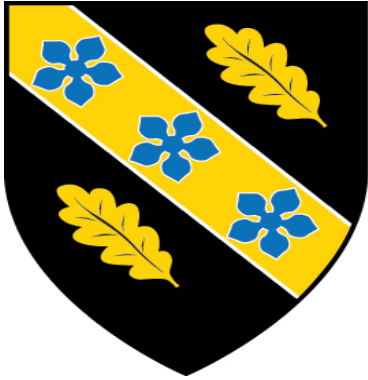




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“An investigation into potential factors that cause people to commit sexual offences and can these characteristics be identified prior to the offence being committed.”

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Declaration

This work has not previously been accepted in substance for any degree and is not being concurrently submitted in candidature for any degree.

Signed: G.Bonazzi

Date: 27/06/2023

STATEMENT 1

This dissertation is being submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of BA.

Signed: G.Bonazzi

Date: 27/06/2023

STATEMENT 2

This dissertation is the result of my own independent work/investigation, except where otherwise stated.

Other sources are acknowledged by footnotes giving explicit references. A bibliography is appended.

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Abstract

This topic will be approached with a fact-based research of this phenomenon that begins with a history of rape in all cultures, progresses through a review of contemporary rape studies, and concludes with a synthesis of study findings that provides a novel hypothesis for why some men rape. In order to evaluate the "successful" sex offender, the research proposes a definition of achievement in sexual offending as the ability to optimise the rewards of a criminal opportunity while reducing the costs. The Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA) is a global organisation devoted to sexual abuse prevention via thorough research and data-driven information. A research of 21,566 men convicted of rape and other sexual crimes in Sweden between 1973 and 2009 discovered an important genetic link to sex offending, which appears to have a significant influence on the likelihood of close male family members committing a sex crime. According to statistical modelling, genetic variables account for around 40% of the risk difference between brothers and dads of sexual offenders found responsible and siblings and fathers of those found not guilty. Studies investigating the link between hormonal imbalances and sexual misbehaviour have focused on the action of certain hormones, which are known to be associated with physical changes in males.

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Chapter One – Introduction

1.1 Introduction and background

The purpose of this research is to investigate and discover any probable elements that may contribute to individuals committing sexual crimes. This project will also look at whether these characteristics could be discovered before an offence is committed, whether early detection of these specific crimes are possible and if they are efficient.

Sexual violence is defined by the World Health Organization (WHO) as follows: *'Any sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances, or acts to traffic or otherwise directed against a person's sexuality using coercion, by any person regardless of their relationship to the victim, in any setting, including but not limited to home and work'* (World Health Organization, 2021).

Sexual assaults have been chronicled for almost as long as history has been written. Sexual assault has always been a cruel aspect of the human tale, from the texts of ancient Greece to the Bible to the letters of early explorers (Gartner & McCarthy, 2014). There were just eight rape prosecutions in 1805. If the matter made it to court, obtaining a conviction was difficult owing to the proof necessary. To maximise the chances of the case being heard in court, urgent action was required to notify authorities that the offence had happened. One of the easiest ways to achieve this was with bloody or ripped clothes, which meant that due to the demonstrated violence were more likely to reach the trial (King, 2017). In 1863, an alleged rapist was found innocent of raping a woman in hop fields due to her naivety in accompanying the prisoner through the gardens. In 1879, a young man was acquitted of raping a lady because she consented to let him escort her home (Ibid.).

Rape, according to feminist ideology, is "a pseudosexual act" committed by men to intimidate and subjugate women. According to the social learning hypothesis, rape occurs from male adoption of attitudes and vicarious learning experiences conducive to men behaving aggressively toward women (Ellis, 1989). Rape, according to evolutionary theory, is an extreme reaction to natural selection pressure that has promoted male aggressiveness in seeking to copulate with multiple sex partners and has favoured females who oppose male attempts to restrict their sexual activity (Ibid.). According to a research conducted, deviant sexual behaviour in general, is driven by two mostly unlearned and closely related drives: the sex drive and the desire to own and dominate (especially regarding sex partners). Although this theory holds that the impulse to rape is generally unlearned, the skills and strategies involved in committing rape are learnt, mostly through operant conditioning rather than attitudes and imitation (Ibid.).

1.2 Aims and objectives

To keep the emphasis on the purpose of this dissertation, the question will be divided into three objectives to explore and investigate. These three goals are as follows:

1. To identify the common characteristics displayed by perpetrators of sexual crimes.
2. To evaluate how these characteristics can be identified and recorded.
3. To research how prevention of further sexual crimes could be imposed following the identification of the relevant characteristics.

1.3 Rational

Sexual crime is regarded as a matter of public safety, with attitudes towards offenders of such crimes being crucial when attempting to build a social climate in which levels of sexual offending may be successfully reduced (Harper et al, 2017). On a clinical level attitudes may be connected to therapeutic settings, treatment success, and risk judgements, whilst in the social environment, public perceptions concerning sexual perpetrators may play a crucial role in reintegration and political reactions to sexual offending (Ibid.).

Sexual crimes have catastrophic and long-term consequences for victims, their families, and those around them (Home Office, 2006). Given that in England and Wales just fifteen percent of rapes are reported to authorities and that a considerable minority of rape victims prefer to remain silent, Unable to tell anyone that which occurred to them, it is apparent that not enough victims have been given the necessary support services to survive their traumas (Ibid.).

This research would be invaluable in finding an effective way to identify common traits which lead individuals to commit crimes of a sexual nature. Once these traits have been identified, it is imperative to find a suitable method to record this data and finally methods in which these crimes could be prevented.

Chapter Two - Literature Review

2.1 Is it nature, nurture or does the environment impact these characteristics

The chapter on the literature study will examine and offer data concerning outside, environmental elements that might lead someone to conduct sexual crimes. Additionally, it will look for patterns in the actions taken by those who commit these crimes. Finally, it will assess the effectiveness of the present approaches to early detection in relation to these traits.

In 2005, a publication was released whereby the authors analyse the situational and societal elements that affect the possibility of rape by using data from research in developmental criminology, evolutionary psychology, psychopathology, and psychophysiology. The authors tackle this issue with a fact-based investigation of this phenomena that starts with a history of rape in all cultures, moves through a review of recent rape studies, and ends with a synthesis of study results that suggests a new theory for why some men rape (Lalumiere, et al., 2005).

The Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers is a global organisation dedicated to the prevention of sexual abuse via rigorous research and data-driven information. Sexual abusers come from all social, educational, gender, age, and cultural backgrounds. There is currently no conventional characteristics of a perpetrator of sexual abuse. However, the preponderance of sexually offending adolescents are men. Women execute around 5% of all sexual crimes. Typically sexual abusers operate from positions of trust or authority within families, groups of friends, or professional positions. Sexual assaults between unknown people is relatively rare (NARSOL, 2018).

Bentovim and Boston (1988) conducted a research on the background of sexual perpetrators, they identified characteristics in the childhood of the sample individuals used which were present in a number of cases studied. They identified that in the sample they used, 15% of those had some form of substance misuse in the family home, 22% witnessed violence in the home, 16% had a parent that was unemployed, 43% were from a family with marital problems and 16% suffered from sexual abuse at some stage in their childhood. They believed that many of these characteristics had an impact on the individual's propensity for offending (Glasser, et al., 2001). According to Hilton and Mezey (1996), there is a shift from victim to perpetrator in child sexual abuse, with perpetrators frequently having a history of victimisation. They also point out that victims are chosen based on physical traits, including age, and that abuse frequently mirrors the offender's own experience. However, this explanation fails to account for protective variables that prevent the development of abusive behaviour, and little study has been undertaken on offenders who were not previously victims. Furthermore, gender disparities in the following behaviour of sexual assault victims have been recorded, with male survivors being more prone to focus their emotions externally, whilst female survivors are more likely to internally process their sentiments and express them through self-destructive behaviour. Male victims endure challenges including sexual identity ambiguity and anxiety, as well as improper attempts at establishing masculinity (Ibid.).

Sexual offences have been the subject of biological hypotheses that have focused on anomalies in brain structure, hormone production, genetic and chromosomal make-up, and intellectual functioning. Important scientific results about the reliability of many biological hypotheses are as follows: However, the data is unmistakable that certain anomalies do not occur in the majority of instances (Faupel & Prybylski, 2010). One of the biological components which some researchers

believe is partly responsible for aggression in humans is called testosterone. The research they have conducted has shown that males are often more likely to show aggressive tendencies, these studies were also conducted on animals which showed similar results (Wong & Gravel, 2016). However, some contradictory findings showed that even at puberty where a male's testosterone levels naturally become higher they did not always show increased signs of aggression. Another contradictory finding was that some females who have naturally far lower testosterone levels would still show higher levels of aggression than others (Ibid.).

In 1990 Marshall and Barbaree developed a model to try and explain why individuals are compelled to commit crimes of a sexual nature. According to Marshall and Barbaree's (1990) Integrated Theory, the primary reasons of sexual offence include developmental experiences, physiological traits, cultural practises, and emotional vulnerabilities (Marshall & Barbaree, 1990). Childhood hardship, such as sexual assault, physical abuse, and neglect, can result in low self-esteem, poor social skills, and a lack of coping techniques. Male adolescents who feel inadequate are more likely to control narratives. Sex can also provide psychological requirements such as increased competence, self-esteem, personal fulfilment, and connection. Learning to distinguish between sexual wants and aggression is an important developmental ability for young guys since both impulses are produced by the same area of the brain. Adolescent boys must be able to control their anger in sexual circumstances in order to recognise whether they are angry, sexually aroused, or both. These variables, together with hormonal changes, make maturing males more likely to engage in sexually inappropriate behaviour (Ibid.). External circumstances such as loneliness, social rejection, or the breakdown of a relationship may encourage teenagers to engage in sexual assault. The less intense these environmental contacts are, the more likely a person is to commit a crime. According to the Marshall and Barbaree's (1990) theory, mood states associated with sexual arousal may eventually create sexual impulses on their own (Ibid.).

One of the main causes of sexual violence has been identified as alcohol; it has been discovered that conditions in which alcohol was consumed enhanced the chance of sexual attacks. Alcohol has the effect of decreasing inhibitions, which causes behaviour that are normally inhibited in any circumstance, clouding perceptions, and making it more challenging to accurately detect contextual signs (Behanan & Bhadkamkar, 2018). Alcohol may occasionally serve as a cultural "break-time," allowing people to act in ways that are not appropriate for society; it may also be used by perpetrators to minimise their level of responsibility or to rationalise their actions. Sexual assaults involving alcohol were more serious than those involving other substances, and binge drinking was associated with these assaults. Substance abuse must be viewed as a contributing component and not as the direct cause of sexual assault (Ibid.).

According to research, sexual aggressiveness can define a man's masculinity in particular communities. Young men's sexually aggressive behaviour has been connected to gang participation and hanging out with troublemakers (Behanan & Bhadkamkar, 2018). Males who have sexually aggressive peers are more likely to report forced sexual contact outside of gang situations, according to research. In certain circumstances, males see gang rape as a lawful punishment for immoral behaviour by women, leading to its non-criminal status and acceptance by society's elders (Ibid.).

Dr. Patrick Tidmarsh has overseen jail treatment programmes in Australia for approximately thirty years, he began in the early 90s overseeing these treatments for all sorts of abusers and feels that eliminating stereotype misconceptions is critical to the prevention of sexual offences. He stated that a male sex offender is most likely to begin offending throughout four major phases of his life: puberty, late adolescence, middle age, and the conclusion of his working years (Smith, 2021). Tidmarsh has seen five similar characteristics in the sex offenders he has met over the last three decades. The list of

characteristics comprises of refusal to take culpability, challenges managing adulthood, a perception of self-entitlement, objectification of women or children, and harm minimization (Ibid.).

There is no one reason people sexually assault another. General criminality and criminal mindsets, emotion regulation and immoral behaviours, relationship deficiencies and loneliness, sexual preferences, sexual arousal to violence, hypersexuality, and/or a desire for power and control are all possible motivations (NARSOL, 2018). Individuals who commit sexual abuse may or may not be attracted to the victims. Individuals who have been indoctrinated to embrace typical gender stereotyped views about women where the man is dominating, display hatred against women, are aroused by images of sexual violence, and are part of a peer group that supports these ideas are more inclined to commit sex crimes (Ibid.).

Journal articles available such as that written by Aslan et al (2014) examines the connection between consuming pornographic content online and engaging in child sex crimes. The goal of this study was to provide readers a better understanding of how crimes are committed by offenders with two similar convictions. Eight older adult males who have downloaded pornographic material and a history of contact sex offences against children participated in semi-structured interviews. The themes that surfaced point to some overlaps (offence process behaviours) as well as some variations (developmental variables) among the eight offenders. Childhood attachment issues and experiences of abuse were the two main themes that emerged from data pertaining to developmental characteristics. Both of these elements appeared to have an impact on the offense-processing process. Three more themes were produced by escalating factors: adult relationships, personality issues, and substance use (Aslan, et al., 2014).

A further study documented in the Journal of Criminal justice looks at notable differences in criminal success among sex offenders. The study suggests a definition of achievement in sexual offending as the capacity to maximise the benefits of a criminal opportunity while minimising the costs in order to evaluate the "successful" sex offender. According to the findings, the successful sex offender is not "detected" once he enters the criminal justice system, nor is he treated in a way that may deter him from reoffending sexually in the future (Lussier, et al., 2011).

2.2 How these characteristics can be identified and recorded.

Credible knowledge of the root factors behind sexual offending and victimisation is necessary for the creation of successful preventative programmes. Prevention attempts are liable to be random and ineffective in the absence of reliable etiological understanding. Second, understanding the reasons can assist sex offender management specialists better manage and reduce risk. Simply put, understanding the origins and pathways to offending can offer crucial insights into the characteristics of different sex offending behaviours and the propensity for them to endure over time (Faupel & Prybylski, 2010). Third, understanding the root issues can assist sex offender management experts create more successful treatment plans. Rehabilitation efforts can address the particular underlying reasons and routes to offending that pertain to the individual offender rather than concentrating on indicators or adopting a one-size-fits-all approach. Fourth, regardless of whether the focus is on punishment, community monitoring, civil commitment, or any other aspect of the criminal justice or society reaction to sexual offences, etiological knowledge can enrich discussion and judgement at the

policy level. In summary, understanding the causes, routes, and antecedents of sexual offence can be vital to creating and implementing successful public safety plans (Ibid.).

It is common practise to ask experts who deal with sexual offenders to assess the threat that the perpetrators pose. These evaluations typically focus on the likelihood of other sexual offences or the likelihood of subsequent violence of any type. The professional may employ clinical judgement or a quantitative risk predictor to complete this assignment. Actuarial tools are empirically derived, but they are fundamentally theoretical in nature because they do not identify the psychological risk elements that underpin risk, making it impossible to determine how risk might be decreased or if a reduction in risk has occurred (Beech, et al., 2003). Advancement of actuarial risk predictions for sexual predators has drawn more attention in recent years. These predictors make use of risk factors discovered via scientific studies and then design techniques to code their presence to generate a rating for an individual that indicates the likelihood that person would be convicted of a sexual offence again over a predetermined follow-up period (Bonta, 1996). The majority of actuarial risk predictors for sexual offenders almost completely rely on static characteristics such as prior criminal history, a lack of committed long-term relationships, and overall crime. Prediction tools for general criminal behaviour have more recently added a dynamic or variable component of risk (Ibid.). The Receiver Operating Characteristics Analysis Area Under the Curve (AUC) provides the best measure of a technique of assessment's predictive accuracy. The benefit of this index is that it is not affected by changes in the benchmark of recurrence. Generally, it can be understood as the likelihood that a randomly chosen repeat offender will have a higher deviance rank than a randomly chosen non-offender. The most precise approach of risk prediction currently offered for use with sex predators is actuarial risk prediction (Hanley & McNeil, 1982).

2.3 Can further sexual crimes be prevented?

Understanding about sexuality and sexual conduct is an important element of the growth of children since it helps them make relationship decisions. Schools and other educational environments help children and young people develop their comprehension of appropriate relationships and sexuality via the individual growth component of the curriculum (NSPCC, 2022). Educators and other professionals in education are frequently in a position to identify concerning behaviours. Harmful sexual conduct is an umbrella term encompassing sexual activities that are problematic and have caused or have the potential to result in adverse effects on the individual or others. Normal sexual behaviour, according to Hackett (2010), comprises developmental expectations, socially acceptable behaviours within peer groups, and consensual and shared choices (Ibid.). Children and adolescents are the most vulnerable to sexual abuse in their families and communities. However, not all sexual assault is perpetrated by adults. Under-18s are considered to be responsible for one-third of all child sexual abuse (Mcguire, 2018). Later life is not the greatest moment to start these dialogues since the public and the media have already delivered millions of signals in the wrong way. Considering sexuality and sex relating to the adversary is the least successful strategy. According to research, the more frequently sex is spoken about and agency in late childhood and adolescence, the less probable abusive dynamics will emerge and, if they do, the greater the likelihood of self-efficacy and personal advocacy (Ibid.).

The RESPECT women framework, created by WHO and UN Women in 2019, aims to eliminate violence against women. It is made up of seven strategies, each of which represents a letter of respect. Developing interpersonal abilities, empowering women, assuring services, lowering poverty, establishing supportive surroundings, avoiding adolescent and child abuse, and altering attitudes,

beliefs, and norms are among the strategies. The framework seeks to address the fundamental causes of violence against women while also promoting a more welcoming and encouraging environment for all (World Health Organization, 2021). There are a variety of interventions in poor and rich resource settings based on each of these seven techniques, with various degrees of effectiveness evidence. Promising interventions include collaborating with couples to enhance relationship and communication skills, community mobilisation interventions to change unequal gender norms, school programmes that improve safety in schools, reduce/eliminate harsh punishment, and include challenging curricula, as well as psychosocial support and behavioural counselling for survivors of intimate partner violence. According to RESPECT, effective initiatives are those that prioritise the safety of women, challenge uneven gender power relationships at their core, are participatory, target various risk factors through coordinated programming, and begin early in a person's life. Adopting and enforcing laws, creating and implementing policies that advance gender equality, allocating funds for prevention and response, and supporting organisations working for women's rights are all necessary steps to bring about long-lasting change (Ibid.).

Considering 86% of adult and adolescent programmes utilising this method, Cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) is a commonly utilised therapeutic framework for sex offender programmes. For the purpose of addressing ideas, beliefs, behaviours, and actions, CBT integrates two psychotherapies. It focuses on presumptions and attitudes that support dysfunctional thinking and reinforce patterns of undesirable or improper behaviour. The behavioural element places special emphasis on the environments and behaviours that influence behaviour patterns. This solution-focused strategy aids sex offenders in developing new skills and abilities for upholding suitable behaviours. CBT challenges justifications for behaviour and teaches individuals how to regulate their sexual inclinations.

Chapter 3 – Methodology

3.1 Introduction

This research paper's methodology chapter will concentrate on addressing the three objectives set out at the beginning and again at the start of this chapter. The methodology will also focus on how the information gathered to answer those objectives will be covered. A reminder of those objectives is as follows:

1. To identify the common characteristics displayed by perpetrators of sexual crimes.
2. To evaluate how these characteristics can be identified and recorded.
3. To research how prevention of further sexual crimes could be imposed following the identification of the relevant characteristics.

3.2 Research strategy/design

Using Qualitative data is the most appropriate for this type of research due to the sensitive nature of the research. The questions which would need to be asked to obtain the information needed would require questions which could be of an upsetting nature. Due to safety reasons, it would also not be appropriate to directly interview offenders of these crimes.

Qualitative studies are a sort of social study which concentrates on the many ways individuals make meaning of their knowledge in the environment in which they live. This also includes their interpretation of their everyday happenings (Planning Tank, 2021). People live in an environment where many different kinds of beings coexist without incident (Ibid.).

The term secondary data relates to data gathered from primary sources and made available to others for use in their study. It gives insights into a variety of processes and might be a direct result of someone else's study. Secondary data needs less study, especially when using websites or other electronic sources (Indeed, 2022). The adoption of search engines and internet-based databases has lowered the amount of labour necessary to collect significant volumes of secondary data, rendering it increasingly accessible and helpful to academics (Ibid.).

Consideration has been given in conducting quantitative research in this study, such as conducting a questionnaire but whilst some statistics will be used they will be gained from previous studies already conducted. It would not be ethical or appropriate at this time to conduct studies on perpetrators of the crimes themselves and due to this being such a sensitive topic it would also not be appropriate to approach victims of these offences.

3.3 Data collection and Data Analysis

Documental revision will be used to obtain more information to answer the specified objectives. This approach entails the utilisation of already available trustworthy materials along with additional resources of information as a foundation of data to be utilised in a new research or inquiry (Belyh, 2019). This is analogous to the data collector going to a library and perusing the books along with other sources for material related to the subject is currently investigating. The person conducting the study will obtain a better grasp of the topic or issue under investigation as a result of the trustworthy and high-quality documents employed as data sources. By utilising other papers or research as a source will give a glimpse of the issue under consideration from several angles or perspectives, allowing for comparisons and contrasts (Ibid.).

Case studies will also be utilised in the collection of data for this research project. Data is acquired in this approach by closely inspecting and thoroughly analysing a "case study". The adaptability of this technique is evidenced by its ability to analyse both basic and complicated issues (Beleh, 2019). The strength of a case study as a data collecting technique, on the other hand, is ascribed to how it incorporates different data gathering methods and incorporates a greater number of variables than where a single approach is utilised. In order to collect data for the case study, the investigator may use additional approaches such as interviews, floating questionnaires, or group discussions. Case studies are adaptable and adaptive, analysing simultaneously basic and intricate components and occurrences throughout time. Case studies offer comprehensive and accurate data since they record as many factors as possible (Ibid.).

3.4 Limitations

The disadvantage of documental revision as a research method is that it is significantly dependent on the quality of the document that will be utilised, as well as the data collector's ability to select appropriate and reliable materials. If he makes the wrong decision, the accuracy of information that is collected subsequently will suffer.

The disadvantage of employing case studies is that the data's reliability may be jeopardised if the case study or studies selected are not sufficiently representative of the demographic group or community.

3.5 Conclusion of methodology

The three objectives of this study article are to identify common features of sexual offenders, evaluate their identification and recording, and investigate preventative approaches. The study seeks to comprehend the features of sexual offenders, whether they are a result of a genetic predisposition, learnt behaviour from peers, or contextual circumstances. The research strategy is qualitative data,

which focuses on how people make sense of their knowledge in their surroundings. Direct interviews with offenders are not ideal for safety concerns since this sort of study is sensitive and involves distressing questions.

Qualitative research is critical in answering these issues because it focuses on the perception of everyday events and the traits, contrasts, or similarities that allow for comparisons. Secondary data acquired from original sources gives insights into many processes and may be the direct product of another's research. It necessitates less research, particularly when using online or electronic sources. Secondary data is now more accessible and useful to academics thanks to the widespread use of search engines and internet-based databases.

Due to it being unethical to conduct studies on offenders or victims of crimes, the study project will not employ qualitative research methods such as questionnaires to collect data on these crimes. Documental revision will be utilised to gather information, utilising current reliable materials as well as other resources. This method facilitates a deeper knowledge of the topic or issue under examination, as well as comparisons and contrasts. Case studies will also be utilised to collect data since they are versatile and can analyse both simple and complex topics. Case studies provide complete and reliable data by documenting as many variables as feasible. The downside of documental revision is that it is dependent on the document's quality and the data collector's ability to choose acceptable and reliable materials. Furthermore, if the case study or studies chosen are not adequately representative of the demographic group or community, the data's credibility may be jeopardised.

Chapter Four - Analysis of results

4.0 Introduction

Following a review of the available literature on the aforementioned themes, secondary data was gathered, allowing objective two to be addressed. Objectives one and three will need to be looked at further to answer the question. This information will be highlighted and shown on a graph in this chapter.

The first of the objectives to be explored will be to identify the common characteristics displayed by perpetrators of sexual crimes. The third objective is to research how prevention of further sexual crimes could be imposed following the identification of the relevant characteristics. I will again be using published and accredited material to answer this question including case studies.

4.1 Objective one review

During an interview conducted Mark Laita with a male who will be named as Bill for the purpose of this research project, was convicted of several sexual offences, the subject stated that he was born into a middle-class working family (Bill,2020). Throughout his childhood years he was sexually abused by his mother and by a babysitter, this sexual abuse continued for several years. Bill also stated that in his household there was further emotional and physical abuse which he had to endure on a daily basis. Following the years of abuse he felt unable to lead a normal life. There was no issues with alcohol throughout his time offending but he did get heavily involved with drug use (Ibid.).

During an interview conducted by Mark Laita with a male who will be named as James for the purpose of this research project, was convicted for several sexual crimes, the subject stated that he was born into an abusive family. James described his early childhood memories as being over sexualised due to sexual abuse from his mother, father and sisters (James,2019). James stated that the abuse became really bad for a period of time that he became violent himself in order to make the abuse on himself stop. James believes that through the years of abuse which he endured at the hand of his family members taught him from a young age that Rape was acceptable as long as you cared for the person you targeted and that it's something you do for someone you cared about. At the ago of 16, James was convicted for rape on his mother and believes that he did not know the difference between right and wrong at the time as it was all he knew. James then went on into his adult life, where he was further convicted for child sexual offences (Ibid.).

A study of 21,566 males convicted of rape and other sexual crimes throughout Sweden between 1973 and 2009 found a substantial hereditary component to sex offending, which appears to have a major effect on the probability of close male relatives committing a sex crime (Långström, et al., 2015). According to the study, around 2.5 percent of criminals' brothers or dads are convicted of sexual crimes, compared to 0.5 percent of the overall male demographic which have been convicted of sexual offences. According to statistical modelling, genetic factors account for approximately 40% of the difference in risk between brothers and fathers of sexual offenders who have been found guilty and siblings and fathers of those who have not been found guilty (Ibid.). It suggests that 'non-shared' environmental factors (including neonatal problems, brain trauma, sexual abuse in childhood and peer group attitudes) account for around 58% of the variation in risk for an individual but not for other family members. Evidence showing a risk difference among maternal and paternal half-

brothers, who were likely raised in different household settings, lends credence to the notion that heredity plays a significant role in increasing risk (Connor, 2015).

4.2 Objective three review

Returning to Bill from the first interview highlighted in the objective one review, he stated that whilst in a specialist prison targeted specifically to sexual offenders, he underwent treatment in the form of therapy (Bill, 2020). Bill informed the interviewer that during these therapy sessions he would work towards things such as his childhood traumas, his sobriety and management of his day to day thought process. Whilst in therapy he found new ways of suppressing his sexual desires and felt like he was able to cope with the pressures and demands of leading a normal life. Since being released from prison subject one stated that he has not re-offended, and this was greatly in thanks to the specialist therapy he received during his time in prison (Ibid.).

Returning to James from the second interview highlighted in objective one, there was no support for him following his convictions. Unlike Bill in interview one who went to a specialist prison which provided therapy to prevent him from committing further sexual crimes, James did not have that option. This could have played a huge role in him re-offending consistently throughout his adult life. James was not taught how to deal with his childhood traumas or how to suppress his sexual desires (James, 2019).

Craig Leam and colleagues investigated whether the Multiphasic Sex Inventory (MSI) could foresee sexual re-offending in 119 convicted male sex offenders. Over 2- and 5-year follow-up periods, the MSI measures, comprising Sexual Addiction and Paraphilia, predicted sexual reconviction with high accuracy. A confirmatory factor analysis of the MSI scales revealed four factors: "Sexual Deviance, Sexual Desirability, Dysfunctional/Justification, and Normal" (Leam et al., 2007). At a 2-year follow-up, the Sexual Deviance component predicted sexual reconviction with high accuracy, yet the overall Normal component was a poor indicator. In predicting sexual reconviction, the four MSI indicators showed a statistically significant impact irrespective of the risk scale (Ibid.).

The findings from the study by Leam et al. (2007) have consequences for the effectiveness of therapy and threat evaluation of sexual perpetrators. A higher score on the MSI scales imply a greater likelihood of committing more sexual offences, and the factor structure of the MSI might distinguish between treatment outcome factors (Leam et al., 2007). Offenders who disclosed their abusive behaviour more frequently had better treatment progress, whereas individuals who failed therapy had higher Lie scores. This profile can point to an underlying deviance that calls for a lengthier, more deliberate therapeutic intervention. Even though there are benefits to employing actuarial measurements rather than psychometric ones, the MSI's progressive predictive reliability of the Sexual Deviance component is crucial since many doctors lack access to physiological indicators of sexual deviation. The study recommends utilising the MSI levels as an indicator of sexual relapse and a gauge of post-treatment cognitive change (Ibid.).

Chapter Five - Conclusion and recommendations

5.1 Introduction

This study aimed to analyse and find probable elements that contribute to persons committing sexual crimes, as well as whether these qualities may be identified before an offence occurs. The World Health Organisation defines sexual violence as "any sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances, or acts directed against a person's sexuality using coercion." Sexual attacks may be traced back to ancient Greece, the Bible, and early explorers. There were only eight rape prosecutions in 1805, and gaining a conviction was difficult owing to the needed proof. To increase the likelihood of a case being heard in court, authorities were notified of the infraction as soon as possible. According to feminist ideology, rape is a pseudosexual act done by men in order to terrify and enslave women. Rape, according to the social learning theory, results from male attitudes and vicarious learning experiences that encourage violent behaviour against women. According to evolutionary theory, rape is motivated by two unlearned and closely connected drives: the sex drive and the urge to own and control, particularly over sex partners.

The research had three goals: identifying common characteristics displayed by perpetrators of sexual crimes, evaluating how these characteristics can be identified and recorded, and researching how further sexual crimes can be prevented after the relevant characteristics are identified.

5.2 Main findings for objective one

The literature review looks at behaviour patterns, early detection strategies, and contextual factors that influence sexual crime. It looks at historical rape cases, current research, and a brand-new rape theory for guys. The Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers works to stop abuse by providing data-driven information and conducting research. Biological theories, such as those relating to brain anatomy, hormone production, genetic and chromosomal make-up, and cognitive function, have all been connected to sexual assaults. These hypotheses are only partially supported by the available data, though.

Developmental experiences, physiological characteristics, cultural norms, and emotional vulnerabilities are the main causes of sexual offence. Low self-esteem, poor social skills, and a lack of coping mechanisms can be consequences of childhood traumas such sexual assault, physical abuse, and neglect. Additionally, sex can meet psychological needs for improved competence, self-esteem, fulfilment, and connection. Due to its ability to reduce inhibitions, muddle judgements, and make it challenging to interpret contextual signs, alcohol is a significant factor in sexual assault. In some groups, a man's masculinity may be defined by his sexual aggression.

Sexual assault can occur for a variety of reasons, but those who abuse others sexually may find victims attractive. According to research, people who have been socialised to hold gendered stereotypes, hate women, are stimulated by sexual violence imagery, and are a part of a peer group that shares these beliefs are more likely to commit sex crimes. Bill and James, two men who were convicted of

sexual offences, were interrogated by Mark Laita. Bill, who grew up in a working-class middle-class home, was sexually abused by his mother and nanny. He became deeply involved in drug use because he felt unable to live a normal life.

James, in contrast, was found guilty of raping his mother and afterwards of child sex crimes. According to a study, 40% of the difference in risk can be attributed to genetic variables, and sex offending has a major hereditary component. Neonatological issues and brain injuries are examples of non-shared environmental variables that raise the risk.

5.3 Main findings for objective two

Understanding the underlying causes of sexual offending is essential for building successful prevention programmes, risk management strategies, and treatment approaches. The possibility of a person being convicted again over a defined follow-up time is predicted using actuarial risk assessments for sexual predators. Originally predicated on static traits like prior criminal history and the absence of committed long-term relationships, these predictors now also include dynamic or variable elements. The most precise strategy for sex predators is accurate risk prediction.

5.4 Main findings for objective three

Children's development and decision-making depend on their understanding of sexuality and behaviour. Through the individual growth component of the curriculum, schools and educational environments assist students in developing an awareness of acceptable relationships and sexuality. The term "harmful sexual conduct" refers to unethical behaviours that may have a negative impact on a person or others. The most vulnerable age groups to sexual assault are children and teenagers; one-third of all child sex abuse is committed by people under the age of 18. By addressing the root causes of violence against women and encouraging a welcome environment, the RESPECT women framework seeks to end it.

Enhancing interpersonal and communication abilities, community mobilisation, educational initiatives, and psychosocial assistance for victims of intimate partner violence are all examples of interventions. A popular treatment model for sex offender programmes is cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT), which focuses on assumptions and attitudes that encourage dysfunctional thinking and reinforce patterns of undesired or improper behaviour. The Sexual Deviance component of the Multiphasic Sex Inventory (MSI), which also predicts sexual reconviction with high accuracy, is known as the Multiphasic Sex Inventory. The study advises using the MSI levels as a barometer of post-treatment cognitive change and an indicator of sexual relapse.

5.5 Limitations

Study reveals limitations in documental revision and case studies, affecting accuracy and reliability based on document quality and data collector selection.

5.6 Conclusion

This study aimed to analyse and identify probable elements contributing to individuals committing sexual crimes and whether these qualities can be identified before an offense occurs. Sexual violence has a long history, dating back to ancient Greece, the Bible, and early explorers. The World Health Organisation defines sexual violence as any sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances, or acts directed against a person's sexuality using coercion. The research aimed to identify common characteristics displayed by perpetrators of sexual crimes, evaluate how these characteristics can be identified and recorded, and research how further sexual crimes can be prevented after the relevant characteristics are identified.

The literature review examined behaviour patterns, early detection strategies, and contextual factors that influence sexual crime. The Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers works to stop abuse by providing data-driven information and conducting research. Biological theories, such as brain anatomy, hormone production, genetic and chromosomal make-up, and cognitive function, have been connected to sexual assaults.

Developmental experiences, physiological characteristics, cultural norms, and emotional vulnerabilities are the main causes of sexual offence. Low self-esteem, poor social skills, and a lack of coping mechanisms can be consequences of childhood traumas such as sexual assault, physical abuse, and neglect. Alcohol is a significant factor in sexual assault, and in some groups, a man's masculinity may be defined by his sexual aggression.

Understanding the underlying causes of sexual offending is essential for building successful prevention programs, risk management strategies, and treatment approaches. Accurate risk prediction is the most precise strategy for sex predators. Children's development and decision-making depend on their understanding of sexuality and behaviour. The RESPECT women framework seeks to end violence against women and encourage a welcoming environment. Interventions include improving interpersonal and communication abilities, community mobilization, educational initiatives, and psychosocial assistance for victims of intimate partner violence.

5.7 Recommendations

Throughout this study a significant lack of UK based information was located. Further studies could include the British population as socioeconomic factors and other characteristics could vary in different populations. A further exploration into effective methods of using the data identified and effective prevention methods would also be highly beneficial as again there was quite limited information readily available.

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Appendix