



## Factors Contributed To Serial Killers' Behavior

**Sineenat Kumsook**

Mahidol Wittayanusorn School, Salaya, Phutthamonthon, Nakhon Pathom, Thailand, 73170

**\*Corresponding Author:**

**Sineenat Kumsook**

Mahidol Wittayanusorn School, Salaya, Phutthamonthon, Nakhon Pathom, Thailand, 73170

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### Abstract

A serial killer is anyone who murders three or more people, usually for abnormal psychological enjoyment. Experts in neuroscience, internal medicine, psychology, and criminal justice believe that serial homicide is a generational problem. Serial killers are motivated by a variety of factors. It has previously been physically aroused, whether it was aggressive as a child or the use of domestic violence, parental inattention, or sexual harassment. There are biological reasons, such as having ASDs or having the psychopath gene, but the study discovered that being triggered by physical events is more important. As a result, because some people are born with the psychopath gene but are uninspired, they are more prone to become serial killers. They may not naturally grow up to be serial killers.

**Keywords:** Mass murderers; Serial killer; autism spectrum disorders; violence's neurochemistry

### Introduction

Serial killers are terrifying, but they are also interesting people to study (1, 2). The question of why they wanted to kill the people around them remains unanswered and is still being debated (3). Killing is sporadic, but it is universally terrifying (4, 5). It is estimated that there are close to 100 serial killers in the United States (1). More than 100 people die each year, a small number compared to the perception that serial killer killings are prevalent in the United States (6, 7). Although some serial killers' crimes have been going on for 10 years, their names are still widely known (4, 8). Serial killing is a mesmerizing and frightening phenomenon (1, 9). A serial killer in the United States is famous for displaying many similar traits (10). Each serial killer has a different background and personality (11). This overview aims to determine physiological and pathological factors contributed to serial killer's behaviors.

### Mass murderers

Multiple murders and serial murders are uncommon occurrences that have a significant social impact (12, 13). To understand serial killers We have to look deeper into the history of crime. Before examining the reasons that serial killers kill we have to define serial killers (14, 15). There must be three or more cases that are considered separate for "Rehabilitation period" (16, 17). The definition helps to differentiate between serial homicide and other forms of homicide, such as terrorism and mass killing (18-20). It can last for days, weeks, months, or even years (21). Serial killers are similarly defined and accepted by researchers and the popular media (22, 23). This is often due to widespread release and stereotyped features that have evolved over the past few decades (24). The term "serial killer" first originated in 1981, and it is not known exactly why serial killers hunt their victims without causing any suspicion (18, 25).

### Autism spectrum disorders (ASDs)

Offenders with autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) and excessive violence continue to be unanswered because of a loss of evidence-primarily based on

research and empirical studies on this topic (26). According to numerous follow-up investigations, people with autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) are not any more likely than the overall populace to commit violent crimes, and they'll also be much less likely (27, 28). An analysis of the data for Hans Asperger's unique institution of 177 patients revealed that the charges and nature of crimes committed by those people were no different than those committed by the general population (8, 29). Within the 22-year-old case information, there have been just three cases of bodily injury, one case of robbery, and one case of violent and dangerous conduct (30, 31). To make matters more confusing, some research, together with that concerning mentally bizarre inmates housed in specialized facilities, has advised that ASD can be more common amongst inmates than amongst the well-known populace (8, 26, 32). This research has led a few to believe that this is probably the case (26, 32).

### **Psychosocial mediators**

According to Cleary and Luxembourg, serial killers' childhoods are marked by psychological and physical abuse (14, 33). This has been confirmed in many other studies and case reports (14). However, the prevalence of child abuse varied widely between studies, with nearly half of male serial killers being rejected by their parents as children (34-36). A study investigating the effects of child abuse and neglectful behavior on adults who later became serial killers (14, 21). Researchers have found that children are three times more likely to experience physical, sexual, and psychological abuse than adults. People who use violence when adults do not use violence (37, 38). Others suggest drug humiliation and trauma (39, 40). Self-esteem (considered as a threat to self-esteem) appears at an early age and contributes to murder (41). However, such results were limited by the lack of comparison between public mass murderers (24, 42). This makes it difficult to determine how much a serial killer suffered as a child compared to other murderers. Several cases of early hiring, neglect, and abandonment have been reported (43). This is a childhood feature that can contribute to violent crimes and serial murders (22). In addition, adoption studies have shown that nearly half of children are delinquent if both their adoptive fathers and their adoptive mothers are violent (2, 39). This is compared to the extreme genetic and environmental

factors that deprive children of their chances of becoming criminals (44, 45). Therefore, the combination of genetic and environmental risk factors increases the risk of becoming a criminal (46).

### **Sexual deviancy and fantasies**

Single rape, murder, and continuous sexual murder have been the focus of much of the forensic literature, using sexually perverted imagination as a training ground for these crimes (47, 48). Many of these authors agree that cruel or controlling sexual fantasies play an important role in the danger of murder. Some believe that the fundamental motive for serial murder is fantasy (49). However, whether these fantasies are caused by dissociative trauma is a point of contention. This is the reason for the prevalent theory in forensic journals, which vehemently opposes the idea that sexual violence stems predominantly from psychiatric causes (50, 51). Instead, they believe it is the outcome of unhealthy reliance on a sexual and aggressive vision that has evolved in reaction to a variety of threats, not all of which necessitate child abuse (52). Expectations are supposed to act as a mental rehearsal for sexual murder, but when the ravenous force of imagination erodes over time, people start looking for methods to resist (37). Some studies have shown that male sex offenders and sadistic offenders have higher levels of paraphilia and violent fantasies than the general population (53). In addition, it has been suggested that the psychopathology of autism may play a role in facilitating the dangerous sexual fantasies of serial killers (15, 54).

### **Violence's neurochemistry**

At this time, the possible biological or genetic basis for serial homicides has not yet been resolved (14, 55). Although there is no direct link between neurological imbalance and aggression, there is some evidence to support this (19). Increased synaptic serotonin levels are associated with aggressive behavior. While low human serotonergic activity has been shown to be associated with impulsive and destructive behavior (56, 57). Dopamine and norepinephrine have often been shown to increase aggression. Numerous studies have shown evidence of abnormal dopamine function in schizophrenia (19, 56). Although testosterone is obviously linked to aggression, its effects are nuanced, particularly in primates where it interacts with social dynamics (58).

MAOA (monoamine oxidase A) is a genetically determined enzyme involved in norepinephrine, serotonin, and dopamine metabolism (59, 60). Males with low MAOA activity are three times more likely than men with high MAOA activity to be convicted of violent crimes at the age of 26 (59, 61). Hormones from the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis, which contribute to the stress response to threatening events, are also linked to aggression management (62, 63). Hypoglycemia is linked to impulsive and violent conduct, and serotonin receptors and alcohol may play a role in mediating this link (43).

### **From the standpoint of evolutionary psychology, violence is a problem**

Evolutionary psychology is another major perspective on human hostility (64). In this way, human aggression may have evolved as a means of navigating the hierarchy of position and power in order to deter rivals from being hostile and lovers from being sexually unfaithful (55, 65). The relationship between traumatic brain injury and criminal behavior, both violent and nonviolent, has been studied empirically (66). For example, the link between neurodevelopmental disorders and violent crime has been the subject of some fascinating research (2, 67). There was a scholar discovered that violent criminals frequently have neuropsychiatric abnormalities as children (56). Occasionally inconsistent and speckled research literature shows that complex interactions exist between existing neurodevelopmental disorders, environmental exposures such as childhood head injuries and abuse, and serial or mass murders (43, 68, 69). Although different neurodevelopmental elements may have a role in the etiology of continuous and mass murder, the majority of studies and hypotheses focus on the impact of ASD and head trauma, with psychosocial factors dominating (8, 39). Furthermore, we chose to concentrate on these two criteria (20, 70).

### **Society of strangers**

Large-scale urbanization is a decisive feature of our time, which has radically changed the structure of relationships and brought about an unprecedented level of anonymity (71). People in the pre-modern community knew each other by name and were often intimately familiar with the history, everyday life, and personal tastes of their neighbors' families (72). A few strangers were there, and when they appeared,

they were the subject of rumors and suspicions. In his lifetime, the average medieval inhabitant may have barely met 100 strangers (73). This is inferior to today's reality of meeting hundreds of strangers on a daily commute.

As a result of the expansion of capitalism and the accompanying process of mass migration to big cities, individuals were immersed in a sea of strangers (74). This evolution has proven to be an essential premise for the emergence of serial killers, as one of the distinctive features of serial killers is the predation of strangers (74, 75). As a result, the crowded modern urban areas are the perfect environment for everyday and impersonal interactions that characterize serial killings (76, 77).

### **Mass media and the culture of celebrity**

Serial killer stories can be found in movies, TV series, novels, crime fiction books, and video games (76, 78, 79). Many people are aware of the dynamics of serial murder and the lives of murderers through the media system around the world (76, 80). The media's connection with serial killers, on the other hand, is complicated. Serial killers have become increasingly widespread as a result of the media's dissemination of information about them (79). One conclusion is that serial murder was formerly a rare occurrence, but now anyone may be a serial killer (81). The media's concept of a "serial murderer" has warped its meaning and conduct, but this does not indicate that serial killers are born of their acts (22, 82). The media has also promoted the way celebrities live. In our predominantly secular modern times, the potential of celebrities frees people from helpless anonymity and ensures that they count beyond the status of belonging, elegance, and the constraints of their family circle (83). As long as it's appropriate (84, 85). For some, the promise of fame is simply fascinating, but for others, it's a comprehensive passion, and the inability to secure a diploma of some reputation is now considered a serious failure (76). Most serial killers will become celebrities, as Egger has shown in a survey of America's 7 most famous serial killers (86). Most of them love being famous and getting attention from others (78). There are also questions like: how many kills did you get before it got mentioned in the news or got the attention of others (85, 87).

### **Marginalization**

The fact that serial killings appear to be random is perhaps the most terrifying feature about them (77). This is a deceptive aspect since, while serial killers target strangers, the victims are not chosen at random (77). Serial killer victims, on the other hand, are more likely to reflect the broader cultural category of contempt that characterizes modern society (88). Every society has its own symbolic devaluation frameworks that label specific groups of individuals as asylum seekers or inferiors (88, 89). Such individuals, often chosen for accusations, censorship, and marginalization by modern institutions, tend to prey on vagrants, homeless people, prostitutes, migrant workers, gay men, children, and the elderly. There are consecutive murderers (88). That is also a goal, and it is stationary (77). Gerald Stano likened killing a victim to nothing but stepping on a cockroach (77). Such statements emphasize the extent to which serial killers devalue, stigmatize, marginalize, and adopt and reproduce broader cultural norms that have been marginalized. Through a distorted mirror, serial killers act to reflect the gratitude of their unique modernists (88, 90).

Understanding the dynamics of victim alienation is very important in the study of serial killers because the devaluation of a social group is linked to a certain structure of murder opportunities (90). It is worth noting that when a group of individuals gets together, crime is more likely to occur, and there aren't enough competent guardians (90). Because serial killer victims tend to come from the current throwaway classes, they are outside of the functional guardianship system and die in a quick and accessible manner (90). It could imply that it is unlikely to result in an investigation because it has no legal ramifications (88, 89).

### Modern phenomena

Serial killers are frequently depicted as sociological persons who are lonely, act out of context, and have immeasurable conduct, but we are all aware of serial killers' edgy behavior (75). Several distinct modern phenomena, such as anonymity, celebrity culture enabled by the rise of the mass media, and the special cultural framework of contempt, are all significant in understanding such conduct (71). It establishes an institutional framework, motivates people, and creates opportunities (91). Focusing on the perpetrator's motivation and biography ignores the

greater societal context and prevents a more nuanced understanding of the tactics and motivations for serial murder (92).

### Conclusion

It was given the names "serial murderer" and "serial killer" in 1981. Serial killers employ a variety of methods to carry out their crimes, but the same crime traits, motives, and patterns aid in the understanding and explanation of their actions. Throughout their lifetimes, these killers have a variety of motives for committing crimes, but the majority of them live in similar environments that allow researchers to examine them. Most crucially, these criminological ideas come together to explain how both natural and nurture factors influence serial killers' growth. Describe the elements and how they relate to one another. Loneliness, strength, control, stress, injuries, and low self-esteem are all factors you must consider. It appears to be connected to the procedure. Inability to cope with and deal with difficult and lonely events in life, sexual violence, and serial murder are three serial killers' responses and coping mechanisms.

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