

# The Criminal Narrative Experience (CNE) of Psychopathic and Personality Disordered Offenders

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**HUDDERSFIELD**

# BACKGROUND

## **Narrative Theory:**

We make sense of world and our place in it through stories. Conveys meaning and significance.

## **Criminal Narratives:**

Professional, Hero, Victim, Revenger

## **Circumplex of Emotions:**

Calm, Elated, Depressed, Distressed

## **Criminal Narrative Experience (CNE):**

Calm Professional, Elated Hero, Depressed Victim, Distressed Revenger

# AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Examine whether the CNE can be applied to offenders with PD and psychopathy:

- 1) Explore the CNE of PD and psychopathic offenders
- 2) Explore whether PDs relate to specific CNE themes
- 3) Explore whether there is a relationship between psychopathy and any of the CNE themes

# METHODOLOGY

## Participants:

22 high risk male offenders

Diagnosed with PD and/or psychopathy

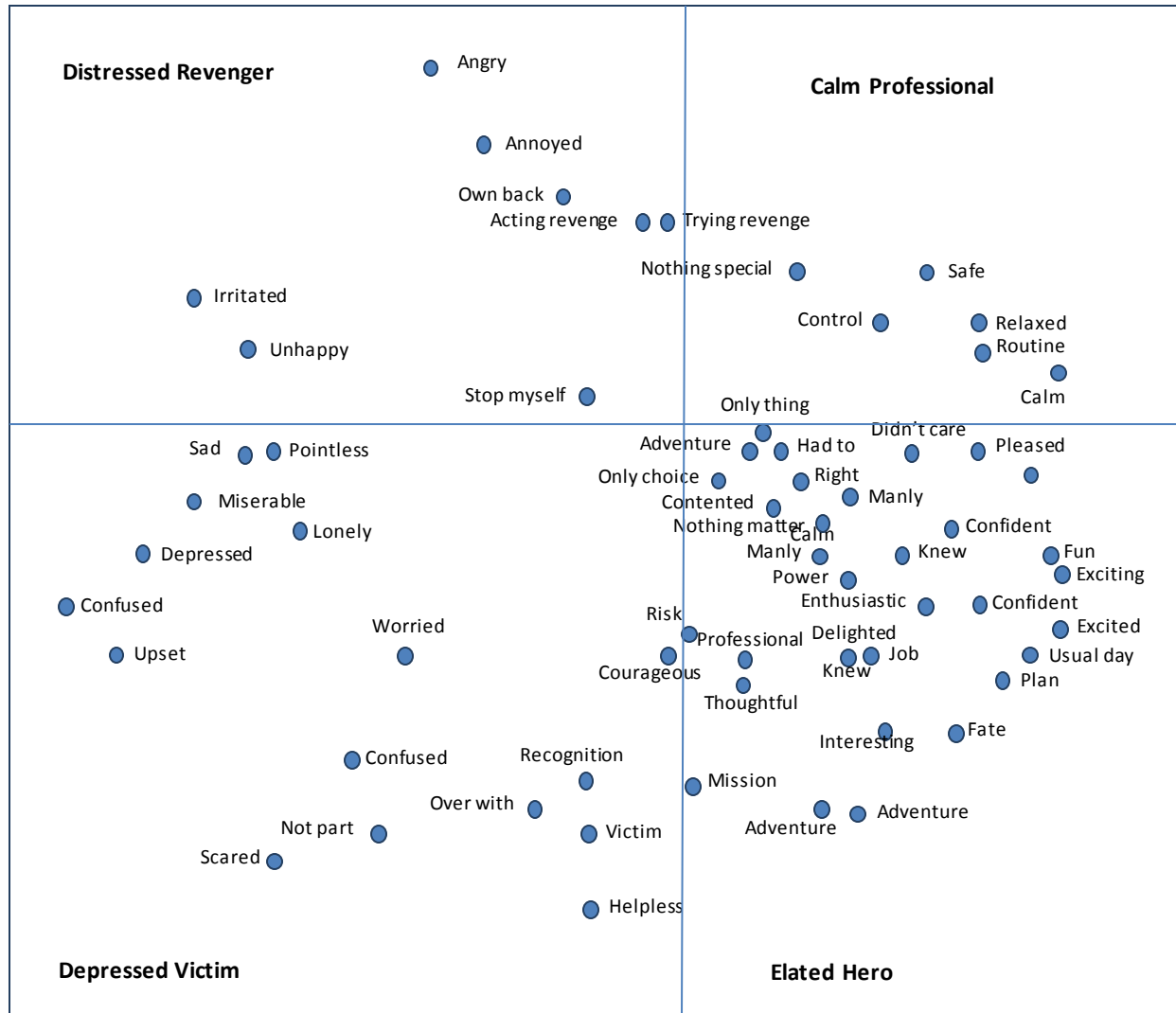
## Design:

Questionnaires (offence account, narrative roles, emotions)

## Analysis:

- Smallest Space Analysis (SSA)
- Independent Samples T-Tests
- Pearson's Product Moment Correlation

# RESULTS AND DISCUSSION



# RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

## Calm Professional:

- Calm and safe because offending is routine and they're in control
- It's like a job and they felt like a professional



- Paranoid and Schizoid PD did not relate.
- No relationship with psychopathy but it is felt this is due to a lack of power rather than there being no relationship.

# RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

## Elated Hero:

- Offending is fun, interesting, and like an adventure
- Routine and like doing a job, or like being on a mission that provided power and nothing else mattered.

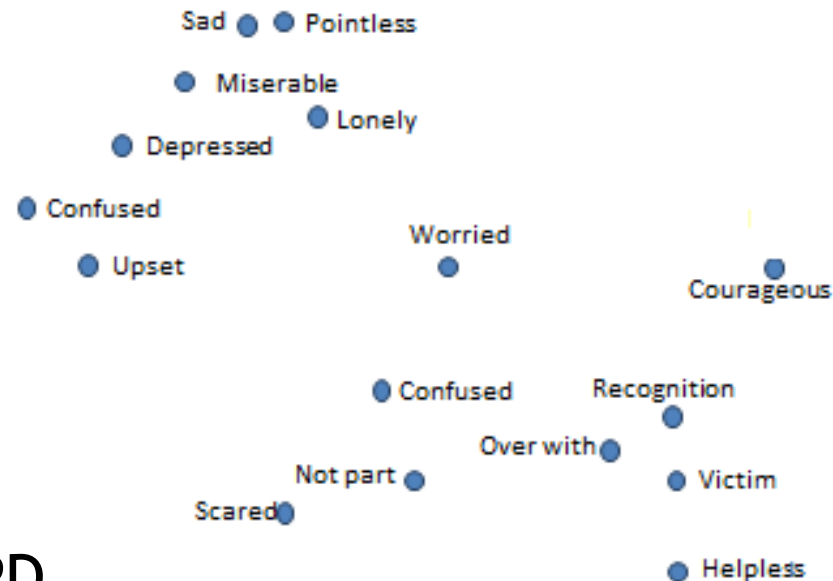


- No significant results.

# RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

## Depressed Victim:

- Helpless victim confused about what was happening
- Scared but courageous for acting
- Looking for recognition
- Defeated by circumstance and struggle to fully understand offending



- Linked to borderline PD



# RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

## Distressed Revenger:

- Emotions from unhappy to annoyed and angry
- Trying to get or acting out revenge because they couldn't stop themselves
- Feel wronged and revenge would offset balance



- No significant results. Might have expected borderline PD to have been related.

# IMPLICATIONS

## Theoretical:

- Insight into this population and the motivation behind offending
- Evidence of a theoretical framework to apply
- Identify risk factors

# IMPLICATIONS

## Practical:

- Identify treatment pathways
- Individualise interview techniques

# LIMITATIONS

- Sample size
- Assessment tools (IPDE & PCL-r)
- Voluntary participation
- Reflecting on past offences

# FUTURE RESEARCH

- Replicate on a larger scale
- Young's Early Maladaptive Schemas (Young, 1990; 1994)
- Victim Roles

# CONCLUSION

- Support for Ioannou et al.'s (2016) CNE framework
- Theoretical and practical implications
- No significant relationship with psychopathy or a link with all PDs, a replication on a larger scale would be beneficial

# REFERENCES

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