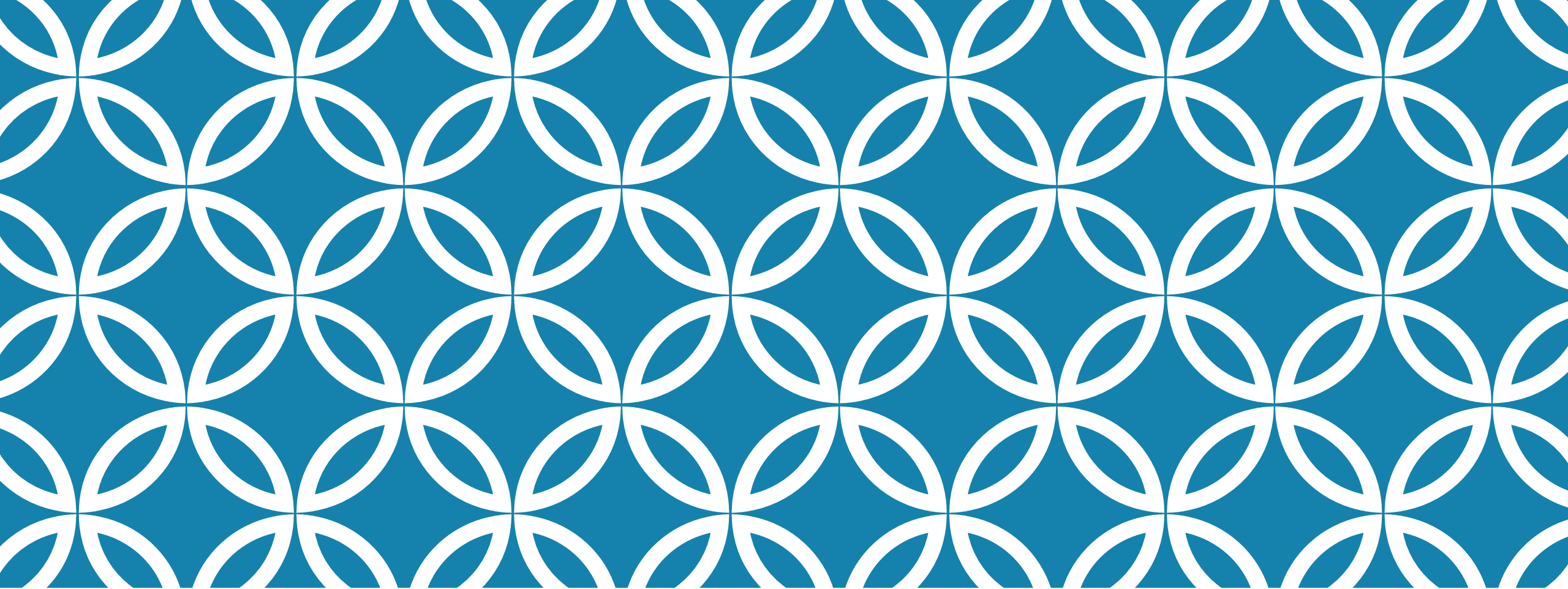




OFFENDER PROFILING — ACTIVITY

BRITISH APPROACH- MAIN PRINCIPLES

Interpersonal Consistency

The behaviour of the offender at the time of the crime will be comparable to what they're like in every day life

Degree of violence used in serious crimes, especially rape, may reflect how the criminal treats other women in his non-criminal life

Spatial Consistency

Marauders

- Commit their crimes close to where they live or feel secure.
- Usually disorganised criminals

Commuters

- Commit their crimes away from where they usually live
- Usually organised

DAVID CANTER:

Canter looks for Criminal consistency: the way the crime is committed reflects everyday traits and behaviours of the offender.



This can be both interpersonal and spatial consistency.



Canter & heritage (1990) used interpersonal consistency to analyse the interaction between offender and rape victim which led them to propose a typology of rapists based on 3 styles.



Spatial consistency would apply to marauders.

THE RAILWAY RAPIST(S)

The first scientific
profiling case

This is an example of the
marauder/commuter
distinction of Canter
(1990) and also the use
of mental maps of an
area.

Documentary part 1

Documentary part 2

Documentary part 3

CANTER FOCUSES ON THE MARAUDER TYPOLOGY: CIRCLE OF ENVIRONMENTAL RANGE (CER)

An offender`s home can be located by drawing a circle through the most geographically distant offences, the offender should live somewhere near the centre of the circle.

This has been applied to arson, rape and murder with some success.

However, geographical profilers need to look at the offenders motivations-these could skew the offenders journey to crime.

Often described as the **geometry of crime, and crime pattern theory**, this incorporates the psychological principles of buffer zones, mental maps and distance decay (Brantingham & Brantingham, 1981).

CIRCLE THEORY OF ENVIRONMENTAL RANGE

Based on the finding that in many cases they examined, offenders lived fairly close to where they committed their offences, Canter and Larkin (1993) put forward the circle theory of environmental range.

Basically, this proposes that the majority of the time, if a circle is drawn that encompasses all of a series of linked crimes, the offender will be based somewhere within the circle.

Rossmo (2000) suggests that in general, criminals offend close to their homes (or other base) and the number of offences drops off with increasing distance from the base.

EVIDENCE FOR CER

Godwin and Canter (1997) found that 85% of the offenders they studied lived inside the circle encompassing their offences.

Koscis and Irwin (1997) confirmed this looking at serial rapes and arson attacks in Australia.

However, Koscis and Irwin also found that the same finding did not appear to apply for burglary; roughly half of the burglars lived in the circle defined by their offences.

Snook et al., (2005) examined the offence locations of 53 serial murderers in Germany. In 63% of cases the killer lived within 6 miles of where the bodies were found.

Younger offenders travelled shorter distances and killers with higher IQ's travelled further, suggesting that experience and intelligence influence killers' attempts to disguise their crimes.

This suggests that information about the dispersal of offences may indicate some general characteristics of the offender responsible.

MENTAL MAPS

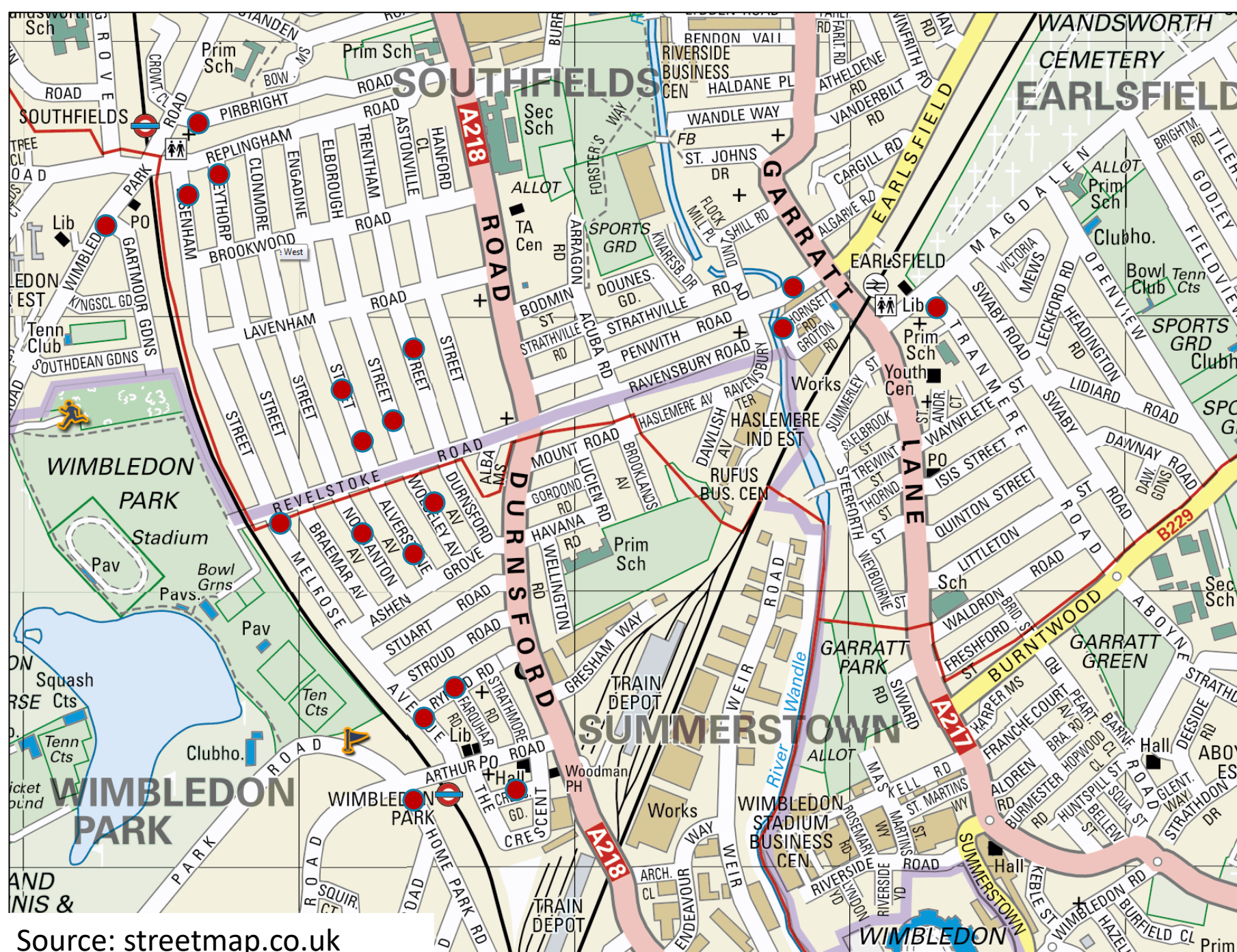
People develop internal representations of the world they live in, especially the areas they make frequent use of.

Mental maps do not accurately represent reality; they represent the perspective and experience of the individual. So, for example, a car driver might have a rather different mental map of Birmingham than a bus user or a pedestrian.

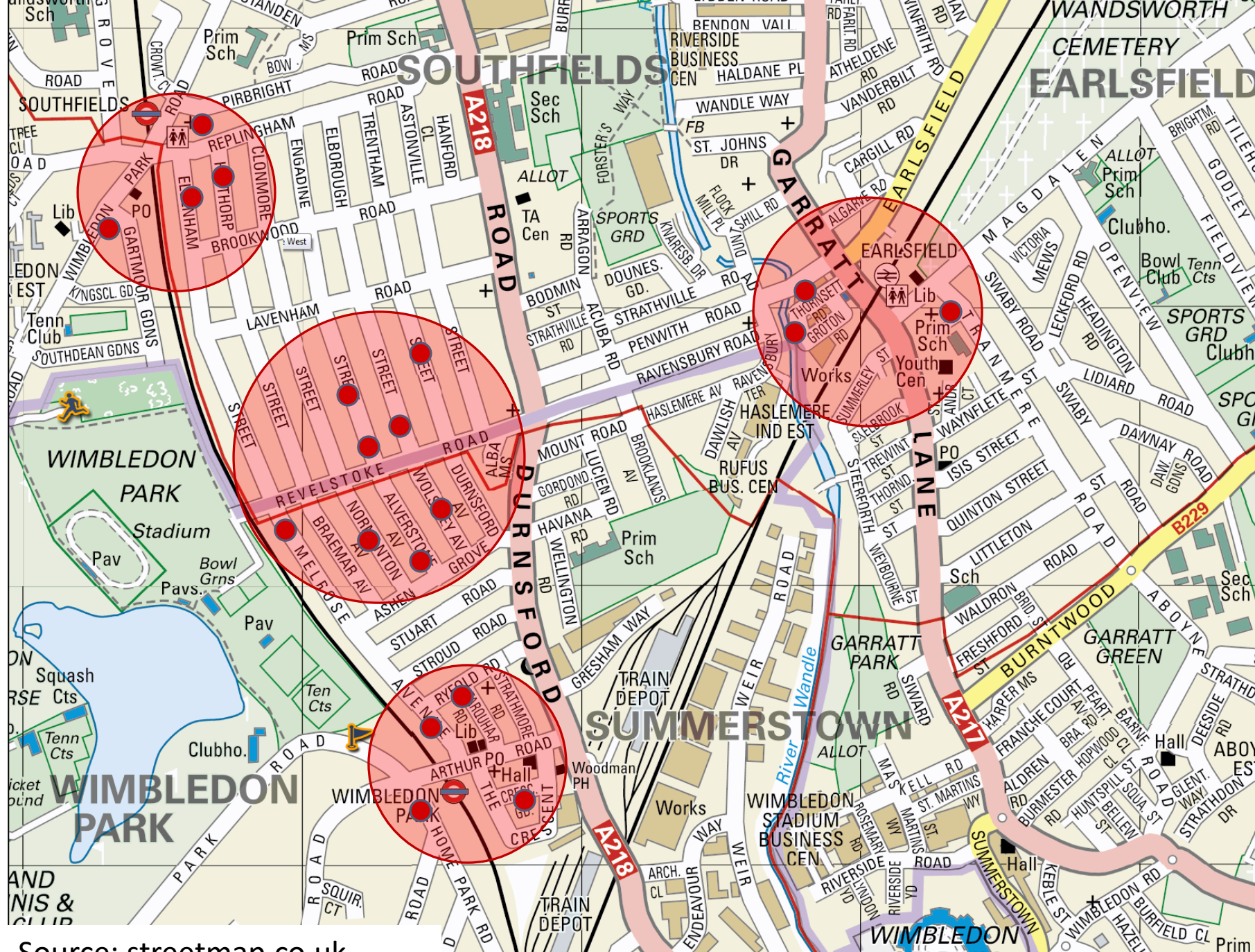
Similarly, a Londoner's mental map of their city centre may be very different depending on whether they walk or use the underground.

Because a criminal's offences are likely to be influenced by their mental map of an area, the distribution of their offences can be used to make inferences about them.

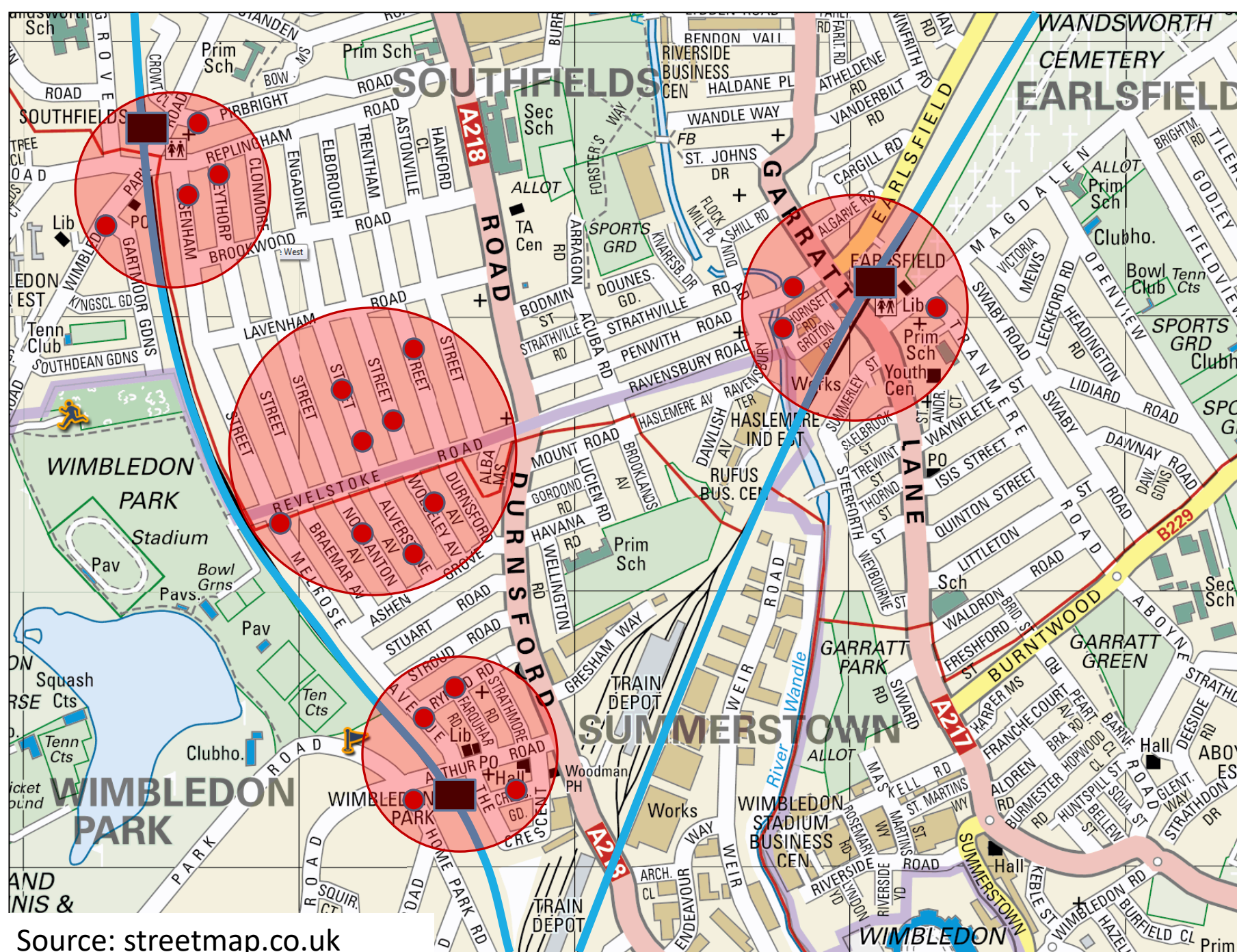
Canter used the locations of John Duffy's attacks to predict that he would be someone with more knowledge of the railway network than a casual rail user. It turned out that Duffy was employed as a carpenter by British Rail.



Source: streetmap.co.uk



Source: streetmap.co.uk



Source: streetmap.co.uk

SMALLEST SPACE ANALYSIS

This has led to the identification of 3 major groups of crime based on **shared characteristics** from a crime scene:

Instrumental opportunistic

Instrumental cognitive

Expressive impulsive

Two thirds of murders can be classified into these categories with each having specific offender characteristics:

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CRIME SCENE & OFFENDER CHARACTERISTICS

Crime theme	Crime scene characteristics	Offender characteristics
Instrumental opportunistic	Face hidden, sexual, partial undressing, manual attack, neck attacked, female, old, multiple wounds to one area, victim premises	Previous theft offences, burglary, vehicle, police notice, unemployed, familiarity of area, known to victim
Instrumental cognitive	Body transported, hidden, carefully placed, blunt instrument, face up	Armed service, prison sentence
Expressive compulsive	Slash/cut, single wound, weapon taken to and removed, limbs attacked, torso attacked, multiple wounds	Previous violent offences, public disorder, property damage, sexual offences, traffic offences, drug offences, married, females

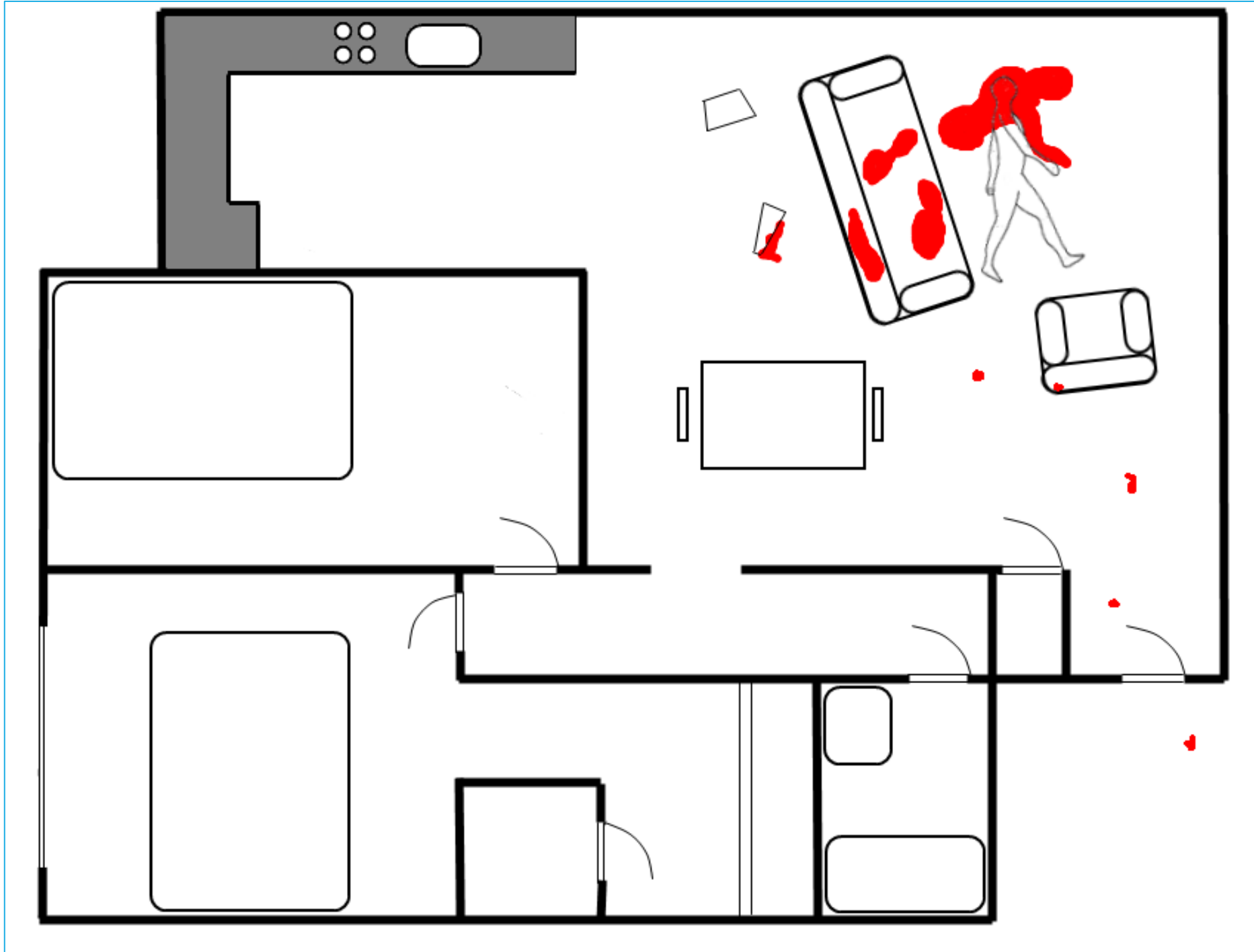
PROFILE THESE CRIME SCENES- FBI PROFILING

Use the evidence to
construct a profile

- Organised or disorganised
- Behavioural evidence
- Known characteristics of serial offenders

Your profile should...

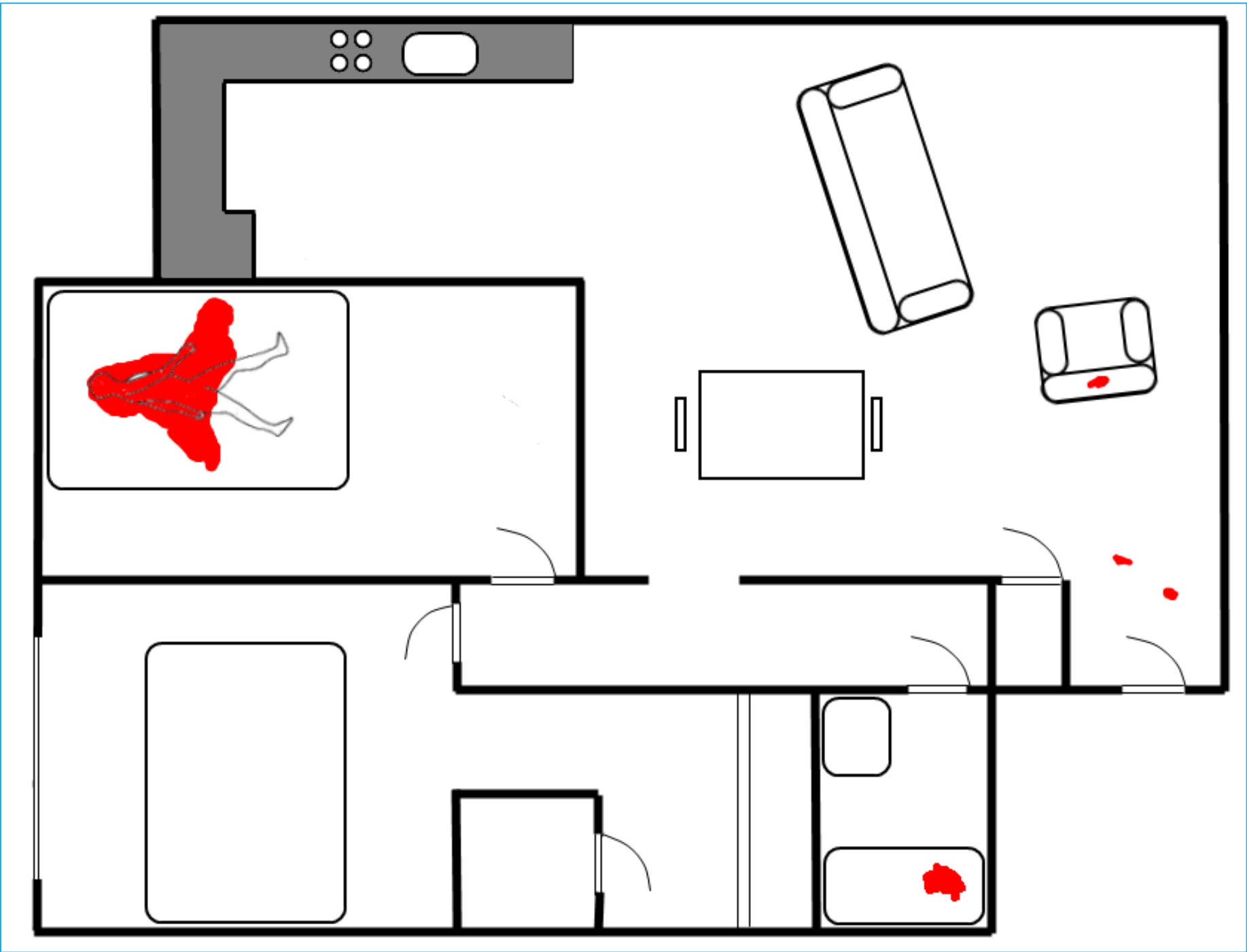
- Tell the story of the crime
- Describe the person responsible



- ❖ The victim was a Caucasian female aged 28 years. She was found partially clothed on the floor of the living area. The cause of death was blunt force trauma to the head. There was one large, deep impact area on the rear of the skull and multiple impacts to the forehead, face and shoulders.
- ❖ There were large patches of blood on the sofa and on the floor beneath the victim and extensive blood spatter on the walls and ceiling in the vicinity of the victim. There were smaller patches and smears of blood between the sofa and the front door, on the armchair and outside the front door.
- ❖ A lampshade and base were found on the floor of the living area. The contents of the flat did not appear to have been disturbed. The patio doors at the rear were open and the lock showed signs of having been forced. The front door was pushed to but not fully shut or locked.



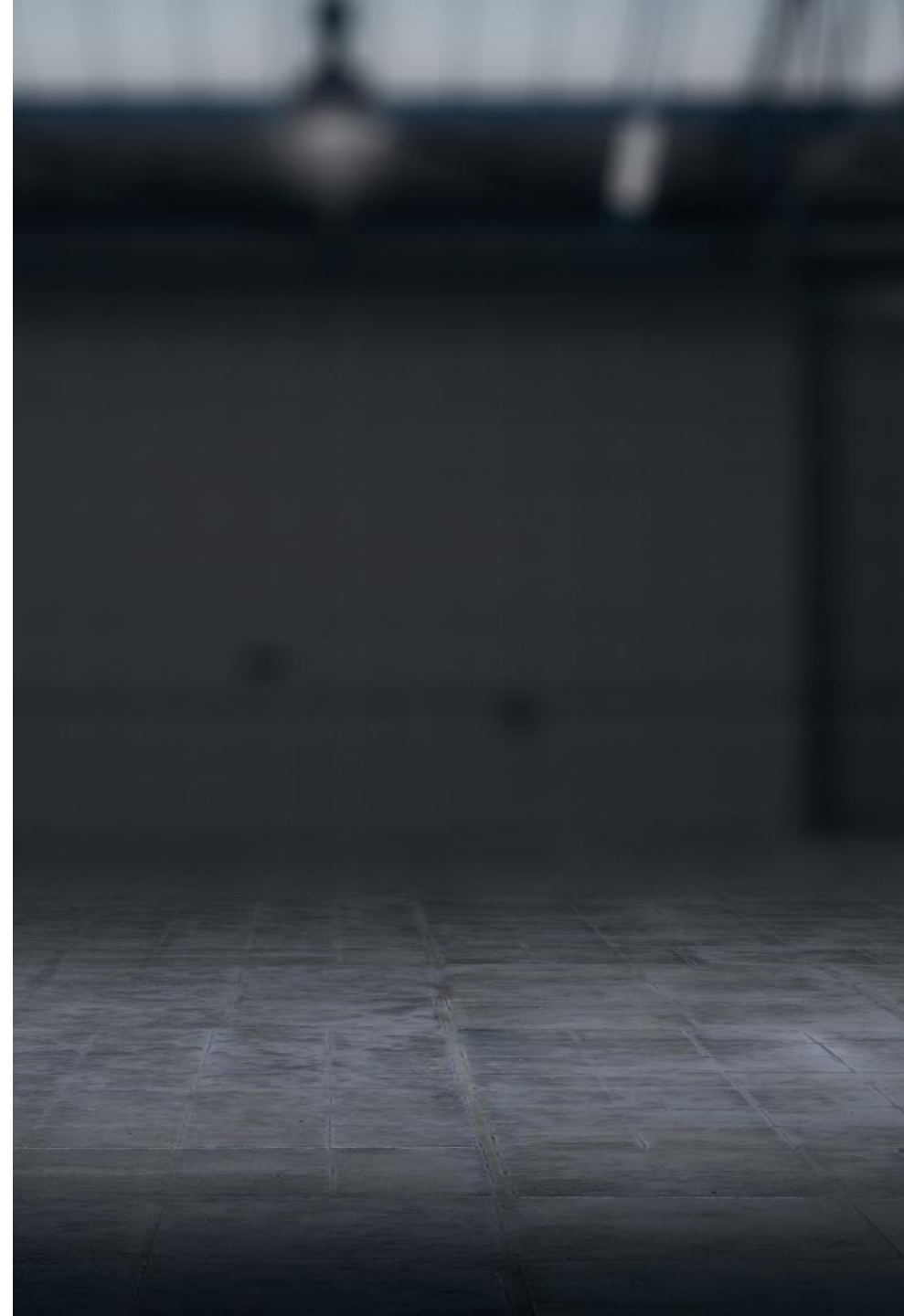
- ❖ The victim was an Afro-caribbean woman aged 25 years. She was found fully clothed lying half on half off the bed in the larger of the two bedrooms. The cause of death was exsanguination. There were multiple stab wounds on the victim's neck, chest, forearms, hands and back. Those in the chest and neck were the deepest and most obviously fatal.
- ❖ There were large patches of blood in the living area, the kitchen and the bedroom. In the bedroom there were two large bloodstains on the bed and another on the floor beneath the victim. There were smaller patches and smears of blood in the corridor and the bedroom doorway and traces in the bathroom sink.
- ❖ Most areas of the flat appeared undisturbed although the living area was in some disarray. Cutlery was found on the floor and two half eaten plates of food on the table. All doors and windows were locked.



- ❖ The victim was a Caucasian woman aged 45 years. She was found naked on the bed in the smaller bedroom. Her wrists and ankles had been bound with industrial duct tape. The cause of death was exsanguination. There were forty five stab wounds on the victim's chest, abdomen and thighs.
- ❖ None of these were deep enough to be immediately fatal. Her throat had been deeply cut but it is not clear whether this occurred after her death. There was a large patch of blood beneath the victim, enough to have soaked right through the bedding and mattress. Small traces of blood were found near the front door, on the armchair in the living area. Dilute blood was found in the shower/bath.
- ❖ The contents of the flat appeared undisturbed, although some bedroom drawers were open. A pendant the victim was known to be wearing was not found.

YOUR BRIEF...

- ❖ The body of a 21-year-old shop worker has been found hidden under some fallen leaves and bushes just off a walkway that many people use as a short-cut from the city centre to an adjacent housing estate by a young couple walking their dog early on a Saturday morning.
- ❖ The victim was last seen alive leaving her job at a shop in the city centre at 6.50pm when she said that she was going straight home. Work colleagues confirm that she often took the short-cut home. The housing estate where the victim lives houses approximately 2,000 people, mainly working class, laborers, or claiming Government Benefits. There is a high prevalence of unemployment in this area.
- ❖ There have been 3 other reported attempted attacks on women within quarter-of-a-mile of the offence in the last 2 months. All the other victims managed to escape unharmed and identified a similar looking suspect.



PATHOLOGY DEPARTMENT

- ❖ The pathologist report states that the young lady was killed between 6pm and 8.30pm the previous Friday. The cause of death has been identified as strangulation.
- ❖ As a result of the pattern of the bruises around the neck it seems to have been a large chain of some form. Also it is noted that there are defense wounds where the victim had attempted to struggle free.
- ❖ Further to this there is a slight bruising to the top of her thighs suggesting an attempted sexual assault; however, no bodily fluids were found and a tampon was still in place.

CID DEPARTMENT MEMO

Officers searching the scene of the crime have found several items of interest:

- A piece of chain approximately 1.5m long thrown in bushes around 300m away from the crime scene. It appears that this chain was taken from a building site store only 25m from the crime scene.
- An open, but unused condom and wrapper were found within 5m of the crime scene.
- A receipt for 20 Cigarettes and a bottle of cider from a local 24-hour store was also found in very close proximity to the crime scene.

CID DEPARTMENT MEMO

RE: Witness reports from Friday afternoon

Two local residents have reported that they saw a man aged between 25 and 40 looking confused and disorientated walking from the short-cut to the housing estate around 6.45pm on the Friday. The man was carrying a carrier bag and walked towards a tower block within the estate.

COMPILE A PROFILE-

Include:

Motive- organised or disorganised

Age and Race

Employed/unemployed

Relationships with women

Place of residence

Background/personality variables

The perpetrator:

Mr. Jackson, a manual labourer lives on the local housing estate alone after a string of failed relationships with several local women. Witness statements gathered from these previous partners suggest that he verbally abused and on some occasions physically abused them.

Many also mentioned the accused had problems in getting and maintaining an erection on several occasions.

An ex-foster child, Mr. Jackson, had difficulty in socialising and would often spend the evenings in his flat alone, especially during the previous 18 months whilst he was single. He grew angry towards his ex-partners, which was consequently transferred to all women.



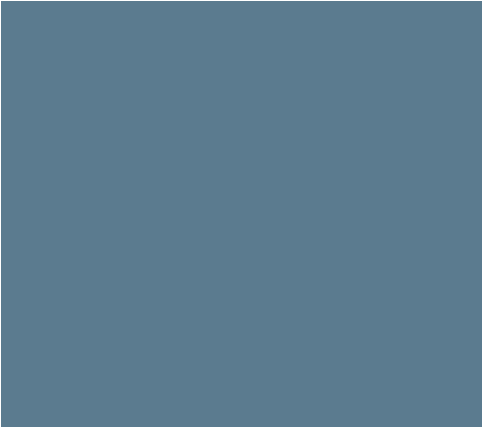
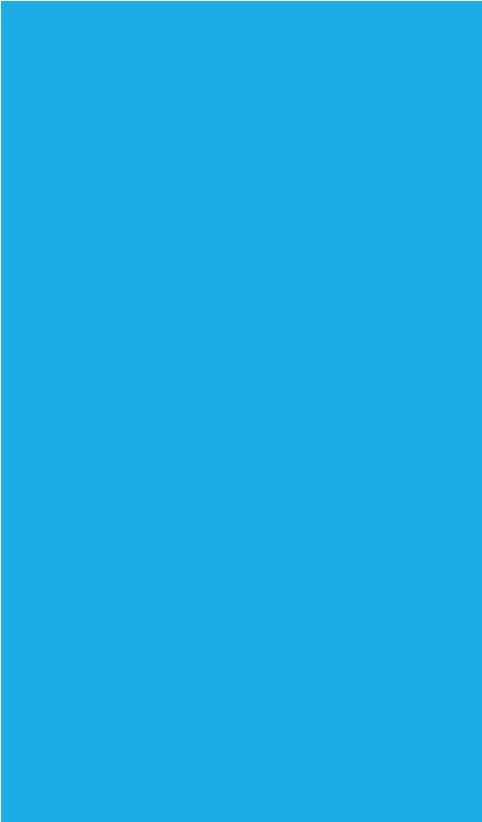


Following further questioning he confessed to the other 3 attempted attacks.

It emerged that he had drank the bottle of cider and had seen the victim walking down the walkway in the opposite direction.

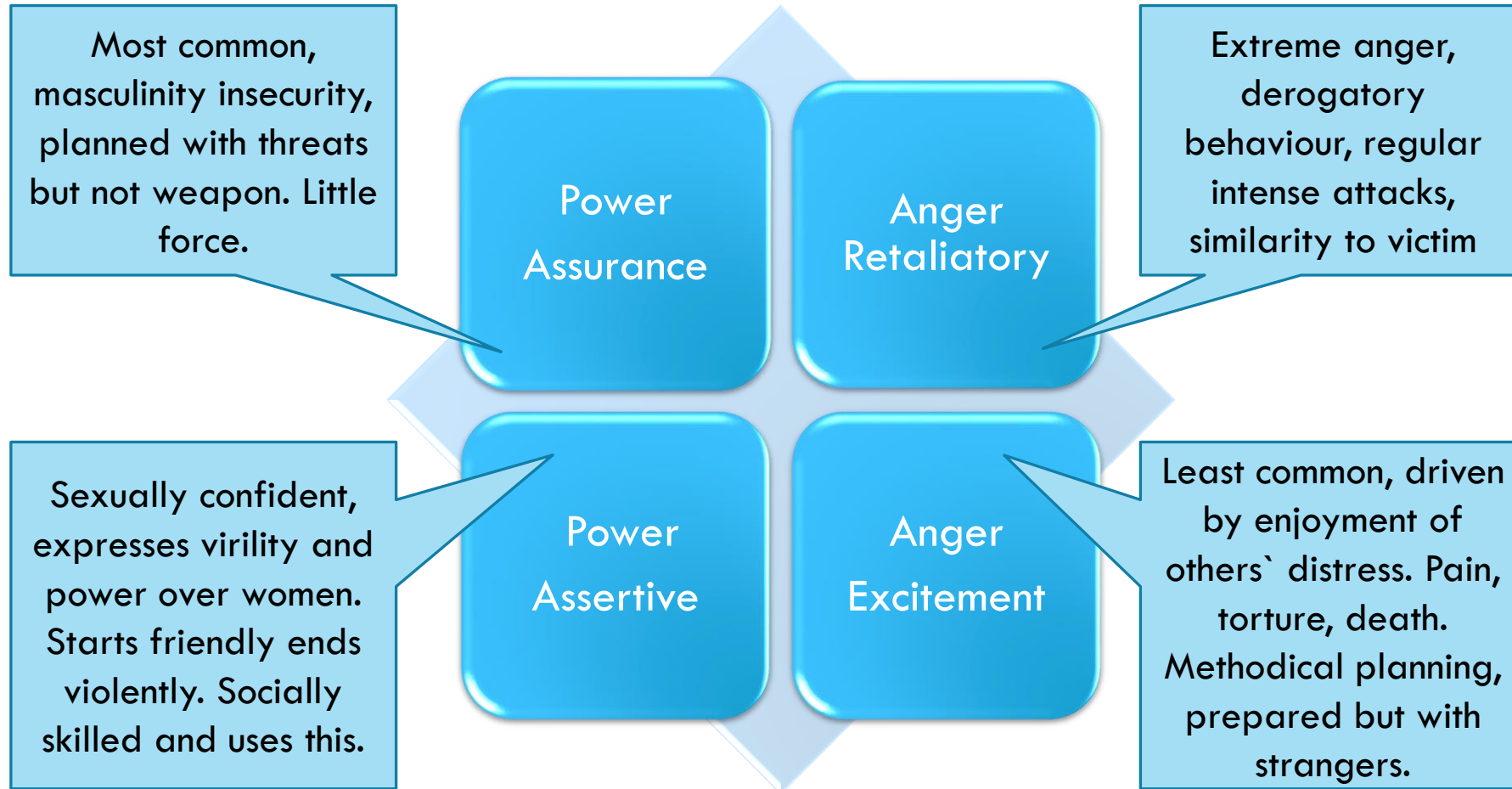
He picked up the chain from the building site and followed the victim. When behind her he pushed her onto the grass verge where he attempted to rape her but he couldn't maintain an erection.

The victim ridiculed him as a result which caused him to strangle her.



DIFFERENT TYPES OF RAPIST

(TAKEN FROM HAZELWOOD, ORIGINALLY DEVELOPED BY GROTH, 1977)



CASE STUDY TAKEN FROM RESSLER ET AL., (1988)

A nude female's body was found at 3.00pm on the roof of an apartment block where she lived. She had left home for work at 6.30 in the morning.

She was 26 years of age, 90lbs in weight, her spine was deformed and she was not dating men.

Both of her nipples had been removed and placed upon her body. Her face was severely beaten.

She had been throttled with the strap of her bag. A blunt instrument had caused many face injuries. Virtually all items used came from the victim's bag.

The phrase "You can't stop me" was written in ink on the inner thigh and "Fuck you" on the torso.

The pendant she usually wore was missing.

The victim's underwear had been taken down and pulled over her face. Her stockings were tied around her ankles and wrists but very loosely.

A pen and an umbrella were inserted into her vagina. A comb was stuck in her pubic hair. There was no semen in the victim's vagina.

The offender had ejaculated over her body from a standing position. There were bite marks on her thighs and various bruises/lacerations all over.

Faeces from the murderer were very close by. They were covered with the victim's clothes. There was no evidence of similar crimes being carried out in the area.

THE FBI PROFILE

The psychological profile developed by the FBI included the following features:

A white man aged between 25 and 35 years - similar in age to the victim. Sexual fantasies have been harboured by the offender for a long time and possibly uses and collects sadistic pornography.

He would fit into the context well - might reside in the apartment block or work there.

Average intelligence but dropped out of education, no military background, possibly unemployed or in an unskilled or skilled occupation.

Alcohol and drugs would not have materially contributed. Difficulties in personal relationships with women and any dates would be younger so that they could be more easily controlled and dominated. Sexually inexperienced and inadequate and never married.

Disorganised offender - confused and perhaps mental difficulties in the past. Messages challenged the police and may indicate future killings.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Killers tend to be similar in terms of age and race to their victim.

Fantasy is at the core of extreme cases like this. The fantasy may involve the thinking about and planning for the offence. The sadistic nature of the crime is probably indicative of the offender's fantasy. Keeping a trophy, the pendant, will help the offender fantasize about this in the future.

Although the offender fantasized and "planned" the murder in his fantasy world, there was little evidence of real planning. This was a disorganised crime, the offender using what came to hand in the course of the crime....her pen, her umbrella etc.

The crime was sexual but there was no penetration by the offender, only the substitutes. It is this that suggests sexual inadequacies and the likelihood that he lacked sexual experience and had never married.

The victim was partially disabled, she was tied up in a crude way, and this suggests the offence has elements of control and domination.

Defecation near a crime scene is not unusual but in this case it perhaps indicates that the offence took place over a lengthy period of time. Potentially, this represents a considerable risk for the offender since he was in an exposed situation (a roof top). Unless of course he lived or worked in the area and knew he was unlikely to be disturbed.

Some successes (???) of profiling...

Copson and Holloway (1997) carried out a survey with detectives from 184 cases where offender profiling had been used. It was found that the police believed that profiling had led to the identification of the offender in 2.7 per cent of cases, and helped to solve 16 per cent of cases.

Pinizzotto and Finkel (1990) asked groups of detectives, students, profilers and clinical psychologists to look at two closed police cases and to draw up profiles. One case was a sex case, and the other was a homicide. Although the profilers produced more detailed profiles and were more accurate in the sex case, the detectives were more accurate in the homicide.

