SEX CRIMES

Second Edition

SEX CRIMES

Perpetrators, Predators, Prostitutes, and Victims

By

R. BARRI FLOWERS



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PREFACE

S ex criminality represents perhaps our most disturbing and complex type of criminal behavior. Though statistics and surveys suggest that crime in general is on the decline in the United States, sex crimes appear to be on the rise and are one of the more common and frequent crimes. Each year, millions of people are victims of sexual homicides, rape, incest, child molestation, child pornography, sexual slavery, paraphilic acts, and sexual perversions such as voyeurism, exhibitionism, and sadism. Anywhere from hundreds of thousands to, some believe, well into the millions of adults and children are willing or forced participants in prostitution and pornography. These include a growing number of victims of human traffickers who are forced into sexual servitude and exploitation in this country. Most sex crimes go unreported or underreported, making it the most hidden group of crimes and thereby the most difficult to detect, assess, treat, and control. The majority of sex criminals were themselves victims of sex crimes, creating a vicious cycle.

The cost of sex crimes is enormous and includes victims' physical and psychological trauma, exposure to AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases, medical and mental health treatment, loss of work time, and shattered innocence and idealism. Other costs can be seen in the criminal justice system. Countless law enforcement hours and considerable resources are devoted to investigating sex crimes and arresting, prosecuting, and incarcerating sex offenders. Many experts agree that rehabilitation and treatment of sex offenders often falls short of success, while recidivism remains high.

Sex crimes go to the very core of our society and speak of male and female sex roles, variance in the gender socialization process, sexual myths and misunderstandings, differential enforcement of the law, and social conditions that are conducive to the commission of sex crimes and the reluctance of victims to come forward.

The second edition of *Sex Crimes: Perpetrators, Predators, Prostitutes and Victims* offers an updated comprehensive criminological and sociological examination of sex criminality in America. It includes a new chapter that

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examines sex trafficking in the United States and the related international aspects. The often understated offense of statutory rape is also addressed in this edition.

The book adds to a growing body of research that, in recent years, has focused on the study of sex crimes and their dynamics apart from general crimes. However, unlike most such literature that often explores specific types of predatory sex-related crimes such as incest or rape, or sexual exploitative crimes such as prostitution and child pornography, *Sex Crimes* examines the broad range of sex crimes as both a distinct classification of crime and as individual sex offenses.

The purpose of this book is to bridge the gap of existing works on sex criminality, explore the relevant issues and dimensions of sex crimes, criminals, and victims, and shed new light on the study and implications of sexrelated criminal behavior. The intended audience includes the academic and professional community in the disciplines of criminology, sociology, sexology, criminal justice, social science, psychology, psychiatry, penology, medicine, human sciences, child sexual abuse, child welfare, women's studies, international studies, and victimology. It is also recommended reading for sex crime survivors and intelligent laypersons with an interest in sexual criminality and its implications for the individual and society.

I would like to thank Charles C Thomas Publisher in recognizing the importance of this book as a contribution to the study of crime and criminal behavior. Finally, I would be remiss if I did not offer the sincerest gratitude to my brilliant assistant, Loraine, and her tireless efforts in helping to turn my research into professional published material.

R.B.F.

INTRODUCTION

In spite of the considerable attention in the literature to studying sex crimes, criminals, and victims, there is a lot we do not know about the dynamics, prevalence, and incidence of sex crimes. The primary reason for this is that, unlike certain types of offenses, most sex crimes are by their very nature committed behind closed doors or between consenting persons, hence hidden from public view and often kept private and personal by the victims. Even for such public arena sex crimes as prostitution, much of the actual sex acts are committed in secrecy and without knowledge of anyone but those directly involved. Additionally, for many sex-related homicides the emphasis is often on the homicide and *not* the sexual offense perpetrated on the victim, thereby keeping such sex crimes out of the statistics.

What we do know about sex crimes is that they are far more prevalent, heterogeneous and damaging than much of the previous research would suggest. Sex victims and offenders are adults, children, males, females, old, young, whites, minorities, lower class, middle class, upper class, foreigners and of every conceivable occupational status. Sex crimes include sexual murders, forcible rape, child molestation, incest, prostitution, child pornography, exhibitionism, voyeurism, necrophilia, and sex trafficking. Most sex criminals are influenced by alcohol and drugs, anger, hostility pornography, profit, and a history of child sexual abuse or other sexual victimization. Though there are strict laws against most sex crimes, because of its magnitude and difficulty in identifying participants, relatively few sex offenders are ever arrested, prosecuted, or serve time behind bars for their crimes.

Sex Crimes: Perpetrators, Predators, Prostitutes, and Victims will examine in depth sexual criminality, its nature, characteristics, dimensions, and ramifications in American society. Within this context, the book will address both recognized and little known sex crimes, the magnitude of such crimes, sex offenders and victims, theories on sexual criminality and sex criminals and the criminal justice system.

The book is divided into seven parts. Part I examines sex-related homicides as a reflection of sexual criminality. Part II focuses on rape crimes, including forcible rape in general, marital rape, date and acquaintance rape; female, same sex rape, and statutory rape.

Part III explores incestuous crimes, including father-daughter incest, mother-child incest, and other intrafamilial sexual abuse. Part IV studies sexual predatory crimes, including child molestation, pedophilia, pornography and sex crimes; sex trafficking and sexual slavery; and other sexual abuse and paraphilias such as exhibitionism, voyeurism, bestiality, coprolagnia, and ritual sex abuse.

Part V examines prostitution crimes, including women's prostitution, girl prostitution, and male prostitution. Part VI explores theories on sexual criminality. Part VII focuses on the criminal justice system, sex crimes and offenders, including sex crime laws, arrests and sex offenders, and incarcerated sex criminals.

Tables and figures supplement the text in illustrating relevant data on sex crimes, criminals, and victims.

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Part I

SEXUAL MURDER CRIMES

Chapter 1

SEX-RELATED HOMICIDES

A lthough this book's primary focus will be on crimes that are traditionally defined as sex crimes such as rape, incest, child molestation, child pornography, and prostitution, it seemed appropriate to open with a chapter on sex-related homicides. By their very nature, sex and murder have been well documented to be strongly related throughout history.¹ Certainly in modern times, sexual themes have played a significant role in intimate murders, stranger murders, child murders, serial murders, prostitute murders, and sexual abuse-excuse murders. Many killers are driven by sexual impulses or factors in killing and just as many sexual offenders fantasize about killing their victims. The correlation between sex and homicide make it especially important to examine in the context of sex crimes.

DEFINING SEXUAL HOMICIDE

What is a sexual homicide? The term "sexual" is defined by the dictionary as (1) of sex, sexuality, the sexes, or the sex organs and their functions, and (2) implying or symbolizing erotic desires or activity. "Homicide" is defined as (1) the killing of one person by another or (2) a person who kills another. For the purposes of this chapter, sexual homicide will be defined as homicide in which there is a sexual element, motivation, relationship, or perversion involved such as rape, molestation, prostitution, intimacy, battering, and sexual jealousy.

In the book *Sexual Homicide: Patterns and Motives*, the authors define sexual homicide as "the killing of a person in the context of power, sexuality, and brutality."² They further describe sexual homicide as "murders with evidence or observations that indicate that the murder was sexual in nature."³ Murder that is sexually motivated is often referred to as *lust murder* or *erotophonophilia.*⁴ In the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of the American Psychiatric Association*