

I6 Deviant Behavior in Relationships Between Humans and Animals

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Learning Overview: After attending this presentation, attendees will have a clearer understanding of the application of a predictive model of criminal behavior (profiling) that is based on the relationship between the perpetrated abuse of animals by some individuals and the possibility that such deviant acts may represent precise symptoms in order to predict and contain future aggressive actions toward individuals.

Impact on the Forensic Science Community: This presentation will impact the forensic science community by making it clear that there is a method by which attendees can identify certain deviant symptoms in the actions of adults or minors who torture and kill animals by studying appropriate parameters to be entered in a database aimed at preventing murders and identifying the offenders.

This study is based on the understanding of the following parameters: (1) paraphilias and deviances related to the dominion on animals such as: zooanthropology, zoosadism, and zoocerastia; (2) the LINK evaluation of the act that the offender perpetrates against the animal; and (3) the study of serial cases of murder and torture. The zooanthropology of deviance studies the relationships between man, animal, and animal cruelty.

Since the advent of agriculture in 10,000 BC, man has domesticated animals by being in a dominant position with respect to them. Some paraphilias, characterized by sexual and predatory nature are relevant behavioral pathologies based on the enjoyment in inflicting pain on what one possesses. For the offender, the animal becomes an object. LINK is a criminal concept and indicates the correlation between animal cruelty and the killing of animals. It favors the possibility of preventively intercepting the worsening of criminal behavior. Even in non-pathological subjects, from a psychiatric point of view, LINK reveals the social dangerousness of these individuals and the need to raise the sentences for animal-related crimes (in Italy, they are a myth). The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) defines animal cruelty and in 2016 the Behavioral Analysis Unit (BAU) added animal cruelty in the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR). The UCR is used nationwide in investigating crimes such as domestic violence, stalking, rape, and even serial murders. Criminal studies show that detecting minors who have tortured animals and intervening helps to prevent future deviant behavior. Finally, this presentation suggests an extensive database at the European level, based on the transposition of the parameters set out in this work. It would use the data on crimes against animals, putting offenders in the system with criminals and create a profile that could be used to prevent and track down those who commit criminal homicide.

Criminal Homicide, Animal Cruelty, Profiling