

Mass and Serial Murder in America (SpringerBriefs in Psychology)

Christine M. Sarteschi

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This timely reference examines the psychological and social phenomena of mass and serial murder, bringing scholarly depth to a frequently sensationalized subject. Its review of the literature features case studies of serial and mass murderers to expand on salient theories of evil, with biopsychosocial profiles highlighting core personality traits, particularly malignant narcissism, associated with psychopathy and its often deadly outcomes. The author's insightful analysis separates misconceptions from reality, poses questions for critical thinking and discussion, and offers realistic suggestions for prevention. Public fascination with these violent figures?the mystique of serial killers and their popularity in the entertainment media?is explored as well.

Included in the coverage:

- Public interest in mass and serial murder.
- · Concepts of evil: where it comes from, and why people kill.
- · Mass murder: classification, motivation, and typologies.
- · Serial murder: motivation and typologies.
- · Current trends in prevention, and areas for improvement.
- · Plus instructive case studies, both famous and less-known.

Mass and Serial Murder in America is illuminating reading for undergraduate and graduate students and practitioners in social science disciplines such as criminal justice, criminology, social work, psychology, forensic psychology, and related fields. It will also find an audience among educators teaching courses in these areas, as well as interested laypersons.



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