

Many high-functioning psychopaths live amongst us

As of 2021, approximately 1.2% of the general adult population [is estimated to suffer from some form of psychopathy](#), based on data using the [Hare Psychopathy Checklist-Revised](#) (PCL-R). Statistically speaking, that means that it is almost guaranteed that many of us have met a psychopath.

In fact, you might have met *hundreds* of them.

When considering disorders of the mind, psychopathy is surprisingly common. It is twice as common as anorexia, bipolar disorder, and schizophrenia, and nearly as common as narcissism, bulimia, obsessive-compulsive personality disorder, and panic disorder.

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There is an atypical group of psychopaths that exist in the greater populace. Known as *high functioning psychopaths*, they do not possess violent tendencies, and are in many cases highly successful, contributing members of society. They may still retain the tell-tale characteristics of a psychopath (callousness, lack of empathy, grandiosity, etc.) but they do not engage in the aggressive behavior that one may see associated with a violent psychopath.

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Psychopathy experts Emily Lasko and David Chester [argue](#) that a high-functioning psychopath’s likelihood of success in life is dependent on their level of conscientiousness. If they can plan for the future, self-regulate, and make good decisions, then their psychopathic traits were, as they stated in their paper, “compensated for.”

[This is an excerpt. Read the original post here.](#)