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I am getting the impression that O'Nions arguments for viewing social demand avoidance in PDA as "strategic" are contradicted by her early work".

O'Nions is partly trying to argue that PDA social demand avoidance behaviours are not the same as "sophisticated" behaviours of those with callous-unemotional traits. (O'Nions and Eaton, 2020).

In their previous work, they viewed PDA social demand avoidance to be manipulative in nature. See O'Nions et al, 2014 and 2015. This matters as O'Nions helped to develop two tools that view PDA social demand avoidance to be manipulative.

Beyond this. Looking at this original PDA DISCO question:

"Lies, cheats, steals, fantasises, causing distress to others" is associated to surface sociability & obsessive behaviour (Gillberg et al, 2015).

The EDA-Q is partly derived from the original PDA DISCO questions. This EDA-Q question seems to be derived from the above DISCO question.

"Knows what to do or say to upset specific people" (O'Nions et al, 2014).

If one accepts that in the above question the CYP with PDA is deliberately targeting specific persons because they obsessed with said person. It suggests that the CYP with PDA also has "callous-unemotional traits."

Such an assumption is supported by how some PDA features are criminal in nature and require intent to commit the act.

"Harasses another person—may like or dislike them"

&

"Lies, cheats, steals, fantasises, causing distress to others" (Gillberg et al, 2015)

The point I am making here is that just because the behaviours seen in PDA maybe less sophisticated than other types of manipulative behaviour does not mean it is not manipulative if it is serving the same purpose.

Bare in mind PDA is not meant to have Theory of Mind deficits.

I will end this one here.

[@threadreaderapp](#) please could you unroll?

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