



Academic Review on the Relationship of Dark Triad Personality Traits and Self-Esteem to the Causes of Romantic Jealousy

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Abstract

Previous studies have shown substantial connections between the Dark Triad (DT; narcissism, psychopathy, and Machiavellianism) and short-term mating preferences (for example, Jonason et al., 2010, Jonason et al., 2012). The DT refers to the traits of narcissism, psychopathy, and Machiavellianism. DT is comprised of three different personality traits: narcissism, psychopathy, and according to Jonason, Lyons, and Blanchard (2015) on Machiavellianism, with characteristics such as empowerment, dominance, dominance (i.e., narcissism), loose social attractiveness, deception, manipulateness (i.e. Machiavellianism), and disorder. It's possible that DT qualities like psychopathy, which are characterized by antisocial conduct, impulsivity, and interpersonal antagonism, make it easier to find short-term partners. According to Brewer et al. 2015, researchers have shown a connection between DT qualities and a person's preferences when it comes to mating, as well as how an individual reacts to (possible) relationship dangers after engaging into a close relationship. Research conducted by Goncalves and Campbell (2014), Jonason et al. (2010), Rasmussen and Boon (2014), and Brewer et al. (2015) found that when women reported higher levels of psychopathy, they were more likely to seek revenge in response to a hypothetical situation detailing a partner's infidelity (for instance, by shouting and spreading stories). In this situation, cheating partners are confronted by their partners' cheating spouses, and the wives are given the option to reply. In a similar vein, Goncalves and Campbell (2014) found that DT qualities are connected to the implementation of certain competitive exception techniques. On the other hand, those who scored higher on narcissism (as opposed to those who scored lower) were more likely to stand out from their competitors in terms of mating. people who scored lower (as opposed to higher) in psychopathy claimed that they were more inclined to harm the reputation of their peers. This contrasts with those people who scored higher in psychopathy. Jealousy is one of the most normal emotional reactions that people exhibit when they perceive (potential) harm to their connection (for example, Dijkstra & Buunk, 1998),



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whereas jealousy is the outcome of a romantic attachment in response to a threat or as a result of the attention of a real or fictitious competition. Jealousy is one of the most common emotional responses that people display when they see (possible) risk to their relationship. may be described as a de facto loss. This competitor may or may not exist in the real world. It's possible that the end of a love relationship is the root cause of your jealousy.

Keywords: *Dark Triad Personality Traits, Self-Esteem, Romantic Jealousy, Causes of Romantic Jealousy*

Introduction

Researchers Massar, Winters, and Lenz together with Jonason (2017) looked at the possibility of a connection between psychopathy and the emotion of jealousy. They came to the conclusion that secondary psychopathy, which is defined by impulsivity and hazardous, antisocial conduct, predicts the formation of jealousy. Primary psychopathy, on the other hand, is characterized by callousness and manipulateness. Those who are strong in Machiavellianism are also likely to feel more jealous than other people since they have a tendency to be less honest than others. They may also project their own dishonest tendencies onto their relationship, leading them to assume that their spouse is more inclined to cheat on them as a result. As a result, they may believe that their partner has dishonest intents toward them. On the other hand, the precise linkages between DT and jealousy might vary from person to person, depending on the sort of jealousy that a person is experiencing at any given time. Therefore, the objective of this study is to investigate the connections that may exist between DT characteristics and the three distinct varieties of jealousy. It has been suggested by a number of scholars, such as Sharpsteen (1991), that the most productive approach to think about envy is to see it as a phenomena that has several facets. Therefore, jealousy is more than simply an emotional response; it also involves thoughts and acts that are utilized as coping methods (for example, Pfeiffer and Wong, 1989; Sharpsteen, 1991).

Its Relationship with Increasing Jealousy

According to the findings of study that was carried out by DeSteno, Valdesolo, and Bartlett (2006), a rise in a person's level of jealousy is connected to a decline in their level of self-esteem



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brought on by the (potential) loss of a spouse. Even though the links between DT and responses to (potential) relationship threats have been investigated in terms of partner-holding strategies (Goncalves & Campbell, 2014) and revenge intentions in response to a partner's infidelity (Brewer et al.), the links between DT and jealousy have not yet been investigated in a systematic manner. There has not been nearly enough investigation into the connections that exist between jealousy and the other two DT characteristics of Machiavellianism and narcissism. On the other hand, it's not out of the question that all three characteristics of DT are connected to sentiments of envy in some way. Those who are high in narcissism, for instance, are more prone than others to see a danger to their relationship as a challenge to their ego as compared to other people. This indicates that the prospect of losing a partner as a result of an opponent's attention might have a particularly detrimental impact on them.

In accordance with this notion, Buunk (1997) differentiated three essentially distinct types of jealousy, which are as follows:

1. *Reactive Jealousy,*
2. *Anxious Jealousy And*
3. *Preventive Jealousy.*

Reactive jealousy is a kind of anxiety that an individual may feel if their spouse has been emotionally or sexually unfaithful to them, such as when their partner is flirting with or having sex with another person. This type of emotional or sexual unfaithfulness may manifest itself in several different ways. In addition, there is a kind of jealousy called as anticipatory jealousy that people might experience. Preemptive jealousy refers to the inclination of an individual to prevent their spouse from meeting with a third party and is a kind of possessiveness. This kind of jealousy is sometimes referred to as possessive jealousy (for instance, Barelds and Dijkstra, 2007). People who struggle with anticipatory jealousy, for instance, may think it's wrong for their spouse to have friends or acquaintances who are of the other sex. Preventive jealousy may even result in violent actions such as stalking and physical confrontation, according to Daly, Wilson, and Weghorst's (1982) findings. Last but not least, anxious jealousy is a process that occurs when a person thinks for an extended period of time about the prospect of cheating on



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him or herself while simultaneously having emotions of fear, uncertainty, concern, insecurity, and misery (Buunk, 1997). According to research by Barelds and Dijkstra (2006), Barelds and Dijkstra (2007), and Buunk (1997), this kind of jealousy is characterized by a lack of confidence in the partner and a lack of belief in the relationship.

The concept that the three primary forms of jealousy vary in the degree to which they have the potential to be problematic or 'unhealthy' is one of the most important aspects of Buunk's (1997) categorization. (Barelds and Dijkstra, 2006; Barelds and Dijkstra, 2007, Buunk, 1997). Because reactive jealousy is a direct response to genuine relationship risk (for instance, when one's spouse is having sex with another person), it is reasonable to regard reactive jealousy to be either "healthy" or "logical." When a woman discovers that her spouse has been unfaithful to her, the jealousy she feels may be seen as a sign of love or dedication. Researchers Barelds and Dijkstra (2007) found that there is a positive correlation between reactive jealousy and the quality of a relationship. However, they discovered that there was no connection between any of the other forms of jealousy and the quality of the relationship. These results provide credence to this way of thinking, which is supported by the previous sentence. On the other hand, both preventative and anxious jealousy have the potential to become upsetting and have a big impact on the connection that exists between two individuals who are very close to one another. Both preventative and anxious jealousy take action against an imagined competitor rather than a genuine opponent, and as a consequence, it may develop a delusional nature (Barelds and Dijkstra, 2006; Barelds and Dijkstra, 2007, Bunk, 1997). This is the primary explanation for this phenomenon.

Methodology

There are three aspects of DT that, when combined, may give jealousy an irrational quality. We had anticipated that apprehensive and anticipatory forms of jealousy, as opposed to reactive forms of jealousy, would be associated to the three DT characteristics. This is due to the fact that apprehensive and anticipatory jealousy have the capability of leading to delusions, although reactive jealousy does not. At least two distinct pathways exist via which DT might stoke the illogical flames of apprehensive and preemptive jealousy. To begin, when a person is experiencing jealousy, one's own sentiments and preferences might be transferred to the partner



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(for example, Ellis (1996)). Jealousy can also cause a person to behave in inappropriate ways. Individuals who report high DT scores are typically more attracted to short-term mating and are more likely to be unfaithful themselves (Brewer et al., 2015, Jones and Weiser, 2014). As a result, it is possible for these individuals to erroneously believe that their partner is also relatively inclined to seek inter-couple sex, despite the fact that this is not the case. Second, a number of studies have shown some positive categorical signals of mating in relation to DT (a propensity to seek a matched partner; see, for example, Jonason et al., 2011, Lyons and Blanchard, 2016, and Smith, 2014). Studies such as Jonason et al.'s 2011 research, Lyons and Blanchard's 2016 research, and Smith et al.'s 2014 research are included here. Those who have high scores on DT characteristics may, as a consequence, have partners who are extremely similar to them and, as a result, are also highly involved in inter-pair sexual activities. In addition, those who have high scores on DT traits are more likely to participate in inter-pair sexual activities.

their partner's faithfulness in general, and they may have an abnormally high level of unease in reaction to seemingly little or even fictitious signals of infidelity. The reason for this is because DT characteristics are a measurement of a person's inclination to pay attention to details. It is probable that the manner in which DT and jealousy are related varies not only on the kind of jealousy that individuals experience, but also on their gender and sexual orientation. There is a correlation between jealousy and gender, as well as sexual orientation and jealousy in general. Additionally, there is a correlation between the three distinct types of jealousy that are outlined by Buunk (1997). It was shown that homosexual men and women, in comparison to their straight counterparts, respond less jealously to a spouse's infidelity, such as kissing someone else (Barelds & Dijkstra, 2006). One example is when a partner is seen kissing another person. On the other hand, research has shown that when a partner cheats on them, straight men and women respond with greater levels of jealousy than gay men and women do.

In a similar vein, studies have shown that heterosexual women are more likely than heterosexual males to report having worried and reactive jealousy (e.g. Barelds & Dijkstra, 2007). According to a number of studies (for instance, Jonason, Lyons, Bethell, and Ross, 2013), males usually report having higher DT scores than women do. When examining the differences between the sexes in terms of DT, it has been shown that this is the case. There hasn't been a lot of study done



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comparing heterosexuals and homosexuals in terms of DT, but it's probable that homosexuals and heterosexuals are different in this area as well.

Pfattheicher (2016), for example, discovered a positive correlation between narcissism and testosterone. This hormone has also been connected with male homosexuality in certain studies (but not others; see, for example, Neave, Menaged, & Weightman, 1999; see also Garttrel, Loriaux, & Chase 1977). Other researchers, however, have not established a connection between testosterone and male homosexuality. Pfattheicher (2016) conducted this specific research in which he investigated the connections that exist between DT and the hormone testosterone.

To put it another way, there may be some biomarkers that are related with one or more of the three DT features in addition to sexual orientation. Furthermore, it is probable that it is these biomarkers that cause DT to be connected with sexual orientation. Because of the disparities that exist in terms of DT and/or jealousy between men and women, as well as between homosexuals and heterosexuals, the present study has studied if there are correlations between DT and three distinct types. Jealousy may take on a variety of forms depending on the gender and sexual orientation of the individual experiencing it.

The current body of research investigates the connections between DT and three distinct types of jealousy (reactive, anxious, and avoidant) among a population of heterosexual and homosexual adults who are involved in romantic relationships. All of the people who took part in this research were in long-term, committed relationships. The present research focused only on those who are now involved in romantic partnerships as opposed to those who are single. This is due to the fact that the possibility of the dissolution of a romantic partnership being a greater source of anxiety for individuals who are already engaged in romantic partnerships as compared to individuals who are not. As a consequence of this, the findings of this research are more likely to be accurate depictions of the world as it really exists. The moderator effects of gender and sexual orientation will be explored in terms of the impacts of gender and sexual orientation on jealousy and DT, as well as the links between DT and jealousy. Additionally, the linkages between DT and jealousy will be investigated. This will be done in addition to the investigation of the current links between DT and the three distinct forms of jealousy that individuals experience in their



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lives. By completing the online questionnaire that was a component of the current research project, a total of 726 individuals were counted as participants in the study. These people were classified as having a heterosexual orientation 436 times, a homosexual orientation 204 times, and a bisexual orientation 86 times. Following the removal of the second group from the survey, there were a total of 640 participants left. 201 of these 640 persons now define themselves as being disconnected from the outside world. The research relied on a total sample size of 439 individuals, 140 of whom were married, 172 of whom were living together, and 127 of whom were in a committed relationship.

Literature Study

Imagine yourself looking across at your spouse as they engage in conversation with an attractive member of the opposing sex. How much of an impact do things like your feeling of self-worth and your sense of authority have on the way you feel about your spouse and the state of your relationship? Plato, a Greek philosopher who lived in the 4th century BC, recognised the significance of studying romantic relationships and the elements that influence love. Plato said that love was the driving force behind the formation of human society's ties, thus he thought it was important to investigate these topics. This demonstrates how important it is to investigate the elements that have an impact on romantic relationships and love at all times. Because it is connected to both interpersonal violence (Mullen & Martin, 1994) and health (Buss, 2000), jealousy is an important study issue in the field of romantic relationships. Jealousy is a factor in both of these areas. Because it is connected to both of these things, jealousy is a subject that is worth investigating. Utilizing personality models like the Dark Triad, which have been shown to have violent implications (Pailing, Boon, & Egan, 2014), may be of assistance in gaining a better understanding of jealousy as well as the process of dealing with the repercussions of it.

There has not been a single research project that has been made public that investigates the connection between envy and the Dark Triad. In the present research, we test the hypothesis that there is a positive link between the dimensions of the Dark Triad (narcissism, Machiavellianism, and psychopathy), and jealousy (cognitive, emotional, and behavioral), and that this relationship is mediated by the weaker self. Specifically, we test the hypothesis that there is a positive association between narcissism, Machiavellianism, and psychopathy.



Jealousy

According to Clanton and Kosins (1991) and Mathes and Severa (1981), the definition of jealousy is a defensive response or unpleasant emotion that arises from challenges to relationships. Jealousy may be caused by feelings of inadequacy. (Clanton and Kosins, 1991) [Citation needed] (Clanton and Kosins, 1991; Mathes and Severa, 1981). a. According to Buss (2000), jealousy is an adaptive mechanism that aids in the process of safeguarding and retaining a spouse. Jealousy also assists in the process of attracting a new partner. Because of this, it plays a crucial role in the overall narrative of evolution. As a consequence of this, relationships with siblings (Volling, McElwain, & Miller, 2002), coworkers (Buunk, Goor, & Solano, 2010), or romantic partners (Mathes & Severa, 1981). According to Hill and Davis (2000), the entire meaning of jealousy for the individual is more significant than the interpersonal circumstances that are present at the time of the sensation of envy. This is because the full meaning of jealousy allows the individual to better understand their own motivations. Example: Sally is interested in biology and thinks it will be important for her future career, but while her grades are below average, Molly's grades are above average, arousing greater feelings of jealousy, which can lead to negative health outcomes such as depression and anxiety (Salovey & Dark Triad and Jealousy 2 Rodin, 1999) Researchers have observed that it is possible to prevent social comparison in romantic settings (for example, when someone gets threats to their partner or relationship), which is something that should be an essential area for a person who is engaged in a relationship. One approach to look about jealousy is as a multifaceted entity that comprises of cognitive, emotional, and behavioral components. This is one way to think about jealousy. The term "cognitive jealousy" refers to the mental processes that are related with the emotion of jealousy. A partner will process these processes with any logical or irrational thoughts that are presented. may involve apprehension of a cheating partner. The emotional component of jealousy is characterized by emotions of agitation and restlessness, both of which may be brought on by circumstances that create sentiments of jealously.

For instance, a person who sees their partner interacting inappropriately with another individual may feel a significant deal of rage. The last kind of jealousy is known as behavioral jealousy, and it describes the actions that a person does while they are experiencing feelings of envy.



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According to Pfeiffer and Wong (1989), a person who has reason to assume that their relationship has been jeopardized by the presence of other prospective romantic interests may interrogate their spouse about discussions that took place over the phone.

The Dark Trio

The Dark Triad is a model of personality that consists of three characteristics that are seen as being on the verge of becoming pathological. According to Paulhus and Williams (2002), the first characteristic is narcissism, which may be defined as an excessive love of oneself combined with a sense of superiority. Machiavellianism, on the other hand, is defined by a lack of charm, manipulation, and morality (Christie & Geis, 1970); these are attributes that may lead to actions that are self-interested (Jakobwitz & Egan, 2006). Machiavellianism is characterized by a lack of charm, manipulation, and morality (Christie & Geis, 1970). According to Paulhus and Williams (2002), psychopathy may be identified by its impulsive nature as well as its callousness. Additionally, psychopathy is characterized by a lack of empathy. Despite the fact that different dimensions are being evaluated by each characteristic, Jakobwitz and Egan (2006) and Paulhus and Williams (2002) found that all three exhibit low to moderate correlations with one another, with values ranging from 25 to 50.

As a result of these connections across dimensions, academics are starting to question whether there is a one dark personality type or whether or if the three characteristics that comprise the Dark Triad are a more accurate representation of personality. Regarding this discussion, most of the research have revealed evidence of three characteristics that are connected yet stand-alone on their own (Jonason, Li, Webster, and Schmitt, 2009; Jones & Paulhus, 2010). It is interesting that some studies have indicated that the three Dark Triad dimensions are the most effective way to explore mid-level personality traits, whereas a single latent factor model (i.e., a single dark personality trait) may be the most effective, a way of capturing high-level personality traits (Jonason, et al. Kavanagh, Webster and Fitzgerald, 2011). These findings were published in the journal of Personality and Social Psychology.

It is possible for psychopathy, machiavellianism, and narcissism to have a negative impact on romantic relationships in a variety of diverse ways. To begin, the specifics of each member of the Dark Triad influence the kind of romantic partnership that might develop between two people.



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For instance, there is a negative connection between narcissism and psychopathy in terms of meaningful and long-term marriages. Additionally, there is a negative correlation between jealousy and narcissistic and psychotic traits. People who are high in narcissism are more likely to have one-night stands and self-interested friends (i.e., friends who hang out informally but are not in a romantic relationship) and high psychopathy (i.e., late night hookups) (Jonason, Luevano, & Adams, 2012). People who are high in psychopathy are more likely to engage in late-night hookups.

As a direct consequence of this, the dimensions of the Dark Triad make it easier for certain types of relationships that are only meant to be fleeting. By having participants peruse online dating profiles that adjusted their degrees of narcissism, Machiavellianism, and psychopathy, researchers in a separate study were able to investigate participants' preferences for short-term and long-term relationships between the sexes. This was accomplished by asking individuals to rate their own levels of narcissism, Machiavellianism, and psychopathy. According to the findings of the study that was conducted by Jonathan, Lyons, and Blanchard (2015), persons of both sexes prefer likely mates from dating profiles that have low features of the Dark Triad for long-term relationships, whereas individuals of both sexes prefer probable mates from dating profiles that have high dimensions of the Dark Triad for short-term relationships.

According to the findings of a study that was conducted by Jonathan and colleagues (2015), individuals who have a high score on some components of the Dark Triad are more likely to be drawn to those who have characteristics that are quite like their own. In the case of narcissism, classificatory mating, also known as mating with persons of the same mindset, has a negligible effect, but it has a significant favorable impact on moderately beneficial Machiavellians and extremely psychopathic individuals.

Those who are strong in narcissism are less likely to be drawn to those who are also strong in narcissism. On the other hand, those who are strong in Machiavellianism are more likely to date people who are also strong in Machiavellianism, and those who are strong in psychopathy will be more attracted to them. It's possible that he's attracted to people who have high levels of psychopathy. In addition, the amount of satisfaction that a person derives from their relationships



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only marginally mediates the negative link that exists between actor-effect psychopathy and commitment evaluations (that is, the influence of an individual's degree of psychopathy on their level of commitment). The association between the two may be explained by a person's level of self-satisfaction in their relationships. More specifically, those who score high on the psychopathy characteristic tend to have lower levels of relationship commitment, and this correlation can be explained by their level of self-satisfaction in their relationships.

In point of fact, a considerable amount of negativity was shown to be associated with psychopathy, relationship satisfaction, and commitment in six out of the eight probable correlations. According to the findings presented in Smith, Hadden, Webster, Jonason, and Crysel (2014), psychopathy is one of the most detrimental aspects of the Dark Triad when it comes to the development of long-term romantic relationships. Another reason why Dark Triad qualities may be harmful to romantic relationships is that people with high levels of narcissism, Machiavellianism, and psychopathy may have the need to end their relationship with their current love partner. Spousal trafficking is described as the act of attempting to attract persons who are already in a committed relationship (Schmitt & Buss, 2001). High degrees of narcissism, Machiavellianism, and psychopathy are related with those who engage in this behavior.

(Jonason, Li, and Buss, 2010) People who are high in the Dark Triad dimensions will mate on the run and have greater success rates than those who are low in narcissism, Machiavellianism, and psychopathy (i.e., approaching people who are presently in a relationship and are also successful in claiming them). This indicates that they will contact other individuals who are in relationships at the moment and have been successful in desiring them for themselves. In conjunction with the positive relationships between jealousy and the Dark Triad identified in a study that had not been published before (provided by Raheb, Atkinson, Chin, and Vernon), there is earlier research that corroborates this theoretical interpretation. This research was carried out by Raheb, Atkinson, Chin, and Vernon.

Findings

To begin, research conducted by Besser, and Pried (2009) indicated that narcissistic persons are more likely to experience negative emotions when confronted with situations that cause them to



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feel rejected. Because jealousy may be comparable to rejection in the sense that dangers to relationships can lead a person to feel rejected by their spouse, events that generate jealousy are regarded to have the same negative impact. This is because envy can be seen as a kind of rejection. The conclusion that can be drawn from this is that events that provoke envy always have the same detrimental impact. In conclusion, we should anticipate that narcissism and romantic jealousy will demonstrate a connection that is favorable toward one another. According to Bogart, Geis, Levy, and Zimbardo (1970), as well as Hammock and O'Hearn (2002), Machiavellianism is a personality characteristic that likely results in a bias towards danger. Machiavellianism and romantic jealousy are likely to have a positive link for the same reason. According to Machiavellianism, the fundamental concern for higher persons is the urge to exert control over their environment and the actions of others to guarantee that their own requirements are satisfied. Those who have a high degree of Machiavellianism are more likely to feel that they've lost control of their lives if the love connection in their lives is put in jeopardy. To this research, it is anticipated that there would be a positive association between strong Machiavellianism and romantic jealousy. Specifically, it is anticipated that this relationship will hold true. Finally, a link between romantic jealousy and psychopathy is anticipated since individuals with high psychopathy are more prone to react defensively to runaway partners on their spouse (Jonason et al., 2010). situations that are most likely to cause emotions of jealousy depend on the premise that there is a link between romantic jealousy, such as when psychopathic individuals think their romantic relationships is in danger from "poaching" other people's partners. As a result, situations that are most likely to activate feelings of jealousy rely on the fact that there is a relationship between romantic jealousy.

Numerous research have investigated the connection between dark triad characteristics and a wide range of antisocial actions since these characteristics are often indicative of self-serving and dishonest tendencies. For instance, the Dark Triad has been linked to actions like putting the value of others ahead of one's own (Jonason, Strosser, Kroll, Duineveld, & Baruffi, 2015), resorting to violence (Jones & Paulhus, 2010), and engaging in predatory mating practices. (Jonason et al., Valentine et al., Li & Harbeson, 2011). In spite of the fact that these earlier studies have provided evidence that demonstrates the significance of this personality trait for



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study, no research that investigates the connection between the Dark Triad and jealousy has been published. The study of the connection between narcissism, Machiavellianism, psychopathy, and jealousy may help us get a deeper understanding of the ways in which negative personality characteristics can have an impact on the quality of intimate personal relationships. This is the most significant addition that this study makes to the body of prior research and literature.

Intermediary Variables

Researchers investigated the cognitive, emotional, and behavioral elements of jealousy, in addition to the Dark Triad, in an earlier study that was conducted but never published. They found high factor loadings for all the variables in the first unrotated factor, which suggests that the variables have something in common (Raheb, Atkinson, Chin, and Vernon were mentioned in this regard). To explain and shed light on the relationships that have been demonstrated to exist between emotions of jealousy and the Dark Triad, the present study will incorporate mediating factors as a method to explain and explain. In theory, the independent factors, represented here by the Dark Triad dimension, will have an influence on the mediating variables, which will then influence the dependent variables, represented here by the jealousy type.

Self-respect

Self-esteem was found to be one of the most examined and analyzed personality characteristics in connection to jealousy, as stated by McCain, Jonason, Foster, and Campbell (2014). A person's self-esteem may be described as their condition, quality, or attitude toward themselves as an individual. Because of the connections between self-esteem and both jealousy and the Dark Triad, we have the working hypothesis that it would be an appropriate variable to employ in the position of the mediator. This assumption is supported by the findings of a study conducted by Mullen and Martin (1994), in which the researchers discovered a correlation between elevated levels of jealousy and poor levels of self-esteem. These findings give evidence to back up the premise. (White & Mullen, 1989) found an even stronger association between jealousy and low self-esteem in circumstances in which the individual's self-esteem was believed to be relationship-specific (i.e., when the individual's self-esteem was dependent on their perceived shortcomings as a partner). This is due to the fact that a person's self-esteem is dependent on how inadequate they are thought to be as a spouse. In more recent studies, researchers have



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differentiated between explicit (consciously held) and implicit (unconsciously held) types of self-esteem. According to the findings of these studies (Stieger, Preyss, & Voracek, 2012), the researchers discovered that the association between male jealousy and explicit self-esteem was a negative one, but the relationship between female jealousy and implicit self-esteem was a positive one. In contrast, a positive association was found between men's explicit self-esteem and their implicit sense of self-worth. This suggests that individuals who score high on the jealousy scale have low levels of self-report, which they are able to consciously express, but those who score high on the jealousy scale have high levels of self-esteem, which is examined using an implicit self-association.

Respect Test

The most recent research looked at the function that self-esteem plays as a mediator between jealousy-inducing conditions and jealousy ratings. Self-esteem was shown to have a significant part in this role. There was a correlation between elevated levels of self-reported jealousy and low levels of implicit self-esteem, and there was also a correlation between low levels of implicit self-esteem and the scenario that first aroused envy. (DeSteno, Valdesolo, & Bartlett, 2006) discovered that when implicit self-esteem was added as a mediator variable, the considerable positive connection between jealousy-induced state and self-reported jealousy became insignificant. Based on these findings, it seems that implicit self-esteem may be involved in the formation of feelings of envy. In addition to the connections that have been shown between envy and self-esteem, there is evidence to imply that self-esteem is tied to the negative dynamics of the Dark Triad.

In the first place, studies on self-esteem and various forms of narcissism have demonstrated inconsistent correlations between the two concepts. The Narcissistic Personality Inventory differentiates between grandiose narcissism, also known as overt narcissism, and vulnerable narcissism, also known as covert narcissism. Both types of narcissism are characterized by an excessive preoccupation with one's own importance. Grandiose narcissism is defined by a need to preserve a grandiose self-image, while vulnerable narcissism is characterized by vacillations between thoughts of superiority and inferiority. Vulnerable narcissism, on the other hand, is characterized by vacillations between feelings of superiority and inferiority.



Argument

According to Rohmann, Neumann, Herner, and Bierhoff (2015), vulnerable narcissism has been shown to have a negative correlation with self-esteem, but grandiose narcissism has been found to have a positive correlation with self-esteem. Self-esteem is correlated favorably with the personality trait of arrogant narcissism. Machiavellianism, on the other hand, has been proven to have a negative link with self-esteem, and lower rates of self-esteem are noticed specifically in males who score higher in Machiavellianism (Hunter, Boster, Gerbing, 1982; Rauthmann, 2012). This is especially the case in men who score higher in Machiavellianism.

As a consequence of this, the two facets of psychopathy have contradictory links with an individual's perception of their own value. Primary psychopathy, which is predominantly characterized in non-clinical samples, has been demonstrated to have a positive link with self-esteem, but secondary psychopathy, which is usually detected in criminal and clinical samples, has a negative correlation with self-esteem, as stated by Falkenbach, Howe, and Falki (2013). It has been shown to have a detrimental effect on one's feelings of self-worth. Previous research (Visser, Pozzebon, Bogaert, & Ashton, 2010) has shown that the link between psychopathy and self-esteem may be different depending on the gender of the individual being studied (which I find to be an interesting finding). When researchers investigated the relationship between psychopathy and self-esteem and sexual behavior results, they found that males with a higher overall psychopathy score had better self-esteem, whereas women with a higher overall psychopathy score had higher sexual behavior outcomes. This was the case for people of both genders. It is believed that having a healthy sense of self-esteem may play a significant part in avoiding the negative effects of the relationship between envy and the Dark Triad. This is due to the fact that all Dark Triad dimensions include elements that are related to self-esteem. A link with one's own sense of self-worth is also indicated by jealousy.

Authorization

The word "authority" refers to a second variable that, according to Campbell, Bonacci, Shelton, Exline, and Bushman (2004), is meant to play the role of an intermediary in the relationship. The experience of believing that one is deserving of something and that one deserves it more than other people does is one definition of empowerment. According to Salovey and Rodin (1991),



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entitlement has been found to have a connection to the feeling of jealousy, an emotion that many research use interchangeably with jealousy. Authorization is taken into consideration to be a potential mediating variable as a result of these connections. According to Clonton and Kosins (1991) and Mathes and Severa (1981), jealousy is described as the unpleasant feelings experienced when a person seeks what they do not have (such as a relationship). However, jealousy is also defined as the negative emotions experienced when one's relationships are endangered. Jealousy and envy both entail emotions of inadequacy, animosity, and wrath; however, jealousy is characterized by the fear of losing something, while envy originates from the want of the person for something that they do not already have (Smith & Kim, 2007). Jealousy is characterized by the fear of losing something, while envy develops from the desire of the person for something that they do not already have (Smith & Kim, 2007).

Previous studies have shown that there is a connection between the Dark Triad and empowerment, which functions as the default mediating variable. The findings of the study were interpreted and presented in the form of a model that looks at the connection between narcissism and jealousy through the prism of authority and relative deprivation. According to Smith, Pettigrew, Pippin, and Bialosiewicz (2012), this approach places the emphasis not on sentiments of relative deprivation, antagonism, or inferiority, but rather on systems that generate outcomes and judgements that the individual should experience better results. Jealousy has been shown to have a strong correlation to relative deprivation. On the other hand, relative deprivation places more of an emphasis not on sentiments of hatred and inferiority but rather on mechanisms that deliver outcomes. The model developed by Neufeld and Johnson suggests that there is a direct and positive link between entitlement and dispositional jealousy. Dispositional jealousy refers to the ongoing sensation of feeling envious due to an individual's unique characteristics. Empowerment has been shown to have a beneficial association, although a more indirect one, with episodic jealousy. Episodic jealousy refers to the sensation of feeling envious during a certain event. As a result, the concept of entitlement was considered to be a mediating variable due to the fact that its connections to jealousy must be related to significant correlations with jealousy.



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Both jealousy and envy are feelings that are common when there is competition for few resources. In addition, there are individual connections that may be made between empowerment and the personality characteristics of psychopathy, Machiavellianism, and narcissism. It is not unexpected that the Psychological Empowerment Scale (PES) has a substantial link with narcissism given that the Narcissistic Personality Inventory contains empowerment as a subscale (Campbell et al. 2004). Lessard, Greenberger, Chen, and Farruggia (2011) found that a positive association exists between exploitative empowerment and Machiavellianism and psychopathy, whereas a positive correlation exists between non-exploitative empowerment and narcissism. Empowerment that does not include exploiting others was shown to have a positive correlation with narcissism, while exploitative empowerment was found to have a positive correlation with psychopathy. To be more precise, those who struggle with narcissism have the belief that they are deserving of great things but that they do not need the assistance of others to accomplish this goal. Individuals who have high degrees of Machiavellianism and psychopathy have a strong feeling of authority, and this sense of authority often displays itself in the form of exploitation of other people. It is essential to investigate empowerment's role as a mediator given that both empowerment and the Dark Triad have implications for incivility and destructive behavior in a variety of contexts, such as academia (Chowning & Campbell, 2009), the workplace (Twenge & Campbell, 2009), and sexual relationships (Campbell et al., 2004) ; Harvey & Martinko, 2009. Academic empowerment, which can be characterized as the concept that one should do well in school with minimum effort, is connected to the Dark Triad and predicts maladaptive causal attributions (Turnipseed & Cohen, 2015). In the first place, academic empowerment may be described as the belief that one should perform well in school with minimal work. The Dark Triad has the potential to stir up feelings of envy in those who are exposed to it. This attitude of entitlement may cause students to believe that they can argue and demand better marks, externalize responsibility for their achievements outside of their own personal labor, and have rigorous expectations regarding both their grades and the grade that the professor gives them (Chowning & Campbell, 2009). Students may assume they have the ability to fight and demand better scores if they are given this sort of empowerment. According to Twenge and Campbell (2009), academic empowerment may sometimes result in anger as a reaction to constructive criticism over one's schoolwork. Students in this scenario get into huge confrontations with one



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another in order to improve their scores by demanding things from others and threatening them in order to accomplish their objectives.

Second, having an attitude that you are entitled to something may have unfavorable and detrimental impacts in the job. According to the findings of study that was conducted by Harvey and Martinko (2009), workers who reported greater levels of entitlement also reported higher levels of conflict with their superiors and higher levels of threats to leave their jobs. According to Moller, Crocker, and Bushman (2008), in general, those with higher degrees of authority experience a greater amount of conflict and antagonism than those with lower levels of power. When it comes down to it, empowerment may have the same aggressive and bad impact on individuals who are close to one other in intimate relationships. It was shown in a research of college males that those who self-reported high levels of sexual aggressiveness also had much greater levels of entitlement. This was a correlation that was found between the two factors. In the Narcissistic Personality Inventory (NPI; Raskin & Hall, 1988), the General Empowerment measure (NPI plus author-generated items), and the Sexual Empowerment measure (Hurlbert, Apt, Gasar, Wilson, & Murphy, 1994), this is the entitlement subscale. The correlation between sexual aggressiveness and a feeling of entitlement enables us to make further implications from this finding. It has been shown that a sense of empowerment is favorably connected with misconceptions about rape, views that are antagonistic toward heterosexuals, exposure to pornography, and the number of sexual partners, whereas egalitarian gender roles are adversely associated with a feeling of empowerment (Bouffard, 2010).

Conclusion

It is of the utmost importance to investigate the possibility of entitlement serving as a mediator, since this trait reveals both envy and a relationship with the Dark Triad. In principle, one might experience feelings of jealousy not just in love circumstances but also in non-romantic ones like academic or professional environments. As a result, it is essential to investigate the possibility of authorisation serving as a mediator. For example, Bringle and Buunk (1985) and Dijkstra and Buunk (1998) found that emotions of jealousy were triggered when participants perceived that their spouse was paying more attention to another person, whether that person was actual or imagined. The experience of really losing an important connection (often sexual) or a



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relationship of this kind with another individual. When attempting to explain why people experience envy, evolutionary psychology has emerged as one of the most significant schools of thinking over the last two decades (for example, Wiederman & Kendall, 1999). Research conducted in the field of evolutionary psychology (for example, Buss, 1994; DeKay & Buss, 1992) suggests that the origin of envy lies in the course of our species' evolutionary history. It was intended to serve as a warning to individuals that they should take action to stop a partner from leaving a relationship. When seen from an evolutionary point of view, a long-term pair connection between parents and their offspring not only enhances the chances of the parents' survival, but it also raises the chances of the children's survival (for example, Fisher, 2000). For instance, in contrast to circumstances in which there is only one parent, the obligations of childcare and the availability of money might be split between partners when there is more than one parent. Jealousy is said to have originated as an inherited psychological disposition (for example, Buss (1994, 2000)), according to the theory of evolutionary psychology. This is due to the fact that those who experience jealousy and act upon it have a greater likelihood of averting the dissolution of their relationships compared to those who do not experience jealousy or act upon it. It is a commonly held belief that envy is a multi-faceted phenomena (for instance, Bringle and Buunk (1985), Buunk (1997), Mathes (1991), Pfeiffer and Wong (1989), and Sharpsteen (1991)). There have been several alternative typologies put up for consideration. For instance, Parrott (1991) differentiated between jealousy (what he labeled "suspicious jealousy") and jealousy that is a reaction to a possible threat to a relationship. He did this by referring to the former as "jealousy." A reaction to the fact that extra-binary sexual activity is already taking place with a partner (also known as "failover jealousy"). It has been shown by Afifi and Reichert (1996; see also Knobloch et al., 2001) and Buss et al. (1992) that the sensation of jealousy is distinct from its outward manifestation. There is a need for more research on this topic.

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