

Psychopaths in human society

Why changing the social system
never changes the underlying social
reality.

Author: Kevin M. Washington
Strategic Social Architecture Foundation
www.strategicsocialarchitecture.org
December 2010

Background on this perspective

- The current scientific neurobiological model* of the human brain describes an analog organic mechanism with wide variability in function and configuration.
- Medical research indicates a configuration related to “psychopaths” at the neurobiological level.
- In a nutshell, psychopaths are not “wired” the same as the general population.

* For a good background on neurobiology (from the way a single neuron works all the way up to behavior) review this course by Professor Robert Sapolsky: *Biology and Human Behavior: The Neurobiological Origins of Individuality*.



Research on the neurobiological basis of psychopathy

- ▣ Neurobiological basis of psychopathy

<http://bjp.rcpsych.org/cgi/content/full/182/1/5>

- ▣ Structural brain abnormalities in psychopaths – a review.

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18327824>

- ▣ A Biological Explanation For Psychopaths

http://www.science20.com/news_articles/biological_explanation_psychopaths

- ▣ Brain Difference In Psychopaths Identified

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/08/090804090946.htm>

- ▣ Identification Of Brain Difference In Psychopaths

<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/159877.php>

Percentage of general population

- “..Psychopaths make up 1% of the general population, but 25% of the prison population, according to Dr. Hare.”
- 1%. Gee that doesn't sound so bad. Let's do the math:
- Out of a population of 300 million in the US, 1% is 3 MILLION.
 - To put that number in perspective, there are approx. 4 million people in the entire federal government, including approx. 1 million in the military.
 - One tenth of one percent of the population (approx. 130,000 families) have an average income of 5 million dollars . Average income for the majority of Americans is \$52,000.
- Psychopaths gravitate to positions of power. Domination of others is a central theme of psychopathic behavior so this makes sense.
- If we include psychopaths who are "functioning psychopaths," i.e., those who do not end up in the criminal system, the percentage of psychopaths in positions of power is GREATER than that in the general population. “It is hypothesized that successful psychopaths have intact or enhanced neurobiological functioning that underlies their normal or even superior cognitive functioning, which in turn helps them to achieve their goals using more covert and nonviolent methods.” Excerpt from: Successful and unsuccessful psychopaths: A neurobiological model
- The lunatics are not running the asylum. It is worse than that. The PSYCHOPATHS are running the asylum.

Note on “successful” psychopaths

Successful and unsuccessful psychopaths: A neurobiological model

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/bsl.924/abstract>

Excerpt: "Abstract

Despite increasing interest in psychopathy research, surprisingly little is known about the etiology of non-incarcerated, successful psychopaths. This review provides an analysis of current knowledge on the similarities and differences between successful and unsuccessful psychopaths derived from five population sources: community samples, individuals from employment agencies, college students, industrial psychopaths, and serial killers. An initial neurobiological model of successful and unsuccessful psychopathy is outlined. It is hypothesized that successful psychopaths have intact or enhanced neurobiological functioning that underlies their normal or even superior cognitive functioning, which in turn helps them to achieve their goals using more covert and nonviolent methods."

The percentage is small but the effect is huge

Think of it this way. When you get the flu there are a very small number of virus cells in your body compared to the overall number of cells in your body.

But you are sick as a dog, aren't you?

If someone was to say to you "Hey, it's only a small number of virus cells compared to your whole body so you aren't really sick" you would tell them to go pound sand, wouldn't you?

Psychopaths infect the body politic in the same manner causing a similar amount of misery at the social level, disproportionate to their numbers, because they target the vital areas of systemic control.

Identifying the essence of the problem

- ❑ People with a certain set of characteristics cause conflict and destruction in human society.
- ❑ These people are by nature deceptive and able to hide in the general population.
- ❑ These people are adept at gaining power over other people and groups of people.
- ❑ The set of behaviors and characteristics these people perform and have includes the set currently defined by medical science to diagnose psychopathy.
- ❑ These people can infect other people with these behaviors and characteristics.
- ❑ How can we identify these people? What do we call them? How do we protect ourselves and society from them?

WHY USE THE WORD “PSYCHOPATH”?

Definition of psychopathy:

Psychopathy is currently defined in psychiatry and clinical psychology as a condition characterized by lack of empathy or conscience, and poor impulse control or manipulative behaviors.

Psychopaths are “ intraspecies predators who use charm, manipulation, intimidation, and violence to control others and to satisfy their own selfish needs. Lacking in conscience and in feelings for others, they take what they want and do as they please, violating social norms and expectations without guilt or remorse” – Emeritus Professor Robert Hare

A psychopath has no concern for the feelings of others and a complete disregard for any sense of social obligation. They seem egocentric and lack insight of any sense of responsibility or consequence. Their emotions are thought to be superficial and shallow, if they exist at all. They are considered callous, manipulative, and incapable of forming lasting relationships, let alone showing any kind of meaningful love. They typically never perform any action unless they determine it can be beneficial for themselves.

An individual can have the characteristics of psychopaths and organizations or institutions can have the characteristics of psychopaths.

Psychopathic characteristics in institutions

- ❑ An individual can have the characteristics of psychopaths and organizations or institutions can have the characteristics of psychopaths.
- ❑ Governments and economic control systems (businesses , corporations, religions) have these characteristics.
- ❑ Oligarchs create and control the governments and economic control systems (businesses, corporations, and religions).
- ❑ Therefore governments and economic control systems (businesses , corporations, and religions) are the manner in which oligarchs realize their desires.
- ❑ Based on the characteristics of the mechanisms they control, which amounts to watching an individuals personal behavior, and their observed behavior, oligarchs are psychopaths.
- ❑ Through governments and economic control systems (businesses ,corporations, and religions) the oligarchs control the populations of the world.
- ❑ Based on this model, is the history of the world at all surprising?

Basic characteristics of psychopaths / sociopaths

1. Seeks control / power over other people.
2. Never performs any action unless they determine it can be beneficial for themselves.
3. Has a complete disregard for any sense of social obligation.
4. Is egocentric and lack insight of any sense of responsibility or consequence.
5. Has emotions that are superficial and shallow, if they exist at all.
6. Are considered callous, manipulative, and incapable of forming lasting relationships, let alone showing any kind of meaningful love.
7. Uses charm, manipulation, intimidation, and violence to control others.

Simply put, regardless of labels (psychopath, sociopath, etc.), do you want people with these type of characteristics as your friends, neighbors, spouse, or in positions of power in your social order?

Behaviors and characteristics of the type of people under discussion.

Behavior	Comments
Lying	This includes obfuscation by mixing truth with lies, withholding information necessary to see truth, twisting information to manipulate the person's thinking (spin)
Cheating	
Stealing	
Harming others	
Physical Abuse	
Emotional Abuse	
Psychological Abuse	
Dominating people	
Dominating animals	
Dominating events	
Exploiting people	
Exploiting animals	
Manipulating people	
Good at using words and body language to deceive	
Change meaning	
Cause confusion	
Pit people against one another	
Causes and propogates conflict	
Generates unreal scenarios	
Good at using social belief systems to justify their behavior	

Characteristics	Comments
Charming	
Enjoys domination	
Enjoys other people's suffering	
Lack of empathy	
Egocentric	
Controlling	
Uncooperative	
Narcissistic	
Sadistic	
Disarming	
Very good at social camouflaging their behavior and characteristics	
Begins this behavior at an early age	

Most obvious characteristic of a psychopath is seeking power /control over other people

Power in the social context always means control of other people.

Method of achieving power can be:

- ▣ Direct physical control via physical methods i.e. violence or threats of violence.
- ▣ Indirect physical control via physical methods i.e. control of people who will apply violence or threats of violence on the psychopaths behalf.
- ▣ Manipulation –
 - ▣ Directly by personal contact i.e. lying, deceiving
 - ▣ Indirectly by manipulating others who then coerce the victim through peer pressure, shunning, etc.
 - ▣ Indirectly by leveraging ideology, belief system, cultural programming of the victim.
- ▣ Achieving social positions of social power in existing institutions i.e religion, politics, educational system, town council, or any existing hierarchical institution.
- ▣ Leveraging or creating new hierarchical social institutions to create positions of power . i.e. starting up a PTA where none exists, starting a new religion, starting a political party.

The key point here is the seeking of effective control/power over other people. The goal of the approach presented in this material is to provide the average person with a working methodology to identify and neutralize people who want to gain control over them.

Note that ALL off the behaviors listed in the slide above are actions which result in effective control/power over other people.

Who are these people using the terminology of the mainstream general society?

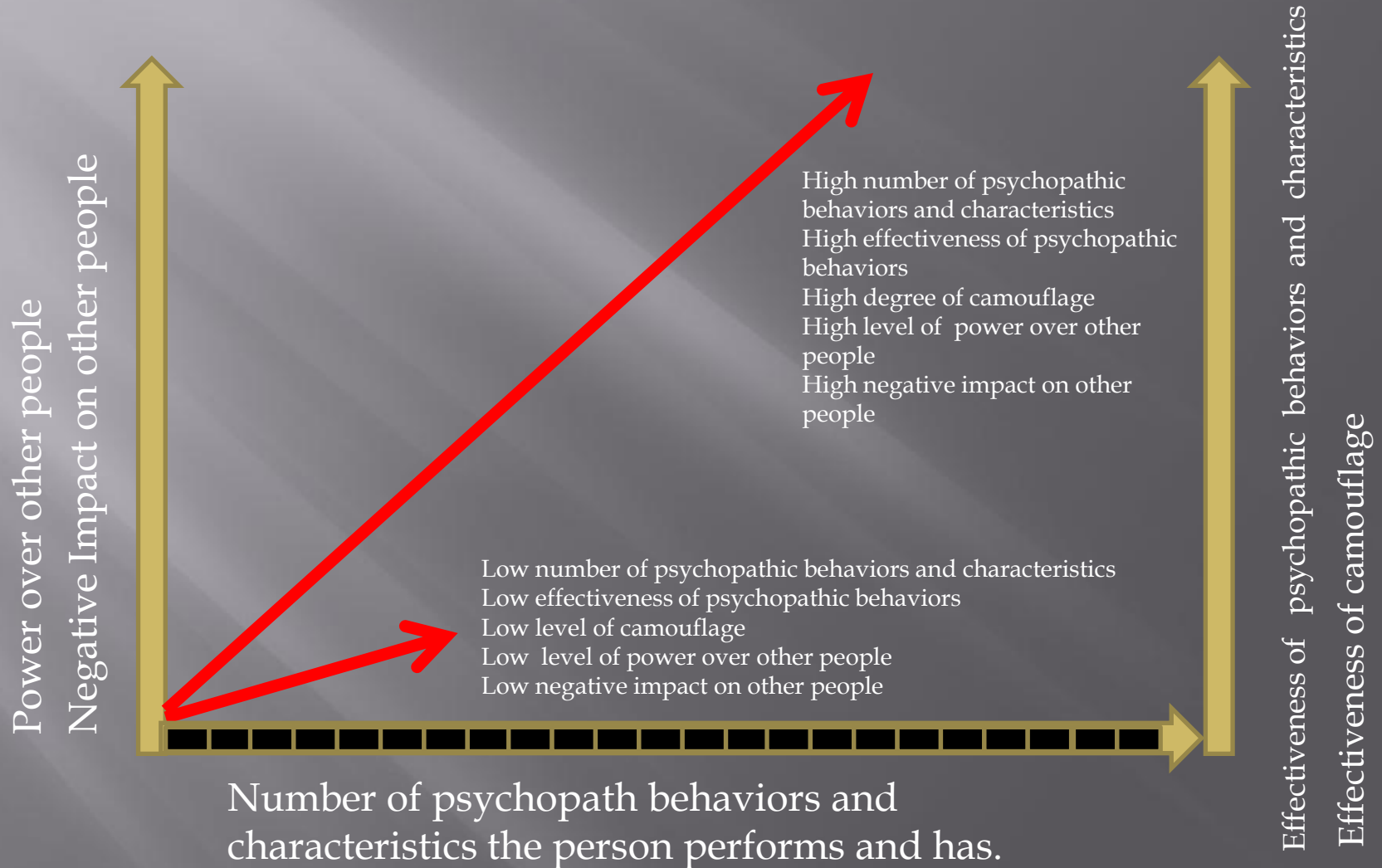
- ▣ The dominator
- ▣ The bully
- ▣ The abuser (physically, emotionally, psychologically, sexually)
- ▣ The manipulator
- ▣ The cheater
- ▣ The liar
- ▣ The sadist
- ▣ The snob
- ▣ The racist
- ▣ The chauvinist
- ▣ The religious fanatic

The type of people being discussed in this presentation have more than one behavior and characteristic of a psychopath and use psychopathic behaviors as a normal part of their daily life in order to gain control over and cause suffering to other people.

People who exhibit only one or a few of the psychopathic behaviors are probably not Psychopaths but are infected with psychopathic influence and display psychopathic behavior.

What are the results of this type of behavior?

The more of these behaviors the person performs and the more effectively and efficiently they perform them, the greater the negative impact on other people and the greater the positive impact on the psychopath's wealth and power.



Effects of power

- ▣ Power does not corrupt, i.e., does not CAUSE psychopathic behavior.
- ▣ Power amplifies.
- ▣ The more power a person has, the more effect their basic nature (behaviors and characteristics) will have on the world around them.

Psychopathy as an infectious agent

- Psychopaths can manipulate other people into performing psychopathic behaviors.
 - By using any of or combinations of the psychopathic behaviors and characteristics.
 - Example:
 - By intimidation
 - By lies
 - By example (specifically to children)
- Once the person performs psychopathic behavior and is rewarded for it (is successful) the likelihood of them continuing this behavior is high. This is especially true for children.
- People who learn psychopathic behavior can change.
- Psychopaths cannot change their behavior or characteristics.
- Entire populations can be infected with psychopathic behavior.
- Someone “infected” by the manipulations of a psychopath does perform the behavior of a psychopath but does not have the characteristics of a psychopath.

What is the process of identification?

- ▣ The key is intention.
- ▣ Performing the behavior of the psychopath does not mean the person is a psychopath.
- ▣ Intentionally performing the behavior of a psychopath means the person is a psychopath.
- ▣ How can you tell the difference?
 - Psychopathic behavior that is consistently used by the person to their own ends.
 - High number of psychopathic behaviors are evident.

Any social system can be infiltrated and hijacked by psychopaths

Capitalism generally refers to an economic system in which the means of production are mostly privately owned and operated for profit, and in which investments, distribution, income, production and pricing of goods and services are determined through the operation of a free market. It is usually considered to involve the right of individuals and **groups of individuals acting as "legal persons"** or corporations to trade capital goods, labor, land and money.

Point number 1: Means of production are privately owned and controlled by a small fraction of the population.

Point number 2: Means of production are operated for profit, not for anything else. All considerations are subordinate to profit.

Point number 3: There is no free market if the market can and is manipulated and controlled by those in power.

Question: Isn't this system ideal for psychopaths? The most successful capitalist (**individual or business/corporation**) is one who:

1. Seeks control and power over other people.
2. Never performs any action unless they determine it can be beneficial for themselves (profit).
3. Is egocentric and lacks insight of any sense of responsibility or consequence (consequences are only seen in terms of impact to profit).
4. Has emotions that are superficial and shallow, if they exist at all. (This enables them to take actions that have horrific effects on others, i.e., employees, populations that are "in the way of progress," etc.) Corporations cannot have "emotions;" they are inhuman entities.)
5. Is egocentric and lacks insight of any sense of responsibility or consequence (consequences are only seen in terms of impact to profit).
6. Are considered callous, manipulative, and incapable of forming lasting relationships, let alone showing any kind of meaningful love.
7. Uses charm, manipulation, intimidation, and violence to control others.

It is not about the system, it's about the people

No social/economic system will work (for the benefit of the people) if psychopathic oligarchs are in control.

Democracy, Socialism, Communism, Populism, Republicanism, Dictatorship, Monarchy, etc.

To coin a phrase, it's the type of people, stupid!

The goal

- ▣ As an individual, to successfully defend against these type of people in our daily lives.
- ▣ As a society, to identify and neutralize these type of people to prevent them from causing suffering, death, and destruction at the social level.

How?

- ❑ Establish a definition of the behaviors and characteristics of these type of people whether as individuals, or as groups (organizations).
- ❑ Use this definition to create a model from which testing mechanisms can be used to identify these type of people as individuals and as groups (organizations).
- ❑ Apply these tests in everyday life to determine if people we are dealing with fit the model.
- ❑ Establish a network/ society of people who understand how to create and maintain a tight knit social fabric in which psychopaths cannot function.

Strategic Social Architecture

www.ssaf.org

- Mission Statement
- *"The Strategic Social Architecture Foundation is an organization that provides a mechanism for people to realize the vision of an intentional egalitarian society where the development and support of citizens with high moral, ethical, and social standards is the sole mission of the social order.*
- *The mission of the SSAF foundation is to provide a mechanism and methodology for individuals who share a similar worldview to collaborate on the SSAF principles, organize themselves into active, effective work groups, and implement real world solutions that address both the short term considerations from a personal perspective as well as the medium and long term considerations from a social perspective.*
- *Strategic Social Architecture is an approach for creating a social order based on the development and support of people with specific characteristics defined by the participants, not characteristics which are the result of preexisting social programming systems."*