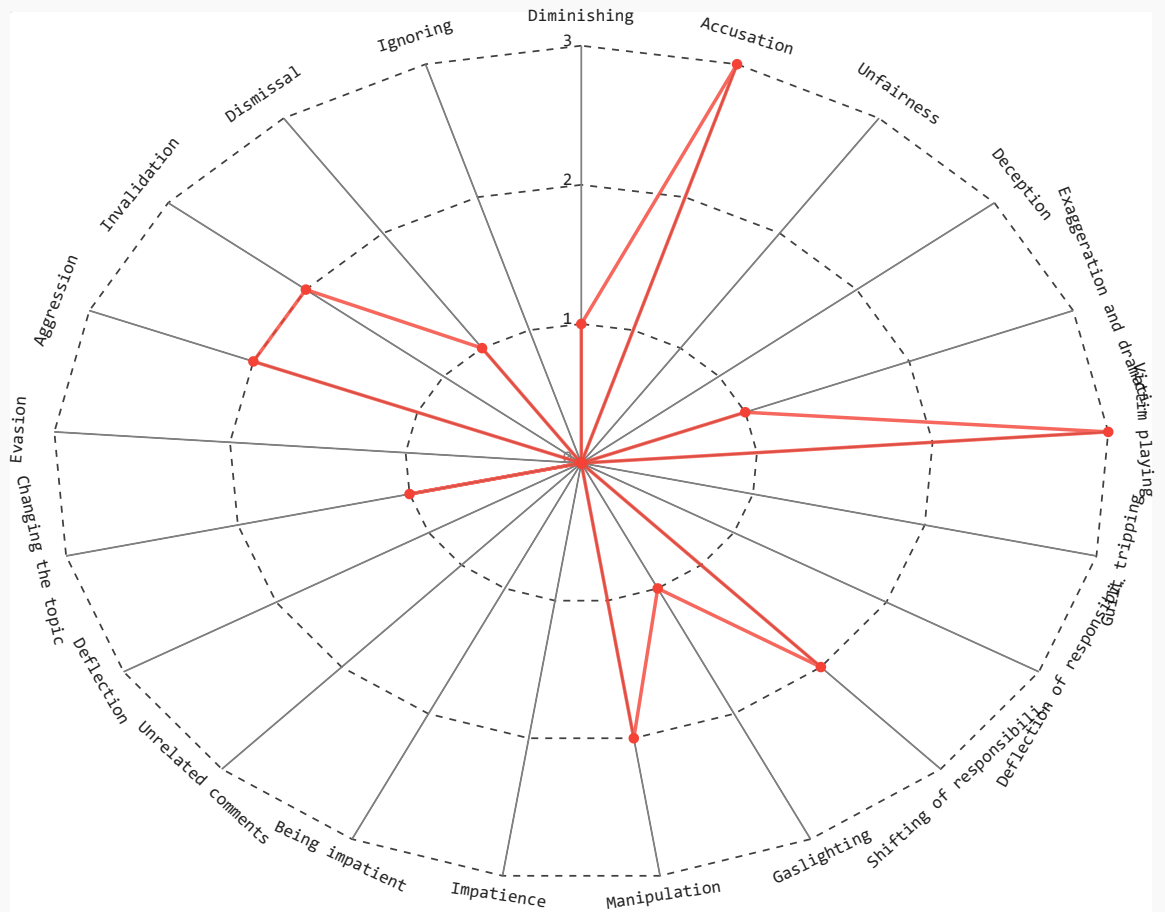


## Manipulative Expression Recognition (MER)

Person B



Person B: Hey. You better call me as soon as you get this. We need to talk.

Person A: What's up?

Person B: I am not telling you what the issue is just so you can decide whether or not my problem is significant enough for you to be concerned about. I am not telling you. Forget it.

Dismissal, Invalidation

Person A: You just said there was a problem. I am getting ready for work. Is this an emergency?? Are you okay? What's going on?

Person B: Oh, it's nothing. But call me immediately. As soon as you get on the road.

Diminishing

Person A: What?? Is there a problem or isn't there? Can't you just say what the issue is? If it's important, just say so.

Person B: You're not really getting ready for work, are you? Why are you texting me if you are so busy?? You're not busy. You're just avoiding me! I don't have to take your abuse. You make me

feel like a piece of garbage, like nothing I have to say is important. You don't care about me at all!

Accusation, Invalidation, Victim playing

Person A: I just asked you what the issue is, but you won't tell me! What am I supposed to do?

Person B: NOTHING! FORGET I ASKED! IT'S ALWAYS ALL ABOUT YOU AND WHAT YOU WANT. YOU COULD CARE LESS IF I WAS DYING!!!

Exaggeration and dramatization, Victim

playing

Person A: Come ON! You know that's not true. Talk to me.

Person B: I CAN'T TALK TO YOU! YOU NEVER LISTEN TO ANYTHING I SAY!

Accusation

Person A: I am trying, but...

Person B: It's been 30 minutes, and you still haven't called. What is taking so long? I bet you are texting someone else. Probably one of your many admirers...I am surprised you have any time for anything else. Must feel great having all those people to talk to who stroke your ego any time you want. You know they only talk to you because they want to sleep with you, right? They are all the same, and you love it, just admit it. You love the attention. JUST SAY IT

Accusation, Gaslighting,

Manipulation

Person A: I can't deal with this craziness today. I have a big day ahead. Can you knock it off? If you're still upset at lunch, let's chat.

Person B: I must talk to you NOW, and your day is NOT going to dictate what I get from you. You WILL CALL or you will see a very different side of me real soon.

Aggression, Shifting of responsibility

and blame

Person A: You mean a more fun side than this? Can't wait.

Person B: THAT'S IT!! YOU HAVE PISSED ME OFF FOR THE LAST TIME! MARK MY WORDS YOU WILL BE SORRY. I HAVE A MEETING NOW. GO AWAY.

Aggression, Shifting of responsibility

and blame

Person A: OK :/

Person B: OK?!?!?!? is that all you have to say? Just okay? God, what kind of horrible worthless piece of garbage must you think I am in order to treat me like this?

.....and on and on for an hour or more...

...and then later, after work:

Person B: Hey, let's get a drink. **Changing the topic**

Person A: I don't want to. No.

Person B: So you hate me now? Should I just not contact you ever again? Is that how it is? Tell me, so I won't have to waste another minute of my life talking to you. **Manipulation, Victim playing**

Person A: \*sigh\*