

Based on the video program we have watched, we have learned many important characteristics about this type of person in our society.

- Psychopathy is characterized as a personality disorder—one of which a person cannot control
- Have found information to support the idea that biology (nature) plays a significant role in this disorder—we know that the brains of psychopaths are different in that they do not respond to emotion in the same way that non-psychopaths do
- Approximately 1% of the population (1:100) are psychopaths—over 20% of prison inmates are psychopaths
- Common characteristics of psychopathy are: being compulsive, having no conscience, are egocentric and self-centred, have a lack of empathy, deceptively charming, manipulative, don't follow societal rules,


AND

High functioning, intelligent, adaptive to their surroundings, Competitive (these particular traits explain why they are so "successful" in our society)

- Psychopaths do not end up as killers or commit crimes—but they are individuals who use and abuse (manipulate) others to get what they want
- Dr. Robert Hare is an expert in this field—at UBC, he has developed the PLC-R—a checklist used by institutions to identify psychopathy in individuals
- The PLC-R has 40 questions—if you score over 30, you are a psychopath—today's prison systems use this device
- Can psychopaths change their behaviour??? This is a current debate—Dr. Hare says no...

Some Questions from Dr. Robert Hare's PLC-R
(Psychopathy Checklist—Revised)

For all questions, the respondent would receive 2 points for a "yes", 1 point for a "sometimes" and 0 points for a "no" response.

1. Do you come across as smooth, polished and charming?
 2. Do you turn most conversations around to a discussion about people?
 3. Do you discredit or put others down in order to build up your own image and reputation?
 4. Can you lie (with a straight face) to your peers?
 5. Do you consider people who you've outsmarted or manipulated as dumb or stupid?
 6. Are you opportunistic; do you hate to lose and play to win?
 7. Do you come across as cold and calculating?
 8. Do you ever act in an unethical or dishonest manner?
 9. Do you show regret for making decisions that have negatively affected others?
 10. Do you have problems sustaining stable relationships?
 11. Do you often take risks and act on impulse?
 12. Do you have a belligerent or bullying manner?
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