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## Robert Hare

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### RESEARCH AREA

[Social & Personality](#)

### EDUCATION

PhD, University of Western Ontario

## About

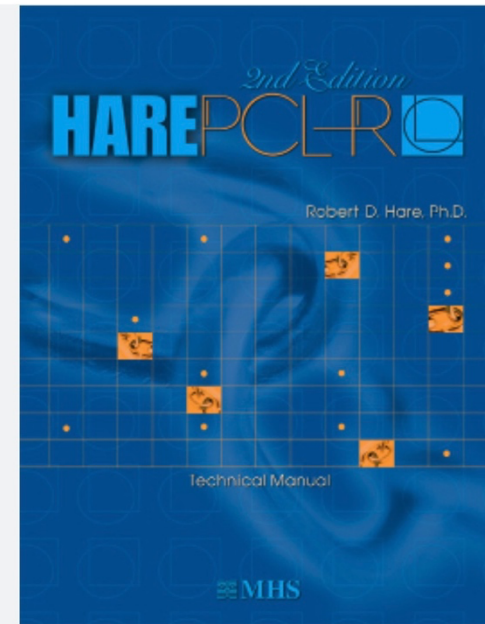
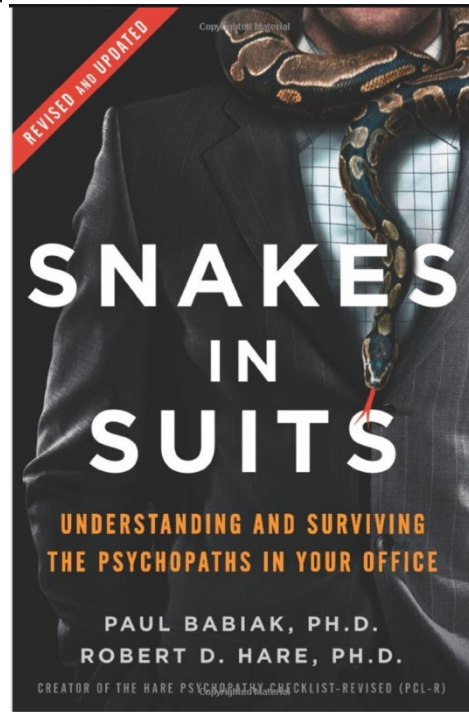
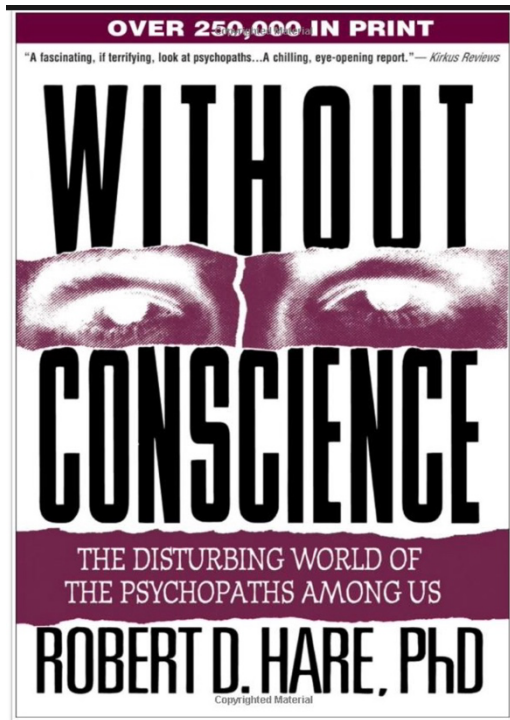
Robert Hare is Emeritus Professor of Psychology at the University of British Columbia. A researcher in the field of criminal psychology, he has become recognized as the foremost authority on psychopaths over 35 years of research at UBC. He has devoted most of his academic career to the investigation of psychopathy, its nature, assessment, and implications for mental health and criminal justice. He is the author of several books, including *Without Conscience: The Disturbing World of the Psychopaths Among Us*, and more than one hundred scientific articles on psychopathy. He is the developer of the *Hare Psychopathy Checklist-Revised* (PCL-R) and a co-author of its derivatives, the Psychopathy Checklist: Screening Version, the Psychopathy Checklist: Youth Version, the Antisocial Process Screening Device, and the P-Scan (for use in law enforcement). He consults with law enforcement, including the FBI and the RCMP, sits on the Research Advisory Board of the new FBI Child Abduction and Serial Murder Investigative Resources Center (CASMIRC), and is a member of the FBI Serial Murder Working Group. A researcher in the field of criminal psychology, he has become recognized as the foremost authority on psychopaths over 35 years of research at UBC. Dr. Hare developed the Hare Psychopathy Checklist, used to assess cases of psychopathy.

<http://www.hare.org/index.html>

# Psychopaths & the Canadian Who Has Done More than Anyone to Identify & Understand Them

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Psychopathy Checklist - Wikipedia

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## Psychopathy Checklist Revised (PCLR)

The Psychopathy Checklist-Revised (PCR) is a 20-item scale scored from interview and file information. The PCR includes 2 factors. Factor 1 is a measure of Emotional Detachment (e.g., superficial charm, manipulativeness, shallow affectivity, absence of guilt or empathy). Factor 2 is a measure of Antisocial Behavior (deviance from an early age, aggression, impulsivity, irresponsibility, proneness to boredom). There is also a total score.

### ITEM CODING

The PCR consists of 20 items that are rated on a three-point scale (from 0 to 2) based on the degree to which the personality/behavior of the subject matches the description of the item.

### SCALES

The PCR yields 2 primary scales and one total score. Description of the scales and item loadings are listed below. Scale scores are calculated as the sum of respective items. No items are reverse scored.

SCALE NAME (ABBR.)	DESCRIPTION	ITEM LOADINGS
PCR_DET	Factor 1-Emotional Detachment	1,2,4,5,6,7,8,16
PCR_ANT	Factor 2-Antisocial Behavior	3,9,10,12,13,14,15,18,19
PCR_TOT	Total score	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20


As you can see below, the PCL-R is a rating scale, with an assessor evaluating overall behavior and traits in different categories. The validity is in the work that was done to select the twenty criteria, and in the clinical experience and training of the rater.

Some forensic psychologists distinguish different types of psychopaths, and another school of thought separates out “sociopaths” as a distinctive type. Antisocial personality disorder, psychopathy, and sociopathy, are for all purposes interchangeable.

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 www.criminologyweb.com

## Hare Psychopathy Checklist Revised (PCL-R)

		0 (definitely not present)	1 (somewhat present)	2 (definitely present)
1	Glibness/superficial charm			
2	Egocentricity/grandiose sense of self-worth			
3	Proneness to boredom/low frustration tolerance			
4	Pathological lying and deception			
5	Conning/lack of sincerity			
6	Lack of remorse or guilt			
7	Lack of affect and emotional depth			
8	Callous/lack of empathy			
9	Parasitic lifestyle			
10	Short-tempered/poor behavioral controls			
11	History of promiscuous sexual relations			
12	History of early behavior problems			
13	Lack of realistic, long-term plans			
14	Impulsivity			
15	Irresponsible behavior			
16	Frequent marital relationships			
17	History of juvenile delinquency			
18	Revocation of conditional release			
19	Failure to accept responsibility for own actions			
20	Many types of offense			
Total number of points				


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Case Reports > Psychiatr Q. 2003 Spring;74(1):11-29. doi: 10.1023/a:1021137521142.

## Subtypes of psychopathy: proposed differences between narcissistic, borderline, sadistic, and antisocial psychopaths

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Affiliations + expand

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### Abstract

Atascadero State Hospital (ASH) is a maximum-security forensic hospital that houses male patients with a wide range of psychiatric diagnoses. Psychopaths at this institution appear to be a heterogeneous group of individuals who, while sharing core personality characteristics, manifest substantial variability in their behavior. Identifying subtypes within this clinical classification can have implications for patient treatment and management, as well as for the safety of the staff who work with them and for the communities to which they will eventually return. Several means of identifying subtypes have been proposed in the literature, and potential subgroups have been identified. Clinical observations at ASH have suggested 4 possible subtypes of psychopathy: narcissistic, borderline, sadistic, and antisocial. Issues related to the conceptualization of psychopathy are addressed, recognizing that additional data are needed to understand the observed variations in cases of psychopathy.



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## Forbes HEALTH

### Psychopath and Sociopath Traits

The traits of a psychopath and a sociopath are “the same,” according to Kiehl, with both falling under the clinical diagnosis of antisocial personality disorder.

However, in terms of social construction, the two terms are viewed somewhat differently. Specifically:

- Sociopaths tend to act more impulsively and erratically compared to psychopaths.
- Sociopaths generally struggle to maintain a job or a family life, whereas psychopaths may be able to do so.
- While psychopaths generally struggle to form attachments, sociopaths may be able to do so with a like-minded individual.
- Psychopaths may be better able to disassociate from their actions and experience less guilt than sociopaths.

In order for a patient to be diagnosed with antisocial personality disorder, they must display a “persistent disregard for the rights of others,” according to the DSM-5 clinical criteria as listed in the Merck Manual, a medical reference guide. This disregard is indicated by the presence of three or more of the following traits:

- Disregarding the law (such as committing acts that are grounds for arrest repeatedly)
- Acting in a deceitful manner (lying repeatedly, deceiving others for personal gain or using aliases)
- Being impulsive or failing to plan ahead
- Acting irresponsibly on a consistent basis (quitting a job without plans to get another or failing to pay bills)
- Being easily provoked or aggressive (frequently getting into physical fights)
- Failing to feel remorse (feeling indifferent to or rationalizing the mistreatment of others)

However, the most utilized method to assess traits of a psychopath in clinical or forensic work is the Hare Psychopathy Checklist-Revised (PCL-R). says Kiehl. The assessment can be used to predict violence and other negative outcomes. as

### What Is the Difference Between a Sociopath and a Psychopath?

Today, both psychopathy and sociopathy may be used as terms implying an antisocial personality disorder, the official diagnosis for an individual displaying the traits of either term. While there is much overlap between psychopathy and sociopathy, they are not one and the same.

#### What Is a Sociopath?

The term sociopathy was coined in the era of behaviorism between 1920 to 1950 as a primary psychological theory, but it has since fallen out of use. “This term has not been used in modern science for several decades—for example, you cannot get funding from the National Institute of Health [NIH] to study ‘sociopaths,’” says Kent Kiehl, Ph.D, a neuroscientist studying brain imagine, criminal psychopathy and other psychotic disorders in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

When the term was still in use, it was believed that people were born as blank slates and subsequently shaped by their environment or social forces, ultimately resulting in a good or bad personality, says Kiehl. However, this view was determined to be incorrect and, as focus shifted to increasing accuracy and reliability in diagnosis, the term “sociopathy” was dropped from the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (DSM-5) about 20 years ago.

#### What Is a Psychopath?

Even though the term is not an official diagnosis per the DSM-5, psychopathy remains a term in psychology today to indicate individuals who display high levels of unemotionality or callousness, as well as impulsiveness or developmental antisocial traits, such as destructive or aggressive behavior.

Symptoms of psychopathy generally appear in early childhood and impact all areas of an individual’s life, including relationships with family, friends, at school and at work. About 1.2% of the adult population has psychopathy, according to a 2021 study in *Frontiers of Psychology*<sup>[1]</sup>. Those with psychopathy tend to display antisocial behaviors, such as a lack of empathy and disregard for the well-being and emotions of others, which can negatively impact relationships both personally and professionally as they struggle to connect and trust the world around them.

As long as there is popular entertainment, we will as a society be fascinated with psychopaths. What we almost unanimously see on TV and in the movies (e.g. *Criminal Minds*) is sensationalized. Dr. Hare did more than anyone to help us recognize psychopathy more mundane in “everyday life” around us. After studying psychopaths in the penitentiaries on the Lower Mainland, he concluded that “we only manage to catch the stupid ones.” In his next research phase, he half-joked, he said he was going to move on to studying the smart ones who never get caught on the Vancouver Stock Exchange! Hence *Snakes in Suits: Understanding the and Surviving the Psychopaths in Your Office*. (The authors might have added “in your bar or nightclub, on your hockey team, and who knows where else.”) All theatrics and hyperbole aside, they are amongst us.

A young man once came before a judge for having defrauded and stolen from friends, again. “Why do you keep making people friends and then robbing them?” His Honour asked. The accused looked archly at him confused by such a “stupid” question: :Well, sir, it is hard to steal from people who don’t like you. So I have to befriend them first.” It seems that we can never be quite sure enough of what everyone’s motives really are.