

Abstract

The Issue of an Offender's Personality in Criminology

In my diploma thesis, I have focused on the offender's personality in Criminology. Even though the personality of each person is individual, it still has some features that are common to more offenders. By describing these characteristics and factors, I tried to find the answer to the question whether a person is predestined to be a killer or whether it depends on our decisions. In connection with this, I was asking myself whether it is possible to know in advance that someone has a predisposition to be a killer or whether murder can be prevented. Can we choose our destiny?

The diploma thesis is divided into two parts. After defining the basic concepts, in the second chapter I describe the offender's personality from the point of view of psychology, criminology and criminal law. In the third chapter I provide an overview of criminological theories, formed during the development of criminology, where a divergence from the conception of born criminal is perceptible. The fourth chapter is devoted to individual types of offenders and is complemented by chapter five that deals with factors that affect criminal behaviour.

The second part of my work is divided into five chapters, where the chapter six and seven deal with a murder and a personality of the murderer. The remaining chapters describe the specific type of a murder, serial murders in terms of killers's personality and factors affecting their killing. I also do not forget to mention the most common myths and stereotypes that are shared with the company and I explain their inconsistency. Within this section is also included a subchapter comparing serial murders and murders with one victim from different viewpoints. Finally, at the end of my diploma thesis, I apply the theoretical knowledge for a real case of a criminal practice, which is supplemented by a suitable photographic documentation.

By studying of serial killers, I have come to the conclusion that each of us is a potential killer regardless of education, intellect or moral principles. Crime is not congenital, however, we have certain predispositions to criminal behaviour, but it still depends on our decisions whether we become criminals or not.

Key words

The Personality of the Offender, Murder, Serial Murder