

# Narcissism Breakdown: Why Do People Choose to Hurt Other People?

Aren Jayanthan (*I am not a professional and this has not been proofread, please do your own research.*)

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*Citations are owned by their respective owners. Massive disclaimer: All of this is for educational and entertainment uses only. These theories, frameworks, and tests are not infallible, if the results say something about you that you don't think is true, you are right and it is wrong. I did the Big Five test and it said I like to party. Tf I like parties? Hell I don't even like crowds.*

*Please entertain the thoughts here without accepting them.*

Unreviewed, Objectively Researched, Subjectively Organized Paper (printer-friendly)

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## TOO LONG, DIDN'T READ PAPER SUMMARY

The name Narcissism comes from the Greek mythological figure Narcissus who fell in love with his own reflection.

**Three major categories:** **Covert narcissism** is tied to Vulnerability-Sensitivity narcissism (two-factor model), primarily involves neuroticism + antagonism (trifurcated model). **Overt narcissism** is tied to Grandiosity-Exhibitionism narcissism (two-factor model), primarily involves agentic extraversion + antagonism (trifurcated model). **Antagonism** is the middle ground that both covert and overt narcissism overlap. In the trifurcated model, there is neuroticism and agentic extraversion but it isn't a binary categorization like Wink's two-factor model. I'll clarify this point later on.

**Two-Factor Model** (before the FFNI): **Vulnerability-Sensitivity** was associated with introversion, defensiveness, anxiety, and vulnerability to life's traumas. **Grandiosity-Exhibitionism** was related to extraversion, self-assurance, exhibitionism, and aggression.

**Trifurcated Model** (after the FFNI). **Neuroticism** was measured as the mean of the scales Shame, Indifference (Reversed), and Need for Admiration. **Agentic Extraversion** was measured as the mean of the scales Acclaim Seeking, Authoritativeness, Grandiose Fantasies, and Exhibitionism. **Antagonism** was measured as the mean of the subscales Manipulativeness, Exploitativeness, Entitlement, Lack of Empathy, Arrogance, Reactive Anger, Distrust, and Thrill Seeking.

Narcissism developing from childhood development:

**Kernberg's Model:** Cold Parenting → Defensive Grandiosity: Parental devaluation, coldness, and rejection; Child defensively withdraws and develops mistrust of others; "Only I can be trusted" → inflated self-reliance and defensive grandiosity; Narcissism as a defense against feeling unloved

**Kohut's Model:** Unmet Mirroring Needs → Arrested Development: Failure of normal developmental processes (inadequate mirroring/idealization; Childhood narcissism is normal but fails to mature appropriately; Person remains stuck seeking mirroring and idealization in adult relationships; Narcissism as developmental arrest - the person never outgrew normal childhood narcissistic needs

**Millon's Model:** Overvaluation → Unrealistic Self-Image: Parental overvaluation and excessive praise; Child treated as special/perfect, develops unrealistic self-illusions; Inflated self-image that "cannot be sustained in the outer world"; Narcissism as learned grandiosity from excessive positive reinforcement

## TIMELINE OF THE PRIMARY STUDIES:

- **Two-Factor Model: 1991** (Wink, P. (1991). Two faces of narcissism. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 61(4), 590-597.)
- **Revised NEO Personality Inventory (NEO-PI-R) and NEO Five-Factor Inventory (NEO-FFI): 1992** (Costa, P. T., & McCrae, R. R. (1992). Revised NEO Personality Inventory (NEO-PI-R) and NEO Five-Factor Inventory (NEO-FFI) professional manual. Odessa, FL: Psychological Assessment Resources.)
- **Five Factor Narcissism Inventory: 2012** (Glover, N., Miller, J. D., Lynam, D. R., Crego, C., & Widiger, T. A. (2012). The five-factor narcissism inventory: A five-factor measure of narcissistic personality traits. *Journal of Personality Assessment*, 94(5), 500-512.)
- **Trifurcated Model: 2016** (Miller, J. D., Lynam, D. R., McCain, J. L., Few, L. R., Crego, C., Widiger, T. A., & Campbell, W. K. (2016). Thinking structurally about narcissism: An examination of the Five-Factor Narcissism Inventory and its components. *Journal of Personality Disorders*, 30(1), 1-18.)

“If you get what you want by telling a lie, you are not smart enough to get it by telling the truth.”

*Jordan Peterson*

The main sources referenced here is Paul Wink's Two Faces of Narcissism<sup>1</sup> (Covert vs Overt narcissism and Vulnerability-Sensitivity vs Grandiosity-Exhibitionism narcissism) and Miller et. al's Thinking Structurally about Narcissism<sup>2</sup> for Neuroticism, Antagonism, and Agentic Extraversion.

There's three major categories I'm categorizing for narcissism: Covert, Overt, and Antagonism.

I'm oversimplifying this. These aren't independent categories but a broader perspective to understand narcissism without going into the nitty gritty. The equivalences (covert = vulnerability-sensitivity = neuroticism+antagonism) are the author's synthesis, not formally established correspondences in the literature.

**Covert narcissism** is tied to Vulnerability-Sensitivity narcissism (two-factor model), primarily involves neuroticism + antagonism (trifurcated model).

**Overt narcissism** is tied to Grandiosity-Exhibitionism narcissism (two-factor model), primarily involves agentic extraversion + antagonism (trifurcated model)

**Antagonism** is the middle ground that both covert and overt narcissism overlap. Antagonism is the low pole of agreeableness, where those who are low scoring can be considered antagonistic, demonstrating characteristics such as being disagreeable.

#### According to Wink:

*Both the Vulnerability-Sensitivity and Grandiosity-Exhibitionism factors shared in common narcissistic characteristics of conceit, self-indulgence, and disregard for the needs of others.*

*However, whereas Vulnerability-Sensitivity was also associated with introversion, hypersensitivity, defensiveness, anxiety, and vulnerability, Grandiosity-Exhibitionism was related to*

*extraversion, aggressiveness, self-assuredness, and the need to be admired by others.*

## COVERT, VULNERABILITY-SENSITIVITY, AND NEUROTICISM

From Wink (referencing Kernberg, 1975, 1986; Kohut, 1977):

**Vulnerability-Sensitivity** was associated with *introversion, defensiveness, anxiety, and vulnerability to life's traumas.*

**Covertly** narcissistic individuals appear to be *hypersensitive, anxious, timid, and insecure, but on close contact surprise observers with their grandiose fantasies (Kernberg, 1986).*

These individuals present as defensive, anxious, hypersensitive, introverted, and socially insecure. They lack confidence in social and leadership situations, and these traits appear to be stable personality dispositions rather than temporary states. However, beneath this withdrawn exterior, their relationships still show narcissistic qualities like self-indulgence, arrogance, and insistence on getting their way.

**Neuroticism** is a personality trait associated with negative emotions, where people high in neuroticism experience emotions like fear, anger, shame, envy, or depression more often and intensely. Neuroticism is linked to negative emotionality, interpersonal sensitivity, and psychoticism. This dimension includes hypersensitivity, insecurity, and emotional instability (traits more associated with vulnerable narcissism).

#### According to Miller et. al:

*Neuroticism was measured as the mean of the scales Shame, Indifference (Reversed), and Need for Admiration.*

#### According to Glover et. al:

<sup>1</sup> Wink, P. (1991)

<sup>2</sup> Miller, J. D., Lynam, D. R., McCain, J. L., Few, L. R., Crego, C., Widiger, T. A., & Campbell, W. K. (2016)

*The neuroticism factor includes two positively keyed scales from the vulnerable dimension (i.e., Shame and Need for Admiration) and one negatively keyed scale from the grandiose dimension (i.e., Indifference), indicating that the vulnerable dimension is positively related to neuroticism while the grandiose dimension is negatively related.*

(Refer to The Five-Factor Narcissism Inventory for the expanded list of scales.)

## OVERT, GRANDIOSITY-EXHIBITIONISM, AND AGENTIC EXTRAVERSION

From Wink (referencing Kernberg, 1975, 1986; Kohut, 1977):

**Grandiosity-Exhibitionism** was related to extraversion, self-assurance, exhibitionism, and aggression.

When it is **overt**, narcissistic grandiosity leads to a direct expression of exhibitionism, self-importance, and preoccupation with receiving attention and admiration from others.

Similarly, Reich's (1949) notion of phallic narcissism [expanded in the Context section] stresses arrogant self-assurance, blatant self-confidence, and flagrant display of superiority.

These individuals are outwardly confident, assertive, aggressive, and attention-seeking. They display high social poise, a need for power and admiration, manipulateness, and disregard for others. Spouses describe them as show-offs, egotistical, and self-centered.

**Agentic Extraversion** is associated with subjective well-being, initial popularity, and attractiveness. This dimension involves assertiveness, dominance, and a strong desire for attention and admiration. It's more closely linked to grandiose narcissism.

**According to Miller et. al:**

*Agentic Extraversion was measured as the mean of the scales Acclaim Seeking, Authoritativeness, Grandiose Fantasies, and Exhibitionism.*

**According to Glover et. al:**

*The agentic extraversion factor is composed entirely of grandiose scales (i.e., Acclaim Seeking, Authoritativeness, Grandiose Fantasies, and Exhibitionism).*

(Refer to The Five-Factor Narcissism Inventory for the expanded list of scales.)

## ANTAGONISM

**Antagonism** is, if you kinda think of this as a venn-diagram, the middle section of traits that both overt and covert narcissism share.

It's the core of the narcissistic personality trait that explains grandiose and vulnerable narcissism's association with interpersonal pathologies, involving entitlement, manipulation, and callousness.

It is categorically different from agentic extraversion and neuroticism, but there is sooooo much overlap with agentic extraversion-antagonism and neuroticism-antagonism.

**According to Miller et. al:**

*Antagonism was measured as the mean of the subscales Manipulateness, Exploitativeness, Entitlement, Lack of Empathy, Arrogance, Reactive Anger, Distrust, and Thrill Seeking.*

**According to Glover et. al:**

*The antagonism factor is made of up scales from both the vulnerable (e.g., Reactive Anger, Distrust) and grandiose (i.e., Exploitativeness, Lack of Empathy, Entitlement, Arrogance, and Manipulateness) dimensions.*

In my opinion, it is easy to identify when someone is intentionally being narcissistic when it is explicit and overt. It is somewhat harder to see narcissistic behavior when it is implicit and covert, especially when it comes to hyper-masculine men and hyper-feminine women (I'll do another paper

on the comparison of these two types) since it's almost like a societal acceptance for a mask that hides the truth.

(Meaning because I have identified that as a construct that is socially acceptable, I think it is the truth even though it is a lie surrounded by the truth. There are logical fallacies around this and kinda like plausible deniability and selective ignorance but a better way of phrasing this is: "I would rather keep my illusions for they are often kinder than the truth".)

Anyways, back to the main point that I'm going down the antagonism rabbit hole because 1) it is cool af and 2) the similarities of overt/covert/explicit/implicit may be able to bridge that gap of hidden yet plausible deniability.

From Szymczak et. al's abstract:

*We found that*

- *agentic extraversion was positively related to trust and unrelated to cynicism,*
- *antagonism was negatively related to trust and positively related to cynicism,*
- *and narcissistic neuroticism was not related to trust nor cynicism.*

*Furthermore, narcissism indicates a positive relationship to trust as it is related to the agentic extraversion aspect, which might be considered as an adaptive aspect of narcissism.*

(A future paper will go into interpersonal trust, human nature is inherently good, vs cynicism, human nature is inherently evil and egoistic.)

From the Five-Factor Narcissism Inventory, antagonism has nine sub facets (four of which are also categorized under Vulnerability-Sensitivity (marked in **bold font**) and the rest under Grandiosity-Exhibitionism.

- **Reactive Anger, Shame**, Indifference, Arrogance, Lack of Empathy, Manipulativeness, Exploitativeness, Entitlement, **Cynicism/Distrust**

(Full definitions of each is in the *The Five-Factor Narcissism Inventory (FFNI)* categorized under the *Trifurcated Model* section.)

Small tangent: apparently there is a Antagonism-Agreeableness dimension<sup>3</sup>:

*The Antagonism-Agreeableness dimension includes these more basic bipolar traits: callousness versus compassion, immorality versus morality, distrust versus trust, combativeness versus affability, and arrogance versus modesty.*

Another small tangent: a seven factor structure of antagonism<sup>4</sup>:

*A series of factor analyses were conducted to examine the structure of antagonism at a range of specificities. A seven-factor solution emerged as being both comprehensive and reasonably parsimonious with factors labeled Callousness, Grandiosity, Domineering, Manipulation, Suspiciousness, Aggression, and Risk Taking.*

Small tangent numero tres<sup>5</sup>:

*Agreeableness have been developed, but empirically derived descriptions of this domain are largely missing....A five-factor solution was identified as most appropriate for most purposes. Identified facets in the five-factor solution were labeled Compassion, Morality, Trust, Affability, and Modesty.*

This is a whole bunch of not-a-today research but for future reference or for your exploratory pleasure.

<sup>3</sup> Lynam, D. R., & Miller, J. D. (2019)

<sup>4</sup> Sleep, C. E., Crowe, M. L., Carter, N. T., Lynam, D. R., & Miller, J. D. (2021)

<sup>5</sup> Crowe, M. L., Lynam, D. R., & Miller, J. D. (2019)

# THE FIVE-FACTOR NARCISSISM INVENTORY (FFNI) CATEGORIZED UNDER THE TRIFURCATED MODEL

To break this down a bit further, the Five-Factor Narcissism Inventory was specifically developed to assess traits associated with narcissistic personality disorder (NPD). The FFNI draws from both the Big Five general framework AND the Revised NEO Personality Inventory facets, while also incorporating Wink's influential two-factor model distinguishing grandiose and vulnerable narcissism.<sup>6</sup>

## NEUROTICISM

**Need for Admiration:** involving a sense of inner weakness, uncertainty, and insecurity with respect to a desired or perceived greatness.

**Shame:** concerning shame or humiliation in response to perceived slights, criticism, failure, or rebuke.

**Indifference:** concerning indifference in response to perceived slights, criticism, failure, or rebuke.

## AGENTIC EXTRAVERSION

**Acclaim-Seeking:** assessing narcissistic aspirations, working toward acclaim, and an excessive driving ambition to achieve.

**Thrill-Seeking:** assessing a tendency to engage in high-risk behavior for the sake of thrills and excitement.

**Grandiose Fantasies:** assessing fantasies of grandeur and success, preoccupation with fantasies of future glory, and a tendency to distort reality to achieve an overly positive

view of past, current, or future accomplishments.

**Exhibitionism:** a seeking of constant admiration, showing off when in the presence of others, and attention-seeking, without reference to feelings of insecurity.

**Authoritativeness:** assessing a tendency to take charge of situations, to authoritatively take responsibility for making decisions, and to perceive oneself as a leader.

## ANTAGONISM

**Reactive Anger:** in response to perceived slights, criticism, failure, or rebuke.

**Arrogance:** assessing haughty, snobbish, imperious, pretentious, conceited, pompous, and disdainful beliefs and behaviors.

**Lack of Empathy:** assessing the extent to which the person fails to be aware of, appreciate, or acknowledge the feelings of others, displaying attitudes that are generally uncaring and unsympathetic.

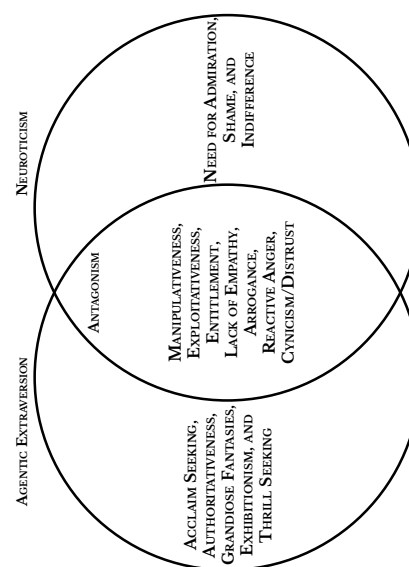
**Manipulativeness:** assessing a tendency to skillfully and characteristically manipulate,

ply, shape, beguile, machinate, or maneuver the feelings or opinions of others.

**Exploitativeness:** assessing a tendency to exploit, take advantage of, and use others for his or her own gain.

**Entitlement:** involving feelings and actions of entitlement, presumptuousness, not being satisfied until he OR she gets what is perceived to be deserved, or expectation of favorable treatment.

**Cynicism/Distrust:** assessing a sense of cynicism and mistrust concerning the motives, intentions, and reliability of others.



<sup>6</sup> Glover, N., Miller, J. D., Lynam, D. R., Crego, C., & Widiger, T. A. (2012)

## NARCISSISM AND SELF-ESTEEM

According to Glover et. al:

*Self-esteem seems to explain the relations between narcissism and certain positive outcomes related to psychological health and well-being.*

- *The FFNI Agentic Extraversion factor manifested a significant positive relation,*
- *the FFNI Neuroticism factor manifested a significant negative relation,*
- *and the FFNI Antagonism factor manifested a null relation with self-esteem.*

*These results help explain why measures of grandiose narcissism tend to manifest positive correlations with self-esteem, whereas measures of vulnerable narcissism tend to manifest negative correlations, they include content consistent with negative emotionality/neuroticism versus positive emotionality/extraversion.*

*The null correlation between the FFNI Antagonism factor and self-esteem is interesting because we have argued previously that there are both vulnerable/low self-esteem and grandiose/high self-esteem pathways to inter- and intrapersonal antagonism.*

## NARCISSISM AND CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

### **Kernberg's Model: Cold Parenting → Defensive Grandiosity**

Narcissism as a **defense against** feeling unloved: Parental devaluation, coldness, and rejection → Child defensively withdraws and develops mistrust of others; "Only I can be trusted" → inflated self-reliance and defensive grandiosity.

From Campbell (1999):

*Kernberg (1974, 1975) theorized that narcissism emerges from a childhood lacking adequate love*

*from a caregiver, especially in the pre-Oedipal years (roughly before age 3). Narcissism is developed as a defense against feelings of abandonment or loss as well as the rage associated with this abandonment.*

*First, underneath the inflated self-image, the narcissist is constantly at risk of experiencing intense feelings of fear, abandonment, and doubt.*

*Second, the narcissist strives to maintain an inflated self-image in close relationships to protect the self from this experience of abandonment.*

From Emmons (1987):

*Kernberg sees narcissism developing as a consequence of parental rejection or abandonment. This parental-devaluation hypothesis states that because of cold and rejecting parents, the child defensively withdraws and comes to believe that it is only himself or herself that can be trusted and relied on and therefore loved.*

### **Kohut's Model: Unmet Mirroring Needs → Arrested Development**

Narcissism as **developmental arrest** (the person never outgrew normal childhood narcissistic needs): Childhood narcissism is **normal** but fails to mature appropriately → Failure of normal developmental processes (inadequate mirroring/idealization → Person remains stuck seeking mirroring and idealization in adult relationships.

From Emmons (1987):

*Kohut's theory is actually a developmental theory of the self, where pathological narcissism can result from failure to idealize the parents because of rejection or indifference.*

From Campbell (1999):

*Kohut (1977) described a different etiology of narcissism. Narcissism is a normal aspect of infant development. Narcissism is maintained through two strategies: mirroring and idealization.*

*According to Kohut, this childhood narcissism will gradually fade as the mirroring and the idealization*

*processes slowly diminish and are replaced by more realistic views of self and other.*

*If these narcissistic needs are not met, however, the individual will maintain a defensive and inflated self-image and will try to meet these mirroring and idealization needs in the context of adult interpersonal relationships (Akhtar & Thompson, 1982; Greenberg & Mitchell, 1983).*

### **Millon's Model: Overvaluation → Unrealistic Self-Image**

Narcissism as **learned grandiosity** from excessive positive reinforcement: Parental **overvaluation** and excessive praise → Child treated as special/perfect, develops unrealistic self-illusions → Inflated self-image that "cannot be sustained in the outer world".

From Emmons (1987):

*Millon (1981) and is what he calls a social-learning theory of narcissism. This view sees narcissism developing not as a response to parental devaluation but rather as a consequence of parental overvaluation. The child is treated as a special person, provided with a lot of attention, and led by parents to believe he or she is lovable and perfect.*

*According to Millon (1981), such unrealistic overvaluation will lead to self-illusions that "cannot be sustained in the outer world" (p. 165).*

## ETYMOLOGY OF NARCISSISM

The name Narcissism comes from the Greek mythological figure Narcissus who fell in love with his own reflection.

Book 3 Summary by Henry Riely:

*Jupiter has a discussion with Juno on the relative pleasures of the sexes, and they agree to refer the question to Tiresias, who has been of both sexes.*

*He gives his decision in favour of Jupiter, on which Juno deprives him of sight; and, by way of recompense, Jupiter bestows on him the gift of prophesy. His first prediction is fulfilled in the case of Narcissus, who, despising the advances of all females (in whose number is Echo, who has been transformed into a sound), at last pines away with love for himself, and is changed into a flower which bears his name.*

The actual words would be like two or three pages here so please refer to Book 4, Fable 7 from The Metamorphoses of Ovid. Project Gutenberg has a public domain version (eBook 21765)<sup>7</sup>.

## — CONTEXT SECTION —

The following section consists of contextual knowledge about the

- Big Five Framework
- Revised NEO Personality Inventory
- Two-Factor Model
- Narcissistic personality disorder
- The Five-Factor Narcissism Inventory
- Two-Factor Model
- Trifurcated Model
- The Phallic-Narcissistic Character
- Oedipus Complex

These, while important to understand the development of the FFNI construct, is more for informational purposes.

## BIG FIVE FRAMEWORK

The Big Five is a widely accepted theoretical framework in personality psychology that

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/21765>



identifies five broad, bipolar dimensions of personality<sup>8</sup>:

- **Neuroticism** (vs. emotional stability)
- **Extraversion** (vs. introversion)
- **Openness** (vs. closedness) to experience
- **Agreeableness** (vs. antagonism),
- **Conscientiousness** (vs. impulsivity)

More specifically<sup>9</sup>:

- **Neuroticism**: emotional distress versus emotionally stable
- **Extraversion**: energetic and thrill-seeking versus sober and solitary
- **Openness**: Curious and unconventional versus traditional and pragmatic
- **Agreeableness**: kind and trusting versus competitive and arrogant
- **Conscientiousness**: disciplined and fastidious versus laidback and careless

## REVISED NEO PERSONALITY INVENTORY

Revised NEO Personality Inventory (**NEO-PI-R**), and its baby brother the NEO Five-Factor Inventory (**NEO-FFI**), is one of the most established tests designed to measure the Big Five traits (Neuroticism, Extraversion, Openness, Agreeableness, Conscientiousness).

(NEO refers to the original structure of Neuroticism, Extraversion, Openness but later got

updated to include Agreeableness and Conscientiousness.)

The **NEO-PI-R** is the full, comprehensive version that tests the 5 broad personality domains plus 30 specific facet scales (6 facets per domain), while the **NEO-FFI** scores only for the 5 broad domains, with no facet-level information.

### Evolution of the Test:

- 1978: Original NEO-PI (measuring only Neuroticism, Extraversion, Openness)
- 1985: Updated to include all five factors
- 1992: NEO-PI-R (Revised version) - 240 items
- 1992: NEO-FFI (Five-Factor Inventory) - 60-item short version
- 2005: NEO-PI-3 (updated with improved readability for adolescents)

## NARCISSISTIC PERSONALITY DISORDER

Narcissistic Personality Disorder (NPD) is defined by the American Psychological Association's Dictionary of Psychology<sup>10,11</sup> as the following:

*A personality disorder with the following characteristics:*

- (a) a long-standing pattern of grandiose self-importance and an exaggerated sense of talent and achievements
- (b) fantasies of unlimited sex, power, brilliance, or beauty
- (c) an exhibitionistic need for attention and admiration

<sup>8</sup> Samuel, D. B., & Widiger, T. A. (2008)

<sup>9</sup> Costa, P. T., & McCrae, R. R. (1992)

<sup>10</sup> APA Dictionary of Psychology: Narcissistic Personality Disorder

<sup>11</sup> ([Originally formulated by psychoanalysts Wilhelm Reich (1897–1957), Otto Kernberg (1928– ), and Heinz Kohut (1913–1981) and psychologist Theodore Millon])

- (d) either cool indifference or feelings of rage, humiliation, or emptiness as a response to criticism, indifference, or defeat
- and (e) various interpersonal disturbances, such as feeling entitled to special favors, taking advantage of others, and inability to empathize with the feelings of others.

## THE FIVE-FACTOR NARCISSISM INVENTORY

The Five-Factor Narcissism Inventory (FFNI) is specifically developed to assess traits associated with narcissistic personality disorder.

The FFNI draws from both the Big Five general framework and the Revised NEO Personality Inventory facets, while also incorporating Wink's influential two-factor model distinguishing grandiose and vulnerable narcissism:

- **Neuroticism:** Reactive Anger (N2 - Angry Hostility), Shame (N4 - Self-Consciousness), Indifference (N4 - low Self-Consciousness), Need for Admiration (N6 - Vulnerability)
- **Extraversion:** Exhibitionism (E2 - Gregariousness), Authoritativeness (E3 - Assertiveness), Thrill-Seeking (E5 - Excitement Seeking)
- **Openness:** Grandiose Fantasies (O1 - Fantasy)
- **Low Agreeableness:** Cynicism/Distrust (low A1 - Trust), Manipulativeness (low A2 - Straightforwardness), Exploitativeness (low A3 - Altruism), Entitlement (low A3 - Altruism), Arrogance (low A5 - Modesty), Lack of Empathy (low A6 - Tender-mindedness)
- **Conscientiousness:** Acclaim-Seeking (C4 - Achievement Striving)

## TWO-FACTOR MODEL

(Created before FFNI.)

*Vulnerability-Sensitivity was associated with introversion, defensiveness, anxiety, and vulnerability to life's traumas*

*Grandiosity-Exhibitionism was related to extraversion, self-assurance, exhibitionism, and aggression.*

## TRIFURCATED MODEL

(Created after the FFNI.)

*Agentic Extraversion is measured as the average of the subscales: Acclaim Seeking, Authoritativeness, Grandiose Fantasies, and Exhibitionism.*

*Neuroticism is measured as the average of the subscales: Shame, Indifference (Reversed), and Need for Admiration.*

*Antagonism is measured as the average of the subscales: Manipulativeness, Exploitativeness, Entitlement, Lack of Empathy, Arrogance, Reactive Anger, Distrust, and Thrill Seeking.*

## THE PHALLIC-NARCISSISTIC CHARACTER (REICH, 1949)

*The phallic-narcissistic character differs even in external appearance from the compulsive and the hysterical character.*

*The compulsive is predominantly inhibited, reserved, depressive; the hysteric is nervous, agile, fear-ridden, erratic.*

*The typical phallic-narcissistic character, on the other hand, is self-assured, sometimes arrogant, elastic, energetic, often impressive in his bearing.*

*The more neurotic the inner mechanism is, the more obtrusive these modes of behavior are and the more blatantly they are paraded about.*

## OEDIPUS COMPLEX

Oedipal (or Oedipus complex) is a central concept in Freudian psychoanalysis, named after the Greek mythological figure Oedipus, who unknowingly killed his father and married his mother.

Please refer to Sigmund Freud's The Ego and the Id for more information about the general concept.

Please to refer to Heinz Kohut's The Restoration of Self for more information about his point of view on the oedipus complex.

## CITATIONS

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## RELATED TOPICS

- Narcissism, the Dark Triad/Tetrad, The HEXACO Model (opposite of narcissism/Dark Triad), Confidence and the Bayesian Probability (and how narcissism can be interpreted as confidence), and then once all of that is well researched, one paper on Where does honesty end and narcissism begin?

- Interpersonal trust, human nature is inherently good, vs cynicism, human nature is inherently evil and egoistic.
- “I would rather keep my illusions for they are often kinder than the truth”.

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