How Your Child Got Manipulated

One of the traits of highly manipulative people is the ability to both consciously and unconsciously know what people need in order to feel good.

If they're with someone who has insecurities about their intelligence, they'll make them feel like they're highly intelligent and can be even smarter.

If they're insecure about their potential for success, they'll make them feel like their potential for success is limitless.

If they feel unattractive, they'll make them feel like they're highly attractive but can feel even more attractive.

In other words, they speak both to the pain of the inadequacy but also promise, subtly or overtly, to make all that pain go away by joining together with them.

On the other hand, in the same way that the cult leader can seduce the other by playing on their insecurities and their aspirations, they can manipulate them by playing on those same insecurities.