**THE AUDIO-LINGUAL METHOD AS AN APPROACH OF DEVELOPING STUDENTS’ NEEDS TO STUDY FOREIGN LANGUAGES**

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***Theses***

***Psychology of serial killers: factors of deviant personality formation***

Serial killers have always attracted the interest of criminologists, psychologists and society in general. For centuries, experts have been trying to find out what drives a person to commit such crimes, why a person who at first glance does not differ from others turns into a dangerous criminal. The issues of preventing deviant behaviour and the possibility of its early diagnosis are important. In this context, it is worth considering the main psychological characteristics and factors that contribute to the formation of such personalities.

# Definition of a serial killer

A serial killer is a person who has committed three or more murders with time intervals between events. Psychologists identify key characteristics of such criminals:

* High manipulativeness and the ability to conceal their intentions.
* Lack of empathy and guilt.
* The presence of ritual or symbolic actions associated with crimes.

# Psychological classification of serial killers

1. Criminal psychology divides serial killers into several main types:
2. Visionaries - have mental disorders that make them believe that their actions are guided by higher powers or voices.
3. Missionaries - convinced that they are fulfilling a specific mission, such as ‘cleansing’ society of a certain category of people.
4. Hedonists - derive pleasure from the process of killing, in particular through sexual motives or sadism.
5. Controllers - seek absolute power over the victim.

# The main factors influencing the development of a serial killer

The formation of criminal behaviour is a multifactorial process in which biological, psychological and social factors interact.

1. Biological factors

* Research shows that many serial killers have a dysfunction of the prefrontal cortex, which is responsible for controlling impulses and emotions.
* Genetic predisposition to aggressive behaviour.
* Abnormal activity of the amygdala, which affects the level of empathy.

2. Psychological features

* High level of psychopathy: lack of compassion, tendency to manipulation and impulsivity.
* The presence of obsessive fantasies related to control, power, or violence.
* Childhood traumas that lead to deviant behaviour in adulthood.

3. Social factors

* Influence of the family environment: upbringing in dysfunctional families, childhood abuse.
* Social isolation and lack of support from society.
* Insufficient control over people with a history of violence and deviant behaviour.

# The impact of childhood on personality development

Psychological research confirms that childhood trauma has a significant impact on the development of deviant behaviour. The most common risk factors are:

* Experiencing violence or emotional neglect.
* Social isolation in childhood.
* Lack of emotional support and corrective measures in cases of deviant behaviour.

# Methods of preventing serial murders

Prevention of the formation of a dangerous personality is possible through timely prevention and early detection of deviant behaviour.

1. Diagnosis of psychopathic traits at an early age

* Identification of aggressive behaviour towards animals and people.
* Observation of the child's level of empathy and moral beliefs.
* Work with children from disadvantaged families.

2. Social support for ‘risk groups’

* Providing psychological assistance to children who have been abused.
* Control and social adaptation of adolescents with deviant behaviour.

3. Control over persons with a history of violent crimes

* Increased monitoring of former convicts for violent crimes.
* Regular psychological assessment of persons who have been in prison.

# Conclusions.

Serial killers are a phenomenon that does not appear suddenly. Their personality is formed under the influence of a complex of biological, psychological and social factors. Childhood experiences, psychopathological deviations and the environment play an important role. However, understanding these processes allows us to identify potentially dangerous behaviour in a timely manner and take appropriate preventive measures. Thanks to the development of psychological science and criminology, it is now possible to work more effectively with most-at-risk individuals, which will help minimise the threat to society.

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