THE MAKING OF A CRIMINAL: CASE STUDY OF TED BUNDY

Aquamsha Fahim\(^1\) & Pragyan Dangwal\(^2\)

\(^1\)Student, M.phil (Child and Adolescent), \(^2\)Assistant Professor
Amity Institute of Behavioural and Allied Sciences, Amity University, Uttar-Pradesh, Lucknow Campus, India

Abstract: Serial murder for individual gratification is often expected to be driven by a psychological compulsion. This is a case study of the American serial Killer Ted Bundy. The previous studies and researches have focused on childhood trauma, parenting impact, physical abuse, breakup, bullying and other risk factors effecting adulthood criminality under different studies with different individuals. The case of Ted Bundy is important and unique since it includes all these different aspects in the lifetime of a single individual and also, how it impacts a person and leads a man of his stature to fall to such heinous crimes. The study presents the full account of Ted Bundy’s life before and after becoming a serial killer. The paper discusses various turns and risk factors from his birth to his execution, serving as one of the very few studies on his entire life covering all the aspects that lead to the formation of his personality, his delusions and his faulty decision making and problem solving. The researchers also attempt to highlight the importance of parent, family and peer group through this case study and gives a more prominent and better understanding of the reason this case took the world by storm and how it affected the society. This paper also briefly discusses the impact of superficial charm and the role of personality, and to some extent working of a psychopathic mind. The paper discusses the possibility of ‘modelling behaviour’, in case of Ted Bundy and the possibility of deviant habits being a learned behaviour.

Index Terms: Case study, Ted Bundy, childhood, serial killer, personality, delusions

1. INTRODUCTION

This case study focuses on the impact of childhood development on criminal behaviour. For the same purpose, case study of Theodore Robert Bundy or Ted Bundy is presented. Serial murder for individual gratification is often expected to be driven by a psychological compulsion. As explained by FBI (2005), serial killers select victims on the basis of availability, vulnerability and desirability. This present case presents itself as an example of how traumatic experiences during childhood has a deep impact on adult life, shaping their personality and influencing their life choices. However, according to Dr. Nicole Davis (2018), not all serial killer have an abused childhood and not every abused child becomes a serial killer. She believes that there is a definite connection between the two. According to criminologist Dr. Adrian Raine, both social factors and biological factors are responsible making of a murderer.

Childhood and adolescence are two areas that have been a focus of attention for Theorist and researchers of various fields for ages. A number of theorists gave different theories relating to childhood and adolescence, all, but focusing on single theme, ‘impact of this particular age on a person’s personality and later life. From Jean Piaget to Father of psychology ‘Sigmund Freud’, have given different theories about the development during childhood and adolescent. Jean Piaget gave theory of cognitive development that focused on importance of education and how a child constructs a mental model of the world. The theory states that intelligence is not a fixed trait, but is a process which occurs due to biological maturation and interaction with the environment. Lev Vygotsky in his theory believed that social interaction plays an important role in children’s learning, which is influenced largely by culture. Talking about Sigmund Freud, his work and theories helped shape views of childhood, personality. Memory, etc. his theories were enormously influential. He gave ideas such as Freudian slip, repression and denial. He proposed that psychological development in childhood takes place during five psychosexual stages: Oral, Anal, Phallic, Latency and Genital. These were called psychosexual stages; each stage represented a fixation of libido on a different area of body. Freud believed that life was built round tension and pleasure and that all the tension was due to build-up of libido and that pleasure came from its discharge. Freud stressed that first five years of life are crucial to formation of adult personality.
1.1 Review of literature

Mental health problems in children and adolescent include several types of emotional and behavioural disorders including disruptive behaviour, depression, anxiety and pervasive development (autism) disorders. Childhood behaviours and emotional problems have significant negative impacts on the individual’s family and society. They are associated with poor academics, occupational and psychological functioning. Abnormal behaviour results from transactions between environment and individual influences. Inherited Characteristics and environmental influences build the child’s grown up personality. The child utilizes emotions as filter to avoid potential harm, relationship with parent(s) help regulate these emotions. Emotions are core features of child’s actions and behaviours. Emotions help a child in fight or flight response. Children’s emotional experiences, expressions and regulations affect the quality of their social interactions and relationships and thus are at the foundation of early personality development. Emotions not only serve as important internal monitoring and guidance systems designed to appraise events as either beneficial or dangerous, but they also provide motivation for actions. Children learn by modelling the emotional expressions of others (Stroufe, 2005; Waxler and Usher, 2007). Kaylor and Otis in 2003, did a comparative study of 677 non- maltreated children and 908 maltreated children and saw their effect on Criminality. The analysis finds that children’s age, race, and sex and experiences of child neglect all have an impact on subsequent adult arrests. However, physical abuse and sexual abuse do not emerge as statistically significant predictors of arrests in this model. They used Tobit Regression to analyse the data. Males were arrested more as compared to females, non-Whites were arrested more as compared to Whites, and older children were arrested more as compared to younger children. The study also concluded that Neglect is the most significant predictors in adulthood arrest and also that physical abuse is not very significant. However, the study also suggest that, discrimination based on the subjects race and sex, has even stronger effect on the criminality. A study aimed to assess the degree to which family background variables, parental beliefs and behaviour and child intelligence predict child aggression and adult criminality was done by using data collected from Columbian university in a longitudinal study of 856 children studying in the 3rd grade in New York in 1959 to 1960. They used 8 years as the age mark. They noted that as children, aggressive children were less intelligent, less popular, were rejected at home(by parents), punished frequently, did not identify with their parents self image and were less likely to express guilt. As adults they were more aggressive, they experience disharmony in relationship and never attended church. They also were at a very high risk of getting arrested. It was concluded that, level of aggression at 8 years is a possible predictor of criminal behaviour till the age of 22 years. (Huesmann et al, 2002). A comparative study was conducted between the childhood experiences of criminal psychopaths with those of criminal non-psychopaths, to examine whether differences in either the type or intensity of adverse experience in childhood could be identified. The study concluded that the childhood experiences of psychopaths have severely affected their adult personality. (Marshall & Cooke, 1999). When talking about severe crimes like murder or rape, there have been studies and speculations as to why such a heinous crime could be committed. Rape is rather motivated by the need to dominate, to assert power and to humiliate the victim. Studies have identified two primary motives of rape, one is aggression and the other is distorted sexual motives. (Brownmiller, 1975, Knight & Prentky, 1990, McCabe & Wauchope in 2005)

The case was reviewed and collected through a number of various authorised accounts, that each presented a different aspect of his life; namely, Federal Bureau of Investigation, (1977); McCabe, R. (2022); Carlisle, A. (1998, 2017) and Michaud, S. G., & Aynesworth, H. (2000) are a few of these names. The author also review a number of newspaper clippings and accounts of people related to the case or Bundy, his friends, the survivors, his investigators, involved police officials and Bundy himself, through direct accounts in his documentary.

II. CASE

Name – Theodore Robert Bundy (Cowell)
Known as – Ted Bundy
Born – 24th November 1946
Nationality - American
Place of Birth – Burlington, Vermont, U.S.
Birth Father – Unknown
Birth Mother – Eleanor Louise Cowell
Adopted Father – Johnny Culpepper Bundy
Spouses – Carol Ann Boone
Children – 1 (Rosa Bundy)
Theodore Robert Cowell was born to an unwed mother Eleanor Louise Cowell on 24th November 1946, and his birth father was unknown. Louise reportedly went in to live in a ‘home for unwed mothers’ and left Theodore Bundy there. He was brought home as an instruction by Samuel Cowell, Louise’s father. His grandparents took as their son to avoid shame and Louise lived like his sister. Samuel was reportedly an abusive person and had a streak of violence. Samuel Cowell physically abused his wife, Ted and even his dog. Reports say that Samuel was suffering from hallucinations. Mrs. Cowell, on the other hand, was fearful and submissive. Mrs. Cowell also is reported to be suffering from agoraphobia and clinical depression.

In his early childhood, Theodore started being alone, isolated and disconnected. In his early childhood, he was considered a well behaved child, though extremely introvert and shy. Recession hit the Cowell family, but, Theodore did not express his grief, or any kind of disappointment or anger. Louise Cowell in 1949 revealed to Ted about her motherhood and moved to Tacoma with her cousins. She grew concern for Ted around Samuel. Louise later married Johnny Bundy and Johnny adopted Ted after marriage, therefore becoming Theodore Robert Bundy. Reports suggest that Ted never bonded with his father or siblings and lacked social skills.

Diane Marjorie Jean Edward is reportedly Bundy’s first Girlfriend and latter has confessed that she had a ‘lasting impact’ on him. He met Diane in the junior year, when he first began dating. In an interview given Stephen G. Michaud, Bundy talked high of Diane. Bundy felt she was out of league and spent a great deal of his time impressing her. To gain approval of her parents, Bundy did a number of things; he applied for a few law colleges and also he had started working for the republican Candidate. Quoting Bundy from the interview (Mixed Tapes) given to Journalist Stephen G. Michaud and Hugh Aynsworth, “She inspired me to look at myself and become something more. We spent a lot of time driving around in her car”. But Bundy failed to get enrolled in the law college. As a result of this, his relationship with Diane hit a rough patch, after approximately one and a half years of relationships, Diane broke off. Ted Confessed to have wanted revenge on her. Four years after their split, Bundy and Diane patched up and even talked of marriage. However, Bundy confessed in the tapes, that he just wanted to dump her. In this same year, when they ended their relationship, Bundy is reported to have begun with hunting, kidnapping and murdering women across state. Criminologist noted that, all of Bundy’s Victims had one thing in common. They resembled Diane Jean Edward. Diane had interviewed last with Psychologist Dr. Al Carlisle, and reportedly called Bundy ‘people – pleaser’.

The next significant romantic involvement for Ted Bundy was, Elizabeth Kloepfer. She first met Bundy at the Sandpiper Tavern in Seattle. It was October 1969. Elizabeth had graduated from Utah university at 24years of age, however wasn’t alone. Kloepfer was raising a 1 year old daughter by herself and had recently gotten divorced. Kloepfer became Bundy’s Girlfriend soon after the meeting. However, she found some strange items in Bundy’s car like – women’s undergarments, plaster of Paris, among other items. The early days of Bundy and Kloepfer’s relationship were fine. She met Bundy’s parent only in a few months. Bundy in the tapes is quoted as saying, “I loved her so much it was destabilizing”. In the February of 1970, the couple applied for marriage licence and they got it. However, Bundy reportedly destroyed the documents in anger after a fight between the couple, they, but continued to live together and work on the relationship. Kloepfer became pregnant in 1972. However, with a mutual agreement, the baby was given up. Kloepfer was the first to Report to the Seattle Police Department her doubts about Bundy. Police was investigating a murder and had released a sketch; Kloepfer reported that the sketch matched her boyfriend. However she was essentially dismissed. Police got calls from all over the state of girlfriends reporting their doubts. Seattle Police also called for Bundy’s picture and showed it to the eyewitnesses, and they refused to recognise him as the suspect. Bundy, in 1976, had been arrested for the kidnap of Carol DaRonch. While on trial, Bundy and Kloepfer maintained communication through letters and she also visited him. However, eventually, she began distancing from him. Bundy confessed to her, upon questioning, that he had tried to kill her once.

Carol Ann Boone was the last and, could be said to be the most significant relationship of Bundy’s life. She was not only his wife, but also gave birth to his daughter, while he was on death row. She was a twice divorced mother of two who was working at Washington state department of emergency services at the same time as Bundy, when they met in 1974. They eventually befriended each other. Carol was going through her second divorce when she met Bundy. Bundy proposed the idea of a relationship, even though she was still in relationship with her husband. Carol connected romantically with Bundy when he went on trial in Florida for the murders of two young women in Chi Omega Sorority home in Florida University. Their relationship, as reports suggest,
appeared partially overlapping with Kloepfer. Carol and Bundy got closer, and Carol reportedly supplied Bundy with drugs inside the prison. Bundy was found guilty and given a death penalty. Later he went on trial for kidnap, assault and murder of 12-year-old Kimberly Leach, when Carol moved to Florida to attend the trials. During 1980, Orlando trial, Carol took a stand- and it was to accomplish a very specific goal, marry Ted. However with ted Bundy’s reputation no minister was ready for their marriage proceedings. Carol, however found a loophole. According to an arcane Florida law, ‘a public declaration, properly phrased, in an open courtroom in the presence of courtroom officers would make the marriage ceremony legal’ Carol was presented as the character witness to Bundy when Bundy asked her to marry him. They married in between the trial, to which Bundy was about to be found guilty. He was already on the death row, and after this case, he had 2 death penalties. After Bundy was put on the death row, carol visited him and even though Bundy wasn’t allowed to have conjugal visits, they somehow manage. Carol eventually became pregnant and gave birth to ted Bundy’s daughter Rosa Bundy in 1981.

However, in 1986, Carol divorced Bundy after Bundy started to confess him crimes in the death row. She has reportedly moved out of Oklahoma, with her children and her whereabouts unknown.

Ted Bundy, as going through his childhood, did not have many significant friends; however a few made an impact on him. Starting with one of his childhood friends, Sandi Holt. Sandi Holt was one of Bundy’s childhood friends. They lived in the same neighbourhood and played in the woods with Bundy and her brother along with other kids of the neighbourhood. Sandy in an interview admitted that there were a set of haves and have-nots in the neighbourhood and Bundy’s family were in the have not group. Sandy told in an interview that Bundy’s adopted father was a good man and loved Bundy. His parents took their kids, including Bundy, to church every Sunday. According to Sandy, they were very involved parents.

Sandy told in the tapes, that Bundy had a speech impediment and was bullied and teased by the other kids. Bundy was not good at the boy scout camps with normal things that other boys did, rather he used to go out in the woods building tiger traps. According to Holt, one girl even fell in one of Bundy’s tiger traps. Quoting Holt from the interview, “In high school, he wanted to be something he wasn’t. He was going to be president, he was going to show the world that…Ted was the one to be dealt with, and it was a lot of blowhard talk”. According to Bundy from the tapes, he did well in academics, ran for the high school office, played football, went out for the track team, and went skiing. He said he was one of the boys. However Holt dismissed all of this and admitted that he was none of what he told. She told that he wanted to be the boy, number one in class, but he wasn’t. Holt saw Bundy being more alone. Bundy was not close to anyone. He did not date anyone.

Another significant name in the list is that of Marlin lee Vortman. He met Bundy when Bundy was doing work for the state republican party in Seattle. Vortman worked for republican governor Dan Evan’s campaign, when Bundy volunteered to work with them. That was the point where friendship grew. Quoting Vortman from an interview, “He was a very nice person. He was the kind of guy you’d want your sister to marry.” According to Vortman, Bundy was a good with communication and people accepted him. Bundy spied on Rossellini for Evans when he was caught in the act. Bundy upon questioning viewed his role as insignificant and not worthy of limelight, but, according to Vortman, that is what he wanted. Vortman revealed Bundy’s desire to be an affluent person and to belong in the upper class. Bundy looked up to Vortman as brother and they shared same interests. Bundy followed Vortman’s footsteps and wanted to like him. The famous Volkswagen bug was in fact an inspired from Vortman’s Volkswagen, a copy. Bundy went to law school, because Vortman did. Vortman had a great deal of impact on Bundy.

2.3 Career path

Bundy, in his youth enrolled and dropped out of multiple universities. Those close to him regarded him as a drifter. Bundy used to work as a daily wage worker in his early adulthood in the Washington state. Between switching schools Bundy attended the ‘republican National convention in 1968 as a delegate for Nelson Rockefeller’; Bundy then worked for a suicide crisis hotline in 1971. He graduated from The University of Washington in 1972 and continued his career in politics. He worked for Governor Daniel Evan’s re-election campaign and subsequently for Ross Davis, the head of the State’s Republican, where he met Vortman. It was these key connections that got Bundy into law school at the University of Puget Sound. Around 1974, Bundy was director at the Seattle Crime Prevention advisory commission. Reportedly, Bundy even wrote a pamphlet about rape prevention. He also worked at Washington’s Department of emergency services, where he met and dated Carol Ann Boone. Also, he had started to hunt women across Washington, from Colorado to Utah and Florida. He tortured them, assaulted them and killed them.
2.4 Victims:

- **1974**
  1. Karen Sparks (18 years)
      Student at Washington University
      4th January at Seattle Washington
      Status – Deceased
  2. Lynda Ann Healy (21 years)
      Student at Washington University
      1st February at Seattle Washington
      Status – Deceased
  3. Donna Gail Manson (19 years)
      Student at Evergreen State College
      12th March at Olympia Washington
      Status – Deceased
  4. Susan Elaine Rancourt (18 years)
      Student
      17th April at Ellensburg Washington
      Status – Deceased
  5. Roberta Kathleen Parks (22 years)
      Student at Oregon State University
      6th May at Carvallis Oregon
      Status – Deceased
  6. Brenda Carol Ball (22 years)
      Student
      1st June at Burien Washington
      Status – Deceased
  7. Georgann Hawkins (18 years)
      Student at Lakes High School
      11th June at Seattle Washington
      Status – Deceased
  8. Janice Ann Ott (23 years)
      Probation Case worker for king country youth Services
      14th July at Lake Sammamish State park Washington
      Status – Deceased
  9. Denise Marie Naslund (19 years)
      Student
      14th July at Lake Sammamish State park Washington
      Status – Deceased
  10. Nancy Wilcox (16 years)
      Cheerleader
      2nd October at Holladay, Salt Lake City, Utah
      Status – Deceased
  11. Rhonda Stapley (17 years)
      Student
      11th October at City Park, Utah
      Status – Deceased
  12. Melissa Anne Smith (17 years)
      Student
      18th October at Midvale, Utah
      Status – Deceased
  13. Laura Ann Aime (17 years)
      Student
      31st October at Murray, Utah
      Status – Deceased
  14. **Carol DaRonch (18 years)**
      Student
      **8th November at Murray Utah**
      Status – Alive
  15. Debra Jean Kent (17 year)
      Student
      8th November at Bountiful, Utah
      Status – Deceased
### 1. 1975

16. Caryn Eileen Campbell (23 years)  
   Nurse at Michigan  
   12th January at Aspen, Colorado  
   Status – Deceased

17. Julie Cunnigham  
   Part time ski instructor  
   15th March at Vail, Colorado  
   Status – Deceased

18. Denise Lynn Oliverson (25 years)  
   6th April at Grand Junction Colorado  
   Status – Deceased

19. Lynette Dawn Culver (12 years)  
   School girl  
   6th May at Pocatello  
   Status – Deceased

20. Susan Curtis (15 years)  
   Student  
   28th June at Pravo, Utah  
   Status – Deceased

### 2. 1978

21. Margaret Elizabeth Bowman (21 years)  
   Student at Florida State University  
   15th January at Chi Omega Sorority House  
   Status – Deceased

22. Lisa Levy (20 years)  
   Student at Florida State University  
   15th January at Chi Omega Sorority House  
   Status – Deceased

23. Karen Chandler (21 years)  
   Student at Florida State University  
   15th January at Chi Omega Sorority House  
   Status – Alive

24. Kathy Kleiner (21 years)  
   Student at Florida State University  
   15th January at Chi Omega Sorority House  
   Status – Alive

25. Cheryl Thomas (21 years)  
   Dancer  
   15th January at Tallahassee, Florida  
   Status – Alive

26. Kimberly Diane Leach (12 years)  
   School Girl  
   9th February at Lake City, Florida  
   Status – Deceased

Ted Bundy confessed more than 30 women that he kidnapped, murdered and mutilated. The identity of these women is still Jane Doe.

#### 2.5 Capture, escape

On August 1975, police attempted to stop Bundy for a driving violation. He aroused suspicion when he tried to get away by turning his car lights off and speeding through stop signs. When he finally stopped, his Volkswagen was searched and police found handcuffs, an ice pick, crowbar pantyhose along with other questionable items. Bundy was arrested on Charges of burglary. Police compared the things found in his car to the description provided by Carol DaRonch, she even picked up Bundy Out of a criminal line up. Bundy went to trial on charges of attempted kidnapping of DaRonch in February 1976 and was found guilty. Ted Bundy was sentenced to 1 to 15 years imprisonment. Police, however, was still working up to find links between Bundy and the murders in Colorado. His credit card statements had put Bundy in the area from where women had vanished in 1975.

Later in the year 1975, i.e., October, Bundy was put to trial for the murder of Caryn Campbell. Bundy was then taken from the Utah prison to Colorado for the same. Bundy served as his own lawyer; therefore, he was free to move around from the court to the law library. Bundy, escaped by jumping from the window of the library in June 1977. It was a pre-trial hearing. He, however, was captured a week later.

On December 30th, 1977, Bundy escaped from the prison and made his way to Tallahassee, Florida. There he rented an apartment near Florida State University under the name Chris Hagen. Reportedly, Bundy took a time off and let himself enjoy college life. He payed for the rent and food with the help of the stolen credit cards and even attended lectures in his free time.
However, on January 15th, 1978, Bundy committed his most violent crimes yet. He broke into Florida state University’s Chi Omega Sorority house. He bludgeoned and strangled two women to death: Margaret Elizabeth Bowman (21 years) and Liza Levy (20 years), he raped Lisa Levy with a hair spray bottle. He went on to beat two other girls: Karen Chandler (21 years) and Kathy Kleiner (21 years), but they survived as their sorority sister Nita Neary arrived at 3 a.m. Bundy attacked another woman: Cheryl Thomas (21 years); however she survived.

On 9th February, Bundy killed again. A 12 year old, Kimberly leach was kidnapped, assaulted and mutilated. Bundy was arrested in Pensacola for driving a stolen vehicle, this was within a week of Disappearance of Kimberly. Eye witnesses identified Bundy at her school dorm, along with this, they had physical evidence that linked him to the three murders, including a mould of bite marks found in the flesh of sorority house victim Lisa Levy, that belonged to Bundy. He went on trial in Florida on June 25th, 1979, for the murders of sorority women. The trial was televised. Bundy was his own attorney, although he had a team of lawyers. Bundy was found Guilty and was sentenced to execution by electric Chair. On 7th February 1980, Bundy again, went on trial for killing Kimberly Leach. His attorney’s decided on an insanity plea, the only hope they had. This was the rare time when Bundy allowed his attorneys to represent him in the court. Bundy behaved differently this time. He was not the Bundy that people remembered from the previous trials. This time, he was angry and looked frustrated. He glared at people present there, which was a haunting one. He slouched in his chair. Bundy, already serving two death sentences was again found guilty and received his third death sentence. During the sentencing phase Bundy presented Carol Boone as a Character witness, and married her on the witness stand, using the Florida state law of marriage. Carol, believed Bundy to be completely innocent. Bundy and Carol managed to have a baby, even with Bundy on the death row. Rosa Bundy, his daughter, was adored by Bundy. However, carol soon found out the reality, and divorced Bundy. Bundy was scheduled to be executed in 1989, till that time he was put on death row. Before his execution from the Florida’s Electric Chair, Bundy confessed to murdering more than 30 women to Washington’s State Attorney General’s chief investigator, Dr. Bob Keppel. He also confessed to keeping heads of some of his victims at his home. He also confessed to engaging in necrophilia with some of his victims. In his final interview, he blamed his exposure to pornography at an impressionable age as being the stimulant behind his murderous obsessions.

2.6 Execution

The electrocution of Ted Bundy went as scheduled and people celebrated outside the prison, they had setup a carnival. Bundy spent his last night crying and praying. Bundy’s face was swollen, grey and eyes were red when he was taken to the death chamber. The Charisma of Ted Bundy that lured to many women to death was gone. Bundy was looking across witnesses, in his way to death chamber, for his daughter, it was reported. Sup. Tom Barton, as the part of the process, asked him if he had any last words, Bundy’s voice broke as he said, “Jim and Fred, I’d like you to give my love to my family and friends”.

“Bundy’s eyes showed fear and his head bowed as he was prepared for electrocution”, as quoted. At the sentenced time, 2000 volts of electricity surged through his body. His hand and body tightened up and smoke could be seen coming from his right leg. Then the machine was turned off and then Bundy was checked by the doctor one last time. On January 24, 1989, Theodore Robert Bundy was declared Deceased at 7.16 a.m.

III. Psychological Evaluations and Interpretations

From his childhood friend Sandi Holt to hid defence attorney from Chi Omega case Margaret Good, everyone saw and experienced Bundy’s undying charm, even on the death row. Elizabeth Kloepfer, quoted that Bundy was a perfect man. When she reported her doubts for the first time, the eyewitnesses had refused to identify Bundy has the suspect. Bundy was twice given clean chit, by the police department and the eye witnessed. Bundy’s friend Vortman also talked high of Bundy. According to him Bundy had excellent communication skill and was charming. Quoting Vortman from the tapes, “He was a nice person. He was the kind of guys you’d want you sister to marry”. His defence attorney Margaret Good reported that even when Bundy was in the court, in between the trials. Even though he already had two death sentences, and the Chi omega also was going against him, Girls in the courtroom passed her chits to be passed on to Bundy. In the tapes, girls have been recorded as being afraid of him but yet attracted to him somehow.

Ted Bundy never saw an actual therapist, until the court required a psychological evaluation of Bundy. Therefore, Dr. Al Carlisle, was assigned for the same. Predictions about future dangerous behavior are difficult to make beyond a few days. Psychologists are not clairvoyant, but they can provide informed estimates about whether someone is likely to act out. There are several standardized instruments for assessment, yet among the hindrances to using them effectively are the secrets that dangerous people keep. Bundy was evaluated by Dr. Carlisle in 1975, after Bundy’s first arrest. According to Carlisle, Bundy, the serial killer could be charming, friendly and smiling while simultaneously, boiling inside with uncontrolled rage and undying need to kill. Bundy had been a student of psychology himself and therefore, knew the meaning of the questions he was being asked and hated being on the receiving end. But Dr. Carlisle had done his homework, collecting impressions from a wide variety of people who knew Bundy.
Among the factors that are most potent for violence are being male, having a prior record of aggression, physical abuse in childhood, having a substance-abusing parent, having a diagnosis of an adjustment disorder, evidence of psychopathy, a paranoid attitude, and fantasizing about harming others.

Dr. Carlisle found Bundy easy to talk to, but evasive. Interviewing people who knew him, Dr. Carlisle discovered that he lied easily, broke rules, committed thefts, and shifted his personality like a chameleon. Those people who saw his dark side had plenty to tell. As Dr. Carlisle worked his way through his evaluation, the red flags mounted. Even Bundy’s responses to his questions were illuminating, including his contradictions and the holes he left for specific time periods. Dr. Carlisle believed and theorized that there were ample amount of reasons that may have contributed to this killer personality of Bundy. The influences and experiences, Bundy in his developmental years contributed to ‘the crazy necrophile’ image. Bundy, in the tapes, had blamed exposure to pornography at young age as one of the reasons. However, Dr. Carlisle views this simplistically.

His explained how Ted Bundy crossed the line from sexual fantasy to murder and necrophilia. Dr. Carlisle is also one of the few mental health experts to have spent time with Bundy in different types of situations.

He proposes that the ability to repeatedly kill and also function as a seemingly normal person (who aspired to become governor, for example) develops through the gradual evolution of three primary processes:

1) Fantasy – the person imagines scenarios for entertainment or self-comfort

2) Dissociation – the person avoids uncomfortable feelings and memories.

3) Compartmentalization – the person relegates different ideas and images to specific mental frames and keeps boundaries between them.

Dr. Carlisle states that serial killers can present a public persona that appears to be “good” and also nurture a dark side that allows murderous fantasies free reign. Because they have painful memories from abuse, disappointment, humiliation, frustration, or being bullied, they have turned to fantasies to comfort themselves. They might even develop an alternate identity that feels more powerful or provides greater status. Bundy had detailed hero fantasies which eventually turned into sexual possession.

As Dr. Carlisle puts it, fantasies accommodate the expression of unacceptable impulses, desires and aspirations. As normal life grows boring, frustrating or disappointing, the fantasy life can become more attractive. Eventually, the brutal dimension might gain more substance through mental rehearsal or opportunity, and the unrestricted fantasy can develop into an unquenchable addiction. That’s how he believes Bundy would have described it. Killers like Bundy learn to deflect others from discovering their secrets: They devise different sets of values for different life frames. They can then carry on a high level of functioning even while they seek victims and engage in perversity.

“Compartmentalization is a process that all of us can engage in to one degree or another,” Dr. Carlisle was quoted as saying. “It’s a complex state of mind on a continuum that can vary from a healthy level, such as with an actor who rehearses a script so intently that when portraying that role on stage or in a film he has a deep sense of being that person: At the other end of the continuum, compartmentalization, as used by Ted Bundy and others, is a very destructive process that can result in violence.” Gradually, fantasy melds with reality. “Since it’s very difficult – some would say, almost impossible – to have good and evil co-exist within the same mind,” Dr. Carlisle stated, “Bundy had to find a way to minimize the polarity between the two parts. His criteria for determining right from wrong gradually changed over time. What was wrong for him as a child may have become acceptable as an early teen and then desirable when he was in his late teens.” Among the items Carlisle used was the Thematic Apperception Test.
Bundy’s analysis of the picture is quite telling of his view of relationship dynamics and gender roles. He focuses on the dynamic aspect of the man’s facial expressions, accrediting independence and willpower to him. His statement that the woman is not only “very much in love with him” but that she admires him, “wants to kiss him one last time” before the man sets out on his adventure shows that, even if out of love, he views the female – or women in general – as more emotionally dependent, as a small hindrance to man’s endeavors. Bundy was clear with the gender roles that he had set for a women. Reportedly, in early days of his childhood his grandmother (who then posed as his mother), was a submissive women. His grandfather (who then posed as his father), was a dominant and abusive male. However, this behavior of Samuel did not stop Mrs. Cowell from doing things for him. She never stood up for herself, in fact, even after all the abuse, she made sure her husband was happy and in love with her. The projection was this image in Bundy’s mind and the state of gender roles might be a reflection of his early parents before Eleanor took him away. She had realized the effect her father was having on him, she married Johnny Bundy. Jonny Bundy is said to be an excellent father, however, it seemed to late, Bundy already had set an image. The thematic apperception image is the example.

Dr. Carlisle posited that the combination of Bundy’s words “sinister” and “gentleman” were curious because they indicated that he appeared to speak of two contradicting personality traits: Bundy was a murderer who strove hard to have society view him as an up and coming politician, an intellectual in control of his emotions. Dr. Carlisle further very cleverly drew the possible connection between Elizabeth Kloepfer’s abortion and the mentioned “loss of a child.” The description of the picture is very specific in certain senses, like “grave of his child” or “after the divorce”. Bundy also describes about the emotions inside the man. The emotions that the man is hiding and thinks of them as weaknesses. The way Bundy had described the two terms of contrast in a single statement, “sinister gentleman”, shows his state of mind. Clearly, Bundy justifies the actions of the gentleman, by the amount of piled up emotions that are not expressed or the pile of grief. The man has never forgotten about his child, no matter how long it has been. Bundy has tried here to project that even darkest of the people feel emotions. 

According to studies done, at that time. Since ASPD, like any other personality disorder and mental illness, exists on a spectrum, it has been noted that the success of correctly deciphering others’ mimic and gestures varies between low, medium and high functioning antisocial, so how many criteria they fulfill and whether there is a co-morbidity with other psychiatric illnesses. What antisocial personality conventionally struggle with however, is their response to mimic due to their lack of empathy. While they may be capable of determining that someone is secretly grieving but trying to keep their composure, they might start laughing or bring up inappropriate conversational topics. For instance because they cannot understand why the other person would be sad about losing someone, or because they think their facial expression looks “amusing,” or because they derive pleasure from further reactions such as shock or increased grief.

Dorothy O. Lewis, MD, a psychiatrist from the New York University Medical Center who specialized in evaluating violent offenders, tried to save Bundy (and other criminals) from death row. Her argument: Bundy suffered from bipolar personality disorder, a mental illness characterized mainly by extreme mood swings. According to the Salt Lake City newspaper Deseret News, an investigator had told Lewis that in the middle of a normal conversation, Bundy suddenly “became weird on me . . . did a metamorphosis, a bit of a body and facial change, and . . . almost an odor emitted from him.” Lewis reportedly noted that he could “switch from euphoria and compulsive talking to anger followed by long periods of sullen silence,” and showed examples of a wide range of Bundy’s doodles. Whether he was actually bipolar or not didn’t matter—Lewis's attempt failed, as Bundy's appeal was denied, ultimately resulting in his execution on January 24, 1989.

A group of 73 psychologists got together with the University of Kentucky to study Ted Bundy’s mental health in 2007. They chalked out a list of disorders, according to DSM-5, that Bundy might be suffering from. The team believed Bundy was a prototype (a perfect example) of the disorder, checking off all of its criteria outlined in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders.
1. Antisocial Personality Disorder

According to the American Psychiatric Association, symptoms of ASPD include:

- Egocentrism
- Acting on personal gratification (as opposed to the law and societal norms)
- Lacking empathy and remorse
- Incapacity to maintain mutually intimate relationships (often using coercion and intimidation to control others)
- Antagonism (manipulative, deceitful, callous, and hostile)
- "Dis-inhibition" (irresponsible, compulsive, and risk-taking)

2. Psychopathy

Hervey Cleckley, a psychologist who more or less pioneered the concept of a psychopath, defined one with the "Psychopathy Checklist." That includes:

- Superficial charm,
- Untruthfulness and insincerity,
- Lack of nervousness,
- Inadequately motivated antisocial behavior,
- Pathological egocentricity,
- Lack of remorse and shame,
- An inability to follow a life plan, and more.

3. Narcissistic Personality Disorder

Ted Bundy also showed signs of narcissistic personality disorder (NPD), which is defined by the following traits in DSM-5:

- Excessive reference to others for self-esteem regulating and/or goal setting based on others' approval
- Impaired ability to recognize the needs and emotions of others
- Largely superficial relationships that exist for self-esteem regulation or personal gain
- Feelings of entitlement and superiority
- Excessive attempts to attract attention from others
- Admiration seeking

A person must have at least five of the above symptoms.

4. Borderline Personality Disorder

The majority of that same group of experts in the University of Kentucky study said that Bundy was "above the diagnostic threshold for borderline," a personality disorder that affects anywhere from 2 to 6 percent of the U.S. population according to the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI).

A person with borderline personality disorder (BPD) typically has the following symptoms as per NAMI -

- Unstable personal relationships (swinging from one extreme to another),
- Acts impulsively,
- Behaves in self-harming ways,
- Goes through periods of intense depression,
- Becomes suddenly bored,
- Experiences changes in self-image (sometimes positive, sometimes negative)

People with BPD tend to feel emotions intensely—which may be why not all of the psychologists felt Bundy fell into this category of mental-health illnesses.

IV. DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION

Ted Bundy was typically different from the standard prototype of a criminal at the time. Ted Bundy serves as a classic example of the importance of right parenting environment and peer group. The purpose that a healthy family serves in the upbringing of a child, and healthy here involves physical, social and mental health. The first experience of a child in the human world is governed by the family the child is born in and the environment that the child initially receives, this form that initial fight and flight response, how the person makes decisions or solves a problem. Theorist Jean Piaget or Lev Vigosky talk about importance of education, in fact, lack of education is often being misinterpreted as a reason behind committing heinous crime. People have associated crime with lack of education for a few decades now. But this is one of the few cases that prove that even best of the education cannot save a person from its mental traumas unless dealt with, and what the unattended traumas can lead to. This case breaks the stereotype of a
This study serves as an intervention for importance of mental health and why should it be incorporated in daily life. The initial years of Bundy’s life were evidently dramatic and stressful for a child of his age. He received not only mental abuse but physical abuse from his then father. Later, he was bullied at school for his speech disorder. His biological mother did take him away from the toxic environment later in his life, but it seemed late. This hints at that there is a window even in your childhood, that can be impacted the most and the impacts and experiences of this age window may be seen in the later life. The researcher views this case as someone who fell in a chain of tragedies and could not be pulled out in time. From the time of consumption, he was an unwanted child, who was also abandoned by his birth mother once after birth, however brought back by his grandfather, who adopted him as his own, however doing him no good. This was majorly why Bundy chose aloofness, isolation and disconnection, he was described as a very well-behaved child extremely introverts, however researcher has a different view. Bundy was well-behaved not because he was supposed to, but he had to pertaining to the abuse he received at home. He was unexpressive and shy, did not express anger or remorse, this could be a modeling behavior, studied by Albert Bandura in his famous Bobo doll experiment, modeling the behavior of his mother, even after years of abuse and violence, she never complained. Her birth mother did take him away, but too late, Bundy was already lacking social skills, never bonded with the new family. He was caught for shoplifting a few times, but that could just be lack of money or desire for things he could not buy.

Up till this point, researcher believes that things were fine, normal changes a teenager goes through, it was from here that things started going downhill for Bundy. Bundy met Diane and fell in love. He worked hard to match up to her family’s expectation and to her expectations. Bundy loved her, and really wanted to impress her parents. However, Diane broke up with Bundy when he failed to get enrolled in a law school. Bundy felt betrayed. He was quoted in the mixed tapes, “She never really understood my miseries and my hard-work”. He felt betrayed, grew bitter and set on revenge.

Bundy had two blueprints of the world, one of his father, and the other his mother. Bundy had been viewing following his mother’s version, but this was the point when his views started to change. Just at this phase he discovered about his parentage. The belief that women deserve was his father gave them, was a belief that he had started considering. Over the years, he completed his law degree and continued his political career, whilst going down the dark path. Criminologists have pointed out striking similarities between Bundy’s victims and Diane According to some, even his mother and grandmother and similarities with the victims.

Bundy changed the view of people about how a killer should look like. A broader picture was painted, that urged people to not overlook. Typically, in case of Bundy, even the eyewitnesses in the lake Sammanish case had failed to suspect Bundy as the suspected killer. Bundy’s girlfriend, when reported her suspicion twice, the police cleared Bundy two times. The people who had given the description to the sketch about the person they saw, even they failed to put together Bundy’s picture and the killer they had described.

According to Bundy’s lawyer, during the hearing, the court room was filled with young women between age 19 to 23, even when Bundy had two death sentences on him. Bundy’s lawyer was a female and she reported that the girls used to pass her chits and messages to be given to Bundy. They included their phone numbers, addressed and other vital information. Stephen G. Michaud stated that initially Bundy did not talk about murders at all. Even though on the death row after 3 death sentences, in 1986, Bundy did not confess to committing those crimes. Michaud then talked to Bundy in third person. He asked Bundy to define the mentality of the person responsible for the murder. Beyond that point, Bundy defined the murders with gruesome and scaring details.

Bundy confessed to his girlfriend about following girls, but he also said that after the follow, it blacks out. Till the 22nd January 1989, Bundy was claiming to be innocent. He even warned that the police force would be sorry if they later catch the real culprit. He broke down on 22nd January’s night. He said to have cried. Something that he did not do, since he was first caught. There was always a smile on his face. It was then he said, “We have decided that we want to confess”. This opens a possibility of Bundy having another personality, who he was completely unaware of till the end. The anger, grief, hardships, broken trust, hurt and all the pent up emotions that required dealing and Bundy had been suppressing and ignoring them since his childhood. From the time, he was bullied for this speech and them when he turned out be a failure in almost anything he did. Bundy suppressed these experienced and began living a fantasy where he was the prince charming. The piled up emotions, might have raised a new personality in Bundy, who was there to deal with the anger and lust. He viewed himself as the best, although according to reports, he wasn’t. This sense of being the best, was probably, got space in him when he started to suppress his negative experiences. Bundy was fantasising, daydreaming, where he was a winner. Since in real life he wasn’t, he preferred to remain in his fantasy, where he dealt with all his problems of real life and resolve all his issues. This fantasy of a perfect life was then mixed with mild pornography, which later turned into aggressive pornography. The connection with reality was being lost. As my report has stated above, he was a quiet child and did not express his disagreements, disappointments or grief. That was dealt with, thus, in his fantasy. This child soon came to realise that his wild fantasy gave him pleasure. That relaxes him, the aggression, anger, grief all channelized there. This was the point when the lines started to blur for him, between fantasy and reality. He started living his fantasies.

The researcher here focuses on the role of Parents, family, society in the formation of child’s personality and future. Ted Bundy’s childhood was not a happy one, as he claims. The impact of negative experiences, bullying or not able to express themselves turned out to be fatal, not only for him but for others as well. The problem was very small, that could have stopped Ted Bundy was
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