

Richard Ramirez: A Psychological Overview

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Abstract

Richard Ramirez was convicted on thirteen counts of murder along with a host of other offenses. Ramirez can be categorized as an organized serial offender who prefers mixed sexual homicide (Douglas, Burgess, et al, 1992), as well as, an aggressive sociopath according to Lykken's standards (1995). Although never formally diagnosed with antisocial personality disorder (APD), his psychological profile fits the criteria for APD. This paper presents an overview of Ramirez's criminal career, his personality, and psychological development. The issue of his relationship with satanism is also discussed with a focus on self-styled satanic beliefs.

Keywords: abnormal psychology, criminal justice, criminal profiling, forensic psychology, psychopathy, satanism, serial killer, serial offender, sociopathy