



142 The Influence of Personality Traits on Intrafamilial Homicide

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After attending this presentation, attendees will learn whether the personality characteristics affect the homicide offenders or not, whether sociodemographic and criminological characteristics are related to the homicides, and which personality characteristics might be specific to the offenders of intrafamilial homicides.

This presentation will impact the forensic science community by figuring out the dominant behavioral traits in perpetrators committing intrafamilial homicides.

Several researchers have taken an interest in personal characteristics that may have influence on criminal activities. These studies are of great importance in terms of figuring out which behavioral traits are dominant in perpetrators committing the same crimes in different ways since there might be some differences in the personality traits of intrafamilial and other homicide offenders. Homicide in the family is the most severe type of murder. Personality disorders, cultural differences, and economic issues are some of the risk factors in partner homicides. The aim of this research is to compare the personal characteristics of the intrafamilial and other homicide offenders. The Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI) was performed in 93 voluntary male prisoners in Maltepe-Istanbul, accused of or sentenced for murder between 2000 and 2010. Personality traits of the perpetrators were grouped as dependent variants. Independent variants such as sociodemographic (educational background, economic conditions, etc) and criminological characteristics (offensive weapon types, crime scenes, and the causes of murder) were also analyzed via personal information forms filled by volunteers. Intrafamilial homicides were 32.3%, whereas other homicides were 67.7%. The results pointed out that 70% of the intrafamilial homicide offenders were over 36-years-old, whereas 73% of the other homicide offenders were younger than 35-years-old. When the birth places of the offenders were checked, a clear and expressive increase from Western to the Eastern part of Turkey was seen only in the intrafamilial homicide offenders, which might be directly related to sociodemographic and sociocultural characteristics of the region. When MMPI subtests were assessed, the highest score was obtained in schizophrenia (Sc) and the lowest score was obtained in paranoia for both of the offenders of intrafamilial and other homicides. The difference between the arithmetic mean of intrafamilial homicide offenders and the arithmetic mean of other homicide offenders was statistically significant only in psychopathic deviate (Pd) and social introversion (Si). Although there are some research-related limitations such as the specificity of the behaviors, variety of crimes and the closed environment, this study is expected to facilitate further comprehensive research in the field.

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