

# The Next Truth

Where Science and Myth Meet<sup>®</sup>

Volume 2 Issue 6

March 2020

## **Jack the Ripper; Man or Myth?**

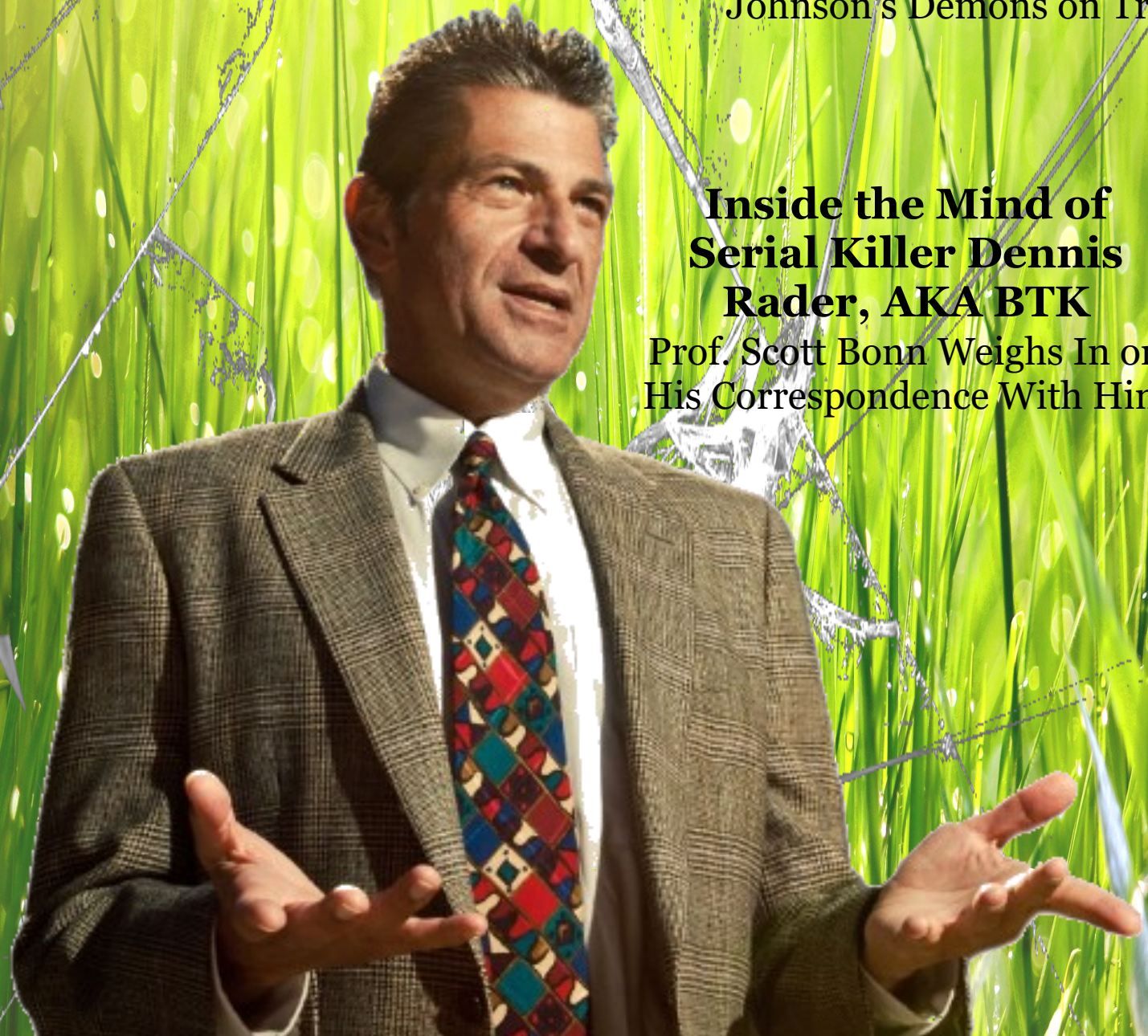
Retired British Murder Squad Detective  
Trevor Marriott Weighs in

## **The Devil Made Me Do It!**

The Bizarre Case of Arne Cheyenne  
Johnson's Demons on Trial

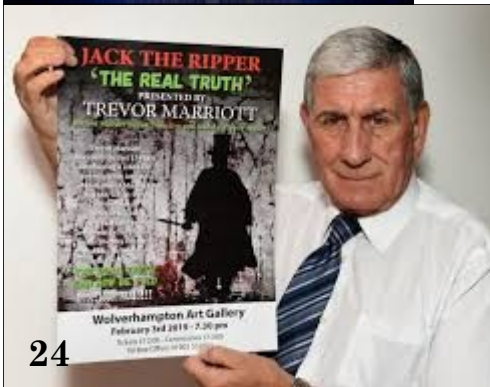
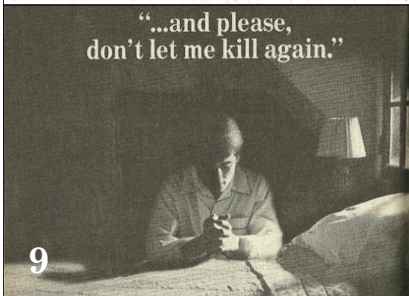
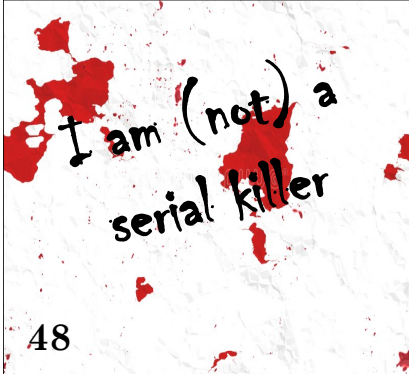
## **Inside the Mind of Serial Killer Dennis Rader, AKA BTK**

Prof. Scott Bonn Weighs In on  
His Correspondence With Him





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# The Next Truth

The Next Truth is an energetic magazine covering both systems of acquiring knowledge that use observation, experimentation, and replication to describe and explain natural phenomena known as Science and Noetic Sciences, a multidisciplinary field that brings objective scientific tools and techniques together with subjective inner knowing. In other words ... "Where Science and Myth Meet".

Our contributors are, without a doubt, tickling your indomitable curiosity and provide scientific explanations concerning topics viewed, and thought of, by the majority as myths.

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### 2-Hour Talk on; "Inside The Mind Of A Serial Killer"

Founder of Crime Viral - Cheish Merryweather (as seen on Victoria Derbyshire and BBC Newcastle) will bring Inside The Mind Of A Serial Killer to the stage for the first time. Based on psychiatric evaluations, courtroom transcripts, witness testimonies, crime scene evidence, and the serial killer's family history; this talk will closely detail what goes on in the mind of the most notorious cold-blooded killers.

**Location:** Alea Casino, Nottingham, UK

**Date:** Fri, 15th May, 2020

**Time:** 19:00 – 21:30 BST

**Costs:** 19.99 per ticket

For more information: [www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk)



# Publishers Letter

## Our Macabre Fascination With the Human Predator

**T**hroughout history, humans have committed horrific crimes, which seem to reflect a primordial and animalistic behavior in human survival. But what exactly makes someone a serial killer? Are they the product of bad genes, environmental factors, or something even worse?

What is it that triggers someone to follow a path of violence and committing horrible crimes? Is it possible to unravel the mind of a serial killer and unlinking the many narrow alleys of their entangled labyrinth?

Honestly, I have no concrete answer for what drives these 'celebrity monsters' as Prof. Scott Bonn refers to them in his article "What Drives Our Curious Fascination With Serial Killers?" on his blog of Psychology Today.

Reading his article, among others, I tried to find a clear/logic explanation for my personal fascination with these human predators. I have to admit that it was not easy to do so due to the fact that this 'little voice' in my head kept saying, "It is wrong to feel this fascination for these 'actors' playing one of the most horrifying roles!" I cannot say otherwise then Prof. Bonn being absolutely right about the fact that many of us are experiencing some form of guilt in the moment of expressing our fascination for these man and woman who are, apparently, feel a 'powerful rush' while running around in a violent and (un)controllable manner.

However, as I wrote Prof. Bonn in a Face Book comment, "I guess my personal interest would lie in having a brief opportunity of unraveling their way of thinking as well as trying to grasp the world in which these people apparently live. Does this breaking down of the glass walls in the

labyrinth of their (insane) minds provides me a certain pleasure? Hum...I like solving complex puzzles and so, I think one can call it so. In this I would say that my fascination for these people, not their acts, lies in 'cracking' their 'personal code' what let me understand their motive."

While trying to analyze my personal interest for these 'humanoid predators', this question of what it is that makes these killers so appealing to us, lay in front of me like an open and abandoned piece of dry desert. And, can we say, with some caution, that deep down inside of all of us a little serial killer...or two...is hiding? Perhaps we can

divide 'us' into two main groups... group A are the people who are asking the question of "Why?" Their fascination lies in unraveling the mind of a (serial) killer from a psychological point of view. And group B is asking the question of "How?" what indeed sounds like a macabre fascination for these humanoid predators. Although they may look nothing like Jason Voorhees or Freddy

Krueger, but I think there is a possibility a (serial) killer could spawn from group B, seeking the thrill behind the question of 'How?'

The truth is that no one really knows, and despite the efforts of modern criminology to decode the brain of a typical serial killer, a concrete explanation has not reached yet. However, the one thing that is known is that many serial killers have suffered early childhood trauma, such as sexual or physical abuse.

The articles in this issue of The Next Truth could provide a clearer answer to some of these questions but I have to put out a **WARNING** in advance. Some of the articles contain disturbing content and shocking photographs!



## Contributors

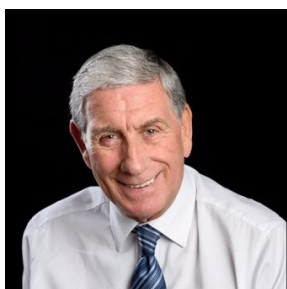
### Ruth Roseweir (London, UK)



Ruth is a long standing member of the ASSAP and a member of PRI-UK whereby she, together with her colleagues, investigates the myriad borders of the yet unknown realms. During her childhood Ruth experienced several unexplained events what caused her to ponder about what else is existing beyond our ontic reality. This led her to a lifelong interest in the paranormal. Ruth takes a 'common sense' approach while understanding and recognizing the importance of personal experience.

[www.paranormalresearchinvestigators.co.uk](http://www.paranormalresearchinvestigators.co.uk)

### Trevor Marriott (London, UK)



**Trevor Marriott** is a retired British Police murder squad detective who joined the Bedfordshire Police in 1970. He is the author of six books written for the true crime buff. Marriott was involved in the investigation of many murders as well as assisting in the investigation of many other major crimes. Throughout his long and distinguished police career he developed a fascination with the unsolved Whitechapel murders. For many years he has researched the century-old case through the experienced eyes of a modern-day criminal investigator.

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### Lynn Kathleen Russell (Lethbridge, Alberta)



Lynn researched 2500 near-death experiences for Dr. Jeffery Long. Lynn's spiritual knowledge inspired her to write the book; „The Wonder of You: What the Near-Death Experience Tells You About Yourself“. The second edition is expected out later in 2019 and is covering a very wide range of experiences, including her own. Lynn is a workshops facilitator and gives talks on the subject in where she uses science to show participants the magnificent spiritual beings we are. [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

### Scott A. Bonn (Las Vegas, Nevada)



Scott Bonn, PhD is Prof. of Criminology, media expert and analyst, public speaker and author. He is an expert on criminal motivations and behavior and is highly regarded for answering the puzzling question of “why the perpetrator did it” in complex criminal cases. Prof. Bonn received a doctorate in sociology at the University of Miami, and a MS degree in criminal justice administration at San Jose State University. His primary research interests include white-collar crime, state crime, domestic violence, serial homicide and how the media influence society. [www.docbonn.com](http://www.docbonn.com)

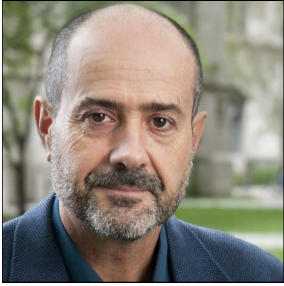
### Karen Conti (Chicago, Illinois, USA)



Karen Conti has been a practicing attorney in Chicago for over 33 years. She has tried hundreds of cases, handled a death row inmate's appeals and has litigated in the U.S. Supreme Court. She hosts her own radio show in Chicago and is a national and local commentator. At the age of 36, she competed and took 2<sup>nd</sup> place in a state body building competition. [www.kcontilaw.com](http://www.kcontilaw.com)



## **Dario Maestriperi (Chicago, USA)**



Dario Maestriperi, PhD, is a Professor of Comparative Human Development at the University of Chicago. He was awarded the B. Grassi Prize as the Best Young Zoologist from the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei in Italy in 1989, the Distinguished Scientific Award for Early Career Contribution to Psychology from the American Psychological Association in 2000, and a Career Development Award from the National Institute of Mental Health in 2001. He has published over 230 scientific articles and several books. His current main interests are; evolution of human behavior and its biological regulation and 20th century European literature. [www.humdev.uchicago.edu](http://www.humdev.uchicago.edu)

## **Niels Brummelman (Hilversum, Netherlands)**



Niels is the executive editor of the Dutch magazine ParaVisie since 2015. ParaVisie has spawn from the radio program Het Zwarte Gat (1978-1994, Radio Veronica), a program about paranormal phenomena. In 2000 he has received his Master degree in History from the Radboud University, Nijmegen. Besides writing articles, Niels had interesting conversation with Dutch citizens of which a few of them can be viewed via the YouTube channel of the Dutch magazine ParaVisie. [www.paravisiemagazine.nl](http://www.paravisiemagazine.nl)

## **Robert A. Burton (San Francisco Bay Area)**



Robert A. Burton M.D., graduated from Yale University and the University of California at San Francisco medical school, where he also completed his neurology residency. At age 33, he was appointed chief of the Division of Neurology at UCSF Medical Center at Mt. Zion, where he subsequently became Associate Chief of the Department of Neurosciences. His books include On Being Certain: Believing You Are Right Even When You're Not, A Skeptic's Guide to the Mind; What Neuroscience Can and Cannot Tell Us About Ourselves, and three critically acclaimed novels. He has also written essays, book reviews and op-ed pieces for the New York Times, Salon.com, Aeon, and Nautilus. [www.rburton.com](http://www.rburton.com)

## **Mysterious Universe (NSW Australia)**



Mysterious Universe brings you the latest news and podcasts covering the strange, extraordinary, weird, wonderful and everything in between. We strive to maintain a balance of healthy skepticism and entertainment while never losing our sense of humour. Be sure to check out our Podcasts page and find out why Mysterious Universe is considered by many to be the best in the genre. [www.mysteriousuniverse.org](http://www.mysteriousuniverse.org)

## **Maria Anna van Driel (Germany)**



Maria Anna is the owner and founder of The Next Truth magazine, an investigative science journalist, columnist, foreign correspondent, ghost writer. She has a MA in ancient Alchemy, a BA in Metaphysics and a BS in Theoretical Physics. Her interest includes among others Mythology, Medieval and (pre) Egyptian Symbolism, Quantum-, Optical-, Particle-, and Astroparticle Physics. Maria Anna finds always the time to write new articles while having a nice chat with her (future) contributors. [www.nexttruth.com](http://www.nexttruth.com)

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# The Weird Case of Demons on Trial

By Brent Swancer, [www.mysteriousuniverse.org](http://www.mysteriousuniverse.org)

**T**he Devil made me do it. This has long been the plea of those who have been caught doing something wicked that is uncharacteristic of their usual behavior. Most of the time, we take it only as a figure of speech to brush off an aberrant deviation from the norm. However, sometimes the meaning can become all too literal. In 1981, a brutal murder occurred in a tranquil town on the East Coast of the United States; a vicious crime that the perpetrator claimed was not carried out by his own hand, but rather that of demons that had taken him over. It was a defense that would carry over into an actual court of law to become the nation's first case of a court defense seeking to blame a crime on demonic possession, and would trigger a media blitz of this spectacular tale of menacing supernatural evil on trial.

The whole strange tale begins in the quite, affluent, and peaceful neighborhood of Brookfield, Connecticut, where an unassuming family, the Glatzels, had arrived in order to clean and put in order a rental property they had recently acquired in this scenic town of 13,000. Shortly after they arrived, a series of bizarre events began to unfurl that would mark the beginning of the madness that was about to spiral out of control. One day, about a month after they had arrived, Mrs. Judy Glatzel reported that her youngest son, 11 year-old David, had suddenly and inexplicably fallen down rather forcefully onto the bed as if he had been shoved. When questioned about the occurrence later, David told his mother that he had in fact been pushed by what he described as an old man with "burnt-looking skin," who had pointed a finger at him and growled the word "Beware" before throwing him onto the bed.

It was a strange story to be sure, and at first the

Glatzels wrote it off as the overactive imagination of a young boy, but David had always been a very honest boy, and his situation would get progressively worse. He began to wake up at all hours of the night sobbing uncontrollably, and when asked what had happened he would describe how he was being visited in the darkness by an old man with soulless black eyes, animalistic features, sharp, jagged teeth, pointed ears, and hooves. David claimed that the intimidating entity was continuously warning him that if they moved into the rental house they would be

harmed. These visitations continued and before long were even occurring in the daytime, when David claimed the beast took on the appearance of an old man with a white beard dressed in a flannel shirt and jeans. David said that sometimes the apparition would snarl in some foreign language or threaten to steal his soul. The spooky visitations also be-

gan to be accompanied by various unexplained phenomena throughout the house, such as inexplicable footsteps, slamming doors, and disembodied voices.

The weirdness would not end there. David began to exhibit strange wounds such as scratches, cuts, and bruises on his body for no discernible reason, and his night terrors gradually worsened to the point that he would wake up howling in terror practically every night. The mother even claimed to at one point have seen her son being choked by unseen hands, or flopping about on his bed like "a rag doll." David had also put on a large amount of weight in a short period of time, allegedly becoming extremely fat and putting on 60 pounds in only a few months. In light of the strange, seemingly paranormal events that were unfolding around them, the alarmed Glatzels took notice and became convinced that this was >>>

***"A man's brain  
originally is like a little  
empty attic, and you  
have to stock it with  
such furniture as you  
choose."***

***Sir Arthur Ignatius Conan  
Doyle (1859-1930)***

not a simple case of their kid trying to get out of household chores or school. They enlisted the assistance of a local Catholic priest from St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church in Brookfield, for guidance. The priest performed a ritual cleansing of the house, but it seemed to have no effect, as the ominous phenomena continued.

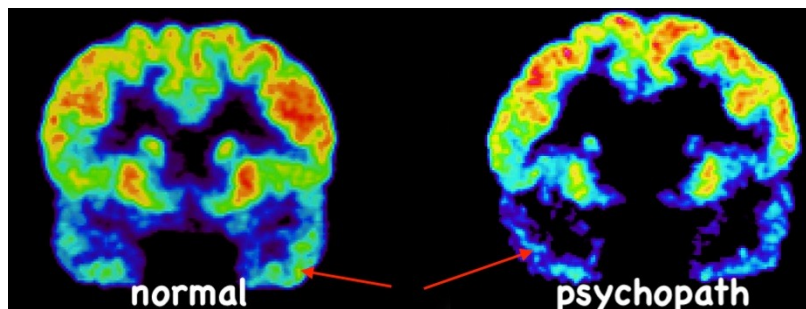
The increasingly desperate Glatzel family pleaded with the church for help, and were referred to two demonologists and exorcists by the name of Ed and Lorraine Warren. The Warrens' arrival seemed to mark an increase in bizarre events and aberrant behavior on the part of David. He began to have sudden seizures and fits or convulsions that required him to be restrained at times.

He also would occasionally snarl, hiss, or spit at people, and it got to the point where one person was always awake as David slept, in case he should experience one of his bizarre tantrums or seizures. The boy was also known to sud-

denly begin quoting passages from the Bible and Milton's *Paradise Lost*, or speaking in voices that were not his own. It was even reported that he would speak passages in Latin, a language with which he had no experience. Lorraine Warren, a self-professed psychic, would later report that on at least one occasion she had seen a strange black mist congeal next to David. The boy also continued to repeatedly complain of being hit, shoved, or choked by unseen hands. After some time of these escalating bizarre events, the Warrens came to the conclusion that there was a malevolent presence in the house, and that David was most likely subject to multiple possessions.

It was around this time that the Glatzel's 26 year-old daughter, Deborah, implored her fiancée, Arne Cheyenne Johnson, to move in with them in order to make them feel safer. In light of what they saw as demonic possession, the Warrens went about conducting a series of exorcisms in an effort to rid the boy of whatever malignant entities were residing within him.

Three exorcisms involving the help of no fewer than four Catholic priests were conducted, during which time David would growl, snarl, curse, spit, kick, and scratch like a madman, all to no ultimate effect. The Warrens also claimed that during the exorcisms David would cease breathing for long periods of time, do rapid series of sit-ups despite his obesity, contort his body into unnatural positions normally not possible, and even levitate. The normally quiet and peaceful boy was also said to start talking of murder and stab-bings, which further alarmed both the family and the Warrens. Eventually, the exorcists learned that there were 43 demons supposedly residing within David when they asked him who was there during one of his episodes and the boy gave 43 different names.



The term 'serial killer' strikes fear deep into the hearts of most. They never develop an emotional attachment to their victims. They 'hunt' (committing horrific acts of violence) in a variety of ways and tend to be above-average intelligence wise, and in some ways it is as if killing acts as a drug for some of these men and woman.

The exorcisms did not seem to be having any effect, and the evil presence within David garnered the nicknames "The Beast" and "The Master." The family contacted Brookfield police in October of 1980 to report that they felt the situa-

tion was becoming dangerous and that the boy posed a potential threat, but at the time they were largely ignored. Debbie's fiancée, Arne Johnson, was becoming exhausted by the whole ordeal, and started taunting the demons that were tormenting David. He is said to have shouted at them on several occasions and to have challenged and commanded them to enter him instead. Johnson was reported to have repeatedly said on numerous occasions "Come into me! Leave the little lad alone!"

During one of these times he became terrified when he claimed to have seen the demons and even made eye contact with them as he looked into David's eyes, something the Warrens has strictly warned him not to ever do. Not long after this, Johnson crashed his car into a tree, and while he was unharmed in the accident, he would later claim that the demons had taken control of him and caused him to crash.

In November of 1980, Judy and Carl Glatzel >>>





From the top left: John Wayne Gacy, Ted Bundy, Ed Gein and Jeffrey Dahmer. Photo: Quinn Lemmers for Yahoo Lifestyle

took their son to a psychiatrist to see if there was anything that could be done to help the increasingly disturbed boy or if any answers for his condition could be gleaned from the scientific community. The psychiatrist informed the family that David was normal, exhibiting only a minor learning disability, certainly nothing to account for his escalating bizarre behavior. Nevertheless, they enrolled their son in a special school for disturbed children, hoping that this would somehow cure him after all else had failed.

In the meantime, Debbie and Johnson moved out of the house to live in an apartment near the Brookfield Pet Motel, where Debbie had gotten a job as a dog groomer. The manager and owner of the pet motel, as well as the landlord of the apartment, was Alan Bono, who would become friends with the couple. In the ensuing weeks, Debbie Glatzel became increasingly concerned, as Johnson started to display strange, uncharacteristic behavior. The normally polite and even tempered Johnson would become highly irritated at the smallest things, and would suddenly go into bizarre trances during which he would growl, snarl, or convulse, and which he claimed to have no memory of. During several of these episodes he would shout out in despair that he could see “The Beast” staring at him, after which he would once again claim he could not remember such a thing happening.

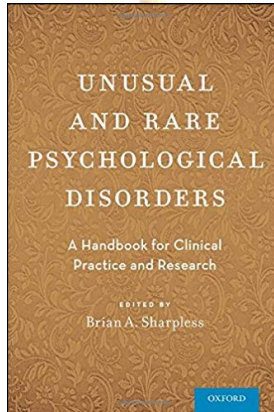
These weird trances became more frequent, and his behavior more erratic, until Debbie started to fear that perhaps her fiancée had been possessed by the same demons that had been inhabiting her brother, despite the fact that none of Johnson’s co-workers reported anything out of the ordinary.

On February 16, 1981, tragedy struck. Johnson called in sick to his job as a tree surgeon and joined Debbie and Bono for a lunch party, during which they all reportedly drank heavily. After the party, they returned to the apartment to hang out, and at some point during the conversation, Johnson and Bono got into a heated argument. During the confrontation, Johnson allegedly went into one of his trances, after which he started growling like an animal and pulled out a folding 5-inch knife and proceeded to viciously and repeatedly stab Bono, who would die at a hospital from his wounds several hours later. Johnson, who had no previous criminal record of any kind and had fled the scene, was apprehended several miles from the scene of the crime and charged with first degree murder. He claimed at the time that he could not remember anything of the incident.

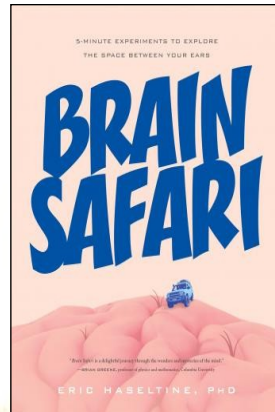
The case was already exceptional, as it was the first murder ever recorded in the history of Brookfield, but things would take a turn for the bizarre rather quickly.

*Read further on page 17*

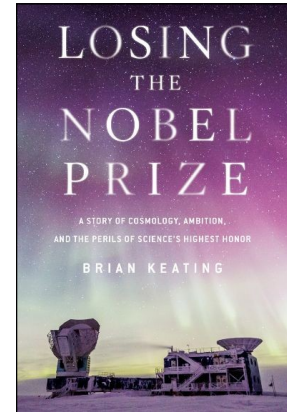
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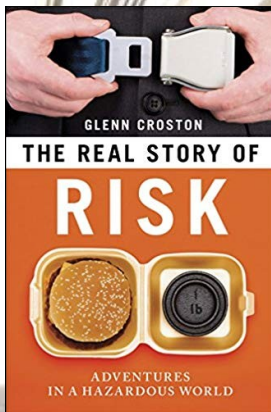
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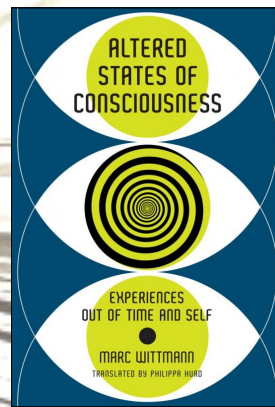
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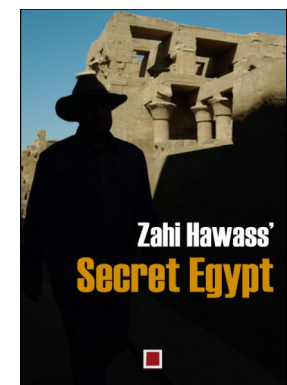
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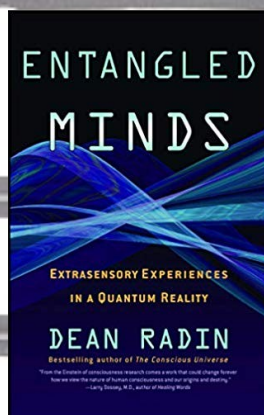
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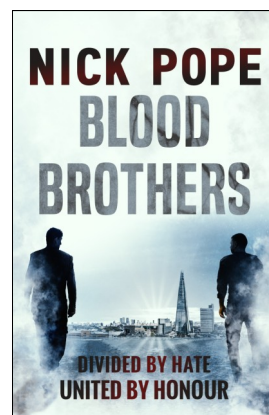
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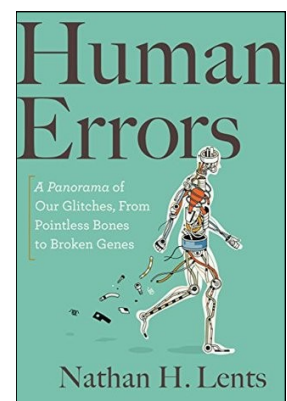
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# The Evolutionary History of Love

What love is and where it comes from

By Professor Dario Maestripieri, Ph.D, [www.humdev.uchicago.edu](http://www.humdev.uchicago.edu)

**L**ove is an emotion. To understand what love is for we have to place it in the broader context of the evolutionary function of emotions. One major function of emotions is to energize motivation. If we experience a strong positive or negative emotion, we become motivated to do something that's beneficial or to avoid something that's harmful. Pain exists to make sure organisms do everything they can to avoid things that can damage their bodies. If you are crazy enough to stick your finger in the flame on the kitchen stove, pain is there to protect your body and make it difficult for you to hurt yourself, no matter how crazy you are.

Sexual desire and orgasm exist to make sure organisms are highly motivated to engage in sexual intercourse and produce children, regardless of their opinions on the subject. Sexual urges are so powerful that it is difficult even for priests and nuns who take a vow of celibacy to completely suppress their sexuality. Their emotions work against their conscious decisions, and the result is that some of them end up in the news for engaging in inappropriate sexual behavior. People make arbitrary decisions about all kinds of things, but matters of survival and reproduction are too important to be entirely dependent on people's conscious decisions. Emotions evolved to encourage us to do what's good for us regardless of what we think about it.

Romantic love evolved, I argue, to motivate men and women to form pair-bonds.

But why the need for this extra emotional energizer? I think the answer has to do with our primate evolutionary past.

In birds pair-bonding is an ancient adaptation. Birds have probably been pair-bonded organisms for millions of years. This means that natural selection has had plenty of time to sculpt birds' brains and provide the necessary wiring to support the psychological and behavioral adaptations for pair-bonding. In comparison to birds, human pair-bonding is an evolutionary novelty. It arose very recently - a few million years is equivalent to the day before yesterday on the evolutionary time scale - and very quickly in response to the rapid changes in brain size and in patterns of child development that made biparental care necessary or advantageous.

To complicate things, humans probably evolved from a chimpanzee-like ape species whose members were sexually promiscuous, whose males did not contribute anything at all to child-rearing, and in which there were high levels of conflict between the sexes (such as male aggression toward females and sexual coercion).

The brains of our ape ancestors had probably been shaped by sexual selection for millions and millions of years to support mating and reproductive strategies that did not involve pair-bonding. As evolutionary psychologist Paul Eastwick argued recently (in the article "Beyond the Pleistocene: Using Phylogeny and Constraint to >>>



Prof. D. Maestripieri has appeared in many national and international TV and radio shows. His research has been featured in a number of newspapers and magazines including The New York Times, Pravda, LeMonde, Der Spiegel, the Guardian, La Repubblica, The Los Angeles Times, The Washington Post, the Chicago Tribune, The New Scientist, American Scientist, Nature, and Science.

Dario Maestriperi, Ph.D., is a professor of comparative human development, evolutionary biology, and neurobiology at the University of Chicago. He has published over 230 scientific articles and several books.

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inform the Evolutionary Psychology of Human Mating", *Psychological Bulletin*, 135: 794-821, 2009), when the circumstances became favorable for the evolution of pair-bonding in the human lineage, natural selection had to quickly modify human brains in ways that would counteract other features that had been honed through eons of sexual selection.

It wasn't an easy evolutionary step for the male brain of a sexually promiscuous, aggressive, and misogynistic chimpanzee-like ape to become the socially monogamous, female-loving, and paternal brain of a human being. The need for this rapid transformation presented a special evolutionary problem, which required a special solution. This special solution was romantic love and adult attachment.

But how did natural selection find this special solution? How did it come up with romantic love? I suggest that the evolutionary history of human romantic love may have progressed along the following lines.

As human brains grew and infants became

needier and more vulnerable for a longer period of development, such that the father's involvement and bi-parental care became necessary, natural selection had to come up with a way to motivate men and women to stay together for as long as it took to raise a child successfully.

Now, natural selection never invents anything from scratch but rather modifies and rearranges preexisting structures. The psychological and emotional adaptations for the infant attachment system already existed in the brains of our ape ancestors and had worked pretty well to keep infants and mothers together. Natural selection tweaked this system, making it operational through adulthood, so that it could be used to bond mates to each other.

Some of the neural circuits and the neurochemical substances that had been used to bond mothers and children, such as those involving oxytocin and endogenous opioids (which are also involved in regulating the body's responses to stress and physical pain), also became involved in mediating bonding between adults. To accomplish the goal of fostering long-lasting emotional and social >>>



bonds between adult males and females, natural selection tinkered not only with the brains of our ape ancestors but with their bodies as well. The bodies of our ape ancestors were probably similar to the bodies of modern chimpanzees: well adapted for intense sexual competition and sexual conflict, but not for pair-bonding. For example, males were larger and stronger than females, had larger and sharper canine teeth, and had relatively small penises but huge testicles that produced large quantities of testosterone and sperm. Females, for their part, advertised their fertility period during their menstrual cycle through large sexual swellings to incite sexual competition among males.

To foster pair-bonding and cooperative relationships between the sexes, natural selection reduced the differences in body size, strength, and weaponry between males and females. Then it eliminated obvious signs of ovulation in women and increased their receptivity throughout their menstrual cycle. This provided the opportunity for paired men and women to have sex all the time, thus reinforcing their union and increasing the man's confidence that when a child was born it was really his, which in turn increased his willingness to provide paternal care. At the same time, natural selection reduced paired men's desire for sexual variety and promiscuity by reducing their testis size and lowering their testosterone levels.

Human males have relatively small testicles for their body size and produce relatively small amounts of sperm and testosterone compared to male chimpanzees. I once saw a slide of a researcher holding a chimpanzee brain in one hand and a testicle in the other; they were approximately the same size, and not because chimpanzee brains are small.

Another physiological adaptation for pair-bonding in human males is the dramatic reduction in their production of testosterone when they find themselves in committed relationships or are married with children. Lower testosterone in romantically committed men curbs their desire for other women and allows them to concentrate on their wives and children.

This has been shown by many studies, including one that my colleagues and I conducted at the University of Chicago involving over five hundred MBA students. Finally, various researchers have suggested that the exceptional length of the erect human penis - human males have by far the longest penis in relation to their body size of all the primates - is also an adaptation for pair-bonding. The long penis makes possible a wide variety of copulatory positions, including more intimate face-to-face, mutually ventral positions, which promotes social bonding during sexual intercourse.

Ventro-ventral sexual intercourse is rare in primates but common in another species closely related to us, the pygmy chimpanzee, or bonobo; like humans, bonobos use sex for social bonding purposes. The long human penis may also increase the probability of female orgasm, which heightens the female's readiness for engaging in sexual activity, thereby strengthening the bond with her mate.

The multiple physical, physiological, and psychological adaptations that have arisen through natural selection to induce human males and females to form pair-bonds and cooperate in rearing offspring generally work very well. The most amazing psychological adaptation for pair-bonding - romantic love - creates in the human mind a longing for the desired partner and a psychological dependence not dissimilar from that existing between a young child and her mother. Successful bonds involve a profound psychological and physiological interdependence between partners such that the absence or loss of one partner can be literally life-threatening for the other. Conversely, solid and stable romantic relationships can have many positive effects on the health and longevity of both partners and their children.

In short, whether you like it or not: love is good for you.

■ ■ ■

Prof. D. Maestripieri's article was first published in *Psychology Today*, under the Creative Commons license. [www.psychologytoday.com](http://www.psychologytoday.com)

# Crime Thriller

They can be anything from blood fests to psychological thrillers and if you have never liked this genre for whatever reason, you are going to fall in love with the 30 Best Crime Thriller Movies. [www.mettaworldpeace.com](http://www.mettaworldpeace.com)



## **Zodiac (2007)**

This crime thriller is based on a true story and will undoubtedly give you a spine chilling experience. This movie is based on the hunt of a notorious murderer who is known as the Zodiac killer. Zodiac haunts the residents of San Francisco in the late 1970s and the investigators go crazy while figuring out the identity of this serial killer. While the in-

vestigators are obsessed with the killer and try hard to bring justice, the zodiac killer is roaming free out there targeting his next victim and taunting the expert authorities with phone calls, cryptic messages, and ciphers.



## **Nightcrawler (2014)**

No one can forget the creepy look on the face of Jake Gyllenhaal which is exactly why this movie is one of the most acclaimed crime thrillers. The story revolves around a petty thief who soon realizes that he can make handsome money just by clicking photographs. He begins on his venture and becomes nocturnal waiting to use his scanner and camcorder as his valuable tools. This movie shows the relationship

between consumer demand and unethical journalism and also portrays the nightlife of Los Angeles. The eerie performance of Jake makes him a character straight out of a horror movie.



## **The Silence Of The Lambs (1991)**

Undoubtedly one of the best crime thriller movies of all times. The story revolves around Clarice who is an intelligent student of the academy of FBI and is required to interview a psychiatrist and violent psychopath Dr. Hannibal Lecter. He is currently behind the bars for severe cannibalism and several murders. Clarice is sent by her bosses to

draw out information about a case in which the doctor might be able to provide valuable insight. Her bosses want her to use her attractive charm and lure him out.



## **Identity (2003)**

This movie has a haunting effect but for all the right reasons. This is a movie about 10 people who are stuck in a motel during a rainstorm. While they are trapped strange things start to happen. They soon realize that there is an intruder who tries to kill everyone and they all need to stick together to survive and find their way out.





The Trial of Arne Cheyenne Johnson, also known as The Devil Made Me Do It Case, is the first known court case in the United States in which the defense sought to prove innocence based upon the defendant's claim of demonic possession

A mere day after the murder, Lorraine Warren made the claim that Johnson had been possessed by demons when the murder was committed, and that David Glatzel had said he had seen the demons go from him into Johnson's body. This was further given fuel when the family supported these claims, saying that the murder had been the "Devil's work," and that the beast had transferred to Johnson's body during the exorcisms when he had taunted them to do so. These claims of demonic possession and murder in this quiet, sleepy town drove the media into a frenzy, and the story was covered extensively in various outlets.

Making the whole affair even more mysterious was that although the the Glatzels and Warrens talked about the exorcisms that had been conducted on David, the church itself went through great lengths to distance itself from these claims. The diocese officially stated that although a Father Virgulak and three other priests had indeed been involved in helping the boy through his affliction, it adamantly denied that any actual exorcisms had been performed. The spokesman for the diocese, Rev. Nicholas V. Grieco, explained that the bishop's approval would have been required to carry out an exorcism and that no such approval had ever been sought.

This sat squarely opposite from what the Glatzels and Warrens were saying, and they claimed that such approval in fact had been granted after two of the younger priests had approached the bishop personally. Making matters more complicated was that none of the priests who had allegedly been directly involved in the exorcisms were permitted to comment on the incident to reporters nor investigators, and all of them were mysteriously transferred to other parishes.

Things would get even more bizarre still. When Johnson's trial came, his defense attorney, Martin Minnella, decided to use the alleged demonic possession as an actual legal defense for his client. It would be the first time in United States history in which the defense sought to prove innocence by arguing demonic possession and therefore a lack of personal responsibility. Media attention to the case reached a fever pitch, and the trial came to be known as the "Demon Murder Trial" and the "Devil Made Me Do It Trial." Attorney Minella for his part extensively researched the feasibility of such an argument and found that such a defense was not unprecedented in the world. Minella put forth two cases from England in which the defense of possession had been allowed; one in which an arsonist was acquitted on grounds of demonic possession and >>>

another in which a rapist had received a suspended sentence for the same reason. The lawyer even made arrangements to have exorcists from Europe flown in for the trial. In addition, he was prepared to subpoena the priests that had allegedly performed the exorcisms on David Glatzel if they didn't cooperate. Minella vowed: "I'm going to show the guy isn't insane and that it's not a delusion. The courts have dealt with the existence of God, and now they'll be asked to deal with the existence of the demonic spirit."

The trial commenced on October 28, 1981, at Connecticut's Superior Court in Danbury. As expected, Minella entered a plea of innocence on the grounds that his client had been possessed by demons that had passed into him from David and as such had not been in control of himself, therefore releasing him from the responsibility of any wrongdoing. During the proceedings, alleged taped evidence of the priests confirming approval for an exorcism was presented, as well as lurid photographs depicting scenes such as Johnson kneeling over David on the floor with a crucifix pressed to his forehead, and another in which Johnson is holding the boy down as the crucifix lies broken on the floor next to him. Despite this, presiding judge Robert Callahan was not convinced, and he disallowed this argument, stating that none of it could be objectively or scientifically verified through the available evidence. As a result, all of the testimony related to the demon possession defense was thrown out, the jury not permitted to consider it as a viable reason for the murder, and Minella was forced to change his tactic, changing his stance to that of self defense. After 3 days of deliberations, the jury came to the conclusion that Johnson was guilty of first-degree manslaughter, and he was sentenced to 10-20 years in prison, of which he would ultimately serve only 5.

In the aftermath of the trial, media interest in the case waned, but the story was not over yet. In 1983, Lorraine Warren helped Gerald Brittle write a book about the incident titled *The Devil in Connecticut*, which many saw as a cheap attempt to make a profit off of the Glatzel family's suffering, but Warren insisted that proceeds from the book would be donated to the family. The book was re-released in 2006, by which time David Glatzel, now an adult, and his brother Carl Glatzel Jr. sued the publisher on the grounds that they claimed it gave the family emotional

distress, violated their privacy, and contained a good amount of libel. Carl further said that the Warrens had lied about the events that had taken place and that the exorcism story was a hoax; a tall tale they had weaved to take advantage of and make profit off of David's mental illness. Carl also complained that the book had made him out to be the villain of the story because he had never subscribed to the supernatural explanations for what had transpired.

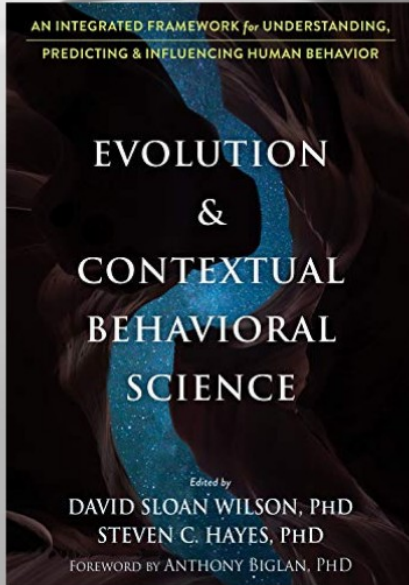
For their part, the Warrens have stuck to their version of events. Lorraine Warren has repeatedly insisted that the supernatural phenomena that occurred were real and that all of the priests involved had agreed that the boy had been possessed by demons. Additionally, Debbie Glatzel and Arne Cheyenne Johnson himself have to this day continued to assert that the Warrens' version of the events is true, further saying that the Glatzel family is suing purely for monetary gain. The priests involved with the supposed exorcisms have never come forward to officially support either side of the story, and continue to remain silent on the matter.

So what do we make of this story? Did the Devil in fact really make Johnson do it? Considering the myriad versions of the events and the conflicting claims of all involved, it is difficult to say. However, is there the potential that some dark force can compel a rational person to commit evil deeds that they would never imagine committing otherwise, and if so should they be held accountable for it? Or is this all just some wicked element of the human soul which occasionally bubbles and froths forth from some murky recess of our psyche to drive us to these atrocities, and in the end it is only us to blame for failing to be the gatekeeper that keeps the beast from getting out? Law has always had to deal with the fine line between sanity and insanity, accountability and absolution. Is there perhaps another line on which we teeter; the line between the deeds of our own mind and those of something "other"? It is unlikely that the defense tried during the Arne Cheyenne Johnson Trial will ever be admissible in court, but it can perhaps cause us to reflect upon the nature of an evil that potentially resides within every one of us, supernatural or not.

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This article was original publish on the blog site of Mysterious Universe [www.mysteriousuniverse.org](http://www.mysteriousuniverse.org)





## David Sloan Wilson, PhD Steven C. Hayes, PhD

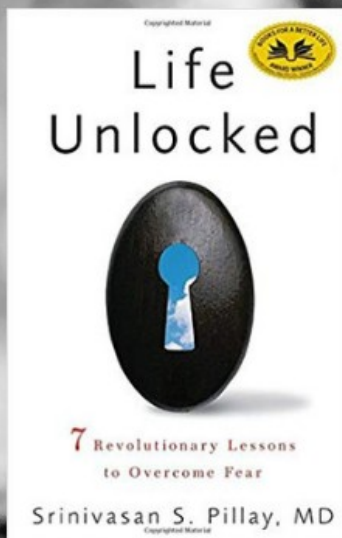
What do evolutionary science and contextual behavioral science have in common? Edited by David Sloan Wilson, PhD and Steven C. Hayes, PhD, this groundbreaking book offers a glimpse into the histories of these two schools of thought, and provides a sound rationale for their reintegration.

Rather than the sequential relationship that is typically imagined between these two schools of thought, this volume envisions a parallel relationship between ES and CBS, where science can best influence positive change in the real world

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# TED TALKS

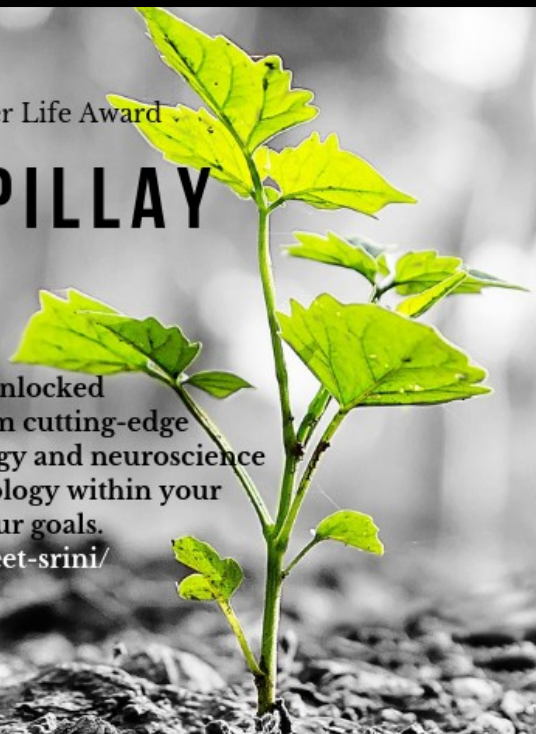
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# PRI-UK in the Spotlight

## Ruth Roseweir Weighs In

By Maria Anna van Driel, [www.nexttruth.com](http://www.nexttruth.com)

**O**ur globe has been formed but is absolutely not finished. Nature followed its evolutionary path in a logical way, a strange kind of evolution but a logical one. Millions and millions of centuries ago a cosmic soup of particles started to rise after a collision which is better known as The Big Bang. Then there was this moment in time in which two separated evolutions on the same globe were born, both containing the same primordial elements but one in photosynthesis, which is powered by sunlight, and the other one in chemosynthesis, what is sustaining life in absolute darkness. And right in the middle of it all, a strange kind of energy began to arise and formed the first atoms. Primordial radiation and UV-light gave birth to an energy inside a magnetic field; Heaven and Hell came together in order to create ... the human species.

If both these syntheses have been created approximately the same time with the 'light' from above and the 'fire' from below, it could be possible that such an act of nature was not fully understood by us humans in the beginning and has been, in a later period, wrongly translated in 'entities' or 'creatures' being 'born' from this all, creatures we know these days as 'Angles' (light creatures) and 'Demons' (fire creatures)?

But are those creatures', angles and demons, just an illusion feeding mankind's fears or are they really a part of the Earth's evolution meaning an evolution which was understood and described by many ancient nations? Did these ancient nations embrace these entities as a neighborly friend, as Gods or did they see them as a different species and an ally in life?

There are many references to ghostly events in, for instance, Mesopotamian religions, the religions of Sumer, Babylon, Assyria, and other early states in Mesopotamia. Traces of these beliefs survive in the later Abrahamic religions that came to dominate the region. By the 5th century BC, classical Greek ghosts had become haunting, frightening creatures who could work to either good or evil purposes. The ancient Romans believed a ghost could be used to exact revenge on an enemy by scratching a curse on a piece of lead or pottery and placing it into a grave.



**The most famous story about the ghosts of a column of 20 Roman soldiers who are still marching in the year 1953 in the city of York, England.**

In the 1st century AD, Lucius Mestrius Plutarchus, a Greek biographer and essayist, described the haunting of the baths at Chaeronea by the ghost of a murdered man. The ghost's loud and frightful groans caused the people of the town to seal up the doors of the building. From the

medieval period an apparition of a ghost is recorded from 1211, at the time of the Albigensian Crusade. Gervase of Tilbury, Marshal of Arles, wrote that the image of Guilhem, a boy recently murdered in the forest, appeared in his cousin's home in Beaucaire, near Avignon. One of the first persons to express disbelief in ghosts was Lucian of Samosata in the 2nd century AD.

However, despite historical records and centuries of investigation, the overwhelming consensus of contemporary science is that 'ghosts' do not exist. According to some there is not enough scientific evidence that any location is inhabited by spirits of the dead. Some research conducted has even indicated that ghost sightings may be related to degenerative brain diseases such as Alzheimer's disease while other research indicates that certain toxic and psychoactive plants such as >>>



Datura and Hyoscyamus Niger, whose use has long been associated with necromancy and the underworld, can create vivid hallucinations, the behavior of being possessed and mass hysteria.

According to research in anomalistic psychology visions of ghosts may arise from hypnagogic hallucinations ("waking dreams" experienced in the transitional states to and from sleep). In a study of two experiments into alleged hauntings (Wiseman *et al.* 2003) came to the conclusion "that people consistently report unusual experiences in 'haunted' areas because of environmental factors, which may differ across locations." Some of these factors included "the variance of local magnetic fields, size of location and lighting level stimuli of which witnesses may not be consciously aware.

Except for the explanation of e.g. sleep paralysis and the haunted frequency which was discovered by Vic Tandy, there has to be a reason for e.g. malevolent dark shadows, which seem to visit you during the darkest hours of the night, to exist in our reality. Not to speak about those motionless and transparent figures observing you in silence from the corner of the back room. Indeed, this is a foggy realm what seems to balance between two dimensions. It has the power of creeping you out for sure!

But regardless if you call it a ghost, shadow people, a ahma, a spectrum, a spook, a wraith, a demon, a Djinn or a se unclæna gast, the dimensional researchers from PRI-UK will approach these translucent or barely visible wispy shapes with common sense whilst they search for an answer what or who it is that is roaming your property. Is it simply the soul, or spirit, of a deceased person or animal that has manifest itself or is there an architectural explanation for the eerie sounds you hear at night?

For more information about PRI-UK:  
[www.paranormalresearchinvestigators.co.uk](http://www.paranormalresearchinvestigators.co.uk)

Welcome Ruth, I appreciate the time you take for letting us peer into your career as a paranormal investigator and some of your theories and research within the field of the paranormal.

**Q: Can you tell us a little bit about yourself? Who is Ruth Roseweir?**

**Ruth:** I am a member of PRI-UK along with Any Wilson, Nick Howe, Nick Terrell and Ellie Maybanks. I have a curious mind and am interested in other people's experiences. An area I am currently keen to expand my knowledge on is interpretation of the unexplained by different cultures. When not involved in the paranormal I enjoy gardening, listening to music and art.

**Q: What is your position within the PRI-UK team?**

**Ruth:** My task is that of Investigator. If possible, I prefer not to know too much about venues so I can be as objective as possible when going into the investigation, then find out more afterwards, to see how it compares to my experiences during investigation.

**Q: When did you first become interested in the paranormal?**

**Ruth:** I have been interested in the paranormal since I was a child. I used to go to the library and read anything on ghosts I could get my hands on, whether this be fiction or reference books. My interest in the paranormal continued, and eventually I went on my first investigation, at London Tombs. I joined the Ghost Club (ASSAP) not long afterwards in 2011 and met Andy, Nick H and Nick T. through the monthly ghost club talks.

**Q: What is the most hilarious or scariest moment you have experienced during an investigation?**

**Ruth:** A few years back I was at an investigation at quite an old property. It had been quiet >>>



PRI-UK dimensional researcher Ruth Roseweir is a long standing member of the ASSAP. Together with her colleagues she investigates the foggy borders of the yet unknown realms.

with nothing much happening. I was standing in the tower part of the building with about three other investigators, feeling frankly somewhat bored.

We were just heading off to another room upstairs when someone saw a drawer from, the filing cabinet in the room, fly open. We gathered around the standard metal filing cabinet, watching it but nothing further happened. I was not convinced anything paranormal had occurred, so in the interests of science we decided to try and debunk this occurrence and tested the drawers. Never before had a filing cabinet held such fascination.

Eventually we found out that that if we trod around on the floorboards at the same time the same drawer would open. Unfortunately, the rest of the investigation proved as uneventful as previously, and there was nothing to report on that night.

**Q: Do you think modern science will soon find proof for the existence of the unexplained?**

**Ruth:** I'm not sure. It's useful to remember that similarly to other fields, theories around the unexplained can change and develop over time, so it's always worth thinking about what proof is being sought.

Current scientific equipment commonly used in investigations such as recording equipment and electromagnetic field detectors are not made specifically for the purpose of paranormal investigations, therefore further development in this field may be needed. However, we have caught some interesting EVPs.

Some people will always be skeptical whatever evidence is found, but I think that is often the case when our understanding of things changes.

**Q: What is the best advice you can give for aspiring investigators who want to explore the mysteries of the still unknown realms of the afterlife?**

**Ruth:** To keep an open mind and be aware of your own potential for bias. This is both in terms of considering what you come across may be paranormal, but also looking for more everyday explanations for things. Once you have ruled out routine occurrences, for example, a banging noise occurring due to metal pipes cooling down, or a scratching noise being caused by mice, you then start to look at paranormal possibilities.

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## Paranormal Research Investigators UK

Paranormal Research Investigators UK (PRI UK) are pleased to announce that they are now an affiliate group of ASSAP (The Association for the Scientific Study of Anomalous Phenomena).

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# THE KENTUCKY GHOST HUNTER

DEAN KNIGHT

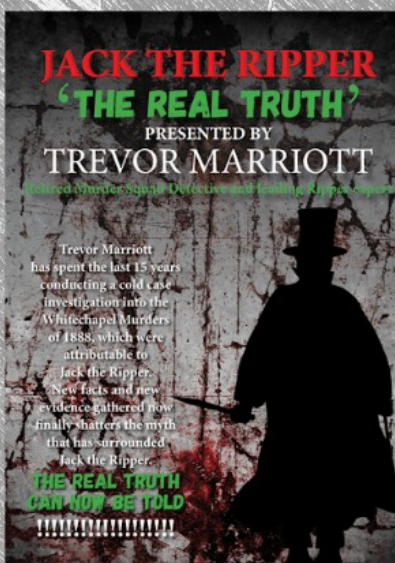
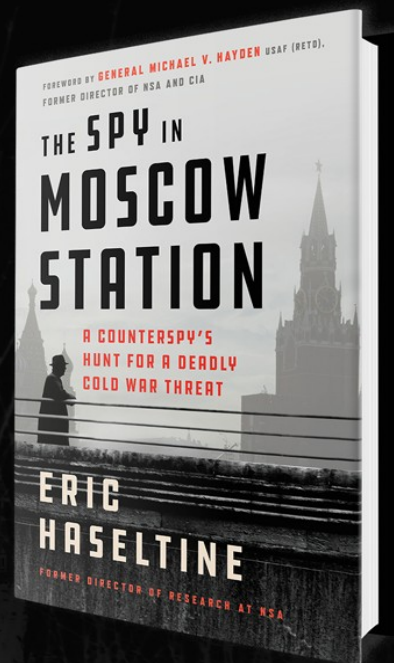
Hunting may be a strong word for "The Kentucky Ghost Hunter", yet accurate. Even Dean was always taught not to be on the wrong page of a two page novel, he always knew there is something out there, something we do not yet understand because of the limited knowledge about the dim realms of the unexplained. Dean brings the unknown towards himself and he is determined to prove exactly what it is that goes bumping in the night.

<https://kentuckyghosthunter.com>

**"REAL LIFE SPY-VS-SPY  
PAGE TURNER."**

—BRUCE SCHNEIER

THOMAS DUNNE BOOKS



The mystery of the Whitechapel Murders of 1888, which were attributed to a fearsome unknown killer who came to be known as Jack the Ripper, has captivated the imagination of people worldwide and still does today.

Trevor Marriott, a retired British Police murder squad detective, and leading Ripper expert, has now finally concluded his long and protracted cold case investigation which uncovered startling new evidence and new facts about Jack the Ripper.

The real truth can now be told!

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# Jack the Ripper; A Man or A Myth?

Retired British Murder Squad Detective Trevor Marriott Weighs in

By Maria Anna van Driel, [www.nexttruth.com](http://www.nexttruth.com)

**A** warning in advance! This article contains disturbing images from a police investigation that was conducted 132 years ago concerning five murders which took place in a period of ten fearful weeks in the autumn of 1888.

Between August and November, 1888, the streets of Whitechapel in the East End of London were terrorized by a series of horrific murders committed by a mysterious madman. It shocked the Victorian community with its brutality and the world's most famous...most iconic serial killer came into being. They called him...Jack the Ripper.

It was shortly before four in the morning on August 31, 1888, that a coachman made a gruesome discovery. The body of Mary Ann Nichols, of who is being thought of was the first victim of Jack the Ripper, lay in a narrow alley in the Whitechapel poor district of London on her back with a cut throat, her skirts pushed up and her stomach slashed.

Even though London was rebuilt with stone and brick after the Great Fire of 1666, it was still like a labyrinth of narrow courtyards and alleys with many hostels and small workshops in which Jack the Ripper could kill without being disturbed. The police found themselves searching in the dark; modern forensic techniques were only invented and used years later.

The fascination of the mysteries surrounding both the case and the true identity of the murderer can still be seen by many. Why did he brutally kill five women and what made him stop? Over the past centuries there have been many suspects and just as many fantastic theories about who Jack really was.

Trevor Marriott, a former British police murder squad Detective, has for many years researched the infamous Whitechapel Murders which occurred in London during the reign of Queen Victoria in 1888. These horrific murders of prostitutes were attributed to a killer known as Jack



Trevor Marriott is a retired British Police murder squad detective, and leading Ripper expert, who since 2002 has been conducting a cold case investigation into The Whitechapel Murders of 1888 which were attributed to a fearsome unknown killer who came to be known as Jack the Ripper.  
[www.trevormarriott.co.uk](http://www.trevormarriott.co.uk)

the Ripper who was never arrested and even today, 132 years later, his identity is shrouded with mystery.

“In 2002 I started out to conduct a 21st Century cold case re-investigation into the ripper mystery”, Trevor Marriott writes on his website. “I would use all my knowledge and expertise gained as a former British Murder Squad Detective in an attempt to finally identify the killer.”

“My long and protracted investigation”, Marriott proceeds, “would reveal new evidence and new facts, which would not only dispel, but shatter the myth that has been Jack the Ripper along with many of the previously accepted theories surrounding the case.”

Unlike other researchers Marriott was able to re-investigate these horrific murders and the mystery surrounding this fearsome killer, through the eyes of a modern day Detective causing a sensation with new evidence. He was able to pursue new lines of enquiry never used before which resulted in a new suspect emerging. >>>





Catherine Eddowes (14 April 1842 – 30 September 1888) was the second suggested victim in the Whitechapel murders. She was killed in the early hours of Sunday 30 September, a night which already had seen the murder of Elizabeth Stride less than an hour earlier.

"Following his execution in 1896, Marriott writes under the topic, **'The Suspects'** on his website, "his lawyer disclosed further evidence to suggest that Feigenbaum could have been the elusive Jack the Ripper and that now gives rise to the suggestion that Feigenbaum could have been the world's first transatlantic serial killer."

Was Carl Feigenbaum, a German sailor whose ship anchored in London whenever a murder occurred and who is said to have committed similar murders in Germany, responsible for the brutal murders from 1888? Was Feigenbaum the real Jack the Ripper?

In order to give you a quick glance into this million dollar question and the research conducted what draws the curtain on the Ripper's dark world slightly aside, former British police murder squad Detective, Trevor Marriott has granted The Next Truth with his permission to print some of his writing from his website.

[www.trevormarriott.co.uk](http://www.trevormarriott.co.uk)

■ ■ ■

## Man or Myth?

So now the mystery surrounding Jack the Ripper has been thrown wide open. He singularly has for over 130 years been credited with the killing of 5 prostitutes in Whitechapel between August and November 1888. This may not now be the case as my investigation has cast a doubt about all of these five murders having been committed by the same person, as well as the earlier murder of Martha Tabram and the later murders of McKenzie and Coles who have been suggested as being ripper victims. So it is quite feasible there could have been different killers involved in the commission of these murders in Whitechapel with none of them acting together in a joint enterprise.

My investigation uncovered a total of 17 unsolved Ripper like murders which occurred between 1863- 1894 not only in London but also in Germany and The USA. I suggest that the German merchant seaman Carl Feigenbaum could have been responsible for one, some or all of these murders. That view has not changed.

So that still leaves un-answered questions. Was there such a person as Jack the Ripper or was he just an urban myth created by the press? >>>



(left) Miller's Court No. 13 the day of the murder. (right) Jack's final victim was different from all the others. Mary Jeanette Kelly, aged 25, was found murdered on November 8th in her room at Millers Court Whitechapel. And it was by far the most gruesome murder. She was horrifically mutilated to the point of almost destroying her identifying features. Her organs had been removed and scattered around the room. And then the murders stopped and the myth of Jack the Ripper was born.

My long and protracted investigation led me to believe that there was no singular Jack the Ripper and that in fact he was nothing more than an urban myth created by an over zealous member of the press. The police seldom referred to the killer as Jack the Ripper choosing to refer to the killer as The Whitechapel Murderer, and why did they do that?

The police in 1888 also believed that the name Jack the Ripper was created by a member of the press. During the murders a letter which has become known as "The Dear Boss letter" was sent to The Central News Agency Office purporting to be from the killer, it was signed Jack the Ripper. The letter was dated September 25th 1888 and was received at the press offices on September 27th 1888. A "Saucy Jack" postcard was also sent to the Central News Agency on October 1st 1888 and also signed Jack the Ripper.

From that day on the myth of Jack the Ripper was created, and has to this day has resulted in all of the Whitechapel Murders still being attributed to the same killer.

The handwriting of a member of the press at the time Frederick Best a reporter for The Star Newspaper was examined in 2009 by an expert who concluded that he was the most likely author

of the letter and the postcard. In 1931 Best is reported to have admitted to writing the Ripper letters in conjunction with another who he refused to name.

If the name of Jack the Ripper was removed from the investigation and the longstanding theories that he removed organs from some of the victims at the crime scenes, and he did kill all the victims, what remains?

The answer is nothing more than a series of similar unsolved murders all of which bear some similarities to each other which had it not been for all of these three factors keeping the Ripper mystery alive for 130 years, they would no doubt have drifted into obscurity many years ago.

The search to obtain the truth still goes on however the passage of time has not been kind to my 21st Century Investigation in relation to all of these murders which occurred 130 years ago. However I remain the ever eternal optimist that one day new evidence will come to light to finally close a murder case which has and still does to this very day fascinate people worldwide.

■ ■ ■

Discover more about Trevor Marriott books and his research conducted to this mysterious madman from 1888, Jack the Ripper. [www.trevormarriott.co.uk](http://www.trevormarriott.co.uk)



# 7 Serial Murder Myths

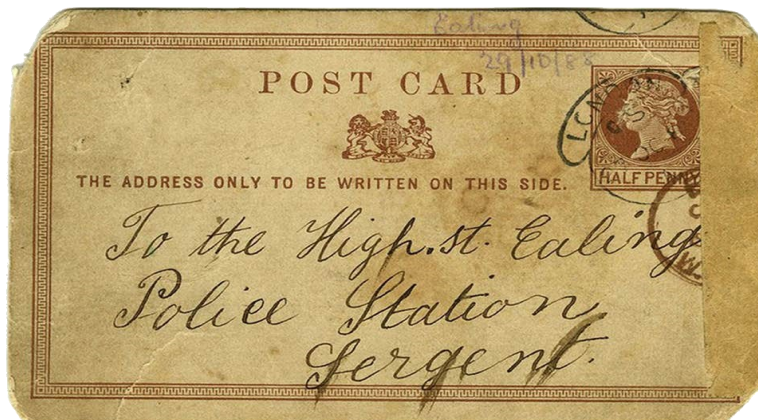
**T**he following 7 myths about the horrific acts committed by serial killers are a direct copy from the website of the FBI and a brief overview of the whole article that is discussing the major issues related to serial murder. The goal in the FBI publishing this monograph is to outline the consensus views from a variety of disciplines on the causality, motivations, and characteristics of serial murderers, which will enable the criminal justice community to generate a more effective response in the identification, investigation, and adjudication of these cases. [www.fbi.gov](http://www.fbi.gov)

Serial murder is neither a new phenomenon, nor is it uniquely American. Dating back to ancient times, serial murderers have been chronicled around the world. In 19th century Europe, Dr. Richard von Krafft-Ebing conducted some of the first documented research on violent, sexual offenders and the crimes they committed. Best known for his 1886 textbook *Psychopathia Sexualis*, Dr. Kraft-Ebing described numerous case studies of sexual homicide, serial murder, and other areas of sexual proclivity.

Serial murder is a relatively rare event, estimated to comprise less than one percent of all murders committed in any given year. However, there is a macabre interest in the topic that far exceeds its scope and has generated countless articles, books, and movies. This broad-based public fascination began in the late 1880s, after a series of unsolved prostitute murders occurred in the Whitechapel area of London. These murders were committed by an unknown individual who named himself “Jack the Ripper” and sent letters to the police claiming to be the killer.

**Dear Boss**

*I keep on hearing the police have caught me but they wont fix me just yet. I have laughed when they look so clever and talk about being on the right track. That joke about Leather Apron gave me real fits. I am down on whores and I shant quit ripping them till I do get buckled. Grand work the last job was. I gave the lady no time to squeal. How can they catch me now. I love my work and want to start again. You will soon hear of me with my funny little games. I saved some of the proper red stuff in a ginger beer bottle*



The postcard is believed to have been written by Jack the Ripper

*over the last job to write with but it went thick like glue and I cant use it. Red ink is fit enough I hope ha. ha. The next job I do I shall clip the ladys ears off and send to the police officers just for jolly wouldn't you. Keep this letter back till I do a bit more work, then give it out straight. My knife's so nice and sharp I want to get to work right away if I get a chance. Good luck.*

**Yours truly  
Jack the Ripper**

These murders and the *nom de guerre* “Jack the Ripper” have become synonymous with serial murder. This case spawned many legends concerning serial murder and the killers who commit it. In the 1970s and 1980s serial murder cases such as the Green River Killer, Ted Bundy, and BTK sparked a renewed public interest in serial murder, which blossomed in the 1990s after the release of films such as *Silence of the Lambs*. >>>

Much of the general public's knowledge concerning serial murder is a product of Hollywood productions. Story lines are created to heighten the interest of audiences, rather than to accurately portray serial murder. By focusing on the atrocities inflicted on victims by "deranged" offenders, the public is captivated by the criminals and their crimes. This only lends more confusion to the true dynamics of serial murder.

Law enforcement professionals are subject to the same misinformation from a different source: the use of anecdotal information. Professionals involved in serial murder cases, such as investigators, prosecutors, and pathologists may have limited exposure to serial murder. Their experience may be based upon a single murder series, and the factors in that case are extrapolated to other serial murders. As a result, certain stereotypes and misconceptions take root regarding the nature of serial murder and the characteristics of serial killers.

A growing trend that compounds the fallacies surrounding serial murder is the *talking heads* phenomenon. Given creditability by the media, these self-proclaimed authorities profess to have an expertise in serial murder. They appear frequently on television and in the print media and speculate on the motive for the murders and the characteristics of the possible offender, without being privy to the facts of the investigation. Unfortunately, inappropriate comments may perpetuate misperceptions concerning serial murder and impair law enforcement's investigative efforts. It was decided by a majority of the attendees to issue a formal statement of position regarding the media's use of these types of individuals. (The position statement is included in Section X of this monograph.)

The relative rarity of serial murder combined with inaccurate, anecdotal information and fictional portrayals of serial killers has resulted in the following common myths and misconceptions regarding serial murder:

***Myth: Serial killers are all dysfunctional loners.***

The majority of serial killers are not reclusive, social misfits who live alone. They are not monsters and may not appear strange. Many serial killers hide in plain sight within their communities. Serial murderers often have families and

homes, are gainfully employed, and appear to be normal members of the community. Because many serial murderers can blend in so effortlessly, they are oftentimes overlooked by law enforcement and the public.

- Robert Yates killed seventeen prostitutes in the Spokane, Washington area, during the 1990s. He was married with five children, lived in a middle class neighborhood, and was a decorated U.S. Army National Guard helicopter pilot. During the time period of the murders, Yates routinely patronized prostitutes, and several of his victims knew each other. Yates buried one of his victims in his yard, beneath his bedroom window. Yates was eventually arrested and pled guilty to thirteen of the murders.

- The Green River Killer, Gary Ridgeway, confessed to killing 48 women over a twenty-year time period in the Seattle, Washington area. He had been married three times and was still married at the time of his arrest. He was employed as a truck painter for thirty-two years. He attended church regularly, read the Bible at home and at work, and talked about religion with co-workers. Ridgeway also frequently picked up prostitutes and had sex with them throughout the time period in which he was killing.

- The BTK killer, Dennis Rader, killed ten victims in and around Wichita, Kansas. He sent sixteen written communications to the news media over a thirty-year period, taunting the police and the public. He was married with two children, was a Boy Scout leader, served honorably in the U.S. Air Force, was employed as a local government official, and was president of his church.

***Myth: Serial killers are all white males.***

Contrary to popular belief, serial killers span all racial groups. There are white, African-American, Hispanic, and Asian serial killers. The racial diversification of serial killers generally mirrors that of the overall U.S. population.

- Charles Ng, a native of Hong Kong, China, killed numerous victims in Northern California, in concert with Robert Lake.
- Derrick Todd Lee, an African-American, killed at least six women in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.
- Coral Eugene Watts, an African-American, killed five victims in Michigan, fled the state to avoid detection, and murdered another 12 >>>





# Serial Murder

## Multi-Disciplinary Perspectives for Investigators

BEHAVIORAL ANALYSIS UNIT  
NATIONAL CENTER FOR THE ANALYSIS OF VIOLENT CRIME

View printable version (pdf) [www.fbi.gov](http://www.fbi.gov)  
(Reports and Publications)

victims in Texas, before being apprehended.

- Rafael Resendez-Ramirez, a native of Mexico, murdered nine people in Kentucky, Texas, and Illinois, before turning himself in.
- Rory Conde, a Colombian native, was responsible for six prostitute homicides in the Miami, Florida area.

### ***Myth: Serial killers are only motivated by sex.***

All serial murders are not sexually-based. There are many other motivations for serial murders including anger, thrill, financial gain, and attention seeking.

- In the Washington, D.C. area serial sniper case, John Allen Muhammad, a former U.S. Army Staff Sergeant, and Lee Boyd Malvo killed primarily for anger and thrill motivations. They were able to terrorize the greater Washington, D.C. metro area for three weeks, shooting 13 victims, killing 10 of them. They communicated with the police by leaving notes, and they attempted to extort money to stop the shootings. They are suspected in a number of other shootings in seven other states.

- Dr. Michael Swango, a former U.S. Marine, ambulance worker, and physician, was a health care

employee. He was convicted of only four murders in New York and Ohio, although he is suspected of having poisoned and killed 35 to 50 people throughout the United States and on the continent of Africa. Swango's motivation for the killings was intrinsic and never fully identified. Interestingly, Swango kept a scrap book filled with newspaper and magazine clippings about natural disasters, in which many people were killed.

- Paul Reid killed at least seven people during fast food restaurant robberies in Tennessee. After gaining control of the victims, he either stabbed or shot them. The motivation for the murders was primarily witness elimination. Reid's purpose in committing the robberies was financial gain, and some of the ill-gotten gains were used to purchase a car.

### ***Myth: All serial murderers travel and operate interstate.***

Most serial killers have very defined geographic areas of operation. They conduct their killings within comfort zones that are often defined by an anchor point (e.g. place of residence, employment, or residence of a relative). Serial murderers will, at times, spiral their activities outside of their comfort zone, when their confidence has grown through experience or to avoid detection. >>>

A graphic for the FBI 'Schedule a Visit' page. It features a large, stylized 'FBI' logo in the background. On the left, there is a blue and white fingerprint graphic. The text is arranged in a clean, modern layout with bold headings and bullet points.

## Schedule a Visit

**Learn how the Bureau operates in the field, at Headquarters, and within communities across the country.**

**The FBI Experience is a self-guided tour at FBI Headquarters in Washington, D.C. Open to the public, the tour features interactive multimedia exhibits, content, and artifacts—including a number of items from notable cases on display for the very first time.**

**Visitors will also gain a rare look inside the organization's investigative divisions, laboratory resources, professional occupations, and more.**

**[www.fbi.gov](http://www.fbi.gov) (contact-us)**

Very few serial murderers travel interstate to kill. The few serial killers who do travel interstate to kill fall into a few categories:

- Itinerant individuals who move from place to place.
- Homeless individuals who are transients.
- Individuals whose employment lends itself to interstate or transnational travel, such as truck drivers or those in military service.

The difference between these types of offenders and other serial murderers is the nature of their traveling lifestyle, which provides them with many zones of comfort in which to operate.

### ***Myth: Serial killers cannot stop killing.***

It has been widely believed that once serial killers start killing, they cannot stop. There are, however, some serial killers who stop murdering altogether before being caught. In these instances, there are events or circumstances in offenders' lives that inhibit them from pursuing more victims. These can include increased participation in family activities, sexual substitution, and other diversions.

- BTK killer, Dennis Rader, murdered ten victims from 1974 to 1991. He did not kill any other victims prior to being captured in 2005. During interviews conducted by law enforcement, Rader admitted to engaging in auto-erotic activities as a substitute for his killings.

- Jeffrey Gorton killed his first victim in 1986 and his next victim in 1991. He did not kill another victim and was captured in 2002. Gorton engaged in cross-dressing and masturbatory activities, as well as consensual sex with his wife in the interim.

### ***Myth: All Serial killers are insane or are evil geniuses.***

Another myth that exists is that serial killers have either a debilitating mental condition, or they are extremely clever and intelligent. As a group, serial killers suffer from a variety of personality disorders, including psychopathy, anti-social personality, and others. Most, however, are not adjudicated as insane under the law.

The media has created a number of fictional serial killer "geniuses", who outsmart law enforcement at every turn. Like other populations, however, serial killers range in intelligence from borderline to above average levels.

### ***Myth: Serial killers want to get caught.***

Offenders committing a crime for the first time are inexperienced. They gain experience and confidence with each new offense, eventually succeeding with few mistakes or problems.

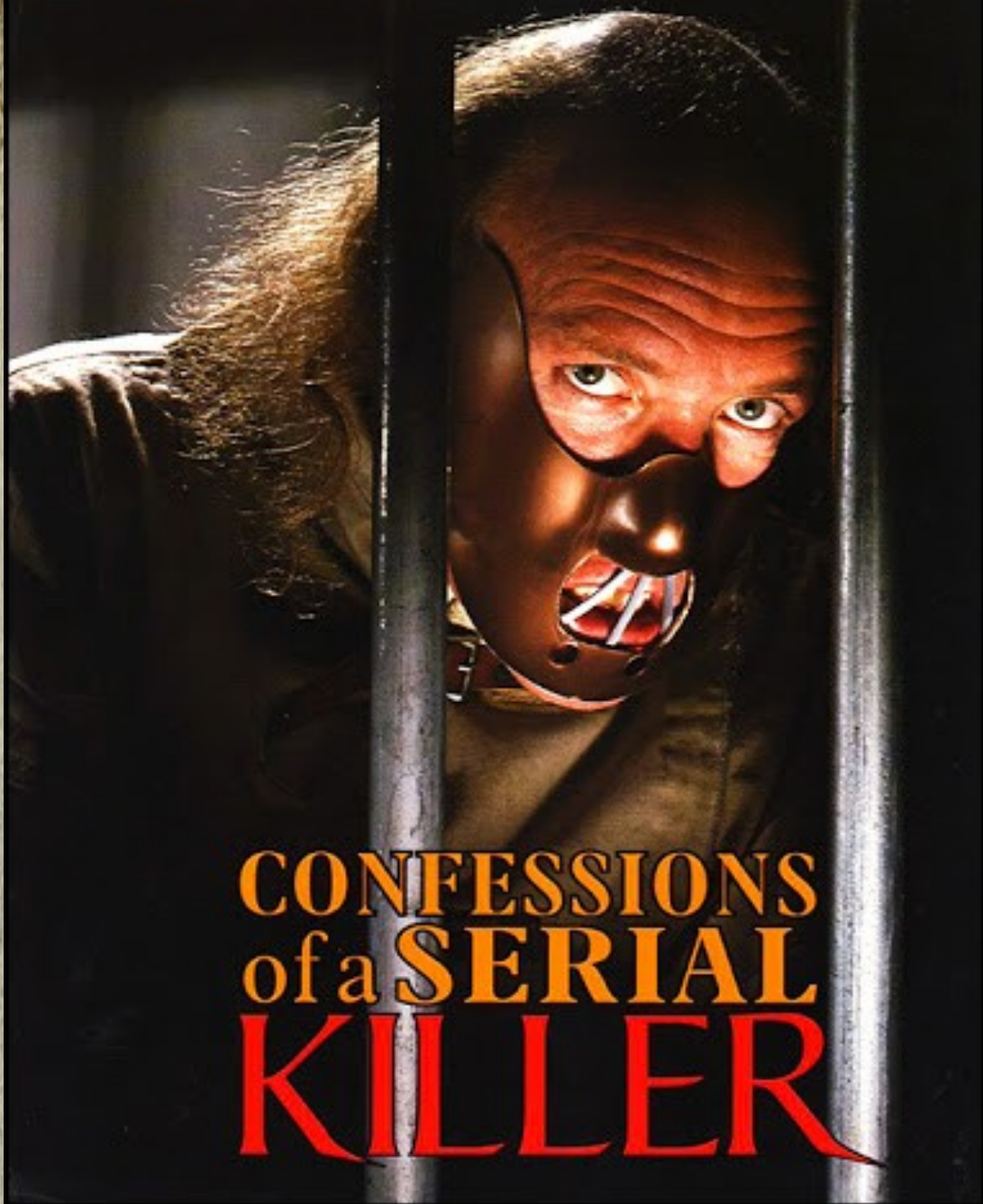
While most serial killers plan their offenses more thoroughly than other criminals, the learning curve is still very steep. They must select, target, approach, control, and dispose of their victims. The logistics involved in committing a murder and disposing of the body can become very complex, especially when there are multiple sites involved.

As serial killers continue to offend without being captured, they can become empowered, feeling they will never be identified. As the series continues, the killers may begin to take shortcuts when committing their crimes. This often causes the killers to take more chances, leading to identification by law enforcement. It is not that serial killers want to get caught; they feel that they *can't* get caught.

■ ■ ■



Step inside the mind of a killer.



“Confessions of a Serial Killer” is a 1985 American horror film directed by Mark Blair. The film details a serial killer (based on the true story of **Henry Lee Lucas**) who, after being arrested, confesses to the murders of over 200 women.

Even with no direct evidence linking Lucas to the crime scenes, he stunned authorities with his ability to sketch victims' portraits while citing brutal details of each attack.

You Tube official trailer (Netflix): <https://youtu.be/mWPbC9Fp-yk>

# The Brain on Trial

*It's not fair to ask jurors to vote on a death penalty*

By Dr. Robert A. Burton, [www.rburton.com](http://www.rburton.com)

In his book, *Intuition Pumps and Other Tools for Thinking*, the philosopher Daniel Dennett has revisited his 1991 observation that consciousness arises out of a selection process in the brain akin to what makes someone or something famous. Consciousness, he writes, can be seen as “fame in the brain, cerebral celebrity, a way in which some contents come to be more influential and memorable than the competition.”

Though initially controversial, Dennett’s idea of “fame in the brain” is a logical and inevitable outgrowth of the dramatic shift in how we presently think about thinking. A hundred years ago, Sigmund Freud and James Joyce were considered groundbreakers for their emphasis on the role of the unconscious in thought and action. Now we are regularly bombarded with new insights into how the unconscious guides our behavior. At the same time, neuroscience has largely debunked the idea of an autonomous self that has the final say in decisions; few science-savvy folks still believe there is a “ghost in the machine,” a little homunculus in the brain who is watching our perceptions or thinking our thoughts. Some philosophers even question whether the conscious mind plays any role in our thoughts. In short, present-day neuroscience has pulled the rug out from under the concept of “the rational man.”

Nevertheless, most if not all of us persist with the visceral sense that our thoughts arise out of reason and rational deliberation. Dennett’s “fame in the brain” metaphor is a wonderful antidote to this wishful thinking. It captures the neurophysiological reality that thoughts emerge from the unpredictable interaction of mindless neurons and synapses in what might be best described as a winner-take-all popularity contest.

To put this contest into practical terms, imagine being a child.

***“Thoughts emerge from the interaction of mindless neurons and synapses in what might be best described as a popularity contest.”***

Your mother offers you the choice between a baseball and a violin, neither of which you’ve seen before. You pick them both up, bang them, sniff them, run your fingers along the baseball seams and feel the patina of the violin. As you do, all of the biological and experiential factors that make each of us unique begin to fight for pre-eminence. Your genetic predispositions toward musicality, athleticism, perfect pitch, and fine-versus gross-motor coordination jockey for position. The innate “I like the feel of leather” tries to overpower the nearly equally insistent appreciation of the curved shape of the violin. Snippets of tunes you’ve heard your parents play, ditties from *Sesame Street*, and the sound of a home run that you’ve heard on the TV vie for your attention.

The list of competing influences is endless and impossible to accurately identify. Eventually, for no obvious reason, you choose the violin. Through practice and study, you gradually build up “violin” neural circuits. Meanwhile, the loser—the nascent baseball circuit—fails to develop and withers away from disuse. (The infant brain has twice the neurons of the adult brain; unused neurons are pruned away. These lost connections represent the paths not taken.)

If you are asked why you chose the violin, your answer is unlikely to be an accurate reflection of the unconscious competition that led to your choice. In effect, the decision happened to you. Your brain developed a “violin neural circuit” in the same way that fame makes some actors, musicians, and novelists superstars while others, for reasons that are never entirely clear, are relegated to obscurity.

The consequences of not knowing why you choose a violin over a baseball may not be far-reaching, but what about life-and-death decisions? >>>





Robert Burton is a neurologist and novelist who has turned his attentions to the complexities of belief and the brain.

Unlike the recent trend for focusing exclusively on religious belief and the neuroscience of mystical experience, Burton explores something much more essential – how do we have beliefs, any beliefs, at all?

His recent book, *On Being Certain*, tackles the neuropsychology of belief, certainty and conviction and has garnered some excellent reviews along the way, including one in this month's *Scientific American Mind*. *Source; "Five minutes with Robert Burton" [www.mindhacks.com](http://www.mindhacks.com)*

As a clinical neurologist, I've frequently been called on for expert testimony in medically complex court cases. The legal process has always seemed iffy at best; the reasoning behind a final verdict is often as obscure and arbitrary as why you might have chosen the baseball but ended up picking the violin. Asking a juror to be "objective," recognize and control innate biases and understand his or her lines of reasoning, flies in the face of the evolving science of decision-making. The harsh and scary reality is the scales of justice aren't tipped in the open courtroom; the real action occurs out of sight.

The internal machinations of a juror reflect how fame is generated in the brain. Let's take a look. Perhaps the most socially significant task that each of us, as citizens, might be asked to perform is to decide the fate of another. Imagine that you are a juror assigned to the sentencing phase of a person convicted of first-degree murder. The defendant is a 33-year-old woman who has confessed to shooting her boyfriend in the head, then stabbing him nearly 30 times before unsuccessfully trying to decapitate him with a butcher knife. Initially she tells police she hadn't been present that her boyfriend had been killed by "unknown intruders."

When she can offer no evidence to substantiate her alibi, she then confesses, arguing self-defense and that her boyfriend had submitted her to prior physical and mental abuse. On a national TV news show, she predicts that no jury will find her guilty, yet after a several-month trial, you find her guilty of first-degree murder.

It is now sentencing time. Your assignment is to

determine whether the crime warrants the death penalty or a life sentence without parole, or a lesser sentence with the possibility of parole.

Your first flurry of ideas and feelings will seem to bubble up unbidden: the nature of justice, the value of rehabilitation, the likelihood that "once violent, always violent," the societal value of harsh punishment acting as a general deterrent, even the nature of fairness. Your mind flits from this to that, as though sorting through an internally generated cornucopia of voices from the past (from parents to Sunday school teachers), cultural and personal beliefs, prior experiences and a flood of ill-defined feelings. Your so-called deliberation is anything but deliberate. Neither are the considerations of your fellow jurors.

A bottom-up look at neurons and their interconnections offers a good starting point for inferring how and why each of us is likely to draw different conclusions from the same information. The prevailing and most reasonable operating assumption is that the brain is a computational device—an extraordinarily complex calculator that adds up all the pluses and minuses at every level of function. Neurons fire or don't fire. Neural connections can be augmented (enhanced) or diminished (pruned). Genes can be up and down regulated, turned on or off. Neurotransmitters can be either excitatory or inhibitory. Receptors at synapses can be increased, decreased, excited, or inhibited. Add up all these pluses and minuses at every instant and you have our thoughts and actions.

To get a sense of how this computation takes place, let me offer an analogy from the world of >>>

artificial intelligence (AI). Using the biological neuron and its connections as the model, computational neuroscientists have been able to build artificial neural networks that can play chess, poker, and *Jeopardy*, read faces, recognize speech, and recommend books at Amazon.com. Rather than being a hard-wired, line-by-line traditional computer program, a neural network learns by making an initial prediction and then comparing this prediction with a desired result. The degree of accuracy of the prediction is then fed back into the neural network, where it updates the network.

With each repetition of this feedback-based decision refinement, the connections between the

components of the network are rebalanced (reweighted). With further repetitions, some connections become stronger while others are weakened. The prevailing decision builds on itself until it becomes the computational equivalent of a bias. The benefit is a greater consistency of prediction (the basis of learning); the downside is decreased flexibility and ability to change in the face of new evidence.

Change will have to overcome already heavily “weighted” circuitry. If an Amazon neural network correctly predicts that you will only buy crime novels, it will eventually stop suggesting other genres. If you always adopt a certain line of reasoning or fall back on the same supporting evidence, it will become increasingly difficult to entertain alternative possibilities. What begins as a fierce competition between possibilities ends up as hard-to-break habits.

This conceptual interface between incoming information and the final output—the “hidden layer” in AI jargon—isn’t a discrete brain structure. It conceptually resides within the connections between all neurons involved in any particular neural network. It is the interface between incoming sensory data and a final perception, thought, or action. A network can be relatively localized (as in a specialized visual module confined to a small area of occipital cortex), or can be widely distributed throughout the brain. With a sufficiently sensitive fMRI scan, we would see all these areas lighting up when Proust contemplated the madeleine.

It is in the hidden layer that all elements of biology (from genetic predispositions to momentary neurotransmitter fluctuations) and all past experience, whether remembered or long forgotten, compete to be heard. Each factor does its best to affect the weighting of a neural circuit. Using the fame analogy, it is where the votes are cast and tabulated and a winner is chosen. It is why your red is not necessarily my red, your idea of beauty isn’t mine, why eyewitnesses offer differing accounts of an accident, or why we don’t all put our money on the same roulette number.

Although we cannot directly visualize the hidden layer, the fMRI offers a low-resolution image of the “weighting” of various brain regions. In one

***“The harsh and scary reality is the scales of justice aren’t tipped in the open courtroom; the real action occurs out of sight.”***

recent study, potential jurors were asked to decide whether or not “mitigating circumstances” would affect the degree of punishment they would mete out in real-life murder cases. Expressions of sympathy for the murderer activated regions associated with thinking about moral conflict, which include the dorsomedial prefrontal cortex and the temporoparietal junction, while one’s in-

clination to mitigate a sentence were reflected in increased middle insula activity—a brain region considered to be most responsive to visceral feelings, such as empathy and “feeling the pain of others.” The degree of insular activation strongly correlated with the degree of sentence reduction put forth by each subject. The degree of activation of a brain region is analogous to the weighting of one aspect of this metaphoric hidden layer.

*“Imagine that you are a juror assigned to the sentencing phase of a person convicted of first-degree murder.”*

Unfortunately, the seductive power of brain imaging (the fMRI in particular) has prompted a popular mythology that complex mental states originate in discrete areas of brain. It is true that some areas of the brain have relatively specific functions, such as the auditory and visual areas that process primary sensory inputs. A primitive emotion, fear, is well-correlated with amygdala activity. But the more complex the mental state, the less likely we are to find discrete modules. >>>





The modern jury evolved out of the ancient custom of many ancient Germanic tribes whereby a group of men of good character was used to investigate crimes and judge the accused. The modern jury trial evolved out of a custom in the mid-12th century during the reign of Henry II whereby the jury was "self-informing." Jurors were recruited from the locality of the dispute and were expected to know the facts before coming to court. The source of juror knowledge could include first-hand knowledge, investigation, and less reliable sources such as rumour and hearsay. **Source Wikipedia**

Most brain areas perform multiple and not necessarily related functions.

For example, in the juror study, activation of the right temporoparietal junction cannot be given a single interpretation. The right temporoparietal junction is associated with "theory of mind"—an understanding of what another is thinking and experiencing—and with the sense of where "I" am located—the physical sense of being located within your body. (Stimulation of the right temporoparietal junctions can elicit typical out-of-body experiences.) Activation of this region could be seen as both representing votes for one's sense of self and for a sense of knowing what another might be thinking and feeling, as in the metaphor, "My heart goes out to her."

In a recent study in *Nature Neuroscience*, U.C. Berkeley neuroscientist Jack Gallant and colleagues offer a compelling insight into how abstract categories are processed. Volunteers were shown a number of video clips and asked to specifically look for either humans or vehicles (cars and trucks). When looking for humans, certain widely distributed brain areas were activated on the fMRI; when looking for vehicles, a different, but also widely distributed pattern emerged. The response was graded—a statistical rather than absolute difference determined by the degree of attention the volunteers gave to a particular category. Neither the concept of vehicle or human was correlated with the activation of a localized area of brain. (You can say goodbye to the once-hyped idea of specific Jennifer Aniston neurons.)

Going forward, the modular concept of specific brain regions for complex and abstract concepts is likely to be replaced by the idea of global brain interactions and interconnectedness (distributed representation).

Once we see abstract ideas and complex feelings—from a sense of agency to a sense of fairness—as emerging from large areas of interconnected brain, it is easier to see how our brains are composed of layer upon layer of silent jurors buffeted by the power struggle between personal genetics, prior experience, mood, personality, and even one's moment-to-moment shifts in attention. With this ever-present competition in mind, we can now return to the jury box.

Remember, you are to decide whether or not the defendant will be put to death. In determining what is fair, you will be influenced by your own tendencies toward legalistic thinking and the belief in following the letter of the law, your feelings as to whether or not we "deserve" what we get in life, how you balance off "fate" from personal responsibility, nature from nurture, compassion from retribution. Your own sense of agency will inform your decision as to how responsible we are for our behavior, while your innate risk-tolerance might sway the degree to which you feel it's safe to allow the defendant an opportunity for rehabilitation. What starts out as a question of "fairness" cannot be answered without addressing a number of interrelated issues, which in turn bring up other issues which feed back to each other like an enigmatic >>>

Escher drawing. As we redirect our attention from one concept to another, our global circuitry is constantly recalibrating.

A strong desire for traditional values, a relative lack of empathy, a low degree of optimism in the rehabilitation of criminals, a strong sense of religiosity and adherence to its teachings (as in “an eye for an eye”) might collectively make one favor a death sentence. At least this is how we presently tend to use folk psychology to explain verdicts. But this correlation isn’t the same as prediction. Forgotten childhood slights, a recently seen horror movie, a chance overhead conversation, a change in the weather—circumstances are always affecting how we cast our ballots.

*“Maybe the murderer reminds you of a high school classmate who was abused by a drunken father.”*

It is easy to imagine situations in which the same degree of expression of the same traits might result in voting against the death penalty. Perhaps your lack of empathy is greater for the victim than the murderer. Maybe the murderer reminds you of a high school classmate who was abused by a drunken father while the victim is subliminally reminiscent of a high school bully that you have long since forgotten. Though you know better, you might actually experience more empathy for the murderer than the victim. Or your lack of empathy creates a personal distaste for the victim’s family who are demanding the death penalty.

So what decision would you make in the above-mentioned sentencing trial?

What decision do you think was reached? As you have probably guessed, my hypothetical murder case is actually the recent Jodi Arias trial, whose jurors were deadlocked on the death penalty, 8 to 4. Recent interviews with some of the jurors offered a look behind the curtains of their decisions. One pro-death penalty juror said Arias was lying and showed no remorse; this juror felt the jury had let down the victim’s family by not

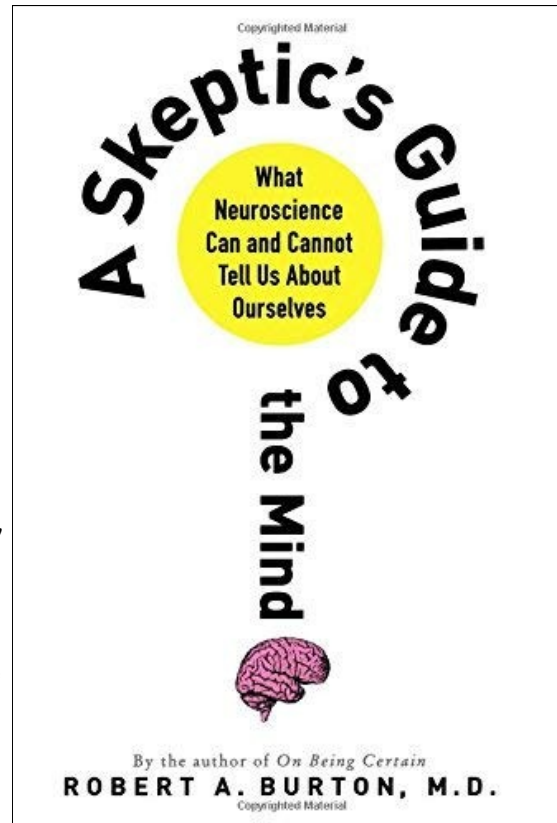
reaching a unanimous decision for the death penalty. Another juror justified the death sentence by “carefully weighing the aggravating and mitigating factors, the planning, the cover-up, the continual lying, and the mechanism of death.” The jury foreman, who voted against the death penalty, felt the defendant had been mentally and physically abused, and further that no one should be put to death “for being stupid.” He argued the jury system is flawed because it was ultimately unfair to ask jurors to determine what is fair. I agree.

Despite wishful thinking, and a conventional wisdom that states we are capable of conscious and complex decision-making, we are at the mercy of opaque internal forces. The judicial system must continue to wrestle with this basic tenet of modern neurophysiology: The

most irrefutable evidence will not necessarily lead to a single line of reasoning in jurors and a uniform verdict. Progress will depend on realizing the underlying facts of our decisions are not in evidence.

■ ■ ■

This article was first published on the website of Nautilus, [www.nautil.us](http://www.nautil.us)



What if what we consider to be reason-based, deliberative judgment is really the product of involuntary mental sensations? Dr. R. Burton takes a close look at the key false assumptions that permeate the field of cognitive science and offers a new way of exploring how our brains generate thought. [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)





# Dr. Marc Wittmann

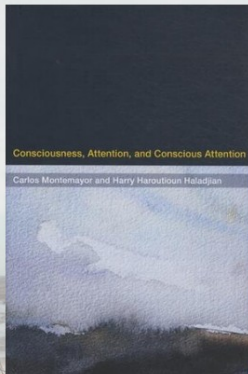
How do we perceive time? How is the subjective experience of time related to cognition, emotion, and body states?

Dr. Marc Wittmann, Ph.D., is a research fellow at the Institute for Frontier Areas in Psychology and Mental Health in Freiburg.

In his books "Felt Time: The Psychology of How We Perceive Time" and "Altered States of Consciousness: Experiences Out of Time and Self" he explains the riddle of subjective time from why time speeds up as we grow older to the connection between time and consciousness.

Exploring the "error signal" Dr. Wittmann points to recent research that connects time to consciousness.

<https://sites.google.com/site/webmarcwittmann/>



**In this book, Carlos Montemayor and Harry Haladjian offer new insights and proposals about how best to understand and study the relationship between consciousness and attention by examining their functional aspects.**

**Montemayor and Haladjian's goal is to help unify the study of consciousness and attention across the disciplines. A focused examination of conscious attention will, they believe, enable theoretical progress that will further our understanding of the human mind.**

[www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)



# Dr. Brian A. Sharpless

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Sharpless has published over 30 articles and chapters on common and lesser-known disorders, psychodynamic therapy, cognitive-behavioral therapy, professional issues, and the history/philosophy of clinical psychology.

His first book, "Sleep Paralysis: Historical Psychological, and Medical Perspectives" co-authored with Dr. Karl Doghramji, was recently released by Oxford University Press. His first edited book, "Unusual and Rare Psychological Disorders", is forthcoming. Dr. Sharpless has presented his work at national and international professional conferences and been interviewed for various TV, radio, and print outlets (e.g. National Geographic, Huffington Post, New York Magazine, the BBC).

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# Violence Through an Artificial Created Worldview

By Lynn Kathleen Russell, [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

**W**e are outraged and saddened by the cruelty and bloodshed happening around the world. Aside from record numbers of people fleeing their home countries, there is exceptional aggression on our streets and in our homes. While violence has been a part of human existence for centuries, it's hard to know if it is getting worse, or are we just more aware of it? Does that awareness have the effect of creating more brutality? What are the underlying causes of extreme viciousness? Can we grab hold of this juggernaut and get it under control?

Each one of us strives to have our basic needs met; enough food to keep us healthy; decent shelter to protect us from the elements; appropriate and suitable clothing; and a sense of belonging. Typically, if these needs are met, it's unusual for anyone to lash out to strangers in anger. When we perceive that others want to do us harm or deprive us of the necessities of life that we attack, it's rare for a person to intentionally go out of his or her way to make another person angry. That would be completely illogical.

Fear plays a huge role when it comes to hostility. It's one of the biggest motivators for negative actions. Our instinct toward perceived danger is fight or flight. First, we stand our ground and fight. If that doesn't work or isn't possible, then we flee. Fear is an essential emotion that we need for our survival. It tells us to protect ourselves against potential harm and prepares us for action. However, today we have been taught to entertain unnecessary fear. Now it follows us around, biting at our heels, while we think of how to deal with it.

## Fear as a tool

Historically, churches offered healthy slabs of guilt and the retribution that followed if their dictates were not obeyed. This daily dose of dread was to teach us morality. Although the churches used it as a means of power and control, it's unlikely that this was part of the original intent. After all, Paul taught the concept that Jesus died for our sins to the churches in his letters. Perhaps it was initially included in the first Nicaea Council because they believed it, and the ensuing

control was a side effect that was later recognized and used.

Then again, not all fear came from churches. For many centuries it was a tool in raising children. Spankings and physical punishment were in common

usage up to the mid-1970s. Plus, we use imprisonment and severe punishment on those who 'sinned.' And so the logical line of thought in this is that our anxieties have been tools for power and control in many areas of our lives.

Outrage has become a fabric of our society. Women are furious for the eons of ongoing abuse they have suffered as a species. Men feel threatened and angry because liberated women usurp their traditional roles in society. Have-not nations are enraged because other countries of the world control their resources without returning the gains to them while turning their backs on their poverty and desperation. And, the Middle and Near East have been angry for centuries. It has become built into their society as they seek revenge for the ills others have done. Retribution is taught to children along with the A, B, C's. >>>





## Reversed recession

We like to think of ourselves as independent thinkers that can make our own decisions. But closer examination shows us this is only partly true. The world before television reveals how innocent we were. We were in the process of stepping out from the control of the churches and leaving the farm for a prosperous life in factories. The only commercials were on the radio and contained no subliminal psychology to manipulate us. This situation remained true for the first ten years of televisions in our homes. The advertisements were simply information based on available products.

There is a bit of history to know here. While the Second World War brought us out of the depression of the 1930s, afterward, there was a slump in the economy in the early 1950s. Although it wasn't serious, people panicked as the memory of the depression was still too fresh. Until that time, goods from clothing to cars were made to last. The realization of the high quality the products we were using during that period being the problem, culminated in several business people sticking their heads together. It seemed that products that lasted didn't need replacing and thus were causing a stagnation in the economy. Planned obsolescence was the solution. Products are now intentionally made to break down eventually and demands replacement. This 'plan' took capitalism to a whole new level of greed!

Commercials have become insidious — our instinctual fear has become a tool. Ad companies know more about us than we do ourselves. They have our habits, routines, and instincts to the point of being science. They can predict our reactions to specific stimuli and know precisely what motivates us. Sadly, the best one is fear.

Built into almost all commercials is an element of apprehension. It goes like this. First, efforts go into convincing us that we lack something significant. Once that is established, a sense of dread is applied by what is convincing us that without it, severe consequences will result.

Those consequences can be anything from being shunned by society to losing our jobs. That's when the cowboy with the white hat steps in to save us. They are here to rescue the 'damsel in distress' from that threat and make everything right again, but only if we buy their products. This technique works so well that we need to be diligent or say goodbye to independent thought.

## A political game?

In recent years, that same manipulation has been used by politicians to convince us to vote for them. First, they instill fear into what's coming in our lives. They make the situation sound dire, whether it is or not. They build on that until we are significantly scared. That's when they jump in there with a rescue, never fear, they alone will save us. No other person or party can do as great a job as they can. Sadly, this is the most effective at receiving our votes.

Another tactic is to divide and conquer. That scenario goes something like this; "Those guys over there are causing distressing problems!" (induce false fear) "But no worries, we are here to fix it and stop that

threat." Does that sound familiar? This thinking could be behind the Brexit, Donald Trump, and far-right ideology. Trump's base is loyal because he alone is going to save them. How does this relate to violence? The present level of anxiety has shot up; it has turned people against one another, and seems to divide nations.

## The effect of an economic insecurity

Despite all this, the mental power of today's young people is beyond fantastic. They are standing up everywhere and demand action on significant world issues. They are far more open to people's differences than ever before. Today's youth have moved beyond fear and are genuinely alarmed for their future and where to from here. They worry that robotics and AI (Artificial Intelligence) are taking over the jobs of the future. They see their parents fear, real or manipulated, and are driven to change it. >>>

# *“Did Christianity invented and elaborated upon the concept of the Devil and hell?”*

In the past, employers hired young people straight out of school because they started at beginner's salary, were enthusiastic, and had fresh ideas. Not anymore. Employers complain about the "entitlement" attitude, or that they don't have the needed training. Those fortunate enough to find jobs get paid minimum wages, as are unskilled laborers. It is sad to see that some people need two or three jobs to keep up with the cost of living. How are these parents supposed to be at home for their children? They usually live in an impoverished part of town, and the absent parent adds to the violence of youth.

These facts have run from fear to anger to despair throughout the world. Many feel the world has turned its back on them and see limited options to their futures. In the wealthier nations, the alternatives are addictions to computer games, drugs, and gangs. Their desperation has turned to deep resentment and fury. Our youth are now being handed a polluted world for their future. At the same time, big-business refuses to listen to their pleas.

Throughout the world, there is an attitude and expectations toward violence that was absent before the 1980s. We have become immune to violence. At one time, the average person's stomach became queasy at the sight of blood or human suffering. Aside from the above, embedded in brutality are other elements. Our games, movies, and entertainment are classified as dull if it isn't there.

The 1970s saw an upsurge of violent movies that told it like it is. They became so realistic there was nothing left to the imagination. Films with no gore became challenging to find. In the last twenty years, we are beginning to see family-friendly films come into the theaters. But don't get too comfy, because they have just found a new outlet in computer games.

The level of poverty in the world is astronomical, and homelessness is growing. We see glimpses of

the slums in South Africa and India that beyond the understanding of many. How did it get like this? Why isn't anyone doing anything to help them? What's wrong with their government to allow this? We are shocked to learn places in the world where people still live in caves with no water, no electricity, and the laundry is done at the river. Even affluent Western nations have places where slum landlords flourish.

Every human being on the planet needs to feel they are significant in some way. They may not be looking for fame and fortune, but they do want to matter. When forced to live in poverty or harsh conditions, we become resentful and wish to lash out at the perceived injustice.

Wealthy nations have done what they have done everywhere in the world; they have taken the resources and left without even a thank you note. They have dictated to the developing world how to run things and shown total disrespect for the religions of those nations. And, to put the

cherry on the cake of destruction, the corruption and greed of their governments are staggering.

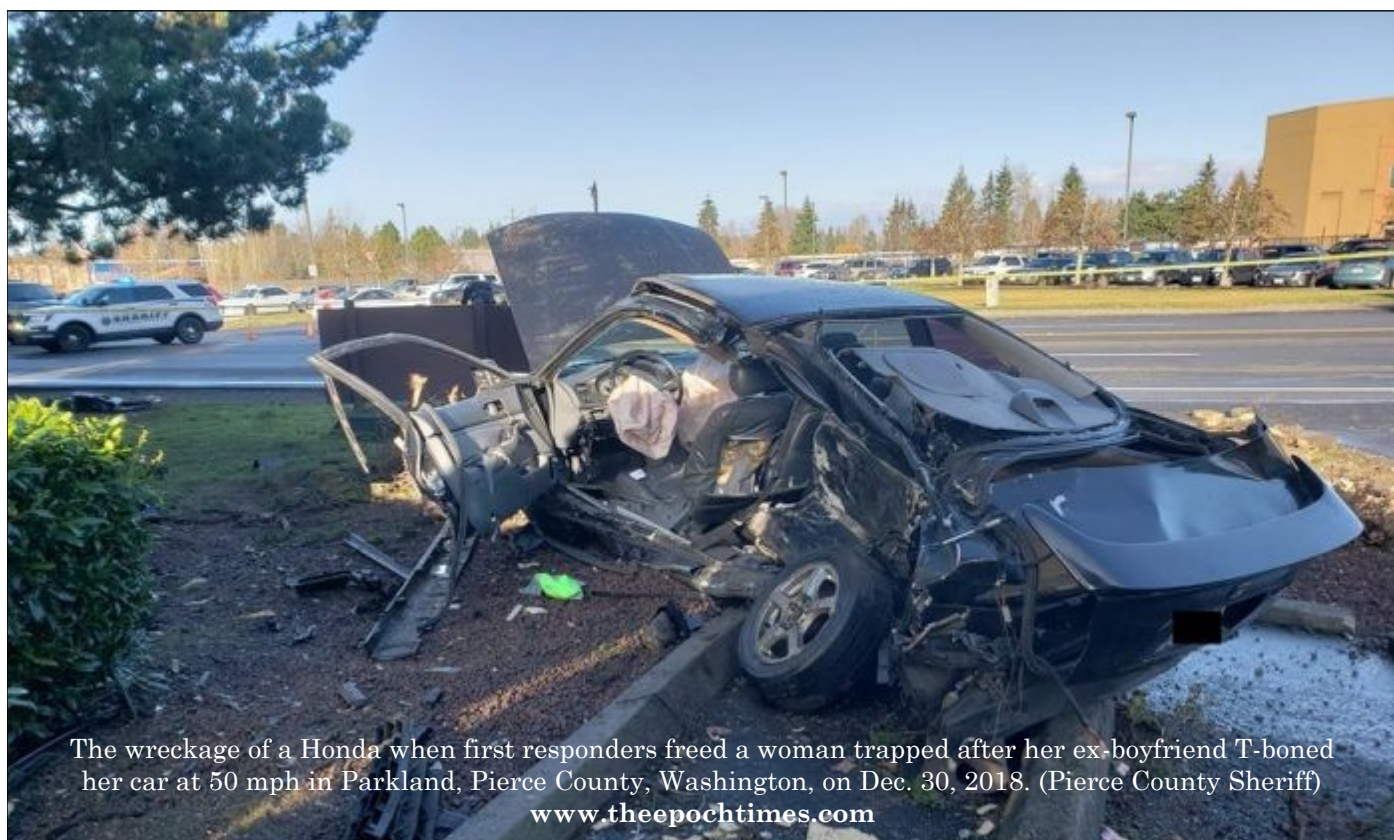
## ***“The Middle East did not suddenly decide to be angry and attack other countries.”***

### **How did people get this way?**

Contrary to the norm, some individuals do perpetrate horrendous cruelty and violence on others with no apparent cause. It's not a surprise to learn this person either suffers from mental illness or is raised with aggressive and brutal treatment. Children do not do as we say; they do as we do. But what of those who had no cruelty in their lives. What pushes these people beyond the norm and into violence?

There is no such thing as a baby being born as “a bad seed”. The only place where bad seed babies exist is in movies and our imaginations. Children need the proper conditions, basic personality type, and mental outlook to take things to another level. Most often, this is because of untreated mental illness. Governments have closed a high number of psychiatric hospitals because, in the short term, they don't bring in revenue. They leave it to the mentally ill to self-regulate.▶▶▶





The wreckage of a Honda when first responders freed a woman trapped after her ex-boyfriend T-boned her car at 50 mph in Parkland, Pierce County, Washington, on Dec. 30, 2018. (Pierce County Sheriff) [www.theepochtimes.com](http://www.theepochtimes.com)

We have seen that even in non-abusive, caring families, children turn to violence. While the parents may not brutalize the kids, they could have abdicated their role as the leader. Perhaps they bailed the child out of their messes, thus not allowing them to take responsibility for their actions. In other cases, it's hard to tell, who the parent is, and who the child is. It began when the parent gave in to a two-year-old's temper or the three-year-old's constant hounding. Thus, teaching the child that's what they need to do to get what they truly want to achieve. As the child grew, it got worse until the child has become a tyrant, and the parents are wondering what they did wrong.

An aside here, parents aren't always the bad guys. As I mentioned earlier, up until the 1970s, spanking was the primary method of child-rearing. Then, overnight, it was classified as child abuse and became against the law. When this was all the parents knew, they had no idea how to get their children to behave without physical punishment. Suddenly, parents had no concept of how to raise their children.

### **Reversed evolution**

Human beings are pack animals that instinctively need a leader, someone who establishes the responsibilities and consequences of the group.

When the leader is weak, another member of the group will take over. In the case of the home, if the parents are not the leaders, then one or more of the children will take over. Problems arise due to the fact children do not possess enough life experience to know what the outcome of their choices will be, plus kids tend to be little dictators and demand to have things their way.

Then the parents try to take back control; they have a distressing war right in their own homes. As children grow, the battle is brought into a society that does not give in to their demands.

As kids age, three other elements come into the picture; the teen developmental phase, male testosterone, and the adrenalin rush. During their teen years and into their early adulthood, they become completely irrational. This stage of life is the most dangerous for them as they will do anything to fit in. Any parent who thinks they have influence over their children at this stage is delusional. If friends reject a teen, it can be a disaster for them and can stay with them for many years.

When they are part of 'the crowd', they are willing to do things that, under normal circumstances, never would consider doing. This behavior includes stealing, vandalism, drugs, and escalating violence. >>>

While females can be violent, at least they don't have to go through the rutting phase. That's when males position themselves in their group. Those with quiet personalities are happy to sit back and allow the alpha male to take the lead. The problem is that they may become victims of that process and willing to kill to stay involved. It may begin with teasing but gradually gets stronger and stronger until it turns to abuse and cruelty.

### **The power of the rush**

One day, when I was a counselor, I asked a fellow in his late teens why he vandalized cars, did he not think he might get caught? He said it didn't matter if he and his friends got caught because that was a part of the game. He knew they were doing something wrong, and that was the point; it was the adrenalin rush they were after. Without danger, it wouldn't be the same.

Power is like money, when is enough, enough? Bigger, better, best is the cry of those locked into gaining power and control. The same is true for violence. There is a sense of power and control, and a significant adrenalin rush in cruelty. The perpetrator feels invincible because they have the power of life and death over others. It may begin by pulling the wings off butterflies, but like any addiction, that is never enough. The violence escalates to abusing animals, then to children, and eventually to adults. Then, when that isn't enough, it can entail torture to satisfy the cravings.

We may strive to watch for the signs of abuse when they begin, but when it involves whole countries, we have less influence. Our response to this is returning the aggression and violence.

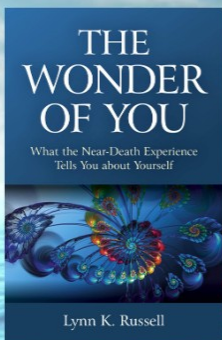
These tactics will never work. An eye for an eye only leads to an endless circle of pain and sorrow. We need to understand that the harder we push against other's philosophy, the harder they will push back in return. We need to stop with the war, and reach out by building roads, bring in electricity, and running water. Pay attention! This is precisely what Russia and China are doing and, in the process, are gaining more world powers.

People with schizophrenia who have stopped taking their medications can sometimes spiral into bizarre behavior that often leads to extreme violence. In these cases, their actions are beyond their control, and once they are hospitalized and stabilized, they can function well in society. It's an important question, why they stop taking their medications that baffle others. People with bipolar disease are known to also go off their meds, and then they too will spiral out of control.

Every abuser will find a way of rationalizing their treatment of victims. They may convince themselves that their prey enjoys the abuse, asked for it, or deserve it for some obscure reason the rest of us cannot fathom. In some cases, there's a mental leap that made. As if a switch has turned off, the perpetrator stops seeing the victim as genuinely human. Sure, they look like humans, but in the abuser's mind, they don't count, they are no better than rats in the sewers. Thus, any torture, or savagery is acceptable.

■ ■ ■

Lynn Russell was a family counselor for thirty years, with additional specialized training in sexual abuse of children. However, she is not a psychologist and personally owns the information shared here.



## **What is the message from the beyond?**

The author Lynn Kathleen Russell has researched this question scientifically.

After researching over 2000 cases of near-death experiences Lynn K. Russell offers you the in depth understandings what lies beyond the realms we have yet to discover.

Through her research and personal spiritual journey, she discovered deeply hidden messages about the world we live in and the paths we all travel on.

**[www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)**



## What is a cold case?

A cold case is a crime, or suspected crime, that has not yet been fully resolved and is not the subject of a recent criminal investigation, but for which new information could emerge from new witness testimony, re-examined archives, new or retained material evidence, as well as fresh activities of the suspect.



## How many cold cases are there?

More than 250,000 cold cases have accumulated since 1980. In 1965, US detectives routinely cleared nearly 90% of murder cases. Today, on average, 40% of homicides go unsolved, according to the FBI Uniform Crime Report.

## Do crimes expire?

No Statutes of Limitations for Some Crimes. Some crimes have no statutes of limitations. If the punishment for a crime is eight years or more in prison, the statute of limitations runs out in six years, and other offenses punishable by prison time have a statute that expires in three years.

## What is the oldest cold case?

The case, well known in the Chicago area, was widely reported as the oldest cold case murder in the United States to be solved when Jack McCullough, who under his former name John Tessier had been a neighbor of the Ridulph family, was wrongly convicted for her murder in September 2012.

## Can citizens help solve cold cases?

As a purely volunteer organization, every member of Cold Case Investigative Research Institute is truly committed to helping solve cold case crimes in any way they can. Members devote their time, effort, knowledge and skills to contribute towards solving heinous crimes like kidnapping, missing persons, and homicide.

**Contact the FBI: [www.fbi.gov/contact-us](http://www.fbi.gov/contact-us)**

# Inside the Mind of Serial Killer Dennis Rader, AKA BTK

## *Insights from my correspondence with him*

By Professor Scott A. Bonn Ph.D, [www.docbonn.com](http://www.docbonn.com)

**D**ennis Rader, the serial killer better known by his self-assigned pseudonym of “Bind, Torture, Kill” (BTK), murdered 10 people, including men, women, and children, between 1974 and 1991. He loved to play a game of “catch me if you can” with authorities and he sent them numerous taunting letters. He avoided detection and capture until 2005 when he was finally tripped up by his own egomania and narcissism.

Rader is back in the headlines today due to the publication of the best-selling book written by his daughter, Kerri Rawson. Kerri’s book is powerful and enlightening. It reveals how, in between murders, Rader lived a remarkably normal looking life with a wife and two children. He was perceived by acquaintances to be a pillar in his Wichita, Kansas, community.

Inwardly, however, Rader was secretly satisfying his sexual needs and delaying his compulsion to kill for months and even years at a time by engaging in autoerotic fantasies until the need to commit murder became overwhelming once again. Now in prison and serving 10 life sentences in isolation, he remains as unrepentant as ever.

I corresponded extensively with Rader between 2011 and 2013 for my own book on the public’s fascination with serial killers. Prior to contacting him, it occurred to me that he virtually personifies the narcissistic predator that is obsessed with his own criminal celebrity status. I believed that Rader would agree to correspond with me if I appealed to his ego and told him that I wanted to learn from him. I was not disappointed, as he promptly wrote back to me.

When he writes about his life in prison, he does so in the first person. When he describes the past actions of his alter ego BTK, it is in the third person. His letters are often lengthy and always hand-written in small print because he is not allowed access to a computer or typewriter. Rader customizes and personalizes his prison stationery using colored pencils.



Prof. Bonn's book "Why We Love Serial Killers: The Curious Appeal of the World's Most Savage Murderers" is on the public's fascination with serial killers in which he offers insights into the minds of infamous predators and explains how and why serial killers are often transformed into ghoulish popular culture celebrities by the media. [www.skyhorsepublishing.com](http://www.skyhorsepublishing.com)

He has created letterhead for himself in the shape of a cave using his initials DLR. The cave drawing appears on the first page of each letter from him and it always contains a little nature scene that changes seasonally, so it might be a jolly snowman in the winter and a bright sun overlooking playful animals or flowers in the summer.

Interestingly, there are never people in his drawings. He sometimes sent me original poetry about things he enjoys such as butterflies and springtime. Rader and I played chess by sending each other one move at a time, back-and-forth, through the mail. His signature (or more accurately his trademark) at the end of each letter is his first name, Dennis, drawn in the shape and form of a shark with imposing teeth...

The aspect of his complex antisocial personality that was most apparent to me throughout our correspondence is his extreme narcissism. It is manifested in numerous ways. For example, Rader admits that he eagerly contributed to the social construction of his own gruesome public identity when he instructed his pursuers to call him “Bind, Torture, Kill” in October 1974. >>>





He concluded his first letter to authorities with the postscript: *P.S. Since sex criminals do not change their M.O. or by nature cannot do so, I will not change mine. The code word for me will be... Bind them, torture them, kill them, B.T.K., you see he's at it again. They will be on the next victim.*

Following his seventh murder, Rader sent a letter to authorities where he asked, "How many do I have to kill before I get a name in the paper or some national recognition?" This statement indicates just how much he craved attention for himself. He was also fully aware of society's fascination with the macabre, given the notoriety attained by other serial killers. Rader has said that he knew the public would be riveted by his crimes and would demand to know his motivations. Therefore, he deliberately appealed to society's appetite for murder. Through his taunting letters and clues, Rader was speaking directly to his public audience.

Another indication of his narcissism is that he rejects the classification of serial killer for himself. He sees it as too limiting to encompass the many accomplishments of BTK. Rader explained to me that unlike most serial killers who target a particular type of victim such as a young, female prostitute, BTK killed men, women, and children with equal pleasure and disdain. He reasons that no one in society could feel safe while he was on the loose because, literally, anyone could become his next victim.

Rader believes that his BTK alter ego was more like an armed terrorist (such as Osama bin Laden) than a serial killer. He also fancies himself a natural born predator who is no more responsible for killing than a venomous snake or a

shark (his prison signature). In fact, he attempts to neutralize any responsibility for his murders by claiming that he was compelled to kill by something he calls "Factor X"—that is, an insatiable and undeniable urge to kill that he does not comprehend. Rader is completely unrepentant today and has no remorse or regrets, except for having been caught.

Rader's narcissism is also manifested in his musings about the cooling off period between his murders. Unlike most serial killers, BTK had a reign of terror that lasted an unusually long time. He started killing in 1974 when he was 29 and was planning another murder at the time of his arrest in 2005 when he was 59. What is particularly unusual for a serial killer was the amount of time that passed between his crimes. As the late FBI profiler Roy Hazelwood said, "Most serial killers kill far more frequently than he did."

Rader used autoerotic fantasy and masturbation aided by his "mother lode" of trophies from his victims to relive his crimes and satisfy his sexual cravings in between murders. As a result of his autoerotic fantasy life, the length of time or cooling off period between BTK's murders was highly variable and generally much longer than most other serial killers. Incredibly, Rader takes credit for his fantasy rituals and even claims that they saved lives. He explained to me that he likely would have killed more people if he had not discovered a way to satisfy his urges. In one of his letters to authorities he wrote: *I can't stop it so, the monster goes on, and hurt me as well as society. Society can be thankful that there are ways for people like me to relieve myself at time by day dreams of some victims being torture and being mine. >>>*





(left) **Dennis Rader Mugshot** Source: Public Domain, (middle) **The mask Dennis Rader used while killing one of his victims, Wichita, Kansas. August 18, 2005** Photo credit: Bo Rader-Pool/Getty Images, (right) **Dennis Rader in 2005 after being sentenced to 10 life sentences** Source: [www.dailymail.co.uk](http://www.dailymail.co.uk)

In his psychopathic delusions, Rader seems to believe that society owes him a debt of gratitude for not killing more frequently than he did. Such twisted reasoning almost defies comprehension.

My correspondence with Rader provided new insights into the significance of the cooling off period between his murders. It is commonly assumed that the cooling off period is a time of de-escalation of arousal for a serial killer—almost like a time-out from murder—in which they return to their normal everyday routines. Stated differently, the cooling off period is often compared to coming down from a narcotic high or basking in the glow following sex.

However, Rader indicates that for him the cooling off period was actually a time of trolling for the next perfect victim combined with intensive

autoerotic fantasy as he followed his intended future prey and planned his abduction strategy. For BTK, the so-called cooling off period was anything but that as he got to know the routines and habits of his intended victim and became increasingly aroused and compelled to kill.

In that regard, it was more like a courting ritual or foreplay for BTK as he got to know his intended prey and fantasized about what he would do once they were alone together. Although this new perspective on the cooling off period may not apply to all serial killers, it certainly contributes to our understanding of the pathology of BTK.

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Professor Bonn's article was original published on his blog of Psychology Today, [www.psychologytoday.com](http://www.psychologytoday.com)

**It's no secret that we are both repulsed and seduced by serial killers.**

But why is this so? Could it be that we have a gruesome fascination with serial killers for the same reasons we might morbidly stare at a catastrophic automobile accident? Or is it something more shocking and complex?

In his book "Why We Love Serial Killers", Dr. Scott Bonn, an expert in criminology, explains why while exploring our powerful appetite for the macabre.

[www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)





**S**cott Bonn, Ph.D., is a criminologist, professor, TV news commentator, public speaker and author of the best-selling popular culture book “Why We Love Serial Killers: The Curious Appeal of the World’s Most Savage Murderers.”.

He frequently provides expert commentary and analysis for the major news media and he has appeared in a number of high-profile crime TV shows and documentaries on A&E, Discovery Network, Oxygen, Investigation Discovery and Travel Channel. Dr. Bonn also authored the critically acclaimed sociology book *Mass Deception: Moral Panic and the U.S. War on Iraq*. His recent fact-based crime novel, *Evil Guardian*, was inspired by his correspondence with real-life serial killers David Berkowitz (Son of Sam) and Dennis Rader (Bind, Torture, Kill).

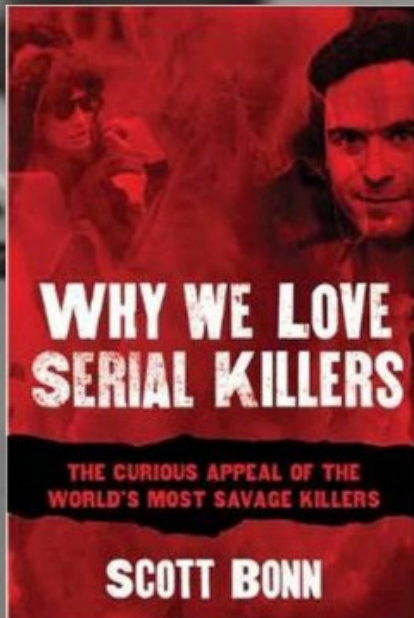
Dr. Bonn is an expert on criminal motivations and behavior and is highly regarded for answering the puzzling question of “why the perpetrator did it” in complex criminal cases. He examines many types of criminal activity, including serial murder, mass murder, sexual assault, terrorism, organized crime and white collar crime in his *Psychology Today* blog titled “Wicked Deeds” that has been read more than eight million times around the world. Dr. Bonn resides in Las Vegas, NV, with his wife and son.

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# Murderers & Mentally Disturbed; What Got Into Them?

In 2013 a handbook for the classification of mental disorders (DSM-5) was published what, compared to the fourth edition, defines even more mental disorders. It is striking to see that various disorders, with regard to the symptoms, show a considerable overlapping. What is the connecting factor? What is the joint source? Does it lie in the human inner world or in its outer world?

Dr. Susan B. Martinez advocates the spiritistic vision: "Psychological health care will continue to fail as long as the 'mind' factor is neglected." >>>



# Murderers & Mentally Disturbed; What Got Into Them?

By Niels Brummelman, [www. paravisiemagazine.nl](http://www.paravisiemagazine.nl)

**H**ave you noticed how often people, who have committed horrific crimes, blame the 'voices in their head'? The 24-year-old Tristan van der Vlis, for example, who shot six people in a shopping mall in Alphen aan den Rijn (the Netherlands) with a rifle on 9 April 2011, is known to have heard voices. Moreover, he was fascinated by the world of the dead. He sought contact with it through an Ouija board and a tape recorder, and was said to be regularly "touched" by ghosts. Tristan received the label 'schizophrenic' from mental health care providers. This is a logical line of thought according to DSM-5 because schizophrenics suffer from delusions, hallucinations and often hear voices. But what if we are going to take the stories of so-called 'mentally ill' seriously? Could schizophrenia be another word for what used to be called 'ordinary' possession?

## It is like 'AS IF'...

Let's face it: it was relatively recent that within the Dutch mental health care the idea triumphed that mental disorders are connected with the human inner self. Thousands and thousands of years have passed in which shamans and medicine men manipulated the supernatural powers in order to heal diseases caused by ghosts. Certain expressions are still referring to it. For example: "What possessed me to ...?", "Something got into me", "She is beside herself", "He is out of his mind" and "What came over me?"

Of course, healthcare, based on the ideas of Enlightenment and materialism, has brought us a great deal of good. But, now that healthcare costs are rising and psychological problems often turn out to be untreatable, it is time for a new balance. Perhaps the words of the patients themselves can show us the way?

In her book "Field Guide To The Spirit World", Susan B. Martinez gives examples. For example in the case of a bipolar mood disorder: "It was as if there were demons in me that forced me to do these crazy things." In the obsessive-compulsive disorder: "It felt as if I had completely lost control of my thoughts."

The list of examples is endless, and at the very least it is striking that the therapists themselves also make such 'AS IF' comparisons. In the dissociative or multiple personality disorder: "It was

as if we were really dealing with several completely different personalities. And in the case of serial killer Ted Bundy, a therapist noted: "It was as if an outside force had come to live in his psyche. And what about the term MENTAL healthcare itself?!"

When we recognize that man is more than his brain and instead a spirit or a soul in a body, many new sources of enrichment (such as an inspired talent) and deterioration open up. As the Dutch

psychic Gijsbert van der Zeeuw once wrote in his book "Wanen of Geesten" (Delusions of Ghosts): 'Man finds himself on earth like a deep-sea diver with the most repulsive forms around him. He is protected by his diving suit. But be aware if there is a leak.'

## Primary trauma & overpowering mother

Opinions vary widely about the causes of such leaks, or holes, in the protection of our natural energy. For example, Jozef Rulof, a Dutch author who was known as a psychic and trance medium, claimed that such people are vulnerable, because they do not yet feel love for life itself and are attuned to those realities that are lower in vibration than the classical reality. In practice, this means that the vast majority of the world >>>



"Man finds himself on earth as a deep-sea diver with the most repulsive life forms around him"

population is vulnerable to 'astral influence'. But the aforementioned Van der Zeeuw seemed to have a different opinion on this point: 'That means that people who hear' voices' from the low vibrating realities, need not belong to that spirit themselves. We are all in the middle of it, as it were. If we descend into a coal mine with white clothes and put on a plastic overall to protect our clothes, we remain clean. But if that plastic cracks down there, the coal dust penetrates. Then it doesn't matter whether you are a director, an engineer or from the working class: everyone will get dirty.'

In his book "Psychic or paranormal?", pastor and resilience coach Roelof Tichelaar identifies numerous possible reasons for spiritual influences, such as high sensitivity, spiritualism, curses, karma and drug abuse. And Sonia Bos, one of best-known mystics from the Netherlands', dedicates psychoses to primal traumas associated with the 'fall' from paradise in "Dealing With the Psychotic Patient". Fear, guilt and a sense of sin would afflict man, while the fall actually had nothing to do with "sin" or "fall": after all, man was sent out by the Creator instead of sent away. Sonia defines possession as follows: "If the personality withdraws too far from the spiritual self, this spiritual "self" can be seized by an entity. This person has no control over himself. He is then in a state of being possessed."

Martinez, in turn, is most in keeping with Sonia's definition when she speaks of the 'flight of the soul'. During changed states of consciousness - think of (day) dreaming, trance, meditation, a blackout, shock and out-of-body experiences - she believes the door is wide open for all sorts of powers and forces from the beyond. She also discusses the causes for "the more than usual to emergence within these states of consciousness, such as self-alienation, depression, isolation, loneliness, and trauma. The origin, or the ultimate reason, of why the soul "flees", what seems to let an alternative personality emergence, often lies in childhood, for example after a divorce and subsequent upbringing by an over-dominant mother.

## The ladder

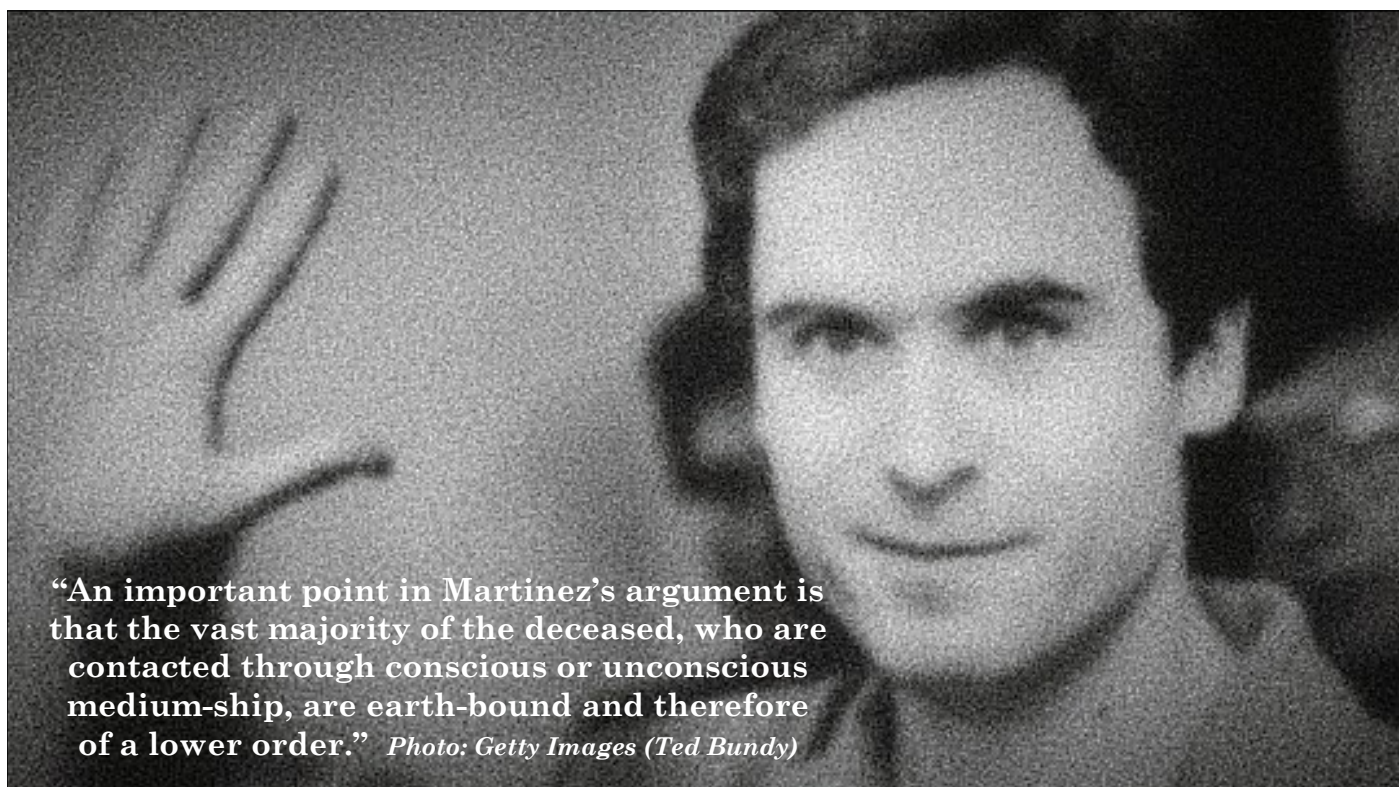
When asked about ways in which we can distinguish between mental disorders, as described in DSM-5 and the spiritual influence of the deceased and/or other types of entities, Martinez responds as if bitten by a serpent.

"Who says they are different? Really, you waste your time if you ask me to distinguish between 'the self' and 'the spirit'. They are one and the same! All disorders are spiritual disorders. We are spirits, in a body. I am afraid that we are all thoroughly brainwashed by our materialistic society. This is one of those areas in which tribal knowledge is superior to ours. Traditional cultures have always understood that "insanity" and "unexplained disorders" are caused by negative influence from spiritual realms, usually by unfortunate deceased people. How do you recognize

## **"Traditional cultures have always understood that insanity is caused by negative influence from spiritual realms"**

such influence on the victims? A forced or indecent smile, unusual way of walking, strange or no eye contact, constant chatter (or a total silence), looks different every time, cannot answer questions, makes strange conclusions, suffers from lost time or memory loss, narcissistic traits and hearing aggressive and demanding voices."

Ordinary mental health care attributes the emergence of alter egos to the multiple personality disorder to the need to master an emotion, or situation, which is too powerful for the patient to deal with. But what if such splits, or separations, turn against his or her creator, as in the case of Elise, treated by the American psychotherapist Dr. Ralph Allison? In his book "Een speurtocht naar leven na dit leven" (A Quest for Life After This Life) Colin Wilson reports: "Dr. Allison brought a girl - whose name was Elise and had to deal with a multiple personality - under hypnosis. A male alter-ego appeared and made himself known as Dennis. This Dennis did not seem to serve a practical purpose. Moreover, he kept saying that he had only taken possession of Elise because he was sexually interested in one of her other personalities, a girl who called herself Shannon and had "taken over" Elise when she was totally out of balance after a miscarriage." >>>



**“An important point in Martinez’s argument is that the vast majority of the deceased, who are contacted through conscious or unconscious medium-ship, are earth-bound and therefore of a lower order.”** Photo: Getty Images (Ted Bundy)

The fact that the spiritual world is more than just love and light may give rise to resistance from some spiritualists. Martinez calls the idea that we suddenly turn into loving, all-knowing beings after we cross-over, one of the persistent misunderstandings that exist around life after death. In accordance with the cosmology of the medium Jozef Rulof, she sees the hereafter rather as a ladder. The rung we end up after our death depends on our degree of 'goodness'. The lower on the ladder, the less loving a spirit is. In her book, she plainly states: "The spirits that are most enthusiastic about coming into contact with the living are generally the least informed and the least developed."

### **Murderers**

In her book, Martinez pays extensive attention to the state of mind in which, in their own words, famous serial killers found themselves at the time of their horrendous crimes. Crimes, in her opinion "have absolutely no earthly explanation". Just as the spirits of the deceased can positively inspire us in the case of, for example, certain works of art or discoveries, they can do so negatively when it comes to cross-border behavior up to (serial) murder.

Martinez writes about the emptiness, an inner absence, what presents a total lack of emotional sense with serial killers, who are often, surprised

when confronted with it. She also writes about the voices they hear that force them to 'act' upon the commands given, the dissociative nature of their actions what shows an effect of murderers rarely 'enjoy' their actions, but rather are driven by an unseen force. Not to mention Martinez discussing the malicious, uncontrolled laughter and strange tics a murderer regular shows, the fact that an abundance of those who murder are exposed to a form of death from an early age, for example, while working in a hospital, a moratorium or in a cemetery. And finally about the physical injuries that many offenders suffer in the form of head trauma, after which, remarkably enough, they regularly appear to have paranormal gifts.

### **The Reincarnation Deception**

A final 'misunderstanding' that Martinez is discussing in her fascinating book is the doctrine of reincarnation. According to her, this doctrine is inspired by our obsession with ourselves, by the misunderstanding of the Earth being the only place in the universe where we live and grow, and by the pleasure of shedding responsibility what made possible by the karma concept associated with reincarnation. Instead reincarnation, she points out – once more - to spiritual influence and overshadowing: "The only way we can 'reincarnate' is by taking over the body of another person, who is still alive, as a spirit. >>>



But that is called "possession." So-called memories of past lives are caused by spirits and represent the lives that they had."

"Would the supporters of the reincarnation theory call the extra personalities in the system of someone who has, according to the DSM classification, a multiple personality disorder also reincarnated souls? No, no ... so-called reincarnation cases investigated by the famous Dr. Ian Stevenson are simply examples of an occupation of the body of a living person by the soul of a dead person."

It all sounds scary: possession, overshadowing, aural lifters, body snatchers ... The (regression) therapist Pieter Wierenga, who passed away in 2014, claimed that there is almost no person in the world who does not carry one or more aura-lifters, whom he also called 'obsessors'.

But he also had comforting advice: "The best way to effectively manage obsessive energy without therapy is to ensure that we are 'properly present' in our bodies. We achieve this the fastest by accepting full responsibility for our lives.

Any hitchhikers disappear spontaneously as soon as we again - or finally - take a seat in our body with awareness and dare ourselves to feel everything in our body. For this we do not have to exercise intensively or perform neck-breaking tours. Exercising enough with attention and feeling good about our body, also works. In this way we gain access to a temporarily lost, or blocked, capacities of our body. We quickly lose active 'obsessors' who encourage us to adopt certain behavior if we consistently do the opposite to which they tend, and let go of the benefits. Because of their nature, they have little patience.

In addition, we must identify the cause of their presence and do something about it. So you can ask yourself: when and how do I give myself away? Especially in the beginning this opposite behavior requires some efforts. But if you succeed, you will feel reborn. And that is what actually happens: you come home to yourself and become who you originally were again.'

■ ■ ■

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Chief Medical Examiner Robert Stein examines the case tag of a Gacy victim on Dec. 29, 1978. The victims' bodies are kept in a crypt set aside for the case. (Photo credit: Gerald West/Chicago Tribune)



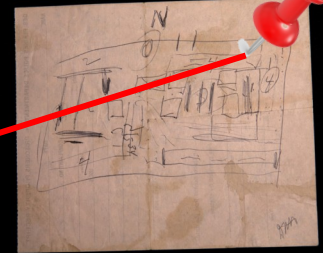
A photo used as evidence in the 1980 trial shows the excavation in Gacy's crawl space. (Photo credit: Cook County Circuit Court)



This photograph of Gacy's bedroom was used at his trial in 1980. The serial killer was known to collect clown artwork. (Photo credit: Cook County Circuit Court)



Read the full article about John W. Gacy's arrest, the evidence and his confession of rapeing and murdering of more than 30 people. [www.graphics.chicagotribune.com](http://www.graphics.chicagotribune.com)



A diagram drawn by John W. Gacy of the location of bodies in the crawl space of his home.

John Wayne Gacy, shown in front of his home in unincorporated Norwood Park Township in 1976, entertained children as a clown named Pogo. (Photo credit: Martin Zielinski)



Gacy's house at 8213 W. Summerdale Ave. in unincorporated Norwood Park Township at the time of his arrest in December 1978. (Photo credit: William Yates/Chicago Tribune)



# I Was Very Curious to Meet “Him”

One of Serial Killer John Wayne Gacy's Last Attorneys,  
Karen Conti, Weighs In on Her Experience.

By Maria Anna van Driel, [www.nexttruth.com](http://www.nexttruth.com)

**C**lowns, they were once figures of innocent fun, brightly colored jesters performing to laughing children – but the real-life story of killer clown John Wayne Gacy is more disturbing than anything you will see in cinemas.

John W. Gacy, aka Pogo the Clown, was one of the most sadistic serial killers of all time. No one could suspect that beneath the colorful makeup a cruel and pitiless murderer was lurking who was luring his young victims back to his home in Norwood Park, Illinois. He killed at least 33 young men and boys in the 1970s.

"John Gacy had no conscience about what he did", Ms Karen Conti comments in an interview published by The Sun on 6 September 2019. "He was the kind of guy I always say, could rape someone kill them and then eat a ham sandwich with their body in the room."

I became tremendously curious when I encountered Ms. Conti's story about how she had served as one of John W. Gacy's last attorneys as he fought to overturn his pending death sentence that has now become part of America's true crime hall of fame. Given the sweeping scope of her expertise as an attorney at law, I reached out to contact her and gained the privilege to learn more about her vision on this grotesque saga befitting a Stephen King novel.

Not only does Ms. Conti know what it is like to look the killer clown in the eye, she is a dynamic and influential attorney in the local and national legal community and has handled of numerous high-profile cases.

Ms. Conti is a member of the Illinois, California, and U.S. Supreme Court bars and taught and lectured at Stanford University and American University in Washington, D.C. She regular appears on MSNBC, Fox News, The O'Reilly Factor, truTV, and other media venues. Her current focus is on her practice in family law, where she

has gained prominence among her peers and the bench.

And so, the story of a young lawyer, whose client turned out to be the worst serial killer in our nation's history, begins.

■ ■ ■

To become more familiar with Ms. Karen Conti's expertise in advocacy and radio show The Karen Conti Show, [www.kcontilaw.com](http://www.kcontilaw.com)

Welcome Ms. Conti, I appreciate the time you are taking for letting us peer into your career as an attorney at law, the important role of an attorney inside and outside the courtroom and your personal experiences with the serial killer John W. Gacy, aka, Pogo the Clown.

**Q: You are a well-known, dynamic and influential attorney at law handling of numerous high-profile cases in the local and national legal community. But for those people who don't know much about your background, can you tell us a little about yourself? Who is Karen Conti?**

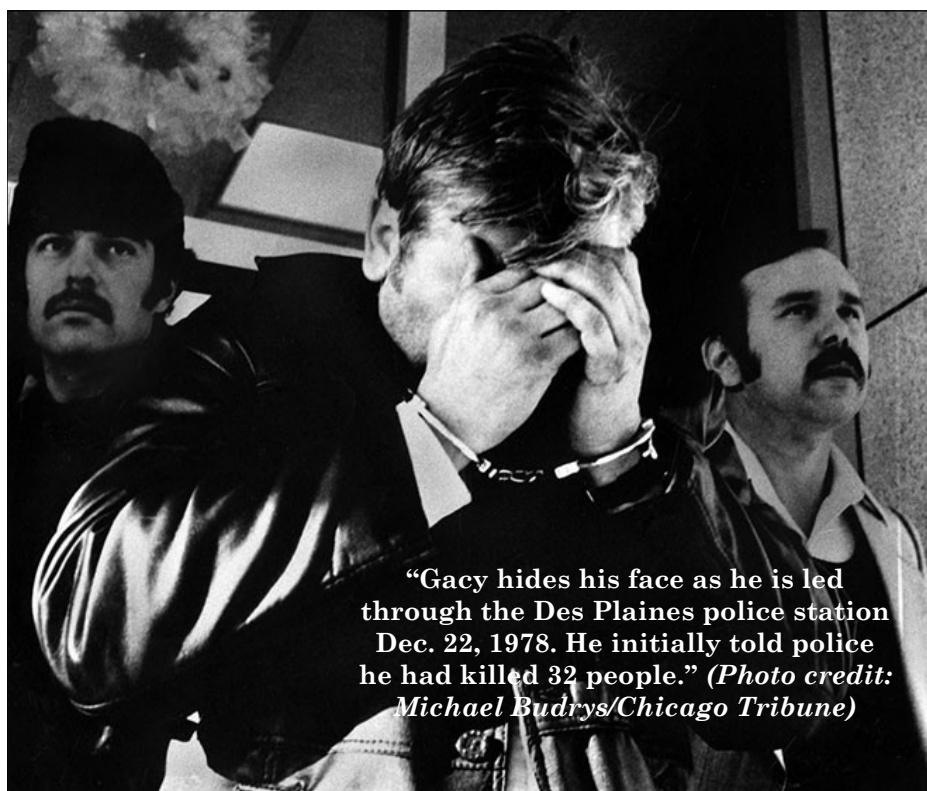
**Ms. Conti:** I was raised in a blue-collar neighborhood in a suburb of Chicago and put myself through college and law school. I have been a lawyer for 33 years in Chicago and have handled a variety of litigation matters, trials and appeals.

»»»



"I have hosted The Karen Conti Show on WGN for three years. I also have a regular segment on the local Fox TV affiliate in which I give legal advice." (You can follow Ms. Conti's show via Face Book)





*"Gacy hides his face as he is led through the Des Plaines police station Dec. 22, 1978. He initially told police he had killed 32 people." (Photo credit: Michael Budrys/Chicago Tribune)*



For over 25 years I have been actively involved in the media, hosting a radio talk show for over 20 years and giving national and local television commentary.

**Q:** Via the website of "Leading Women for Shared Parenting" we find that you were voted one of 40 under 40 Illinois Attorneys to Watch by Chicago Lawyer Magazine, One of the 100 Women Making a Difference in Chicago by Today's Chicago Woman, Outstanding Alumni of the Year at University of Illinois College of Law, and the Distinguished Graduate Award. That is an amazing achievement! How have these nominations influenced your career?

**Ms. Conti:** While I appreciate all the accolades, you can't rest on your laurels. You must keep doing good work for clients and the community. And you can't always believe what other people say about you—good or bad. You must judge yourself everyday by your own standards.

**Q:** For over 20 years you have experience in hosting and producing radio talk shows including "Chicago Law" on WJJD, "Legally Speaking" on WGN Radio in Chicago. To whom do you provide legal counseling via these talk shows and how does this differ from representing a client in a courtroom?

**Ms. Conti:** When I'm on radio or television, I cannot give specific legal advice, but I try to give general pointers on how to resolve the problem in a way that will benefit not just the caller/viewer, but the whole audience. Also, when dealing with a client, you have confidentiality. When talking to someone on the radio, there is none.

**Q:** What is the importance of the role of an attorney at law inside and outside the courtroom? And is there a distinction in approaching the client?

**Ms. Conti:** As an attorney, you are your client's advocate and spokesperson. It is important to look and sound professional, prepared and persuasive. A court is a formal place and there is a certain decorum that you need to honor. Outside court, I like to communicate with my client without using legalese and to treat them like a colleague. I like my clients and want what is best for them. I try to convey that to them in a meaningful and personal way. I also like to make sure we both keep our sense of humor.

**Q:** What are the responsibilities of an attorney at law? Do these responsibilities differ from case to case, for example during the defense of a serial killer? >>>

**Ms. Conti:** Lawyers are bound by an elaborate code of ethics on which we are tested as part of becoming a member of the bar. Those ethics never vary. We are obligated to advocate zealously for our client, no matter if we are representing a nun or a serial killer.

**Q: “Pogo the clown” sounds like an innocent name for a jolly children's friend but John Wayne Gacy was far from that. He raped, tortured and murdered at least 33 teenage boys and young men between 1972 and 1978 in Cook County (Illinois) and buried most of his victims in the crawlspace beneath his home. How did it come about you representing John W. Gacy?**

**Ms. Conti:** Gacy was looking for a lawyer to handle some civil disputes involving what he believed was his 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment right to sell his paintings from behind bars. My partner and I had recently handled a 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment case before the U.S. Supreme Court, so we got the call. I was not interested in his civil case but was very curious to meet him. After meeting him, we agreed to help him resolve his civil disputes and would also become part of his death penalty team. I have always been opposed to capital punishment and welcomed the opportunity to volunteer my time to stand up against what I still believe is a barbaric, unnecessary and ineffective process.

**Q: How did you prepare yourself for this case?**

**Ms. Conti:** Illinois had not used the death penalty on a regular basis, so I had to get up to speed on the law on capital punishment. Once the representation began, I realized I needed to have a better understanding of how to deal with the media, so I took some lessons on that. I also had to mentally prepare for the adverse publicity and criticism, which was overwhelming.

**Q: In an article on the website of Chicagoist you said, “His only crime, he argued, was “running a cemetery without a license.” and in an interview published by The Sun on 6 Sept. 2019 you described him as “the kind of guy that could rape and kill a person then eat a ham sandwich with the body”. Wasn’t it terrifying to be in direct contact with a serial killer as John W. Gacy?**

**How have you experienced this period with John W. Gacy?**

**Ms. Conti:** I was never afraid of Gacy. When I met him, he had been in prison for over 15 years and was no longer a threat to anyone. I also was not Gacy’s type of victim! It was, however, a bit uncomfortable visiting him on death row because I would be seated in an area on death row with some of the state’s most violent and prolific murderers.

**Q: How did the case of John W. Gacy change your life and/or career?**

**Ms. Conti:** Strangely, lawyers who represent famous or infamous people are often viewed in a more favorable light. The thought is that when someone with name recognition has a serious problem, the lawyer he chooses must be good. I think that representing Gacy helped my career but not immediately. Because of all the media attention the case received, I was chosen to be a law professor at the prestigious University of Illinois College of Law, teaching death penalty law. And soon thereafter, I was given a radio show. That led to TV appearances on the national and local levels and a host of other opportunities that would not have arisen but for Gacy.

**Q: How would you explain the embroiled, or entangled, frame of mind of a serial killer what seems to be detached from any logic in classical reality to the general public?**

**Ms. Conti:** Serial killers are sociopaths and therefore have no conscience. For some reason, Gacy associated sex with murder and was inexplicably interested in raping, brutalizing and killing young men and boys. We will never know what caused Gacy’s aberrant behavior.

**Q: You distinguish yourself from other lawyers by being in constant contact with your clients. Has it ever happened of a client trying to step into your private life by, for instance, stalking you with sending disturbing letters and/or phone calls? If so, how did you handle a situation as such?**

**Ms. Conti:** Clients can invade your privacy, but I usually manage to keep them from being too invasive by setting boundaries. Clients sometimes wrongly focus their anger at their >>>



opposing party or at their situation or on you. I once had a client try to do harm to me but before he succeeded, he killed himself. All people in all professions need to be careful when they deal with others who are under pressure.

**Q: Not only have you represented a serial killer as John W. Gacy you also represent sports celebrities, politicians, police officers, teachers, artists, and stay-at-home mothers. How do you experience the variety from both a personal and professional point of view?**

**Ms. Conti:** I like variety in every aspect of life. All types of people need lawyers. As a lawyer, you approach them all the same way. You try to solve their problems aggressively and compassionately. You try to understand each client's personality and connect with them.

**Q: Of course, your profession does not only consist of horrific and difficult cases. What would you say was the most hilarious moment in your career as an attorney at law and/or as radio talk show host?**

**Ms. Conti:** Even representing Gacy had a light moment. The first time I went to visit Gacy on death row I was served a lunch tray. I asked Gacy why I was getting this treatment. Who was paying for it? He told me that death row protocol was that an inmate would sacrifice his meal if another inmate had a visitor and that courtesy would be reciprocated. When I asked Gacy whose meal I was receiving, he told me, "Charles Albanese." Albanese was on death row for poisoning his family. Death row humor.

**Q: In order to accomplish all that you have achieved, you must have a lot of self-confidence. Did you ever felt insecure or doubted that you would succeed?**

**If so, what kept you motivated to not give up and keep striving for your goal to become an attorney at law?**

**Ms. Conti:** Don't we all have doubts about ourselves? When I was a young lawyer, I was overwhelmed by not knowing the law or how things worked. The only good thing about getting old is the wisdom that comes with it. The key is to realize that mistakes that you make along the way are life lessons from which you can learn.

**Q: Today you can look back on an impressive career and much to be proud of; what would you say is a moment in your career that stands out as most meaningful?**

**Ms. Conti:** I'm proud that I stood up against the death penalty, even for a man as evil as John Gacy. I hope that my arguments and public commentary had something to do with the abolition of the death penalty in Illinois. (Although they probably did not!)

I am also proud to have been involved in a case that changed the law in Illinois and that has re-

sulted in protecting women from battery at the workplace. And I am happy that I have been able to help the thousands of radio listeners over the years who have sought my counsel.

**Q: What does the future hold for your radio show(s) and your career as an attorney at law?**

**Ms. Conti:** I would like to continue with my radio show and television commentary. I have a great idea for a television show involving the law. It's currently in development so I'm not at liberty to talk about it now, but maybe you will see me soon with my own show! Otherwise, I will continue to represent clients and do my best to help people resolve their problems. >>>



Tune in to AM 720 WGN in Chicago every Sunday Evening from 7-9 pm to hear Chicago attorney Karen Conti answer your legal questions and discuss other current topics in the news.





# The Karen Conti Show Sundays 7-9 p.m. WGN 720 AM

**Q:** Ms. Conti, thank you so much for this interview. I am sure it will be an inspiration to many. Do you have any additional advice you can give for young people who want to become an attorney at law and help protect individuals, groups, companies, and the voiceless, such as children, animals, and the planet?

**Ms. Conti:** Don't let people tell you that there are too many lawyers. There is always room for another good one. Go to the best law school possible, study hard, work hard and do good things for people. Take on projects outside your comfort zone. And it's OK to make some money along the way.



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The film is based on Jason Moss's memoir, The Last Victim.

Source: Wikipedia



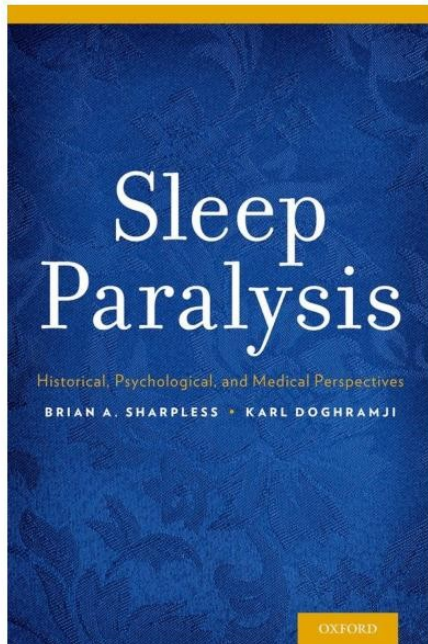


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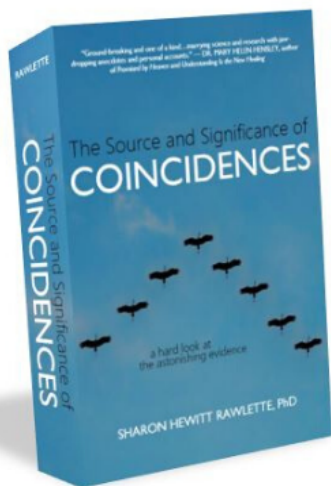
**Brian Sharpless, PhD** is an associate professor of clinical psychology at The American School of Professional Psychology at Argosy University, Washington, DC. He has authored over 35 publications on various topics related to psychopathology, psychotherapy, and the history and philosophy of clinical psychology.

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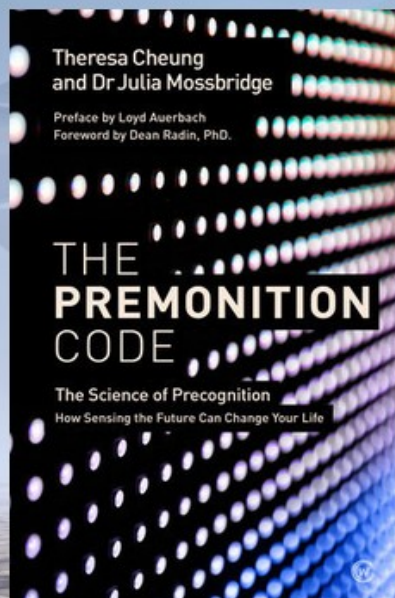
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