

PSYCHOLOGICAL ISSUES OF DEPENDENCE OF NARCISSISM ON PERSONALITY TYPE

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Abstract: The article examines the psychological issues of dependence on the personality type of narcissism. It was found that among the respondents with a negative self-concept, lack of empathy and envy of others' achievements are more common. Here the sensitive side of narcissism is more evident. The influence of the dark side personality type and narcissistic personality traits on self-attitude factors is negative, except for a great sense of self-worth and belief in one's own uniqueness. Research has shown that a great sense of self-worth and belief in one's uniqueness are protective. It is a barrier not only to external threats, but also to innate ego threats. Research has shown that the relationship between self-attitude and narcissistic traits reflects the deep conflicts of the narcissistic personality between grandiosity and vulnerability, as well as the desire to protect opinions.

Keywords: narcissism, personality type, self-attitude, empathy, contradictions

Introduction

As human civilization develops, the requirements for a person's personality become more and more complex and diverse. In modern times, the human psyche is faced with the need to cope with dynamic tasks related to both the complexity of social relations and the increase in the number of social roles played by the same person. In such a situation, self-emphasis, self-esteem, etc. narcissistic aspects emerge, which can create serious deficiencies in the sphere of society's relations and the

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individual's creative system (Jabbarov et.al, 2023; Kamila et.al, 2021; Vakil, 2020).

Currently, in a continuous monomorphic environment, it is impossible to find a single person belonging to fixed values or evaluation system. Our modern mental world is multifactorial, and various factors of this world have a significant impact on the personality, its structure and interactions with other individuals. These influences change the characteristics of his personality or reconstruct it according to the environment. The harmonious combination of all the necessary and desirable roles, as well as successful adaptation to all the demands of the modern world, is increasingly failing, which causes disappointment. In such conditions and at such a level of demands, a number of violations, including narcissistic changes, begin to manifest in the individual.

Family upbringing, including demands from society, often lead to a person's narcissistic behavior. The increase of narcissism leads not only to the increase of aggressiveness and harsh relations towards different people in society, but also to the violation and often deformation of the individual's personality and its structure (Wetzel and Robins, 2014; Zitek and Jordan, 2016; Pavlova, 2010; Shamsikova and Shamsikova, 2011). on the other hand, it creates a foundation for the prevention of the attempt to deform, and on the other hand, the improvement of social relations and the adequate organization of activities. Taking into account these aspects, we considered it appropriate to study narcissism.

Literature review

In research on narcissism, two areas attract more attention. One is sensitive narcissism and the other is a study of grandiose narcissism. It should be noted that sensitive narcissism has been less studied than the other. In addition to the sense of uniqueness common to both dimensions of narcissism, a tendency toward hypersensitive and anxious behavior is described. In contrast to grandiose narcissism, vulnerable narcissism also involves marked self-centeredness, low self-esteem, shyness, social withdrawal, and emotional vulnerability. Recent studies [Treadway et al., 2017; Vohs



& Finkel, 2022; Coleman et al., 2019; Wang & Jiang, 2014); Wetzel and Robins, 2016; Zagenczyk et al. 2017.;Zitek, & Jordan, 2016.] show that vulnerable narcissism is more detrimental to mental health than grandiose narcissism. It is associated with psychological problems and the use of inappropriate emotion regulation strategies such as aggression.

Most experts believe that the narcissistic personality disorder in DSM 5 refers to grandiose narcissism rather than sensitive narcissism. It should also be noted that now almost any society is developing towards greater competition on the one hand, and standardization on the other. Considering such an aspect, Horni (2001) believed that in society, “individual competition is in the first place, it is built on our culture. The economic principle of competition affects human relations by pushing one person to fight with another, one to be superior to another.” Economic success is approved and reinforced by public opinion, and failure, on the contrary, is condemned and greatly reduces the self-esteem of the “loser”, creates a sense of shame and disappointment, and changes his image for the worse [Horni, 2001]. In addition, as noted by Fromm (1998), modern society increasingly treats people as products with certain consumer characteristics, thereby forcing people to evaluate themselves in terms of market criteria. For the psyche of some people, the unsatisfactory nature of such an evaluation can be very traumatic, and when a person ceases to perceive himself as an “independent being”, his “self-esteem and sense of self-worth disappear” [Fromm, 1998]. Given the growth of narcissism, both personal and public narcissism, it is important to have periodic updates in the study of this problem. It is this factor that makes the study of narcissism insufficiently systematic and the importance of studying it.

Methodology

It should be noted that although the study of the psychological characteristics of the narcissistic personality is of great importance from a theoretical point of view, it is not enough to study or analyze its characteristics without conducting an experimental study. The following methods were used in



the research:

1. “A Short Big Five Survey.” Here are the personality traits that characterize a person. The questionnaire consists of 5 scales: extraversion; goodwill; awareness; neuroticism; openness to experience. The numbers of the terms evaluated for each of these scales are shown and do not cause difficulties when calculating the result.

2. “Short survey of the dark trinity (SD3)” methodology (Egorova, et al. 2009).

The methodology consists of 3 steps:

1. Machiavellian scale.

2. Narcissism scale.

3. Psychopathy scale.

3. “Narcissistic personality traits” methodology (Shamshikova and Klepikova, 2010). The methodology consists of 66 provisions. The technique includes 9 scales reflecting narcissistic personality traits.

4. “Self-attitude questionnaire”. The questionnaire consists of 57 judgments. It consists of two response standards. The indicator for each factor is calculated by summing the statements that the subject agrees with, if included in the factor with a positive sign, and if included in the factor with a negative sign, the statements that the subject does not agree with are taken into account. The “raw score” obtained for each factor is transformed according to the tables to convert it to accumulated frequencies (%). The methodology consists of 12 steps. 165 students participated in our research. Special attention was paid to ethical rules, selection of participants and statistical processing of data necessary in the research.

Results

In our research, along with the study of the psychological characteristics of narcissism,



attention was also paid to their dependence on the personality type. For this purpose, quantitative and qualitative samples were used. We can learn whether the approach used in the study can explain the relationship between narcissistic traits and self-attitude within a variable-centered approach. Because failing to prevent or try to reduce narcissism in students can hinder the development of social skills by stifling the demands they make to feel safe, as well as positive behaviors for others. The statistical description of the answers given by the respondents to the question about financial status suggests that most of the participants are at an average financial level. This indicator is also reflected in the rate.

Table 1. Indicators of respondents financial situation

Level	Frequency	Percentage	Valid interest	Interest accrued
Low	27	16.4	17.5	17.5
Medium	111	67.3	72.1	89.6
High	16	9.7	10.4	100.0
Total	154	93.3	100.0	-
Unanswered	11	6.7	-	-
Total	165	100.0	-	-

6.7 percent of the respondents (11 people) did not answer the question about financial situation and 93 percent gave information about their financial situation. 111 of the participants stated that their financial situation was at an average level. 10.39 percent of the respondents evaluated their financial situation as high, 17.53 percent as low, and 72.08 percent as average. This shows that there is no serious polarization among the respondents in terms of financial situation, respondents with normal financial situation are the majority.

Table 2. Statistical analysis of the scales of the “Shadow Three” methodology

Scales	N	Total Score	Average Score
Psychopathy	165	3559	21.57
Machiavellianism	165	3568	21.62
Narcissism	165	5005	30.33



The measurement of Machiavellianism, narcissism and psychopathy variables by means of the “short questionnaire of the shadowy trinity” shows that the variable of narcissism is expressed with a higher score, while the variable of psychopathy is expressed with a lower score.

The mathematical expression of the three variables divided by the “Dark Triad Short Questionnaire” can be given as follows: narcissism > Machiavellianism > psychopathy. This means that narcissus is more prominent in juniper than other jackals.

Table 3. Correlations between the elements of the “Dark Triad”.

Scales	Machiavellianism	Narcissism	Psychopathy	
Machiavellianism	Pearson Correlation	1	-.294**	-.070
	Sig. (2-tailed)	-	.000	.369
	N	165	165	165
Narcissism	Pearson Correlation	-.294**	1	-.090
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	-	.249
	N	165	165	165
Psychopathy	Pearson Correlation	-.070	-.090	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.369	.249	-
	N	165	165	165

Note: **. The correlation has a two-sided relationship at the 0.01 level

The analysis of the data on the “short questionnaire of the dark trinity” shows that there is a relationship between two variables out of the three variables measured by this questionnaire (Machiavellianism, narcissism, psychopathy). There is no statistically significant relationship between the psychopathy variable and the other two variables (because here it was P=0.369 and 0.249). However, there is a relationship between Machiavellianism and narcissism, where P=0.000, which indicates that there is a statistically significant relationship between the two variables at the 0.01 level.

Here, the negative “Pearson correlation” indicates the existence of a negative relationship between the two variables. That is, the increase of one variable is accompanied by the decrease



of another. Among the 9 characteristics studied by means of the “Narcissistic Personality Traits” questionnaire, the “self-esteem” characteristic was expressed with a high score, while the “bold-arrogant behavior” variable was expressed with a lower score. The second variable with the highest score was “need for constant attention” and the second variable with the lowest score was “the presence of empathy”.

Table 4. Indicators of the relationship between narcissistic personality traits and elements of the

Scales	Machiavellianism	Narcissism	Psychopathy	
Great sense of self-worth	Pearson Correlation	-.174*	.408**	-.291**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.026	.000	.000
	N	165	165	165
Dealing with fantasies	Pearson Correlation	-.193*	.397**	.004
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.013	.000	.963
	N	165	165	165
Belief in one's own uniqueness	Pearson Correlation	.175*	.080	-.049
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.025	.309	.530
	N	165	165	165
The need for constant attention and admiration	Pearson Correlation	-.034	.168*	-.026
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.668	.031	.737
	N	165	165	165
Expectation of special treatment	Pearson Correlation	-.189*	-.052	.051
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.015	.505	.516
	N	165	165	165
Interpersonal manipulation	Pearson Correlation	-.075	-.152	-.289**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.336	.052	.000
	N	165	165	165
Having empathy	Pearson Correlation	.169*	-.502**	.322**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.030	.000	.000
	N	165	165	165
Feelings of envy	Pearson Correlation	-.123	-.225**	.087
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.116	.004	.264
	N	165	165	165
Bold arrogant behavior	Pearson Correlation	.344**	-.214**	.234**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.006	.003
	N	165	165	165



Note: Correlation at ** 0.01, * 0.05 level is two-sided.

Whether or not there is a relationship between narcissistic personality traits and elements of the shadowy trinity (Machiavellianism, narcissism, psychopathy) was determined using correlation analysis. The analysis of related data shows that there is a strong relationship between “sense of self-worth” and all 3 elements of the shadowy trinity. Here, the relationship between “self-worth” and Machiavellianism is significant at the 0.05 level since $P=0.026$, but the negative “Pearson correlation” indicates that there is an inverse relationship between the two variables. High self-esteem is accompanied by low Machiavellianism. There is a significant positive relationship between “sense of self-worth” and narcissism, and $P=0.000$ indicates that the relationship between these two variables is significant at the 0.01 level. There is an inverse relationship between “sense of self-worth” and psychopathy. Thus, the inverse relationship between these two variables (Pearson’s coefficient -0.291) was $P=0.000$, which means that the relationship between the two variables is statistically significant at the 0.01 level.

A connection between Machiavellianism and narcissism is observed with the personality characteristic of “dealing with fantasies”. Thus, the presence of $P=0.013$ indicates that there is a serious relationship between the characteristic of “dealing with fantasies” and the variable of Machiavellianism, and this relationship is significant at the level of 0.05. But the relationship between the two variables is an inverse relationship. The relationship between the characteristic of “engaging in fantasies” and the variable of narcissism is also a significant positive relationship at the 0.01 level, as $P=0.000$.

“Belief in one’s own uniqueness” is only related to Machiavellianism. Since $P=0.025$, it can be said that there is a direct relationship between “belief in one’s own uniqueness” and Machiavellianism variables, and this relationship is statistically significant at the level of 0.05.

There is also a relationship between the “need for attention and admiration” variable and



the narcissism variable. So here it was $P=0.031$. This shows that the relationship between the two variables is significant at the 0.05 level.

It is possible to observe that there is a statistically significant relationship between “expectation of special treatment” and Machiavellianism variable. Considering that $P=0.015$, it can be said that the relationship between these two variables is significant at the 0.05 level and at the same time there is an inverse relationship between these variables.

There is an inverse relationship between “interpersonal manipulation” and the psychopathy variable. Here, $P=0.000$, which suggests that the relationship between the two variables is significant and statistically significant at the 0.01 level.

There is an inverse relationship between “being empathetic” narcissism, and a direct relationship between Machiavellianism and psychopathy. Since $p=0.000$, we can say that the relationship between “empathy” and narcissism and psychopathy is significant at the 0.01 level, and since $p=0.30$, the relationship between “empathy” and Machiavellianism is significant at the 0.05 level.

There is also a significant relationship between “feeling of envy” and narcissism, and since $P=0.004$, the relationship between these two variables is significant at the 0.01 level, and the negative “Pearson’s coefficient” indicates that there is an inverse relationship between the two variables.

A strong connection is also observed between “bold, arrogant behavior” and the elements of the shadowy trinity (Machiavellianism, narcissism, psychopathy). Here, $p=0.000$ means that the direct relationship between Machiavellianism and “bold, arrogant behavior” is significant at the 0.01 level, $P=0.006$ means that the inverse relationship between narcissism and “bold, arrogant behavior” is significant at the 0.01 level, and $P=0.003$ means “bold, arrogant behavior” indicates that the direct relationship between psychopathy is significant at the 0.01 level.



Table 5. Indicators of interaction of narcissistic personality traits (elements).

Scales	It is in itself	Dealing with fantasies	Belief in one's own uniqueness	The need for constant attention and admiration	
It is in itself	Pearson Correlation	1	.491**	.213**	.191*
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000	.006	.014
	N	165	165	165	165
Dealing with fantasies	Pearson Correlation	.491**	1	.204**	.179*
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000		.008	.021
	N	165	165	165	165
Belief in one's own uniqueness	Pearson Correlation	.213**	.204**	1	.327**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.006	.008		.000
	N	165	165	165	165
The need for constant attention and admiration	Pearson Correlation	.191*	.179*	.327**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.014	.021	.000	
	N	165	165	165	165
Expecting special treatment	Pearson Correlation	.280**	.442**	-.190*	.087
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.014	.264
	N	165	165	165	165
Interpersonal manipulation	Pearson Correlation	.391**	.114	.234**	.502**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.145	.002	.000
	N	165	165	165	165
Having empathy	Pearson Correlation	.040	.016	.229**	.217**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.610	.842	.003	.005
	N	165	165	165	165
Feelings of envy	Pearson Correlation	.200**	.049	.178*	.195*
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.010	.535	.023	.012
	N	165	165	165	165
Brave behavior	Pearson Correlation	.039	.014	.297**	.200*
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.622	.859	.000	.010
	N	165	165	165	165

Note: Correlation at ** 0.01, * 0.05 level is two-sided.



The interrelationship of narcissistic personality traits was also one of the topics we determined during the research. According to the obtained results, there is a relationship between the feeling of “self-worth” and the variable “indulging in fantasies” ($P=0.000$), as well as the feeling of “self-worth” and “belief in one’s own uniqueness” ($P=0.006$) and “need for attention and admiration” ($P= 0.014$) and there is a direct relationship between the variables and this relationship is significant at the 0.05 level.

There is also a direct relationship between the variable “engaging in fantasies” and the variables “belief in one’s own uniqueness” ($P=0.008$) and “need for attention and admiration” ($P=0.021$), and this relationship is significant at the 0.05 level. There is also a direct relationship between the variables “belief in one’s own uniqueness” and “need for attention and admiration” ($P=0.000$), and this relationship is significant at the 0.01 level.

A relationship is observed between the variable “expectation of special treatment” and the variable “self-worth” ($P=0.000$), the variable “engaging in fantasies” ($P=0.000$) and the variable “belief in one’s own uniqueness” ($P=0.014$). The relationship between “expectation of special treatment” and “need for constant attention and admiration” is not observed.

The relationship between “manipulation in interpersonal relationship” variable and “self-worth” variable ($P=0.000$), “belief in own uniqueness” variable ($P=0.002$) and “need for constant attention and admiration” variable ($P=0.000$) is observed. The relationship between “manipulation in interpersonal relationships” and “engaging in fantasies” is not observed.

There is no relationship between the variable “having empathy” and the variable “self-worth” and the variable “engaging in fantasies”. However, the relationship between the variable “Empathy” and the variable “belief in one’s own uniqueness” ($P=0.003$) and the variable “need for constant attention and admiration” ($P=0.005$) is observed, and this relationship is significant at the 0.01 level.

Although no relationship was observed between the variable “feelings of envy” and the variable “self-worth” and the variable “engaging in fantasies”, the relationship between the variable “belief in one’s own uniqueness” ($P=0.023$) and the variable “need for constant attention and



admiration” (P=0.012) was observed. is observed and this relationship is significant at the 0.05 level.

Although there is no relationship between the variable “bold and arrogant behavior” and the variable “self-esteem” and the variable “indulging in fantasies”, there is a correlation between the variable “belief in one’s own uniqueness” (P=0.000) and the variable “need for constant attention and admiration” (P=0.010) there is a connection.

Discussion and Conclusion

Our research coincides with many studies devoted to narcissism (Clemens et al, 2022; Besser and Zeigler-Hill, 2010; Cramer, 2017; Roche et al., 2013; Jabbarov et.al, 2022; Zitek and Jordan, 2013). But it also contradicts a number of studies. Our research showed that when studying self-attitude and narcissistic personality traits, significant relationships were identified between self-attitude, dark triad, and narcissistic personality traits.

The study showed that there is a positive relationship between self-interest and self-sympathy scales. These relationships are mainly narcissism (shadowy triad), great sense of self-importance, fantasy, belief in one’s own uniqueness, need for admiration, etc. closely related to The analysis showed that the belief in one’s own uniqueness was positively related to the attitude expected from others. The relationship between positive aspects of self-attitude and personality traits reflected in the Big Five is positive. These relationships characterize the personality as socially oriented, cooperative, responsible and emotionally balanced. Therefore, a positive, accepting attitude towards oneself is a natural result of such personal preconditions. Extraversion supports increased narcissistic traits. The meaning of this relationship seems to be the need for action and recognition, which is characteristic of the grandiose aspect of narcissism and related behavior. This can be considered the basis for narcissistic fantasies and the search for a community to spread its influence. The relationship of narcissistic personality traits to various aspects of self-attitudes is reflected in perceptions of oneself as a special person with special privileges and rights, and in the desire to avoid painful experiences,



weakness, and inferiority.

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