



HHS Public Access

Author manuscript

Pers Individ Dif. Author manuscript; available in PMC 2020 March 01.

Published in final edited form as:

Pers Individ Dif. 2019 March 1; 139: 39–45. doi:10.1016/j.paid.2018.10.039.

Narcissism and Devaluing Others: An Exploration of Impaired Control Over Drinking as a Mediating Mechanism of Alcohol-Related Problems

E.S. Naidu¹, J. Patock-Peckham¹, A. Ruof¹, D. Bauman¹, P. Banovich¹, T. Frohe², and R. F. Leeman^{2,3}

¹Arizona State University

²University of Florida

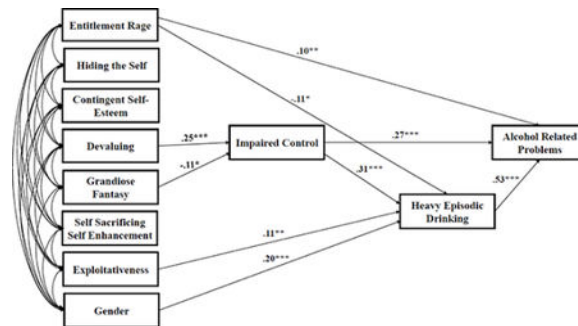
³Yale School of Medicine

Abstract

Devaluing or diminishing the worth of others is how many individuals destroy their relationships, such as by drinking beyond limits at inappropriate times and letting others down. Impaired control over drinking (IC) reflects consuming alcohol beyond predetermined limits. This investigation sought to determine whether facets of vulnerable narcissism (e.g., entitlement-rage, hiding-the-self, contingent-self-esteem, and devaluing) or narcissistic grandiosity (e.g. grandiose-fantasy, self-sacrificing-for-self-enhancement, and exploitativeness) were directly related to IC and indirectly related to drinking outcomes. We examined a path model of 759 university student drinkers. Our results show that while grandiose-fantasy (i.e., desire for special recognition) was negatively linked to IC, devaluing was positively linked to IC. In addition, men scored higher on exploitativeness (i.e., interpersonally manipulative for personal gain) than women. We conducted mediational analysis with asymmetric confidence intervals and a bias-corrected bootstrap technique. Mediational tests showed that higher levels of grandiose-fantasy were indirectly related to fewer alcohol-related problems through less IC and less heavy-episodic drinking. In contrast, higher levels of devaluing were indirectly related to more alcohol-related problems through more IC and heavy-episodic-drinking. Our results suggest that targeting thought processes in which people with Alcohol Use Disorders (AUDs) are actively devaluing others may be a good target for therapeutic intervention.

Graphical Abstract

Publisher's Disclaimer: This is a PDF file of an unedited manuscript that has been accepted for publication. As a service to our customers we are providing this early version of the manuscript. The manuscript will undergo copyediting, typesetting, and review of the resulting proof before it is published in its final citable form. Please note that during the production process errors may be discovered which could affect the content, and all legal disclaimers that apply to the journal pertain.



Keywords

Narcissism; Devaluing; Grandiose Fantasy; Exploitativeness; Impaired Control Over Drinking; Heavy Episodic Drinking; Alcohol-Related Problem

1. Introduction

“We have become a nation of addicts--addicted to ourselves. We need a recovery program for the self-absorbed” – Patti Maguire Armstrong (2014).

Historically, narcissism has been deemed excessive selfishness or self-admiration. The complete sonnets and poems of Shakespeare (Poem -Venus & Adonis, 1593) recanted the Greek story of Narcissus, who fell in love with his own reflection, while ignoring a chance for a real relationship. Psychoanalysts as early as Sigmund Freud (1914) described a developmental stage in children in which their egos lack concern for anyone else’s needs, which he referred to as primary narcissism. According to Freud, individuals severely traumatized during this developmental period never leave the ego-driven state, even as adults, leaving them incapable of caring for others. Karen Horney (1937) theorized that the narcissist’s self-esteem is never strong because it is never based on genuine accomplishments. Heinz Kohut (1971) wrote about individuals whose needs were not met in childhood and escape from bad inner negativity into idealized objects outside of themselves. Otto Kernberg (1975) believed narcissism depends upon the affirmation of others and the acquisition of desirable objects. In sum, narcissists have been characterized as developmentally stunted in their concern for the well-being of other people in their lives.

1.2 Narcissism

Narcissism can be characterized by overt and covert expressions of maladaptive vulnerable (i.e., Entitlement-Rage, Hiding-the-Self, Contingent-Self-Esteem, and Devaluing-the-Self/Others) as well as adaptive grandiose (i.e., Grandiose-Fantasy, Self-Sacrificing-Self-Enhancement, and Exploitativeness) facets (PNI; Pincus et al., 2009). Table 1 contains complete definitions and associated constructs of each facet. Vulnerable Narcissism is reflected in experiences of helplessness, emptiness, low self-esteem, shame, and suicidality resulting from behavioral dysregulation in response to ego-threats and self-enhancement failures (Akhtar, 2000; Dickinson & Pincus, 2003). Pincus (2013) provided an example of a vulnerable narcissistic patient who, after hearing that his trust fund was exhausted,

strategically attempted suicide at the exact time his mother would find him. In contrast, Grandiose Narcissism is associated with exhibiting adaptive self-enhancement strategies, as well as arrogant, conceited, and domineering attitudes and behaviors (Buss & Chiodo, 1991) that are maladaptive for positive interpersonal relationships. Pincus (2013) exemplified a grandiose-narcissistic patient who regularly threatened to shoot people who parked in his designated parking space--even though he did not drive a car. Grandiose narcissism has been related to alcohol use (Buelow & Brunell, 2014; Maclaren & Best, 2013), temporal discounting (Buelow & Brunell, 2014) and risk-taking behaviors among both college (Foster, Shenese, & Goff, 2009) and clinical samples (Martin et al., 2013). Yet, facets of narcissism are under-addressed in the existing literature.

1.3 Narcissism and Alcohol Use

Historically, Alcoholics Anonymous “recognizes pathological narcissism as a central problem in alcoholism” (Levin, 1987, p.332; for a clinical sample, see Sawrie, Watson, Sherback, Greene, & Arredondo, 1997). Narcissism and addiction are not entirely distinct. Author of *Trauma and Addiction*, Dayton (2009), describes, “the needs of those around them have to come second to their meeting their own, often overpowering desire for their next ‘fix,’ whether it be a drink, drug, food or sexual encounter. Both the narcissist and the addict are first and foremost self-absorbed.” Indeed, in a National Epidemiologic Civilian Survey regarding Narcissistic Personality Disorder (NPD; measured with a composite score), Stinson et al., 2008, found NPD to be prevalent among those with alcohol use disorder (AUD).

Narcissism is described as an underlying need for validation and affirmation of a positive, inflated self-image, at times at the cost of positive interpersonal relationships (Baumeister & Vohs, 2001). Additionally, narcissists tend to hold self-concepts which are both exaggeratedly grandiose and extremely fragile (Morf & Rhodewalt, 2001), leaving them particularly vulnerable to experiencing ego-threat (i.e. an event that calls into question one’s positive self-view; VanDellen, Campbell, Hoyle, & Bradfield, 2011). Based on the ego-threat hypothesis (Baumeister, 1997; Kohut, 1972), the theoretical stance suggests that those with inflated but vulnerable self-concepts have more to lose. Thus, they may be more susceptible to brief but severe drops in self-esteem (Bushman & Baumeister, 1998; Kernis, 1993), which may cause individuals to turn to externalizing behaviors, such as drinking (Kealy, Ogrodnick, Rice & Oliffe, 2017; nationally representative sample of Canadian men), to temporarily relieve the pain of a weakened self-representation. Baumeister (1997) has also specifically noted, “threatened egotism has been shown to be one clear cause of increased drinking.” Of the two dimensions, vulnerable or grandiose, we expected that vulnerable would be more closely associated to dysregulated drinking behaviors. Of the vulnerable facets, Baumeister’s theory would suggest that contingent-self-esteem would be the most highly associated with drinking outcomes. Nevertheless, we had no clear predictions regarding which vulnerable facets would be the most closely associated and consider our study to be exploratory.

Studies assessing the relationship between narcissism and alcohol use found that narcissism, as a composite construct, significantly predicts alcohol use (Kealy et al., 2017; Luhtanen &

Crocker, 2005). However, narcissism may contain a mix of adaptive and maladaptive features (See Table 1; Cain, Pincus, & Ansell, 2008; Paulhus, 1998; Wink, 1991). While associations between grandiose narcissism and alcohol use exist (Buelow & Brunell, 2014; Maclaren & Best, 2013), Schoenleber, Sabeh, & Verona (2011; they used the NPI-16; Ames et al., 2006) found that vulnerable narcissism showed stronger associations with substance use than grandiose narcissism. Moreover, in a substance dependent sample, Karakoula & Triliva (2016) found that those with significant narcissistic disturbances were more likely to exhibit vulnerable rather than grandiose traits with composite measures of these constructs. However, it remains unclear as to which vulnerable facets (i.e. entitlement-rage, hiding-the-self, contingent-self-esteem, & devaluing) are most important in the etiology of AUDs. Thus, there is a need to study differential drinking outcomes associated with the various facets of narcissism (Russ & Shelder, 2013). The current study sought to determine how particular facets of either vulnerable or grandiose narcissism may be related to heavy-episodic drinking and alcohol-related problems through the mediating mechanism of impaired-control-over-drinking.

1.4 Narcissism and Impaired Control over Drinking

Impaired-control-over-drinking (IC) reflects consuming alcohol beyond predetermined limits (For a clinical sample, see Heather, Tebbutt, Mattick, & Zamir, 1993; For a review, see Leeman, Patock-Peckham, & Potenza, 2012) and is a prospective major tenet of alcohol dependence (Leeman, Toll, Taylor, & Volpicelli, 2009). IC has been characterized by some as a loss of self-control specific to the drinking situation (Patock-Peckham & Morgan-Lopez, 2006) and is related to impulsivity in both men and women (Patock-Peckham, et al., 2011; Patock-Peckham & Morgan-Lopez, 2006).

According to Vazire & Funder's meta-analysis (2006), impulsive acts account for much of a narcissist's maladaptive behavior. In fact, narcissists have been found to score lower on overall self-control (Ludwig et al., 2013; sample of healthy 18–34 year olds) than non-narcissists. In addition, self-control has been found to mediate a composite score for narcissism (using the PNI) and substance use. Due to a tendency to use poor self-regulation strategies, narcissists may be particularly prone to engaging in alcohol use through IC, (Dowgwillo, Dawood & Pincus, 2016; Vazire & Funder, 2006). Because IC has been characterized as impulsivity specific to the drinking context (Patock-Peckham & colleagues, 2011; 2006; 2001), we sought to explore how the distinct facets of narcissism might be linked directly to IC and, in turn, to heavy-episodic drinking and alcohol-related problems.

1.5 Gender Differences

It has been widely shown that men tend to be more narcissistic than women (Grijalva, et al., 2015). This finding may be explained by Social Role Theory (Eagly, Wood, & Diekmann, 2000), which suggests that women experience greater social consequences than men for exhibiting egotistic behaviors (Tschanz et al., 1998). In addition, men consistently drink more and have more alcohol-related problems than women (Geisner, Larimer, & Neighbors, 2004). Due to these known differences, we included gender as a covariate in our model.

1.5 Objectives and Hypotheses

This study specifically sought to determine which facets of narcissism were directly related to IC. Moreover, we sought to examine if IC and heavy-episodic-drinking would mediate the indirect links between facets of narcissism and alcohol-related problems. As the vulnerable facets suggest irrational and maladaptive actions, we predicted that they would be positively linked to IC. As grandiose-fantasy is associated with higher self-esteem and greater degrees of adaptive self-presentational behavior, we expected that it may be negatively linked to IC among our college sample.

2. Methods

2.1 Participants

Participants included 759 (369 women, 390 men) individuals from a large university, all of whom reported consuming alcoholic beverages. All consented to participate in this study. Participants represented 187 distinct majors university wide (not including undeclared) with 51.7% freshman, 25.4% sophomore, 15.1% junior, 6.9% senior, and 5.5% other. The sample was comprised of 51% men, with a mean age of 19.84 ($SD = 2.87$). Participants were 60.5% Caucasian, 15.5% Hispanic, 14.1% Asian, 5.3% African American, 1.3% Native American, and 3.3% Other.

2.2 Measures

Pathological Narcissism Inventory (PNI).—This scale was normed on a college sample (Pincus, Ansell, Pimentel, Cain, Wright, & Levy, 2009) contains 52 items assessing 7 dimensions of pathological narcissism described in Table 1. The definitions described in Table 1 were taken from Pincus (2013, p. 100). The Cronbach alpha reliabilities of the vulnerable narcissism facets for this current sample were: Entitlement Rage $\alpha = .92$, Hiding the Self $\alpha = .89$, Contingent Self-Esteem $\alpha = .96$, and Devaluing $\alpha = .91$. The Cronbach alpha reliabilities for the Narcissistic Grandiosity facets included: Grandiose Fantasy $\alpha = .92$, Self-Sacrificing-Self-Enhancement $\alpha = .87$, and Exploitativeness $\alpha = .85$.

Impaired Control Measure.—This scale reflects 10 items from the Impaired Control Scale (Heather et al., 1993) which was normed on a clinical sample. Higher scores reflect a lack of perceived control over drinking (i.e., an inability to stop drinking at will). A sample item included, “Even if I intended on having only one or two drinks, I would end up having many more.” The Cronbach alpha reliability for this sample was $\alpha = .81$.

Heavy-Episodic Drinking.—This item measures occasions of heavy-episodic drinking (Wood et al., 1992): “How many times in the past year (or when you were drinking) did you drink 5 or more bottles (4 for women) or cans of beer, glasses of wine, or drinks of distilled spirits on a single occasion?” Responses ranged from 0 = never to 7 = daily or nearly daily.

Young Adult Alcohol Problem Screening Test (YAAPST).—This 27-item questionnaire assesses frequency of negative consequences of alcohol use among college students (Hurlbut & Sher, 1992). A sample item included, “Have you ever gotten into

physical fights while drinking?” Each of the 27 items were assessed on frequency of occurrence within the past year. The Cronbach alpha reliability for this sample was $\alpha = .82$.

2.3 Statistical Approach

Descriptive statistics were obtained using SPSS version 25.0 (IBM Corp., Armonk, NY). The multiple-group path analyses were conducted with a structural equation modeling framework in Mplus 7.4 (Muthen and Muthen, 1998–2018). To formally test gender differences, we conducted an overall structural invariance test by constraining all path coefficients to be equal across gender groups. Because the chi-square statistic did not exceed the critical value, we presented our model collapsed across gender. Our proposed relationships did not moderate on gender, therefore, we utilized gender as a covariate in our model with women = 0, and men = 1. Next, a structural equation model with full information maximum likelihood (FIML) estimation of missing data was used to evaluate our conceptual model (Figure 1). The chi-square statistic, RMSEA (Browne & Cudeck, 1993; Hu and Bentler, 1998), and CFI (Bentler, 1990) were utilized to examine model fit. Both direct and indirect effects were examined with tests of indirect effects relying on the (K = 20,000) bias-corrected bootstrap technique (Efron & Tibshirani, 1993; Manly, 1997; Muthen and Muthen, 2013). The bias-corrected bootstrap technique was used to address non-normality in the product of coefficients (See Fritz & MacKinnon, 2007, p.5). Further, 95%–99% asymmetric confidence intervals around the estimates were examined, with confidence intervals that do not include zero indicating indirect effects (MacKinnon, Lockwood, & Williams, 2004; Tofighi & MacKinnon, 2011).

3. Results

The means, standard deviations, and correlations among all variables can be found in Table 2. All hypothesized paths were modeled in Fig. 1 and significant paths were modeled in Fig. 2. The model yielded a χ^2 (7df) = 8.403, $p = .2984$; CFI = 0.998; RMSEA = 0.016 90% CI (0.00, 0.049).

3.1 Direct Relationships

Higher levels of devaluing were related to more IC [direct effects = .137, $Z = 4.108$, $p = .001$, 99% C.I. (.050,.222)]. In contrast, higher levels of grandiose-fantasy were directly linked to less IC [direct effects = $-.059$, $Z = -2.379$, $p = .017$, 95% C.I. ($-.107$, $-.011$)].

Higher levels of exploitativeness were related to more heavy-episodic-drinking [direct effects = .156, $Z = 2.912$, $p = .004$, 99% C.I. (.015,.291)]. Moreover, higher levels of entitlement- rage were directly linked to lower levels of heavy-episodic-drinking [direct effects = $-.150$, $Z = -2.059$, $p = .039$, 95% C.I. ($-.291$, $-.006$)], yet were directly related to higher levels of alcohol-related problems [direct effects = .043, $Z = 2.558$, $p = .011$, 95% C. I. (.010,.075)].

Men were more likely to partake in heavy-episodic drinking episodes than women [direct effects = .664, $Z = 5.799$, $p = .001$, 99% C.I. (.373,.962)]. In addition, men scored higher on exploitativeness than women [direct effects = .082, $Z = 3.718$, $p = .001$, 99% C.I. (.024,.139)].

3.2 Indirect Relationships

Higher levels of grandiose fantasy were indirectly related to fewer alcohol-related problems through less IC and in turn less heavy-episodic drinking [mediated effects = $-.008$, $Z = -2.260$, $p = .024$, 95% C.I. ($-.015, -.002$)]. In contrast, higher levels of devaluing were also indirectly linked to more alcohol-related problems, through more IC and heavy-episodic drinking [mediated effects = $.018$, $Z = 3.437$, $p = .001$, 99% C.I. ($.007, .035$)].

4. Discussion

According to the Ego-Threat-Hypothesis (Baumeister, 1997), those with vulnerable self-concepts have more to lose (Kernis et al., 1993), which may be associated with individuals turning to externalizing behaviors, such as drinking, to temporarily assuage the pain of a weakened self-representation (Kealy et al., 2017). While we did find evidence that vulnerable facets (i.e. entitlement-rage and devaluing) were associated with drinking outcomes, contingent-self-esteem was not. Contingent self-esteem, or esteem that fluctuates greatly, is a large part of the ego-threat hypothesis. Thus, our findings in this specific study only partially support the ego-threat hypothesis.

Studies assessing narcissistic entitlement often use broad scales combining several facets into one factor, failing to address entitlement and exploitativeness as distinct constructs (Brunell et al., 2013). The current study adds to the literature by separately assessing the relationships between these distinct constructs and alcohol use and problems. Findings suggest that having higher scores of entitlement rage was directly positively related to more alcohol-related problems, but was negatively related to heavy-episodic drinking. This suggests that entitlement-rage may behave like other known personality traits, which have been found to be strongly directly related to alcohol-related problems but negatively related to heavy-episodic-drinking (Patock-Peckham & Morgan-Lopez, 2007; 2009). How entitlement-rage may or may not be an externalizing symptom of a prospective internalizing trait remains unclear. Future investigations may wish to include some internalizing precursors to entitlement-rage, such as perfectionism, to further develop a model of how entitlement plays a role in alcohol-related problems. These mixed findings call for further research into entitlement and its correlates.

Devaluing others is a key component of the vulnerable narcissist character. Drinking beyond one's limits (IC), and thereby missing important events (i.e., graduations, birthdays, sporting competitions) can destroy trust and intimacy with others (Wolin, Bennett, Noonan, & Teitelbaum, 1980). Our novel finding in the current study is that devaluing others was found to be the strongest facet of narcissism directly predicting IC. Moreover, when IC is present as a mediating mechanism, devaluing is also predictive of more heavy-episodic drinking, which was related to more alcohol-related problems. This implies that someone who frequently devalues the self/others may be more likely to devalue standards they set for themselves or standards that society values, such as limitations on alcohol consumption. Therefore, these individuals may experience more IC, which results in more alcohol-related problems. Our findings suggest that therapists may wish to target the cognitions and behaviors involved with devaluing others in narcissistic individuals as a point of therapeutic intervention. For example, narcissistic patients may benefit from perspective-taking training

exercises, such as Motivational Interviewing Techniques. What we cannot discern from the current findings is whether this association to IC is due to 1) disinterest in and avoidance of others who do not provide needed admiration (Devaluing of Others) or 2) the shame and self-rebuke over needing recognition from others in the first place (Devaluing of Self). This will need to be unpacked in a future investigation.

Our current findings add to the extant literature by showing that grandiose fantasies were negatively related to IC and indirectly related to fewer alcohol-related problems through less IC and alcohol use. This implies that in the realm of IC, grandiose-fantasy may have some protective potential. As grandiose-fantasies are related to constructs such as openness, high self-esteem, and prosocial behavior (Clarke, Karlov, & Neale, 2015; Kauten & Barry, 2014; Pincus et al., 2001; Miller, Lynam, & Campbell, 2016), it could be expected that these individuals may be less likely to ignore societal standards for alcohol consumption at appropriate times. This finding is consistent with Wright's (2016) speculation that grandiose-fantasy may be used as a compensatory strategy to mitigate negative effects associated with experiencing threats to their ego, replacing the need to mitigate these effects through alcohol use.

Consistent with Social Role Theory (Eagly, Wood, & Diekmann, 2000) and with previous research on exploitativeness and gender differences in drinking (Geisner, Larimer, & Neighbors, 2004; Grijivalia et al., 2015), we found that males scored higher on exploitativeness than females and that higher levels of exploitativeness were directly related to more heavy-episodic drinking. The relationship between exploitativeness and alcohol use is supported by previous research in which, exploitativeness was found to be positively associated with believing that binge-drinking was acceptable (Daddis & Brunell, 2015). Following these findings, future research and interventions may choose to focus on exploitativeness for preventing alcohol-related problems and AUDs, particularly among college-aged men.

4.4 Limitations and Future Directions

While these findings are novel, they should be considered an initial investigation of these associations. This study has several limitations including the use of a cross-sectional design and a sample consisting of college students in emerging adulthood. Future investigators should be encouraged to examine this pattern of relationships with a sample of individuals in treatment for alcohol use disorders (AUDs). Hence, these findings should only be considered to be exploratory. We expect that these associations may be stronger among an older sample of more problematic drinkers. In addition, the current study does not unpack which component of narcissistic devaluing (devaluing others who do not provide recognition or devaluing the self for expecting this recognition from others) is driving the relationship to IC.

Nevertheless, this study adds to the literature in several ways. First, it demonstrates that there are both adaptive (i.e., grandiose fantasy) and maladaptive (i.e., devaluing others) aspects to narcissism in relation to drinking outcome variables. Second, our current study highlights that men are more likely to exploit others than women. Lastly, our study showcases that the vulnerable narcissism aspect of devaluing-the-self/others drives the

relationship to impaired-control-over-drinking. Our results suggest that targeting thought processes in which people with AUDs are actively devaluing others may be beneficial for therapeutic intervention. As it may be difficult to change the personality or general rate of empathy for someone who is prone to devalue others, we suggest perhaps using Motivational Interviewing Techniques (Bundy, 2004; Miller, 2009; Rollnick, Miller, Butler, & Aloia, 2008). The motivational interviewing approach could be used to encourage individuals suffering from AUDs to think about the consequences of their choices of voicing or acting on their devaluing beliefs. With such a technique, the narcissistic individual may achieve improved quality of relationships by contrasting their ongoing maladaptive behavior with the salient awareness of their behavior's negative consequences.

Highlights

Acknowledgements

NIH/NIAA grant KO1AA024160-01A1 to Julie A. Patock-Peckham; Burton Family Foundation's (FP11815) grant to Social Addictions Impulse Lab (SAIL). Both Esha Naidu and Julie A. Patock-Peckham have agreed to share first authorship. All authors participated in the data collection, analysis, writing, or editing of this manuscript.

References

- Akhtar S (2000). The shy narcissist In Akhtar S *New Clinical Realms. Pushing the Envelope of Theory and Technique* (47–58). Northvale, NJ: Jason Aronson Inc.
- Ames DR, Rose P, & Anderson CP (2006). The NPI-16 as a short measure of narcissism. *Journal of Research in Personality*, 40, 440–450.
- Armstrong PM (2014). A 12 Step Plan for Narcissists [Blog post]. *Catholic Stand*. Retrieved from: <http://www.catholicstand.com/12-step-plan-narcissists/>
- Baumeister RF (1997). Esteem threat, self-regulatory breakdown, and emotional distress as factors in self-defeating behavior. *Review of General Psychology*, 1(2), 145.
- Baumeister RF, Smart L, & Boden JM (1996). Relation of threatened egotism to violence and aggression: The dark side of high self-esteem. *Psychological Review*, 103(1), 5–33. [PubMed: 8650299]
- Baumeister RF, & Vohs KD (2001). Narcissism as addiction to esteem. *Psychological Inquiry*, 12(4), 206–210.
- Bentler PM (1990). Comparative fit indexes in structural models. *Psychological Bulletin*, 107(2), 238–246. [PubMed: 2320703]
- Browne MW, & Cudeck R (1993). Alternative ways of assessing model fit In Bollen KA & Long JS (Eds.), *Testing structural equation models* (pp. 136–162). Newbury Park, CA: Sage.
- Brunell AB, Davis M, Schley DR, Eng A, Van Dulmen M, Wester K, & Flannery D (2013). A new measure of interpersonal exploitativeness. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 4(5), 299. [PubMed: 23755031]
- Buelow MT, & Brunell AB (2014). Facets of grandiose narcissism predict involvement in health-risk behaviors. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 69, 193–198.
- Bundy C (2004). Changing behavior: using motivational interviewing techniques. *Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine*, 97 (Supple 44), 43–47. [PubMed: 15239293]
- Bushman BJ, & Baumeister RF (1998). Threatened egotism, narcissism, self-esteem, and direct and displaced aggression: Does self-love or self-hate lead to violence? *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 75(1), 219–229. [PubMed: 9686460]
- Buss DM, & Chiodo LM (1991). Narcissistic acts in everyday life. *Journal of Personality*, 59(2), 179–215. [PubMed: 1880699]
- Cain NM, Pincus AL, & Ansell EB (2008). Narcissism at the crossroads: Phenotypic description of pathological narcissism across clinical theory, social/personality psychology, and psychiatric diagnosis. *Clinical Psychology Review*, 28(4), 638–656. [PubMed: 18029072]

- Clarke IE, Karlov L, & Neale NJ (2015). The many faces of narcissism: Narcissism factors and their predictive utility. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 81, 90–95.
- Daddis C, & Brunell AB (2015). Entitlement, exploitativeness, and reasoning about everyday transgressions: A social domain analysis. *Journal of Research in Personality*, 58, 115126.
- Dayton T (2009). Narcissism in a bottle: The self-centeredness of addiction. *The Huffington Post- The Blog*. Retrieved May 26, 2018, from: https://www.huffingtonpost.com/dr-tiandayton/narcissism-in-a-bottle-th_b_249418.html
- Dickinson KA, & Pincus AL (2003). Interpersonal analysis of grandiose and vulnerable narcissism. *Journal of Personality Disorders*, 17(3), 188–207. [PubMed: 12839099]
- Dowgwillo EA, Dawood S, & Pincus AL (2016). The dark side of narcissism In Zeigler-Hill V & Marcus DK (Eds.), *The Dark Side of Personality: Science and Practice in Social, Personality, and Clinical Psychology* (pp. 25–44). Washington, DC, US: American Psychological Association.
- Eagly AH, Wood W, & Diekmann AB (2000). Social role theory of sex differences and similarities: A current appraisal In Eckes T, & Trautner HM (Eds.), *The Developmental Social Psychology of Gender* (pp. 123–174). Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum.
- Efron B, Tibshirani RJ (1994). *An introduction to the bootstrap*. CRC press.
- Foster JD, Shenesey JW, & Goff JS (2009). Why do narcissists take more risks? Testing the roles of perceived risks and benefits of risky behaviors. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 47(8), 885–889.
- Freud S (1914). On Narcissism: An Introduction. *The Standard Edition of the Complete Works of Sigmund Freud*, vol. XIV.
- Fritz MS, & MacKinnon DP (2007). Required sample size to detect the mediated effect. *Psychological Science*, 18(3), 233–239. [PubMed: 17444920]
- Geisner IM, Larimer ME, & Neighbors C (2004). The relationship among alcohol use, related problems, and symptoms of psychological distress: Gender as a moderator in a college sample. *Addictive Behaviors*, 29(5), 843–848. [PubMed: 15219328]
- Grijalva E, Newman DA, Tay L, Donnellan MB, Harms PD, Robins RW, & Yan T (2015). Gender differences in narcissism: A meta-analytic review. *Psychological Bulletin*, 141(2), 261–310. [PubMed: 25546498]
- Heather N, Tebbutt JS, Mattick RP, Zamir R (1993) Development of a scale for measuring impaired control over alcohol consumption: A preliminary report. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol*, 54(6), 700–709. [PubMed: 8271806]
- Horney K (1937). *The Neurotic Personality of our Time*. New York: Norton.
- Hu LT, & Bentler PM (1998). Fit indices in covariance structure modeling: Sensitivity to underparameterized model misspecification. *Psychological Methods*, 3(4), 424–453.
- Hurlbut SC, & Sher KJ (1992). Assessing alcohol problems in college students. *Journal of American College Health*, 41(2), 49–58. [PubMed: 1460173]
- Kauten R, & Barry CT (2014). Do you think I'm as kind as I do? The relation of adolescent narcissism with self-and peer-perceptions of prosocial and aggressive behavior. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 61, 69–73.
- Kealy D, Ogrodniczuk JS, Rice SM, & Oliffe JL (2017). Pathological narcissism and maladaptive self-regulatory behaviours in a nationally representative sample of Canadian men. *Psychiatry Research*, 256, 156–161. [PubMed: 28641202]
- Kernberg O (1975). *Borderline conditions and pathological narcissism*. New York: Jason Aronson.
- Kernis MH, Cornell DP, Sun CR, Berry A, & Harlow T (1993). There's more to self-esteem than whether it is high or low: The importance of stability of self-esteem. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 65(6), 1190–1204. [PubMed: 8295118]
- Kohut H (1971). *The Analysis of the Self: A Systematic Approach to the Psychoanalytic Treatment of Narcissistic Personality Disorders* (1971). International Universities Press, New York.
- Kohut H (1972). Thoughts on narcissism and narcissistic rage. *The Psychoanalytic Study of the Child*, 27(1), 360–400.

- Leeman RF, Patock-Peckham JA, Potenza MN (2012). Impaired control over alcohol use: An under-addressed risk factor for problem drinking in young adults?. *Experimental and Clinical Psychopharmacology*, 20(2), 92–106. [PubMed: 22182417]
- Leeman RF, Toll BA, Taylor LA, Volpicelli JR (2009). Alcohol-induced disinhibition expectancies and impaired control as prospective predictors of problem drinking in undergraduates. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors*, 23(4), 553–572. [PubMed: 20025361]
- Levin JD (1987). *Treatment of alcoholism and other addictions: A self-psychology approach*. Northvale, N. J.: Jason Aronson.
- Ludwig VU, Stelzel C, Krutiak H, Prunkl CE, Steimke R, Paschke LM, Kathmann N, & Walter H (2013). Impulsivity, self-control, and hypnotic suggestibility. *Consciousness and Cognition*, 22, 637–653. [PubMed: 23660477]
- Luhtanen RK, & Crocker J (2005). Alcohol use in college students: Effects of level of self-esteem, narcissism, and contingencies of self-worth. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors*, 19(1), 99–103. [PubMed: 15783284]
- Manly BF (1997). *Randomization, bootstrap and Monte Carlo methods in biology*. New York: Chapman and Hall.
- MacKinnon DP, Lockwood CM, & Williams J (2004). Confidence limits for the indirect effect: Distribution of the product and resampling methods. *Multivariate Behavioral Research*, 39(1), 99–128. [PubMed: 20157642]
- MacLaren VV, & Best LA (2013). Disagreeable narcissism mediates an effect of BAS on addictive behaviors. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 55(2), 101–105.
- Martin AM, Benetsch EG, Lance SP, & Green M (2013). Transmission risk behaviors in a subset of HIV-positive individuals: The role of narcissistic personality features. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 54(2), 256–260.
- Maxwell K, Donnellan MB, Hopwood CJ, & Ackerman RA (2011). The two faces of Narcissus? An empirical comparison of the Narcissistic Personality Inventory and the Pathological Narcissism Inventory. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 50(5), 577–582.
- Miller JD, Lynam DR, & Campbell WK (2016). Measures of narcissism and their relations to DSM-5 pathological traits. *Assessment*, 23(1), 3–9. [PubMed: 24550548]
- Miller WR (2009). Motivational interviewing with problem drinkers. *Behavioural and Cognitive Psychotherapy*, 11(2), 147–172.
- Morf CC, & Rhodewalt F (2001). Unraveling the paradoxes of narcissism: A dynamic self-regulatory processing model. *Psychological Inquiry*, 12(4), 177–196.
- Mowlaie M, Abolghasemi A, & Aghababaei N (2016). Pathological narcissism, brain behavioral systems and tendency to substance abuse; The mediating role of self-control. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 88, 247–250.
- Muthén LK, & Muthén BO (1998–2013). *Mplus user's guide* (6th ed.). Los Angeles, CA: Author.
- Patock-Peckham JA, Cheong J, Balhorn ME, & Nagoshi CT (2001). A social learning perspective: a model of parenting styles, self-regulation, perceived drinking control, and alcohol Use and problems. *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research*, 25(9), 1284–1292.
- Patock-Peckham JA, King KM, Morgan-Lopez AA, Ulloa EC, & Filson Moses JM (2011). Gender-specific mediational links between parenting styles, parental monitoring, impulsiveness, drinking control, and alcohol-related problems. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs*, 72(2), 247–258. [PubMed: 21388598]
- Patock-Peckham JA, & Morgan-Lopez AA (2006). College drinking behaviors: Mediational links between parenting styles, impulse control, and alcohol-related outcomes. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors*, 20(2), 117–125. [PubMed: 16784353]
- Patock-Peckham JA, & Morgan-Lopez AA (2007). College drinking behaviors: Mediational links between parenting styles, parental bonds, depression, and alcohol problems. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors*, 21(3), 297–306. [PubMed: 17874880]
- Patock-Peckham JA, & Morgan-Lopez AA (2009). The gender specific mediational pathways between parenting styles, neuroticism, pathological reasons for drinking, and alcohol-related problems in emerging adulthood. *Addictive Behaviors*, 34(3), 312–315. [PubMed: 19000941]

- Paulhus DL (1998). Interpersonal and intrapsychic adaptiveness of trait self-enhancement: A mixed blessing?. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 74(5), 1197–1208. [PubMed: 9599439]
- Pincus AL (2013). The Pathological Narcissism Inventory In Ogdorniczuk JS (Ed.), *Understanding and treating pathological narcissism* (pp. 93–110). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
- Pincus AL, Ansell EB, Pimentel CA, Cain NM, Wright AG, & Levy KN (2009). Initial construction and validation of the Pathological Narcissism Inventory. *Psychological Assessment*, 21(3), 365–379. [PubMed: 19719348]
- Pincus AL, & Wilson KR (2001). Interpersonal variability in dependent personality. *Journal of Personality*, 69(2), 223–251. [PubMed: 11339797]
- Rollnick S, Miller WR, Butler CC, & Aloia MS (2008). *Motivational interviewing in health care: helping patients change behavior*. New York: Taylor & Francis.
- Russ E, & Shedler J (2013). Defining narcissistic subtypes. *Understanding and Treating Pathological Narcissism*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association, 29–43.
- Sawrie SM, Watson PJ, Sherbak JF, Greene RL, & Arredondo R (1997). Alcoholism and narcissism: Assessing a presumed relationship with the MMPI-2. *Alcoholism Treatment Quarterly*, 15(3), 1–14.
- Schoenleber M, Saden N, & Verona E (2011). Parellel Syndromes: Two dimensions of narcissism and the facets of psychopathic personality in criminally involved individuals. *Personality Disorders, Theory, Research, and Treatment* 2(2), 113–127.
- Stinson FS, Dawson DA, Goldstein RB, Chou SP, Huang B, Smith SM, Juan Ruan MA, Pulay AJ, Saha TD, Pickering RP, & Grant BF (2008). Prevalence, correlates, disability, and comorbidity of DSM-IV Narcissistic Personality Disorder: Results from the Wave 2 National Epidemiologic Survey on Alcohol and Related Conditions. *Journal of Clinical Psychiatry*, 69(7), 1033–1045. [PubMed: 18557663]
- Tofighi D, & MacKinnon DP (2011). RMediation: An R package for mediation analysis confidence intervals. *Behavior Research Methods*, 43(3), 692–700. [PubMed: 21487904]
- Tschanz BT, Morf CC, & Turner CW (1998). Gender differences in the structure of narcissism: A multi-sample analysis of the Narcissistic Personality Inventory. *Sex Roles*, 38(9–10), 863–870.
- Vandellen MR, Campbell WK, Hoyle RH, & Bradfield EK (2011). Compensating, resisting, and breaking: A meta-analytic examination of reactions to self-esteem threat. *Personality and Social Psychology Review*, 15(1), 51–74. [PubMed: 20631397]
- Vazire S, & Funder DC (2006). Impulsivity and the self-defeating behavior of narcissists. *Personality and Social Psychology Review*, 10(2), 154–165. [PubMed: 16768652]
- Wink P (1991). Two faces of narcissism. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 61(4), 590–597. [PubMed: 1960651]
- Wolin SJ, Bennett LA, Noonan DL, & Teitelbaum MA (1980). Disrupted Family Rituals; A Factor in the Intergenerational Transmission of Alcoholism. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol*, 41(3), 199–214. [PubMed: 7374140]
- Wood MD, Nagoshi CT, & Dennis DA (1992). Alcohol norms and expectations as predictors of alcohol use and problems in a college student sample. *The American Journal of Drug and Alcohol Abuse*, 18(4), 461–476. [PubMed: 1449125]
- Wright AG (2016). On the measure and mismeasure of narcissism: A response to “Measures of narcissism and their relations to DSM-5 pathological traits: A critical reappraisal.” *Assessment*, 23(1), 10–17. [PubMed: 26253571]
- Wright AG, Pincus AL, Thomas KM, Hopwood CJ, Markon KE, & Krueger RF (2013). Conceptions of Narcissism and the DSM-5 Pathological Personality Traits. *Assessment*, 20(3), 339–352. [PubMed: 23610234]

- Devaluing others is positively associated with impaired control over drinking.
- Grandiose-fantasy is negatively associated with impaired control over drinking.
- Impaired control and heavy-drinking mediate devaluing others and alcohol problems.
- Entitlement rage is directly associated with alcohol-problems.
- Men score higher on exploitativeness than women.

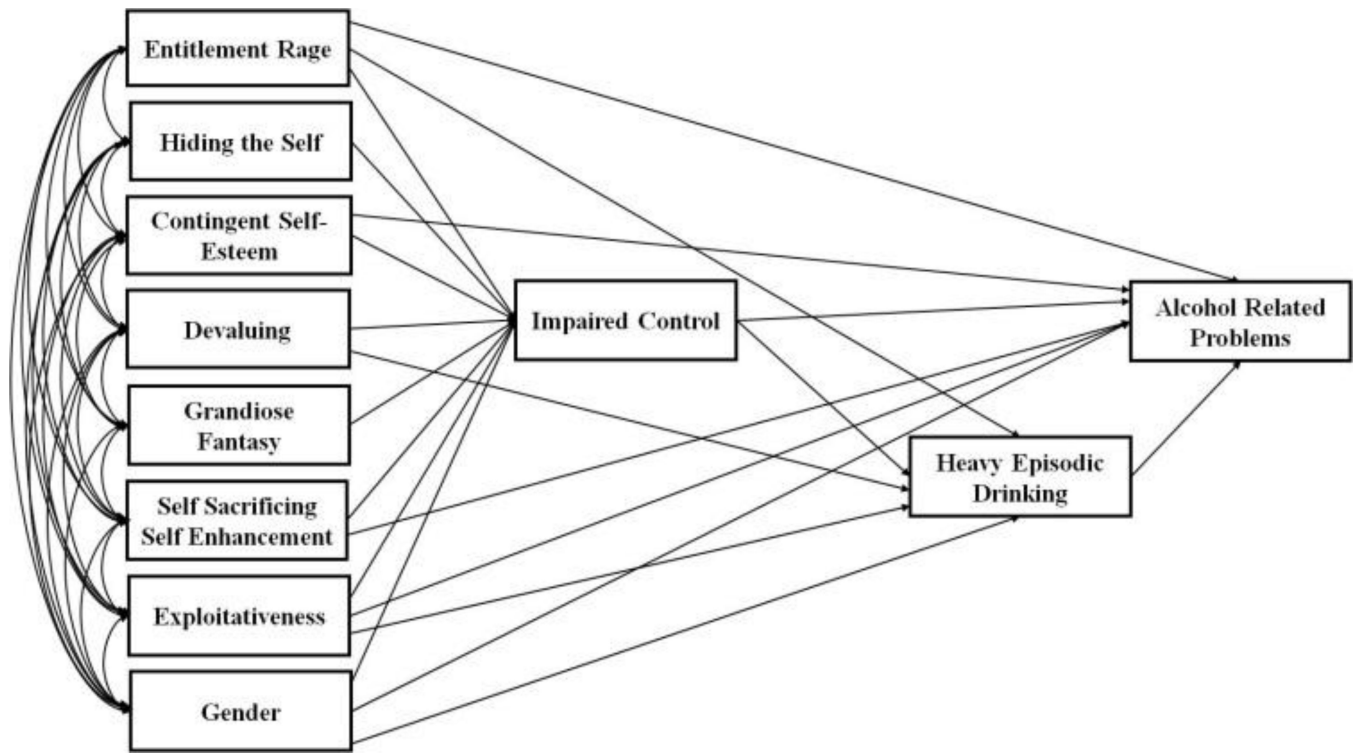


Fig. 1. Conceptual model displays all hypothesized pathways in the structural equation model.

Author Manuscript

Author Manuscript

Author Manuscript

Author Manuscript

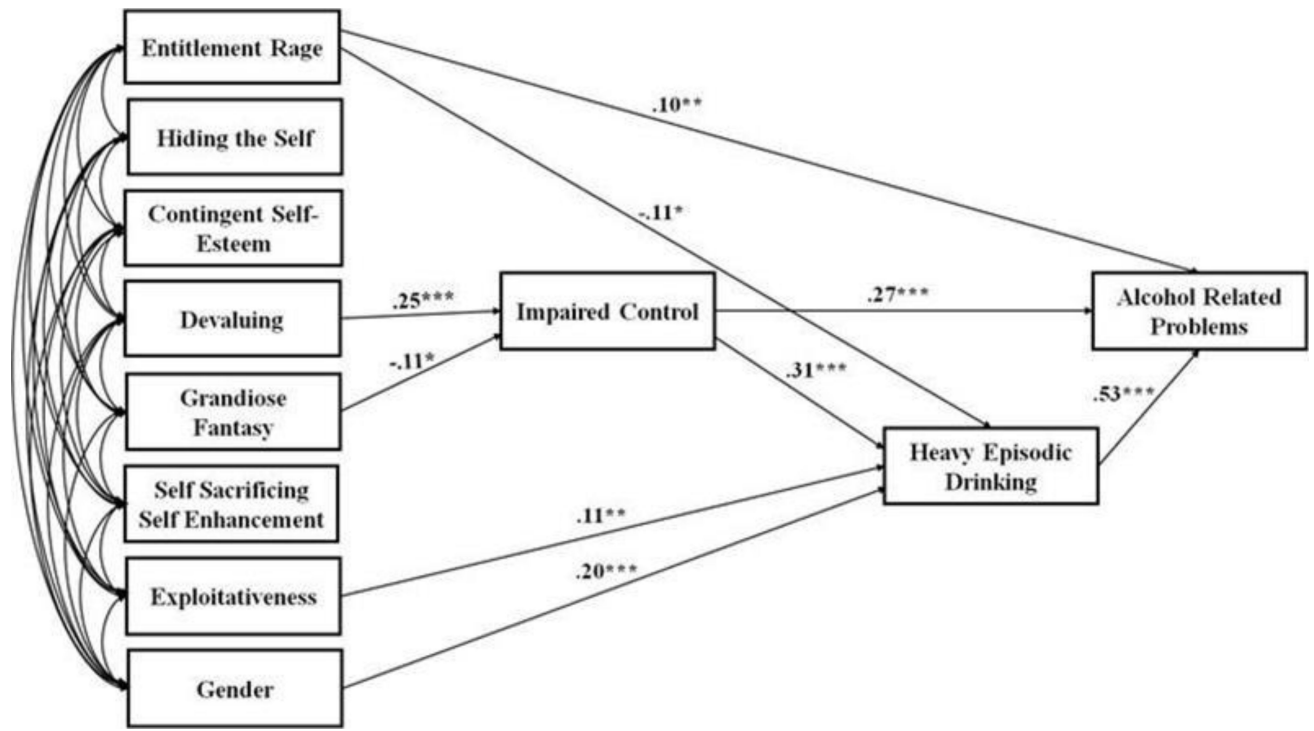


Fig. 2. Fit model displaying all significant direct pathways with standardized beta coefficient estimates. N=759; * p.05, ** p.01, ***p.001.

Table 1.

Two Types of Narcissism: Vulnerable and Grandiosity, from the Pathological Narcissism Inventory. [See Pincus, 2013; Pincus et al., 2009]

<i>Narcissistic Vulnerability (maladaptive)</i>	<i>Self-enhancement failures and disappointment of entitled expectations trigger significant self and emotional dysregulation.</i> Vulnerable facets are entitlement-rage, hiding-the-self, contingent self-esteem, & devaluing.	
Entitlement-Rage (ER)	Becomes angry when entitled expectations of self and others are not met.	“It irritates me when people don’t notice how good of a person I am.”
	Constructs associated with this facet: Deceitfulness; rigid perfectionism; neuroticism; depression; anxiety; stress; aggression; temporal discounting (Wright et al., 2013; Clarke, Karlov & Neale, 2015; Kauten & Barry, 2014; Buelow & Brunell, 2014).	
Hiding-the-Self (HS)	Dependency feels weak and shameful. Conceals needs and concerns from others. Disclosure of imperfections evokes anxiety and is avoided.	“When others get a glimpse of my needs, I feel anxious and afraid.”
	Constructs associated with this facet: Suspiciousness; restricted affectivity; withdrawal; avoidant personality problems (Wright, et al., 2013; Pincus & Wilson, 2001).	
Contingent Self-Esteem (CSE)	Self-esteem is experienced as fluctuating. Self and emotional dysregulation arise in the absence of external sources of admiration and recognition.	“It’s hard for me to feel good about myself unless I know other people like me.”
	Constructs associated with this facet: Low self-esteem; submissiveness; anhedonia (inability to feel pleasure); deceitfulness (Maxwell, Donnellan, Hopwood, & Ackerman, 2011; Wright et al., 2013).	
Devaluing (DEV)	Disinterested in and avoidance of others who do not provide needed admiration (Devaluing of Others).	“When others don’t meet my expectations, I often feel ashamed about what I wanted.”
	Shame and self-rebuke overneeding recognition from others in the first place. (Devaluing of Self).	
	Constructs associated with this facet: Low self-esteem; depressivity; anxiousness; callousness; irresponsibility; distractibility; rigid perfectionism (Maxwell, Donnellan, Hopwood & Ackerman, 2011; Wright, Pincus, Thomas, Hopwood, Markon & Krueger, 2013)	
<i>Narcissistic Grandiosity</i>	<i>Engages in compensatory self-enhancement (adaptive) strategies and holds self-serving beliefs.</i> Narcissistic Grandiosity facets include: Grandiose-Fantasy, Self-sacrificing-self-enhancement, & exploitativeness.	
Grandiose Fantasy (GF)	Preoccupied with being powerful or achieving great things. Frequently engages in compensatory fantasies of receiving desired respect, admiration, and recognition from others.	“I often fantasize about being recognized for my accomplishments.”
	Constructs associated with this facet: Openness; high self-esteem; prosocial behavior; aggression; intrusiveness; anxiousness, negative affectivity (Clarke, Karlov, & Neale, 2015; Kauten & Barry, 2014; Pincus et al., 2001; Miller, Lynam, & Campbell, 2016).	
Self-Sacrificing Self-Enhancement (SSSE)	Uses purportedly altruistic acts to support an inflated sense of self. Provides instrumental or emotional support to others, but concurrently harbors contempt for those being helped and secretly experiences the relationship as reflecting their own specialness, superiority, and moral goodness.	“I try to show what a good person I am through my sacrifices.”
	Constructs associated with this facet: Prosocial behavior; separation insecurity; attention-seeking; overly-nurturing interpersonal problems (Pincus, 2013; Wright et al., 2013; Kauten & Barry, 2014; Pincus et al., 2009).	
Exploitativeness (EXP)	Manipulative and self-centered in interpersonal relationships.	“I can make anyone believe anything I want them to.”
	Constructs associated with this facet: Self-reliance; deceitfulness; hostility; callousness; attention-seeking; impulsivity; risk-taking; delinquency; aggression (Wright et al., 2013; Kauten & Barry, 2014).	

Table 2:

Means, standard deviations, and correlations among all variables

M	SD	Measures	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
2.059	1.29	1. Entitlement-Rage	1.00										
2.677	1.29	2. Hiding-the-Self	0.38	1.00									
2.006	1.41	3. Contingent-Self-Esteem	0.57	0.53	1.00								
1.874	1.27	4. Devaluing-Others	0.71	0.49	0.62	1.00							
3.286	1.27	5. Grandiose-Fantasy	0.38	0.48	0.41	0.34	1.00						
2.999	1.18	6. Self-Sacrificing-Self-Enhancement	0.36	0.33	0.32	0.35	0.41	1.00					
2.612	1.24	7. Exploitativeness	0.32	0.31	0.27	0.29	0.31	0.38	1.00				
1.830	0.69	8. Impaired Control	0.23	0.18	0.19	0.30	0.04	0.10	0.12	1.00			
2.247	1.71	9. Heavy Episodic Drinking	0.00	0.06	0.04	0.06	0.04	0.10	0.14	0.31	1.00		
0.664	0.55	10. Alcohol-Related-Problems	0.19	0.12	0.17	0.22	0.12	0.15	0.19	0.47	0.62	1.00	
0.514	0.50	11. Gender	0.00	0.01	-0.01	0.04	0.02	-0.01	0.14	0.05	0.23	0.12	1.00

n=759 Note: Due to our large sample size correlations of .08 or larger are significant at p.05, correlations .11 or larger are significant at p.01, and correlations of .138 or larger are significant at p.001. Gender was coded as women =0 and as men =1. Therefore, positive correlations with gender should be interpreted as being associated with being male, while negative correlations with gender should be interpreted as being associated with being female.