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Arresting the Gaps in Criminal Profiling Literature

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Arresting the Gaps in Criminal Profiling Literature

Abstract

The use of criminal profiling as an investigative tool has been increasing over the past 50 years worldwide. While it was originally used only to assist police investigations, this technique transitioned into an essential process as an admissible form of expert witness evidence (Kocsis & Palermo, 2016). The validity of the concept has been evolving along the 50 year timeline as well (Kocsis, Middledorp, & Karpin, 2008). The purpose of this study is to synthesize the research about criminal profiling, interview environments and procedures, and psychological variables (e.g. personality traits/disorders). I plan to find additional factors in the profiling process to help solidify the techniques used in criminal profiling. It will be analyzing if there are any procedural or conceptual flaws in criminal profiling as a whole, as well as any limitations there might be. This will provide new insight to criminal profiling through connecting ideas and finding the gaps in the literature.



BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY

Arresting the Gaps in Criminal Profiling Literature

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RONALD E. MCNAIR
POST-BACCALAUREATE
ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

I. Background of Study

- The use of criminal profiling as an investigative tool has been increasing over the past 50 years worldwide. Originally used to assist police investigations, this technique of profiling transitioned into an essential process as an admissible form of expert witness evidence (Kocsis & Palermo, 2016). The literature available suggests the validity of the criminal profiling has been evolving along the 50 year timeline as well (Kocsis, Middledorp, & Karpin, 2008).

II. Research Question

- Does psychopathy in individuals make criminal profiling more difficult? How?
- In what ways could criminal profiling improve our knowledge regarding individuals with psychopathic traits?

III. Methodology

- In this study, I will be synthesizing empirical research about criminal profiling, interview environments and procedures, and psychological variables (e.g. personality traits/disorders).

IV. Anticipated Results

- I plan to find areas where the literature of criminal profiling may be lacking.
- I plan to find any procedural or conceptual limitations in criminal profiling literature.
- This analysis should provide new insight to criminal profiling through connecting ideas and finding the gaps in the literature.

V. Acknowledgements

- I would like to thank the McNair Scholars Program for giving me this experience/opportunity
- I also thank Dr. Charles Honts for being my mentor throughout the McNair Scholars Program.
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VI. References

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