

The term 'psychopath' often conjures up visions of comic book bad guys or Hollywood movie villains. However, the precise scientific definition of psychopathy, and its clinical relevance, is anything but fictional. Approximately 1 in 150, or about 500,000 men in the United States meet clinical criteria for psychopathy. Psychopaths commit a disproportionate amount of crime and violence in society. Indeed, the majority of the \$2.3 trillion dollar social cost of crime is due to psychopathy. This presentation will detail how scientists assess psychopathy, how psychopathy is used in forensic settings, and we will review the latest neuroscience of the condition. Finally, we will discuss recent attempts to treat individuals with psychopathy.