THE SERIAL PSYCHE

A VERITABLE JOURNEY THROUGH THE MINDS OF THE MOST FEARED SERIAL KILLERS

4 x 52 min.

why they kill?

A Crime Documentary Series
EACH EPISODE INCLUDES:

• PROFILES OF CRIMINAL TYPES, DIVIDED PER CATEGORY ACCORDING TO CRIMINOLOGIST LITERATURE.
• BACKGROUNDS OF INFAMOUS KILLERS AND WHAT THEY DID.
• INTERVIEWS WITH FBI, CRIMINOLOGISTS, PSYCHOLOGISTS AND OTHER EXPERTS.
• ORIGINAL FOOTAGE.
• DRAMATIC RECONSTRUCTIONS OF IMPACTFUL MOMENTS CONCERNING THE CRIMINAL SUBJECT.
• COMPUTER GENERATED TECHNOLOGY RECONSTRUCTING CRIME SCENES AND OTHER RELEVANT SCENARIOS IN RELATION TO WHY THEY OCCURRED.

EPS 1. VISIONARY KILLER

A visionary is someone with keen foresight lead by visions or voices. The visionary killer believes they possess this keen foresight due to visions or voices, telling them to kill. This episode explores how these killers lost touch with reality and developed the motives resulting in the techniques used by the most notorious visionary murderers. Son of Sam killer DAVID BERKOWITZ who shot thirteen people during his reign of terror in New York City throughout 1976 and 1977 while writing letters to police and media claiming Satan was making him kill. PETER SUTCLIFFE began hearing the voice of god from an old cross in a cemetery where he dug graves. It bestowed upon him the “divine mission” to kill prostitutes, which he did for many years while working as a long distance hauler in London, killing his victims with a ball peen hammer and earning him the name “Yorkshire Ripper.” Then there’s the bizarre case of HERBERT MULLIN, who late in 1972 killed thirteen people throughout northern California due to telepathic messages he received from god telling him his murders would prevent devastating earthquakes. Thus, he proclaimed himself the saviour of the people he sacrificed.

EPS 2. MISSION-ORIENTED TYPE

The killer who’s made a conscious decision to murder a particular type of person is called the “mission-oriented” killer. They see no visions, they hear no voices, the people they kill come from the mission they create for themselves to rid the world of people they deem undesirable, resulting in some of the world’s most notorious murderers. ALBERT DESALVO believed women were out to get him. His hate for females was so intense, he murdered thirteen women from 1962 to 1964 earning him the name, the “Boston Strangler.” Despite never admitting to killing anyone, CHARLES MANSON also falls into the mission killer category. Through the manipulation of others and getting them to do his killing, Manson set out to create a race war between the blacks and whites, supposedly eventuating in his “family” taking control. In the early 1980s, JOSEPH PAUL FRANKLIN embarked on a self devised mission of “justice” killing twelve young black men. It wasn’t the fact they were black that put them in Franklin’s crosshairs, it was because they had white female companions.
EPS 3. HEDONISTIC TYPE

Those who seek pleasure and thrills from their murders is known as the “hedonistic killer.” This type can be separated into two sub-categories; the lust killer and comfort killer. With no qualms when it comes to murder as a way to increase their enjoyment of life, the lust killer feels a rush of excitement, often sexual as they kill while the comfort killer can’t relax until they have taken someone’s life. The hedonistic type of murderer has yielded some of the most infamous serial killers. In Memphis Tennessee during 1969, GEORGE “BUSTER” HOWARD PUTT murdered five people after breaking into their homes and stealing their money. In the late 1970s, a Jaycee clown named JOHN WAYNE GACY, molested and murdered thirty three boys and young men, burying them under his house. He was finally caught when, thanks to an anonymous tip about a horrible smell, police arrived at his abode and found the bodies of his victims. In 1984, multi millionaire CHRISTOPHER WILDER raped, bound, throttled and stabbed eight women. When questioned on his actions, he replied it was to satisfy his cravings for kicks and thrills.

EPS 4. POWER/CONTROL-ORIENTED KILLER

The murderer satisfied by having complete power of life or death over their victims is the power or control killer. Fundamentally, this killer’s source of pleasure is not sexual but ego; an intellectual need to control and exert power over a helpless victim, creating some of the world’s most well known serial killers. A lot of the information known about this type of killer came directly from one of its most famous. THEODORE “TED” BUNDY agreed to many interviews after his incarceration where he insisted that violence was never an end in itself (and) sex was almost perfunctory; it wasn’t about the assault, but the possession of the victim. Between 1980 and 1981, after being cut from the Green Bay Packers, RANDAL BRENT WOODFIELD needed to prove he was still good enough. He went on a murder spree and left dead bodies up and down highway Interstate Five in Oregon and Washington, earning him the nickname the “I-5” killer. In his eyes, this took him from the status of reject to hero. According to experts, most serial killers are sadists, driven by a need to evoke fear in their victims but JEFFREY DAHMER was different. His motives evolved from a deeply seeded fear of abandonment. He wanted to ultimately possess his victims, keeping them with him forever.