Several factors in a child's life, both on individual, familial, and societal levels, are related to the development of severe conduct problems over the life-course. A factor that has received a lot of attention in research on conduct problems is callous-unemotional traits, i.e., traits and behaviors such as lack of empathy, remorse and guilt. These traits have been included in diagnostic practice, aiming to identify a subgroup of children with particularly severe conduct problems. However, callous-unemotional traits are just one part of the multidimensional psychopathic personality construct that also consists of interpersonal and behavioral traits, which have not received nearly as much attention. Thus, we do not know if and how a psychopathic personality is identifiable in early childhood, and whether it is related to conduct problems. Results from this dissertation show that a psychopathic personality could be identified in early childhood, that the included traits were stable over time, and that it was clearly and strongly related to childhood conduct problems. Also, the combination of conduct problems and a psychopathic personality was the most precarious for severe and persistent conduct problems, even more so than the combination of conduct problems and callous-unemotional traits only. Early identification facilitates early prevention, and by focusing on a single facet of a complex problem we risk missing important information about the severity, prognosis and possible treatment of a child's conduct problems. These results are discussed both in relation to a developmental psychopathology perspective on conduct problems, and to diagnostic practice as it is framed today. With careful consideration of important ethical aspects, arguments are made for a broadened view on what psychopathic traits/personality are in early childhood, and what role they play in the development of severe conduct problems.