

FIGURE 2
The Narcissistic Personality Disorder Politician Syndrome as Borderline Psychosis

"Normality"	NP "Borderline" Syndrome	Psychosis
Integrated subjective self	Structural split into two selves (grandiose/depleted)	Complete fragmentation of subjective self
Mature self-esteem	Grandiosity/Shame	Full delusional constitution of grandiose self; cold paranoid grandiosity/ Omnipotent persecutor
Mature self-confidence	Imperial, absolute self-confidence/Hypochondria, continual worry about well-being; insecurity	Full delusional constitution of grandiose self; cold paranoid grandiosity/ Omnipotent persecutor
Mature ambition	Compelling drive to merge with ("attain") idealized powerful offices; Solipsistic claims for attention/Fears of inadequacy	Full delusional constitution of grandiose self; cold paranoid grandiosity/ Omnipotent persecutor
Genuine love, warmth with autonomous individuals	Partial withdrawal of object libido; partial narcissistic bonding	Complete withdrawal of object libido; narcissistic bonding
Secondary process (secularized) reality testing and creative use of primary process under ego control	Partially distorting, idealizing, twinship and mirror transferences; vague awe, primary process "religious" feelings, reified abstractions, and experiences of forces, pressures, power; habitual ambiguity and indirection; marked libidinal intrusions into speech and thought	Massive projection and transference, full deterioration of reality-testing, uncontrolled intrusion of primary process, incomprehensible, illogical, fully emotionally expressive speech and thought.
Mature, playful humor	Deteriorated humor	Absence of humor
Capacity for enthusiasm	Episodes of hypomanic excitement	Auto-erotic tension state

Adapted from Kohut, 1971: 9, 97, et passim