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ПОД-СЕКЦИЯ-2. Медицинская психология

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REGARDING PROACTIVE AGGRESSION

Traditionally in psychology aggression is understood as the behavior directed on infliction of harm to other people provided that the victim of aggression should aspire to avoid such relation to (R. Baron, D. Richardson). The question of classification of aggressive behavior always stood very sharply in a modern psychological science. Still there is no consensus about what manifestations of the personality can be carried to aggressive and what aren't present. Besides, there is no uniform classification which would unite every possible type of aggressive actions and personality tendencies in complete structurally functional system.

Important division of aggressive actions into two poles – reactive-proactive is represented. Such division was offered for the first time to K.A. Dodge and J.D. Coie (1997) [1, 4]. In their opinion, reactive aggression is connected with implementation of aggressive actions in reply to real or expected threat. Pro-active aggression describes the behavior directed on achievement of a certain positive result. D. Zillmann replaced earlier entered concepts “hostile” and “tool” with aggression “caused by an irritant” and “caused by motivation” [5-6]. The aggression caused by an irritant, describes actions which are undertaken for elimination of an unpleasant situation or weakening of its injuring influence (for example, strong hunger). The aggression caused by motivation, belongs to actions which are undertaken for the purpose of achievement of various external benefits.

Thus, proactive aggression is the hostile, destructive behavior caused by internal motives of the individual's personality. In this regard there is a question, what share of positive effect from such behavior and as far as it promotes high-grade functioning of man in society? No doubt, such type of aggressive actions belongs to pro-active behavior. This concept designates ability of the person to operate under the influence of internal factors, instead of external conditions. And the pro-active behavior can be both constructive, and destructive.

Below two schemes on which various models of a ratio of reactive and pro-active aggression with the leading characteristics describing those and other types of aggression are represented are provided.

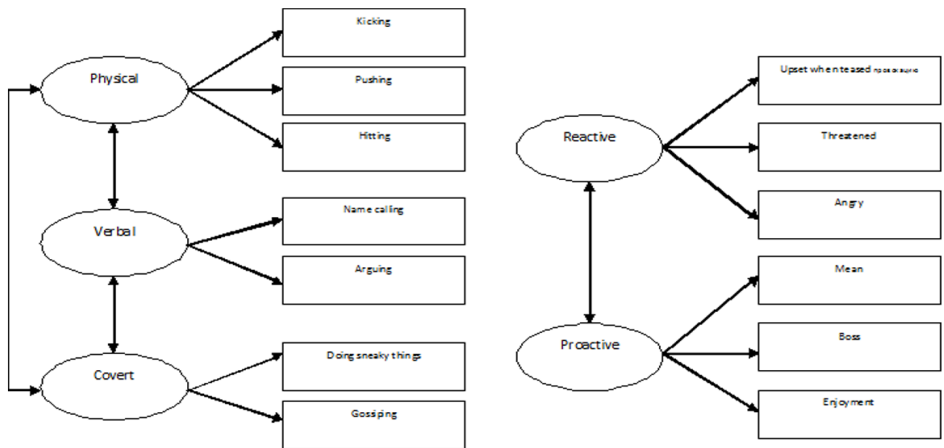


Fig. 1. Models of aggression according to Polman et al [3].

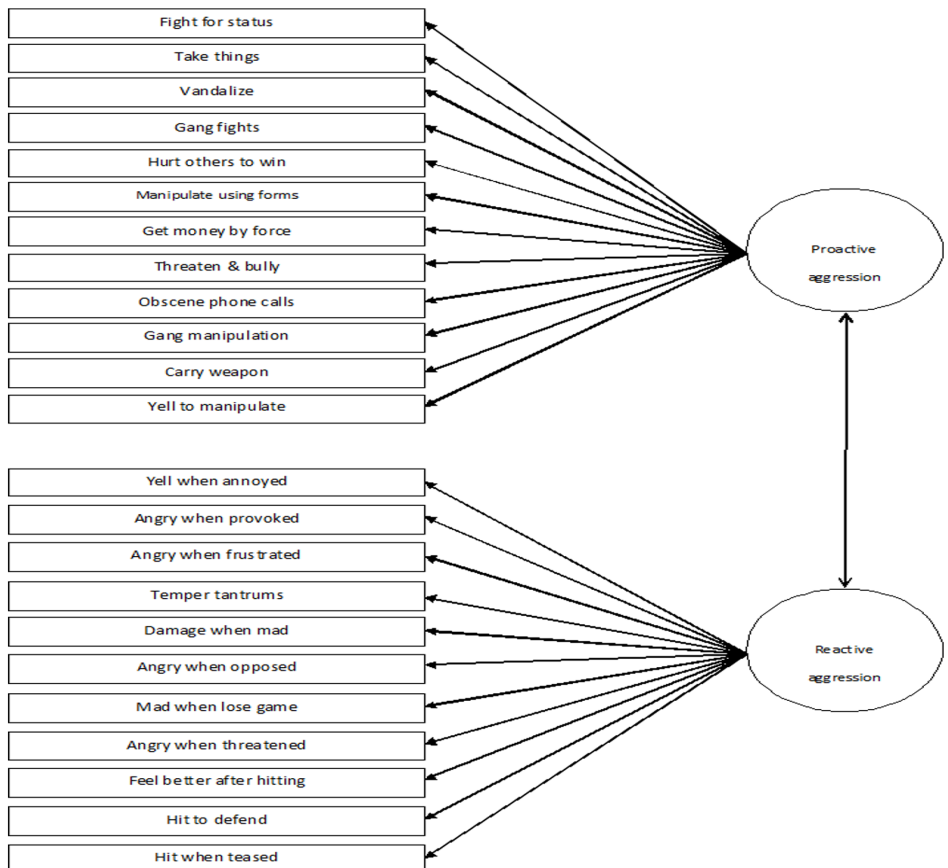


Fig. 2. Two-factorial model of proactive / reactive aggression, according to Fung

A.L et al. [2].

The presented models show only manifestations of reactive and proactive aggression, but not sources, factors of formation and mechanisms of realization of this phenomenon. The lack of data of this area serves as a peculiar trigger mechanism for the future researches of proactive aggression, the description of its criteria and key signs, the personal and environmental factors influencing its formation. This field of activity is represented to us still low-studied with absence of the uniform theory describing a phenomenon of pro-active aggression as one of manifestations of pro-active behavior of the person.

References:

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3. Polman H., Castro B.O., Thomaes S., Aken M. New Directions in Measuring Reactive and Proactive Aggression: Validation of a Teacher Questionnaire // *J Abnorm Child Psychol* (2009) P. 183-193.
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