

Character Traits of Autocrats:

*"Character or personality traits that perpetuate the lives of autocratic leaders are further distinguished by sociopathic and narcissistic behaviors that self-serve to cover their constant fear of insecurity and the insatiable need for power." (part of article by Frederick Burkle)

Narcissistic Personality Disorder: (Source DSM-5)

- Grandiose sense of self-importance
- A preoccupation with fantasies of unlimited success, power, brilliance , &/or beauty
- A need for excessive admiration
- A sense of entitlement
- Can only be around people who are important or special
- Arrogant
- Must be admired
- Envious of others or believe that others are envious of them
- Lacking in empathy

Psychopathy/Sociopathy: (Source DSM-5)

- Ignoring right from wrong
- Lacking in empathy
- Telling lies to take advantage of others (pathological lying)
- Not sensitive to or respectful of others
- Using charm or wit to manipulate others for personal gain or pleasure
- Having a sense of superiority and being extremely opinionated
- Having problems with the law, including criminal behavior
- Being hostile, aggressive, violent, or threatening to others
- Feeling no guilt about harming others
- Doing dangerous things with no regard for the safety of self or others
- Being irresponsible or failing to fulfill work or financial responsibilities

Other Characteristics or behaviors that may be present:

- Bullying: When people deliberately use words or actions repeatedly against an individual or a group to cause physical, social and/or psychological harm. Bullies usually want to make the person feel less powerful or helpless.
 - Verbal bullying, including name calling, put downs, threatening harm
 - Physical bullying, such as hitting, punching, spitting, tripping, or pushing. Breaking someone's things, etc.

- Social bullying, such as spreading rumors, lying, playing horrible jokes or embarrassing someone in public.
- Cyberbullying, such as using technology including email, mobile phone, chat rooms, or networking sites intending to hurt someone by with negative messages, pictures, or comments.
- Source-~~health~~direct web site
- Sadism: The tendency to derive pleasure from the pain or suffering of others. Sadists may inflict pain on others by physical force or may enjoy watching pain inflicted on others. In social settings, they may seek to control others and enjoy humiliating or demeaning them.
 - Source: Psychology Today
- Paranoia: A way of thinking that involves feelings of distrust and suspicion about others without a good reason. It often involves thoughts that others are out to get you or are looking to harm you in some way. Some characteristics include having difficulty trusting, being hostile or argumentative, believing the world is threatening, having trouble coping with criticism, or assuming people are talking behind your back.
 - Source: The Cleveland Clinic)
- Pathological Lying: It is a behavioral pattern shown by pervasive and often compulsive lying. It involves the creation of elaborate, often embellished, narratives that may not be grounded in reality. Some of the key characteristics are excessive lying, distortion of reality, lack of clear benefit at times, potential for distress & risk, actual belief in their own fabrications, and difficulty with treatment. It is important to note that it is not listed as a separate disorder, but is associated with other disorders such as narcissism and antisocial personality disorder (psychopathy/sociopathy)
 - Source: (AI Overview-Google)