

First and Last Name

Professor

Class

February 19, 2017

### Vanity Definition

Vanity is often viewed as a negative trait in society and business. The original definition of vanity is having abundant pride in one's appearance, achievements, skills, and other qualities in their personality. People who are called vain are also accused of being shallow and too proud to associate with others. Vanity is not a word often associated with positive personality traits. The term is also used to describe someone who worships themselves and never sees wrong in their actions. Vanity is connected to the term pride and pride is listed as a Christian Seven Deadly Sin. Vanity can cause hubris, which can lead to terrible actions and severe consequences. Society considers vanity as just a term to describe negative personality traits. Having too much vanity can be detrimental to a person's life and career.

There is nothing wrong with having confidence and faith in one's abilities. However, not being able to see faults and take criticism can be harmful. Each person in this world has a flaw and to deny that is unhealthy. The story of Narcissus in mythology features a youth who spurned the nymph Echo because he was incapable of loving anyone but himself. To punish him, the gods made him fall in love with his reflection in the water. He was so fixated on his reflection that he starved to death. People with extreme vanity are just as fixated on themselves. They do not see anything wrong with their selfish actions. When an arrogant person makes a decision, many of them do not consider the perspective of others. Their vanity makes it impossible to see

past their self-importance. This attitude not only affects their relationships with people, but those in the workplace as well.

Successful people do have a tendency to develop an ego about their work. Having pride in one's work is one thing, but never acknowledging the accomplishments of one's team is another. A person with extreme vanity will refuse to accept criticism from coworkers and management. This could harm their career path and damage their relationships with people at their workplace. Even though always doing one's best is a good thing, seeking absolute perfection can lead to stress and depression if one thinks they are less than perfect. Vanity is a trait that must be continually flattered, or the person will fall into a sad state.

A person with a large amount of vanity does not like being ignored by others. Often, their vanity cannot survive without continual flattery. George Eliot once said, "Vanity is as ill at ease under indifference as tenderness is under a love which it cannot return." People with a strong sense of vanity must be the center of attention. If they do not get complimented, they may become angry and blame other people for not recognizing their greatness. Vanity is not good for personal growth and development. Persons with an inflated ego isolate others with their behavior. Relationships are essential for all levels of functioning in society.

Vanity is a full-time occupation of the individual who has it. Vanity needs to be continuously fed with compliments and indulgence. Narcissism and pride are connected to vanity, and they help in encouraging one's ego. People with vanity focus on the surface of things such as their appearance and outward qualities. They have an inability to receive criticism about their personalities or looks. Vanity is not a good trait to have in the business world or relationships with others people. Vanity can lead to a destructive hubris state, damaging one's sense of worth.