

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY

VOLUME 32, ISSUE 1 — 2014

**TWICE THE EVIL: A COMPARISON OF SERIAL KILLERS
WHO KILLED WITH A PARTNER AND THOSE WHO KILLED ALONE**

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A data set was collected on 500 serial killers based on encyclopedias and handbooks on serial killers, true crime books, Westlaw, LexisNexis, and Internet searches. One hundred and four serial killers who killed with a partner were compared with the 383 serial killers who killed alone. Serial killers who killed with a partner were significantly more likely to be women and less likely to be diagnosed with a mental illness after arrest or to use an insanity plea at trial. However, their murders involved more bizarre and brutal actions, such as cannibalism and using the victims as sex slaves. Looked at by gender, the females who killed with a partner were more likely to have been sexually abused in childhood or adolescence, more likely to have parents with a psychiatric disturbance and more sexually deviant than women serial killers who killed alone.

**PERCEPTIONS OF ADULT PARRICIDE
IN A CASE INVOLVING REPRESSED SEXUAL ABUSE**

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and Nesa E. Wasarhaley, M.S.**

We examined the effect of repressed child sexual abuse as a defense in a parricide case involving an adult defendant. Mock jurors read one of three criminal trial summaries involving the homicide of the defendant's father. The trial summaries differed with respect to the presence of abuse and repression of the abuse: 1) no abuse, 2) sexual abuse that was repressed for 30 years, and 3) sexual abuse that occurred 30 years earlier but was not repressed. Participants rendered a verdict (i.e., not guilty, manslaughter, or murder) and answered various rating questions about the trial (e.g., alleged victim credibility). Participants were less likely to convict the defendant of murder, compared to manslaughter, when the defendant repressed having been sexually abused as a child versus when he did not repress the sexual abuse. This effect was mediated by sympathy for the defendant and the defendant's ability to distinguish right from wrong. The results highlight the importance of studying different attributions jurors make in homicide cases when prior sexual abuse of the defendant is used as a defense.

**EYEWITNESS AGE AND FAMILIARITY WITH THE DEFENDANT:
INFLUENTIAL FACTORS IN MOCK JURORS'
ASSESSMENT OF DEFENDANT GUILT?**

**Joanna D. Pozzulo, Ph.D., Jennifer L. Pettalia, M.A.,
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The purpose of this research was to examine the influence of eyewitness age and familiarity with the defendant, and the potential interaction between these variables, on mock jurors' perceptions and decisions. Mock jurors were presented with a mock murder trial transcript that included a positive identification by the victim's daughter who was 4, 12, or 20 years old and saw the defendant 0, 3, or 6 times prior to the crime. It was hypothesized that when a witness was familiar with the defendant, their testimony would be perceived to be more credible and would sway verdict decisions even in the case of a very young eyewitness. Mock jurors were significantly more likely to rate the 20-year-old eyewitness as more credible overall and, specifically, in her description of the crime than the 4-year-old eyewitness; however, age of the eyewitness did not significantly influence mock jurors' verdict decisions. Witness familiarity with the defendant did not significantly influence mock jurors' perceptions or verdicts and an interaction between eyewitness age and familiarity was not found. The implications of these findings will be discussed.