

# Serial Killers



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## Types of Multiple Killers

|                    | <u>Mass</u> | <u>Spree</u> | <u>Serial</u> |
|--------------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|
| # of victims       | 4+          | 2+           | 3+            |
| # of events        | 1           | 1            | 3+            |
| # of locations     | 1           | 2+           | 3+            |
| Cooling-off period | no          | no           | yes           |

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## Serial Killer Frequency

- Hickey (2002)
  - 337 males and 62 females in U.S. from 1800-1995
  - 158 males and 29 females in U.S. from 1975-1995
- Gorby (2000)
  - 300 international serial killers from 1800-1995
- Radford Data Base
  - 1,495 serial killers
  - U.S. and International

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## Murder By Strangers

| Year | %    |
|------|------|
| 2000 | 33.6 |
| 1995 | 34.3 |
| 1991 | 35.1 |
| 1985 | 22.5 |
| 1976 | 8.5  |

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## General Serial Killer Profile Demographics

- Male
  - Our data base: 88.87%
  - Kraemer, Lord & Heilbrun (2004) study of 157 serial killers: 96%
- White
  - 78.7% of all serial killers (68% in Kraemer et al, 2004)
  - 73% of male serial killers
  - 93% of female serial killers
- Average intelligence
  - 107 in our data base
  - n = 74
- Seldom involved with groups

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## General Serial Killer Profile Age

| Race                  | N   | Mean  |
|-----------------------|-----|-------|
| Our data              | 714 | 28.73 |
| Kraemer et al. (2004) | 157 | 31    |
|                       |     |       |
|                       |     |       |

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## General Serial Killer Profile

Demographics – Average age is 28.73

- **Males**

- 27.5 is average age at first kill
  - 9 is the youngest (Robert Dale Segee)
  - 72 is the oldest (Ray Copeland)
- Jesse Pomeroy (Boston in the 1870s)
  - Killed 28 people by the age of 14
  - Spent 58 years in solitary confinement until he died

- **Females (Kelleher & Kelleher, 1998)**

- 30 is average age at first kill
  - 14 is youngest (Caril Ann Fugate)
  - 55 is oldest (Marie Becker)
- Angels of death, revenge killers, and team killers tend to be younger

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## General Serial Killer Profile

Race

| Race     | Our Data<br>N=1,377 | Kraemer et al (2004)<br>N=157 |
|----------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| White    | 78.7%               | 68                            |
| Black    | 13.7%               | 27                            |
| Hispanic | 4.4%                |                               |
| Asian    | 3.2%                |                               |

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Race

### African American Serial Killers

- 44 Jake Bird
- 23 Wayne Williams
- 15 Richard Jameswhite
- 14 Vincent Groves
- 13 Sydney Jones
- 11+ Eugene Britt
- 11 Benjamin Atkins
- 11 James Pough
- 11 Richard Tipton
- 11 Henry Wallace
- 10+ Coral Watts
- 10 Bobby Joe Maxwell
- 10 Michael Player
- 9 John Brooks
- 9 Jarvis Catoe
- 8 Nathaniel Code

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**Race**  
**Hispanic Serial Killers**

- 25 Juan Corona
- 20 Adolfo Constanzo
- 15 Richard Ramirez
- 12 Robert Diaz
- 11 Juan Chavez
- 10 Richard Angelo
- 9 Lloyd Gomez
- 9 Manny Pardo
- 8 Augustin Chacon
- 7 Fernando Cota
- 7 Diana Lumbrera
- 5 Genaro Camacho
- 5 Richardo Caputo
- 5 Leslie Torres
- 4 Danny Figueroa
- 4 Carmello Dejesus

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**Race**  
**Prolific White Serial Killers**

- 100 Joseph Fischer
- 60 Donald Evans
- 50 Amy Gilligan
- Edward Eastman
- 42 Thomas Creech
- 40 Frank Abbandano
- Charles Nicoletti
- 39 Gerald Stano
- 36 Ted Bundy
- 34 Brandon Tholmer
- 33 John Wayne Gacy
- Bruce Davis
- 30 William Downing
- Martin Goldstein
- 27 Dean Corrl
- Elmer Henley
- Herman Mudgett

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**Intelligence**  
**The Smart**

- 165 Debora Green
- 160 Charlene Gallego
- 155 Ted Kaczynski
- 152 Carroll Cole
- 148 Gary Heidnik
- 145 Ed Kemper
- 134 Thomas Dillon
- 130 Harvey Glatman
- 130 Marcel Petiot
- 130 Gerald Schaefer
- 130 Angel Resendez
- 129 Paul Knowles
- 129 Randy Craft
- 128 John Christie
- 128 Joel Rifkin
- 126 David Copeland
- 125 David Carpenter
- 125 Ted Bundy (136)
- 122 Michael Ross
- 121 Charles Manson (109)

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**Intelligence**  
**The Not So Smart**

- 65 Clarence Victor
- 68 Bruce Lee
- 69 Louis Craine
- 69 Christine Falling
- 70 Kuno Hofmann
- 73 Hubert Gerald
- 75 Jeffrey Dahmer
- 75 Coral Watts
- 84 "Zoo Man" Huskey
- 85 Otis Toole
- 85 Daniel Blank
- 89 Henry Lee Lucas
- 89 Danny Rolling
- 90 Vernon Butts
- 91 Robert Hanson
- 95 Richard Chase

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**General Serial Killer Profile**  
**Childhood**

- Birth Order (our database, n=223)
  - Only child 15%
  - Oldest child 33%
  - Middle born 27%
  - Youngest 24%
- Adopted (our database, n=239)
  - Adopted 14%
  - Birth parent(s) 78%
  - Other 8%

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**General Serial Killer Profile**  
**Childhood**

- Unstable home (37%)
- Absence of loving and nurturing relationship
- Physical ailments and disabilities
- Head injuries
- Triad
  - bed wetting
  - fire starting
  - animal torture

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## Effects of the Family Child Abuse

| Comparison of Serial Killers to the General Population<br>(Mitchell & Aamodt, 2005) |                    |                |
|---|--------------------|----------------|
| Type of Abuse   | General Population | Serial Killers |
| Physical  | 6%                 | 36%            |
| Sexual  | 3%                 | 26%            |
| Psychological   | 2%                 | 50%            |
| Neglect   | 18%                | 18%            |
| Other   | 6%                 | Not applicable |
| No Abuse Reported   | 70%                | 32%            |

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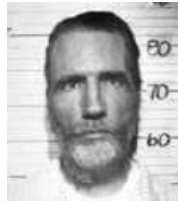
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## A Strange Way to Raise a Child Gary Heidnik

- 3 years old
- Didn't clean room properly
- Father hung him by his feet out of a 3rd story window



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## A Strange Way to Raise a Child Henry Lee Lucas

- 3 years old
  - Mother forced him to watch her have sex with strangers
- 7 years old
  - Mother made him go to school dressed like a girl
  - Mother beat him when his teacher gave him a pair of shoes
- 10 Years old
  - Mother's lover showed him how to kill animals and then have sex with them



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## A Strange Way to Raise a Child Danny Rolling

- 6 months
  - Father kicked him into a wall
- 1 year old
  - Father beat him when he crawled funny
- 6-8 years old
  - Father beat him twice a week
- 13 years old
  - Father handcuffs him to brother, beats them, leaves them outside



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## A Strange Way to Raise a Child Robert Garrow

- 1 year old
  - Father made him kneel for hours in the corner
- 2 years old
  - Mother splits his head open with a crowbar during a beating
- 5 years old
  - Knocked unconscious when mother hits him in the head with a piece of wood
- 6 Years old
  - Beaten unconscious by his father
  - Made to wear his sister's bloomers out to play



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## General Serial Killer Profile Forensic History

- Triad
- Most have a criminal history (80%)
- 75% spent time in jail/prison prior to their serial killing
- Many received psychiatric treatment
- 33% spent time in a forensic unit
- Many murdered well before their serial killing

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## Categorizing the Serial Killer

- **Killer**
    - sex, race, age
    - IQ
    - psychopathology
  - **Crime Scene**
    - type of weapon
    - use of torture
    - attempt to hide body
    - location
- **Motive**
    - sex
    - power
    - financial gain
  - **Victim**
    - sex, race, age
    - occupation
    - personality

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| Motive    | Type of Victim    |                        |                     |                       |                |                     |
|-----------|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------|---------------------|
|           | Spouse,<br>Family | Random<br>Strangers    | Specific<br>Type    | Specific<br>Strangers | Employees      | Patients            |
| Money     | Black<br>Widow    |                        | Contract<br>Killer  |                       | Cost<br>Cutter | Lethal<br>Caretaker |
| Sex       |                   | Disorganized<br>Lust   | Organized<br>Lust   |                       |                |                     |
| Thrill    |                   | Disorganized<br>Thrill | Organized<br>Thrill |                       |                |                     |
| Power     | Bluebeard         |                        |                     |                       |                | Angels of<br>Death  |
| Revenge   | Revenge           |                        |                     |                       |                |                     |
| Psychosis |                   | Visionary              |                     |                       |                |                     |
| Hate      |                   |                        | Missionary          |                       |                |                     |
| Attention | Munchausen        |                        |                     |                       |                | Munchausen          |
| No motive |                   | Anti-social            |                     |                       |                |                     |

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## Types of Serial Killers

### Visionaries

- **Psychotic - told to kill**
  - paranoia, schizophrenia
  - 1% of killers are psychotic (Henn et al., 1976)
- **Examples**
  - Herbert Mullin
  - Miguel Rivera
  - Joseph Kallinger

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## Herbert Mullin

- **Crimes**

- Operated during 1972-1973
- Killed 13 in Santa Cruz, CA
- Shot most of his victims

- **Vision**

- Voices told him to shave his head and burn his penis with a cigarette (he obeyed)
- Voices told him to kill in order to prevent a catastrophic earthquake



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## Joseph Kallinger

- **Crimes**

- Operated during 1974-1975
- Murdered 3 in NJ and PA (including one of his sons)
- Robbed and assaulted many others
- His 13 year old son was his accomplice

- **Vision**

- Told by God (through a large floating head with tentacles) to murder young boys and sever their genitals



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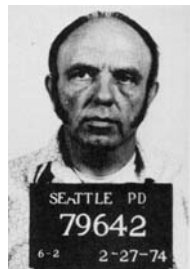
## Harvey Carignan

- **Crimes**

- Known as the "Want-ad Killer"
- Operated in Seattle 1973-1974
- Killed 3 (probably many more) by smashing their skull with a hammer

- **Vision**

- Told by God to kill women
- God didn't tell him why



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## Types of Serial Killers

### Missionaries

- Kill to “Clean-up” world
- Examples
  - Joseph Franklin
    - Killed interracial couples and African Americans
    - Wounded Vernon Jordan and Larry Flynt (*Hustler Magazine*)
  - Wolfgang Abel
    - Killed drug addicts
  - Axe Man of New Orleans
    - Killed 11 (most were Italian grocers)
  - Carroll Cole

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## Carroll Edward Cole

- Crimes
  - Operated during 1975-1980
  - Killed at least 13 women in several western states
- Mission
  - Rid the world of loose women
  - All his victims cheated on their significant-other with Cole



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## Types of Serial Killers

### Hedonists

- Kill for fun or profit
- Subtypes
  - Lust Killers (kill for sexual gratification)
    - Organized
    - Disorganized
    - Mixed
  - Thrill Killers (kill for the thrill of killing)
  - Gain Killers
    - Contract Killers
    - Black Widows
    - Lethal Caretakers
    - Cost Cutters

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## Examples of Lust Killers

- **Organized Killers**
  - Ted Bundy
  - John Gacy
  - Chris Wilder
  - Kenneth Bianchi
  - Ed Kemper
- **Disorganized Killers**
  - Arthur Shawcross
  - Richard Chase
  - Jeffrey Dahmer
  - Danny Rolling

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## Hedonists-Gain Killers

### Black Widows

- **The Crime**
  - Kill husbands, lovers, or relatives for financial gain
  - Almost always women
  - Almost 90% use poison to kill their victims
- **Examples**
  - Diana Lumbrera (killed her 6 children for insurance)
  - Nanny Hazel Doss (killed 4 husbands, 2 sisters, 1 mother)
  - Lydia Trueblood (killed 4 husbands, 1 child, brother in-law)
  - Amy Gilligan (killed 5 husbands, several patients)

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## Hedonists - Gain Killers

### Cost Cutters

- **Crime**
  - Kill to save money
- **Examples**
  - Joseph Briggen
    - Killed 12 ranch hands when their pay was due
    - Fed the people to his prize-winning pigs
  - Georg Grossman
    - Killed over 50 people, put the meat into his hotdogs
  - Joe Ball

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## Joe Ball

- Operated during the late 1930s
- Killed at least 5, probably 14, waitresses at his tavern (The Sociable Inn) in Texas
- Threw them into a pit with 5 alligators in the back of the tavern



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## Hedonists-Gain Killers Lethal Caretakers - Profit

- The Crime
  - Kill patients for profit
  - Usually women
- Examples
  - Dorthea Puente killed 7 elderly to cash social security checks
  - Antoinette Scieri killed 12 elderly patients so that she could take their assets
  - Anna Hahn poisoned 5 elderly men she cared for to get their insurance

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## Types of Serial Killers Power Seekers

- Kill to exert power over strangers
- Examples
  - Ted Bundy
  - David Berkowitz
  - Angelo Buono
  - Edward Kemper



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## Power Seekers Angels of Death

- The Crime
  - Usually women
  - Kill patients for feelings of power and control
- Examples
  - Genee Jones - As a nurse, she killed between 11 and 46 babies by injecting them with a muscle relaxant
  - Terri Rachals killed 9 patients through injections of potassium chloride
  - David Harvey is an example of a male angel of death
  - Gwendolyn Graham and Catherine Wood

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## Gwendolyn Graham and Catherine Wood

- Killed 5 patients in Alpine Manor (a nursing home)
- Initial plan was to spell MURDER with the first letter in the last name of each victim
- Graham did all the killing and Wood kept watch



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## Power Seekers Blue Beard Killers

- Males who kill their spouses
- Examples
  - Johann Hoch
  - Henri Landru
  - Harry Powers
  - James Watson

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## Henry Landu

- Romanced more than 300 women out of their money during the early 1900s in France
- Ran personal ads to meet his women
- Married and killed 10 of them
- Put their bodies in an oven to dispose of them



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## Lethal Caretakers

### Munchausen Syndrome by Proxy

- The Crime
  - Kill or hurt others in order to be admired for curing them or to get sympathy for the death of a loved one
  - Mostly females
- Examples
  - Beverly Allitt injected insulin and potassium into 26 children (4 died, 9 had irreparable brain damage) over a 58-day period
  - Martha Woods - 27 respiratory attacks in 9 children resulted in 7 being killed (3 were her own children)

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## Types of Serial Killers

### Revenge Killers

- Kill for revenge
- Examples
  - Martha Wise: Killed 3 family members opposing her marriage
  - Ellen Etheridge: Killed 4 of her 8 step-children because she was jealous of their relationship with her husband
  - Martha Johnson
    - Had 4 fights with her husband
    - After each fight, suffocated a child as revenge
    - Suffocated by laying on top of them (she weighed 250 pounds)

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## Types of Serial Killers Antisocial Personalities

- **Definition**
  - Pattern of irresponsible or harmful behavior
  - Lack of conscience
  - Ignore social rules and laws
  - Impulsive
  - Fail to learn from punishment
- **Examples**
  - Gang Members
  - Criminals who kill for no reason

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## The Crime Scene

| <u>Crime Characteristic</u> | <u>Serial Killer Type</u> |                        |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
|                             | <u>Disorganized</u>       | <u>Organized</u>       |
| Body                        | disfigured                | hidden                 |
| Sex                         | after death               | before death           |
|                             | unsuccessful              | successful             |
| Weapons                     | finds at scene            | brings                 |
| Viciousness                 | torture                   | quick                  |
| Sophistication              | low                       | high, learns each time |

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## The Crime Scene

| <u>Crime Characteristic</u> | <u>Serial Killer Type</u> |                  |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
|                             | <u>Disorganized</u>       | <u>Organized</u> |
| Totem                       | not taken                 | taken            |
| Follows crime in news       | no                        | yes              |
| Victim                      | high risk                 | low risk         |
| Gets to crime by            | walking, bus              | drives           |

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## Killer Profile

### Serial Killer Type

| <u>Characteristic</u> | <u>Disorganized</u>     | <u>Organized</u> |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| Residence             | close to crime          | further          |
| IQ                    | less intelligent        | intelligent      |
| Employment            | menial or<br>unemployed | normal           |
| Appearance            | unattractive            | attractive       |
| Self-image            | feels inferior          | feels superior   |
| Social                | loner                   | outgoing         |

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## Killer Profile

### Serial Killer Type

| <u>Characteristic</u> | <u>Disorganized</u> | <u>Organized</u>                |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Romance               | lives alone         | affairs, short<br>relationships |
| Anger                 | keeps inside        | acts out, bully,<br>class clown |
| Birth order           | low                 | high                            |
| Habits                | nighttime           | daytime                         |
| Childhood discipline  | harsh               | lax or<br>inconsistent          |

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## Killer Profile

### Serial Killer Type

| <u>Characteristic</u> | <u>Disorganized</u>           | <u>Organized</u> |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Family                | alcoholism,<br>mental illness |                  |
| Father's work         | unstable                      | stable           |

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