

THE KING, THE CROOK, AND THE CON: The Narcissistic, Antisocial, and Psychopathic Personality

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Personality disorders, especially Antisocial and Narcissistic, are often found in criminal and violent offenders. While most treatment and management professionals are familiar with more acute types of mental illness that sometimes require medication, personality disorders more pervasively impact the offenders' behaviors, perceptions, and responses to treatment. Not only are personality disorders confusing to people trying to treat and help the client, but also for the family and victims of the offender.

This training is designed to help professionals develop an understanding of the diagnostic and treatment issues involved with personality disorders with a focus on those associated with violence. The Antisocial and Narcissistic Personality Disordered client will be defined and described, with video clips of actual clients. Additionally, the clinical syndrome call psychopathy will be discussed. Psychopathy is a syndrome characterized by a dangerous combination of aggressive narcissism and pervasive criminality. The special issues in treatment, management, and recidivism risk will be discussed for the psychopath.

This training will explore issues of management and treatment, as well as outline the diagnostic criteria for each disorder with a focus on differential diagnosis. Participants are encouraged to bring case studies to discuss as well as discuss how to communicate issues of personality disorders to the court or other supervising agencies.

Goals and Objectives

This training is appropriate for counselors, therapists, caseworkers, supervisors, or caretakers responsible for treatment, management, and/or supervision of the personality disordered client. It also will offer valuable information for anyone involved with offenders and victims.

During this training, attendees should be able:

- To understand the theoretical concept of personality disorder;
- To have an enhanced understanding of the personality disordered client's thinking, perceptions, behavior, and "world view;"
- To understand the diagnostic criteria for a personality disorder and the specific disorders;
- To learn the relevant criteria involved in the identification of a client who is a psychopath;
- To understand the interpersonal dynamics in dealing with a client with a personality disorder;
- To have a better awareness of the relationship between these personality disorders and violence or crime, including risk assessment;
- To explore and understand effective treatment and management strategies for personality disordered clients;
- To gain management strategies and understand the need for structure and rules;
- To appreciate the unique interpersonal and risk issues in dealing with the psychopathic client.

