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DO NOT CROSS
Multimedia

My research was based mainly in criminal psychology and methods of criminal profiling. And while there weren't a lot of specifics in my research that informed my final installation, the general theme of criminology is heavily present. This was my first time doing an installation, so trying to work with timing multiple pieces and elements was a new challenge. I used a combination of image transferring, acrylic and gouache paints, modeling paste, styrofoam, and paper for my final installation. For the armchair, I first did an image transfer after splitting an image and sizing it using matte medium. I also added modeling paste to raise parts of the armchair for more physicality to the form, and then went on to paint it. The armchair was an idea I thought of much later in the process, so that changed the trajectory of my processes and the final piece. Jennifer Packer, one of my favorite artists of all time, heavily inspired me with that part of the piece with her use of color, and use of space on the canvas with that color. For the body, I carved individual pieces of styrofoam to fit together and create the base shape of the body, and then covered and layered them with newspaper. The two paintings on the wall were a mix of gouache and acrylic paint, and more modeling paste. I really enjoy using multiple types of imagery, processes, and mediums to inform my final product. While this work was more an exploration into installation as a form of art, and seeing how I can transfer my love of multi-medium processes into that, it does have some deepers meanings to me. I wanted to make sure it was visually appealing, not just because I wanted something nice to look at but because of how desensitized we've become to darker topics like murder, death, and crime. With access to these types of topics in our every day life, and constantly being exposed to it through media, it's become almost a norm. And with that comes themes of being a bystander, in watching these things happen every single day and with either too many of them happening to help or no way to help. The visually appealing aspect also has to do with morbid curiosity, and how as humans we're interested in things that seem outlandish, horrible, and insane to us. Feel free not to be a bystander in this piece. Duck under the tape, get up close and personal. Be involved.

Criminal Psychology and Profiling

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OS49

Writer's note: Criminal profiling is a tool used to profile offenders and help solve crimes. This paper focuses on what criminal psychology and profiling are, their history, and different methodologies. Trigger Warning: This paper contains mentions and discussion of murder and similar related topics. While there are no in-depth descriptions of sensitive content, such as the actual victim's state, there is discussion in a scientific and media sense.

Criminal psychology has been one of my biggest interests for quite a few years now. You've probably watched a true crime documentary, or read Sherlock Holmes, or watched Criminal Minds. Media just like these first introduced me to the topic. I'd always loved detective stories, but in freshman year I exposed myself to a lot more psychology focused media. Starting by finally reading the Sherlock books and watching the Sherlock based film content. Sherlock Holmes is more important and involved in criminal psychology than most people realize, and I'll mention that briefly later on. But the portrayal of criminal psychology and profiling through his media is a reliable and accurate representation of real methods and logic used in these practices. Most of the public's general knowledge about criminology comes from media, which is why it's good that we have these accurate portrayals of tools that are used every single day by professional detectives, profilers, and psychologists to help solve criminal and offender cases in the real world. NBC's *Hannibal* was what first hooked my personal interest in criminal psychology, going further than detective work and stories, and it's how I first learned about profiling. From then on, I was obsessed, and have since spent a lot of free time dedicated to watching criminal psychology based movies or reading about profiling methods. This topic, while also being very personally interesting to me, plays a bigger role in the world than people

realize. It's so important that we have these methods and practices to help solve offender crimes, possibly prevent future ones, and keep people safe, secure, and happy.

Forensic Psychology is defined by the Dictionary of Policing as a "professional practice by psychologists within areas of clinical psychology, counseling psychology, neuropsychology, & school psychology [...] in activity primarily intended to provide professional psychological expertise to the judicial system." Investigative psychology falls under the larger umbrella of Forensic Psychology, and should be considered as distinct from the more narrowly defined term, 'offender profiling', which will be covered later on. It features two central themes. The first being developing knowledge of criminal behavior in general, such as how it emerges, develops and changes; how people get involved in crime and/or why they stop; and identification of interpersonal significance of criminal behavior. The purpose of this first theme is to identify whether there are identifiable geographic, behavioral, or temporal patterns that may help to link offenses, predict an offender's home location or prioritize suspects in police databases. The second works more with police decision-making, problem-solving, and the management of major investigations. It can include psychological methods for improving information collection (including interviewing, documentation, and archiving), making decisions, and enhancing leadership or management styles. Since investigative psychology has begun to be recognized and used, other areas of psychology have been applied to the investigative process, including leadership, decision-making, and organizational or occupational aspects of behavior.

Psychological profiling, or Criminal profiling, is defined in the Handy Forensic Science Answer Book as a tool "used to connect unknown offender's actions at a crime scene to their likely behavioral, personality, and biographical traits. It aims to provide: age range, employment type, marital status, education, + potential psychological information about the perpetrator. It's

based on the belief that people's behaviors are linked to specific thought patterns/motives in a crime. Profiling doesn't directly solve crimes, it's an investigative tool to help law enforcement narrow down suspects and identify potential perpetrators in criminal investigations." The first recorded use of profiling occurred in the 1880s by two British physicians George Bagster Phillips and Thomas Bond. They used profiling in the famous Jack the Ripper case, investigating clues from the crime scenes, and also performing autopsies on some of the victims to try and determine a profile for the murderer. While that was the first recorded usage, profiling really only became popular in the case of the Mad Bomber. There were more than 30 bombings in New York City over a period of 16 years, and while police struggled to solve the crimes, a psychiatrist by the name of James A. Brussel used "both common sense and psychiatric/psychoanalytic methods to develop a profile of the bomber." Because of these successes of profiling, the FBI decided to pursue it further. In the 1970s, FBI agents interviewed serial killers and developed an "organized/disorganized dichotomy" theory. It said that organized crimes were "premeditated and planned, with little evidence left at the crime scene, and are perpetrated by antisocial personalities who are not insane, know right from wrong, and show no remorse" and that disorganized crimes were "unplanned, leave evidence such as fingerprints or blood and often committed by young people who are mentally ill or under the influence of drugs or alcohol." There was, and still is, a lot of controversy about criminal profiling and its validity as a practice. There's some sides that say because it's based on interpretation of facts, and not just plain facts, that it's discreditable, biased, and shouldn't be used in any investigation. Many who question its validity do misinterpret the purpose of criminal profiling- which is, in fact, not to use the profile to immediately find the closest match and arrest them, but rather to curate a collection of suspects or to help narrow down a selection. It usually isn't and should not be the

final say in who the perpetrator of a case is. It should be a tool used to help narrow down the search. There is some truth in this side of viewing profiling, which is that bias is an issue. General bias isn't as much of an issue as some of the more targeted biases, such as racial or ethnic profiling, with selective patrolling of African-American communities and "stop and frisk" policies that have caused public outrage and civil disturbances. Gender, economic, and other biases are also real issues that threaten the validity of the tool.

Profiling goes by many other names, such as offender profiling, crime scene profiling, personality profiling, and crime action profiling. The FBI calls their profiling criminal investigative analysis. Forensic Psychologists call it investigative psychology. All names mean the same thing: to examine crime scene evidence and reports from the victim/s, along with interviews with witnesses to help determine a perpetrator's possible personality traits and/or behaviors, all in order to reveal a profile that can narrow down the field of possible suspects and/or pinpoint the offender. Within the broader area, there's descriptive & predictive profiling, as well as inductive & deductive profiling. Inductive and deductive are basically the more modern, more developed version of descriptive and predictive. Descriptive and predictive profiling helps to determine certain information about a suspect: present and future. While descriptive offender profiling is used to identify likely suspects in a crime, deductive criminal profiling (one of the most well-known types of determining characteristics of a perpetrator) determines information about the offender directly from investigation/analysis of the crime scene. Predictive offender profiling uses the offender's patterns to predict possible future offensives (/types of victims) by the perpetrator, while inductive criminal profiling uses past information about certain crimes/known offenders who committed similar crimes (especially the person's characteristics, personality type, behavior) to understand similar crimes that profilers are

investigating. Inductive profiling is based on the idea that even though similar crimes are committed by different criminals, perpetrators may share common personality traits. Victimology, which is defined as "gathering and examining a victim's information to gain insight into the perpetrator of the crime (and sometimes to verify or discredit that the person is truly a victim of the crime)" is also very important to profiling serial criminals. Similarities in the victims, like age, hair and eye color, lifestyle, and whether the victims were acquainted or had similar interests can help identify a criminal's patterns.

Induction, abduction and deduction are three types of logic that are used in the development of profiles. Instead of being different types of logic, they're more like different points along the logical continuum. It starts with multiple theories about what might have happened or what might be true (induction). Then through the scientific method, conclusions are eliminated until the best possible explanation is left (abduction), or only one that is based on universal laws or principles and cannot be falsified (deduction). Because of possible human error, or just natural error, abduction is often the final outcome. Since we might not know exactly what is happening or has happened, we have to settle for the best possible explanation for the evidence we are observing. Inductive reasoning implies that the conclusion is likely or a matter of probability, relying on supporting premises such as physical evidence or research findings. The process of induction begins with specific observations, leading to the formation of a generalization known as a premise—an initial working assumption. By scrutinizing observations in each case, comparisons are drawn to assess the degree of similarity to prior cases with common features. These identified similarities contribute to generalizations that can be presented as conclusions in the current case. The fundamental tenet of induction revolves around similarity. Examination of unlawful activities demonstrates that criminal behavior frequently shares

common features. Employing this model for constructing a psychological profile involves comparing and aligning behaviors from various patterns with those of the unsolved case. Once a behavior pattern corresponds to the unsolved case, it can be cross-referenced with offender characteristics, enabling a thorough understanding of the situation. Abduction is a style of reasoning that could be summed up as reasoning to the best explanation. In this approach, the evidence in a case tends to favor one hypothesis among several possibilities, without necessarily excluding all others. This method of reasoning serves as a foundational heuristic in classical detective stories, and the reasoning behind Sherlock Holmes' "deductions" is often characterized by abductive logic. Deductive arguments incorporate induction, where hypotheses are formulated based on similarities among cases and then tested against the evidence in the current case. The identification of offender characteristics involves a methodical examination of patterns and themes evident in both physical and behavioral evidence. In this deductive process, if the premise is true, the conclusion must necessarily be true; conversely, if the conclusion is false, at least one of the premises must be false. Therefore, when employing a deductive approach, it is crucial for the profiler to establish the validity of each premise before deriving conclusions. Deductive arguments are structured so that the conclusion is implicitly contained within the premise, and unless the reasoning is flawed, the conclusion naturally follows. To put it differently, a deductive argument is crafted to progress from truth to truth. A deductive argument is considered valid if it is logically impossible for the conclusions to be false when the premises are true, if the conclusions must be true given true premises, and if asserting the premises while denying the conclusions would be contradictory.

Criminal investigative analysis (CIA) is the best known approach to profiling due to being popular and the most used in media portrayals of criminology, and due to it being the FBI's

approach. The CIA approach uses mainly inductive and abductive arguments, with its roots in early law enforcement attempts to understand patterns of criminal behavior. Early CIA thinking allocated offenders to one of two types: The organized asocial and the disorganized nonsocial. I mentioned organized vs. disorganized crime earlier on, but here's a reminder and a more in-depth explanation into both. Organized crime is characterized by evident planning, targeting strangers as victims, maintaining overall control at the crime scene, using restraints, and exhibiting aggressive acts before the victim's death. This suggests that if the offender being organized with the crime scene is a reflection of their personality, they will generally be above average intelligence, be socially competent, prefer skilled work, have a high birth order, have a controlled mood during the crime, and are more likely to use alcohol. Disorganized crimes exhibit spontaneity, involving known victims or locations, a random and messy crime scene, sudden violence, minimal use of restraints, and, at times, sexual acts after death. This again provides insight into the offender's personality, with a disorganized crime suggesting below-average intelligence, social inadequacy, a lower birth order, an anxious mood during the crime, and minimal use of alcohol or drugs. The FBI utilized the organized/disorganized typology within its decision process model, categorizing offenders based on the demonstrated sophistication, planning, and competence apparent in the crime scene. Profile development extended beyond a simple classification of organized or disorganized, emphasizing that profiles are constructed by considering various factors. These include the classification of the crime, its organized/disorganized elements, the offender's choice of victim, methods employed to control the victim, the sequence of the crime, the staging (or absence thereof) of the crime, the offender's motivation, and the dynamics of the crime scene. While discrete classifications exist, it is widely acknowledged that most offenders do not neatly align with either type, often falling into a 'mixed'

category that incorporates elements of both. Typologies inherently face challenges since an "either/or" approach cannot always account for the complexities of human interactions involving multiple events. Profiling should function as a tool supplying law enforcement investigators with investigative insights, rather than imposing classifications based on predetermined categories.

      Criminal profiling is occasionally used for other purposes. It's been used for psychological assessments of dictators, used to attempt to determine intentions, such as whether a cult leader intended the mass suicide of his followers. After a suspect has been identified or arrested, criminal profiling can then be used further to provide social and psychological assessment of the suspect, psychological evaluation of suspect's belongings, and suggest strategies for interviewing the suspect. There's a few other approaches to criminal profiling as well. The main difference between kinds of profiling practices are the reasoning and decision-making processes used to arrive at the final profile. Geographical approach uses patterns in locations and the timing of crimes to try and deduce possible links between crimes, and attempts to determine where an offender might live, commute, or work. The typological approach uses evidence from the crime scene, and about how the offender committed the crime, to assign them a particular category of offender. The clinical approach is used for crimes that appear to be perpetrated by someone with a mental disorder, or other psychological abnormality, to have people with those kind of qualifications working on the profile. Linkage analysis, which is another form of criminal profiling, applies psychology to physical evidence from crime scenes to predict whether other crimes going on at the time are likely to have been committed by same individual. A pattern of physical evidence can also suggest modus operandi (MO) or signature. An MO is the manner in which crime was accomplished. It's learned behavior that is subject to change. A signature is thought to be an unchanging characteristic of individual. It's something

that the perpetrator feels they must do in relation to or within the crime for emotional fulfillment. It's something that might be the reason for committing the crime, but was not needed to accomplish the crime. Signatures can reflect the specific values, psychological or emotional needs, personality, lifestyle, or experiences of the offender, regardless of the seriousness of crime, which can help further in the profiling process. Another aspect of crime scene analysis relating to the profiling process, is distinguishing the difference between cause of death and manner of death. Cause of death (COD) is the main reason why a person died (ex. may have died from a gunshot wound, spinal trauma from a severe accident, or a heart attack.) The mode of death (MOD) depends on the reason/s (such as a sequence of events or actions) for the death. In most jurisdictions, the MOD is determined by a medical examiner (or coroner, if no medical examiner is available). The MOD can be ruled as one of the following (in the United States), but is not limited to: natural death (solely by a certain disease and/or natural disease process), accident (injury when no evidence exists of intent to harm), suicide (injury with intent to cause self-harm or one's own death), homicide (caused by a person to another person with intent to cause harm, fear, or death, although it is interesting to note that a "homicidal manner of death" does not indicate that a criminal act has occurred, as this is determined by the legal process and not by the certifier of death), undetermined (if there's not enough information available about the death, especially if one manner of death is just as seemingly logical as another. For example, if a person is unconscious with a massive head injury, without knowing the events that took place, it may be hard to determine whether it was due to an accidental fall or a homicidal event), and pending. If the death is due to a combination of natural and unnatural events, the preference is usually given to the non-natural cause.

The profiling process according to the Gale Encyclopedia of Psychology starts with "profiling inputs"- a comprehensive analysis of the crime, crime scene, and types of people who have committed similar crimes. It includes an-depth examination of the background and activities of victim(s) to identify possible motives and connections. Then, "decision processing," which is to determine whether the offender fits into FBI's manual of behavioral classifications (which is based on signs and symptoms, and is similar to the system that is used to classify mental disorders), as well as classifications based on factors such as murder type and primary motive. "Crime assessment" is the reconstruction of the chain of events from the viewpoints of both the victim(s), and the perpetrator. Then, a "criminal profile" is created based on the previous information, and usually includes sex, age, race, occupations, IQ, social relationships, mental health, and family background, but can include more. Finally, "investigative use," including the written profile to focus investigation and develop the appropriate strategies for interviewing a suspect. In murder investigations, the FBI also looks for profiling clues in the offender's behavior at four stages. The first is the antecedent, which is asking what fantasy, plan, or both, did the murderer have in place before the crime, and what made the murderer act on one day(s) or another? Then they focus on the method, and the manner: what type of victim(s) did the murderer select, and what was the manner of murder (shooting, stabbing, strangulation, ect.). The third is body disposal: did the murder and disposal happen in the same place, or multiple? Finally, the post-offense behavior: is the murderer trying to get involved in the investigation and the crime's aftermath, by reacting to media reports, or contacting newspapers or investigators?

I recently was able to talk to a representative of the FBI, and acquire some information about how one might go about getting to work in criminal psychology. I'm not sure if that's what I'm going to end up doing with my life, but it's probably the most hope filled dream I hold. I

want to be able to use my personal skill set, along with the learned practices and tools, and help with solving cases. Because while this topic is so fascinating, forensic psychology, criminal psychology, and criminal profiling serve as crucial tools for law enforcement, contributing to crime-solving, prevention, and community safety, and I would want to be a part of that.

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