

Dark triad personality traits and overt/relational aggression

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Introduction

- **Dark Triad** • • Machiavellianism, narcissism and psychopathy
- Dark Triad traits are related to overt/direct aggression (Baughman et al., 2012) and relational aggression (Knight et al., 2018)

Research Question

- Whether the people who have high the Dark Triad traits tend to use the two aggressive behavior to the same degree or not?

Method

- Participants were 220 undergraduate students in Japan (65% females)
- The average age of the participants was 19.47 years ($SD = 1.11$).
- To measure the Dark Triad traits, overt aggression, and relational aggression, we used the Japanese version of the Short Dark Triad (Shimotsukasa, & Oshio) and Aggression scale (Isobe & Hisinuma, 2011)

Results

Table 1. Correlation coefficients and comparing the coefficients

	Aggression		Comparison of r
	Overt	Relational	Overt-Relational
Machiavellianism			
r	.16 *	.32 ***	.16 *
95%CI	[.03, .29]	[.20, .44]	
Narcissism			
r	.10	.09	.01
95%CI	[-.03, .23]	[-.04, .22]	
Psychopathy			
r	.41 ***	.32 ***	.09
95%CI	[.30, .52]	[.20, .44]	

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

Discussion

- Machiavellian tended to use relational aggression more frequently than overt aggression.

→ These results may reflect Machiavellian's interpersonal tactics.

- Subclinical psychopath favored using both aggressions almost equally.
- Subclinical narcissist was not related to any aggression.