

initiative (PGI; Robitschek, 1998)—on physical and mental health outcomes in a genocide-affected population in Rwanda. Specifically, we examined whether an individual's belief in their ability to change and develop had an adaptive role in managing symptoms of distress. Prior research has demonstrated that high levels of PGI are associated with psychological well-being (Robitschek & Keyes, 2009), and lower levels of depression and anxiety (Robitschek & Kashubeck, 1999). We found that genocide survivors who reported high levels of depression and low levels of PGI experienced greater physical impairment in their day-to-day life, and identified fewer positive personality changes as a result of their experience (i.e., posttraumatic growth; Tedeschi & Calhoun, 1996). The results suggest that PGI might be an important psychological factor in enhancing recovery and well-being in the aftermath of adversity.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.paid.2013.07.369>

How social desirability and acquiescence affects the age–personality relationship

F. Morales-Vives, A. Vigil-Colet, U. Lorenzo-Seva, M. Ruiz-Pamies
Universitat Rovira i Virgili, Spain

Recent studies have suggested that the age–personality relationship may be partially explained by changes in social desirability related to age. In the present study, we analyse how age affects social desirability and acquiescence, and how these response biases affect the age–personality relationship. We administered two questionnaires that provide orthogonal scores on social desirability, acquiescence and personality: the questionnaire OPERAS which evaluates the Big Five personality traits in a sample of 3800 participants aged 14–96, and the aggression questionnaire I-DAQ in a sample of 900 individuals aged 18–95. The results show that age has effects on social desirability and acquiescence, both of which increase with age, and this increase affects the age–personality relationship, especially for such dimensions as agreeableness, conscientiousness and aggressiveness. Therefore, the results of self-reports which do not incorporate any correction for response bias should be viewed with caution, especially in the elderly.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.paid.2013.07.370>

Dark Triad – (Anti) social behaviour to others and self

L. Lämmle, M. Ziegler
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany

Within the last decade, numerous studies have investigated the dark side of human personality by focusing on the Dark Triad (DT; narcissism, Machiavellianism, psychopathy) of personality which has led to an important enlargement of the personality space. Nevertheless, effects of the DT on other-person-related outcome variables in different social settings are still to be explored. In this symposium we consider the outcome variables of mate attraction (Rauthmann & Denissen), aggression in couples (Webster et al.) and styles of dominance (Jonason et al.). Furthermore, as it is largely unexplored how the DT influences a person's feelings and related behaviours, we would like to present research on the self-related outcome variables of positive mood (Egan) and self-harming behaviour (Lämmle & Ziegler). Finally, the seven vices include both self (e.g., gluttony) and other person related (e.g., envy) outcomes. Their relation to the DT will also be presented (Veselka et al.).

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.paid.2013.07.371>

Mate attraction in the Dark Triad: Narcissists are hot, Machiavellians and psychopaths not

J.F. Rauthmann, J. Denissen
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany

The Dark Triad (narcissism, Machiavellianism, psychopathy) is linked to a fast life strategy and short-term mating in males, but strong ecologically valid evidence of their success in actual mating-situations is scarce. In natural and non-hypothetical men–women interactions (with ratings from men, women, and independent observers), we investigated (a) how the Dark Triad is related to mate attraction, (b) mediating variables of mate attraction, and (c) women's and men's physical attractiveness as moderators. Fifty-nine men approached 1395 women on the streets aiming to obtain contact information, while two assistants unobtrusively observed interactions and questioned the women afterwards. Narcissism was uniquely associated to different mate attraction indicators because of approach-oriented behaviours (e.g., self-assuredness, charm). Machiavellianism and psychopathy showed neutral or negative relations. Men's (but not women's) physical attractiveness moderated the relation between narcissism and Machiavellianism with mate attraction. The courtship style and reproductive success of “dark personalities” is discussed.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.paid.2013.07.372>

An actor–Partner interdependence model of the Dark Triad and aggression in couples

G.D. Webster, A.N. Gesselman, Laura C. Crysel, A.B. Brunell, P.K. Jonason
University of Florida, USA

The Dark Triad traits—Machiavellianism, psychopathy, and narcissism—form a set of personality strategies that serve to exploit and manipulate others. Although the Dark Triad traits and their correlates have been studied in individuals, little is known about their role in young adult couples in dating relationships, or how these traits relate to individual differences in aggression. To these ends, we had 44 heterosexual dating undergraduate couples (88 participants) self-report trait measures of the Dark Triad Dirty Dozen (Jonason & Webster, 2010) and measures of direct and displaced trait aggression. Using a series of actor–partner interdependence models showed that men's psychopathy positively related to women's hostility and physical aggression. Women's psychopathy positively related to their own verbal and displaced aggression, and men's anger rumination. Men's Machiavellianism positively related to women's displaced aggression. Men's narcissism positively related to their own revenge planning. We discuss possible implications for intimate partner violence.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.paid.2013.07.373>

Positively unpleasant: The Dark Triad, happiness and subjective well-being

V. Egan
University of Leicester, UK

We sought to differentiate benign and malignant narcissism using measures of general personality, positive mood, and the Dark Triad (DT) with a sample of 840 persons from the UK, USA and Canada. All measures were reliable, indicating DT constructs are easily recovered from non-offender cohorts. Two structural equation models (SEM) tested this data, one an a priori measurement model, the other involving refined DT scales. The GFI for the refined DT SEM model was higher than for the a priori SEM, and was more stable.