

PSEUDO LOVE

EGO MOTIVE	PRESUMED BENEFIT	ACTUAL DOWNSIDE
COLLUSION	Pleasing loved ones/gaining their favor by satisfying their ego. Trying to make the relationship last by self-protectively avoiding confrontation.	Hurting the beloved by supporting destructive tendencies (tendencies which only undermine the relationship in the long run).
MANIPULATION	Getting what I (selfishly) want by sweet-talking, coercion, guilt-tripping, etc. Exerting control and dominance over the beloved immorally.	Lack of genuineness and real connection. Hurting the beloved's heart. Creating ill will, distance, and distrust.
MARTYRDOM	Seeming virtuous, loving, and self-sacrificing even while neglecting higher virtues of love (vulnerability, sensitivity, responsiveness, attentiveness, etc.)	A treadmill of fruitless effort with only exhaustion, disillusionment, alienation, and heartbreak to show for it.
UNHEALTHY ATTACHMENT	The "security" of owning the beloved exclusively. Satisfying or fulfilling selfish, addictive desires.	Harvesting the bitter fruit of jealousy, hyper-control, and insecurity. Losing sight of the beloved's best interests and feelings.
UNHEALTHY OBSESSION	Reaping huge rewards by means of intense focus on an object of desire.	Destroying one's peace, losing a sane and loving perspective, alienating people.
PLEASURE TREASURE	To be gratified and satisfied. To enjoy pleasure or some other ego-appealing treasure.	Suffering the pain and desolation caused to oneself and others by unlove and greedy, self-indulgent living.
SELFISH SELF-INTEREST	Getting what I want (even at the cost of real love).	Sacrificing the beloved's best interests and good will. Sacrificing rightness & self-esteem.
SHALLOW AGAPE LOVE	Appearing loving and enjoying minimal connection with people while avoiding the bigger, more beneficial challenges of close relationship.	Shallow relationships. Loneliness. Being under-nourished and under-nourishing. Never gaining real competence in loving.