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Several studies suggest that problematic Internet use is linked to different psychological and psychosocial factors, including personality traits and disorder. We present and discuss two studies. In the first study, we examined the relationship among Internet addiction symptoms, maladaptive personality traits, and theory of mind in 349 volunteer students (57.6% females) aged 18–25. In the second study, we performed a systematic review of recent literature examining the relationship between personality traits and Internet gaming disorder (IGD). In the first study, a hierarchical multiple regression analysis showed that negative affectivity, disinhibition, and psychoticism predicted Internet addiction symptoms, with theory of mind having no significant effect in the prediction. The result of the second study, which comprises a systematic review including 27 peer-reviewed articles, showed that different personality traits (such as high neuroticism, high impulsivity, and high aggressiveness) emerged as significant predictors of IGD, but no unique pattern of associations between personality traits and IGD can be identified. The findings from the two studies suggest that Internet addiction and Internet gaming disorder are strictly related to maladaptive personality traits, so that in many cases these disorders may be a consequence of psychological and relational impairments, rather than their cause.

PERSONALITY, PSYCHOPATHOLOGICAL CONDITIONS AND PATOLOGICAL INTERNET USE. PRELIMINARY RESULTS FROM A CLINICAL SETTING

Guglielmucci Fanny (1,2), Saroldi Marta (2), Zullo Giuseppina (2), Munno Donato (2), Franzoi Isabella Giulia (1)

(1) Dipartimento di Psicologia, Università degli Studi di Torino
The pathological misuse of the internet has been considered as a compensative or dissociative strategy to face traumatic experiences of real life. The paper aims at investigating personality disorders, mood disorders and traumatic early experiences in a clinical sample of pathological internet users. We administered the Structured clinical interview for DSM-5 (SCID-5), the Toronto Alexithymia Scale (TAS-20), the Internet Addiction Scale (IAT), The Symptoms Check List (SCL-90) and The Traumatic Experience Check List (TEC) to inpatients and outpatients of the Clinical Psychology Liaison Service of the S. Giovanni Battista Hospital (Turin). Narcissistic and avoidant personality were found, together with alexytimic traits and depressive conditions. Early traumatic experiences seem to be involved in the development of personality and mood disorders in patients with a pathological use of The Internet. These data are in line with the coping/dissociative strategy and seem to suggest the importance of and individualized clinical intervention for People entangled in virtual realities.

PIXEL BODIES. SELFIE-PORTRAITS ACTIVITIES AND PREDICTORS AMONG GIRLS

Boursier Valentina (1), Manna Valentina (1), Gioia Francesca (1), Coppola Federica (1)

(1) Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici, Università degli studi di Napoli Federico II

The use of technology is profoundly “gender-related”. There were notable differences approaching to the Internet, but the introduction of smartphones and SNs led women to a more widespread use of digital devices (Joiner et al.2012). Women are more prone to social media addiction, more active in