**Serial Killers**

Serial killer’s are viewed as monster’s who feed off the fear of everyday society. Picking out a victim who will eventually be; tortured, raped, manipulated, killed, dissected, and in rare occasions consumed. Serial killer’s are in their own way famous in the eyes of the average American known as the anti-hero (America’s). People are disgusted but at the same time fascinated to know more about these disturbed men and woman who have an itch to kill. Looking like the average next door neighbor they prey on the lives of the innocent for to fulfill their own personal desires. It’s nearly impossible to pick a killer out of crowd before they pick out their victim’s first. It is hard to believe that an individual among the rest of society is disturbed enough to take another’s life. But every serial killer has their motives, the reasoning behind doing what they do. The certain characteristic’s about them that make’s their desire kick in and the hunger to kill again become too much to ignore. No matter if it’s; cannibalism, sexual desire, power, insanity, or the simple pleasure of killing. Every serial killer has an explanation for committing the crimes that take the lives’ of innocent men, women, and children.

 Albert Fish once said “I like children, they are tasty” (Newton 76). Those words would make anyone with a child or a heart, cringe. Knowing a man not only would molest children but eat them for breakfast lunch and dinner is unimaginable. The man was Albert Fish, a disturbed older man who is known as the notorious cannibal of the 20th century (Newton 77). Fish was the real life “Boogeyman” who was the reason a child’s parents wouldn’t let them go outside after dark. This self conflicted man took the meaning behind cannibalism to an entirely new level. Making it seem as if eating an innocent child was normal and tasty. “Using a knife, hand saw, and a meat clever he dismembered the body of a little boy, drank all of his blood and saved his face for a stew and his buttock’s and genital’s for a roast” (America’s). Knowing a killer and a cannibal was among everyday society, picking out little boys and girls to pop in his oven until golden brown would make anyone’s teeth chatter. The fact that a man could easily kidnap, kill and eat a child is an outlandish act that is impossible to understand. Fish opened the door for closet cannibal’s just waiting for someone to take the first bite.

 Jeffrey Dahmer was man who would go to any extent to be accepted by the people who surrounded his daily life. When the living didn’t accept Dahmer he would then resort to approval of the dead. Jeffrey Dahmer began his bizarre behavior at a young age by dissecting dead animals; the anatomy of creature’s dead or alive peaked his interest for death. (Newton 59). When murder wasn’t enough he would resort to necrophilia (sexual acts using a dead body) and even then it didn’t seem to be enough. It was at this point that Dahmer would then resort to the consumption of his victim’s. The fears of rejection that lead him to rape and kill would only satisfy him to a certain extent. By consuming the various body part’s of these young men Dahmer would never truly be alone, not only in his stomach but in mind.

Power is something that can either motivate an individual or drive them to do the unspeakable in order to gain respect. There is a little piece of each of everyone who enjoys being in control and feeling powerful. To be known as a leader or someone who is looked up to by those who appear weak and in need of guidance. But the hunger for power could result in the appetite for murder. Dennis Rader also known as the BTK killer (bind, torture, and kill,) would show America just how intense the need for power can be (Newton 28). The crimes Rader committed seemed to be a desperate cry for attention from society, law enforcement, and the media. Rader’s deviant act’s that created the pattern; bind, torture, and kill gave him the power he longed for. Power drove this man to kill innocent families in their own homes and commit unspeakable acts of violence. The murders of those unfortunate victim’s would be the result of a deranged man craving control over others. Rader’s desire to take the lives of other’s in order to feel authoritative lead to the deaths of men and women.

These are the men who gave serial killing a name for itself. Killing consumed their lives; because of their craving for human flesh, the uncontrollable sexual desire that held their imagination captive, the power they thrived for and only achieved through murder, the simple enjoyment of killing, or the thoughts that drove them insane resulting in devious crimes. Although, there was no real defense or logical explanation to defend those men, it is known that each serial killer had their own motives. But what sets apart a person with motives and desires from a serial killer? Everyone has thought’s of hunger, sex, power, hatred towards another person, and losing touch with reality. It’s those people who control those desires that can haunt their imagination and linger in their veins that set them apart from a serial killer.

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