

# **PSYCHOLOGICAL METHOD OF INVESTIGATION AND ACTS RELEVANT TO FORENSIC PSYCHIATRY**



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# INTRODUCTION

- Forensic mental health nursing is the intersection of mental health and the legal system.
- Forensic psychiatric nurses work with offenders who have been deemed mentally disordered and need additional attention separate from the judicial/penitentiary system.
- Hugo Münsterberg (1863–1916) is often referred to as the founding father of forensic psychology.



# PSYCHOLOGICAL METHODS

- The psychological methods used in forensic psychiatry are interview techniques and psychological tests
- Interview techniques are mental status examination, personality test, Rorschach's inkblot test, picture completion test, personality inventory etc.
- Most common forensic psychological tools in the process of investigation are Polygraph, Behavioural Electrical Oscillations Signature Profiling, Layered Voice Response, Eye Detect, Suspect Detection System, Narcoanalysis, Interview and interrogation.

# INTERVIEW TECHNIQUES

- Assessment of memory
- Cognitive assessment
- Mood and affect
- Visual Cues
- Baseline Method
- Behavioral Analysis Interview
- Reverse Recall Method
- Cognitive Interview Method



# PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING

- TAT
- BIG Five
- Neo Personality Inventory
- MMPI
- Rorschoch's inkblot test



# TECHNOLOGIES IN INVESTIGATION



# POLYGRAPH

- The polygraph has 4 types of sensors.
  - Recording of respiration rate,
  - Recording of the increase in blood pressure,
  - Detecting the oxygen consumption and
  - Detecting skin resistance.
- All these type of sensors are used for the detection of culprits and innocents.



# BRAIN ELECTRICAL OSCILLATION SIGNATURE PROFILING

- This instrument is used to detect whether an individual has any experiential knowledge in the commission of crime.
- Only an individual who has committed a crime will show experiential knowledge.
- This instrument is the most effective and scientific one till date. Here the culprit can't manipulate anything.





# LAYERED VOICE ANALYSIS

- This machine detects changes in emotions in a person's voice, like, for example- whether the person is under high stress or there is stress relief etc.
- The technology identifies various types of stress levels, cognitive processes, and emotional reactions that are reflected in different subtle properties of the voice.



# EYE DETECT

- This instrument works by detecting changes in eye movement and other minute changes such as pupil dilation and different types of eye expressions. This is a new instrument used in crime investigation.



# SUSPECT DETECTION SYSTEM

- This instrument uses Galvanic Skin Response as a sensor which is used to find out changes in skin resistance under stressful conditions and this technique is used for detection of criminals.



# NARCO-ANALYSIS

- This test involves the intravenous administration of a drug (such as sodium pentothal, scopolamine and sodium amyntal) that causes the subject to enter into various stages of anaesthesia.



# HYPNOSIS



# PSYCHOLOGICAL PROFILING

- It is the process of linking an offender's actions at the crime scene to their most likely characteristics to help police investigators narrow down and prioritize a pool of most likely suspects.



# PSYCHOLOGICAL PROFILING

- Psychological profiling, or criminal investigation assessment, is an educated attempt to provide investigative agencies with specific information as to the type of individual who committed a certain crime.
- Goals are:
- To Provide the Criminal Justice System With a Social and Psychological Assessment of the Offender.
- To Provide the Criminal Justice System With a Psychological Evaluation of Belongings Found in the Possession of the Offender
- To Provide Interviewing Suggestions and Strategies



# COMMON CRIMES REQUIRE PROFILES

- Sadistic sexual assaults
- Sexual homicide
- Postmortem cases of abuse and humiliation
- Motiveless fire settings
- Lust and mutilation murders
- Rape
- Ritualistic crimes
- Child sexual abuse including pedophilia
- Bank robberies





# INTERPRETATION OF PSYCHODYNAMICS OF VICTIMS

- Murder
- Rape
- Terrorist
- Violence



# INDIAN LUNACY ACT, 1912



# THE MENTAL HEALTH ACT, 1987

- The Mental Health Bill became the Act 14 of 1987 on 22nd May 1987. Later, the Government of India issued orders that the Act came in force with effect from April 1, 1993 in all the states and Union territories of India.
- The Act is divided into 10 chapters consisting of 98 sections.



- Chapter I: Definitions
- Chapter II: Provides for establishment of Mental Health Authorities at Centre and State levels.
- Chapter III: Lays down the guidelines for establishment and maintenance of psychiatric hospitals and nursing homes.
- Chapter IV deals with the procedures of admission and detention in psychiatric hospitals or nursing homes.



- Chapter V deals with the inspection, discharge, leave of absence and removal of mentally ill persons.
- Chapter VI deals with the judicial inquisition regarding the alleged mentally ill person possessing property, custody of his person and management of his property



- Chapter VII deals with the liability to meet the cost of maintenance of mentally ill persons detained in psychiatric hospitals or nursing homes.
- Chapter VIII is aimed at the protection of human rights of mentally ill persons.
- Chapter IX deals with the penalties and the procedure, while
- Chapter X provides for miscellaneous sections



# THE NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES ACT (NDPSA), 1985



# TESTAMENTARY CAPACITY

- Testamentary disposition is regulated by the Indian Succession Act (Act 39 of 1925). Some of the salient points regarding testamentary disposition are as follows;
- A will must be in writing, though it need not be registered.
- It must be signed by testator in the presence of at least two witnesses.
- A legatee cannot attest a will





- An executor(s) is appointed under the will by the testator to carry out its terms after his death.
- A will can be revoked or modified any time before the death of the testator.
- A will comes into effect after the death of the testator. It is said to speak from grave and to be ‘ambulatory’.
- The testator must be of a ‘sound and disposing mind’. Section 59 of the Act states that ‘every person of sound mind, not being a minor, may dispose of his property by will’.



# THE ROLE OF THE FORENSIC NURSE

- Assesses:
  - Perpetrator's ability to formulate intent
  - Risk for violence and for committing additional crimes
  - Competency to proceed in trial
- Writes and submits formal reports to the court
- Serves as expert and fact witness
- Consults with attorneys and law enforcement personnel
- Provides therapy



