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# THE 18TH NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OF THE ROMANIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF PERSONALITY

# NARCISSISM- BETWEEN PERSON, PATHOLOGY AND SOCIETY

1-3 October 2020

Târgu Mureș, Romania

# **BOOK OF ABSTRACTS**



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# THE NARCISSISTIC PERSONALITY: NOSOLOGIC AND NOSOGRAPHIC CONSIDERATIONS

#### Mircea Dehelean<sup>1</sup>, Liana Dehelean<sup>1</sup>, Pompilia Dehelean<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of Medicine and Pharmacy "Victor Babes" Timișoara

In this paper the authors discuss the narcissistic personality ("personnalité narcissique" in French literature) using data from the ICD 10 - WHO (official until 01.01.2022) and the DSM 5 - APA (2013). The origin and development of the term narcissism are discussed: it was first used in a psychopathologic context by P. Näcke (1899) and developed by S. Freud in a psychoanalytical context (1914). In 1960 appears the expression "narcissistic character disorder" and only in 1980 the nosologic and diagnostic category called "narcissistic personality disorder" emerges in the American psychiatric nosography (in DSM III – APA). In the ICD versions released until present, this type of personality disorder is not specified, but its mention at "Other specific personality disorders" is allowed. In DSM 5, as a result of doctrinarian disputes (Elsa Ronningstam vs. Skodol and Oldham), the narcissistic personality disorder is present in section I (with the unrevised content of DSM IV-TR - APA) and, separately, the alternative model (dimensional) of the same personality disorder in the Annexes section. Also discussed are the debates, still unsolved, about the narcissistic personality disorder: 1. its existence, including conceptualization through a categorical or a dimensional model; 2. the validity and reliability (consensually and friability) of concepts, clinical descriptions and diagnostic criteria – included in both abovementioned variants.

Key words: narcissistic personality, nosography, nosologic diagnosis

### NARCISSISTIC PERSONALITY DISORDER IN ICD-11 AND DSM-5

#### Cătălina Crișan<sup>1</sup>, Bianca Suciu<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Discipline of Psychiatry and Pediatric Psychiatry, Department of Neurosciences, University af Medicine and Pharmacy "Iuliu Hațieganu"Cluj-Napoca

Over the course of time, personality disorders which are referred as an important part of mental illnesses were strongly influenced by culture, society, and historical period. In just a short period, estimated at 100 years, symptoms and manifestations of personality disorders have changed, but on the other hand, the individuals evolution could not possibly changed in a drastically manner in such a brief time. Because of this debate and the fact that the two well-known classification systems, ICD-11 and DSM-5, continue to receive considerable attention as they brought changes to the diagnostic guidelines, updating and proposing a new trait-based model of personality pathology we aimed to examine associations and differences between this two systems regarding narcissistic personality disorder. For this new trait-based model of abnormal personality, both systems are substantial similar but also they have divergent points. Concerning narcissistic personality disorder this one has been the least studied from all types of abnormal personalities and this is the reason why the real prevalence is unknown, and also the reliability, validity, specificity and sensitivity of the diagnostic criteria is unclear. One cause for this confusion could be the high diversity of symptoms and the variable severity that characterize narcissistic personality. Moreover, some studies tried to clarify different subtypes with core psychological features for a better understanding of the manifestation of narcissistic personality disorder. These were the grandiose subtype, the vulnerable subtype and the highly-functional one.

Key words: narcissistic personality, subtype, classification systems

### AUTISTICAL, PERSONOLOGICAL NARCISSISM AND MEGALOMANIA

#### Mircea Lăzărescu1

<sup>1</sup>University of Medicine and Pharmacy "Victor Babes" Timisoara

A psychopathological debate on narcissism suggests a reflection on the use of operational definitions introduced by DSM-III, in relation to the suggestions of psychoanalytic references to mythology.

In psychoanalysis, the myth of Narcissus doubled the central reference to the myth of Oedipus, given multiple patterns of feeling and behavior. In Greek myth, the beautiful Narcissus is in the first instance indifferent and unreasonably empathetic. He falls in love with himself only in a second stage, after reflecting in the lake; and without manifesting megalomaniacal fantasies. The initial psychoanalytic invocation of the myth referred to self-sufficiency in relationships (fixing libido on oneself), followed by fanatics of solipsistic grandiosity (schizoid autism). The exhibitionist grandiosity that demands recognition from others, represents a more recent interpretation of psychoanalysis, relative to personal narcissism. And it places the abnormality of self-reporting on an inflationary direction, which intersects with delusional and manic megalomania.

The current cut-out of narcissistic personality disorder (PD) can be quite rigorously circumscribed operationally, as evidenced by the dimensional diagnostic variant in the DSM-5. But in this version, it seems to absorb the traditional histrionic TP, the possible differentiation from it claiming additional specifiers.

In conclusion, in current psychopathology, references to myth or fictional characters can be maintained, in the idea of circumscribing ideal types. But it is required to be doubled by a rigorous criteria, based on operational definitions. As well as a sufficient openness to hermeneutic interpretations and comments.

Key words: narcissism, psychopathology, mythology

# NARCISSUS AND PERSEUS - PATTERNS OF TRAUMATIC IDENTIFICATION

#### Alexandra Crăciun<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of Bucharest

Narcissus and Perseus are both part of a reflective mythology. Narcissus gazes in the liquid mirror of the spring while Perseus projects his own sight in the shield of Minerva. But both gazes are related to death. Perseus murders Medusa while Narcissus rejection turns Echo into stone. Beyond death, in the core of both myths is embedded a tragic identification. The identification with a hidden trauma, a trauma of the mother that turn both characters into tragic heroes.

Key words: reflection, identity, identification, trauma, gaze

# MEDICAL HYPNOTHERAPY IN THE TREATMENT OF NARCISSISTIC PERSONALITY DISORDER

#### Elena Gabor<sup>1</sup>, Diana Mihaela Vlad<sup>2</sup>, Laura Lemeti<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Mureș County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic II

Hypnosis is a natural state in which people can enter even automatically throughout the day that can allow access to the subconscious mind. It is safe, natural state with great potential for healing.

Narcissism is a personality disorder that can be treated using medical and spiritual hypnotherapy. The treatment consists of several steps. The first step is represented by administering positive suggestions for creating a healthy relationship with oneself (for self confidence, self-esteem, self respect, self unconditional love, self forgiveness, self-reliance, self acceptance and so on). The second step is represented by optimization of conscious and subconscious beliefs by administering positive suggestions for positive, healthy thinking as well as creating and sustaining healthy relationships. The third step is represented by regressive hypnotherapy to address the root causes of narcissism at the subconscious level followed by transformational hypnotherapy which also includes suggestion hypnotherapy and future pacing. There are two types of regression that can be performed in hypnosis according to the patient's needs and behavior: age regression and spiritual regression (past life regression therapy and analysis and life between lives regression).

Hypnotherapy is an important pylon in the treatment of narcissism and it can widen future treatment perspectives in the psychiatric field.

Keywords: hypnosis, medical hypnotherapy, regression, narcissism, positive suggestions

# PSYCHOPATHOLOGICAL DESTINY. BETWEEN MALIGNANT NARCISSISM AND PSYCHOPATHY.

#### Monica Ana Coman<sup>1,2</sup>, Istvan Zsolt Szasz<sup>1</sup>, Andra Oltean<sup>3</sup>, Tudor Nireștean<sup>4</sup>, Aurel Nireștean<sup>2,4</sup>

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Personality represents a result of the cognitive, emotional and pulsional components conglomeration. Personality disorders can be described as extremes manifestations of personality traits, leading to poor functioning in all areas of life. Negative events of life can be a result of disharmonic, maladaptative traits and can lead to a psychopatological destiny.

The grandiose type of Narcissistic personality disorder, can interfere with antisocial traits, psychopaty and machiavelism elements that constitute the core of the Dark triad. Psychopaty, the "cancer" of personality, together with malign narcissistic traits, are the roots of criminal behavior. High values of Openness to experience (Actions,Ideas), Conscientiousness (Competence, Achievement striving), Extraversion (Excitement seeking, Assertiveness, Gregariousness, Activity), Agreeableness (Trust), Neuroticism (Impulsivity, Angry hostility) of the Big five model can stand at the cornerstone of psychopathic personality.

Key words: Personality disorder, Dark side of narcissism, Psychopaty, Crime, Five Factor Model.

# NARCISSISTIC PERSONALITY - BETWEEN SELF-IMAGE AND RACIAL IDENTITY

#### Flavia Munteanu<sup>1</sup>, Aurel Nirestean<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Mureş County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic II <sup>2</sup>George Emil Palade University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Sciences and Technology of Tirgu-Mureş.

In his attempt to display an image that was supposed to be perfect, according to his narcissistic personality, Michael Jackson never felt comfortable with his self-image or his reflection in the mirror ("The Man in the Mirror"), and it was really hard for him to even talk about it. He also did not feel comfortable either with his skin color ("Black or white") or with his racial identity.

All this is based on the answers he gave in many interviews throughout his life and it is the result of repeated suffering experienced as a child, caused by his father.

For Michael Jackson, since his young adulthood, his self-image and racial identity have never met his expectations and have never risen to the level that his narcissistic personality has imposed. He consciously and repeatedly tried to turn this image into an image that everyone would love, thus feeding his narcissistic personality that reached the pathological area.

Keywords: narcissistic, personality, self-image, rasial identity, pathological

# GRANDIOSE NARCISSISM-SENSITIVE NARCISSISM-INTERPERSONAL RELATIONAL LANDMARKS

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<sup>1</sup>Mureș County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic II <sup>2</sup>George Emil Palade University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Sciences and Technology of Tîrgu-Mureș

When we think about narcissistic personality, we imagine a person who is the center of attention in group settings, which dominates the discussions and attracts attention through his attitude. This type of behavior characterizes the best known type of narcissistic personality, the grandiose one. Is there a possibility that within the same group there are two narcissistic people, even though only one of them stands out? The answer is yes. Another narcissistic personality type, which altough it has the same purpose as the grandiose narcissist- the maintenance of self-esteem, they address the problem in completely different ways. While the grandiose narcissist is an extroverted person, arrogant, who has "a transmitter but not a receiver", the other type, -sensitive narcissist- is shy, inhibited, introverted, listens to others, but only to find something to judge. Being less obvious than the grandiose narcissist, the diagnosis requires more attention. Sensitive narcissist pretends to be altruistic, loyal to people, capable of affection and understanding, but in reality is as selfish and narcissistic as the grandiose one.

Key words: grandiose narcissism, sensitive narcissism, behaviour, narcissistic personality disorder, differential diagnosis

# THE MYTH OF NARCISSUS IN THE SOCIAL MEDIA

Lorena Mihaela Muntean<sup>1</sup>, Elena Andreea Mănescu<sup>1</sup>, Diana Mihaela Vlad<sup>1</sup>, Aurel Nireștean<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Mureș County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic II

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In the past years, social networks have grown with users of all ages. It allow several activities: socializing, playing games but most importantly posting pictures. Social media encourages behaviors that seek attention.

This paper aims to explore the myth of Narcissus in our days, a myth that has been adopted by social media. It is rendered in the new era by taking selfies, a popular activity that promotes self-image.

It is considered that narcissistic personality traits are related to dependence on social networks that can represent a space where individuals can meet their need for affiliation and idealization of their own selves through regular updates, related to achievements and family events.

It turned out that narcissistic people take more selfies, spend more time on social networks, distribute and want more promotion by getting likes but also by summing up a community as large as possible. Narcissism is considered to be an indicator for the willingness of individuals to take selfies but also for the frequency with which they post.

Narcissistic users spend more time on social networks, which can lead to exacerbation of personality traits.

Keywords: narcissism, social media, selfies

### NARCISSISM, RELIGION AND SPIRITUALITY

#### Radu Cristian Pirlea<sup>1</sup>, Octavian-Gabriel Ivanov<sup>1</sup>, Elena Andreea Mănescu<sup>1</sup>, Aurel Nireștean<sup>1,2</sup>

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The concept of narcissism has its roots in philosophy and theology and later came to be the focus of psychology and psychiatry. Narcissism, as a psychoanalytic theory was brought into light by Sigmund Freud in his essay "On Narcissism". The concept became more widespread due in great part to the important contributions of Kohut and Kernberg

The best known type, the grandiose narcissism, presents as a person who is very charismatic, knows how to get what he wants, he can inspire other people and knows how to get on top. There is a strong correlation between narcissistic personality and leadership emergence in many fields like CEOs, politicians and religious leaders. Religion, at its own roots, promotes a spiritual way of living, which implies overcoming primary narcissism but the leaders tend to have narcissistic personalities. Their personality features reflected in their decisions and actions, affects the understanding and eventually the wellbeing of the community.

Lately, in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century, people tend to ward off from the divine and from anything that is spiritual, becoming more and more secular. The aim of this paper is to bring into discussion how this type of preachers, the narcissistic ones, affects the general population's spirituality distorting the idea of the divine. Pointing out the misconceptions delivered by narcissistic leaders, we underline elements of the path to spirituality.

Keywords: narcissism, religious leaders, spirituality

# THE DYNAMICS OF RELATIONSHIPS IN NARCISSISTIC PERSONITY DISORDER - A PSYCHOPATHOGICAL APPROACH

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<sup>1</sup>Mureş County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic II <sup>2</sup>George Emil Palade University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Sciences and Technology of Tîrgu Mureş

The narcissistic personality disorder is known for its remarkable intuition when choosing its relationship and also for its inability to fully live and feel them. Felt frequently as urges, the narcissistic needs for adulation -wrongly seen by them as needs for intimacy and love -, although presented through an important and sometimes shiny frame, are expressed in ways guided by defective coping mechanisms which, despite their meaning to protect an extremely vulnerable and shattered self, are exposing the loneliness of a person lacking the self-knowledge and therefore the ability to develop healthy and meaningful relationships.

In our paper we analyzed through a psychopathological frame the dynamics of the narcissistic relationships and the way it is impacting its life, through the vicious circle of some coping mechanisms that transforms the self-sufficiency into insufficiency when it comes to relationships.

Key words: narcissistic personality disorder, self, coping mechanisms

# THE PSYCHOSOCIAL DIMENSION OF NARCISSISM - BETWEEN EXISTENTIALISM, PSYCHOANALYSIS AND THEOLOGY

#### Octavian-Gabriel Ivanov<sup>1</sup>, Radu Cristian Pirlea<sup>1</sup>, Flaviu Ioan Bologh<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Mureș County Hospital, Psychiatric Clinic II

Having its origins in the Greek myth of the beautiful young boy called Narcissus, which fell in love with his own reflexion, the term "narcissism" has its roots into the Freudian creation of the second decade of the last century. Although the concept is more than 100 years old, it only became notably used and popular in the psychoanalytic practice due to the work of Kernberg and Kohut, starting the late 70s.

The psychopathological aspects of narcissism, or better said of the narcissistic personality disorder, as it is defined and mentioned in the fifth edition of The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, have been analysed from a multitude of perspectives. The psychopathological approach, proposed by Freud, uses a mechanical model of the human psyche, trying to explain narcissism, as well as other pathologies, in terms of imbalances between the instinctual forces pushing upwards from the subconscious and the ones opposing them, ingrained in the superego. As seen from this point of view, the psychoanalytic perspective isn't and cannot be a scientific method, as imagined by Friedman and other Freudians.

Existential analysis, which serves as the very foundation of Freudian psychoanalysis is no more, nor is it less scientifical than the ones of Heidegger, Sartre or Tillich. Thus, the concepts developed, despite the explicit intentionality, tend to end up closer to existential ontology rather than the scientific psychology or psychotherapy. Symington, who studied theology and philosophy, before following the path of psychoanalysis, concludes on the characteristic of narcissism of being the nucleus of all pathology. Hence, into the transformation of narcissism he finds and defines the primordial goal of psychoanalysis itself. Tillich describes the bond between psychoanalysis and theology, in the therapeutical approach of the narcissistic personality disorder, stating that the two do not antagonise each other, but are rather deeply interconnected. Psychoanalysis describes men's existential situation, while theology explains the association and the relation between the existential situation and the essence of human nature. The therapeutical resources offered by psychoanalysis, existential analysis or theology are only contrasting in appearance, however, their quintessential core is the same: the attempt of curing by transcending the self and surpassing the state of profound disintegration of the personality's nucleus.

Key words: narcissism, psychoanalysis, existentialism, theology

### NARCISSISM AND TOXICOPHILIC BEHAVIOR

#### Alexandru Ujlaki<sup>1</sup>, Diana Bercea<sup>1</sup>, Ioana Morariu<sup>1</sup>

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Addictive behavior tends to manifest in some psychological vulnerable categories. People with narcissistic personality disorder, in spite of their perceived grandiosity and projected sense of self control and wellbeing are especially vulnerable. Addictive substances may be seen as numbing agents when the narcissist's sense of self-importance and grandiosity is under threat from internal or external factors. Moreover, the effects of these substances in modulating behavior, such as enhancing confidence, euphoria and omnipotence, amplify the narcissist's sense of entitlement and superiority, therefore creating a pathway to addiction. Our objective is to analyze from a psychopathological perspective why some people with narcissistic personality disorder are at a higher risk to develop certain addictions.

Key words: narcissism, addiction, behavior, vulnerability

### PSYCHOTIC MANIFESTATIONS IN A PATIENT WITH MIXED PERSONALITY DISORDER (NARCISSISTIC AND BORDERLINE). CASE STUDY.

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Although ICD-10 mentions among the common paranoid symptoms, the delusions of illustrious birth and special mission, in the clinic, such delusional content is frequently correlated with the psychotic symptoms of a manic episode than with those of schizophrenia. The present study presents the case of a 23-year-old patient, without a psychiatric history, brought to our service at the request of a friend for a positive florid symptomatology (complex visual and auditory hallucinations, bizarre behavior and paranoid delusional ideas mentioned above).

The curiosity of the case is to uncover a premorbid personality disorder of a mixed nature, with high scores in the narcissistic and borderline dimension, personalities that mask a vulnerability of the self and an inferiority complex translated by a superiority complex. This constellation of personalities contributed to the elaboration of the delirium of illustrious birth and special mission, derived from a primary delusion of gran-diosity.

The psychodynamic course of the patient also highlighted numerous references to a narcissistic structure, interpreted premorbidly as eccentricities in the context of a primary narcissism. Awareness of narcissistic defensive mechanisms by the patient, together with a judicious psychopharmacological approach, led to a good recovery with satisfactory social and academic reintegration.

The PANSS score revealed the predominance of positive symptoms over negative ones (PANSS P = 35, PANSS N = 12, PANSS G = 21). Psychological evaluation revealed in SCID II - narcissistic and borderline personality disorder and in the Raven test IQ = 116.

Key words: mixed personality disorder, psychopharmacological approach, reintegration

# NARCISSISM AND SPIRITUALITY: CONCEPTS, INTERFERENCE, SUBJECTIVE WELL BEING

#### Elena Andreea Mănescu<sup>1</sup>, Lorena Mihaela Muntean<sup>1</sup>, Diana Mihaela Vlad<sup>1</sup>, Aurel Nireștean<sup>1,2</sup>

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Narcissism, the mark of failed development of individual generic structures in the absence of early secure attachment is an ever-present problem - a defense against man's underlying brittleness. The distinctive empty self is unable to piece together a system of authentic value. This multifaceted concept is particularly subject to overlapping spiritual, moral and clinical perspectives. The present paper aimed to investigate how and to what extent the interaction of spiritual beliefs on narcissistic traits can influence individual subjective well-being and by doing so, to contribute to the debate on the role of spirituality in psychiatry. On a sample of 148 medical doctors, we used the multidimensional inventory for Religious/Spiritual Well-being (RSWB); the Narcissistic Personality Inventory (NPI); and the Who-Five Well-being scale. The findings demonstrate a significant interaction between hope transcendent, as one of the dimensions of RSWB, and narcissistic traits measured by the NPI, on the subjective well-being, while controlling for the other two dimensions of the transcendent area ( $\beta$ =0.009, adj. r<sup>2</sup>=0.04, p=0.01). Relating oneself to a transcendent "other" can operate as the framework for the activation of the mirroring and idealizing transference phenomena described by Kohut, resulting in internalization of that other as transformative self-object. The spiritual transcendent factor, independent of the five-factor model of personality, may have a modulatory role on curbing the narcissism into a mature, coherent self.

Key words: spirituality, subjective well-being, narcissistic personality inventory, transcendence

### NARCISSISM, CREATIVITY AND CONJUGAL DESTINY

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Narcissism conceptually integrates selfishness, egocentrism, grandeur, the need for admiration and manipulative tendencies. The term comes from Greek mythology, where the young Narcissus fell in love with his image, reflected in the water. This term was introduced into psychiatry by Ellis and Nacke. He established himself by describing the dynamic processes dominated by self-concentration and self-love commented by Freud and Rank. Narcissistic traits include charm and seductive abilities, especially in the case of the female sex. In a conjugate partnership, narcissists deliberately ignore real intimacy, often cultivating a game in which partners are seen as necessary tools for hedonic satisfaction and for cultivating self-esteem. The fragility of self-esteem can be compensated in this context only by love or recognition from the partner.

There is a confirmed connection between narcissism and creativity, the nonconformist, imaginative richness, aesthetic sense, artistic sense can be arguments for cultivating grandeur and self-esteem, when they are valorized.

The charm, grandeur and creativity of the narcissist can attract a female partner in a conjugal relationship in which a particular variant of addiction takes place on the territory of creativity.

Keywords: narcissism, creativity, conjugal destiny.

# PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT AND CBT INTERVENTIONS OF NARCISSISTIC PERSONALITY DISORDER

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From a psychological point of view, the narcissistic personality disorder presents a multitude of behavioral subtypes (hidden, manifest, vulnerable, passive-aggressive, etc.), which may represent a major impediment for the clinician in the correct diagnosis of this disorder. Therefore, to establish the most accurate diagnosis possible, it is necessary to use a battery of psychological tests to capture both latent and manifest behaviors which are particular to this type of personality disorder. A correct diagnosis would contribute to the elaboration of a specific treatment plan that will focus on addressing the dysfunctional cognitive schemes and will facilitate the restructuration process, aiming the development of adaptive behaviors. From this point of view, based on the scientific studies performed so far, the most appropriate psychological treatment for this disorder is the cognitive-behavioral therapy, more precisely Beck's approach. Thus, both the modalities that may be used in psychological testing and the specific intervention for this type of personality disorder will be described within this paper.

Key words: narcissistic personality disorder, diagnosis, cognitive-behavioral therapy

# THE NARCISSISTIC PERSONALITY AND ITS PSYCHIATRIC COMORBIDITIES

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Background: Although high variable in presentation, the core of narcissistic personality disorder revolves around a pervasive pattern of grandiosity, a constant need for admiration, and lack of empathy. Being pathological self absorbed makes them reluctant to seek psychiatric advice. However, when they visit or when they are brought by families or peers to psychiatric settings it is usually for associated mental disorders.

The aim of the study was to summarize the most common psychiatric commorbidities linked to Narcissistic Personality Disorder.

Material and Method: We conducted a literature review using articles published in the last fifteen years and indexed on Pubmed. We selected the studies by title and keywords.

Results and Discussion: These individuals are prone to a number of significant mental problems associated with substantial disability. By far,

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the most evident one is substance misuse, followed by mood disorders. Social withdrawal and depressive symptoms usually occur due to a fragile self-esteem, whereas prolonged periods of grandiosity may be associated with hypomanic mood. Narcissistic personality disorder may also coexist with other Cluster B personality disorders and, also with a paranoid personality.

Key words: narcissistic personality, grandiosity, psychiatric comorbidities, substance misuse, mood disorder, depressive, hypomanic

### NARCISSISTIC TRAITS AND ITS PROFESSIONAL ROLE

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The contemporary society, based on individualism instead of team work, defined by the motto "all for one, one for one", has become the perfect frame for the development and also for the professional integration of the narcissist. The speciality literature specifically mentioned that we live in a true narcissistic culture which flourished in the last few decades due to society's demands and needs guided by the principle of being "in top" or "number 1" as a supreme goal in life. At the same time, the depth and substance are being overruled by the thriving shallowness.

In such society, the traits used to define the narcissistic dysfunctionality are the ones that make it functional and also the ones that are able to make this personality disorder perfect for some professions. The narcissist is prone to and also excellent at special domains such as politics, business, medicine, army, religion, arts, entertainment, sports, which are a great and lasting source of attention and admiration so much needed by them.

In our paperwork we are trying to approach and deepen the knowledge about the subject and also bring examples in its support.

Key words: narcissism, profession, individualism

# NARCISSISM AND " LOVE-BOMBING" APPROACH IN ROMANTIC RELATIONSHIPS

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A healthy romantic relationship brings out the best in people and make them feel good about themselves. It is build on trust, honesty, respect, independence.

Love bombing is the practice of manipulation by overwhelming someone with signs of adoration and attraction in order to spend more time with the bomber and less time with others and oneself.

Narcissists in particular are known for their skills at manipulation. They may use flattery and attention as tools to build themselves up as the perfect partner. Once they gained the partner's trust and adoration, narcissists will try to shape the partner's role in the relationship and in most cases it will lead to different forms of abuse.

This presentation would like to give a glimpse of what "love-bombing" approach represents and also what effects has on both partners.

Key words: narcissism, love-bombing, manipulation, abuse

# BEYOND EVERYDAY NARCISSISM, BETWEEN THE NATURAL AND THE EXISTENTIAL FAILURE

#### Mihai Ardelean

The paper aims to comment on certain cognitive processing, trends and behavioral attitudes in narcissistic personalities, over time, until now. Present dominated by digital technology that we can characterize that, through the autonomy it develops, expansively, it also becomes narcissistic.

Within the nuclear egocentrism of narcissists, due to the attempts to disguise it, in a theatrical-critical social context towards personality disorders, a fundamental narcissistic attitude of those who feel it would

be the following deeply internalized statement: "I was and am my first and only love"

Key words: everyday narcissism, social context, self image

# NARCISSISM AND FRIENDSHIP

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Narcissistic personality disorder is among the most quintessential examples of personality disorders due to overcompensating coping mechanisms. The narcissistic patient reacts in relation to the environment by adopting a position of superiority, arrogance, devaluation with the ultimate goal of compensating for the current patterns of defect and emotional deprivation. Identity coalesces its own image of grandeur that masks feelings of nullity, loneliness or inferiority. The coping ability is achieved through superiority schemes, the feeling of special and strong, and in the background at a more obscure level there is a lonely part felt lonely and with a feeling of emptiness. Additionally, the presence of the comforting detachment mode, a form of maladaptive avoidance coping mechanism and the requesting parent mode are noted.

Narcissistic personality disorder is consistently one of the biggest difficulties in the therapeutic approach, which is why the specific approach tailored to maladaptive modes and patterns is achieved. The mode-based approach allows a therapeutic alliance with the parts of the patient's personality that yearns for health, but at the same time modifying the maladaptive part focused on isolation, self-destruction and harm to those around.

Key words: narcissism, therapeutic, mode, coping, schemes

### NARCISSISM AND SEXUALITY

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In spite the myth of Narcissus is both a meaningful an tragic story it stands for the later extension and psychopathological label as narcissistic personality disorder, some of the domains of this personality are still obscure and less explored. The last decades promote a new trend of narcissism trough the multiplied mirroring of the own idealized on the social media, offered to the public voting. it seems obvious that the gender differences, qualifies men as more preoccupied for competition, connection while women are more preoccupied by attraction. Psychological studies reveal traits of captive absorption towards self admiration, vanity, lack of empathy, less interest to other needs, rancor. The dark triad (psychopath, narcissism, machiavelism) predispose to socio sexuality (short partnerships, tumultuous and promiscuous relations, modest emotional involvement, reduced parental responsibility, little honesty). Narcissists are manipulative, exploitative, egocentric, interested in rapid coupling. The majority of studies emphasize the general maladaptative pattern but it seems that there are also positive aspects derived from the positive sexual self image, confidence and therefore improved quality of life. The sexual conquers and romantic affairs are regarded as an enhancer of the self, with little personal implication in personal relations. Recent social media nourish individualism, egocentrism. So, what about the sexuality of narcissists? the above mention text is a teaser of the detailed description of the general patterns of the topic.

Key words: narcissistic personality disorder, social media, sexuality

### NARCISSISM, ANTISOCIALITY, PSYCHOPATHY IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIO-CULTURE

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Postmodern society cultivates individualism, hedonism, competitiveness, self-assertion but also self-centered motivated interpersonal relationships and ephemeral and inconsistent existential values. The ego of modern human being is dominated by adaptive and maladaptive attributes that have their origin also in the myths and legends of the world. Narcissistic traits, in the context of a high level of intelligence and a favorable destiny can become almost constantly adaptive and can ensure a coherent self-assertion. The same traits, too intensely expressed according to greatness, Machiavellianism and hostility in interpersonal relationships or in the context of a less favorable destiny can deviate towards antisociality. If - still corresponding to a stressful or provocative existential context - between the mentioned features the affective cold, the audacity and the behavioral disinhibition become dominant, the psychopathic, intensely maladaptive identity is outlined. Narcissism, antisociality and psychopathy caricatures the human condition, their facets being in a permanent mutual interconditioning with the socio-dynamics of contemporary culture.

Key words: narcissism, psychopathy, contemporary culture

## ADAPTIVE AND MALADAPTIVE INTERFERENCES BETWEEN OBSESSIONALITY AND NARCISSISM

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The mutual interferences between narcissistic and obsessive-compulsive personality traits can be both adaptive and maladaptive. We found in both pathological personalities a well-defined Self, that has elaborate cognitive strategies, means of structured self-control and interpersonal relationships prioritized by egocentric motivations as points in common. The lack of affective experiences – including the capacity of affective resonance – are egocentrically substantiated and may have moral connotations.

When the traits of both pathological personalities coexist they can fade or boost one another according to the level of representation of the facets of personality dimensions, inclusively on the Super-ego territory.

Key words: narcissism, obsessionality, interferences

# **MIRROR NEURON SYSTEM IN SCHIZOPHRENIA**

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The system of neurons in the mirror imitates the mythological image of Narcissus, being associated with the permanent search for its own functional identity. The notion of mirrored neurons is classically associated with Theory of Mind and Social Cognition, representing a group of neurons that allow anticipation through mechanisms, probably meta-communicative, that allow anticipation of the thoughts, intentions and movements of people in front of them. This capacity allows integration or non-social integration and has been associated by most authors with the possibilities of empathy with interlocutors. led classical German authors to define as an element of predictability for the positive diagnosis of schizophrenia.

Subsequent research has been able to highlight the involvement of mirror neuron systems in the process of motor imitation or role imitation. In the human brain, the inter-hemispheric brain structure and the integrity of the corpus callosum and inter-hemispheric commissures suggest the possibility of an endogenous mirror neuron system. Moreover, there is an association objectified by the studies of Rao NP (2011), which highlights that connectivity abnormalities, due to structural changes in the corpus callosum, are associated with the presence of primary symptoms The theory of disconnectivity due to the anomalies of the arcuate beam, highlights the involvement in the language process, of the symmetrical connections of motor and cognitive sensory-sensory type. This model leads us to argue that the basal neuro-biological element in the pathogenesis of schizophrenia is the dissociation between cortico-subcortical systems of perception and cognitive integration of sensory signals by motor execution processes and cognitive, executive and decisional processing, but also emotional and social.

Excessive narcissism of the neuron system translates into positive symptoms, emotional instability and disruptive behavior, accompanied by disorganization, both cognitive and behavioral, while decreased narcissism mirror neuron system associates negative symptoms, decreased and social dysfunction, as well as the capacity for self-control, which can lead to the drama of Narcissus, that of being a victim of one's own deficit of perception, cognitive integration and motor execution.

Keywords: mirror neuron system, inter-hemispheric disconnectivity, corpus calossum structural abnormalities, accurate fasciculus.

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