

Analysis on the Relationship between Criminal Psychology and Personality Factors of Murderers- The Example of the Shooting of a Korean American Student

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Abstract: Virginia suffered the worst school shooting in 2007, and the offender was suicide. One of the tragedies of this case is that the offender's serious mental illness did not get timely attention and treatment, family is the fundamental cause of his mental illness. The proportion of tragedies caused by mental illness has risen sharply in these years. Excepting genetic factors, family is also an important factor in mental illness. In the process of growing up, family education is one of the main factors of mental problems. Thus, people need pay more attention on family education and psychological development of teenagers.

Introduction

Many people's psychological problems may start in childhood, they don't know how to solve it, their parents do not find it in time as well, finally their psychological problems become more and more distorted. Early painful experiences can lead to mental illness or painful psychological states, and when adolescents grow up, they may try to deal with their grievances in extreme ways, such as suicide and antisocial. The proportion of United States of 12-month prevalence of any mental illness among adults ages 18+, by gender, age, and race is shown in figure 1.

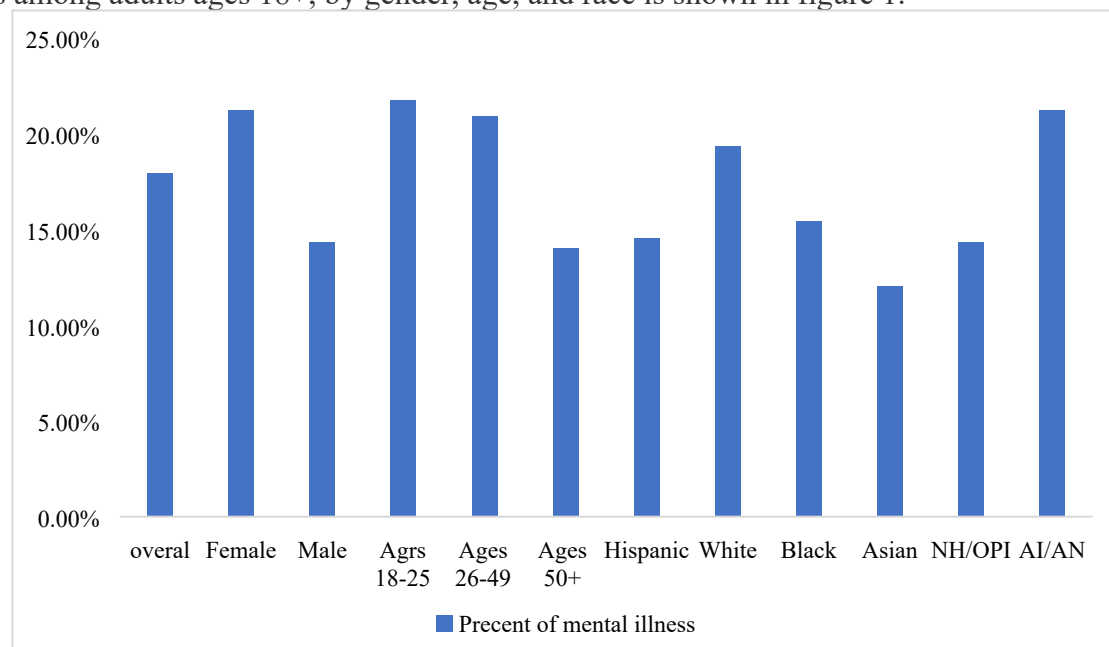


Figure 1. 12-month prevalence of any mental illness among adults ages 18+, by gender, age, and race, 2015

Resource: *Eighteen percent of adults in the United States have a mental, behavioral, or emotional disorder, Health System Tracker (2017)*

The object of this essay is a typical case, the offender was forced to immigrate to the United States with his family when he was young. Years of mental stress and various social factors cause his violent tendency and personality defect. If people want to effectively reduce the crime, they need find the root cause and solve it. This essay will introduce the criminal's psychological knot and motive and compare normal people's psychological emotion to interpret the criminal's psychological process. Secondly, it will analyze this Korean American student case from the perspectives of psychology, society and personality, so as to deep interpret the crime caused by social factors such as mental illness.

Psychological characteristics of plot crime

Emotional emotion is a relatively complicated and derived psychological phenomenon, which is related to people's needs and cognition. First of all, basic emotions and emotions originate from the personal feelings formed after the various basic needs of human beings can be satisfied. Second, because cognition has sensation, perceiving the present stimulus can form people's emotional response and emotional feeling. Cognition also has memory, and remote stimulation can become a memory of emotional feeling as well. It even becomes a subconscious, deeper and deeper over time. Sometimes people are not aware of the memory, but the experience of the relevant stimulus can still lead to emotional reactions that seem to be unexplained. Finally, emotional physiological changes related, because people, especially teenagers, unconscious physiological changes. They will appear inexplicable excitement and agitation, people who are troubled by an emotion are often unaware of their own physical changes. Thus, the danger of emotional or emotional entanglement is more complex.

The motive of crime is abreaction and generalization. Crime cases in the category of plot usually have the characteristics of 'generalizing the target', and they usually do not have a specific target. In addition, most of theory crimes are offensive, such as indiscriminate killing in public places and serial killing of strangers without utilitarian purpose. Because the offender has no specific purpose for the target, their emotional state is often questioned.

In the case discussed in the essay, all the people offenders violated does no conflict, or even had never met him. This kind of criminal is not specific, it is difficult to find out the cause and effort of the case. Therefore, the criminal psychology of such offenders also makes people confused.

The emotional loneliness of a normal mind. Plot offenders are mostly emotional loners of normal mind, with normal intelligence, clear steps of criminal behaviour, and clear warnings or statements of crime. But such criminals do not express their feelings when they are in sight. At ordinary times in front of the person less speech, and even emotional language communication with relatives have barriers.

Seung-Hui Cho's relatives said he was a little lisp since childhood and rarely spoke to family. After arriving in the United States, he was diagnosed with autism. Interpersonal communication is not only a social tool, but also the basis of emotional activities or satisfaction in human nature. When people communicate with their family members, it is more difficult for them to communicate with strangers once they enter the society. Once lacking a life of communication with others, they will feel extremely lonely and ignored, which promotes their mentality of committing crimes.

Crime is expressive and satisfying. Plot offenders tend to express some of their feeling by committing crimes. Seung-Hui Cho recorded a video before the shooting, and sent it to the police in between, showing his loathing and commit crime reason.

It was a crime he had longed for long before he had anyone to prosecute. The crime itself is to declare and express its own intention, through some criminal means, he achieves the release of some feelings that have been stored up in his heart for a long time. Therefore, crime for him is an emotional experience, a cathartic experience, a compelling expression. Some people even regard it as a kind of life extreme experience, they will commit suicide to end his self-expression, these are the characteristics of complex crime psychology.

The crime presents "not deranged madness". Such crimes often feel insane, but they are not psychiatric "lunatics"; their crimes are "not deranged madness." The trauma and pain often stem

from the loved ones around them and their ignorance of what's going on. Seung-Hui Cho first purchased guns privately before committing the crime, and then made a self-videotaped announcement of the reason for the action. After killing 2 people in the dormitory, he first sent the videotape to the post office, and then returned to the school to enter the crowded classroom for shooting, and finally killed himself. The criminal process is full of logic and arrangement, which shows that the crime is not madness without any logic.

Mental knot and emotional trauma. Although the psychological problems of such people also have the characteristics of emotional disorders, their emotional disorders are different from the emotional problems of criminal personality. Criminal personalities often lose their full family life at an early age. They grow up without education or attention, which leads to persistent defects in their acquired ability to survive. On the contrary, the crime of complex kind lives in a family with normal structure mostly, had experienced normal school education, have the opportunity that acquires acquired all sorts of ability. Their psychological problems are often the result of emotional deficits in parental care or severe trauma in emotional development as a result of special stimuli experienced in early life. Their psychological trauma was not discovered and realized by their relatives when it happened, or their relatives found that their abnormal external performance was not timely remedied due to the ignorance of psychological knowledge, resulting in serious stagnation and stasis of their psychological development.

According to the literature, the complex can even be traced back to people's psychological experience in the attachment period, and the abnormal crimes occurred in the youth period and even in the adult period can be attributed to the innocent mistakes of their parents in the child's attachment period. All of this can lead to emotional trauma in children who are born with sensitive traits. The trauma begins with the experience of loneliness, fear, helplessness and failure. As they grow up and become stronger, they change from feeling lonely to feeling hostile. From fear of an object to anger against that object, from a past inability and failure to strength and violence that one cannot ignore, complex crimes often express the opposite of what one feels. Painful feelings are repeated in the mind in a stream-of-consciousness "mental image way," placing the person in a situation and reminding the person of the situation in a way that often flashes. All these methods can make the mental image become a stimulus similar to the reality, and the subject can't get rid of the memory of the painful mental image. Then, in adulthood, he USES his existing mature mental powers to continue to complete the reactions that he failed to complete in his childhood or to change the reactions that he failed completely at that time, resulting in confusing, crazy, seemingly sudden or unexpected attacks on innocent people around him.

Analysis of Seung-Hui Cho's criminal psychology

——chief suspect in the 2007 Virginia tech school shooting

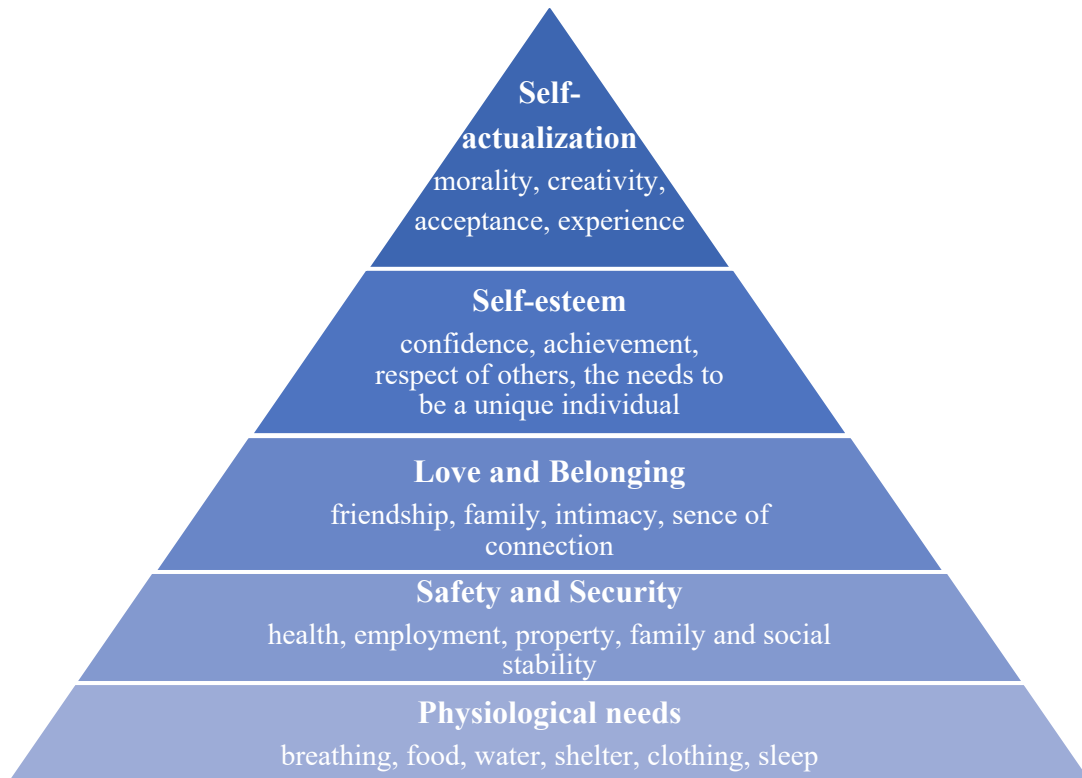
Case: the shooting that ignores dangerous signs. Seung-Hui Cho bought two types of guns on February 9 and March 16, 2007, from a pawnshop in Blacksburg, near Virginia tech. On April 16, Virginia tech university suffered the worst school shooting in the history of the United States. 33 people were killed in the shooting, and the gunman shot himself. After the case, many people wondered if it had something to do with the proliferation of guns in the United States. However, if it were really that easy to buy guns in the United States, students would be able to carry guns with themselves so that offenders could not shoot and kill people. It can be seen that the case is not only due to the proliferation of guns, but more because of Seung-Hui Cho's psychological problems.

In fact, there were dangerous psychological signs before he committed the crime. He wrote many articles in English class full of violence and hatred. All these situations indicate that the psychological danger signals sent by individuals need to be noticed and taken care of. Sometimes people say threatening words when they're angry, but most of these people don't act on them. So, when this kind of situation happens, people can combine its dangerous psychological signal with its usual consistent psychological performance for observation, but also combined with the parties

before and after sending out the dangerous signal life stimulation content investigation. Seung-Hui Cho showed a lot of abnormal psychological performance during his study in school, this situation needs to be paid attention to.

According to the famous humanistic psychologist Maslow, the order of the development of people's basic needs is shown in Table 1. While privacy is an individual's need to be respected, the latter is more important than the need for security.

Table 1. Maslow's hierarchy of needs



Resource: *Theory of Human Motivation*

Doubt: murder that seems insane. The media and society have been searching for the cause of the crime. Some people have speculated that Seung-Hui Cho's motive was to quarrel with his girlfriend. The police found that his notebook was full of curses and insults against the rich, so they speculated that he may have a grudge against the rich. Experts in the United States summed up offender's experience with high school ridicule, loneliness, and feelings of injustice. They believe that the "feeling of injustice" is an important reason of Seung-Hui Cho's psychological distortion and a common feature of most perpetrators of similar cases. Marissa Randazzo, a former chief psychologist for the secret service, said that according to a 22-year national study, 71 percent of school shootings were committed "before they were committed" and that he was almost the hallmark of the type of kid who felt victimized, oppressed or hurt.

In addition, from his various manifestations that he hates not only his peers but also adults, including the imaginary "stepfather" and "obscene teacher" (as can be seen from his composition), and more importantly, he hates the "rich" society. In between the attacks, he sent a package to NBC, including videotapes and photos of him attacking "rich people" and posing as a gunman. After the murder, police found a stack of 8-page typed documents in his dorm room in which he repeatedly attacked children from wealthy families. The police also found a letter from Seung-Hui Cho that said, "the end is near and it's time to act. But reading the reports, it seems that the problem is not so simple.

Analytic: Crime stems from early emotional trauma. According to the research of Hua and Xiao (2014), under the long-term rejection of setbacks and the society, the weak individuals' confidence and self-esteem gradually become fragile, and gradually generate negative emotions of antagonism,

resentment, hostility and hostility. Seung-Hui Cho's criminal psychology is neither an immediate stimulus response behavior, nor due to the immediate stimulus, but more is the psychological trauma caused by his past experience. According to his roommate's interview, Seung-Hui Cho never communicates with his classmates and they never see him smile, his behavior indicates his fear. He wrote his name is usually a question mark, usually rarely take off his hat and mask, class candid photos of female students, but never communicate with them. All this shows that he does not want to contact with the outside world, do not want others to understand his mind, others cannot guess his attitude. Second, he wrote an article about his stepfather killing his biological father and marrying his mother and molesting the little boy. In real life, his parents were not divorced, and the family relationship seemed fine. Thus, Seung-Hui Cho's fear that the family would change a lot without his father is reflected in his fear.

Seung-Hui Cho's family immigrated to the United States in 1992 and grew up in Washington when he was just eight years old. The age of 8 is an important period of human psychological development, people will become dependent at this age. If children cannot be well protected and taken care of during this period, they will have a sense of insecurity. After immigration, his parents left him and his sister alone in the United States because of formalities, which was also the key to his insecurity. Great changes in the environment will have a great impact on him. First, he would have little contact with people of different RACES before coming into contact with the country and environment he was not familiar with. These strange people were not kind to a weak child. Second, he needs to learn a new language, which is not easy for him. After the incident, his relatives and classmates reported that his pronunciation was not standard, and he was not talkative. Being laughed at for his unsmooth expression would also aggravate his aversion to his current life and environment. Finally, when he first came to the United States, his parents both returned home, leaving him and his sister alone. For an 8-year-old child, racial differences and language barriers can scare him. Most of his feelings towards this country are strange, fear and disgust.

Young because of fear and anger he will take emotional geology to ask parents why to come here. According to a videotape Seung-Hui Cho sent to the police, his parents thought it had a house, a car and a lot of money, which his hated most. This intense emotional experience of strangeness, fearfulness, and fear happened to young Seung-Hui Cho. Childhood is the most memorable period of a person's life, and these feelings will make it unforgettable for a long time. Most people show their fear by avoiding or withdrawing from the object of their fear. Therefore, it is easy to understand the reason of their "shrinking heart knot" if people look at Seung-Hui Cho who still shows "introversion and autism" in his adulthood. The psychological trauma caused by fear is not only the performance of avoidance in childhood. In the memory of fear, people hope to grow up as soon as possible and become stronger and more prone to violence, which is why Seung-Hui Cho has criminal psychology.

Conclusion

Summary. In general, many psychological problems are traceable, from their different psychological performance can be found the origin of the problem. People in the process of growing up is not only material needs, more emotional satisfaction. When people's emotions are not satisfied, psychological problems are easy to appear. Seung-Hui Cho was suddenly in a new environment when he was young, and his parents did not give him enough care and protection, which caused the initiation of cho's psychological problems. Letting children form an attachment to the people around them when they are young is an important basis for prosocial development in adulthood. While family gives children affection, it also gives them a sense of security and backing, which is an important basis for avoiding violence.

Outlook. Psychological problems are not personal problems, people with emotional care is usually not easy to occur mental illness; On the contrary, a lonely, heartless, closed self, no relatives or friends is prone to mental illness. This is also a kind of psychological disease determined by people's sociality. When we find that someone around us is experiencing increasing loneliness, anxiety, violent tendencies or personality problems, it is a good idea to inform their family members

and, if necessary, recommend that they go to the relevant medical institutions for treatment, medication relief or control.

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