Name: _____

Serial Killer Notes

Characteristics

What is a serial killer?

- Has committed _____ than __ murders
- Murders committed over a _____ period of _____
- Very cautious about their murders
- In between their crimes, they _____ to be quite _____, a state which has been called the "_____*of* _____."

Common Misconceptions

- Social misfits, _____ or "loners"
- Have no social _____
- Are "evil _____" or insane
- Always white male

Top 10 Most Common Traits

- 10 – _____ and substance abuse
- 9 – Psychological _____ during childhood
- 8 – Sexually stressful events in childhood
- 7 – Bedwetting
- 6 – Growing up _____ and isolated
- 5 – Fantasies
- 4 – Preferring alone activities
- 3 – _____ in adulthood
- 2 – Acting out fantasies on _____
- 1 – Physical injuries (*often _____ trauma*)

Most Common Profile

- Mostly white males with_____ intelligence, average age is _____
- Usually from _____ home
- _____of a loving and nurturing relationship
- Physical ailments or disabilities (*head injuries common*)
- Triad – *Animal Cruelty, Bedwetting, Pyromania*

The McDonald Triad

Animal Cruelty, Bedwetting, Pyromania

- **Animal Cruelty** – Practice _____ techniques on _____ before moving onto humans. *Dahmer often mutilated and tortured stray dogs*

- **Bed-wetting** – 60% of serial killers _____ their bed _____ adolescence

- **Pyromania** – Destruction is exciting. Easy to make _____ from destruction of _____ to destruction of human _____.

Categorizing the Serial Killer

- **Killer**

    - sex, race, _____

    - IQ

    - psychopathology

- **Crime Scene**

    - type of _____

    - use of torture

    - attempt to _____ body

- location

- **Motive**

    - sex

    - _____

    - financial gain

- **Victim**

    - sex, race, age

    - occupation

    - _____

Organized vs. Disorganized

- The FBI classified serial killers into 3 large groups:

    - _____

    - _____

    - _____

- Serial killers can _____ from organized into disorganized

The Crime Scene

Crime Characteristic	Disorganized	Organized
Body	disfigured	hidden
Weapons	_____ at scene	brings
Viciousness	torture	_____
Sophistication	_____	high, learns each time
Totem	not taken	_____
Follows crime in news	_____	yes
Victim	high risk	_____
Gets to crime by	_____	drives
Residence	close to crime	further
IQ	less intelligent	_____
Employment	menial/unemployed	_____

- **Appearance**   unattractive   _____

- **Self-image**   feels inferior   feels superior

- **Social**   _____   outgoing

- **Romance**   lives alone   _____ _____

- **Anger**   keeps inside   acts out, bully, class clown

- **Birth order**   _____   _____

- **Childhood discipline**   harsh   lax or inconsistent

MOs and Signatures

- *Modus Operandi* refers to common aspects of the criminal's_____that might change according to circumstances (e.g., means of access, _____ of weapons).

- *Signatures* are _____ and _____, revealing psychological needs (e.g., ritual aspects of crime, nicknames, posing the corpse, inserting objects).

- Latter more useful for *linkage analysis* – determining if same individual is responsible for various crimes.

Souvenirs and Trophies

- Serial killers often keep _____ of their victims.

    - *Souvenirs:* _____ items allow the killer to enjoy the memories

    - A *trophy* can become something of a_____

Geographic Areas

- Most murders take place within _____ mile of the offender's home

- However, there is a _____ _____as killers don't want to attack too close to their own home

    - *adult* offenders tend to travel further than do *juvenile* offenders;

    - _____tend to travel longer distances than do _____*s*;

    - body dumpsites tend to be _____ from the killer's residence than from the sites they meet their victims

Methods & Motives for Males

Methods

- 1. _____ mainly (41%)

- 2. _____ (37%)

- 3. Stabbing (34%)

- 4. _____ (26%)

- 5. Firearms only (19%)

- 6. _____ (11%)

- 7. Drowning (3%)

- 8. Other (2%)

Motives

1. Lust (55%)

2. Control (29%)

3. _____ (19%)

4. Enjoyment (16%)

5. Racism and hatred (11%)

6. Mental problems (6%)

7. _____(5%)   8. Attention (2%)

Female Serial Killers

Tend to use _____, kill those close to them and profit or "mercy" is the motive.

- ***Black Widows*** – kill _____ for inheritance or _____.

- ***Angels of Death*** – often_____professionals who kill "because they can" or out of a sense of mercy.

- ***Folie a deux*** – women who engage in lust killing usually do so in _____ with a male partner (*e.g. Myra Hindley, Rose West*).

Female Serial Killers: Methods & Motives

Methods

- 1. _____ (80%)
- 2. Shooting (20%)
- 3. Bludgeoning (16%)
- 4. _____ (16%)
- 5. _____ (11%)
- 6. Drowning (5%)

Motives

- 1. _____ (74%)
- 2. _____ (13%)
- 3. Enjoyment (11%)
- 4. Sex (10%)
- 5. Drugs, cult involvement, cover up, or feelings of inadequacy (24%)

Why the decrease in the US?

- Technology
    - Insurance fraud is more _____
    - Killing multiple patients is not likely to go _____
- Longer _____ sentences keep potential serial killers in prison
- Law enforcement efforts
    - Catch _____ murder more quickly (e.g., _____)
    - Efforts on terrorism reduce the FBI's ability to link serial murders
- Fewer available _____

Fewer Targets: We Have Changed Our Habits

- **Hitchhiking Related**
    - _____
    - Offering rides
    - Accepting an offer to "_____"
- **Disabled Motorists**
    - Offering assistance
    - Accepting _____
- **Free-Range Kid Behavior**
    - Walking to/from school or the _____
    - Riding _____
    - Playing in the_____

- Fishing and _____ alone