

ABSTRACT

THE CONSTRUCT OF PSYCHOPATHY AND ITS APPLICATION TO SERIAL SEXUAL MURDER: THE CASES OF TED BUNDY AND EDMUND KEMPER

This study examined the relationship between serial sexual murder and psychopathy using the Psychopathy Check List Revised (PCL-R). Specifically this thesis tested to see whether Ted Bundy and Edmund Kemper were psychopathic. Data for this thesis were obtained by reviewing existing material: academic works, true crime novels, documentaries, and biographies, and by extracting information to score the Psychopathy Check List-Revised. A file review using content analysis was employed in scoring the PCL-R due the inaccessibility of both offenders. It was found that neither offender adequately met the criteria to be considered psychopathic.

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