

Genes for Antisocial Personality Disorder may lie at heart of crime

[T]here's no easy answer to the question of why some people end up in jails and prisons while others do not.

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But at the same time, the population of people who end up in prison do share some traits. And scientists have now traced one common criminal trait to specific genes.

Antisocial Personality Disorder (ASPD) is [wildly overrepresented in prisons](#).

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It's a controversial diagnosis — broad, ill-defined, and overlapping heavily with [other disorders](#)....

But there's reason to take it seriously. Twin studies [suggest](#) that genetics explain about half of the variance in ASPD diagnoses, and environmental factors the other half. And [a new study](#) has begun the task of identifying which genes are most likely involved in ASPD, with significant success.

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The study's results are interesting...[and seem to advance] our understanding of ASPD from *Genetics seem to play a role* to *These genes seem to play a role*. This seems to be the first time researchers have made this leap with a personality disorder.

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis. Read full, original post: [Scientists just got closer to understanding the genetic roots of crime — and it's making them nervous](#)