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Psychopathic Personality Traits (PTT-1), National Closeness And Prejudice, And Ethnic Minority Threat Perception

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ABSTRACT:
The aims of this research were to: (1) develop a short and internally consistent and valid measure of psychopathic personality traits – the PPT-1 - that could be a useful and efficient tool for assessing psychopathic tendencies in various sociological and political-psychological research; (2) find out whether and what dimensions of Psychopathic personality traits are significant predictors of National closeness and prejudice, and Ethnic minority threat perception. A questionnaire was administered to randomly selected undergraduate students (N=368) at the University of Zagreb. Confirmatory factor analysis (CFA) was performed to explore factorial and construct validity of the PPT-1 and yielded three factors labeled Hostility and hatred, Disinhibition, and Lack of empathy (callous-unemotionanlity traits). The first-order factor model did not have a satisfactory fit based on goodness of fit indices, but the model on the level of second-order factor was acceptable (SRMR= .05; RMSEA= .07; CFI= .97; NNFI= .97). CFA of ten items suggested that the PPT-1 measures a super ordinate construct underpinned by three correlated clusters of items that reflect the interpersonal, behavioural, and affective features of psychopathic personality traits. Subsequent multiple regression analysis showed that the Hostility and hatred and Lack of empathy subdimensions were significant predictors of both National exclusiveness and prejudice and Ethnic minority threat perception, indicating the existence of a kind of psychopathic ethnic exclusionism.

Key words: psychopathy, ethnic exclusionism, ethnic minority, threat perception, confirmatory factor analysis

1. INTRODUCTION

Most studies which have examined antecedents of inter-ethnic intolerance, different dimensions of ethnocentrism, and various types of nationalistic syndromes have not paid sufficient attention to the potential role played by personality characteristics and psychopathological traits in endorsing those ethnic attitudes. Instead, different concepts of threat perception (Cameron et al., 2005; Canetti-Nisim et al, 2008; Stephan & Stephan, 2001), authoritarianism (Adorno et al., 1950; Duckitt, 1993; Feldman i Stenner, 1997; Šram, 2010), social dominance orientation (Ho et al., 2012; Pratto et al., 1994), realistic conflict theory (Sherif, 1966; Kelly, 1988) and social identity theory (Tajfel & Turner, 1986; Bernd & Pettigrew, 2012) have been used as predictors or explanatory variables for various types of exclusionistic ethnic attitudes.

Indeed, intense economic problems, political conflict, great social changes, authoritarian political culture, political elite manipulation, or their combination surely can give rise to psychological and social processes that might turn different social and ethnic groups of society against each other. Whilst relatively ignored by intergroup researchers, psychopathic personality traits may prove valuable in understanding the appearance and political psychodynamics of some ethnic attitudes that imply the existence of both ethnic closeness and prejudice in social interactions and hostility toward ethnic minorities disguised by ethnic minority threat perception.

Psychopaths are "to be found everywhere, for example "in business, the home, the professions, the military, the arts, the entertainment industry, the news media, academe, and the blue-collar world" (Hare, 1993, p.115). They appear to function reasonably well, without breaking the law or being associated with criminality and antisocial behaviour (Blackburn, 2007)). Indeed, we can speak about the existence of non-criminal psychopathy (Lykken 2006; Mahmut, Homewood & Stevenson, 2008) because antisocial behaviours are considered to be the manifestations of core personality dispositions that can be measured without reference to antisocial or socially deviant behaviors (Cooke & Michie, 2001; Cooke et al., 2004; Cookee, Michie & Skeem). Namely, antisocial behaviour could causally be downstream from psychopathic personality disorder (Skeem & Cooke, 2010).

Theoretically, psychopathy is a three-faceted disorder involving interpersonal, affective and behavioural characteristics (Hare, 1991) that can be defined *in terms of*

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interpersonal style not underlying antisocial or socially deviant behaviour, at least on the surface of social interactions. Namely, some writers emphasize *interpersonal dysfunctions* as the hallmark of psychopathy (Cleckley, 1982; Snowden et al., 2012), as a *disorder of empathy* (Mack et. al., 2011; Snowden et al., 2012; Soderstorm, 2003), even as *a philosophy of life* centring around the trivialization of others (Levenson, 1992) or as a *cognitive-interpersonal model* characterised by a coercive style of relating to others that is supported by expectations of hostility (Blackburn, 1999; Gullhaugen & Nottestad, 2012; Willner, 1988). In other words, psychopathy is represented by *a hostile or aggressive-sadistic style*. Interpersonal theory conceptualizes interpersonal styles as modes of self-presentation that are maintained by the reactions they elicit from others (Kiesler, 1996; Pincus, 2005).

Research on psychopathy has been hindered by persisting difficulties and controversies regarding its assessment, dimensionality and agreement as to the core characteristics of this construct. The Psychopathic Checklist (PCL) and its revision, the Hare Psychopathy Checklist-Revised (PCL-R; Hare, 2003) are the most commonly used measures of psychopathy among incarcerated offenders. Hare (2003) proposed that four latent variable dimensions are needed to represent the construct of psychopathy: (1) an interpersonal factor, (2) an affective factor, (3) a behavioural lifestyle factor, and (4) an antisocial factor. However, the PCL-R requires a lengthy interview and access to official criminal records and institutional behaviour, which is not typically available in research involving non-institutionalized populations. In response to these limitations, Lilienfeld and Widows (2005) developed the Psychopathic Personality Inventory-Revised (PPI-R), a 154-item self-report measure of both global psychopathy and the component traits of psychopathy organized into eight subscales. Although the PPI-R can be used in non-clinical and non-criminal populations, it's lengthy format and complex dimensionality limits its application in a broader political-psychological survey. Therefore, we tried to develop an economic and reliable measure that would reflect a strong theoretical and empirical model of psychopathic tendencies to be used in political science and sociology research.

An influential three-factor model of psychopathy was developed by Cooke and Michie (2001) in which the first factor, labeled arrogant and deceitful interpersonal style, consisted of glibness/superficial charm, grandiosity, pathological lying, and conning/manipulativeness; the second, labeled deficient affective experience, included lack of remorse, shallow affect, lack of empathy, and failure to accept responsibility for one's actions and the third factor, termed impulsive and irresponsible behavioral style, included stimulation seeking, impulsivity, irresponsibility, parasitic life style, and lack of realistic goals. Recent literature has emphasized the importance of callous and unemotional interpersonal style as the affective core of psychopathy (Roose et al., 2009), as being under strong genetic influence (Viding, 2005) and playing a significant role in the development of mature forms of psychopathy (Feilhauer & Cima, 2013). Hall, Benning and Patrick (2004) provided strong support for the external validity of this three factor model of psychopathy together with simpler factor labels of: *interpersonal*, *affective*, and *behavioural*, respectively. The three-factor conceptualization of psychopathy guided our development of the psychopathic personality traits measured in the PPT-1. Specifically, *Interpersonal* items, indicated the existence of hostility, hatred and sadistic impulses, *Affective* items addressed lack of empathy and callous-unemotional traits and *Behavioral* items indicated disinhibition and sensation seeking in interpersonal relations**.** Thus, on of the goals of this study was to develop a sound scale that could be a useful and efficient tool for assessing psychopathic tendencies in various sociological and political-psychological research. We have hypothesized that (1) the PPT-1 is a measure of psychopathic personality traits, that can be considered as a valid and internally consistent construct of a personality disorder; and (2) the dimensions of psychopathic personality traits measured by PPT-1 scale may contribute to out-group biases and out-group threat perceptions (Hodson, Hogg & MacInnis, 2009; Riek, Mania & Gaertner, 2006), forming the model of psychopathic ethnic exclusionis (Stickle, Marini & Thomas, 2012).

2. METHOD

2.1. Participants

A questionnaire was administered to 368 randomly selected undergraduate students from several faculties (social, natural, and technical sciences) at the University of Zagreb (Croatia), as part of a larger project on political-psychological research. The mean age of the respondents was 21.16 years (SD=1.7). There were 233 females (63%) and 135 males (37%). All participants were of Croatian nationality.

2. 2. Measures

Three measures were applied in this investigation:

The *Psychopathic personality traits* (PPT-1). The original scale administered to the participants consisted of 19 items. Initial factor analysis of 19 items, performed under principal components using promax rotation, extracted four factors. The fourth factor was not sufficiently interpretable, thus the items defining this factor were omitted. A few items were loaded strongly on the same factors and were removed from

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further analysis. A final 10-item version of the PPT-1, with responses rated on a 5-point Likert scale from (1) completely incorrect to (5) completely correct, was retained to measure the construct of psychopathic traits. The latent dimensions and psychometric properties of PPT-1 are presented in the results section of the paper.

Two attitudinal self-report scales were applied, measuring (a) national closeness and prejudice, and (b) ethnic minority threat perception. Responses on these scales were rated on a 5-point Likert scale from (1) strongly disagree to (5) strongly agree. We explored the construct validity of the two attitudinal measures using exploratory factor analysis employing principal components analysis. Cronbach's alpha was calculated in order to determine the internal consistency of all three scales (minimum acceptable values .70). The Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) measure of sampling adequacy indicate a good factorability if values are greater than .80.

National closeness and prejudice. This scale assesses interethnic mistrust in social relations, exclusive tendency in interethnic social transactions, and the existence of prejudice toward other ethnic groups (Table 1). The 7-item National closeness and prejudice scale represents one discrete component of the broader ethnocentrism construct (Šram, 2002; 2008). The KMO value of the single factor was .85, the eigenvalue was 3.06, thus accounting for 43.80 percent of the variance in the items. The factor loadings ranged between 0.61 and 0.73. Cronbach's alpha coefficient was .77 which indicates an acceptable level of internal consistency.

Table 1: Principal component of National closeness and prejudice

Variable	***Loadings***
It is hard for me to be frank with a person who is not of my own nationality.	.73
Members of my nation should not contract nationally mixed marriages.	.71
We must always be cautious and restrained toward the members of other nationalities even when they appear to be our friends.	.67
Openness toward other nations brings more disadvantages than advantages.	.63
I feel most comfortable in groups where all of the members are of my own nationality.	.62
One's national belonging, to a great extent, defines his/her personality traits and character.	.62
If we know someone's nationality we will immediately know what kind of a person he/she is.	.61

Ethnic minority threat perception. This scale, consisting of 5 items, is based on a modification of measures developed by Halperin et al. (2007) and the concepts of perceived security threats (Canetti-Nisim et al., 2008; Canneti, 2009). One component was extracted for the scale of ethnic minority threat perception. The KMO value of the single factor was .83, the eigenvalue was 2.83, thus accounting for 56.77 percent of the variance in items. The factor loadings ranged between .67 and .80. Cronbach's alpha coefficient was .80 which indicates a good level of internal consistency for the scale. The latent structure of this measure encompasses the existence of political and national security threat generated by ethnic minority groups, and the need for their social-political exclusionism in Croatian society (Table 2).

Table 2: Principal component of Ethnic minority threat perception

Variable	***Loadings***
Some ethnic minority groups try to politically destabilize our country	.80
Certain ethnic groups endanger the security of my country	.79
There are some ethnic minority political parties that should not be allowed to be in our Parliament	.78
In a state of war, I believe that certain ethnic minority groups would support the enemies of my country	.70
There are some members of ethnic minorities who should not be allowed to appear on TV or give public speeches	.68

3. RESULTS

3. 1. Confirmatory factor analysis of Psychopathic personality traits scale (PPT-1)

To explore factorial and construct validity of the PPT-1, confirmatory factor analysis (CFA) was performed using the LISREL 8.52 program in order to assess underlying factor structure that accounts for covariation within a set of manifest indicators of psychopathic personality traits, i.e. to examine whether the factor structures of psychopathic personality traits identified in the university student population in Zagreb fit our youth group adequately or how well a hypothesized factor structure "fits" the observed data. If the hypothesized factor model fits the data, then the goodness-of-fit test will be nonsignificant. In the present analysis, the following goodness-of-fit indices were used to evaluate model fit: chi-square and relative chi-square (chi-square/degrees of freedom); comparative fit index (CFI); non-normed fit index (NNFI); standardized root-mean-square residual (SRMR); and the root-mean-squared error of

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approximation (RMSEA). Criterion values for satisfactory fit were: CFI and NNFI should be greater than .90 (Bentler, 1992), SRMR values (Hu & Bentler, 1999) and RMSEA values (Browne & Cudeck, 1993) should be generally less than .10 (smaller values indicate a better fit), and chi-square/df ratio value should be less than 3 (Carmines & McIver, 1981).

Confirmatory factor analysis of the PPT-1 on the level of primary factors indicated a three-factor solution (Figure 1). Factor 1: ***Hostility and hatred*** (items: *19. I hate my enemies from the bottom of my heart and try to do harm to them in any way I can; 14. Some people have done so much evil and injustice to me that I often want to kill them; 4. I am glad when I see suffering and aching those who deserve it; 6. I always try to take revenge on people who offended me or did some evil*). Factor 2: ***Disinhibition*** (items: *8. I don't want to forgo any pleasure in my life; 5. I try to satisfy all my passions whatever they may be; 7. I always take care exclusively of my personal interests*). Factor 3: ***Lack of empathy (callous-unemotional traits)*** (items: *9. I don't like weak and soft people; 11. The best law is the law that only the strongest survive; 12. I am not particularly sensitive towards those who suffer because of something*).

Of note, the model goodness-of-fit indices presented in Table 3 do not indicate a satisfactory fit for the first-order-factor model (three primary extracted factors). However, the comparative fit indices (CFI and NNFI) marginally indicate that the model should not be immediately discarded, which was also confirmed by the second-order confirmatory factor analysis (Figure 2).

Table 3: Goodness-of-fit statistics for two alternative measurement models for PPT-1

	PPT-1	
	Primary factors	Second-order factor
df	35	32
χ^2	284.88	91.94
χ^2/df	8.13	2.87
SRMR	.21	.05
RMSEA	.14	.07
CFI	.86	.97
NNFI	.82	.96

df – degrees of freedom
χ2 – chi-square
SRMR – standardized root mean-square residual
RMSEA – root mean-square error of approximation
CFI – comparative goodness-of-fit index
NNFI – non-normed goodness-of-fit index

Figure 1: Confirmatory factor analysis of PPT-1 on the level of primary factors

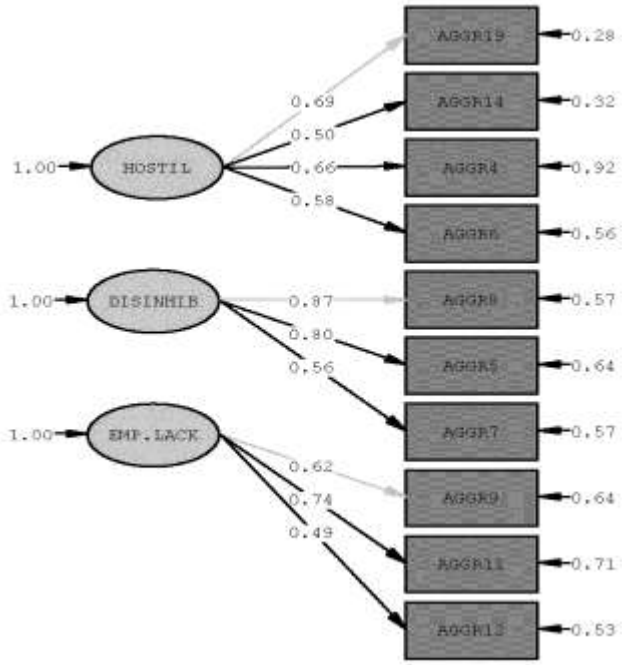
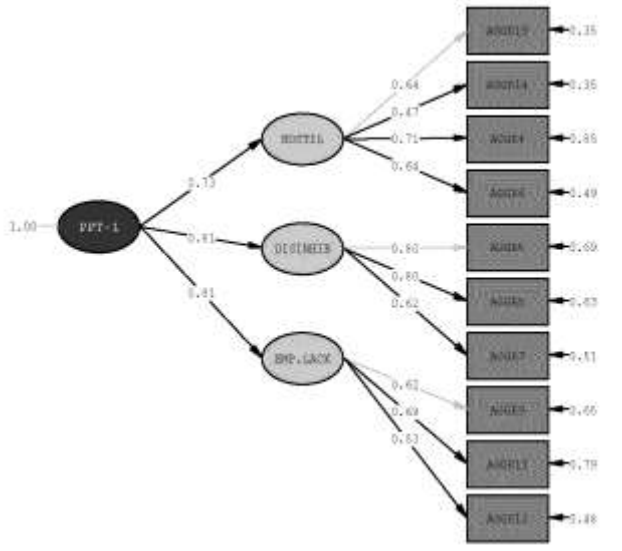


Figure 2: Confirmatory factor analysis of PPT-1 on the level of second-order factor



The second model, presenting the psychopathic personality traits on the level of second-order factor, has acceptable goodness-of-fit indices (Table 3). The values of all presented indices are within the acceptable range, indicating that the psychopathic personality traits measured by PPT-1 present a plausible, theoretically grounded model. Cronbach's alpha coefficient for the 10-item scale is .81,

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indicating a high reliability of the PPT-1. The high reliability of the scale is also indicated by other indicators in the item analysis, like the discriminative validity coefficient or the item-total correlation, and the size of Cronbach's alpha without a particular item (table 4). The value in the column 'item-total correlations' represents correlations between each item and the total result achieved on the scale. Table 4 shows that all the items have substantial correlation with the total of the PPT-1 (all the item-total correlations are beteen .44 and .57). The values in column 'Cronbach's alpha without the item' are total alpha values if a particular item was not taken into account in calculating the Cronbach's coefficient. Total alpha value is .81, meaning that all alpha values should be somewhere around this value. We can see that none of the items would significantly affect the scale's reliability if we would leave it out of the calculation of Cronbach's coefficient. Thus, we can treat the PPT-1 as a composite variable obtained by summing up numerical values of the 10 items which constitute the PPT-1, as well as the 7 items and 5 items attitudinal self-report scales and use them in further data analysis. Descriptive statistics of the composite measures of PPT-1, National closeness and prejudice, and Ethnic minority threat perception are presented in Table 5.

Table 4: Item-total correlation of NSS-1 and Cronbach's alpha without the items

Item	Item-total correlation	Cronbach's alpha without the item
4	0.50	0.80
5	0.54	0.79
6	0.57	0.79
7	0.55	0.79
8	0.49	0.80
9	0.45	0.80
11	0.44	0.80
12	0.54	0.89
14	0.48	0.80
19	0.50	0.79

Table 5: Descriptive statistics of the PPT-1, National closeness and prejudice, Ethnic minority threat perception and Cronbach's alpha coefficients

Measure	**Min.**	**Max.**	**M**	**SD**	**Skewness**	**Kurtosis**	**Cronbach's alpha**
Psychopathic personality traits	10	47	20.49	6.13	.44	.23	.81
National closeness and prejudice	7	29	11.77	4.14	1.10	- .95	.77
Ethnic minority threat perception	5	25	11.33	4.11	.64	.24	.80

Dimensions of Psychopathic personality traits as predictors of National closeness and prejudice, and Ethnic minority threat perception

In order to determine how well scores on National closeness and prejudice, and ethnic minority threat perception could be predicted by the separate dimensions of the PPT-1, we carried out multiple regression analysis (Table 5). Composite variables of psychopathic subscales were used in the regression equation. Descriptive statistics of the psychopathic personality subscales and Cronbach's alpha coefficients are presented in table 6.

Table 6: Descriptive statistics of subscales of Psychopathic personality traits and Cronbach's alpha coefficient

Measure	**Min.**	**Max.**	**M**	**SD**	**Skewness**	**Kurtosis**	**Cronbach's alpha**
Hostility and hatred	4	19	6.91	2.82	1.25	1.79	.73
Disinhibition	3	15	7.31	2.60	.17	-.42	.72
Lack of empathy	3	14	6.26	2.30	.42	-.28	.63

Having national exclusiveness and prejudice in a criterion position, a significant model emerged: $F(3,364)=12.74$, $p>.001$. Hostility and Hatred and Lack of Empathy were significantly predictive of national exclusiveness, but Disinhibition was not. Approximately 9% of the variance of National exclusiveness and prejudice was explained by dimensions of psychopathic personality traits. Similarly, with Ethnic minority threat perception in a criterion position, a significant model emerged: $F(3,362)=19.97$, $p<.001$., with Hostility and hatred and Lack of empathy (but not Disinhibition) as significant predictors however, these traits were more strongly predictive of Ethnic minority threat perception than for National exclusiveness and prejudice. About 14% of the variance of Ethnic minority threat perception was explained by these two psychopathic personality traits.

Table 5: Multiple regressions of composite variables of Psychopathic personality traits on National closeness and prejudice, and Ethnic minority threat perception (N=363)

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Predictor variable	***Criterion variable***	
	National closeness and prejudice (beta)	Ethnic minority threat perception (beta)
Hostility and hatred	.13*	.21***
Disinhibition	.08	.06
Lack of empathy	.17**	.22***
	R= .31	R=.38
	Adj. R^2= .09	Adj. R^2= .14

*p< .05, **p< .01, ***p< .001

DISCUSSION

The primary goal of this study was to develop an internally consistent and valid measure of psychopathic personality traits – the PPT-1 - that could be a useful and efficient tool for assessing psychopathic tendencies in various sociological and political-psychological research. There is a growing trend in psychological assessment to create concise measures of core personality traits because of its efficiency in various field research using special populations (Jonason & Webster, 2012). We developed and validated a concise measure of psychopathic personality traits that can be used in sociology and political science research. Using confirmatory factor analysis we found a superordinate construct underpinned by three subdimensions of psychopathic personality traits, measured by the PPT-1: (F1) Hostility and hatred, (F2) Disinhibition, and (F3) Lack of empathy (callous-unemotional traits).

The hypothetical latent structure of Psychopathic personality traits based on the second-order confirmatory factor analysis adequately correspond to the empirical data. This is the psychological dimension of personality that corresponds to the definition of the construct of Psychopathic personality traits we have proposed. In other words, the PPT-1 is a measure consisting of (a) *interpersonal items* (indicated by the content of *Hostility and hatred*, (b) *affective items* (indicated by the content of *Lack of empathy* or callous-unemotional traits), and (c) *behavioural items* (indicated by the content of *Disinhibition*). In this sense, psychopathic personality traits measured by the PPT-1 represent theoretically grounded model of psychopathy as a three-faceted personal disorder involving interpersonal, affective and behavioural characteristics (Hall, Benning and Patrick, 2004; Hare, 1991) or as a three-factor model of psychopathy involving arrogant interpersonal style, deficient affective experience and irresponsible behavioral style (Cooke & Michie, 2001).

As a single measure of psychopathic personality traits, the psychological content and meaning of the PPT-1 indicates *existence of an extreme hatred toward enemies, mental readiness to kill or do harm to people, sadistic impulses, covert need for power, revengefulness, ruthlessness in social interaction, social insensitivity, callousness, unemotionality, adherence to the value of social Darwinism, mercilessness in achieving one's goal, inability to postpone immediate drives and impulses, need to satisfy all the pleasures regardless of its kind, and the expression of an extreme egocentricity*. In other words, the construct of Psychopathic personality traits, measured by the PPT-1 indicates interpersonal dysfunction (Cleckley, 1982; Snowden et al., 2012), disorder of empathy (Mack et al., 2011; Rose et.al., 2009), and a hedonistic philosophy of life (Levenson, 1992). In a recent research carried out on the sample of Croatian general population (N=531), in order to establish convergent validity of the PPT-1, Šram (2015) used both the PPT-1 and the 26-item Levenson Self-Report Psychopathy Scale (Levenson, Kiehl & Fitzpatrick, 1995) that indicated an inclination to lie, lack of remorse, callousness, manipulativeness, impulsivity, intolerance of frustration, quick-temperedness, and lack of long-term goals. It was hypothesized that two measures of psychopathic constructs that theoretically should be related to each other, would be observed to be related to each other. Indeed, Šram (2015) found out substantial correlation between the two psychopathic constructs (r= .62), having established convergent validity of the PPT-1. These findings provide preliminary support for the PPT-1 as a measure of psychopathic personality traits, that can be considered as an internally consistent, homogenous and valid construct of a personality disorder. It appears that PPT-1 is a theoretically sound, reliable and economic measure or useful tool to be used for assessing psychopathic syndrome in sociology and political science research dealing with various interpersonal and intergroup behavioural or attitudinal dysfunctions in non-clinical and noncriminal populations. Moreover, the PPT-1 is simultaneously preserving its flexibility in serving as either a one- or three-dimensional construct, depending primarily on the nature and purpose of the study.

The second hypothesis of this study was that the dimensions of Psychopathic personality traits (PPT-1) would be significant predictors of National closeness and prejudice, and Ethnic minority threat perception. Our hypothesis concerning the relationships between psychopathic personality traits and exclusionist ethnic attitudes was partly

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confirmed. Namely, only interpersonal and affective features of psychopathic personality traits proved to be significant predictors of both National closeness and prejudice and Ethnic minority threat perception, but the effect were of different degrees. In other words, interpersonal/affective psychopathy contributed to out-group biases and out-group threat perceptions (Hodson, Hogg & MacInnis, 2009; Riek, Mania & Gaertner, 2006), forming a sort of the model of psychopathic ethnic exclusionis (Stickle, Marini & Thomas, 2012).

Interpersonal/affective features of psychopathic personality traits contribute more to development of Ethnic minority threat perception. Since political-psychological meaning of such a perceived threat reveals covert aggressiveness and severe hostility toward (certain) ethnic minorities, interpersonal/affective model of psychopathy could "have clinical utility in indentifying a particular severe and recalcitrant form of antisocial behaviour with unique developmental origins" (Pardini & Loeber, 2007). In our case, it refers to developing an anti-ethnic-minority attitude originated on the basis of perceived national threat perception imposed by certain ethnic minorities in Croatia. Through such a perceived threat, a cognitive- interpersonal model of relating to other ethnic groups can develop an interpersonal style that is and supported by expectations of hostility (Blackburn, 1999; Gullhaugen & Nottestad, 2012). Namely, interpersonal styles as modes of self-presentation are maintained by the eractions they elicit from others (Kiesler, 1996; Pincus, 2005).

An individual manifesting interpersonal/affective model of psychopathic personality traits is surely a hostile and callous individual who has learned to expect hostile reactions from others and behaves in ways that get them. From this interpersonal model, it would therefore be predicted that psychopaths have hostile expectations of others and that their style induces hostile reactions. Much weaker effect of interpersonal/affective model of psychopathy on National closeness and prejudice can be explained that such an ethnic attitudinal construct represents rather a defence in psychodynamic inter-ethnic relations, while an immediate attack on other ethnic groups is underlying Ethnic minority threat perception. Although the two exclusionist ethnic attitudes are in a substantial correlation ($r = .54$, $p < .001$), they are distinct inter-ethnic attitudinal constructs with different psychodynamic social relations and psychological underpinning, where the former presents withdrawal defence mechanism and the latter present attack defence mechanism. Callous-unemotional and hostile interpersonal style toward ethnic minorities is much more expressed by the individuals whom they perceive as strangers and enemies in a certain social and political context, especially if derived from the collective historical memories (Hackel, Looser & Van Bavel, 2014). In spite of different proportion of the variance explained in regression models, we can notice an underlying similar psychopathic personality syndrome. Regardless of withdrawal or attack defense mechanism, they have something in common to a certain degree, and that is interpersonal/affective features of psychopathy syndrome. Nevertheless, little is known about the changes and stability of ethnic exclusionist attitudes and what processes predict the development of these hostile inter-ethnic attitudes (van Zalk & Kerr, 2014). It is interesting that Disinhibition was not shown as a significant predictor of neither National closeness and prejudice nor Ethnic minority threat perception. Since disinhibition as a component of sensation seeking is a personality trait that underlies a strong tendency to deviant, risky and criminal behavior (Eysenck, 1977; Zuckerman, 1994; Zuckerman, Eysenck & Eysenck, 1978) and that , antisocial behavior captures the general trait of disinhibition (Kennealy, Skeem, Walters & Camp, 2010), we can speculate that the respondents, who must have been sufficiently socialized to become university students, did not express such a deviant behavioural syndrome that could predict the appearance of exclusionist inter-ethnic attitudes. Although personality-based and behaviour-based conceptualizations of psychopathy is not entirely clear (Lilienfeld, 1998), we can see that personality features are "intimately tied" (Hare & Neumann, 2008, p. 231) with behavioural features because both stem from a cohesive higher order factor representing psychopathic personality traits measured by PPT-1.

It is proved that interpersonal and affective features of psychopathy contribute significantly to the development and manifestation of exclusionist inter-ethnic attitudes, creating the core of a kind of a *psychopathic ethnic exclusionism*. It does not mean that all three subdimensions of the PPT-1 would not be significant predictors of some other political and ethnic exclusionist attitudes and in different samples. However, it is obvious that without taking into consideration specific personality characteristics we can hardly explain various types of nationalistic sentiments on the individual level. The more psychopathic personality traits will be developed in the Croatian youth, the less they will be affected by environmental information that goes against exclusionist inter-ethnic attitudes, because of their resistance to social conditioning (Declercq et al., 2009) and their ability to adequately understand and respond to social reinforcement (Village, 2011). Both youth political socialisation and their family education are of primary importance not only for preventing deviant behaviours but also for preventing inter-ethnic conflicts.

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