Michael Jackson: Was He the Man in the Mirror?

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Abstract

In analyzing Michael Jackson and his personal history, it could be said he was a man suffering from Narcissistic Personality Disorder. Michael Jackson was indicative of how influential the scientific psychiatric community, and by extension, the DSM-IV-TR, is on the medical profession and society. In analyzing Michael Jackson’s responses given in various interviews, it became increasingly evident that had the impact of childhood trauma and loneliness been expounded upon in the DSM-IV-TR as it relates specifically to Narcissistic Personality Disorder, the diagnostic features more concise rather than fuzzy and overlapping, and how important it is to know and understand the truth about one’s personal history, Michael Jackson would have been understood and perceived differently. In essence, he could have been effectively diagnosed and, as such, Michael Jackson would not have become the Man in the Mirror.

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He chose "Man In The Mirror" among several songs which were presented by songwriters from his publishing company. Co-writer Siedah Garrett said in a 2017 interview with Songwriter Universe, that "this song was deeper than just the visual of a man looking at himself in the mirror." She elaborated upon a theme, "It was that, juxtaposed with the idea of a man going deeper inside himself to change from within. To make a difference on the outside, you have to first start from within." The Andrae Crouch Gospel Choir was features on this track. They also sang on Madonna & Michael Jackson, who spent almost his entire life in the public eye, said he hated mirrors, and hated looking in them. But "Man in the Mirror" was released before Jackson's gradual downward spiral, driven by bad press and declining mental and physical health. The song bears a bold social message and presents Jackson in an idealized light, far from his "Wacko Jacko" image of the 1990s and 2000s. "Man in the Mirror" is all about the MJ of his hey-day—sensitive, brilliant, socially conscious, and backed by nothing less than a gospel choir. Sadly, in the years af Men in the Mirror Songtext. I'm gonna make a change For once in my life It's gonna feel real good Gonna make a difference Gonna make it right As I, turn up the collar on My favorite winter coat This wind is blowin' my mind I see the kids in the street With not enough to eat Who am I, to be blind? Pretending not to see their needs A summer's disregard A broken bottle top And a one man's soul They follow each other on The wind ya' know 'Cause they got nowhere to go That's why I want you to know. I'm starting with the Man In The Mirror I'm aski