

**RESISTANCE TO PROVOCATIONS IS A RELIABLE PROTECTION  
OF PRODUCTIVE CREATIVE ACTIVITY**

*Abstract: provocation is a psychological manipulation, a "challenge" aimed at forcing the victim to behave in a certain way. Usually we are talking about undesirable behavior, which implies harmful consequences for the victim, which are beneficial to the provocateur. Even after recognizing the provocateur, it is not always possible to effectively resist him. If you realize that you have succumbed to provocation, carefully analyze this situation.*

*Keywords: provocateur, aggressor, psychopath, gossip, introspection, defense*

**Introduction**

The change of the acting person himself is, therefore, an integral part of all human activity to the extent that a person finds himself faced with the need to live and act, including adapting to a world that is largely created by the same activity. Today we see many examples of the fact that the adaptation of man and humanity to the changes generated by previous activities often becomes far from an easy problem, if we talk, say, about the changes to which our environment is exposed [1].

At the same time, most people easily succumb to yf, because they are not able not only to resist them, but even to recognize them. Using this, skillful provocateurs "play" with their victims, putting them in a bad position and achieving their goals [2].

Provocation is a psychological manipulation, a "challenge" aimed at forcing the victim to behave in a certain way. Usually we are talking about undesirable behavior, implying harmful consequences for the victim, which at

the same time are beneficial to the provocateur. In everyday life, provocations are most often aimed at throwing an opponent off balance, forcing him to behave inappropriately and convincing all his colleagues that he is wrong.

To get the opponent out of himself, the provocateur can use special questions and statements, which he utters in a calm tone:

- "Is this information from an authoritative source? And from which one?";
- "I have the right to express my opinion. Or has freedom of speech been abolished?";
- "Can you prove it? Or are these empty words, as usual?";
- "You're making up something that didn't happen!";
- "So what?!".

There are many different examples. But there are several typical types of provocation that are most often found in everyday life and are played out in works of art [2].

### **Materials and methods**

This includes empirical methods such as modeling, fact-finding, experiment, description and observation, as well as theoretical methods such as logical and historical methods, abstraction, deduction, induction, synthesis and analysis, as well as methods of heuristic strategies. The research materials are: scientific facts, the results of previous observations, surveys, experiments and tests; means of idealization and rationalization of the scientific approach.

In real life, provocation is often used in close relationships in order to cause conflict and at the same time look like a victim, not an aggressor. For example, spouses use this approach when clarifying a relationship in order to ensure a deliberately advantageous position for themselves and convince the "soulmate" that she is to blame for the quarrel. Such a "game" usually takes place on a personal level between two people, but sometimes it is aimed at the general public.

There are different types of provocations:

Exploitation of ambition and vanity. Provocation is not always aimed at a negative reaction. Skillful manipulators can use it to force the interlocutor to behave in a certain way. A famous example is described in the fable "The Crow and the Fox": with the help of praise, the Fox lulls the vigilance of the Crow and makes it drop the cheese. Provocations are often found in works of art. For example, a spy provocateur can "admire" how important and influential the interlocutor is in order to get him to talk, forcing him to brag and give out secrets.

Checking the boundaries of independence. It is very often unconsciously resorted to by children who violate the restrictions of their parents and guardians in order to understand how far they can freely go and what the consequences will be. This is not because they are such skillful provocateurs, it's just that children like to experiment, in this way they actually calculate the reaction of adults. This approach is chosen and coordinated at work, when changing the commanding staff [4].

The demand for evidence and arguments for justification is used in public disputes to convince others of their own rightness. Its essence lies in the fact that the provocateur accuses the opponent of something and waits for a reaction. The opponent finds himself in a losing situation. He can deny the accusations or begin to justify himself – to others he will still look guilty.

Another type of provocation is a test for "weakly", here the provocateur demands that the opponent prove his determination or courage by performing some dangerous, reckless and, as a rule, completely meaningless action. Checking for "weak" is often used to achieve beneficial actions for oneself. For example, a seller in the market may significantly doubt the solvency of the buyer and offer him a cheaper thing. The same one, outraged, demands to give him the most expensive one, and then pays much more for it than he originally intended to spend, just so as not to lose face in the dirt [6].

## **Results and discussion:**

All types of provocations can be divided into two large groups:

- **Demonstrative.** This is what provocations are called, which are obvious to the victim himself and to others, and also have clear goals. These can be direct insults, lies, slander, bullying and other types of defiant behavior. Most people react to such attacks against themselves emotionally and intemperately. This is what a provocateur usually needs. Positive provocation at the expense of flattery, praise and admiration can also be obvious, but the victim herself often does not notice it, because pleasant words lull her to sleep.

- **Hidden.** This is what provocations are called, which are difficult to recognize. In addition, even if the provocation becomes obvious, its goals still remain unclear. In fact, this is covert manipulation of the victim. The provocateur achieves his goals, the victim does not know about anything, which means he cannot resist.

With provocateurs, everything is somewhat more complicated than with provocations. To choose the optimal tactics of confrontation, it is necessary to correctly identify the "type" of the provocateur. There are 5 main types:

- **The provocateur is a politician.** Provocateurs belonging to this species are willing to spend time and effort to develop well-thought-out plans. Their goals may be different. But in any case, they are very dangerous, especially when you consider that they mask their "subversive" activities well. Having found such a provocateur among friends, you need to immediately understand that he is very dangerous. You can't get too close to him, but you don't need to quarrel once again, because it will be very difficult to confront him on his own territory [5].

- **A vampire.** Many provocateurs are ordinary energy vampires who destabilize the situation around them in order to get "nourishment" from others. Representatives of this species are less dangerous than political provocateurs.

And yet, it is also better to stay away from them, because you will not be able to build good friendships with them anyway.

- The gossip. Some people just like to collect, multiply and spread gossip. Once they are alone with you, they begin to "wash the bones" of friends, colleagues and other acquaintances who are not around. You need to be very careful with such people, because in another company they behave the same way, they can spread gossip and accusations about you as well. The best tactic of communicating with a gossip is to distance yourself as much as possible and become "uninteresting" for him, even "unnecessary".

- Flagship of justice. There are people who pretend to be zealous righteous men fighting with all their might for the truth. At the same time, they themselves are far from saints, but they do not care. But they diligently expose the sins of others. As a rule, they are very aggressive and at the same time always confident in their rightness, in connection with which they can pose a serious danger [7].

- An ordinary psychopath. This may be a sociopath or just a person with an unstable psyche who reacts aggressively to most external stimuli. As a rule, such a person does not have a clear motivation, but it is difficult for him to control himself, and any event can make him lose his temper. Such people brawl in queues, are rude to sellers and cashiers, and behave provocatively in public places. They show an aggressive reaction even in the company of people they have known well for a long time [8].

### **Conclusion:**

As we have already found out, provocation can be demonstrative or hidden. An explicit provocation is usually obvious, but an implicit one is difficult to recognize. Its presence is usually signaled by a feeling of discomfort that occurs when communicating with a provocateur, even if he does not give himself away in any way. One of the reasons for this feeling is that such people implicitly break through the psychological protection of the victim, trying not to

give themselves away in any way. If communication with some person causes a feeling of discomfort, most likely, an implicit provocation occurs.

Even after recognizing the provocateur, it is not always possible to effectively resist him. There are three important rules, compliance with which provides reliable protection against aggression and provocations:

- Stand your ground. A person who doubts himself is a faithful victim of provocations. Therefore, you must always be confident in your words and your own opinion. No matter how the provocateur behaves, you can not show him that he made you doubt, put you in an awkward position.

- Never explain anything unnecessarily to anyone. If you realize that the other person is trying to get you out of yourself or take control of your emotions, you lose your composure, feel free to stop the conversation and immediately leave that place. This way you will save your nerves, and the provocateur will not achieve his goal, that is, he will not be able to defeat you [5].

- Study yourself [3]. Provocateurs immediately react to the weaknesses of their victims. It is important for every successful person to constantly engage in introspection, find their weaknesses, honestly admit their presence and think in advance about ways to confront provocateurs who exploit your weaknesses and shortcomings [9].

If you realize that you have succumbed to provocation, carefully analyze this situation. Guess exactly what weaknesses the aggressor takes aim at, how and why he found them, how he managed to take advantage of them. It is very important to think about a provocative situation and not to ignore it, not to transfer its outcome to the mercy of daily circumstances, even fate [10].

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