



Psychopathy: Antisocial, Criminal, and Violent Behavior

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Psychopathy remains one of the least understood personality disorders and one of the most intransigent to therapeutic amelioration. Better understanding of this disorder is not helped by its DSM definition, which specifies diagnostic criteria in terms of concrete antisocial behaviors rather than psychological dynamics. In a concerted effort to remedy this situation, *Psychopathy* brings together a distinguished array of contributors to provide an up-to-date review of this perplexing disorder, including its causation and manifestations. Etiological explanations range from genetic to cross-cultural influences. Encompassing all the significant viewpoints regarding the nature of psychopathic personalities, the volume surveys current typologies and treatment approaches.

Psychopathy, the first personality disorder to be recognized in psychiatry, remains one of the most perplexing and difficult-to-treat forms of mental illness. It is also a disorder with considerable social consequences, frequently leading to antisocial, criminal, and violent behavior. This authoritative volume brings together leading mental health experts to provide an up-to-date overview of psychopathy--its nature, causes, and effects on the individual and society, as well as current treatment approaches. Ideal for psychologists in clinical and forensic settings, the volume is also a rich resource for legal professionals, students, and policymakers. Salient topics covered include links between psychopathy, criminality, and violence; assessing the risks of criminal recidivism; how psychopathy may relate to such problems as substance abuse, sadistic behavior, and pedophilia; whether prevention and rehabilitation are possible; and the management of dangerous psychopaths in the criminal justice system.

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Editorial Review

Review

"This book is impressive in its scope, which is truly encyclopedic. It is remarkable for its treatment of both theory and research, for its international perspective, and for its inclusion of critical views. It should be required reading for everyone interested in this perplexing disorder." --Stephen D. Hart, PhD, Associate Professor and Associate Chair (Graduate) Department of Psychology, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia

"This book is an indispensable reference for psychologists evaluating and treating antisocial populations. The book's greatest asset is its conceptual framework that elucidates antecedent and comorbid conditions that complicate the assessments and subsequent interventions. Countering popular perspectives that psychopaths are untreatable, the book offers valuable treatment alternatives and reviews existing research on their effectiveness." --Richard Rogers, PhD, University of North Texas

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(*Psychiatric Services* 2002-12-20)

"This book is an excellent resource for any professional who must deal with psychopaths or perform risk assessment in forensic populations."--Issues in Child Abuse Accusations
(*Issues in Child Abuse Accusations* 2002-12-20)

About the Author

Theodore Millon ,PhD,DSc , Institute for advanced Studies in Personology and Psychopathology, Coral Gables ,Florida ,
Erik Simonsen ,MD , Institute of Personality Theory and Psychopathology , Roskilde ,Denmark ,
Morten Birket-Smith ,MD, Department of Psychiatry , Bispebjerg University Hospiyal , Copenhagen ,Denmark
Roger D. Davis ,PhD , Institute for advanced Studies in Personology and Psychopathology , Coral Gables ,Florida.

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