**Personality Disorders**

A **Personality Disorder** is identified by a pervasive pattern of

that is with respect to any two of the following:

Many individuals with personality disorders

 of the population are affected by personality disorders.

Usually develop in and become apparent

Personality disorders tend to occur frequently with

The character of every person is shown through ,

by the way an individual .

When the behaviour is ,

then that individual is diagnosed with a personality disorder.

Most personality disorders begin as problems in ,

which peak during adolescence and then are defined as personality disorders.

Personality disorders are not illnesses in a strict sense, as they do not

Individuals with personality disorders have many things in common:

* Self-centeredness that manifests itself through a me-first, self-preoccupied attitude
* Lack of individual accountability that results in a victim mentality and blaming others, society, and the universe for their problems.
* Lack of perspective-taking and empathy
* Manipulative and exploitive behavior
* Unhappiness, suffering from depression and other mood and anxiety disorders
* Vulnerability to other mental disorders, such as obsessive-compulsive tendencies and panic attacks
* Distorted or superficial understanding of self and others’ perceptions, being unable to see his or her objectionable, unacceptable, disagreeable, or self-destructive behaviours or the issues that may have contributed to the personality disorder
* Socially maladaptive, changing the rules of the game, introducing new variables, or otherwise influencing the external world to conform to their own needs.
* No hallucinations, delusions, or thought disorders (except for the brief psychotic episodes of Borderline Personality Disorder)

Individuals with a  personality disorder show a total disregard for

They do not feel . Psychopathic personalities are thought to be a result of both .

 is one in which the person (usually male)

 **Personality Disorder**

**Individuals with this personality disorder have an sense of**

They demand and expect to be by others and are limited in their capacity to .

Treatment:

When individuals choose to be in control of their lives and are committed to changing their lives,

 . Therapy and medications can help, but it is the individual’s decision to that makes the difference.

To heal, individuals must first have in order to break through that enduring pattern of a personality disorder.

This involves changing --about themselves, their relationships, and the world.

This also involves changing , for that which is not acted upon is not learned.