

Abstract

Psychological profiling of an offender

Psychological profiling is a method of investigation developed in the 70's in the USA. This method is founded on research of behaviour of unknown offender with purpose to make conclusions about his personality.

The purpose of my thesis is to find out how psychological profile can help during investigation. I would like to prove that psychological profiling belongs to investigation, that it can help during investigation and that it can bring a new view on case.

The source of knowledge about the offender's behaviour and personality is the crime scene or text analyse.

The thesis is composed of three chapters, each of them dealing with different aspects of psychological profiling.

Chapter One is introductory and is subdivided into two parts. Part one describes history of psychological profiling. Part Two deals with theoretical background of psychological profiling.

Chapter Two focuses on practical part of psychological profiling and consists of seven parts. This chapter explains the process of making a psychological profile, differences between mass-murder, serial-killer and spree killer, characteristics of expert who creates a psychological profile, limits of psychological profile and differences between crimes committed by intimate people and those by unknown people.

Chapter Three illustrates application of psychological profiling in practise. I have chosen three criminal cases from Czech country – serial killer Jiří Straka, serial rapist and strange suicide. In these examples I want to show how psychological profile was successful.

The psychological profile contains information about the offender's sex, age, race, marital status, education, job etc.

Not all types of crimes are suitable for using of psychological profiling. Among suitable belong: sexual motivated murders, serial rapes, bomb attacks, kidnapping.

The aim of psychological profiling is to focus the investigation on the right way and to narrow the circle of suspicious persons.

Conclusions of my thesis tend to respect the method of psychological profiling. Although it is not without mistakes, it can bring many useful information to investigation. In very serious cases it is necessary to find an offender as soon as possible. Any help can bring near the person who committed a crime.

