

Symptoms and main features of personality formation of a psychopath

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Abstract

Aim: The research relevance is predefined by the fact today the concept of psychopathy is in a state of transition, as experts describe the disorder on a superficial level. In this regard, the research aims to analyze the main symptoms and characteristics of psychopathy, the analysis of the behavior of individuals with psychopathic traits.

Material and Methods: The primary research methods are analysis and synthesis, comparisons and analogies, and a survey was conducted among Internet users.

Results: The research considers the insufficient awareness of the manifestations and factors of the diagnosis, in addition, a significant number of psychopathic individuals remain without the attention of psychiatrists, which makes it impossible to detect pathologies among a part of the population. The article emphasizes the issue of behavioral manifestations during the interaction of internal and external factors, building relationships with the environment, susceptibility to disorders depending on gender, the influence of genetic or acquired defects in the process of certain activities, as well as functioning and organization of the brain of a person with psychopathic disorders.

Conclusions: It was concluded that the characteristics of psychopathic personality disorder aimed at studying the needs and motivations of psychopaths, and a number of essential proposals for diagnosing psychopathy through the identification of common key signs are offered. The research is of theoretical and practical value for psychologists, psychoanalysts, and physicians for the purposes of theoretical and practical study of the characteristic features of psychopathy and significantly deepen knowledge about this disorder.

sociopathy; pathology; specific disorder; antisocial disorders; psychiatry

INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, many factors directly affect the formation of character, behavior or the inner world of an individual. However, such influence often destroys a person's ability to perceive the surrounding world in a healthy way, creating a threat to themselves and others. This is how

the nature of the origin of psychopathy, which is a disorder of personality and its psycho-emotional state, is formed. Such pathologies in human behavior remain in the process of research, since each case has several peculiarities and differs in the nature of formation, pathological features and changes in symptoms.

The main goal of the article is to study the causes of psychopathic behavior, the objective factors of the formation of psychopathy in the social behavior of a person, the organization of

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a psychopath's perception of themselves, the inner and outer world in comparison with the perception of a healthy average person. It is relevant to determine the peculiarities of the destructive behavior of a psychopath that exceed moral norms, to identify the character through the prism of sociopathy, to review the signs of the diagnosis in specific cases, to get acquainted with the methods of its definition and with common psychiatric techniques for the general assessment of the condition of a person with a personality disorder.

Anomalies of the nature of the behavior and the organization of the inner world of psychopaths remain unexplained. At the same time, there are several views regarding the manifestations and origins of psychopathy as a result of the interaction of congenital and acquired factors. To understand what is meant by "psychopathy", it is important to study the term "character". In their scientific article, authors S.M. Belyakova et al. connect the first signs of psychopathy with the development of specific character traits in childhood and adolescence [1]. They also managed to identify the most common set of signs that leave an impression on a person's life, their attitude to themselves and others. The structure of the individual consciousness of people with psychopathy was considered in their scientific paper by researchers A.M. Bolshakova et al. [2]. They determined how the peculiarities of the functioning of persons with specific personality disorders are manifested, evaluated various aspects of perception of reality and discovered tools for the socialization of psychopaths. The authors believe that psychopathy, as a specific form of disorder, is an anomaly of the personality with its special distinct consciousness, divergent assessment of the social and physical world. Psychopathic personality disorder has differences compared to the concept of mental disorder. In his article, psychologist S.A. Johnson raised the issue of the behavior of psychopaths due to the relationship between psychopathic disorders and other antisocial traits [3]. One of the features that predicts the presence of a psychopathic disorder is the ability of an individual to leave behavioral disorders unnoticed by them and the environment, or to manifest them for a long time in various situations. The outdated term "sociopa-

thy" is also used to describe psychopathic traits in a person.

The phenomenon of sociopathic behavior in relation to psychopathic disorders was compared in the paper by I.O. Titarenko and I.V. Kisovska, resorting to the statement that sociopathic individuals have a tendency to manipulation due to the specificity in revealing emotions, a complete lack of empathy and a complete focus on themselves in any relationship [4]. Speaking about psychopathy, it is worth emphasizing that it is a painful form of behavior. Psychopaths can create an alleged potential danger, both to themselves and to others. Author Y.O. Glova expressed a view of psychopathic disorder as a certain strengthening of certain character traits, mainly the degree of expression of which acquires a negative impact, and as a result creates social danger [5].

Therefore, today the development of psychopathic excitement, the classification of sociopathic tendencies requires careful analysis, since the image of a person with a personality disorder determines their tendency to show aggression or cruelty. Studying the abovementioned papers leads to the conclusion of disagreements in the understanding of psychopathy and its characteristic features, since the term is not official, which indicates the need to study the nature of its formation and spread to varying degrees among the environments. The presented work demonstrates a comprehensive and multi-faceted examination of psychopathy, bridging the gap between genetic origins and societal manifestations. While numerous studies have touched upon various aspects of this disorder, this article endeavors to holistically understand the intricate nexus between innate characteristics and external factors in shaping a psychopath. By dissecting the distinct nuances between terms like "psychopathy," "sociopathy," and "antisocial disorder," the work provides clarity in a field riddled with overlapping terminologies. The emphasis on both the genetic contribution to psychopathy and its neurobiological manifestations offers fresh insights, particularly in understanding the disorder from a foundational, neurological standpoint. Additionally, the attention given to the self-perception of psychopaths and their inability to recognize their condition adds another layer to the discourse, differentiating it from previous explorations.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

A number of methods were used to conduct a detailed study. The method of analysis is the main one in the process of conducting research and consists in studying the structure of the subject, namely the topic of psychopathy, its characteristic properties and derivatives. Analysis is a fundamental element for the use of the synthesis method, which aims to confirm information, determine the problems of the discussed topic and solve it. Together, analysis and synthesis are complementary and interdependent elements of research that connect the studied theoretical materials about psychopathy and its practical causal signs. The method of comparison is used to identify the same or different signs in several manifestations of psychopathic disorders. The paper compares the concept of psychopathy with the derivative features of the disease and other mental and physical pathologies. The method of analogy is also applied, which consists in transferring information about one of the phenomena to another and makes it possible to identify their probable similarity. The research is based on the so-called survey method, the purpose of which is to obtain factual data. In the course of the research, online testing was conducted among random Internet users.

The survey was a short anonymous test based on the already existing well-known questionnaire for determining the level of psychopathy – Haer Psychopathy Questionnaire (PCL-R) [6]. It included a list of 20 questions evaluating the manifestations of human behavior on a scale from 0 to 2, where 0 – manifestations are not observed, 1 – partially present, and 2 – present. The final score of the test can reach 40 points, which indicates the presence of complete psychopathic traits, but the cut-off score of the survey conducted during the study was within 25-30 points. 100 random Internet users took part in the study. Participants of the study were all willing, who included 30% men and 50% women, about 20% are teenagers, and the rest are on average from 18 to 35 years old. All test participants are citizens of Ukraine. Here, it is appropriate to explain the importance of testing groups of different ages, since the research presents causal relationships of the emergence of psychopathies at different stages of personality formation.

The conducted research was based only on the assessment of the characteristic actions and feelings of potential psychopaths, which included issues of socialization, behavior in the close environment, propensity for violent actions, empathy, violation of norms or even criminal activities. Thus, based on the summarized results, the question of the tendency of distribution or absence of signs of psychopathy among the ordinary population will be revealed. It is quite easy to recognize expressed forms of psychopathy. It is important to distinguish mental disorders and neuroses from psychopathic conditions, as well as to distinguish symptoms in the case of non-pathological nature of the disease. It should be noted that online diagnostics did not consist in obtaining absolutely accurate data about potential psychopaths and the presence or absence of disorders. Such a technique is publicly available and aims at the initial detection of psychopathic signs in the average person and the expansion of knowledge of the symptoms and manifestations of the disease. It is worth emphasizing that psychopathic disorders are still not properly studied by specialists, and therefore it is very important to reliably interpret distinct and similar psychopathic and mental disorders, to distinguish the causes of formation and the nature of the manifestations of disorders at all stages of development using various methods.

RESULTS

A pathological type of behavior that is accompanied by a set of interpersonal, emotional, and dissocial features characterizes psychopathy. Personality disorders arise as a result of the influence of harmful external factors, social factors or at the genetic level. Psychopathy is manifested due to a disturbance in the emotional state, the inability to control negative impulses. The presence of such psychopathic traits is associated with a person's tendency to show aggression and potentially dangerous behavior. It is believed that the consequences of psychopathy mainly concern people with mental disorders or prone to committing crimes, but this conclusion is false, because psychopathies take place in society regardless of whether there is a criminal or non-criminal form [7].

A personality disorder is an abnormality characterized by functional and structural abnormalities affecting the brain. This leads to disorders of emotional sensitivity and inferior nervous activity. The causes of psychopathy are complex and include both genetic risk factors and environmental factors, the interaction between genes and the environment, or congenital and acquired mental injuries. The theory of the formation of psychopathy includes the presence of a possible congenital personality defect, a violation of the development of the fetal embryo, a disorder of the central nervous system that tends to persist throughout life, even in a state of rest or stress [8]. Psychopathy tends to manifest itself in any person at an early age, while violations of emotional and volitional qualities are observed with a possible negative impact on intellectual abilities. However, the detection of pathology often originates under the influence of negative environmental factors or psychological trauma. The main difference between psychopathy and other mental illnesses is the absence of a growing personality defect. Any behavioral abnormalities that occur as a result of a serious infectious disease or brain injury that can cause psychopathic states are not psychopathy. Pathological character traits in psychopathy have an advantage over others. Just like other personality traits, psychopathic traits, may not be fixed in childhood, but there is an increased risk of persistent antisocial behavior and psychopathic manifestations in adulthood. Regardless of the age, at which the first signs of a psychopathic state appear, they can persist throughout life. Lack of empathy, aggression, impulsivity and other psychopathic traits hinder a person's adjustment in society [9].

Professor of neurology J. Fallon studied the manifestations of psychopathy in murderers and proved that the organization of their brain is different from the way the brain of a healthy person is organized [10]. The obtained images were analyzed, and the presence or absence of brain disorders was assessed. The study found that with pathology, the frontal and temporal regions of the brain, which are responsible for empathy and self-control, are insufficiently activated. The researcher claims that psychopaths are prone to violence, they have a deficit of empathy, as well as lack genes responsible for stress resistance. Depending on the age, at which the first symp-

toms begin to develop, primary and secondary psychopaths are distinguished. The former are insensitive manipulators, build deceptive relationships with others and can show arrogance. Showing aggression, as a rule, is a tool for obtaining benefits. The latter act without thinking about the consequences, they are impulsive and prone to violence. In the first case, pathological character traits are formed and manifested in the early years, while the individual is not able to fully feel something for others, while in secondary psychopathy there is no causal factor that predisposes an individual to commit a serious crime. After all, not all psychopaths are murderers. This probability increases in the case of cruel treatment of a potential patient in childhood, otherwise the personality can develop normally. It is more difficult to recognize a secondary psychopath due to a certain similarity of superficial features characterizing the primary type, including [10]. The list of such features includes the absence of moral restrictions, indifference in relation to society, but functionality in it generally does not raise questions. For the most part, genes that generate aggression are present in men, which is usually associated with the presence of the Y-chromosome. Research has found that child abuse and destructive behavior at an early age play a decisive role, increase the risk of persistent antisocial behavior, or psychopathy, and affect the development of certain traits in the future.

From a clinical viewpoint, non-criminal persons with psychopathy can show antisocial behavior in various situations, in which social norms and rights of other people are violated, but formally such actions are not criminal. From another viewpoint, a "successful" psychopathic personality can adapt quite easily in certain spheres of life and activities, while functioning less successfully in others. Thus, psychopathy is an expression of its main features in ways that aim to attract attention in a certain socio-ecological niche, while avoiding serious adverse consequences. Psychopathy develops as a result of the pathology of personality formation with characteristic behavioral disorders, difficult adjustment in society. Personality disorders affect different areas of the personality, which often leads to complete social maladjustment. People with personality disorders or psychopathy can be

called sociopaths. Sociopaths are persons who neglect to observe social norms of behavior and cannot exist in the conditions proposed by society. With the antisocial manifestation of psychopathy, such features as aloofness, cruelty, fearlessness, tendency to manipulate others, and others are noted. People with antisocial psychopathy often direct their actions against others. They violate moral norms and even norms of the criminal code. However, their brain perceives a possible threat differently than a person with primary psychopathy, which is characterized by the absence of fear [11].

Personality disorders are complex and multifaceted, and interventions often require an individualized approach. Cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT) is commonly employed to address maladaptive thought patterns and behaviors. Dialectical behavior therapy (DBT), particularly effective for borderline personality disorder, emphasizes mindfulness, distress tolerance, and emotion regulation. Schema therapy, another approach, focuses on identifying and changing deep-seated and maladaptive life patterns. Medications might be prescribed to treat co-occurring symptoms or disorders, though no drugs are FDA-approved specifically for personality disorders. Other therapeutic modalities, like psychodynamic therapy, group therapy, and mentalization-based therapy, may also be beneficial. Regular assessments, a strong therapeutic alliance, and ongoing support are crucial for effective management and treatment outcomes.

Currently, the role of heredity and intrauterine developmental factors, birth trauma and brain damage, as well as the tendency to use alcoholic and narcotic substances have increased in the question of the nature of the origin of psychopathy. The spread of asthenic syndrome, psychosomatic and neurotic disorders is observed. Internal and external factors play an important role in the emergence and development of psychopathy. Thus, personality disorder can be classified according to the following groups. Nuclear or constitutional psychopathy is inherited or occurs as a result of damage to the foetus, before the moment of birth. Babies who suffer from complications at birth have a greater tendency to develop behavioral disorders in the future, a higher probability of committing violent acts and crimes of various natures, especially when

interacting with various mental and social factors. The environment affects the formation of the defect to a lesser extent but is also important. Psychopathy arising because of brain damage during the period of personality formation is organic. In this case, the disease is caused by the failure of the nervous system. The role of external factors depends on the degree of this anomaly.

Pathology arising as a result of interaction with the environment is marginal. Such psychopathy develops due to the interaction of unfavorable biological and mainly social factors. Psychogenic, situational and neurotic reasons play an important role here. The role of biological factors in the formation of a personality disorder is insignificant or completely absent. Physical anomalies or relatively minor physical deviations that may occur during pregnancy are a factor that contributes to the improper development of the fetal nervous system during the first months, which are extremely important for the development of the child. Such anomalies arise due to the action of negative environmental factors, or because of sudden violations of the state of physical health, including possible bleeding or infection, i.e., such factors can also occur at the genetic level.

When studying the origin and development of psychopathy, American researchers assumed that the activity of a psychosocial risk factor is possible only when interacting with a biological component. The direct interdependence of the two risk factors remains under question. In this case, the role of the so-called instrumental aggression, which is expressed through behavior for purposeful achievement of the set goal, is of no small importance. This specific type of behavior is formed because of the biological risk factor. Similar is the process of formation of reactive aggression, which is a hostile defensive reaction and arises in response to a possible threat or frustration. This happens more often under the influence of the environment, but such influence contributes to the regular occurrence of reactive aggression in the system [12].

A defining feature of psychopathy is a decrease in individual reaction to a threat. At the same time, there is a theory of psychopathy about a neurobiological basis that can protect a person with psychopathic traits from developing anxie-

ty disorders, such as depression, stress, or post-traumatic stress disorder. Thus, disorders resulting from trauma, including exposure to other factors, increase the risk of such disorders in general. However, not everyone who has been traumatized will develop these disorders. This suggests that people with psychopathy are protected from the specified risk factors, and an increased level of anxiety is associated with more frequent manifestations of antisocial behavior, including reactive aggression, and a decrease in emotional traits of psychopathy. Functionally united neurons of the brain and spinal cord of the central and peripheral nervous system, performing specific physiological functions, form a neural system that is involved in the emergence and development of psychopathy. At the level of the nervous system, this manifests itself in at least two main areas: the amygdala and the orbital cortex. The main principle of each reasoning is that these systems act as neural circuits and perform a number of functions related to information processing and analysis. From this follows the opinion that information processing deficiency in personality disorder is a fundamental prerequisite for the identification of syndromes in complex cases of the development of psychopathy. Considering psychopathy through deviations of neurobiological development, delineation of the characteristic functions of chains not only in adult organisms, but also in organisms at the stage of development, are fundamental for the emergence of dysfunction associated with disorders of the information processing function and its corresponding manifestations.

Psychopathy is characterized by a dominant position in a threatening situation, in which a person is not characterized by a sense of guilt. A psychopathic type of personality perceives stressful situations normally, uses manipulation to achieve a goal. Other factors characteristic of the inner world of a psychopath includes complete incompatibility with society and its norms, impulsive and aggressive behavior, inability to plan and analyze. With personality disorders, a person creates a potential threat both to themselves and to the environment. Such person does not take responsibility for committing

any actions, even criminal ones [13]. Experimental studies of people with psychopathy in adulthood and children who are at risk of developing the disease have shown abnormal functioning of a number of processes in neural areas responsible for affiliation and the desire to receive affection. The following areas of social processing are considered here, including looking at or orienting on others, and mentalizing, i.e., emotional perception. Studies reveal a violation of affiliative functioning in psychopathic individuals or the risk of its occurrence. V. Sawrikar et al. were the first to demonstrate that in youth and adolescence, with a characteristically high level of psychopathic traits, in particular, the absence of emotional aspects of a psychopathic personality, it is not typical for children to establish eye contact with their mother both in a controlled situation and during play, unlike with their peers [14]. Decreased mother-infant eye contact was associated with the development of subsequent unemotional traits at 2.5 years of age. As a result of the research, it was found that such children are most likely to develop further psychopathic traits.

Examining the empathic ability of psychopaths, it can be concluded that they lack the qualities of compassion and any emotional response. Primary psychopaths can be called reckless. Since the fear of being punished is not felt from an early age, there is no emotional experience and therefore it is difficult to experience the feeling of fear of threatening signs or danger in the future. This directly affect the formation of consciousness, which is acquired through the experience of fear and socialization throughout development. During the research, a number of methods were used to obtain practical indicators, on the basis of which conclusions were drawn. As already mentioned above, one of the methods consisted in conducting online testing, the results of which revealed the prevalence of certain psychopathic traits in the survey participants. Thus, it was found that partial manifestations of psychopathy are observed in most ordinary people. The obtained data showed that the highest indicator reached 28 points in one out of 100 participants (Table 1).

Table 1. Survey results

No.	Age	Sex/number of people	Average	Characteristic
1	15-17	Male/6 p.	22	Probable psychopathy
		Female/13 p.	12	No signs of psychopathy were found
2	18-25	Male/23 p.	18	Partial signs of psychopathy were revealed
		Female/25 p.	10	No signs of psychopathy were found
3	26-35	Male/19 p.	20	Partial signs of psychopathy were revealed
		Female/14 p.	8	No signs of psychopathy were found

Such a result is not a diagnosis of psychopathy but determines a possible high level of psychopathic character. The obtained data indicate that the overall assessment of psychopathic traits of men exceeds the indicators of female participants. Thus, the predominance of the development of psychopathy among men is confirmed. 6% of respondents have a high probability of psychopathy, their total results ranged from 20 to 26 points. The indicators of the other participants varied on average from 6 to 18 points, which characterizes low or medium partial psychopathic manifestations. As it turned out, the majority of potential psychopaths had relatively low results, which do not characterize psychopathy. Such indicators are usually signs of a psychopathic interpersonal style inherent in people with unstable antisocial personality traits, but this form is not psychopathy. Probable predisposition to manifestations of psychopathy is observed in the age group of 15-17 years. The disorder can manifest itself at this age in both boys and girls, but the obtained results confirm the prevalence of psychopathy among males. The assumption regarding the causes of violations in adolescents is the lack of proper upbringing and a complete sense of security, while the turning point for the development of psychopathy in females is the pubertal adolescent period.

Against the background of the disorder, behavioral problems arise, so it is typical for a teenager to withdraw into themselves, run away from home, find new companies to receive the desired attention and support. Men are defined as a psychopathic personality type. The reasons for this may be genetic predisposition, biological or psychological factors, organic insufficiency. Female psychopathy is usually manifested due to psychological pressure on the environ-

ment. It can be congenital or acquired both at an early age and at an adult age. The main difference between female and male psychopathy is increased emotionality in women, lack of introspection and frequent emotional stress. Thus, representatives of any age categories and gender can show traits of a psychopathic character both to a lesser and to a greater extent, as well as depending on the factors of their occurrence. It should be noted that the results of the conducted survey do not diagnose a psychopathic disorder, since the causes and symptoms of psychopathy are determined only thanks to the observations of qualified psychotherapists and clinicians. The obtained indicators indicate the prevalence of psychopathic traits in ordinary people and are recommended to be analyzed by specialists.

DISCUSSION

There is a lot of literature on genetic behavior that examines genetic influences on aggression and antisocial behavior in general. The essence of the scientific paper by R.J.R. Blair et al. consisted in the study of the construct of psychopathy, the differences of heterogeneous symptoms of syndromes, covering the concept of behavioral disorder [15]. The paper estimated the heritability of dimensional indicators of aggression within the range from 44% to 72% in adults. However, any influence of a genetic nature is likely to be structural and will be manifested through interaction with the environment, its internal and external factors. An important role belongs to the influence of genetic traits in determining the possible probability of a person's assimilation of a strategy disapproved by the environment, i.e., an antisocial one. Violations of the emotional state, characteristic of

people with psychopathy, increase the probability of their learning of the strategy of antisocial behavior, which is used to achieve goals. These strategies mainly include navigating difficult situations and multiple emotional cues, which suggests a genetic basis for the emotional state and its disruption in antisocial behavior. Importantly, this relationship underlies the role of heredity in psychopathic behavior.

The role of genetics is a partial component of the nature of the formation of psychopathies. Social factors such as violence can cause psychopathy. Certainly, research shows a link between physical abuse and an increased risk of aggression and impulsivity. Social and environmental changes affect behavioral manifestations of psychopathy. They identify a number of factors associated with the risk of developing antisocial traits or aggressive states, which are formed as a result of family post-traumatic factors, such as the replacement of one of the parents, or factors of cultural or economic origin. Undoubtedly, some factors influence the psychopathic behavior of a person to a lesser extent compared to a person in the absence of psychopathy and other pathologies. Although a risk factor such as poor parenting actively influences the development of behavior problems in healthy children, it is less so in children with the dysfunction of emotional outbursts associated with psychopathy. In other words, good upbringing, including the use of methods of inducing empathy, should increase the aversion to antisocial behavior. Children with signs of psychopathic behavior are at increased risk of using antisocial traits to achieve their desires. However, the question remains whether antisocial behavior strategies are learned and implemented depending on the influence of social circumstances [16].

In their paper, authors N.P. Friedman et al. focused on conducting a meta-analysis of antisocial behavior factors contributing to reaction inhibition, change in mental mood, and genetic relationships [17]. The level of antisocial behavior exhibited by children with emotional disorders is somewhat at the core of psychopathy and may be more influenced by these social changes. When determining the possibilities of the origin of psychopathy, it is necessary to develop a causal relationship. First of all, the role does not belong to the social, but to the genetic prima-

ry cause of the psychopathic disorder. Proposed options for the causes of a social nature include cruelty or violent tendencies, which should increase emotional response, and not result in a correspondingly reduced emotional response, as observed in psychopathy. Deficiency of empathy in psychopathy also disrupts a person's ability to socialize, which can later cause problems in the social sphere and contribute to the development of antisocial behavior as a pathological trait characteristic of psychopathy. The symptoms of psychopathy are explained by the weak development of the ego, which consists in a tendency to criminal activity, manifestations of contempt for others, and existing protective mechanisms, such as superficial charm, excessive narcissism. Psychopathy is considered an incurable disorder in many clinical circles, but this conclusion has yet to be scientifically confirmed [18].

In their study, M.K. Forbes et al. focus attention on the comparison of individual symptoms with the general factor of psychopathy and common pathologies [19]. A certain effectiveness is observed in the review of cognitive psychodynamic methods of intervention in psychopathic behavior. In addition, it was shown that the condition of psychopathic individuals significantly improved after rational therapy, personality psychotherapy and some other atypical programs. Prominent benefits include a reduction in psychopathic traits and characteristics, which include reduced lying, increased remorse and empathy, improved relationships with others, as well as reduced recidivism. It is worth highlighting the statements of scientists S. Porter et al. regarding the clear connection between the tendency to aggression, unacceptable behavior and psychopathy [20]. It has long been known that psychopaths are capable and, in general, prefer to exploit others, spending a lot of energy on it. It is worth considering such common psychopathic traits as lack of empathy, lack of remorse, or any other trait where there is no obstacle to using people for physical or even material gain. Accordingly, psychopaths are usually skilled fraudsters, and some can reach the heights of activities, become successful leaders, corrupt politicians. Their superficially attractive personality traits and skillful use of deception through verbal and nonverbal communication likely contribute to their mastery in deceptive

situations. Such social skill, which seems quite safe, is actually malicious and contributes to the emergence of potential psychological danger for others. Therefore, many actions of psychopaths, which, although they cannot be called violent, nevertheless manifest themselves in the form of unpredictable cruel actions, which are actually organized in detail. As a result, antisocial psychopathic behavior manifests itself in this way in many cases [21].

Empirical research testifies of the presence of deliberately organized ideas in individuals with highly developed psychopathic disorders, manifested on a physical level through aggressive behavior. Teenagers with personality disorders also resort to uncontrollable malicious actions in order to get the desired reward. However, psychopaths have a hard time controlling themselves, and their actions can be extremely spontaneous and senseless. In addition, psychopathy can be considered as behavior motivated by certain impulses. In the first case, psychopathic individuals engage in premeditated strategic actions to achieve selfish goals, and in the second, they may react impulsively to momentary events or circumstances [22]. At the same time, the dangerous tendencies of psychopathic personalities are often masked by imaginary charm, a sociable appearance. So-called "successful psychopaths" function effectively in society. Such a term is used to describe psychopathic individuals who tend to successfully hide their immoral, exploitative tendencies and present them in the opposite acceptable light. Actually, the model of successful psychopathy was tested in their paper by E.N. Lasko and D.S. Chester [23]. Researchers have analyzed successful psychopathic traits and found that such individuals develop self-aware traits that curb the escalation of impulsive behavior.

Individuals of the psychopathic type have long been characterized as having an extreme disregard for the truth, and this is a characteristic feature of personality disorders. After conducting a number of experimental empirical observations, researchers H. Backman et al. argued for a link between psychopathy and deceptive behavior as its consequence [24]. Given that psychopaths' reluctance to be truthful is a common trait, relevant studies have been conducted that have focused on examining psychopaths' atti-

tudes toward violent acts. In the conditions of observations of this format, specially developed methods were used. One of the means of research consisted in the use of verbal communication in order to check the reaction of a person with highly developed psychopathic disorders to offenses and whether they perceive violence as immoral acts. The following approach indicates that at the moment of committing criminal acts, psychopaths in every possible way deny the true facts, actively resort to lies, minimizing their own role in the discussion of violence, even in the conditions of a confidential research interview. The conclusion of the research is that psychopaths often commit acts of instrumental aggression because they are unable to react negatively to violence against victims and perceive stressful emotional signals. Based on the research results, it can be stated that individuals with a psychopathic state are more inclined to commit unauthorized violence, compared to other members of society. Some aggressive behavior of psychopathic individuals manifests itself due to a special tendency to commit deliberate, cold-blooded acts of violence [25].

It is essential to branch out the concepts of antisocial personality disorder, sociopathy and psychopathy, because they are separate concepts with a certain set of characteristics. In psychopathy and sociopathy, not only behavior is considered, but also other affective factors. Sociopathy is a partial feature of psychopathy, but both conditions are borderline forms of antisocial personality disorder and have many common behavioral forms and types of origin. The authors E. Viding and E. McCrory analyze the differences and features of the traits of people with psychopathy, their affinity with an antisocial character [26]. First of all, psychopathy arises as a result of disturbances in the nervous system, i.e., neurological disorders, and sociopathy is formed under the influence of an unfavorable environment, a strict social environment. People with sociopathy have psychopathic abnormalities or traits at a lower level, and an adverse environment feeds them and causes the brain to rewire, thus generating new neurological abnormalities that ultimately contribute to the development of psychopathic traits. Psychopathy in childhood can be manifested through impulsive behavior, lack of sensitivity and empathy for the pain and suffering of others, as well as externalization of problems. Although

similar symptomatology is observed during normal human development, it is more often manifested in extreme forms in the case of personality disorders. Based on the foundations of psychophysiology, neurology and behavioral signs, the main problem of psychopathic individuals is their complete egoistic orientation based on a deep emotional deficit. Psychopathic traits, whether innate or environmental, generally pose a problem for effective management and control in society and in relationships with others.

CONCLUSIONS

So, psychopathy is a personality disorder that arises as a result of the interaction of innate traits with factors of the external environment, internal factors of an individual, and is manifested by abnormal behavior and a lack of healthy perception. The nature of the origin of psychopathy is formed as a result of the influence of hereditary or acquired injuries that cause dysfunction of the nervous system, destroying the psycho-emotional state of a person. The core of psychopathy, to a greater extent, is precisely the genetic contribution. People suffering from psychopathic conditions do not recognize the presence of personality disorders. The pathology is characterized by functional and structural abnormalities that are formed as a result of brain damage. The first signs of psychopathy can appear at any age and persist throughout life. Characteristic features of behavior are manifested through impulsivity, a tendency to aggression and violence, using manipulation to achieve selfish goals.

Psychopathic type of behavior hinders the adaptation of an individual in society. The deficit of empathy seen in psychopathy also impairs a person's ability to socialize. Antisocial behavior of a psychopath, as a strategy, is used to achieve their goals. The features of the structure of the psychopathic character include destructive qualities that give rise to the pathology of the integrity of the individual's character and are manifested in contradictions, unbalanced behavior, superficial experience of emotions, lack of feeling and assessment of reality. When talking about psychopathy, it is about the formation of an unstable neurological system, the neglect of moral manifestations of the person-

ality, which as a result leads to an inadequate perception by a person of themselves and the surrounding reality. Psychopathy is compared to the term's "sociopathy" and "antisocial disorder", which are partial symptoms of the disease caused only by external factors, while psychopathy stems from their neurological abnormalities.

Thus, the nature of the origin of psychopathy can be defined as a complex dysfunction formed at the nervous and cognitive level, which forms the basis of the disorder. However, to understand psychopathy and its symptoms, it is important to study its manifestations at the genetic level. The deficit of healthy emotions and recognition of potential threats in psychopaths confirms the idea that such a pathology gives rise to the formation of non-empathic tendencies. Such findings may be useful not only for further research on emotional states, but also for a better understanding of the fundamental nature of psychopathy.

Psychopathy remains a significant concern for the global scientific community, given its implications for social order, criminal justice, mental health, and interpersonal relationships. An enhanced understanding of its origins and manifestations can aid in refining therapeutic interventions, criminal rehabilitation, and preventive strategies. This article, by presenting a synthesis of genetic, neurological, and sociological perspectives, provides a comprehensive framework to approach this multifaceted disorder. Such a well-rounded perspective can catalyze interdisciplinary collaborations between geneticists, neuroscientists, psychologists, and sociologists. Moreover, by delineating the distinctions and overlaps between similar disorders, this work offers a roadmap for clinicians, researchers, and policy-makers to approach, diagnose, and address these conditions with improved precision. In a world increasingly seeking personalized therapeutic solutions, insights from this research can pave the way for tailored interventions that cater to individual nuances of psychopathy.

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