

Abstract

The subject of this diploma thesis is „The specificity of serial murders and their investigation”. This diploma thesis focuses on the delimitation of serial murders, the typical way of committing serial murders, the criminalistic characterisation of serial killers as well as the methodology of such murders.

The first chapter of the diploma thesis is dedicated to the definition of the term „serial murders” itself and simultaneously to the terms „mass and murderous wave”.

In the second chapter the aim is, primarily, to briefly analyse the legal classification of serial murders in the meaning of the Czech Criminal Code. This part of the diploma thesis also focuses on the differences between common murder, deliberate murder, murder with prior consideration and the typicalness of serial murders.

The third chapter lays out different ways of committing serial murders from the view of preparatory action. Murder weapons and the mechanism of killing are also described in this part of the diploma thesis as well as the diplomant’s own research on these topics based on the sample of 44 serial killers.

The issue of the culprits of serial murders, especially the matter of their organisation and motive, is described in the fourth chapter. Furthermore, the culprits are divided into categories such as sexual serial killers, marauding serial killers etc.

The fifth chapter examines the investigation of serials murders itself. The diplomant describes the aspects of investigation she considers the most significant, typical and from a certain point of view also specific for serial murders, not the succession of the investigation itself. For example, the autopsy of the place, where the dead body was found and the crime scene, criminalistics expertise, the links between individual murders, the portrait of the investigation in the media and the criminologists’ misconduct in the investigation.

The theoretical part of the diploma thesis is completed with concrete cases from criminalistics practice, whether the Czech one or the foreign one. These cases overlap through the whole diploma thesis and should enable the reader to understand the issue.