality improvements have been seen , yet this disorder can find a peaceful expression and sublimation when channelled through art and creation .

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