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Editorial

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An International Database On Criminal Poisoning

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Are there commonalities in the persona of the criminal poisoner? If there are, then this would be of immense importance to all homicide investigators no matter where they might be located around

the world. To date, this author is not aware of any such studies, or databases that exist any where in the world. Most often, if detected at all, the victim of a poisoning homicide is first discovered by a forensic pathologist during the autopsy. At this point the alarm goes out to the criminal investigation team to determine the facts of the murder. Of course, one of the first questions they are going to ask, is "so who might I be looking for, as the offender in this crime?". What can we tell them to assist them in their investigation? Certainly a murder by poison is one of the easiest murders to get away with, as there are so many holes in the investigation net.

In order to determine if there are any commonalities in the persona of such murderers, we must scientifically investigate those crimes which have been discovered. We can first begin by gathering as much data as possible on known perpetrators of these crimes. Information such as: gender, age, relationship to the victim, motive, poison used, where poison was procured, educational background of the offender, etc..

More in depth surveys should be made of offenders who have been convicted of these crimes, who are imprisoned. With a scientifically designed survey tool, a criminal psychologist could interview these individuals, and the results of these interviews could be analyzed to determine if poisoners truly have any psychological or sociological commonalities. Maybe they don't! But ever if they don't, this information would be very helpful to the criminal investigator. This author believes, that certain commonalities will be found in these individuals, such as how they deal with conflict resolution, and how they relate to the real world.

...The "Center for the Study of Criminal Poisoning", located in Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA, has established an international database, to receive and analyze reports of homicidal poisonings from around the world. Criminal investigators, attorneys, and forensic scientists, are encouraged to use a form which has been designed by the Center, to report such crimes...

It has been stated by some forensic authors, that poisoners deal with the world in a child-like fashion, refusing to accept the world as it is, but trying to bend the world to their needs, they are fantasists, spoiled by their parents, come from an unhappy home life, are cunning, are artistic, etc. Are male poisoners non-confrontational? Do they deal with conflict more in the manner of a female, that being more indirectly and secretive?

The "**Center for the Study of Criminal Poisoning**", located in Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA, has established an international database, to receive and analyze reports of homicidal poisonings from around the world. Criminal investigators, attorneys, and forensic scientists, are encouraged to use a form which has been designed by the Center, to report such crimes. For more information please contact: The **Center for the Study of Criminal Poisoning**, 1840 Wealthy, S.E., Grand Rapids, Michigan 49506-2968, USA. (voice), or E-mail: venomous@iserv.net.

HOMICIDAL POISONING CASE REGISTRY

(please type or print, and use one form per VICTIM)

ABOUT THE VICTIM			
Victim's name:	----------	Victim's age:	----------
Victim's gender:	----------	Victim's race:	----------

ABOUT THE OFFENDER			
Offender's name:	----------	Offender's age:	----------
Offender's gender:	----------	Offender's race	----------
Offender's relationship to victim:	----------		
Offender's motive:	----------		
Offender's conviction status:	----------		
Additional offender information:	----------		

ABOUT THE POISON	
Poison(s) used:	----------
Route of poison administration:	----------
Source of the poison:	----------
Location of the poisoning: (home, public place, etc.)	----------

ABOUT YOUR REPORTING AGENCY			
Your case # :	----------	Date:	----------
Your name:	----------	Your title:	----------
Your address:	----------		
----------	----------		
----------	----------		
Telephone (voice):	----------	Telephone (FAX):	----------
E-mail address:	----------		

Please mail or FAX this completed form, and any supporting materials to:
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Editorial appearing in the Previous Issue

Editorial appearing in the Next Issue

Editorials - Cumulative Index