

Therefore, I recommend that the first sentence of subsection (a) be revised to read "mental disease or defect excluding responsibility; repeated criminal or otherwise antisocial behavior is not mental disease or defect per se."

The CHAIRMAN. Doctor, at that point, just to help my own thinking, how would you define a sociopath personality?

Dr. CAMERON. Well, I can describe a sociopathic for you if you will permit me to. This is a list of some things that show the hallmarks of a sociopath, they are as follows:

1. An inability to put off present pleasure for future gain.
2. A lack of aim and foresight.
3. A failure to learn from experience.
4. Impulsiveness.
5. Egocentricity.
6. Lack of lasting emotional rapport with others.
7. Lack of sympathy.
8. General immaturity.
9. Little intellectual influence on behavior.

Now, I would like to call your attention to the fact——

The CHAIRMAN. Well, do you have to have all of those to be a sociopath?

Dr. CAMERON. No, Mr. Chairman, not all, but you would have the majority of them and in that pattern. But I would like to——

The CHAIRMAN. But you would have to have at least some of them.

Dr. CAMERON. You would have to have quite a few. And, Mr. Chairman, let me suggest that many criminals do not show at least six of the things I have mentioned—let me draw them, let me invite them specifically to your attention.

There are many criminals who do have the ability to put off pleasant pleasure for future gain. There are many who do have aim and foresight. There are many criminals who do learn from experience. There are a good many who are not impulsive and there are quite a few who are not immature, and there are quite a number who do regulate their behavior by their intellect, but purely in an unlawful way.

But I am trying to point out that the signs and symptoms that I describe which are those of a sociopath do not necessarily describe a chronic criminal and certainly—let me go ahead and make one other point.

I want to call your attention to the fact, Mr. Chairman, that I did not list antisocial behavior as one of the signs and symptoms because indeed it is not a medical symptom at all in the true sense. It is rather a sociophenomenon not peculiar or exclusive to sociopathy or any other form of mental disorder.

Now, the persons with the above-described symptoms and signs do often indulge in antisocial behavior, and that is not at all surprising but, however, the fact remains that not all sociopaths are involved in criminal behavior and not all criminal behavior is perpetrated by sociopaths.

And antisocial behavior is particularly troublesome if considered as a symptom since this leads to a peculiar form of circular logic which is as follows:

Anyone who commits an unlawful act must be crazy; anyone who is crazy is to be excused from what he does; therefore, no one is responsible for anything that he does.