

**ANALYZING SPEECH PATTERNS OF  
PSYCHOPATHIC SERIAL KILLERS: A  
FORENSIC PSYCHOLINGUISTIC  
APPROACH TO DECEPTION DETECTION**

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**NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF MODERN LANGUAGES  
ISLAMABAD**

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## ABSTRACT

**Title: Analyzing Speech Patterns of Psychopathic Serial Killers: A Forensic Psycholinguistics Approach to Deception Detection**

This study investigates the speech patterns of psychopathic serial killers to identify the linguistic and nonverbal strategies used for deception and manipulation. Using a mixed-method approach grounded in Mark McClish's (2012) Statement Analysis framework, interviews of 10 psychopathic serial killers were analyzed. The interviews, sourced from YouTube, were transcribed and observed to examine linguistic and behavioral indicators of deception. Additionally, the Linguistic Inquiry and Word Count (LIWC) tool was employed to ensure validity and provide quantitative insights into the psychopathic linguistic profile. The findings reveal that psychopathic serial killers strategically use language to achieve their hidden motives. They demonstrate emotional detachment, frequently blame external factors, and avoid expressing remorse for their actions. High use of figurative language and ambiguous statements signals deceptive intent while their speech often reflects control and dominance. LIWC analysis highlights low affiliative language, high power-related terms, and moderate authenticity scores, reinforcing their manipulative tendencies. Nonverbal behaviors, such as smiling and smirking during discussions of their crimes, suggest enjoyment and a lack of moral regard. However, this research contributes to understanding the distinct linguistic and behavioral traits of psychopaths, emphasizing the need for awareness regarding psychopathy's link to recidivism. While this study focuses on Western psychopathic serial killers, its findings underline traits transcending cultural boundaries. Future research on psychopaths who are involved in crimes within Pakistan is necessary to generalize and validate these findings. This study aims to create awareness and inform strategies for identifying and managing individuals with psychopathic traits.

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

APA: American Psychiatric Association

CBCA: Criteria Based Content Analysis

DD: Deception Detection

DSM: The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Health

F 1: Factor 1

F2: Factor 2

LIWC: Linguistic Inquiry and Word Count

LSPR: Levenson Self-Report Psychopathy Scale

NCAVC: National Center for Analysis of Violent Crimes

NLP: Natural Language Processing

P: Psychopath

PCL-R: Psychopathy Checklist Revised

SCAN: Scientific Content Analysis

TFM: Two Factor Model

PCL-R: Psychopathy Checklist Revised

SCAN: Scientific Content Analysis

TFM: Two Factor Model

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## **DEDICATION**

This research is dedicated to my beloved parents, who have always been my source of inspiration, encouragement, and love. And my family and friends who pushed me to keep on going on this journey. Their sacrifices and belief in me have motivated me to do better.

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Forensic Psycholinguistics

Forensic psycholinguistics is the integration between the forensic expertise, the linguistic knowledge and the psychological know-how to analyze language evidence in legal proceedings (Yang & Liu, 2019). The latest discipline forensic psycholinguistics uses psychology to understand language in legal contexts. Though this is a combination of law, linguistics, and psychology. The study revealed the interest on this discipline emerged from ancient China. Research on forensic psycholinguistics first emerged in the West in Europe in the late 19th century and subsequently moved to the United States around the time of World War II (Yang & Liu, 2019). Forensic psycholinguistics examines language and language behavior in forensic contexts, like lawmaking, the courtroom, and law-abiding (and law-breaking). It not just examines our conscious but also unconscious use of language. In order to develop and advance this field, it is important to understand how language works in legal environments and how it behaves in different cultures. According to the authors, language evidence can provide an insight on highly relevant issues like authorship attribution, fraud, and linguistic profiling. “But a systematic analysis of this evidence can enhance the accuracy and reliability of judicial decisions” (Yang & Liu, 2019).

Deception detection has been an important area of study in forensic psychology, linguistics, and criminal investigations. The ability to identify deceptive speech is crucial when dealing with psychopathic individuals, such as serial killers, who are notorious for displaying manipulative and deceptive behaviors. Unlike the general population, psychopaths are different, having unique psychological and personality traits that make them manipulate and lie convincingly while maintaining emotional detachment.

Over the years, various methods have been used to examine deceptive language, including psychological assessments to linguistic analysis. The emerging technologies in computational linguistics, such as the use of Linguistic Inquiry and Word Count (LIWC), have offered new tools to identify and detect patterns of deception through word choice, sentence structure, and emotional expression. However, identifying

deception in psychopathic serial killers remains a challenge due to their ability to craft persuasive and calculated narratives.

By analyzing their speech patterns, the researcher developed a profound insight into the psychopaths and their use of language to manipulate, evade detection, and control their narrative and deceive and intimidate the general public, interviewers and interrogators. This study focused on contributing to the thriving field of forensic linguistics by exploring linguistic deception markers specific to psychopathic serial killers, using Statement Analysis by Mark McClish as a theoretical framework along with Linguistic inquiry and word count (LIWC).

It is important to examine written and spoken language to learn more about a person's personality, mental state, and potential involvement in criminal conduct. A disorder which might have a harmful impact on a person is personality disorder. A person suffering from mental illness is more prone to breaking the law. A person's fundamental cognitive and emotional processes can be revealed through an analysis of their language (Pennebaker, et al., 2003: 54).

Cleckley (1964) described psychopathic individuals as someone who can show charm, bright and outwardly very normal looking. These people lack remorse and have no conscience. Cleckley (1964) points out that people with psychopathic traits can show impulsive behavior and have the talent to influence people around them. Psychopathy is known as a personality disorder which is characterized by impulsivity, lack of remorse and guilt, superficial charms, and manipulative behavior.

Psychopathic individuals are often known to be related to crimes and deceptive behavior. Psychopaths often employ deception skills in order to get away with their crimes. These psychopaths often use deceptive tactics to avoid taking responsibility for their crimes (Hare, 1993). Vrij (2008) defines deception as a tactic or skill that can be used to intentionally mislead others, and this can be achieved through hiding, fabricating and misrepresenting the facts. He called deception a sophisticated cognitive process. People having psychopathic tendencies often employ deception to have an influence on others and achieve their goals (Porter et al., 2010).

The speech pattern of psychopathic individuals is one of the topics of interest in forensic psycholinguistics. Brites (2016) suggests that psychopaths do not show any regret or guilt for their actions. They show very little emotional nuance and are very

skilled in manipulating and exploiting their social situation. Moreover, their speech indicates a lack of sincerity, yet the way of speaking is charming and appealing to others during the interviews. In comparison with the non-psychopathic individuals, Brites (2016) noticed that individuals with psychopathic tendencies tend to use formal language during written communication. These studies can show that psychopaths can show manipulative and deceptive tendencies. By studying the language of individuals having psychopathic tendencies one can get deep insight into their mental state and this can lead to the development of methods which are effective in their diagnosis and treatment.

Kiehl (2006) also talked about psychopaths and gave their general description. According to him psychopaths have superficial charms which can be endearing to others and their speech lacks substance and sincerity. Psychopaths use their charms and deception to influence people to get what they want (Kiehl, 2006).

O Tooles (2000) studies on terminologies homicide investigation revealed that serial killers during the investigation often use comparable strategies in their native tongue to have control over the situation and deceive others. So, people who may exhibit psychopathic tendencies and are involved in serial killing, it is crucial to study deception detection in their speech within forensic Psycholinguistics.

People with psychopathic personality disorders have a part in the criminal community as they are people with profound emotional, ethical, and moral deficiencies. As compared to non-psychopathic people, psychopaths tend to recommit crimes more often and the crime rate is frequently high. Serin (1996) is of view that psychopathic individual personality traits are more crucial in predicting recidivism than previous criminal acts. As psychopaths are more prone to perpetrate crimes after being released from jail, it is important to identify these individuals. Studies have revealed that psychopaths who were involved in serial killings often tend to show manipulative behavior and have the habit of lying and deceiving others.

Williamson et al., (1991) have done research on criminals with psychopathic tendencies and non-psychopathic individuals in prison. The study measured the reaction time and electrical brain activity of the participants during the decision-making exercise. This includes words which do not exist, pseudo words, and those words which do not have any emotional content. The study revealed that criminals with psychopathic

tendencies are sensitive to words having emotional content. The response towards the words which induce emotions is faster than the neutral words.

Blair et al., (2006) suggests that psychopaths have limited comprehension of words meanings, especially those words which illicit emotions. The study on deception detection in speech of psychopaths especially, psychopathic serial killer is very limited and has received little attention in literature. Porter (2010) studied the language used by psychopathic individuals in mock jail interviews. This study revealed that during the interview psychopaths used the language where the focus is on them, not others. They used less words that refer to others and more words that refer to themselves. This highlighted the self-centered nature of psychopaths and their manipulative behavior. Another study by Newnman et al., (2003) was carried out on the speech habits of psychopaths while they are given speech tasks. The findings of the study suggest that people with psychopathic tendencies have a less sophisticated, syntactic structure and along with this, the use of pronouns is very little. This reveals their more impersonal and distant communicative style.

The objective of this study is to identify deception techniques. It can help the law enforcement to successfully find and apprehend these individuals who are involved in crimes. Also, the research can help in giving awareness to the public and the danger that comes with the person having these traits. Additionally, it can be helpful to learn how to identify and recognize deception in their speech. The main challenge in deception detection is to tell if someone is lying or not, especially when a person is skilled at manipulation or deceiving others. It is a difficult task. In the case of psychopaths, they are known to be skilled at deceiving others or telling a deceptive story to persuade others by hiding the facts or when they are lying. This is particularly done by shaping their speech pattern in a certain way. The findings of the research might be important as the speech pattern which can indicate deception and manipulation, the researcher and investigators can look for those indicators to recognize them. The study of deception detection in the speech patterns of psychopaths the forensic psycholinguistics context can benefit mental health experts in comprehending and understanding the mind of these individuals also, law enforcement officials better comprehend and deal with these difficult challenges. It can also offer insight into the inner workings of the criminal mind.

The investigation of the speech pattern of psychopathic serial killer can apprehend the researchers and detectives to learn about certain deceptive flags shown by these individuals and how their mind works. As these individuals are prone to lie, careful examination of their speech pattern might reveal a little falsehood that can be helpful for the public or the law enforcement to spot them before they cause more harm.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

In Pakistan, the rise in serial killings and other violent crimes, such as pedophilia and sexual harassment, have triggered mass anxiety and fear among people. Despite these grave issues, mental health disorders, particularly personality disorders like psychopathy, remain largely overlooked. There is a significant lack of data on psychopathic offenders in Pakistan, further aggravated by inadequate mental health care facilities and limited research in this domain. Globally, forensic science is evolving, yet the application of forensic psycholinguistics to study the speech patterns of psychopathic serial killers is under explored and understudied in Pakistan. Analyzing speech patterns can reveal linguistic and non-linguistic cues of deception and manipulation, offering critical insights into their behavior.

This study addresses the gap by focusing on psychopathic serial killers, using available data from Western offenders due to lack as well as restricted access of local data in Pakistan. It aims to highlight the importance of forensic psycholinguistics in identifying and understanding these offenders, enhancing forensic investigations, aiding law enforcement, and raising awareness about these overlooked issues in Pakistan.

## **1.3 Research Objectives**

1. To identify the nonverbal elements of deception in the speech of selected psychopathic serial killers
2. To explore the manipulation and deceptive techniques used by the selected psychopathic serial killers to manipulate and deceive their interlocutors

## **1.4 Research Questions**

1. What are the nonverbal elements of deception in the speech of selected psychopathic serial killers?



2. Which manipulation and deceptive techniques are used by selected psychopathic serial killers to manipulate and deceive their interlocutors?

## **1.5 Research Methodology**

The research aimed to spot deception in interviews of psychopathic serial killers by using a mixed research design. The study used a mixed methods approach to analyze the speech pattern of psychopathic serial killers. The study involves the analysis of speech transcripts and video interviews made by convicted serial killers. The data have been analyzed using qualitative and quantitative techniques. The quantitative analysis involves the identification of linguistic patterns and frequency of specific language markers associated with deception or truthfulness. Meanwhile, qualitative analysis involves the interpretation of language use in connecting these to broader context or underlying motivation. By integrating both approaches, the researcher can gain a thorough understanding of communication, combining statistical rigor with rich contextual insights to shed light on the complexities of truth and deception in psychopaths' speech. Interviews of Psychopathic serial killers were selected from YouTube and then transcribed for analysis. For the research, the researcher has chosen the purposive sampling technique. Interviews of 10 psychopathic serial killers from YouTube were selected according to the demand and purpose of the study.

### **1.5.1 Data Collection**

The study used existing YouTube interviews of psychopathic serial killers as the primary data source. The interviews were transcribed for analysis. The interviews are publicly available on YouTube, hence there are no ethical issues involved.

### **1.5.2 Significance and Rational of the Study**

The study on the speech pattern of psychopathic serial killers and understanding to identify deception is beneficial for the security and justice in a country like Pakistan where these people with personality disorders are involved in the criminal activities but can't be caught. The current study can also help psychologists, criminologists, and attorneys, by allowing them a better understanding of psychopathy and deception detection, which can enhance their work in this field.

### **1.5.3 Contribution of Work to the Pakistani Society**

#### **1.5.3.1 Law Enforcement Training Initiative**

The research findings can be incorporated in the training programs and investigations in Pakistan by law enforcement authorities. The research findings can be helpful in teaching by providing information on the potential cues of deception and manipulation used by psychopathic individuals. The information can also be valuable to identify and recognize individuals who may pose a danger to society.

#### **1.5.3.2 Building Awareness**

- i. The research can also be beneficial and practical in scenario of development of prevention strategies and educational programs in Pakistan. The study can be incorporated by universities in their psychology and criminology programs. This can assist future researchers and professionals in addressing these personality disorders which are neglected.
- ii. Moreover, the research findings can enable the social workers to create tailored campaigns regarding the awareness about psychopathy and other personality disorders and the risks that come with psychopathy. These campaigns can be done through many platforms like social media, seminars, webinars, and educational institutions.

### **1.6 Delimitation**

The research mainly centered on unveiling the manipulation and deception in speech of psychopathic serial killers. The study delimited to an in-depth analysis of the speech of serial killers who were also identified as psychopaths. Because of the unavailability of the data in the Pakistani context, the study is narrowed down to western psychopathic serial killers, whose interviews are publicly available and can be easily accessed. Furthermore, the analysis is confined to two main dimensions. **Linguistic Features:** This includes elements such as rhetorical questioning, stuttering and fillers, unusual phrases, figurative language, evasive language, lack of empathy, emotive language, and selective disclosure. **Non-Linguistic Features:** Observations are focused on behavioral cues such as lip movement, chuckles, smiles, and eye movement. By focusing on these specific verbal and nonverbal indicators, the study aims to provide

a detailed analysis of deception and manipulation in the communication of psychopathic serial killers.

## **1.7 Chapter Breakdown**

### **1.7.1 Chapter 1: Introduction**

The introductory chapter for this study explained the research topic, defined all keywords associated with the topic, and provided a summary of the research. It elaborates on the problem statement that served as the basis for this research. Also, it has drawn attention to the study's relevance, limitations, and research concerns. It offers a bird's eye view of this study.

### **1.7.2 Chapter 2: Literature Review**

The literature review for this study is included in this chapter. The various methodologies, theories, and prior studies that are connected to this research topic are explained. It makes note of previous research that is relevant to the current research. It specifically discussed previous research and specified the literary niche. The existing studies that are connected to this research study have been covered in detail in this chapter.

### **1.7.3 Chapter 3: Research Methodology**

The third chapter of this study deals with research techniques. This chapter discussed the study's theoretical foundation. Also, it describes the sample, research method, and sampling strategy used in this study. The research methodology for this study is covered in full in this chapter.

### **1.7.4 Chapter 4: Data Analysis**

Data analysis is done in chapter four of this study. This chapter covered in detail analysis of selected data with a theoretical framework in mind.

### **1.7.5 Chapter 5: Conclusion**

The study's conclusion and results are discussed in the last chapter in the context of the data analysis. A quick summary of the entire study has been provided. It highlights the conclusions, suggestions, and recommendations from this research study.

This chapter involves the overall introduction of the studies, including the objectives of the study, significance of the study, delimitation, and methodology of the research. The next chapter details various methodologies, theories, and previous studies supporting the current study.

## **CHAPTER 2**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

This chapter shed light on the overall broader topic of psychopathy its relationship with serials killers and their language, elucidate an association of psychopathy and deception detection, methods of analysis of speech pattern of psychopaths along with the theoretical paradigm. This chapter gives a detailed review of the relevant literature and existing studies on speech patterns of psychopathy. In the end, it elucidates the gap in the existing literature.

#### **2.1 Overview of Psychopathy**

Psychopathy is a personality disorder often associated with factors like genetics, biological and environmental. The American Psychiatric Association (APA) in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual for Mental Disorder (DSM-5) (APA, 2013) classified psychopathy as antisocial personality disorder (APD). Anderson et al., (2014) studies show that one percent of the world population consists of individuals having psychopathic disorder. The first Psychiatrist who introduced the concept of psychopathy was Hervey M. Cleckley. Cleckley (1941) described psychopathy in his book called “The Mask of Sanity”. He presented 16 traits exhibited by the individual who exhibit psychopathic tendencies by thoroughly studying a few cases. These are chore characteristics also known as “Cleckley criteria” which includes:

1. Superficial Charms
2. Unreliability
3. Lack of remorse or guilt
4. Absence of nervousness
5. Poor judgment
6. Unreliability
7. Irrational thinking
8. Insincerity
9. Promiscuous sex life

- 10. Loss of insight
- 11. Egocentricity
- 12. Uninviting behavior
- 13. Rarely carrying out suicide threats
- 14. Failure to follow any life plan
- 15. Loss of insight
- 16. Poverty of affective reactions

Cleckley (1941) laid the base for understanding and recognizing psychopathic individuals; this is done by thoroughly studying these attributes and traits. According to Cleckley (1964) psychopathic persons exhibit a lack of guilt and remorse, they are charming and good looking. These individuals do not have any conscience, yet they appear to be grandiose and bright.

Robert D Hare (1991) developed a tool to identify psychopathic individuals; this was an advancement to Cleckley's work on psychopathy. The tool developed by Hare (1991) is called Psychopathy Checklist Revised (PCL-R). Through the PCL-R test one can have a full idea of primary psychopathy and secondary psychopathy. Primary Psychopathy is mostly associated with emotional dysfunction. On the other hand, secondary psychopathy is recognized for antisocial behavior (Hare 1991; Blair, 2001). Hare et al., (1991) suggested that there is some distinction between ADP and psychopathy as some researchers mix ADP with psychopathy. They emphasized that psychopathy consists of a broader set of personality traits which might relate to criminality while ADP mostly focuses on criminal conduct (Gowlett, 2014, as cited in Malmstrom, 2015).

Hare (1991) introduced the Two Factor Model (TFM) which helps in understanding psychopathy. TFM is widely accepted and embraced. In the TFM, Factor 1 (F1), also known as primary factor, encompasses traits like lack of empathy, grandiosity, while Factor 2 (F2) or secondary psychopathy includes impulsivity and poor behavioral control (Miller, Gaughan & Pryor, 2008). Skeem et al., (2007) is of

view that Hare (1991) two Factor Model is helpful to identify psychopathic characteristics and can assist in distinguishing between primary and secondary psychopathy.

Levenson Kiehl, and Fitzpatrick (1995) gave the Levenson Self-Report Psychopathy Scale (LSRPS) which is the Self-Report, to measure primary and secondary psychopathy along with that Levenson et al., (1995) studies on successful psychopaths or psychopaths who are not involved in violent crimes outside the institutional settings this expanded the previous works done on psychopathy and aided further exploration on psychopathy beyond criminal contexts.

## **2.2 Psychopathy and Serial Killers**

Gowlett (2014) described the connection between psychopathy and criminal behavior which may include fraud, violent acts, white collar crimes. Psychopaths are known to be impulsive and often show reckless behavior because of this they more likely indulge themselves in criminal acts in addition to this they sometimes ignore the rights and wellbeing of others. The main factors of psychopathic individuals involved in violence and criminal acts may include genetics and environmental influences.

Additionally, psychopathy exists on a spectrum where individuals display different levels of psychopathic characteristics. Psychopathy and crimes are often linked, this does not mean all psychopaths are involved in criminal acts, it is not fated.

The analysis of the speech pattern of psychopaths and detecting deception in their speech holds a crucial importance for various reasons. Humans' cognitive and affective processes can be understood by exploring their language. This also includes individuals having psychopathic tendencies. As it is said, "Language is a window into the mind" (Chomsky, 1975; Pinker 2007).

Studies done by Hanock, Wordsworth, (2013); Newman et al., (2003) suggest that psychopaths have distinct traits from non-psychopathic individuals. Psychopaths exhibit attributes like superficial charms; their speech lacks emotional depth and uses manipulative language.

It is important to recognize and identify individuals with psychopathic tendencies and who pose a threat to society beforehand for the purpose of intervention and prevention. By employing targeted interventions and risk management strategies, it is possible to identify individuals having psychopathic tendencies before they commit any crime (Patrick, 2006; Skeem & Cooke, 2010). There are some conventional methods like clinical interviews and self-report measures which can assist diagnosing psychopathy, but these methods are not foolproof. According to Cooke & Michie (2001); Eden et al., (2002) clinical interview method for assessing and diagnosing psychopathy is reliable. This method is objective, and it is beneficial in treatment.

Deception detection plays a significant role in the context of domains like law enforcement, intelligence, and forensic psychology. Vrij; Bond & De Paulo (2008) points out that to detect deception, linguistic cues have an important role to play. The effectiveness of deception detection techniques such as content analysis and linguistic lie detection algorithms can be improved by understanding the speech patterns related to deception.

Analysis of the speech pattern can be very helpful during criminal investigations as it gives significant information which assists in profiling the offenders and understanding the motivation behind the crime. A deep understanding of an offender's psyche can be achieved by examining the language used in crime related communications, such as ransom notes or online messages (Canter & Youngs 2009; Pennebaker et al., 2003)

The term 'serial killings' defined as "A Series of three or more killings, not less than one of which was committed within the United States, having common characteristics such as to suggest the reasonable possibility that the crimes were committed by the same actor or actors." Protection of Children from the Sexual Predator Act of 1998 (Title 18, United Code, Chapter 51, and Section 1111).

The National Center for the Analysis of Violent Crimes (NCAVC) reports that not all individuals who exhibit psychopathic tendencies are involved in serial killings. Such serial killers who are psychopaths show no remorse or consciousness towards human life. They seem to be extremely insensitive as they lack empathy. Personality



disorders like psychopathy alone give details of the modus operandi behind their crimes.

Psychopathic serial killers might show different crime scenes, having detailed insight into it can assist investigations and law enforcement. Law enforcement can benefit by identifying these distinct traits shown by psychopathic serial killers (NCAVC).

The study done by Ronson (2011) described the link between psychopathy and criminality. According to Ronson (2011), psychopathy affects around 1% of the global population. Psychopathy is present in 4% of individuals who are working in high positions like CEOs, businessmen and overall, 25% of individuals are affected by psychopathy. The findings of the research by Ronson (2011) highlighted the correlation between psychopathy and criminality and its relationship with leadership. He suggested the need for further research in this area.

Typologies of serial killers have been developed to get hold of their modus operandi, their behavior and to know the motivation behind the crimes serial killers commit and to organize them. Some of the typologies which are grounded on different criteria are as follows:

Holmes and Holmes (1988) proposed five typologies. These include visionary, mission oriented, hedonistic, power/control, and group based serial killers. These typologies are based on primary motivation.

The typology proposed by Keppel (1997) was founded on offenders' motivation and behavior. He emphasized the importance of understanding the “signature” of offenders during the profiling and investigating serial murders.

Douglas and Ressler (1986) developed a system to classify violent crimes, which include serial murderers. This classification laid its foundation on crime scene analysis and the traits of offenders. These typologies are of two types organized and disorganized categories which further subdivide according to the characteristics and behavior of killers. The typology includes four categories of anger excitation, power

assurance, power assertiveness, and anger retaliatory. These are based on primary motives and behavior of offenders.

Through these typologies of various serial killers, their motivation and behavior can be understood as these typologies provide a proper framework for understanding. It also helps investigative strategies, risk assessment, and treatment approaches. However, the point to notice is that not all serial killers fit into these categories and can sometimes overlap between different typologies.

Linguistic analysis methods are important in research related to psychopaths. As it provides a deep insight into the language patterns and communication styles of the individuals having psychopathic tendencies. Content analysis is one of the methods which can be efficacious in investigating the language of psychopaths. In content analysis, to identify the patterns, themes and linguistic features, written or verbal language is examined by researchers. Pennebaker et al., (2015) suggests that for the purpose of identifying the differences between individuals with psychopathic tendencies and non-psychopaths, researchers can analyze the specific linguistic categories for example, the use of pronouns, emotional words or cognitive processes.

Another method that can assist in the analysis of speech patterns of psychopaths is text analysis software, known as Linguistic inquiry and word count (LIWC). The LIWC software is used to categorize the words that are written or verbal language into emotions, cognition, and social processes. The software can be used to quantify the linguistic features related to psychopathy, for example, self-references, emotional tone, and social engagement (Pennebaker et al., 1999).

Natural language processing (NLP) is computational analysis of natural language used to obtain information and patterns which are meaningful. Bird's et al., (2009) put forward the idea that researchers can employ NLP techniques to examine the large volume of text data. Through this, they can spot the linguistic markers of psychopathy that are part of speech tagging, sentiment analysis, and syntactic parsing.

The researchers conducted an analysis of verbal exchange between psychopathic individuals and non-psychopathic individuals, for the purpose to examine their communication style, the manipulative tactics psychopaths use, and the

interpersonal strategies employed by them (Sidnel & Striver, 2013). This is known as conversational analysis where the focus is on spoken interaction such as turn taking, speech acts, and conversational patterns.

Scherer & Scherer (2011) suggested that it is suitable to use acoustic analysis techniques to examine the speech rate, vocal quality, pitch variations. This can be used to identify the difference in speech patterns of individuals with psychopathic traits.

In addition, another method which can be used to analyze the relationship between words and concepts in language can be used to examine the speech patterns of psychopaths. To examine the semantic structure of written or spoken text, researchers can use network analysis techniques. This can aid in detection of the patterns that exhibit mental and cognitive processes and linguistic representations of individuals with psychopathy (Cramer et al., 2012).

These methods of analysis are very helpful in analyzing the speech patterns and communication strategies used by psychopathic individuals.

### **2.3 Popular Theoretical Paradigms**

There are numerous theoretical models that present the relationship between speech patterns and psychopathy. The triarchic model of psychopathy is one of the popular models in this aspect. This model is given by Patrick et al., (2009). According to this model, psychopathy encompasses three distinct but related dimensions which are: meanness, boldness, and disinhibition. Here, boldness means to remain calm and collected in tense situations, by meanness it refers to insensitivity and lack of empathy. And disinhibition involves impulsivity and lack of self-control. Patrick et al., (2009) studied how these dimensions may influence the linguistic features observed in psychopathic speech. These features include manipulative language, emotional language, and grandiosity.

The American Psychiatric Association in 2013 published a theoretical framework, which stems from the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition (DSM-5). This framework highlights two main dimensions of psychopathy. These dimensions are interpersonal affective dimensions and impulsive antisocial dimensions. The interpersonal dimension comprises grandiosity, superficial

charms, and lack of empathy. On the other hand, the impulsive antisocial dimension includes impulsivity, irresponsibility, and criminality. Investigations have shown how these dimensions can be revealed in the speech pattern of psychopaths. The focus was especially on linguistic markers of manipulation, deception, and emotional shallowness (APA, 2013).

## **2.4 Previous Studies**

Hanock and Wordsworth (2013) analyzed the written language of psychopaths in prison by using the software Linguistic inquiry and word count (LIWC). The findings of the study revealed that psychopaths in their speech use first person pronouns like “I”, “Me”. Also, very few social words are used by psychopaths as compared to non-psychopaths. This suggests that psychopaths are very self-centered and have an aloof communication style.

Newman et al., (2003) examined the linguistic cues of deception used by the psychopaths which suggests that as compared to non-psychopathic individuals the speech of psychopaths is full of words related to self-references, negative emotions and sensory perception. The study points out that psychopaths have distinct speech patterns when they try to manipulate others (Newman et al., 2003).

Furthermore, Malmquist (2016) had done a linguistic analysis of the notorious serial killer's interviews. These serial killers were Ted Bundy and Jeffery Dahmer. The study's findings revealed that psychopaths used manipulative language to get away from the accountability of their crimes. The common speech patterns identified were lack of empathy towards the victims and grandiosity.

The research findings by Porter et al., (2019) revealed that psychopaths often use longer sentences and diverse vocabulary. Porter et al., (2019) have examined the speech of psychopaths using automated linguistic analysis techniques and suggests that psychopaths are skilled in strategic and manipulative communication.

Another research done by Timor and Wiese (2008) on prisoner's discourse. The study investigated the sociolinguistics and psycholinguistics indication of behavior disorders. The study revealed that the language used by the prisoners was highly abstract, lacked empathy, and it showed a disregard for social norms.

Almela et al., (2015) analyzed the speech pattern of psychopaths, the objective of the research was contrasting the truthful excerpts of psychopaths with the deceptive one's and this was achieved by using forensic linguistics along with the help of stylometric analysis. According to Almela et al., (2015), psychopathy is characterized by lack of empathy, egocentrism, and reflected detachment. Psychopaths are skilled in manipulation as they are good at shaping their language to influence others. The study focused on the investigation of those linguistics parameters affected by psychopathic conditions such as distribution of grammatical persons, frequency of certainty adverbs, and verbs associated with cognitive processes ( Almela et al., 2015).

Psychopaths showed both positive and negative emotions when they tried to empathize or manipulate. According to Almela et al., (2015) this finding contradicts with the traditional notion of negative emotions and deception in English. The investigation by Almela et al., agrees with the findings of Hancock and Wordsworth (2013) that psychopaths use more first-person singular pronouns through which egocentrism is evident and show lack of guilt or remorse.

Another research findings by Stevens et al., (2012) revealed that psychopaths during emotional conversation often use hedging and uncertainty markers. Stevens et al., (2012) analyzed mock interviews of psychopaths and analyzed the language where they observed that psychopaths are emotionally nuanced as they use tentative language during emotional discussion.

In addition to this, Smithson (2013) examined the speech pattern of psychopathic serial killer Ted Bundy. He employed the modes of persuasion by Aristotle for the research. The study suggests that in the context where truthfulness holds a significant importance in legal scenarios, the use of manipulative language and deception are pervasive elements of interpersonal communications. The study by Smithson (2013) suggests that the framework used for the research falls short to properly address the intricacies related to linguistics choice opted by psychopaths. The study gave recommendations for future researchers to develop refined strategies or frameworks to which can shed light on the complex interplay of language, psychopathy and deception.

Furthermore, an investigation done by Reidy (2005) looked into the relationship between psychopathic traits and aggression. The researchers achieved this by examining the specific contribution of emotional detachment and antisocial behavior and comparing it to different forms of aggressive behavior. In addition to this, the study suggests that Factor 1 (emotional detachment) appears to be a superior predictor of aggressive behavior as compared to Factor 2, which is also known as antisocial behavior. Further research recommendations suggest incorporating diverse populations and methodologies to explain the underlying mechanism and implications of psychopathy related to aggression (Reidy ,2005).

Scholars and researchers try to understand and delve deep into the cognitive and linguistic attributes associated with psychopathy as the speech of psychopaths is a topic of curiosity for many. For this purpose, Williamson (1991) investigated the speech pattern among psychopathic offenders in prison. He looked deeper into the coherence and organization of their speech, but the focus was on the resolution of actions on narrative.

Brinkley et al., (1999) worked on the speech pattern of psychopaths by revealing disorganized structures. This study provides a deeper understanding of psychopathy. The study recommends that while investigating psychopaths, cultural and individual differences should be considered. Brinkley et al., (1999) study findings suggest that psychopaths have fragmented language structure and lack of coherence in their speech.

The research on psychopathic offenders by Gullhaughan & Sakshuang(2019) revealed that the communication of psychopathic individuals is complex as they show distinct traits, which reveals their emotional and cognitive deficiencies. They do not show any emotions towards interpersonal relationships or childhood traumas. In addition to this, they focus on those topics which interest them, such as power, control, and dominance. These psychopathic individuals show no remorse or guilt towards their crimes and display several manipulative tactics to influence others. According to the investigations by Gullhaughan & Sakshuang(2019), psychopaths' speech lacks coherence and cohesion, this might be due to their cognitive brain damage. In addition, this element of egocentrism is evident in their speech as they justify their wrong doings by strategically manipulating language to evade responsibility for their actions.

Hanock et al., (2018) extended his previous work by examining the speech pattern of psychopaths and non-psychopaths through different forms of online platform forms. The study focuses on the three types of online communication which are text messaging, Facebook and email. The findings of the study revealed that speech of individuals having high psychopathy shows narcissism and psychological distancing. These individuals produce text which is not comprehensible which includes more words related to anger. Hanock et al., (2018) suggests that in real life experiences and investigations these individuals may give an in-depth insight into these psychopathic tendencies.

To sum up the discussion, these studies explored the communication pattern of psychopaths and put forward the idea that these individuals, including serial killers who have psychopathic tendencies, show pronounced language patterns. There is speech characterized by egocentrism, narcissism, emotional detachment, manipulation, and cognitive complexity. However, further research is needed to validate these findings and explore the utility of linguistic analysis in identifying and understanding psychopathic behavior. Additionally, studying speech patterns in real-life contexts, such as courtroom testimonies or police interrogations, may provide valuable insights into the communicative strategies employed by psychopathic individuals in forensic settings.

## **2.5 Psychopathy and Deception Detection**

Hare (2003) states that the core part of a psychopath's personality is their skill to manipulate and deceive people. Psychopaths achieve their goals and get away with detection by manipulating and deceiving others. Individuals with psychopathic tendencies exploit others for their personal gain (Patrik, 2006). These insights are very important in developing tools and strategies which can help in early intervention and detection of psychopathic individuals who are prone to harm others.

Moreover, studying individuals can contribute to understanding human behavior as well as deception. As Cleckley (1941) in his book presents the attributes of psychopaths which they use as a tool to deceive others. These traits include superficial charms and persuasive language. These individuals also show no remorse or guilt or have no empathy towards their wrong doings or deceptive behavior (Hare & Newmann,

2008; Lykken, 1957). The study can help professionals as well as common people to differentiate between intentional manipulation and other forms of communication.

There are some researches which highlights the paradox between psychopathy and deception. One of the research investigations on psychopaths by Blair (2007); Blair et al., (2005) suggested that psychopathic individuals lack in emotional recognition, they lack empathy and interpersonal sensitivity, because of this they are unable to spot the deceptive cues in social interaction. Psychopaths cannot accurately detect deception and manipulation in others. Psychopaths are overconfident on their skills on identifying deception, this exaggeration made them vulnerable to manipulation by others (Boody, 2006).

The dynamic of the relationship between psychopathy and deception is determined by the neurological and cognitive processing of the brain. The study unveils that people with psychopathy have damaged brain regions, which are connected to decision making and emotional processing. Because of this these individuals struggle to identify deception (Decety et al., 2011; Kiehl et al., 2001).

Cognitive theories proposed that psychopaths do not have the ability to perceive and attribute mental states to themselves and others. This results in hindering their ability to spot deception and understand behavioral cues (Blair et al., 2001; Dolan & Fullam 2004).

Vrij (2008) throws light on the importance of a comprehensive study on the relationship between psychopathy and deception detection. According to him, it can facilitate criminal investigations, interrogations and courtroom proceedings. People who are involved in these professions must be aware of the skilled manipulation of psychopaths and to counter this they should use specialized techniques and strategies (Porter & Brinke, 2010). The research clarifies the use of manipulation and deception by psychopaths, and it also enables the law enforcement to counteract harmful behaviour effectively. As suggested above, legal and investigative professionals can efficiently work by using or adopting specialized techniques and strategies.

According to Cooke et al., (2005); Edens et al, (2006) the investigation on psychopathy and deception detection can facilitate the development of assessment tools and training programs. Not only this, but it enhance the ability of psychologists, legal professionals, and law enforcement personnel to recognize and supervise psychopathic



individuals in forensic settings. They worked on the broader benefits of research into psychopathy and deception detection. The focus was on development of tools and training programs, which can empower psychologists, law enforcement personnel and legal settings to better identify and manage psychopathic individuals in forensic and legal settings.

Christiansen (2021) did a study on Deception Detection (DD) within the discipline of forensic linguistics. The study investigated the linguistics signs of deception additionally; the study also looked into different methodologies like Scientific Content Analysis (SCAN) and Criteria-Based Content Analysis (CBCA) describing their importance in linguistics analysis. The research by Christiansen (2021) provides insight into how language can reveal hidden and underlying dishonesty and manipulation. The methodologies analyzed by Christiansen (2021) gave structured approaches to assess language patterns, credibility, and consistency in statements.

Detection of deception and manipulation through speech and behavior provides valuable insight into the human mind. Especially in the field of forensic science and legal settings as it ensures unbiased trials, protects public safety and keeps trust in the judicial system. Vrij (2008) emphasized the importance of deception detection as it assists in fair and unbiased trials and administration of justice. This can be achieved through spotting lies and exposing manipulative behavior. These deception detection techniques help to get reliable information during investigations, interviews, and legal proceedings.

Sometimes unjustified convictions and judicial errors happen because of the fabricated evidence, false confessions, and ambiguous testimonies, this can be prevented by using effective deception detection techniques and strategies by scrutinizing the credibility of witness statements (Leo & Gould, 2009). The use of effective deception techniques and strategies is important for scrutinizing the credibility of witness statements ensuring that justice is served.

According to the National Research Council (2003), it is important to detect deception for the safety of the public. By exposing the hidden motives of offenders and identifying lies, law enforcement agencies can see through the threats and avoid criminal activities. This underscores the preventive aspects of deception detection, highlighting its significance in proactive crime prevention and fostering a safe society.

Kassin & Gudjonsson (2004) emphasizes by using credible and trustworthy techniques of deception detection law enforcement agencies can improve the case resolution and get positive outcomes.

Tyler (2006) is of view that public trust the law enforcement and judicial system only if they committed to the principles of fairness, accountability and integrity. Detection of lies and deceptive cues in statements, evidence and serving unbiased verdicts is important for the law enforcement and judicial system to show people their commitment towards exposing the lies and revealing the hidden truths.

Criminals often employ deceptive and manipulative strategies to distort the facts in order to avoid getting caught. So, it is important to have a deeper understanding of deception detection strategies and should know how to counter new deceptive and manipulative strategies employed by offenders (Mann, Vrij & Bull, 2002). The significance of this lies in its application to law enforcement, enabling professionals to stay ahead of offenders who employ evolving deceptive techniques. This insight is critical for improving investigative accuracy, reducing wrongful acquittals, and ensuring that offenders are held accountable for their actions.

Dil & Kazmi (2016) examined psychopathic tendencies among youth and revealed gender differences in psychopathy. This is achieved through the Urdu psychopathy scale with a reliability of 90. The sample for the research is selected from three different districts in Hazara division by using convenient sampling techniques. The number of male participants were 100 out of which 50 were criminals, 100 female participants were selected in which 26 were criminals. The study revealed high scores of men on the psychopathy scale than the female participants. Criminals exhibited higher scores than non-criminals. The study by Dil & Kazmi (2016) proposed that individuals who have high scores on scale are prone to committing crimes and violence which leads to recidivism.

The study of psychopathic serial killers' speech patterns offers a unique and critical lens for understanding deception. Psychopathy is often linked to manipulation, lack of empathy, and a distinctive communication style that sets these individuals apart from non-psychopaths. By analyzing their linguistic markers, researchers can uncover patterns that expose deception and psychological distancing.

Existing studies, such as Timor and Wiese (2008) highlighted the relationship between psychopathy and linguistic anomalies by discovering the use of highly abstract language and lack of empathy. Similarly, Hancock and Wordsworth (2013), found out the excessive use of first-person pronouns ("I," "Me") in the speech of psychopaths while avoiding social words, indicating self-centeredness and detachment. Moreover, Almela et al. (2015) explored this by applying forensic linguistics and stylometric analysis, suggesting that psychopathic individuals display egocentrism, emotional detachment, and language manipulation in both truthful and deceptive statements.

Hancock et al. (2018) extended his research to digital communication platforms, studying the online discourse of psychopathic individuals, identifying narcissism, psychological distancing, and incomprehensible speech. This highlights their flexibility in shaping their language across different contexts. Additionally, Christiansen (2021) emphasized the role of Scientific Content Analysis (SCAN) and Criteria-Based Content Analysis (CBCA) in detecting deception, providing structured methods to assess credibility and consistency in psychopathic speech.

This research niche combines forensic linguistics, psycholinguistics, and deception detection to analyze the speech of psychopathic serial killers. By identifying linguistic markers of manipulation, psychological distancing, and dishonesty, this study aims to highlight this crucial issue in Pakistani context moreover, a deeper understanding of psychopathic speech patterns can aid in developing advanced deception detection tools, allowing investigators to identify truthful statements from deceptive effectively. Furthermore, this research has implications beyond criminal investigation it can contribute to public safety initiatives, psycho educational programs, and policy development, particularly in preventing violent crimes through early identification of psychopathic tendencies. By bridging the gap between linguistic, science and criminal behavior analysis aid in decoding the linguistic markers of deception in psychopathic serial killers the could be helpful for Pakistani population which can lead to awareness and also helpful for law enforcement in criminal profiling and investigative methodologies which can leads to more effective crime prevention strategies and a better understanding of the psychopathic mind. While there are many research has been done on these topics there remains a critical need to focus on broader public education and awareness regarding psychopathy, especially in the context of Pakistan.

It is important to detect deception in forensic contexts; it can promote the development and implementation of effective deception detection techniques. Overall, the relationship between psychopathy and deception detection reveals a complex interplay between personality aspects, cognitive processes, and social behaviors in forensic contexts. Further study is needed to shed light on the underlying mechanisms of psychopathy and deception detection and develop proper interventions to address the deceptive tendencies of psychopathic individuals.

## **2.6 Research Gap**

The study of psychopathic serial killers' speech patterns and their use of deception has primarily been limited to Western contexts, which leaves a critical void in forensic psycholinguistics research within Pakistan. Despite the rise of global interest in comprehending the linguistic and nonverbal cues of manipulation and deceit, there is lack of documented interviews as well as very limited accessible data to general public regarding Pakistani psychopathic serial killers. This absence not only prevents local insights but also limits the application of such findings to culturally distinct contexts. By using publicly available interviews of psychopathic serial killers from West, this research aims to explore the manipulative and deceptive cues used by psychopathic serial killers and also underscores the immediate need and significance of this issue in Pakistan, ultimately paving the way for future studies in this under explored yet critical domain.

In conclusion the chapter has explored psychopathy and serial killers, the popular theoretical paradigms and previous studies relevant to the topic. Moving forward, the next chapter focuses on the research method used for data collection and analysis also, discusses the rationale of choosing the research approach for the analysis which is suitable for the studies. Moreover, the theoretical framework chosen for the research is also discussed in the next chapter.

## **CHAPTER 3**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

In this chapter, the researcher has given insight regarding the research method, rationale for the selection of data collection methods, and data analysis, restating the research questions, theoretical framework and sample for the study.

#### **3.1 Research Methods**

Different research uses different types of research methods according to the demands of the study. The selection of the research is based on the purpose of the research. There are different types of research methods which scholars use. These methods include qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods. Each one of these methods has its own aspects. The quantitative method of analysis deals with numerical data while a qualitative method is used to analyze the characteristics, beliefs, and attitudes of people or any other phenomenon. It delves into non-numerical data. Another method which combines both qualitative methods and quantitative methods is known as a mixed method to solve the problem.

The research is descriptive in nature, mixed method approach is chosen, along with integrated with forensic content analysis and computational linguistic tools (LIWC) to explore and analyze the linguistic and nonlinguistic markers of deception the speech patterns of psychopathic serial killers. In the current study, the researcher chose mixed method appraisal to answer the research questions and examine the linguistic and nonverbal elements of deception in psychopathic serial killers. Using a mixed method approach for research is a perfect option where the purpose of research is to examine and investigate the behavior, attitudes, opinions and concepts. Additionally, the quantitative method was used to examine the frequency of linguistic features, and this is done through LIWC and recurrence of nonverbal elements associated to deception is also noticed, on the other hand, qualitative method was used to interpret the language used by the psychopathic serial killers. The researcher opted for mixed methods of research to thoroughly analyze the linguistic features, strategies and nonverbal elements employed by psychopathic serial killers during the interview to manipulate and deceive the interlocutor.

### 3.2 Rationale for the Selection of Mixed Research Method

Quantitative analysis allows the systematic measurement of linguistics features and nonverbal gestures such as unusual words, sentence structure, and facial expressions. It provides an insightful understanding of the deception detection techniques used by these psychopathic serial killers while qualitative method of research identifies the cues of deception from their language and examining the contextual factors which shape their language and the methods helps in interpretation of body language, facial features, strategies employed by them during conversation.

The objective of the study was to get a deeper understanding of the speech of psychopathic serial killers highlighting the linguistics and nonverbal elements of deception employed by them and pointing out the effectiveness of deception technique.

### 3.3 Theoretical Framework

The research utilized the framework from the work of Mark McClish (2012). He provided the technique of Statement Analysis in his book *'Don't be Deceived'* where he has given different ways to detect deception among criminals. Statement Analysis is opted for the analysis of the speech pattern of psychopathic serial killers to detect deceptive and manipulative cues they use to influence others. According to McClish (2012), it is possible to detect deception through language by using the Statement Analysis technique. This framework shows that one can get an insight into the mind, their motivation, and behavior through language. Mark McClish has worked for law enforcement agencies as a federal law and enforcement officer for 26 years. Statement Analysis technique is developed by him to examine the speech of a person to know if they are trying to lie or deceive.

McClish (2012) gave several indicators of deception in his book. These indicators can help find deception among offenders. By using the technique of Statement Analysis different cues of deception can be identified. McClish (2012) talked about the qualifying language as one of the key indicators of deception, such as the use of "I think", or " may be". The use of these in a statement suggests that the speaker is trying to distance himself from the statement, or it shows uncertainty.

Another indicator of deception is that deceptive people use vague language. They often gave such statements which are ambiguous or lack details. Using this

strategy means that the speaker is avoiding talking about the topic being discussed by telling unnecessary information or giving too much information to confuse the listeners.

In Statement Analysis, for cues of deception one should look for inconsistencies and contradictions within the person's statement. Moreover, McClish (2012) technique of Statement Analysis emphasized analyzing the use of pronouns by a person. According to McClish (2012) a deceptive person may use first person plural pronoun instead of first-person singular pronoun. It seems to be an attempt to deflect the blame on others by trying to distance themselves from the event. He describes that a person who tries to deceive and manipulate others may see excluding the elements of possession from the statement, or there might be inconsistencies and contradictions in the statement for example, a deceptive person may use "they" instead of "my" or instead of "this" they may use "that". Here "this" and "my" shows possession while "they" and "that" indicate distance and detachment. Also, the use of 'we', 'he/she' instead of "I" indicates that a person is avoiding the accountability of his actions. A person who is honest and truthful does not switch from one pronoun to another. One of the instances of inconsistency in pronoun use was found in the ransom note, which was found in Ramsey house when Jon Benet was killed. In the notes the inconsistencies, phrases like "We might call you " and then switch to "I may call you" also, phrases such as, "follow our instructions" to "Any deviation from my instructions" (Malmstrom, 2015).

Through Statement Analysis, the overall structure of a person's statement can be analyzed. To examine the statement for deception cues, order of events and the use of transitional phrases are there to look for. According to McClish (2012) a deceptive person may tell the course of events in disorganized sequence also, the use of transitional phrases might be the indicator of deceptive behavior, as it represents that a person is trying to manipulate the perception of listeners regarding the event. For example, the statements like "I didn't really" hear from her or "I am trying to be honest", here word "really" and "trying" are the signs of deception because it does not give the same meaning as "I didn't hear from her" same goes for word "trying", it indicates that a person is not really honest but faking it (McClish, 2012, as cited in Malmstrom, 2015).

A person who attempts to deceive or lie to others often uses unusual words or fragmented sentences, both in verbal and written language. For example, " She got up off the waterbed and picked the pistol up from her dressing". This example suggests that the word "dresser" would have been more suitable than the word "dressing". So,

the statement might be in fragments because it seems that some words are omitted. Also, the use of unusual phrases indicates that the person is trying to give more information than needed to avoid the topic of discussion or to control the narrative (Mcclish, 2012, as cited in Malmstrom, 2015).

One more sign of deception in the speech is the inconsistencies in the verb tense. This means that if someone is asked about past events and he/she gives a response in the present tense, it indicates deception. Moreover, psychopathic serial killers may show lexical behavior which is unique and different from non-psychopaths. This may give an insight into their psychological state. One of the key indicators of deception according to McClish (2012) is the time reference. Looking for time references while analyzing the statements is important. While narrating the story look for time a person refers to while narrating the story, is there any inconsistency in the story. Also examining the time mentioned by the person is reasonable and makes sense, also focusing on the chronological order.

McClish (2012) is of the view that a person who is manipulative and deceptive may not respond to the questions they are asked. Avoidance by not answering the questions means that they are hiding the information. McClish (2012) suggests that those questions whose answers only required yes or no, the response should be yes or no. Instead of this if the person tries to deny or give response with a question it is a sign of deceptive behavior.

Lexical behavior alone cannot offer a fuller understanding of deception detection especially in speech of psychopathic serial killers as they are complex to study. Along with the analysis of nonverbal elements, it helps to understand the psyche and motivation behind the actions of psychopaths. Nonverbal behavior includes facial expressions, gestures, eye movement, and lip movement which can be analyzed to highlight the potential cues of deception among psychopaths.

### **3.4 Analytical Framework**

The analytical framework that the researcher used in the research are as follows: First, the researcher analyzed the data by using the principles of statement analysis by Mark McClish (2012). She systematically analyzed the data.



### **3.4.1 Deceptive Techniques through Linguistics and Non-linguistics Analysis**

Researchers have used several crucial procedures and techniques to carry out a thorough analysis of forensic statement analysis for deception detection in the interview recordings of psychopathic serial killers. The process involves the following steps:

The first step of analysis was to understand and have information about the crimes and the background of these psychopathic serial killers to get familiar with the case. For understanding the context and information, the researcher watched the interview recordings several times. The nonverbal behavior like facial expressions, eye movements, and lip movements of psychopathic serial killers were observed through the video to spot discrepancies.

The next step of analysis after watching and observing the video recordings was to pay close attention to the spoken statements of the psychopathic serial killers to notice any deception in their language. The videos of the interviews were transcribed to find any anomalies in their speech such as unusual phrases, repetition, contradictions, inconsistencies in the story, and questionable language choices. The in-depth analysis of interviews was done by transcribing them.

The researcher was fully focused during the analysis on certain cues that helped her spot deception or manipulation in their speech. The researcher was fully attentive while analyzing the interviews and when the psychopathic serial killers were describing or narrating their violent crimes. She looked for the cues of deception, by noticing the use of pronouns, the overly detached language, emotional nuance while describing their actions, and also lack of emotional reactions. The researcher focused on the language on the linguistics characteristics that can indicate dishonesty or deceit, like:

- Distancing Language
- Unusual Patterns
- Pauses, Halts and Fillers
- Repetitions
- Consistency in the Verb Tense
- Use of Pronouns

The researcher paid attention to any other information or action done by these individuals which might be an attempt to deflect or manipulate the story. The researcher did an in-depth analysis at every stage. The linguistics and non-linguistics cues of deception along with the linguistic strategies used by the psychopathic serial killers during the interviews were noticed by the researcher. The researcher took detailed notes of these cues to answer the research questions. By following these steps, the researcher had done a detailed study of the speech pattern of psychopathic serial killers by analyzing their interviews publicly available. These steps enabled her to identify and explore the signs of deception exhibited by these individuals and provided a deeper understanding of the case at hand.

Moreover, the researcher used Linguistic inquiry and word count (LIWC) as a tool to quantitatively validate the research findings. LIWC is an automated tool developed by James Pennebaker and his colleagues. LIWC (Pennebaker, Booth, & Francis, 2007) is software that can analyze a range of text. It is very helpful in measuring psychological and cognitive traits of individuals through language. It also aids in quantifying linguistics dimensions, emotional expression, and cognitive complexities. LIWC quantify emotional tone under which comes positive emotions, negative emotions and there are subcategories to these like anger, anxiety and sadness. It also assists in capturing cognitive processes through the lens of analytical thinking, tentativeness, and certainty. Moreover, this tool measures the extent to which language reflects genuine and unfiltered expressions. This automated tool helped the researcher in quantifying linguistic markers of psychopathy, emotional tone, negative impressions. Also empathetic language categories like causation, and discrepancies helped revealing the cognitive strategies.

LIWC consists of a dictionary which contains thousands of words that are further characterized by 90 linguistic and psychological dimensions. The sample text for analysis is provided to the automated software where it scans the text and compares each word with its dictionary. Then LIWC calculates the percentage of words that belong to each category and gives quantitative output.

### **3.5 Data Collection**

The researcher chose a mixed-method approach for this study. The data was collected through an online forum known as YouTube. The researcher collected

interviews of psychopathic serial killers from YouTube. The interviews were chosen through a search and selection process. The selection of data involved three steps. The first step was to search the interviews of serial killers having psychopathic tendencies on online forums and identify them. The second step was to download the videos and transcribe them for analysis of speech patterns of psychopathic serial killers. The videos were transcribed through the online software known as Good Tape. All recordings of the speech samples were transcribed using the verbatim transcription method. In this method the software captured every word spoken, including pauses, repetition, sighs, and laughter. It is preferred to ensure authenticity of speech patterns and make sure the linguistic and psychological nuances are accurately represented for analysis. The third process was the in-depth analysis of the transcripts and observation of the videos for behavioral analysis in order to answer the research questions of the study.

### **3.5.1 Sample of the Study**

According to Encyclopedia Britannica, "Psychopathy, personality disorder is characterized by a set of dysfunctional interpersonal, emotional, lifestyle, and antisocial tendencies. Persons suffering from psychopathy—sometimes called psychopaths—commonly exhibit a lack of empathy or remorse and manifest impulsiveness, manipulateness, and deceitfulness, among other negative traits and behaviours".

The term 'serial killings' defined as "A Series of three or more killings, not less than one of which was committed within the United States, having common characteristics such as to suggest the reasonable possibility that the crimes were committed by the same actor or actors." Protection of Children from the Sexual Predator Act of 1998 (Title 18, United Code, Chapter 51, and Section 1111).

### **3.5.2 Criteria for Selecting the Sample**

The criteria for the selection of sample is the availability of data which aligns with the purpose of the study. There is detailed information regarding the selected samples available publicly, which can provide deeper insight into their speech and behaviour as well as the broader context. Since these selected psychopathic serial killers are high profile cases and there is an abundance of information like publicly available interviews, documentaries, etc. to work with which makes them relevant and suitable for analyzing both verbal and nonverbal cues of deception and manipulation.

The researcher chose the selected sample with the help of sampling techniques known as Purposive sampling. In purposive sampling, every individual/item has an equal chance of being selected. According to the requirement of the study, the researcher selected a total of 10 interviews of psychopathic serial killers. These 10 interviews were selected from YouTube as these interviews lasted more than 10 minutes. The names of the psychopathic serial killers on which research has been carried out are as follows:

- i. Richard Ramirez aka “The Night Stalker”
- ii. Arthur “Killer Whale” Shawcross
- iii. John Wayne Gacy
- iv. Aileen Wuornos
- v. Charles Manson
- vi. Edmund Kemper
- vii. Dennis Rader, aka “The BTK killer”
- viii. Joel Rifkin
- ix. Jeffery Dahmer
- x. Tommy Lyn Sells

After the selection of 10 interviews and the transcription of videos, in-depth analysis was carried out to detect the deception and manipulative language in the speech of psychopathic serial killers.

The next chapter gives a detailed analysis of the speech pattern of these selected psychopathic serial killers and the nonverbal behavior which aids in deception and manipulation.

## **CHAPTER 4**

### **DATA ANALYSIS**

This Chapter includes the data and the analysis of interviews of selected psychopathic serial killers. The chapter addresses the research questions and objectives of the study mentioned in the previous chapter. Through the detailed and comprehensive examination of the data, the researcher gathered insights that can contribute to the understanding of speech patterns and thought processes of psychopaths and deception detection.

#### **4.1 Interview 01: Richard Ramirez**

##### **4.1.1 Linguistic Features**

###### **4.1.1.1 Rhetorical Questions**

- i. We are all evil in some form or another. Are we not?

When Ramirez was asked about whether he was evil. He answered with a rhetorical question. His deliberate response was an attempt to engage the interviewer to reflect on his own perspective and beliefs. By gaslighting he was trying to avoid giving a direct response and implying all beings are evil; he is not the only one. This tactic is to engage the audience to draw their own interpretation by asking or emphasizing that everyone is evil. It's not that he alone is evil who committed the crime.

###### **4.1.1.2 Unusual Phrases**

- i. And these are bloodthirsty times.
- ii. If you dig deep enough....
- iii. Violent delights tend to have violent ends.
- iv. Madness is something rare in individuals.
- v. Killing is killing.
- vi. Re baptize
- vii. Great epochs

Ramirez in his interview employed some unusual phrases which give a reflection of his thought process. The use of metaphorical statement “If you dig deep enough....” implies the exploration of hidden truths. The phrase like “these blood thirsty

times” provides a vivid image of violence and aggression; by listening to this it induces an emotion of shock or fear. Words like “Great Epochs” are not used in normal conversation. These words are somewhat formal and literary terms. “Re baptize” is mostly used in religious contexts, but Ramirez used the word as a metaphorical expression to suggest renewal or transformation. As these words are quite powerful and provocative, it was a subtle manipulation tactic to influence the listener.

#### 4.1.1.3 Fillers, Pauses and Stuttering

- i. The word has been – been fed many lies.
- ii. Just a guy.
- iii. Serial killers do what governments do on a large one – They are product of times.
- iv. This nation, this country is founded in violence – Violent delights tends to have violent ends.
- v. ....There are different sects of Satanism.
- vi. And it's going to get worse – The great epochs of our life is when we gain the courage...

Richard Ramirez during the interview took many halts and sighs. It may indicate that Richard is taking time to think about what he is going to say next. It looks like he was trying to remember some script which he prepared, or he has read those lines somewhere.

**Table 1**

*Linguistic Features in the Speech of Ramirez*

Linguistic features	Frequency
Rhetorical question	01
Stuttering, fillers, halts	06
Unusual phrases	07

#### 4.1.2 Linguistic Strategies

##### Figurative Language

- i. Metaphor: Men murdered themselves into this democracy.
- ii. Oxymoron: Our evil qualities as being our best qualities

- iii. Repetition: Killing is killing.
- iv. Juxtaposition: Even Psychopaths have emotions if you dig deep enough. But then again, maybe they don't.
- v. Analogy: and these are blood thirsty times.
- vi. Alliteration: Repetition of /s/ in statement "Serial killers do on small scale what government do on large scale".
- vii. Antithesis: Evil has always existed perfect world most people seek shall never come to pass.
- viii. It is power without charity.
- ix. Allusion: Violent delights tend to have violent ends.

The above-mentioned statements were used by Ramirez at different points during the interview. While giving answers to the questions, he started talking about the struggles and the harsh reality faced by humans in this society. By using figurative language Ramirez artistically tried to sway the audience. Also, about the complexities faced by human nature, he attempted to divert their attention. The use of figurative language by Ramirez is an effort to control information. Through the conversation Ramirez is trying to influence the listener on a deeper level. He tried to target the intellect and emotions at the same time. As psychopaths are very sharp and cunning, by using intellectual language, he was trying to evoke a perspective in the audience.

#### **4.1.2.2 Evasive Language**

Ramirez continuously during his interview tried evading giving direct response to the interviewer questions. He gave minimal answers to the questions or tried giving answers which were not related to what was being asked. By providing a lack of details, he was attempting to conceal the true nature of his intention. He was reluctant to talk about many things by setting a boundary to control the information. These minimal answers and at some point, exaggerated responses suggest that Ramirez is uncomfortable answering and an attempt to deceive the audience.

- i. Again, it would be improper for me to comment in any regard to that question.
- ii. Do you have emotions Richard? No comments
- iii. Are you a worshipper of the devil? No comments.
- iv. Who are you? Just a guy. That is all I care to say.
- v. You didn't kill 13 people? That is correct.

#### **4.1.2.3 Lack of Empathy and Remorse**

Throughout the interview, there isn't any hint of remorse or empathy from Ramirez towards his victims. He was presenting himself as a victim rather than taking accountability; he was avoiding answering directly. Reading some script, to manipulate the audience's interpretation of him.

#### **4.1.2.4 Selective Disclosure**

Ramirez in his interview gave a lack of details of his crimes. His responses were brief, and he had control over the conversation. He stated what he wanted to or what he feels about sharing and avoided giving responses which he felt were not important to share. He was reluctant to delve into deeper information. This is an intentional move to conceal the information about which he was uncomfortable sharing and give information which had a potential impact on the audience's narrative regarding him.

#### **4.1.2.5 Emotive Language**

Ramirez in his interview employed emotional language to evoke the response in the audience:

- i. I gave up on love and happiness a long time ago.

The statement shows that Ramirez expressing his conscious decision to give up on happiness or to pursue happiness and love.

- ii. Power without charity.
- iii. It is undefined wisdom.

The use of undefined wisdom is vague. And this is open to interpretation. By making such statements, he is deliberately trying to manipulate the listener's understanding.

- iv. Even Psychopaths have emotions.

Ramirez stated this in order to challenge the common assumption that emotions and feelings are inherently linked to morality and humanity. By expressing this he was trying to portray the complexity of human nature. Psychopathy is often associated with lack of empathy and remorse. Ramirez was denying the notion and trying to appeal to the listener that he had feelings. The use of emotional language is a deception technique



often used by psychopaths to portray themselves in a better light in front of their interlocutors and influence the audience.

#### **4.1.2.6 Shifting Blame, Gaslighting**

Ramirez gave brief responses and was reluctant to share detailed information. He deflected further inquiry by setting boundaries. In his conversation, he was purposely trying to redirect the conversation towards the government. He was shifting the blame of his deeds to the government and trying to minimize his crime. He attempts to gaslight his listener that everyone is evil by nature, and he was the only one. He tries to have an impact on audiences' perspective that what serial killers do is nothing in front of what the government has done or is doing. It was an attempt to shift blame, which is one of the traits associated with psychopaths.

### **4.1.3 Non-Verbal Elements**

#### **4.1.3.1 Body Language**

Ramirez tried to look cool and grandiose during the interview. He was very relaxed and calm. This seems to be a deliberate approach to presenting himself in a certain way to his audience.

#### **4.1.3.2 Lip Movements**

The researcher observed during the conversation that Ramirez licked his lip in different instances, also the flick of tongue was evident. This movement indicates that he was trying to calm himself. It may show discomfort about the situation he was in.

#### **4.1.3.3 Heavy Sigh**

Ramirez sighed multiple times during the interview. This might be an internal strife, his chaotic feeling which he wanted to express. It seems he was feeling frustrated.

#### **4.1.3.4 Smile, Chuckle, Smirk**

Ramirez was smiling throughout the interview. When the interviewer mentioned him that he stands with people like Charles Manson, Ted Bundy, Jeffery Dahmer, he gave a smile full of pride. He was smirking at different points during the conversation, which indicates that he was enjoying being in the limelight and minimizing the severity of his crimes. He gave a smile at different points because he loved the idea of being in ranks with some of the most dangerous serial killers. There

was a joyous look on his face. When he was called out for reading script he gave an uncomfortable smile. He was enjoying the situation and trying to be smart.

#### 4.1.3.5 Eye movement

Ramirez had mixed eye contact during the conversation. He was looking around, and it seemed like he was trying to remember the script which he had prepared to manipulate people. His eyes seemed to be accessing the situation and having an inner thought about what to do next or say next to manipulate the public and control the narrative in his favor. At one movement he was squinting his eyes, which was a sign of frustration. He seemed triggered and gave a psychopathic look. He was seen giving an unblinking stare towards the interviewer, which implies that he was excited. He wants to see the reaction of the interviewer by directly staring in his eyes without blinking. It was an attempt to create a sense of terror and people want to know this side.

**Table 2**

*Nonverbal Elements shown in the Communication of Ramirez*

Nonverbal elements	Frequency
Smile	01
Lip movement	06
Eye movement	07

## 4.2 Interviewer 02: Arthur Shaw cross

### 4.2.1 Linguistic Features

#### 4.2.1.1 Repetition

- i. I won't talk....
- ii. I don't want to talk about....
- iii. I won't talk about it.
- iv. That I don't even talk about.

These instances by Shawcross indicate that he was unwilling to talk about his victims. He expressed his desire not to engage in the subject. By saying no, he sets the boundary and holds control over the conversation. And this denial might be due to discomfort.

- v. And I took the leg....
- vi. Took the skin off...
- vii. Took the cord out...

In these repetition patterns Shaw cross talks about his decisiveness, determination, and his control over the situation. This indicates the speaker dominance and assertiveness of the situation

- viii. And I sprinkled....
- ix. And I'm starving...
- x. And I'm putting....
- xi. And I'm sitting there...

The repetition of the pattern suggests that Shawcross was again living at the crime scene while describing his involvement in the action.

#### **4.2.1.2 Stuttering, Fillers and Pauses**

- i. I, uh.....
- ii. Hmmm....
- iii. No, I think.....but.....

Shaw cross uses stuttering in his speech which indicates his discomfort or hesitation while discussing his actions related to cannibalism. This suggests that he is struggling with the subject matter. Overall, these stutters and fillers suggest that Shaw cross might be hiding the information, downplaying his guilt.

#### **4.2.1.3 Rhetorical Questions**

- i. What did I do?

The speaker responds with a rhetorical question which implies that he believes he hadn't done anything wrong which has to be questioned like that. This suggests the defensiveness and vulnerability which results in the silence of interlocutors.

- ii. I don't think you are going to eat it. Are you?

Shaw cross here implies disbelief or discomfort by asking the interviewer about eating the burnt pork.

- iii. Are you sure you are not shaking?

At the end while shaking hands with the interviewer Shawcross emphasized the listener's physical state. It was a calculated move by him to evoke a response from the interviewer. This implies that Shawcross is trying to illicit the reaction from the interviewer by showing his dominance and power. He took the chance to show his presence and authority.

Overall, these rhetorical questions suggest that the interviewer is either trying to be defensive of his actions or to influence them by showing his dominance, which is evident in the behavior of psychopaths.

#### 4.2.1.4 Fragmentation

I have no idea...I, uh.... cut parts of the body out

One part of vagina

Someday....

Why I don't....

I have no.....That I don't even talk about.

These are the instances of fragmentation in the speech of Shawcross during the interview. There is a lack of complete sentences which indicate emotional distress and implies that his thoughts are disjointed to articulate. This vagueness in expression leaves room for interpretations as it creates ambiguity.

**Table 3**

*Linguistic Features in the Speech of Shawcross*

Linguistic features	Frequency
Repetition	11
Rhetorical question	03
Fragmentation	05
Stutter, fillers, halts	03

## 4.2.2 Linguistic Strategies

### 4.2.2.1 Evasive Language

In the speech of Shaw cross, the researcher has found different instances where the speaker is trying to evade the subject of discussion. Throughout the conversation Shawcross was reluctant to share information or discuss the subject matter. Shawcross was seen evading the topic of discussion by giving minimal responses and avoiding the details. This implies that he was deliberately avoiding the details to manipulate the direction of conversation.

- i. I don't want to talk....
- ii. I have no idea....
- iii. That I won't talk about
- iv. Hmmm.... Three
- v. I have no idea
- vi. She had put my head.....

### 4.2.2.2 Emotional Language

Shaw cross employed emotional language in his conversation to evoke the emotions of his audience. He used emotional expressions when talking about his trauma. It was an attempt to evoke sympathy in listeners for him by overshadowing his deeds of killing children and eating them. He used emotional language as a tool of manipulation and deception by presenting the narrative which could evoke empathy in listeners for him and obscured the gravity of his crime.

- i. Hell, really
- ii. That's hard to talk about...

### 4.2.2.3 Figurative Language

Psychopaths often use figurative speech to make their conversation more artistic and manipulative. Shaw cross in his speech used different figures of speech to serve his manipulative purpose. He describes vivid pictures of his crime scene and elicits sensory details.

- i. Vivid imagery

“And I had crushed rock salt in one of my ammo pouches. And I sprinkled the water on it. And I'm staring at this other girl, because I don't know if she speaks English or whatever, or broken English. And I'm putting the rock salt on it. And I'm sitting there cooking over a fire. And when I bit into it, looking at staring at this other girl in the eye, she just urinated right there.”

- ii. Metaphor: Roast pork tastes like human butt.

The conversation between Shaw cross and the interviewer indicates that Shaw cross lacks empathy and remorse towards his victims. He describes one of his scenes very vividly and gives a sensory description as he is reliving his crimes. This shows his lack of guilt towards the people who had suffered in his hands.

- iii. I don't have conscience.
- iv. I don't have any remorse

#### **4.2.2.4 Selective Disclosure**

Shaw cross has full control over the conversation. He talked about what he wants to share and avoided or denied talking about things which are uncomfortable to him. For example, he talked about two Veit Cong women's and how he killed them but avoided talking about Jack Blake who was an 11-year-old boy and also about an 8-year-old girl that he killed.

### **4.2.3 Non-Verbal Elements**

#### **4.2.3.1 Smile**

Shaw cross was seen during the interview smiling at different movements. He was seen smirking and gave a subtle smile when talking about his childhood trauma and when he was talking about his victims and how he killed them. He gave chuckles when he was asked about his obsession with cutting the heads of his victims by giving the response that during his childhood his father cut chickens. That's the reason. This response indicates that he was trying to conceal certain information and only giving information which he finds comfortable sharing. Smiling or smirking while talking about severe topics reveals the twisted traits of psychopaths that show no remorse. Towards the end of the interview, he shook hands with the interviewer and asked her if she was shaking and then laughed. This indicates his nature of having power and control. As psychopaths enjoy control and power, it was his moment to show an upper hand to the interviewer. He laughed while asking because he wanted to give an impression of

being a friendly person. This is one of the manipulation tactics used by psychopaths to put a play in front of people.

#### 4.2.3.2 Lip Movement

Lip licking or biting reveals that either a person is trying to soothe themselves or concealing information which he/she does not want to express. Shawcross was seen licking his lips multiple times during the conversation. These nonverbal cues potentially convey underlying emotions and attitudes.

#### 4.2.3.3 Eye Contact

Shawcross had mixed eye contact with the interviewer. He also gave an unblinking stare to her. It implies that he wanted to get a response from the interviewer. This thing is fascinating for psychopaths, and they enjoy the attention or validation from others.

**Table 4**

*Nonverbal elements in the Communication of Shawcross*

Nonverbal elements	Frequency
Smile	07
Lip movement	07
Eye movement	03

### 4.3 Interview 03: John Wayne Gacy

#### 4.3.1 Linguistic Features

##### 4.3.1.1 Unusual Phrases

- i. Vengeance is mine, sayeth the Lord.
- ii. Swatted them like flies.
- iii. Basing the garbage on what you have heard of me.
- iv. She ought to take 33 volumes and go lay down.

Gacy during the conversation used some unusual phrases which show his mental state. In his speech he used a biblical reference emphasizing his point that he is wrongly accused. He was trying to manipulate listeners, and it was an attempt to establish

credibility and the truth that he is innocent and not guilty. Gacy used “swatted like flies” for brutally killing, it was an attempt to avoid negative language. In statement iii. He uses this phrase to show his frustration and disappointment towards the information being spread about him. As he emphasizes that wrong information is circulated about him that he killed 33 kids. He was continuously trying to undermine the credibility of information. Gacy, in the fourth sentence, gave an unusual response, instead of being relaxed he showed his frustration towards the mother who demanded justice for his victim son.

These statements prove that he has no remorse towards his victims and continuously trying to downplay about the credibility of information and reluctant to accept responsibility of his actions by referring to the biblical illusion. It is employed purposely to have an impact on the audience by mentioning the Lord.

#### **4.3.1.2 Phrases of Uncertainty**

- i. I believe he was strangled.
- ii. If I know....
- iii. I think it is the name....

Instances of hedging are found in the speech of Gacy which indicate that he was unsure or uncertain about the death of Robert Peace. He said that he was not present at the crime scene, but he suggests that it is probable he was strangled. He was not making a definitive statement which implies uncertainty. Gacy was trying to distort the facts as he was not clear or had no evidence and so was deceptive.

#### **4.3.1.3 Repetition**

- i. I've always I've always....
- ii. Don't don't
- iii. Yes, I know yes, I know....
- iv. I can tell you everything.... I can tell you it's the first meal....
- v. .... her Marine son. Her Marine son
- vi. Heat came on. As the heat came on

These repetitions show an emphasis as the speaker tries to evoke the emotions of the listener to engage their attention. He demands to be seen in a certain light but then denies that he has done any wrong deeds. This inconsistency of the narrative is a sign of deception that Gacy is trying to lure his audience.



#### 4.3.1.4 Negation

In the speech of Gacy the researcher has found instances of negation. He repeatedly used negation in order to deflect the blame. This negation implies that Gacy is trying to downplay the severity of his crimes by denying the accusation of murder. He was trying to evade the responsibility of his actions by negating the facts but also seeking to manipulate the public perception of him.

- i. I don't want to....
- ii. Bukovic is not one....
- iii. I don't know nothing.
- iv. I didn't commit....
- v. I don't sit around....
- vi. You don't have nothing to fear....

#### 4.3.1.5 Rhetorical Questions

- i. What the hell did....
- ii. Why didn't I say anything about that....
- iii. Do you realize that in 1993.....
- iv. Aren't you afraid?
- v. Why would you don't need it this long?

During the conversation Gacy strategically put forward certain rhetorical questions. These questions display frustration and complexity in his attitude. He shows his frustration towards the child he killed by subtly shifting the blame on the boy implying that the boy's death was due to his own actions and questioning the love of mother towards his son. This tactic allowed Gacy to distance himself from responsibility and paint the victim. He tries to engage the interviewer by asking questions instead of responding to his questions. This is a tactic of manipulation used by psychopaths. Gacy shows skillful manipulation by controlling the narrative.

#### 4.3.1.6 Stuttering, Fillers and Halts

- i. Just take it that I didn't.... Bukovic is not one that I killed
- ii. Ahh he was transported to the house by another.
- iii. Ah In regard to going out into the garage....
- iv. Oh, this is too long.

- v. And when I next.... seen the individuals, he was dead.
- vi. While he's piddling....and while he is doing his business...
- vii. You know, when I tell you...
- viii. They claimed, well, there was ....

The researcher noticed the use of certain filler words and took pauses while narrating his story. These fillers, disfluencies and halts according to Hanock et al., (2018) come in a natural way. Psychopaths unconsciously produce these, and it serves as a mask and to look sane like any other normal person.

**Table 5**

*Linguistic Features in the speech of Gacy*

Linguistic features	Frequency
Unusual Phrases	04
Rhetorical Question	05
Negation	06
Stutter, fillers, Halts	08
Phrases of Uncertainty	04

### 4.3.2 Linguistic Strategies

#### 4.3.2.1 Figurative Language

- i. Biblical allusion: Vengeance is mine.
- ii. Simile: swatted like flies.
- iii. Metaphors: .... facade of your face being covered.
- iv. This is Christ as I see him in myself.
- v. the seven Dwarfs, if you actually look at all the faces.
- vi. .... but there are other victims to this crime. And that is the family.

Gacy in his conversation used quite a lot of figurative language for the purpose of manipulating the listeners. By referring to the bible, he was hitting the religious sentiments of people. As people hold great value to bible words, so, he is attempting to lure people that injustice is happening to him, and he is not the culprit. Then he used a

simile to describe the act of brutal and inhumane killing as “swatted like flies”. It implies a callous and discriminate behavior towards children, which is an attempt to deceive the listeners by denying it artistically manipulating the language. While describing his past Gacy revealed that he worked as a clown and apparently it was all fun but behind that face true emotions were hidden, there was a concealment or deception going on. He used such language to appeal to his audience and evoke their emotions of kindness towards him. He again intended to appeal people's sympathy by claiming that he relates himself to Christ. Here, the speaker seems to be delusional, as he sees himself as Christ by murdering 33 kids. Then he described the different moods of people that he expressed as seven dwarfs. Gacy tries hard to fit among the victims, by claiming he is the 34<sup>th</sup> victim and calling other victims as family. Here again he is trying to influence people's perception of him.

#### **4.3.2.2 Emotive Language**

The researcher is of the opinion that Gacy used emotive language to shape a narrative of him being innocent and wrongly accused. The use of language which appeals to the listener to gain sympathy is employed deliberately by Gacy. The choice of words is intentionally used by Gacy to evoke emotional response in the audience. This calculated move by Gacy implies his adeptness at shaping public perception and advancing his own agenda. The instances of emotional language are as follows:

- i. And still you had the facade of your face being covered.
- ii. I felt if you serve other people, it'll come back to you.
- iii. No. God, I hate that when they put me in the same club with me.
- iv. I'm as loveable and jokeable as I was back then.

#### **4.3.2.3 Denial and Deflection of Blame**

John Wayne Gacy in his entire interview seems to be deflecting the blame of his doing on others and tries to portray himself as a victim. He was avoiding taking responsibility for his actions. He repeatedly denies accusations. Deflection of actual facts has been seen in his conversation, and he presented himself as a third person. According to McClish (2012), a deceptive statement of possession may be omitted from the statement, or inconsistencies in the use of pronouns might be seen. ‘They’ may be used instead of ‘my’, or ‘that’ may be used instead of ‘this’. The use of ‘my’ implies

possession and 'they' does not. He talked about the involvement of other suspects, which is an intentional strategy to influence his public opinion.

#### **4.3.2.4 Selective Disclosure**

Gacy in his interview gave too much irrelevant information or minimal information. He had full control over the conversation. Gacy withheld some information about his crimes while revealing others. He controlled the narrative and maintained a sense of power and secrecy by choosing the details carefully. Through his language choices he potentially mitigates suspicion, guilt and responsibility.

### **4.3.3 Non-Verbal Elements**

#### **4.3.3.1 Smile**

John Wayne Gacy during the interview smiled several times. He smiled knowing the fact that he has an audience, and he can put forward his narrative in front of them. He smiled and laughed while making jokes with the interviewer to show the public his friendly nature. Gacy used his charms to appeal to the public that he is not what was portrayed. This is one of the characteristics of psychopaths to use their charms to manipulate and deceive their perception about them.

#### **4.3.3.2 Lip Movement**

SSThe investigator has found many instances of lip pressing, lip biting, and lip licking in the interview of John Wayne Gacy. This shows his excitement of having attention. These movements of lips show his amusement and inner joy of being the center of attraction. Lip bites often show that a person is stressed or nervous but here it seems like he is amused.

#### **4.3.3.3 Eye Movement**

John Wayne Gacy made misdirect eye contact with the interviewer. He deliberately avoided direct eye contact with the interviewer because he attempted to act naturally. He tried to be bold by avoiding eye contact and keeping himself busy and seemed to be comfortable.

When the interviewer asked about Jeffery Dahmer, John Wayne Gacy raised his eyebrows. These micro expressions show his frustration and agitation. He tried his best not to reveal his inner emotions to manipulate his audience.

**Table 6***Nonverbal Elements in the Communication of Gacy*

Nonverbal elements	Frequency
Smile	03
Lip movement	09
Eye movement	04

**4.4 Interview 04: Aileen Wuornos****4.4.1 Linguistic Features****4.4.1.1 Unusual Phrases**

- i. Put a whole accordion on it.
- ii. Had a lot of trays that were attempted murder....
- iii. Star trek beaming me up into....
- iv. Recolonize the other planet or whatever.

This statement by Aileen is unusual and nonsensical. It was vague and ambiguous with no sense. As tray an inanimate object is unable to murder someone. This showed the frustration and confusion in Aileen demeanor. Aileen seemed to be talking about after life and comparing it to star beam trek from and then settling on another planet. These phrases are unusual in normal setting which gave an insight to Aileen mind which seemed to be delusional. Aileen in her interview employed some unusual phrases which gave a glimpse into her mind.

**4.4.1.2 Repetition**

- i. I'm all right. I'm all right with it.
- ii. .... increased the pressure.... Increased the harassment.... Increased the trays being inedible.
- iii. I'm ok, I'm ok
- iv. I'm not going to say it. I'm not going to....

There are many instances of repetition found in the speech of Aileen. She used statement i. and iii. for self-assurance. It looked like she was trying to calm herself down. In example ii. She used the word increase" two times to intensify the escalation

of the situation according to Aileen. It seemed like an exaggeration of what happened, by using word increase to evoke sympathy among the public. In statement iv. Aileen denied talking about her crimes and emphasizes that by setting boundary that she wasn't going to give the details of her deeds.

#### **4.4.1.3 Fragmentation**

- i. I'm alright with it, but like I said, remember....
- ii. And I knew it. And that was. It was covered up.
- iii. And the cops and the system.... A raped women got executed

Disjointed and fragmented sentences were identified in the speech of Aileen. This disjointed structure of narratives may indicate mental distress or agitation. It reflected Aileen's emotional state.

#### **4.4.1.4 Rhetorical Questions**

- i. Did you know that...?
- ii. Did you know there was...?
- iii. What are you trying to talk....?
- iv. Change story or what?
- v. .... Aileen, What?
- vi. Don't you get it?

Aileen used rhetorical questions during conversation. These rhetorical questions implied that she was trying to engage the listener in a particular topic, leaving what she was asked. It was an attempt to persuade the interviewer towards a specific conclusion without explicitly stating them.

#### **4.4.1.5 Stutters, Fillers and Halts**

- i. Huh?
- ii. Oh, whether the cops were following me or not.
- iii. Uh Hmmm
- iv. Uh-huh
- v. Oh, you're are lost Nick.
- vi. Oh well, Oh well

Instances of disfluencies and fillers can be identified in the conversation of Aileen Wuornos. As research shows, psychopaths have more memories of past events

than non-psychopathic individuals. Here, these fillers and disfluencies reveal her cognitive processing or thought process as she appears to be frustrated and agitated during the conversation.

**Table 7**

*Linguistic Features in the Speech of Aileen*

Linguistic features	Frequency
Unusual phrases	04
Rhetorical question	06
Fragmentation	03
Stutter, fillers, halts	06
Repetition	04

#### **4.4.2 Linguistic Strategies**

##### **4.4.2.1 Figurative Language.**

- i. Hyperbole: I was crazy all the time.
- ii. I was totally crazy.
- iii. .... rig up the room with torture.
- iv. Allusion: Jesus Christ is going to be there.
- v. Metaphor: Star trek beaming me up into a space vehicle.

Instances of figurative language can be seen in the speech of Aileen. She used hyperbole to evoke strong reactions from the audience. As she talked about the life of prison and her investigation, she exaggerated that they were trying to make her crazy and doing torture which is unbearable. She strategically employed manipulative techniques to influence the audience. In the statement 4, she was trying to mitigate the public by giving religious references of Christ and then representing the idea of afterlife as star trek beam.

##### **4.4.2.2 Inconsistent in Thoughts**

There were inconsistencies, interruption, and disruption in the thoughts of Aileen as seen through her speech. One example of inconsistency was seen when Aileen was expressing her frustration and anger towards society and then suddenly changed

the topic to her psychiatric test. This abrupt change of topic and tone of speaker creates inconsistency. Also, there wasn't any link between the two topics she was talking about, which made the narrative vague and unclear.

#### **4.4.2.3 Deflection & Distortion of Reality**

Aileen attacked society and law enforcement as it was an attempt to distort reality. The attempt to accuse society and other individuals might involve exaggeration or distortion of reality. The purpose of this was to manipulate the public response and elicit a specific response of empathy for her from the audience. Aileen throughout her interview was seen blaming others for her deeds and trying to rationalize her actions and justify them.

#### **4.4.2.4 Victim Mentality**

The speaker tried to portray herself as a victim. She expresses herself as a victim of law enforcement agencies, a victim of the legal system, and a victim of society. Injustice is happening to her. She used this language to build a narrative of victimization and innocent beings to garner potential sympathy from the public. Deception through the narrative of Aileen was evident.

#### **4.4.2.5 Emotive Language**

Emotional manipulation through words was seen in the speech of Aileen. To express her anger and frustration she used strong emotional language. She focused on herself for being righteous to emotionally evoke listeners. Instances of such language are:

- i. Thanks a lot, society.
- ii. I was sick for three weeks, almost died.
- iii. You're inhumane
- iv. You sabotaged my ass society.

### **4.4.3 Non-Verbal Elements**

#### **4.4.3.1 Eye Movement**

Aileen Wuornos showed a vast variety of eye movements during the interview. These movements involve wide eyes, frowning eyes, and eyebrow raising, which suggests that she is uncomfortable during the interview.



#### 4.4.3.2 Lip Movement

Aileen during conversation licked her lips several times. This clue indicates her inner turmoil, anxiety or nervousness which she was trying to soothe herself by licking the lips. It reveals the underlying stress that warrants support.

#### 4.4.3.3 Smile

Aileen smiles a lot during her conversation. This smile seems to comfort herself or assure herself that she is OK. She smiles at certain moments while mentioning Jesus and after life which indicates she was trying to put forward a narrative of being innocent and close to Jesus. This is the tactic to hit the religious sentiments of people and try to induce sympathy for her by relating to them.

**Table 8**

*Nonverbal Elements in the Communication of Aileen*

Nonverbal elements	Frequency
Smile	13
Lip movement	09
Eye movement	09

### 4.5 Interview 05: Charles Manson

#### 4.5.1 Linguistic Features

##### 4.5.1.1 Unusual Phrases

- i. .... and they are soft and spongy.
- ii. .... They keep their mouth shut and do what they are supposed to do.
- iii. The wages off sin is death.

Manson uses some unusual phrases in his conversation. While discussing why he likes women he describes them as soft and spongy. This seems quite unusual to describe a human and animate object as spongy and soft and reduce them to only physical characteristics. His misogynist thinking is portrayed through his words when he said women should do what their work is in other words what their predetermined duties are set by the society rather than expressing themselves and speak up for

themselves. This shows that Manson demeanor as quite dominant and his lack of respect towards women autonomy. Charles Manson gave an unusual reference from Bible to influence people. This is a tactic to manipulate the audience and shape a positive side of him in front of them as he talks about moral consequences.

#### **4.5.1.2 Rhetorical Questions**

Manson during his interview has given response to the question asked from him with rhetorical questions. By questioning back, he was either trying to engage or divert the attention of the interviewer towards a different topic. A tactic to evade conversation and take responsibility for his actions. At some points he questioned back to the interviewer with “What did I feel like? This implies that he is acknowledging the question and ready to engage in that. At some points Manson is questioning back Like “Are you innocent? This is gas lighting where Manson is trying to focus the interviewer into questioning his own sanity and perception. It is one of the tactics used by psychopaths to exploit and manipulate their interlocutor.

- i. Was I happy when that was done?
- ii. Did you have any thoughts about something? Was you wanting to go anywhere?
- iii. I've been handling it, ain't it?
- iv. Get out of here?
- v. I know it but what can I do?
- vi. If I got out of here?
- vii. Again?
- viii. What about him?
- ix. Are you innocent?
- x. He got off and shook their hands, didn't he?
- xi. What did it feel like?
- xii. Did I kill anyone?
- xiii. Thats what Susie said?
- xiv. Did I?
- xv. Did you shoot somebody?
- xvi. Did we have water that's dying.... ?
- xvii. You have got a pistol on you?
- xviii. Do I have any scores out there?
- xix. Boy, how secure are we as human beings?

xx. That night?

#### 4.5.1.3 Repetition

i. I don't know pain. I don't know pain.

Here Manson sarcastically talks about his sufferings to ignite a response of sympathy and guilt in the audience. As he expresses his past traumas, his childhood sufferings deliberately evoke the response of the public.

ii. I don't know ridicule. I don't know all the bad things.

Here he repeatedly negates in response to interviewer questions. Manson is denying the facts.

iii. It teaches you things. It teaches you things.

Manson emphasizes that pain teaches us things and it is a good thing to repeat the phrase.

iv. Did I kill anyone? Did I kill anyone?

Manson was repeating the interviewer question and not directly responding to his inquiry. He was avoiding the subject of discussion by putting questions and repeating them instead of giving a response.

v. And I learned to box.... And I learned to do all things.... And I learned everything

Manson was proud of himself. His love for himself is shown through this statement where he is bragging about what he learned. This seems to be a coping strategy for him.

#### 4.5.1.4 Stutters Fillers and Halts

i. Ah I knew I wasn't going to go the gas chamber.

ii. Oh, I don't know pain.

iii. Yeah, yeah I understand that.

iv. Ah, make a desperate plea out of something, man.

v. Get out of here? Uh-huh

vi. Well, that's what I'm saying.

vii. you know you are guilty.

viii. Ah, what did it feel like? Yeah. Well,

ix. And he said, well, blah blah blah

- x. Halts and pauses at the question of Did he killed anyone?
- xi. Oh, I like them.
- xii. Oh, I don't think I have been ah responsible...

Many examples of disfluencies fillers and halts have been identified by the researcher from the interview of Charles Manson. Charles Manson appeared to be quite complicated and interesting. During his interview he used several disfluencies, which implied his complex thought process. As he appeared to be thinking about what to say next. At some points he took halts to avoid answering the specific question which reveals his deceptive nature as psychopath.

**Table 9**

*Linguistic Features in the Speech of Manson*

Linguistic features	Frequency
Unusual Phrases	03
Rhetorical Question	20
Repetition	05
Stutter, Fillers, Halts	12

## 4.5.2 Linguistic Strategies

### 4.5.2.1 Figurative Language

- i. Sincerity is the best gimmick.
- ii. But there's different colors on different people's backs doing different things.
- iii. Everything terrible. One little guy, terrible.
- iv. Onomatopia: Bla Bla Bla , Zap zap zap
- v. Juxtaposition: There's a different world. I love the world I live in too.
- vi. Word is that you are an old man. Word is you have turkey in the sky. Word is, I don't know what word is.

Psychopaths often use charming and unusual language to impress their interlocutors and set a narrative for them to get attention and likeness. He artistically and strategically employs language to influence and lure people into their created perspective. In Charles Manson conversation this is evident. The way he used language

in poetic way and the use of certain devices to illicit the emotion of public, so, that public can sympathize with him is evident psychopathic trait. Here, Manson attempted to distort the facts and suit his agenda by using certain figurative examples.

#### **4.5.2.2 Emotive Language**

Charles Manson employed language strategically to arouse public sympathy and guilt towards him. By articulating the words intelligently which appeal to the common public, he tried to set a narrative of him being a victim. He describes his thoughts and reflects on his life in a vivid and engaging way which may induce a particular response from the listener. The instances of emotive language are as follows:

- i. I haven't been punished by you all my life since I was 10 years old.
- ii. Sometimes I feel scared to live. Living is what scares me.
- iii. I love the world I live in too.
- iv. I'm playing for my life.

#### **4.5.2.3 Deflection of Blame**

Manson interview conveyed a sense of defiance and frustration. Throughout the interview he was seen deflecting the blame and distorting the facts. From his speech, a strong sense of denial is evident. He was deflecting the blame by questioning the perspective of interviewer as he said:

- i. Well, your inflection and your voice tones were implication there.
- ii. Are you innocent?
- iii. Well, you know you are guilty.

The deflection of blame on others by Charles Manson can be seen in these statements:

- i. Interviewer: A lot of people think that you're a monster, Charles. How do you feel? Charles Manson: Yeah, they think you are the monster because you reflect this news media on me.
- ii. I'm not the guy you are trying to make out of me. That's not me.
- iii. I haven't killed anyone. I didn't break the law. The judge knew that, but the people didn't want to hear it. The judge knew it. He washed his hands.

#### **4.5.2.4 Evasive Language**

Manson during the interview was seen avoiding the questions by interviewers. He was ignoring the inquiries with minimal response or rhetorical questions or giving information which was not necessary. No straightforward answers are given by him. He expresses his thoughts, which are complex and vague, and tries to clarify and defend himself. It was an attempt to assert his narrative on the masses through these deceptive strategies.

#### **4.5.2.5 Inconsistency in Thoughts**

Inconsistencies in the speech of Charles Manson were seen. The pattern of narrative is not consistent and there are abrupt changes in the narrative. For example, he was talking about his school life then he jumps on talking about sincerity and honesty and his father, further he shifts to talk about sins and God. This inconsistency of the narrative displays inner turmoil and complex thoughts of Manson. This might be an attempt to escape from the subject of discussion and set a narrative for the audience and influence them through these vague stories.

### **4.5.3 Nonverbal Elements**

#### **4.5.3.1 Agitated and Restless Body Language**

From the start of the interview, Charles Manson looked frustrated. He seemed agitated and restless during the entire interview. From the start he looked angry and refused to sit on the chair or insisted that he was not going to look up.

#### **4.5.3.2 Smile, Chuckle**

During the interview Charles Manson was sarcastically smiling and laughing. His demeanor during the interview was very unsettling. His chuckle and smile were frequently noted during the interview. These smiles and chuckles might suggest a sign of his detachment from reality or as a defense mechanism against the gravity of his crime and the consequences he faced. These smiles and laughter also reveal the twisted mind of Manson. No remorse in his actions was evident. This has shown his lack of empathy and guilt towards his victims. Overall, his laughter and smiles could be seen as a complex interplay of psychological factors, reflecting his unique mindset and the depths of his disturbing psyche.

### 4.5.3.3 Eye Contact

The researcher noticed that Manson had mixed eye contact during the interview. At some points he talked to the interviewer by directly staring at him, mostly he responded to the question by looking at the floor. From the start of the interview, he refused to look up and showed his frustration. While answering the question about killing and his crimes he avoided the eye contact with the interviewer. This could imply that Manson might not be comfortable while answering those questions, or he was evading responsibility. Avoiding eye contact means avoiding the truth. Manson body language suggests that he was unwilling to confront or admit to his involvement in any killings.

**Table 10**

*Nonverbal elements in the communication of Manson*

Nonverbal elements	Frequency
Smile	24
Eye movement	07

## 4.6 Interviewer 06: Edmund Kemper

### 4.6.1 Linguistic Features

#### 4.6.1.1 Hedging

- i. Almost
- ii. As often as not
- iii. I swear
- iv. I couldn't believe,
- v. I imagine

These hedging markers suggest uncertainty or doubt in Kempers's speech. They signal that Kemper is not entirely confident in what he is saying, or he might be expressing a degree of skepticism or hesitation.

#### 4.6.1.2 Stutters, Fillers and Halts

- i. There was just – incredible energies, positive and negative, ah depending on mood.
- ii. But again, - people weren't even aware....
- iii. Ah, it was overwhelming me
- iv. And I think, whoa, I don't want her to know....
- v. You know, we could say it was something that simple.
- vi. Ah so I made a comment....
- vii. It was April ah for two months I hadn't killed.
- viii. Said there, you know.
- ix. You know, so I rationalized that....

Edmund Kemper is known to be highly intelligent and deceptive. During his interview he told a story which is so believable. He has found above mentioned instance of dysfluencies fillers and gaps during his conversation. Overall, he was nonchalant and well-articulated during the interview.

**Table 11**

*Linguistic Features in the speech of Kemper*

Linguistic features	Frequency
Hedging	06
Stutter, fillers, Halts	09

#### 4.6.2 Linguistic Strategies

##### 4.6.2.1 Figurative Language

- i. She knows all my buttons.
- ii. I dance like a puppet with that pain.

Kemper used figurative language while discussing his relationship with his mother and how he is controlled by her mother. He expresses his feeling of powerlessness in the face of pain. He implies that pain is inflicted on by his mother and revealed a toxic dynamic with his mother. The personal dynamics with his mother were not good. Here Kemper played with words to justify his actions of killing and also manipulate the empathy and guilt in the public.



Vivid imagery: serving a human head, blood on my hands, under my legs, parallel to my leg in the seat, slammed down the lid of the trunk. Kemper talked about his crime by vividly mentioning his crimes. This description evokes guilt and fear. The imagery conveys a sense of horror and emotional distress.

#### **4.6.2.2 Emotive Language**

Kemper used emotional language to induce the feeling of sympathy and guilt. He expresses his emotions in such a way that he can melt the audience to downplay the seriousness of his crimes. The use of emotional language could be a deliberate attempt to manipulate the perception of the public or justify his actions. It could also give insight into his psychological state and desire for attention and validation.

#### **4.6.2.3 Selective Disclosure**

Kemper tried to control the narrative by selectively disclosing the details of incidents. He was fully aware of his crime, but he decided to disclose specific information about his past actions and about his life. This is an attempt by Kemper to potentially elicit a particular reaction from the public. He may try to seek sympathy or understanding. He highlighted his vulnerable side to appeal to the listener.

#### **4.6.2.4 Evasive Language**

Kemper tries to evade taking full responsibility for his actions. He was seen justifying his actions by talking about his traumas and his toxic relationship with his mother. He was seen minimizing and downplaying the severity of his crimes. Though he expresses self-awareness of his psychological state, questioning his own sanity, in his speech there seems to be a certain level of denial or minimization, as they assume others are unaware of what is happening internally.

### **4.6.3 Non-Verbal Elements**

#### **4.6.3.1 Lip Movement**

Kemper can be seen licking his lips and pursing them. This behavior can be interpreted through the lens of psychopathic tendencies. This shows his inner pleasure and joy of having attention and control over the information he was providing. He has no fear of anything. He is aware that he is the center of attention, and all spotlight is on him, and has power over the story. So, his inner joy is shown through these subtle movements. Being grandiose is one of the traits of psychopaths.

#### 4.6.3.2 Smile

The researcher has observed Kemper smirking while conversing with the interviewer. He was smiling and controlling his laughter while pretending to cry for his mother. Here, his manipulative behavior can be seen as he was explaining about his doing and talking about his victims; he was subtly smirking. This indicates his lack of remorse and guilt towards his victims. Being a psychopath, he cannot feel remorse or guilt still for manipulating the public. He deliberately tries to act sad and eyes full of tears yet controlling his laughter, which is a clear indication of deception. He smiled at the idea of people recognizing him as a sane person and trusting him. When discussing about killing the victims he gave smirk, which can be interpreted as he was enjoying that moment and reliving that internally. As a psychopathic person he enjoys the idea of killing. It gives him pleasure thinking about them. Also, Kemper laughed telling his childhood trauma, which seems a disturbing behavior.

#### 4.6.3.3 Eye Movement

Kemper has mixed eye contact during the conversation. He has direct eye contact with the interviewer acknowledging his presence and tries to get validation. It can also imply the need for attention and approval from the listener. Researcher has also noticed eye raise and eye frowning, as he wants to feel important. His eyebrow raise was an honest reaction by giving story what he wants people to believe.

**Table 12**

*Nonverbal Elements in the Communication of Kemper*

Nonverbal elements	Frequency
Smile	19
Lip movement	06
Eye movement	06

### **3.1 Interviewer 07: Dennis Rader**

#### **4.7.1 Linguistic Features**

##### **4.7.1.1 Repetition**

The repetition of phrases and words has been evident in the speech of Rader. The use of these phrases and words again and again suggests that he is uncertain about the story. He has no clear recollection of the incident. He tries to convey that he is unsure about certain details. But this might be a possible deception tactic to evade the responsibility of his actions. Because it appears that Rader has vivid recollection of his crimes, and his body language suggests he is living those crimes again by telling the story.

- i. I think...
- ii. I guess...
- iii. Passed out...
- iv. Put the bag on his head
- v. I don't know....

##### **4.7.1.2 Negation**

The researcher has observed that Rader used excessive negation techniques during the hearing. Negation is the act of conveying denial. Negation is often used by psychopaths strategically to manipulate the narrative to create doubt or to shift the conversation flow towards something else. Or it might be a tactic to argument. Rader in his conversation used negation a number of times. These instances of negation are just an attempt to create doubt and uncertainty of the situation. Though he narrated the incidents vividly and it seems like he is enjoying story telling still he deliberately used these negations to induce a sense of intrigue and uncertainty. Rader was very much self-aware of his actions, still he tries to create doubts by using these negation markers. Examples of negations in Rader's speech are as follows:

- i. No, that was part of my, I guess....
- ii. No, I hadn't
- iii. Or didn't break into house
- iv. No, I went back and strangled again.
- v. I don't know how to exactly say that.

- vi. I'm not really sure...
- vii. I'm not bragging...
- viii. I wasn't expecting him...
- ix. I can't really remember....
- x. No, no I didn't.
- xi. I don't remember the address.
- xii. But I don't remember bringing total stuff..
- xiii. I can't remember....No. No. No. I told her I was, but I did not.
- xiv. No, I sure don't.
- xv. I don't know.
- xvi. But I don't know the other digits.
- xvii. I really don't know

#### **4.7.1.3 Words Related to Emotions, Violence and Manipulation**

- i. Upset
- ii. Fantasy
- iii. Sexual Fantasy
- iv. Panicked
- v. Hungry
- vi. Food
- vii. Comfortable
- viii. Passed out
- ix. Dead
- x. Killed
- xi. Death
- xii. Blood
- xiii. Sex

Throughout the conversation, Rader employed several words which can evoke emotions of fear and disgust, which represented his desires. He used word like sexual fantasies, hungry, food, sex, fantasy which shows his desires. The use of words like killed, dead, blood, death induce the emotions of fear, shock and disgust.

**Table 13***Linguistic Features in the Speech of Rader*

Linguistic features	Frequency
Repetition	05
Emotional diction	13
Negation	17
Stutter, fillers, Halts	07

**4.7.2 Linguistic Strategies****4.7.2.1 Lack of Sympathy and Guilt**

Dennis Rader has murdered a number of people but during his court hearing he confessed his crimes, but it feels like he was enjoying narrating his story. The researcher observes that Rader lacks emotions and feelings. He lacks empathy and guilt towards his victims. He has total recall of the events while narrating them and loves telling stories of his misdeeds. Being a psychopath, he nonchalantly describes his emotions of crime scenes. He loved the attention he was getting during the court hearing. Throughout the conversation, there wasn't any hint of remorse or guilt for his actions. One of the instances through which this is evident is that he describes the murders he committed as his projects. "Nancy Fox was another one of the projects." To him, the victims were just objects. He talked and discussed his gruesome acts so naturally like it was nothing out of ordinary. He seems disconnected from reality and empathy.

**4.7.2.2 Evasive Language**

Rader though openly confessed his crime, yet researchers have observed evasion from his words. He used deception and feigned words to manipulate the public. During the court hearing he showed compassion and thoughtfulness towards his victims. Some instances of this are as follows:

- i. I asked him to lie down in the living room.
- ii. Tried to make Mr. Otero as comfortable as I could.
- iii. So, I had him put a pillow down for his head.

- iv. We put some toys and blankets and odds and ends in there for the kids, make them as comfortable as we could.
- v. Got her a glass of water. Comforted her a little bit.

This is the deceptive behavior revealed from the speech of Rader as he was trying to portray himself very considerate towards his victims. He tried to display himself as a very thoughtful person and hero of his own story. According to him he comforted his victims before strangling them to death. He tried to put himself as star of show, the narration of his story represents him as hero of his own story. These tactics are used by him to minimize the severity of his actions and evasion from the responsibility of actions.

### **4.7.3 Non-Verbal Elements**

#### **4.7.3.1 Eye Movement**

Dennis Rader made direct eye contact with the judge. He had full control over his emotions. He closed his eyes multiple times while giving answers. It is said that people close their eyes when they say something they don't like. Here he closes eyes because he doesn't seem that he wanted to confess. Though he likes attention, on the other hand, he dislikes talking about things he isn't comfortable with. It appears that he didn't like the situation. At certain points while discussing about the incidents and his killing streak, Rader raised his eyebrows, here the raising of eyebrows can be interpreted as he wanted audience to emphasize on his face. He closed his eyes when he was giving information about strangling one of his victims. This can be implied as he was thinking and enjoying that specific moment.

#### **4.7.3.2 Lip Movement**

The researcher noticed that at the beginning of the interview Rader compressed his lips. Here he was trying to prepare himself for the interview. He was keeping it together and was calm and collected. While talking about the past, he seems to be licking his lips. It might give the impression that he was excited about explaining his deeds and enjoying thinking about the same. The researcher also spotted biting or chewing of lips, it may suggest that Dennis was getting uncomfortable and starting to get frustrated. Being a psychopath, he seemed to love the idea of getting spotlight and credit for his crimes, yet he didn't seem to appreciate the idea of confession it was uncomfortable for him.

### 4.7.3.3 Shrugging of Shoulder

In the confession video of Rader one movement that was evident again and again was the shrugging of one shoulder. The researcher has noticed that whenever he said something he was not sure of or negated something he shrugged his one shoulder. This gesture seems to reveal that he was trying to conceal some information. When someone wants to hide information, he does this movement. Dennis Rader had good control over the narrative.

**Table 14**

*Nonverbal Elements in the Communication of Rader*

Nonverbal elements	Frequency
Smile	01
Lip movement	23
Eye movement	21

## 4.8 Interview 08: Joel Rifkin

### 4.8.1 Linguistic Features

#### 4.8.1.1 Words Related to Emotions, Violence, Manipulation

Kill, Happy, rotten, bullying, death, sex, shy, lonely, tense, fantasies, strangulation, intimacy, terrifying, pleasant, exhilarating, hit, crying, grabbed, suicidal, frustration, fought, eat, family, stress.

#### 4.8.1.2 Negation

- i. I really didn't remember since that time....
- ii. I don't think there was any just decisive trigger point
- iii. I don't know.
- iv. Yep, I don't know.

According to Gawada, (2010) psychopaths in their speech employ negation. The use of negation markers can be seen in the speech of psychopaths. The research has identified above mentioned examples of negations in the speech of Joel Rifkin. The use of negation markers by Rifkin implies that he was trying to downplay the severity of

his crimes. He attempted to show that he was unsure of the certain situation, yet he seems to enjoy narrating the story which is peak deceptive behavior by psychopaths.

#### **4.8.1.3 Phrases that Show Uncertainty**

- i. You know, tension reliever, just curiosity to you every paycheck.
- ii. I just happened to bring out the bullying people.
- iii. I just absorbed it in one day at a time type of thing.
- iv. You know there's contact.
- v. Just as I said, if it, you know.
- vi. Just a lot less tense, a lot less lonely
- vii. To moments of terror, you know, it just, it ran its course.
- viii. Probably to stun her.
- ix. No, I basically decided, you know, to do it.
- x. And week has just gone, you know.
- xi. A few guys, you know...

According to Mark McClish (2012) when a person uses phrases like I think, I don't know, you know he is trying to get away from the topic and it might be a sign of deception. Here Rifkin's used these kinds of phrases several times which indicates that he is not committed to his story. It implies that he is unaware and unsure of certain events which could be a deliberate attempt to hide some information. McClish (2012) suggests that deceptive people often use phrases like "you know" to make people believe that what he is saying is truth. In this case Rifkin used you know several times. It was an attempt to relate himself with the interviewer and expected that by doing this his actions could be taken for granted as he is telling the truth.

#### **4.8.1.4 Fillers and Pauses**

- i. Uh...de trapped and headlight look, just that stare.
- ii. But it's like one of those.... yeah, it exists
- iii. What is that uh...do was strangulation fantasies it was uh.... could tell me
- iv. Oh yeah...
- v. Well, that was, yeah.
- vi. Oh, I was still in denial that I even did it times.
- vii. Uh, probably to stun her.



These are the examples of disfluencies fillers and halts noted by the researcher in Joel Rifkin interview.

**Table 15**

*Linguistic Features in the Speech of Rifkin*

Linguistic features	Frequency
Emotional diction	24
Phrases of uncertainty	11
Negation	04
Stutter, fillers, Halts	07

## **4.8.2 Linguistic Strategies**

### **4.8.2.1 Selective Disclosure**

In Joel Rifkin's interview, he gave selective disclosure of events. He makes his actions seem less hostile while telling his side of the story. He refuses to speak about certain actions and deliberately gave the information which he feels comfortable sharing. He seems to have control over his story. He was holding back from giving details. It seems that all this was an attempt to gain attention which Psychopaths loan for rather than to enlighten.

### **4.8.2.2 Lack of Sympathy and Remorse**

During the conversation the researcher has not found any sign of guilt, regret or any kind of sympathetic feeling towards his victims. He hasn't shown any empathy for what he has done towards his victims. Rifkin's was reliving the moments of his killing while narrating them. He appears to be nonchalant. He remembered his actions clearly and while narrating them it feels like he is replaying the cassette. While mentioning his victims, he used the words "Prostitute" using these words dehumanize the workers related to this profession. Rifkin seems to be fully aware of his actions; he has no empathy or conscience. Rifkin talking about his crimes in a casual and frank way, which was an attempt to demean the severity of his crimes. Almela et al., (2015) investigation showed that psychopathy is characterized with lack of emotions and ego centrism. Their personality reflects detachment issues.

### **4.8.3 Nonverbal Elements**

#### **4.8.3.1 Smile**

Joel Rifkin appears to be smiling in his interview several times. He seemed to subtly smirk at different times when he was discussing his victims. It gives the notion that Rifkin was enjoying and rejoicing those events where he killed several victims while narrating the story. He gave the impression of excitement narrating his story as he very clearly remembers those events. He seemed to be hiding and concealing a lot of information while giving, which he found comfortable to share.

#### **4.8.3.2 Eye Movement**

Rifkin had direct eye contact with the profiler. He appears to be acknowledging confusing people and playing with their mind. The researcher has spotted that Rifkin closed his eyes when he talked about those hostile things he did in the past. This gave the idea either he is remembering what happened or he had very clear and vivid images of past which he was reliving in the past while telling them. Also staring in the eyes of a profiler by Rifkin has been noted which may suggest that he might be fascinated how the person in front of him reacts or responds or and an attempt give a psychopathic look to create an atmosphere of dread and fear in frustration.

#### **4.8.3.3 Lip Movement**

The researcher noticed Rifkin's lip movement, where he appeared to lick and purse his lips multiple times. These lip movements indicate that he tried to hide certain information.

#### **4.8.3.4 Other Gestures**

Other than the above-mentioned facial expression, certain hand gestures have been noted by the researcher. Rifkin's appears to be touching his ears and putting finger on his lips a few times. He also seems to adjust his glasses. These gestures show that Rifkin was uncomfortable and frustrated towards the profiler as he was continuously pushing his button.

**Table 16**  
*Nonverbal Elements in the Communication of Rifkin*

Nonverbal elements	Frequency
Smile	06
Lip movement	06
Eye movement	14

## **4.9 Interview 09: Jeffery Dahmer**

### **4.9.1 Linguistic Features**

#### **4.9.1.1 Unusual words and Phrases**

While analyzing the interview, there are a few unusual words or phrases used by the interviewee that indicate manipulation:

- i. "Desensitized": Dahmer claims to have desensitized himself to his actions, suggesting a deliberate effort to detach from the emotional impact of their crimes. This language choice suggests a deliberate effort to downplay the weight of their actions.
- ii. "Possess them permanently": Dahmer claims that his motivations are to permanently possess and dominate their victims. This statement emphasizes his disconnection from the victims' humanity by implying ownership and objectification.
- iii. "Saving body parts": Dahmer acknowledges that his fascination has led him to save his victim's body parts like skulls and skeletons. His choice of words implies a deliberate and calculated decision to preserve these macabre mementos, further emphasizing his detachment from the victims' lives.
- iv. "Compulsive obsession": Jeffery Dahmer claims that his behavior was motivated by a compulsive obsession. This expression shows a lack of self-control and a desire to escape accountability for his acts.
- v. "Almost addictive": According to Dahmer, his behavior was practically addictive, which implies a loss of control and an inability to manage one's urges. This verbal choice can be an effort to minimize his own actions and accountability for his acts.

- vi. "Flaunting it": When discussing keeping a mummified head and skull in a carrying case at work, Dahmer admits to flaunting his actions. This suggests a certain level of arrogance or disregard for societal norms, potentially serving as a form of deception or manipulation.

These phrases used by Dahmer during the interview indicated an attempt to hide his true motive. These phrases highlight his twisted mind and deceptive actions to downplay the severity of his crimes. To evade the responsibility of his crimes he put blame on his compulsive urges which were responsible for his actions by using phrases like "compulsive obsession", "almost addictive". Dahmer's sense of superiority, domination and objectification which is one of the traits of psychopaths can be seen through words like "permanent possession", "flaunting it".

#### **4.9.1.2 Distancing Language**

- i. "Not because I was angry with them, not because I hated them"
- ii. "I always knew that it was wrong, but..."
- iii. "I tried to overcome the thoughts"
- iv. "I had no intention of hurting him,"
- v. "I always knew that it was wrong,"

Dahmer used certain distancing words and phrases to avoid the accountability of his actions. For example, in phrase i. he was seen denying any negative emotions. In phrase ii. Dahmer accepted that he was aware of what he was doing but lacked accountability for his actions. It implies attempted control in Dahmer states, "I had no intention of hurting him," which may be an attempt to deny avoiding taking responsibility of his actions. This denial could be considered potentially deceptive. Dahmer attempted to distance himself from his past actions or ignore the seriousness of his crime. An attempt to distance himself from his past actions or to downplay his current mindset.

#### **4.9.1.3 Stuttering and Fillers**

Dahmer frequently uses stuttering ("uh," "um") and fillers ("I don't know," "you know") which can indicate hesitation or discomfort when discussing certain topics. This may suggest that the interviewee is struggling with the subject matter. Jeffrey Dahmer had several fillers and halts in his responses during the interview. Here are the instances where he paused or hesitated:

- i. "I, I, I, uh, I don't know."
- ii. "To, uh, I don't know how uh, possess them permanently."
- iii. "Right, right."
- iv. "Uh, skulls and, uh, skeletons."
- v. "I had these obsessive desires and, and thoughts wanting to control them, to, uh..."
- vi. "It just wasn't an opportunity to fully express what I wanted to do."
- vii. "When I moved to Milwaukee in '81, I started reading pornography, going to the bookstores."
- viii. "I had no intention of hurting him."
- ix. "No, at the time, it was almost addictive."
- x. "I just had complete control of the situation."
- xi. "I felt so hopelessly evil and perverted that I actually derived a sort of pleasure from watching that tape."
- xii. "No, no, I didn't."
- xiii. "I always knew that it was wrong, but after the first killing was not planned..."
- xiv. "They were sexual fantasies of control, power, complete dominance."
- xv. "It was almost a surge of energy."
- xvi. "I wish I could say that it just left completely, but no, there are times..."
- xvii. "I started having these obsessive thoughts when I was about 15 and 16..."
- xviii. "There was excitement, fear, pleasure, all mixed together."
- xix. "I was dead set on going with this compulsion."
- xx. "Yes, but that's how strong the compulsion was, that's how bizarre the desire was."
- xxi. "To this day, I don't know what started it."
- xxii. "I mean, those are just excuses."
- xxiii. "I have no memory of what happened during the six hours before the last victim ran out of the apartment."
- xxiv. "My mind was in a haze."
- xxv. "It was just the realization that there was no point in trying to hide my actions anymore."

The use of fillers and taking halts during the interviews indicates that Dahmer was not comfortable talking about his crimes. This might be a sign of discomfort or

hesitancy. He was seen trying to portray such feelings or emotions which he normally cannot relate to or genuinely did not feel.

**Table 17**

*Linguistic Features in the Speech of Dahmer*

Linguistic features	Frequency
Unusual Phrases	06
Distancing language	05
Stutter, fillers, halts	25

## 4.9.2 Linguistic Strategies

### 4.9.2.1 Evasive Language

There are instances of evasive language used by Jeffrey Dahmer during the interview.

- i. Dahmer: I don't know. I went to great lengths. In this response, Dahmer uses vague language ("I don't know," "great lengths") to avoid providing specific details or admitting to his actions.
- ii. Dahmer: I had these obsessive desires and, and thoughts wanting to control them, to, uh, I don't know how uh, possess them permanently. Dahmer uses hesitant language ("uh," "I don't know how") to obscure the full extent of his intentions and desires.
- iii. Dahmer: Not because I was angry with them, not because I hated them, but because I wanted to keep them with me. Here, Dahmer uses negation ("not because...") to deflect from possible motives that could be seen as negative or malicious.
- iv. Dahmer: There were times. But the compulsive obsession with doing what I was doing overpowered any feelings of revulsion. By stating that there were times when he felt revulsion, Dahmer attempts to distance himself from his actions and portray them as overpowering compulsions beyond his control.
- v. Dahmer: No, I was dead set on going with this compulsion. It was the only thing that gave me any satisfaction. Dahmer's response suggests a determination to continue his crimes, emphasizing his lack of control and satisfaction derived

from fulfilling his compulsions. Dahmer avoids direct answers and often resorts to vague or ambiguous language. For example, when asked about the purpose of setting up an altar with skulls and skeletons, he responds, "A point where I could... I don't know. It's so bizarre and strange, it's hard to describe."

In the speech of Dahmer, evasive language was observed by the researcher. Dahmer employed the language very strategically to avoid taking responsibility for his crimes, by trying to distance himself from his deeds. His speech showed detachment and disassociation with the crimes he committed. As psychopathic individuals are known of being manipulative and deceptive so, to control the narrative Dahmer was seen using evasive language by giving specific information.

#### **4.9.2.2 Lack of Genuine Remorse or Empathy**

During the conversation Dahmer did not show a bit of remorse or sympathy towards his victims. For him, his victims are mere objects. He was more concerned about maintaining the body parts of his victims than recognizing the suffering he caused them. This represents the twisted nature of psychopaths who lack emotions and have no empathy.

#### **4.9.2.3 Selective Disclosure**

During the interview, Dahmer was seen withholding the information and revealing information which he seemed comfortable with. He had full control over the information and tried to put forward the narrative which he wanted to. He maintained the sense of power and secrecy by revealing certain information and carefully choosing the details. This was an attempt to manipulate the perception of the public to sympathize with him. It also might indicate that Dahmer deliberately revealed such details just to elicit or provoke the emotions of the interviewer for having fun or his own satisfaction.

### **4.9.3 Nonverbal Elements**

#### **4.9.3.1 Calm Body Language and well-Articulated Word**

Dahmer during the interview was very calm and collected. He was quite articulate while narrating his story which gave the appearance of sophistication. The demeanor might be an attempt to mask his evil nature and tried to present himself in a particular way to manipulate the perception of others.

### 4.9.3.2 Monotone Speech

Dahmer throughout the interview had a monotone speech. This can be implied as his emotional detachment from others, which can be implied he was intentionally trying to minimize the severity of his crimes or unaware of the seriousness of his actions. Dahmer during the interview was very calm and collected. He was quite articulate while narrating his story, which gave the appearance of sophistication. The demeanor might be an attempt to mask his evil nature and tried to present himself in a particular way to manipulate the perception of others.

### 4.9.3.3 Lip Compression

Dahmer, while narrating his side of the story to the interviewer, was seen pursing and licking his lips several times. Compression of lips often indicates repressed feelings or an attempt to hide the information and keep it to oneself. This nonverbal cue often reveals underlying attitudes and emotions. Here, Dahmer knew what he did was wrong, but he did not exhibit any guilt or regret for those actions. So, the compression of lips indicated his conscious effort to hide what he was genuinely feeling.

### 4.9.3.4 Eye movement

Dahmer had mixed eye contact with the interviewer. His direct eye contact might reflect that he was fascinated with observing how the interviewer was reacting to his responses. It also indicated a need for validation or control as he might be satisfied with the attention and limelight he was having. Also, he knows the impact he had on his audience.

**Table 18**

*Nonverbal Elements in the Communication of Dahmer*

Nonverbal elements	Frequency
Smile	05
Lip movement	08
Eye movement	78



### **3.2 Interview 10: Tommy Lynn Sell**

#### **4.10.1 Linguistic Features**

##### **4.10.1.1 Repetition**

- i. Shot of dope (2)
- ii. It was such a rush (2)
- iii. I don't know (3)
- iv. It's just... (4)
- v. I'm after that drug (2)
- vi. You know (4)

In the interview of Tommy Lyn Sells the researcher has noticed repetition of certain phrases. The repetition of phrases like "shot of dope", " It was such a rush" indicates his excitement while describing his instincts to kill. It seems like he was reliving the moments by narrating them. Also, this repetition shows his absence of empathy as he compared the killing of human being with high on drugs.

##### **4.10.1.2 Unusual Phrases**

- i. I am hatred.
- ii. Vicious Cycle
- iii. On and off switch

The use of unusual phrases can be seen in the speech of Tommy Lyn Sell. He used the phrase "I am hatred". This phrase is not common in normal day language. Here he used this phrase to reinforce his identification as hatred. It seems like Sell is trying to intentionally deceive the interviewer by conveying his perspective in an exaggerated manner. Sell also described his killing streak in an unusual manner and called it "Vicious Cycle". Sell described his lack of control on his emotions as "on and off switch". He compared his lack of control over his emotions with a switch, that he can't manage his feelings as he doesn't have the button which could control him. This seems to be quite an unusual comparison.

##### **4.10.1.3 Hedging**

- i. Probably
- ii. It's up there
- iii. I guess you'll relay this message

Stevens et al., (2012) revealed that psychopaths during emotional conversation employ hedging and uncertainty markers.

#### **4.10.1.4 Fillers**

- i. You know
- ii. It's just like
- iii. It's just like drugs
- iv. You know you are pushing your luck.
- v. You know get your head down.....then you know so be it but.

A few halts and fillers were observed by the researcher during the conversation of Sell with the interviewer. The use of fillers like "Just" and "you know" can be viewed as a tactic to detract from the clarity of the conversation. Also, McClish (2012) suggests that the use of "just" only minimizes things. To minimize and justify his actions Sells might have used just.

#### **4.10.1.5 Negation Markers**

- i. Lord, I don't know. I don't know
- ii. I don't know what love is
- iii. I don't like to use is love and sorry
- iv. I don't have no feelings no more, no emotion, no...
- v. I don't have an on and off switch
- vi. I didn't want them to live
- vii. I don't think she really wants to hear what I get to say.

There are several instances of negations found in the speech of Tommy Lyn Sells. According to McClish (2012), deceptive people, or people who are trying to manipulate, tend to use these phrases in order to convince the interlocutor that they know nothing about what happened or are trying to be unsure about the situation. Here, Sell was denying his motive of killing by repeatedly saying "I don't know". Also, he negates liking the use of words, love and sorry which implies his rejection of such emotions.

**Table 19***Linguistic Features in the Speech of Sells*

Linguistic features	Frequency
Unusual Phrases	03
Hedging	03
Stutter, fillers, halts	05
Negations	07

**4.10.2 Linguistic Strategies****4.10.2.1 Figurative Language****Metaphors:s**

- i. First time I killed somebody it was such a rush, and it was like that shot of dope every time I did it.
- ii. It's just like that drug.
- iii. I don't have an on and off switch.
- iv. Let's not get into blood and guts.

During Sells conversation with the interviewer, he used metaphorical language. He did comparison of feelings of doing drugs with killing people. This comparison unfolded his emotional state, absence of empathy for his victims. Moreover, he used metaphorical expressions to describe that he did not have control over him while committing those crimes to “on and off switch”.

**4.10.2.2 Deflection of Blame**

During the conversation Sells tried to shift the blame and attempted to minimize his actions by putting responsibility for his crimes on his sexual abuser in his childhood. He tried to justify his actions by saying that he killed children because he did not want them to go through what he was gone through as child. This seems to be a very bizarre statement given by him to avoid liability.

**4.10.2.3 Lack of Remorse and Sympathy**

Tommy Lyn Sells did not show any feeling of guilt or remorse towards his victims. The way he tried to minimize his actions of killing children by saying that he wanted to free them and wanted to free their souls. It gives an illusion that he cared about them. But killing them because of his childhood trauma does not justify his actions. He compared the feeling of killing with feeling of getting high on drugs, this dehumanizes his victims and revealed that he did not have any contempt or remorse.

### **4.10.3 Nonverbal Elements**

#### **4.10.3.1 Eye Movement**

Sell had mixed eye contact with the interviewer. He was seen directly staring in the eyes of the interviewer to have control over the conversation by intimidating the interviewer. He was also seen avoiding eye contact when he did not want to answer the interviewer's questions.

#### **4.10.3.2 Smile**

Sell during the interview was seen giving subtle smirk while talking about his crimes. This indicates the weird psyche of psychopaths, having no feeling of remorse or guilt.

**Table 20**

*Nonverbal Elements in the Communication of Sells*

Nonverbal elements	Frequency
Smile	08
Lip movement	02
Eye movement	0

## **4.11 Common Linguistic Features Found in Psychopathic Serial Killers' Interviews**

The linguistic features that are found common among the selected psychopathic serial killers are repetitions, unusual phrases, rhetorical questioning, use of fillers taking pauses, and stuttering. These are the linguistic features identified by the researcher that show every sign of deception by psychopathic serial killers. The total frequency of

instances repetition among the 10 psychopathic serial killers was 48. This linguistic feature indicates that these psychopaths are reluctant to go into the details of their crimes, it appears to be a tactic used by them to evade the responsibility by pretending to think of what happened or they don't remember the details but their body language tells the other story. Another feature that was noticeable in their speech was the use of unusual phrases. The frequency of unusual phrases among selected psychopathic serial killers was 26. This feature was found in almost every psychopath. These selected psychopathic serial killers employed unusual phrases in their speech. It was maybe an attempt to influence the perspective of the public by intentionally using language which is not used commonly.

According to Cleckley (1941), psychopaths used superficial charms to attract the attention of others. This use of unusual phrases affirms previous research. Negation markers were used by psychopathic serial killers. The number of instances of negation markers is 34. These negation markers are the sign of manipulation and deception which these individuals used to lie and avoid taking accountability of their actions. They were constantly in denial of their actions, which indicates which may imply that they tried to downplay the seriousness of their crimes by denying them. One of the main features which was evident in some of these psychopathic individuals who are involved in serial killing was rhetorical questioning. To avoid giving straightforward answers to the questions asked by interviewers, they tried to avoid giving answers by questioning them back.

McClish (2012) gave an indicator of deception by suggesting that not giving straightforward answers to the questions asked is a sign of deception. So, these psychopathic individuals attempted to distract the interviewer and tried to control the narrative by molding the conversation to where they found it suitable. Moreover, stuttering, fillers, and pauses were also observed in interviews of psychopaths involved in serial killings. Though this opposes the general idea of psychopaths being charismatic and confident, here these disfluencies may imply that they are trying to pretend or show vulnerability or uncertainty for the purpose of gaining sympathy from the public. The frequency of stuttering, fillers, and halts was 88.

These are the linguistic features identified by the researcher in the speech of psychopathic serial killers which indicates an attempt to manipulate and deceive their

interlocutors. Though each selected serial killer had their individual characteristics which may differ from one and other, these observed features were found common across them. The following table presents the frequency of linguistic features found in the psychopathic serial killers under study. Here, these psychopathic serial killers were presented as P1(Psychopath 1) and according to the analysis.

**Table 21**

*Overall Linguistic Features in 10 Interviews*

Interview	Repetition	Unusual Phrases	Questions	Negation Markers	Fragments	Fill.,Stutt.,Halts	Hedging
<b>P1</b>	0	7	1	0	0	6	0
<b>P2</b>	11	0	3	0	5	3	0
<b>P3</b>	0	4	5	6	0	8	4
<b>P4</b>	4	4	6	0	3	6	0
<b>P5</b>	5	3	20	0	0	12	0
<b>P6</b>	0	0	0	0	0	9	6
<b>P7</b>	5	0	0	17	0	7	0
<b>P8</b>	0	0	0	4	0	7	14
<b>P9</b>	6	5	0	0	0	25	0
<b>P10</b>	17	3	2	7	0	5	3
	48	26	37	34	8	88	27

#### **4.12 Common Nonverbal Patterns Found in All Interview**

Smiling is a nonverbal behavior which is associated with positive feelings or expressions like happiness, enjoyment or amusement, but in the case of psychopathic serial killers, this nonverbal behavior serves a sinister purpose. Richard Ramirez, known as the "Night Stalker," frequently exhibited a chilling smirk during interviews. This smile, devoid of genuine warmth, conveyed a sense of superiority and detachment from societal norms. Similarly, John Wayne Gacy, notorious for his heinous crimes,

often smiled during interrogations, which the researchers interpreted as a means of exerting control and instilling fear in others (Sullivan & Maiken, 2010).

Another verbal behavior of biting or pressing one's lips can signify discomfort, anxiety, or suppressed emotions. Among selected psychopathic serial killers, this behavior is observed as a manifestation of inner turmoil or a desire to conceal true feelings. During the interview, Charles Manson was seen biting and licking his lips. Charles Manson, a cult leader responsible for orchestrating multiple murders, frequently engaged in lip biting during interviews (Bugliosi, 1974). This gesture, coupled with his intense gaze, suggested a calculated attempt to manipulate perceptions and maintain a facade of enigmatic mystique. Similarly, Aileen Wuornos while giving the interview was seen lip biting and lip licking multiple times.

Aileen Wuornos, convicted of murdering several men, displayed lip biting behavior while recounting her experiences, indicating underlying tension and apprehension (Aileen: Life and Death of a Serial Killer, 2003).

Furthermore, eyebrow raises are a subtle yet powerful nonverbal cue that can convey surprise, skepticism, or amusement. During the nonverbal analysis of psychopathic serial killers, eyebrow raise gestures were employed to signal deception or a sense of superiority by them. Tommy Lynn Sells, a prolific serial killer known for his transient lifestyle and brutal crimes, frequently raised his eyebrows during interviews (Morse & Curry, 2008). This nonverbal behavior, combined with the evasive responses and manipulative tactics, suggested a deliberate attempt to mislead interviewers and assert dominance in interpersonal interactions.

The analysis of nonverbal communication patterns among psychopathic serial killers provided valuable insights into their psychological makeup and interpersonal strategies. Across multiple interviews of selected psychopathic serial killers, they exhibit similar nonverbal cues, including smiling, lip biting or pressing lips, and eyebrow raises, which serve as indicators of their manipulative tendencies and detachment from societal norms. Understanding these nonverbal behaviors is essential for recognizing and addressing the complex nature of psychopathy within forensic contexts.

**Table 22***Overall Nonverbal Elements in 10 Interviews*

Interview	Smile	Lip Movement	Eye Movement
<b>P1</b>	1	6	7
<b>P2</b>	7	7	3
<b>P3</b>	3	9	4
<b>P4</b>	13	9	9
<b>P5</b>	24	0	7
<b>P6</b>	19	6	6
<b>P7</b>	1	23	21
<b>P8</b>	6	6	14
<b>P9</b>	8	8	78
<b>P10</b>	8	2	1
	90	76	150

#### **4.13 Common Linguistic Strategies Found in All Interviews**

While analyzing the 10 interviews of the selected psychopathic serial killers, the researcher identified a common and consistent trend across all psychopaths. The key findings of the research are the general patterns found in these individuals which are used to manipulate and deceive the interlocutors. These are criticizing the law and authority. There is a general trend found across all the interviews of psychopaths that they criticize the law and high authorities that is government. Richard Ramirez, Aileen Wuornos, and Charles Manson were seen openly challenging law and authority. Through their speech, they seem to challenge the legitimacy of laws and government institutions and portray themselves as the victims of an unjust system. This is the tactic



used by psychopathic serial killers to justify their crimes while positioning themselves as rebels against social norms.

Not only blaming the government, but these psychopathic serial killers were also seen shifting the blame to external factors and the most common one was their childhood traumas. Rather than taking responsibility for their actions, they display themselves as a product of the environment. They talk about external circumstances, their childhood traumas to justify and mitigate the blame, for example, Arthur Shawcross put blame on his mother for sexually harassing him in his childhood which led him to killing and cannibalism. According to Edmund Kemper, his mother was accountable for his crimes. Same is true for Tommy Lyn Sell, as he blamed his childhood abuser for his killing spree. Similarly, Jeffery Dahmer blamed his childhood and sense of abandonment for his actions (Norris 1992).

In some cases, the researcher has unfolded the use of religious rhetoric. The psychopathic serial killers involved in the analysis employ religious allusions to justify and rationalize their actions. These individuals attempted to invoke the religious beliefs of the audience. This is the tactic used by them to deceive and manipulate the perception of audience or listeners and evoking sympathy in public. By referring to God, Jesus Christ and the Bible they tried to justify their heinous acts. They attempted to employ religious references as a shield against moral condemnation from society. Or they might have used religious allusions as a strategy to manipulate others to further their own agenda, for example, John Wayne Gacy referred himself as the Christ. Aileen Wuornos talking about afterlife and Christ. Charles Manson mentioning God.

Moreover, the use of emotional language is also found common in some of these psychopathic serial killers. These individuals employed language in a way which can induce emotions of sympathy in their audience. This tactic is also used to deflect the blame or change the flow of conversation to set their own narrative. Some of these individuals employed emotional language to rationalize their actions and to manipulate the perception of the public so that the public can sympathize with them, and they can gain their trust.

Additionally, the absence of remorse, guilt or sympathy for the victims were missing from these psychopathic serial killers. While talking about their crimes and giving details about their crimes they seemed relaxed and looked like they were

enjoying and relieving those scenes in their minds. For them, their victims were mere objects. This can be seen in the demeanor of Richard Ramirez, during the interview he was constantly smiling and displayed a chilling lack of remorse and having prideful attitude. Similarly, Joel Rifkin, Dennis Rader and Jeffery Dahmer gave details of their crimes, they explained the crime scene very vividly without any sign of guilt. It did not seem like they had any regret committing those crimes or killing innocent people. Timor and Weis (2008) suggest that psychopaths lacked empathy and, in their speech, show disregard for social norms.

The Analysis gave an in-depth insight into the mind of these psychopathic individuals and revealed the consistent linguistic and nonlinguistic patterns employed by them for the purpose of deception and manipulation. These findings contribute to our understanding of the psychopathic mindset and its manifestation through language.

The next chapter disuses the findings of the research with a conclusion and mentions the limitations of the research by suggesting future recommendations which could be further carried out.

**Table 23**

*LIWC Result*

Names	Analytic	Clout	Authentic	Tone	Negate	Affiliatio n	Power	Discrep	Tentat	Ceritude
Richard ramirez	24.6	36.7	59.7	1.44	2.91	1.74	2.62	0.87	2.03	0.58
Shawcorss	15.6	7.17	65.1	27.0	4.42	0.26	0	0.78	2.6	0.26
John Gacy	19.3	30.1	79.3	27.0	2.48	1.45	1.31	1.03	1.5	0.33
Aileen wuornos	26.3	19.7	60.6	6.65	1.99	0.26	1.56	1.39	2.86	0.17
Charles manson	6.06	39.0	65.5	29.2	3.28	1.44	1.53	1.7	1.79	0.31
Edmund kemper	19.0	17.3	85.6	8.4	2.23	1.78	1.34	2	1.46	0.41
Dennis radar	28.4	21.1	85.7	14.1	1.5	0.68	0.82	1.03	2.51	0.56
Joel rifkin	21.3	26.6	76.8	23.1	2.12	0.88	0.71	2.35	2.59	0.65
Jeffery dahmer	19.7	11.8	67.2	14.5	3.17	0.51	2.06	2.83	2.32	0.6
Tommy lyn	4.01	26.9	87	6.98	4.8	0.6	0.9	0.9	1.5	0.3

**Table 24***LIWC Result*

Name	tone	neg	anger	Relig.	curiosity	allure	attention	nonflu	QMark
Richard Ramirez	6.4	0.87	0.87	1.16	0.29	9.01	0.29	0	0.87
Shawcorss	0.52	0.26	0	0.26	0	8.83	0	0.78	2.08
John Wayn Gacy	0.98	0.33	0.14	0.75	0.09	7.2	0.23	0.05	0.84
Aileen Wuornos	2.78	0.61	0	0.69	0.09	6.68	0.26	0.43	0.87
Charles Manson	2.33	1.3	0	0.4	0	7.9	0.04	0.13	1.88
Edmund Kemper	2.99	1.05	0.38	0.16	0.32	6.94	0.67	0.16	0.76
Dennis Radar	1.38	0.37	0	0	0.05	6.07	0.52	0.07	0.33
Joel Rifkin	1.35	0.41	0.06	0.06	0.53	9.52	0.65	0.65	0.94
Jeffery Dahmer	2.32	0.77	0.17	0.17	0.34	6.35	0.6	0.6	0.51
Tommy Lyn Sells	3	2.1	1.5	0.3	0	13.2	1.5	0.6	1.8

#### 4.14 LIWC Analysis

Ramirez's moderate analytic score (24.69) indicates a partial structure in his language; The structure is not enough to be highly logical or planned. Also, low clout suggests hesitance or lack of confidence, which may be an attempt to project a subdued demeanor. Moreover, the analysis shows an extremely low tone (1.44) which reflects high negativity. This might result from anger or stress, which can be an attempt to intimidate or unsettle others. The authenticity scores (59.73) are moderate, which reflects some truthfulness but may include rehearsed or manipulative elements. The balance of tentative and certitude language reflects that Ramirez uses uncertainty to deflect or evade, avoiding committing to strong positions.

In the speech of Author Shawcross low analytic (15.64) and clout scores (7.17) were indicated. It shows lack of structured reasoning in his speech and also the factor of dominance is there, which might be an attempt to appear less threatening or

unassuming. His tone was moderate which suggests a mix of emotional highs and lows, possibly to manipulate the listener's perception of his state. The use of tentative language in Shawcross speech was high revealing a tendency to hedge, likely to avoid giving definitive answers or owning responsibility. Shawcross use of authentic speech (65.12) seemed to be a mask just to hide his manipulative intent by mixing genuine statements to appear as credible person in front of audience.

Gacy's analytical scores (19.36) were low which indicates he preferred emotional appeal by storytelling over logical argumentation. The clout score (30.17) was moderate which reflects that Gacy was confident but not overbearing; it might be an attempt to engage others without intimidating them. The level of authenticity scores were high which seemed to be a designed approach to look credible and truthful in front of his audience. Gacy's tone (27.01) was moderate, which suggests that he was trying to look calm and rational. Limited hedging and moderate assertion seemed to be a potential tactic to gain trust.

Aileen Wuornos's moderate analytic score (26.38) shows some structure, though her speech may be more emotional. The clout score (19.71) appeared to be low which reflected her lack of confidence might be an attempt to gain sympathy. Aileen low tone (6.65) reflects her frustration which might be a try to manipulate perception. There were high tentative language scores which shows uncertainty, perhaps to deflect responsibility. Low certitude suggests she avoids making strong, confident statements, a tactic that could evoke empathy.

Charles Manson analytical scores (6.06) were extremely low, which indicated chaotic or narrative-driven language, likely to seek emotional manipulation. His moderate clout scores (39.02) show confidence without overwhelming dominance, which may be a tactic to appear relatable. Moreover, his moderate authenticity scores suggested a mixture of truthful and manipulative elements. Manson tone (29.28) of speech was balanced this propose that he was trying to maintain emotional control while engaging listeners. The blend of tentative and certitude language shows a careful balance of deflecting and asserting ideas, enhancing his persuasive and manipulative impact.

Kemper's low analytic (19.03) and clout scores (17.32) suggest a preference for engaging conversationally rather than asserting dominance. Kemper's authenticity

scores were high which indicates deliberate to sound truthful, reinforcing trust and credibility. Furthermore, the tone (8.4) was low reflecting emotional negativity, potentially leveraging sadness or distress to manipulate listeners. The balance of tentative and certitude language suggested a deliberate effort to put forth certain ideas while ignoring others.

Rader's high analytic score (28.44) indicates a structured, logical approach, attempting to control perceptions. The clout score (21.13) was moderate which reflected confidence but with an effort not to overwhelm the audience. Moreover, high authenticity score revealed his calculated sincerity, likely to hide his manipulative intentions. Low tone (14.12) and moderate tentative language put forward the idea of him using emotional control and hedging to maintain ambiguity. Certitude is moderate, implying selective assertion to sound authoritative.

Joel Rifkin analytic and clout scores were moderate which reflects a use of balance language, and it implies a mix of structured and rational approach. The authenticity scores are quite high which seemed to be a strategy to appear credible. Rifkin tone (23.19) was moderate, indicating that he was trying to maintain emotional neutrality while engaging others. Also, the tentative and certitude scores are balanced which might imply his selective assertion and an attempt to subtly manipulate perception about him.

Dahmer's low analytical (19.74) and clout (11.88) scores reflects that his speech is less structured, and his style is more of narrative driven in an attempt to evoke sympathy. The authenticity scores of Dahmer's speech was moderate which implies that he is making an effort to sound genuine with manipulative intent. Moreover, the tone score (14.58) is low and moderate tentative score which suggests emotional manipulation through sadness or ambiguity. Certitude simplifies that Dahmer during the interview occasionally asserts ideas confidently to reinforce credibility.

Tommy Lyn Sells analytic score (4.01) reflects extremely low which suggests his chaotic and emotionally charged language, an attempt to manipulate through storytelling. Also, very high authenticity (87.0) and moderate clout (26.99) implies that he is aimed at being appear truthful and sound confident in front of his audience. Furthermore, the low tone (6.98) during the interview suggests his emotional negativity; it is either to evoke sympathy from his audience or to evoke fear. There was balanced

use of certitude and tentative language which shows his strategic use of uncertainty and confidence to control narrative.

## CHAPTER 5

### CONCLUSION

This chapter focuses on the research findings and discussion on them. In this chapter, the researcher concludes the research by mentioning the limitations and giving future recommendations for further research on this topic.

#### 5.1 Answers to the Research Questions

The study aimed to identify the nonverbal elements of deception in the speech of psychopathic serial killers along with the linguistic strategies which contribute to deception and manipulation. The researcher identified the linguistic features in the 10 psychopathic serial killers. These linguistic features and strategies used by psychopaths may indicate manipulation and deception to gain hidden agendas. The linguistic features which were found in the psychopathic serial killers are as follows:

**Unusual Phrases:** During the interviews, the researcher observed the use of unusual phrases by some psychopathic serial killers. This use of unusual phrases suggests it as a tactic to intentionally use such sentences which are not common in general which may have an impact on the public. Basically, using their charms to influence people's perspectives about them.

**Repetition:** Another sign which may indicate deception is repetition. The use of repetition suggests that these individuals were trying to emphasize their point by repeating the same thing again and again to control the narrative according to them.

**Negation Markers:** The use of negation markers was also identified as a sign of deception in the speech of psychopathic serial killers. The use of negation markers by them which indicates their denial and trying to evade the accountability of their actions.

**Halt, strutting and fillers:** In the speech of these psychopathic serial killers, many disfluencies were observed. This is the sign where these individuals are taking time to think and shape their answers. According to the study by Hanock (2018) and his colleagues suggests that the use of uhm, Uhs means psychopaths are putting the mask of sanity on.

Furthermore, the linguistic strategies which were found common among all the psychopathic serial killers. These include the use of figurative language, especially

using allusions and metaphors, lack of remorse and guilt, deflection of blame, and emotional language. These strategies employed by these psychopathic serial killers under study, to achieve their hidden motives and to deceive. The use of religious references, by using the word like Bible, God, Christ, they wanted to appear relatable to the public and attempted to hit their religious beliefs to gain their sympathy. Also, the use of metaphors, where these individuals tried to cast a spell through their words as psychopaths are known of using superficial charms to have other people's attention and maintain their image. Also, these psychopathic individuals did not show any remorse or guilt towards their victims. For them their victims were like toys or any objects which do not have any value to them. Also, these psychopathic serial killers deflect blame on others for their actions. For example, Ramirez, Gacy, Aileen Wuornos, Charles Manson, blamed the government instead of taking accountability of their actions. This indicates their deceptive nature where they tried to evade the responsibility and seriousness of their actions. Another sign of deception was revealed through emotional language, these psychopathic serial killers used emotional language to target the public to entice their emotions in their favor.

The sign of deception identified through nonverbal language includes:

Smile, Smirks and chuckles: Throughout the interviews excluding one or two psychopathic serial killers, all have very calm and collected body language. They were seen smiling or giving smirks, this indicates their trait of lack of empathy towards others. While talking about their crimes and victims, there was a sense of satisfaction on their faces. These individuals gave smiles and smirks; this may indicate that they are reliving their actions and enjoying the moments in their mind.

Eye Movements: These psychopathic individuals had direct eye contact with the interviewers, but at some points when they did not want to talk about anything, they tried to avoid eye contact. Moreover, the psychopathic serial killers under study were observed raising their eyes or squinting their eyes. This indicated that they were not amused by the interviewer's question or uncomfortable. According to research conducted by the University of Michigan (2015), 70% of people tend to stare at the person who they are having a conversation with when they are lying. They stare directly into their eyes.



Another nonverbal movement which indicates deception along with their speech is the lip movement. It includes lip biting and lip licking. Research done by UCLA shows that people who often lie seem to be pursing their lips. It also indicates that they are not interested in talking about the topic being discussed.

The LIWC analysis, along with findings of analysis statement analysis, revealed the complex linguistic strategies employed by these selected psychopathic serial killers to deceive and manipulate. Some of these psychopathic serial killers shown a remarkably low emotional tones, indicating that they lacked emotions, which can be seen in Richard Ramirez and Dennis Rader speech. These understudied psychopathic serial killers used negative emotions as a tool, purposively using anger and anxiety, such as Charles Manson's heightened anxiety and anger, to assert dominance or instill fear in the interviewer. This strategic approach reflected their use of ambiguous language, for example, figures like Aileen Wuornos using hesitant speech to evade responsibility of her crimes, on the other hand, low certainty scores, such as Charles Manson's, helped in maintaining control over his narratives.

Psychopaths also indicated high analytic thinking, creating logical and convincing stories. One of the examples is of Dennis Rader story was very well constructed and logical, it was an attempt to manipulate perception of his listeners. Moreover, their speech lacks affiliative connections. This showed psychopathic serial killers are emotionally disconnected as evident from the speech of Edmund Kemper who revealed a stark emotional disconnection. Conversely, their language often emphasizes power, as Charles Manson's indicated his need for control, and high authenticity scores, like Dennis Rader's, reflected their calculated efforts to appear genuine. Some, like Aileen Wuornos, mix truth with manipulation, leveraging partial honesty to garner sympathy.

Together, these findings reveal a chilling truth: psychopaths use language as a precise instrument of control and deception. From emotional detachment and strategic ambiguity to calculated displays of power and feigned authenticity, their speech aligns with well-documented psychopathic traits.

## **5.2 Discussion**

The researcher has done a detailed examination of the linguistic features, nonverbal elements, and linguistic strategies employed by the selected psychopathic

serial killers. The objective of the study was to identify the verbal and nonverbal elements of deception in the speech of selected psychopathic serial killers and to explore the linguistic strategies used by them to deceive their interlocutors.

By carefully analyzing the transcripts of speech and videos of selected serial killers having psychopathic tendencies, the researcher sought to uncover the deceptive communicative behavior shown by them. The study unfolded interesting patterns which expose the complex interplay between psychopathy and communication dynamics.

The most noticeable observation of the research is that most of the psychopaths during the conversation used figurative language to influence their audience. Psychopathic serial killers during their conversation were observed using the figures of speech like metaphoric expressions, allusions, similes, vivid imagery while describing their inhumane actions. They intentionally played with words to either obscure their true intention or elicit an emotional response from the listeners. This strategic deployment of figurative language underscores the calculated nature of their communication and highlights the need for nuanced interpretation while assessing their speech patterns. Also, rhetorical questioning is evident in their speech. Along with these, one of the features that is common among all psychopathic serial killers is repetition. They repeat, either to emphasize the narrative they are putting on or to manipulate the audience. Furthermore, the recurring linguistic features highlight the hidden cognitive or linguistic idiosyncratic characteristics of psychopathy. The researcher also observed that the patterns of stuttering, halts, and fillers were found in the speech of selected serial killers. The use of hesitation markers like “uh”, “hmmm” and fillers like “you know”, “just” seemingly oppose the general perception of psychopathy that is confidence and charisma but here stutters and fillers are seemingly serving various functions which might be the intention to play an act of vulnerability or uncertainty. This might give insights into psychological or neurological factors related to psychopathy.

The analysis also highlighted the use of rhetorical questions in the speech of psychopathic serial killers during the interview. Rhetorical questions often serve as a manipulation tool. It is used to influence the listeners' perception or elicit emotional response in the audience. These rhetorical questions are often used to create an atmosphere of dominance or to reinforce the speaker's agenda. Psychopaths often try to manipulate the cognitive and emotional responses of the interlocutors by trying to have

control over the conversation and attempting to change the course of subject matter which is favorable to them.

The researcher explored the linguistic strategies employed by the selected psychopathic serial killers during their interviews. One of the linguistic strategies that is explored and evident among all ten serial killers was deflection of blame. They tend to put blame on others, either external factors, childhood traumas or the government and society. During their interviews they attempted to put the responsibilities of their actions on others to maintain the facade of innocence or victimhood. During the interview they were seen portraying themselves as passive receivers of circumstances which were not in their control, for example, Jeffery Dahmer put blame on intoxication. Along with this, these criminals were observed downplaying and minimizing their actions under scrutiny, thereby reducing perceived morals. Examples of shifting blame on the third party are also evident in the speech of selected psychopaths. The example of shifting blame for their actions on government is visible in the speech of Richard Ramirez and Aileen Wuornos. Shawcross, Kemper and Sells put blame on their childhood traumas. Same goes for Charles Manson who subtly tries to manipulate the audience by talking about his childhood trauma. This was deliberately done to induce emotions of sympathy in the audience. This is the tactic used by psychopaths to evade the accountability and responsibility of their actions.

The examination also revealed the absence of emotions, like feelings of guilt, remorse or sympathy, in the psychopathic serial killers. During the interviews while talking about their heinous crimes of killings innocent victims, they looked detached from reality. Instead of feeling guilty they were enjoying their stories of killing spree. These individuals described their acts with vivid imagery which makes it noticeable that they lack emotional engagement or empathy. They treated their victims as mere objects and inhuman ways that no remorse or regret was evident in their words or demeanor. This indicates the emotional detachment from their action. These psychopathic serial killers hid any underlying regret or remorse by playing with words aimed at manipulating the audience's perception by depicting themselves as vulnerable and morally righteous. These research findings are similar to Malmquist (2016) investigation which resulted in common speech patterns among the speech of Ted Bundy and Jeffery Dahmer. These patterns are lack of remorse, and evasion from taking responsibility for their crimes.

The LIWC analysis revealed and supports the above analysis as it gives deeper understanding of the language of these selected psychopaths. As psychopaths are known for their linguistic poweress, they use words to manipulate others and often have a desire to control others. The use of superficial charm and eloquence was evident in the speech of these psychopaths as they use this type of speech to build trust and credibility. For example, the high authenticity scores of Dennis Rader (BTK) were 85.73 and Edmund Kemper's were 85.76 respectively. This high score suggested that these psychopaths strategically tried to appear truthful and credible in front of their audience. This shows their ability to use language that can hide their manipulative intent. Moreover, while analyzing the speech patterns of these selected psychopathic serial killers, one of the common elements across each psychopath was seen, i.e. deflection of blame. The LIWC analysis supported this, as it gave the frequency for use of tentative language. Tentative language suggested that these psychopaths avoided taking blame for their doings. For instance, Aileen Wuornos and Joel Rifkin showed uncertainty in their speech. It implied an attempt to confuse the audience and reduce suspicion.

These psychopathic serial killers were good at hitting the emotions of people, though they themselves lack empathy. They were seen using emotional expressions to accomplish their hidden motive. The low emotional tone score of Jeffery Dahmer and Richard Ramirez implied that they were trying to evoke pity and also it can be inferred that they deliberately employed intimidating tactics to manipulate listeners. The clout scores of psychopaths alternate between high and low depending on the strategies they use to convey what they wanted to and what they felt to share. As, Charles Manson moderate clout score balances assertiveness with an appearance of reliability most likely to manipulate the narrative about him. Charles Manson attempted to confuse his listeners with chaotic speech maintaining control of what he wanted to share and shunning taking accountability of his heinous crimes. As he selectively used negative emotions like anxiety and anger to intimidate listeners. Jeffery Dahmer negative tone 19.75 indicated his calculated use of emotions to manipulate. Most psychopathic serial killers under studies shows a minimal emotional tone, implying their lack of emotion and detachment from the genuine emotional experiences. For example, Dennis Rader and Richard Ramirez showed extremely low emotional engagement unveiled their ability to remain calm in emotionally charged situations. Furthermore, the LIWC analysis interpreted the use of minimal affiliative language which indicated their lack

of genuine emotional connection. Also, these individuals emphasize competence and success to maintain a facade of reliability. For example, Joel Rifkin subtly conveyed self-sufficiency through his speech.

### **5.2.1 Javed Iqbal: Psychopathic Serial Killer in Pakistan**

The interview of psychopathic serial killers in region of Pakistan are not publicly available as mental and behavior health is neglected and talking about it is considered as a taboo.

But after carefully searching, small snippets of the most notorious serial killer who was also a psychopath Javed Iqbal interviews were found by the researcher. As these were very small clips of interviews, not a formal long interview which can be accessed for the analysis of identification of verbal and nonverbal cues of deception. So, the research tried to analyze these small snippets to get insight into the mind and behavior of Javed Iqbal. Javed Iqbal abused and murdered over 98 young boys.

One of the video clips was 2.32 minutes long, and the researcher tried to look into his nonverbal behavior. The research identified that Javed Iqbal demeanor was very calm and composed. He was coming out of the police van and going to the court room. There was no evidence of nervousness or anxiety seen through his body language, very calm and relaxed body language. Moreover, he was smirking in front of the cameras and also seen smiling when the judge sentenced him. The smile smirks reflected his confidence and excitement as he was the center of attention there. This behavior revealed his emotional detachment from his crimes. This implied that he lacked emotions; he didn't feel any remorse or guilt towards his victims.

Another small clip of him, where he was seen saying with a smile that he had enough money, if he wanted to do more he can. This statement suggested that he was very much proud of his actions and also a challenge to the authorities that if he wanted to kill more people he could have done that, and no one could stop him. But he is the one who stopped.

In one of small snippet he was seen crying and uttering a sentence "Khuda kahan tha" which means where God was. This suggests a deliberate attempt to deflect blame of his heinous crimes on God. As the under studied psychopathic serial killers were seen deflecting blame on external factors like family, society government. Likewise, Javed Iqbal tried to evade taking responsibility of his actions by questioning

and putting blame on God that God did not stop him from doing this crime. The crying was an attempt to induce sympathy in the audience.

Not any formal interview of Javed Iqbal is publicly available, which could be very helpful in comprehensive analysis of his language and behavior in aim to identify the deceptive and manipulative cues. But, from these clips it is revealed that there are certain underlying verbal and non-verbal cues like smile and smirks, deflection of blame, emotional appeal, calm demeanor, associated with psychopathy may transcend cultural boundaries.

The study also highlighted the use of emotional language by selected psychopathic serial killers. This is an interesting disclosure about them as psychopaths lack emotional intelligence and often show lack of remorse, guilt or empathy. But they understand how emotional manipulation can have an impact on interpersonal interaction. They intentionally exploited emotive language to induce emotional responses from the audience or listeners. Moreover, the use of emotional language by psychopaths serves as hiding their true intention or hidden motive behind that mask. This calculated move by them serves as a tool of manipulation and deception of their surroundings and helps them to exploit the social norms to their advantage.

### **5.3 Conclusion**

To conclude this, the research on the speech pattern of serial killers revealed a complex interplay of linguistic strategies, linguistic features, and nonverbal cues focused on manipulation and deception. By thoroughly examining the interview transcripts and videos of selected psychopathic serial killers, the researcher unfolded an in-depth understanding into the communication dynamics of these individuals. Key findings of the research are the strategic use of figurative language to influence and manipulate others for personal benefit. Furthermore, the lack of remorse and guilt while discussing their heinous crimes underscored the affective deficits and moral insensitive characteristics of psychopathy. Additionally, the subtle use of rhetorical questions, repetitions, deflection of blame, use of emotional language exposed the sophisticated manipulation and deception tactics used by these individuals for the purpose of controlling the narrative and satisfy their ego. The researcher has investigated the speech pattern of psychopathic serial killers and deception detection. The researcher has analyzed the interviews of ten psychopathic serial killers which are available on

YouTube and thoroughly investigated them to answer the questions of the study. The researcher examined the linguistic features, nonverbal elements, and the linguistic strategies used by them to manipulate or deceive others. The study revealed that these psychopathic serial killers have unique speech patterns. The common linguistic features which help in deception are repetition, negation, and unusual phrases. And a common pattern of nonverbal behavior is observed by the researcher. The study has explored the linguistic strategies which psychopathic serial killers used to manipulate or deceive the interlocutors for the purpose of achieving their hidden agenda. The highlights of these strategies are lack of remorse and guilt towards their victims, deflecting and minimizing blame by making government and their traumas responsible for their acts. Furthermore, the use of religious references was also found in their speech just to be relatable with the audience so that they can empathize with them. Also, their calm body language and smiles showed their emotionally nuanced nature, and it implies that they did not care about their committed crimes.

Furthermore, the LIWC suggested that these psychopathic serial killers use language in a unique way to manipulate and deceive their interlocutors. The key patterns of their speech include emotional detachment, lack of empathy, and low affiliative language. Also, ambiguous use of language and cognitive structuring, most importantly negative emotions. The linguistic patterns in these transcripts reflect hallmark psychopathic traits, including manipulation, deception, and emotional control. By carefully balancing elements like authenticity, tone, and clout, psychopaths craft speech that disarms, confuses, and manipulates their audience. Each individual displayed a unique blend of these strategies, tailored to their circumstances and goals, whether to evade accountability, gain sympathy, or assert dominance. The integrated analysis of both qualitative findings from Statement Analysis and quantitative data from LIWC facilitated a comprehensive understanding of the speech patterns of psychopathic serial killers.

Through this investigation and its findings within the broader framework of psychopathy, language and forensic psychology, it deepens the understanding of psychopathic behavior and gives the understanding of strategically exploitation of language by these individuals to get advantage and shows the understanding of cognitive, and interpersonal dynamic of behavior and communication. The findings of the research have implications on a broad scale. It has its implications for criminal

profiling, also to detect psychopaths in forensic settings. Moreover, the research findings can be used as an awareness campaign. The understanding and apprehension gained through this study can be practically put into action in Pakistan through different sources like mental health professionals, law enforcement agencies and other relevant stakeholders. The findings can be insightful for the purpose of awareness. Different awareness campaigns can be launched. The purpose of whom should be the awareness related to personality disorders like psychopathy and the possible harm and danger related to it.

The combined analysis to identify linguistic and nonlinguistic markers of deception and manipulation in the speech of psychopathic serial killers gave a deeper understanding of how psychopaths use language to achieve their goals and also gave an insight into their manipulative behavior.

## **5.4 Limitations**

This study explored publicly available interviews of selected psychopathic serial killers, which are predominantly from a Western context. As a result, the findings may not fully capture the linguistic and non-linguistic markers of deception that might be present in psychopathic serial killers from different cultural or regional backgrounds, particularly Pakistan. In Pakistan the data regarding psychopaths, especially psychopathic serial killers is very limited, Also, no interviews of psychopathic serial killers were publicly available, because mental and behavioral health issues are considered a taboo in Pakistani society, lack of health infrastructure made the access of data very limited and hindrance to research on this topic in Pakistani context as the collection of data is difficult to access. Moreover, the research is only focused on only 10 selected psychopathic serial killers' interviews, the result of which may have generalization constraints to a broader, more diverse population. Additionally, the speech of interviewers was not analyzed, which may have provided additional context or insight into communication dynamics. These limitations suggest that the findings of this research may not be universally applicable, highlighting the need for further studies in different cultural settings to validate and expand the results.



## **5.5 Recommendations**

The future researchers can do a cross-cultural comparison of linguistics behavior of psychopaths in Pakistan with those in other cultures to better understand universal verse culturally specific aspects of psychopathy.

The future researchers can also explore specific linguistic patterns and strategies employed by people with different personality disorders like sociopathy, borderline personality disorder, obsessive compulsive disorder or schizophrenia and how these may differ from other patterns observed in other cultures.

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## APPENDIX A

### Interview Transcript of John Wayne Gacy

**Gacy:** People don't want to know the truth and the honesty of it. If they want to be convinced or brainwashed into what they believe, then fine, then go ahead and kill me. But vengeance is mine, sayeth the Lord, because you will have executed somebody that didn't commit the crime. When they paint the image that I was this monster who picked up these altar boys along the street and swatted them like flies, I said, this is ludicrous. I've taken three and a half hours of truth serum, and under sodium amethyl, the maximum amount that I could have, it shows that I have no knowledge of the crime whatsoever, never have had.

I've always looked after my children, even now.

**Interviewer:** What kind of values do you remember imparting to them?

**Gacy:** The kind of values?

**Interviewer:** Were you strict with them, too?

**Gacy:** No, not as strict as, no. A lot of things that my dad did, I refused to do. Because see, I don't believe in hitting children. I don't believe in spoiling a child, either.

My values are such that if you give enough love to the children...

**Interviewer:** You're accused of murdering 33 kids and you say you didn't believe in hitting.

**Gacy:** I mean... Well, anybody that knows... You see, first of all, you're basing this garbage on what you've heard of me. What happened to...

**Interviewer:** What happened in the Bukovic case? Where was he picked up and how did he get to the house and what happened with him?

**Gacy:** I don't want to go into the other... The five that I know about, just take it that I didn't... Bukovic is not one that I killed, so I don't know nothing about him. The little bit that I know about him is that he was an employee of mine. See, when you look about this recall business, and...

**Interviewer:** I'm not a prosecutor, John, but you just said Bukovic is not one that you killed, which suggests that maybe in fact there were others that you did kill.

**Gacy:** Okay, I'm sorry if I led you to believe... No, strike it then. That is wrong. If you want to charge me with anything, charge me with complicity in two of the murders.

**Interviewer:** Just two?

**Gacy:** That's all I know about. Robert Peace was killed by another individual in my home.

**Interviewer:** How did he get to your home?

**Gacy:** He was transported to the house by another.

**Interviewer:** How did the other whoever he was killed Robert peace?

**Gacy:** I believe he was strangled you were there Not during the crime, but I was there afterwards, and I watched the removal of the body.

**Interviewer:** And what what happened to the body? Afterwards was one that was that was

**Gacy:** That body was taken to the river and jump to the river.

**Interviewer:** Did you help do that?

**Gacy:** Yes? I'm in complicity with that. I've always I've always contended Don't don't look at me as an innocent babe of the woods.

In regard to going out into the garage, yes, I know I went to the house, and yes, I know I walked in the garage, and they asked me where the last section of concrete was poured. Okay. I said there's the last section where the last section of concrete was poured. Okay. They are the ones that took the orange can of paint and said here, put a mark there, so I put an X there.

**Interviewer:** So, the paint was not to identify the place of burial?

**Gacy:** No.

3:07

**Gacy:** No, it never was. They asked for shoelaces, huh? You're in trouble now.

**Interviewer:** Yeah, right.

**Gacy:** Aren't you afraid sitting that close to me?

**Interviewer:** What the hell?

**Gacy:** Oh, this is too long. Why'd you don't need it this long?

3:19

Okay, I had a rosary, which I carried in my pocket. I've always carried a rosary. It was my communion rosary. They said, well, what kind of a knot do you use? I said, what do you mean, knot? When I tie things up, I says, depending on what I'm using it for, I said the only thing I ever learned from Boy Scouts is a tourniquet knot. He said, well, show us what that is. So I took...

03:43

At that time, and again, it's together, but in order to demonstrate it here, I took the rosary and I said, well here, you put it around. This is hard trying to do this. Why don't you put your hand out? Okay here, what I told him, I said, here all you do is you wrap it around, you put one knot in it. And I said, then you put a second knot in it. Okay? I said, then you take a stick and stick it in here and you just turn this.

04:09

And I says, it causes an internicate. I said, that's the only thing I ever learned. To me, clowning was a way of relaxation for me. You regressed in your childhood, you were able to relax. And you could be goofy if you wanted to. And still you had the facade of your face being covered. I used to do clowning, and I don't know if you want to mention the name, for an ice cream company in Chicago who had 33 flavors.

04:33

I used to, I'm serious, Bresler Ice Cream Company, I was their contractor, and I was also their clown. And Pogo the Clown was the clowning that I did for charity hospital work for the Democratic Party and Pogo the Clown is originally, Pogo comes from being Polish and on the go all the time, so it's Pogo. I always felt that service community and community service to others, you know, in my religious background, I felt if you serve other people, it'll come back to serve you.

I've always believed that way with generosity.

**Interviewer:** What's your life like?

**Gacy:** Day to day? I live a day to day. **Interviewer:** What do you mean?

**Gacy:** If you want to know what my life is like, I log it every day. For the last 12 years, all you got to do is ask. I can tell you everything. I can tell you it's the first meal they serve me here, because I do it daily.

**Interviewer:** What do you do?

**Gacy:** Every phone call, everything that I do, every time an officer is around me is logged.

05:28

Every movement that I make is in the book here. You know, when I tell you I've got background information on it, we took each one of them by, we took each one of the victims. And this is by, by their names or by their indictment numbers. And what we did with each one of them, we did profile sheets on them. We wanted to know what this kid was into, what his background was. My dad was domineering in the fact.

05:55

He had a different set of values, but also very stern individual. My dad drank a lot. When he drank a lot, yeah, he was abusive to my mother and to me. But I never swung at my dad because I loved him for what he stood for.

**Interviewer:** Why the skeleton?

**Gacy:** This was done by request. Somebody requested a skull clown, and mostly the punk rockers and the undergrounders liked that stuff there. This is Christ as I see him in myself.

06:26

And it's monolithic because Christ to me is monolithic. He's all things to all people.

06:32

This here is the Hi-Ho series, and that is self-explanatory. It's the Seven Dwarfs. And they've always stuck to me as a great child painting. And so I've done a series of Hi-Ho series paintings. And this is the 1990 one. This is called Hi-Ho Around the Campfire.

It's an original work. Walt Disney is a mentor for me, because I've always enjoyed his creativity. And the Seven Dwarfs, if you actually look at all the faces,

07:02

the seven different moods that most people can get into. And nowadays, do you realize by 1993 that 50% of the American families will be single parented? And that shows a breakdown in the church and not being able to hold families together. And for this reason, children run away from home and seek love in other places.

**Interviewer:** What do I think of Jeffrey Dahmer?

**Gacy:** I don't know the man personally, but I'll tell you this, that's a good example as to why insanity doesn't belong in the courtroom.

07:30

Because if Jeffrey Dahmer doesn't meet the requirements for insanity, then I'd hate like hell to run into the guy that does.

**Interviewer:** Do you feel something?

**Gacy:** Beyond that, I have no comment on Jeffrey Dahmer because I'm not Jeffrey Dahmer. And I would not, whether it's Berkowitz, whether it's Bundy, whether it's Williams, Wayne Williams down at the Lander, or any of the others. Or Charlie Manson, see.

07:57

I don't comment about other cases for the simple fact is that I wasn't there.

**Interviewer:** Do you feel somewhat of a kinship with some of these people?

**Gacy:** No. God, I hate that when they put me in the same club with them. I'm not only the victim here. I may be the 34th victim, but there are other victims to this crime. And that is the family.

08:16

Because if I know that I didn't commit the crime, then I have been given the injustice, and so has the families. And nobody gives a damn about the families. That one mother that gets on television all the time who thinks I should be given 33 injections, I think she ought to take 33 volumes and go lay down. She goes on her other show and all these

other shows talking about, I think it's Maury, I think is the name, her marine son. Her marine son, if her marine son was so great, what the hell did he run away from home 12 times?

**Interviewer:** Not enough for him to be murdered.

**Gacy:** I know that. There's a misconception of what the house on Summerdale is. It's not a house where you work nine to five and come home, and it's like a house where you live in. The living room was the private office section. One of the bedrooms was a terrarium. The kitchen was more like a fast food kitchen. We have always contended there's others involved. At the time of my arrest,

There was four other suspects. Three of the suspects that we knew that they knew then was Michael Rossi, David Cram, and Philip Paske, all employees of PDM Contractors, all with keys to the house on Summerdale. I met him the night he was killed because I met him with Michael Rossi. I had a drink with the two of them, and then I left. And when I next...seen the individual, he was dead.

**Interviewer:** Where did you see him?

**Gacy:** Why didn't I say something about it? Because it wasn't my business and I say it out of other people's business. Where did you see him dead? In the house on Summerdale.

**Interviewer:** And did Rossi tell you who had killed him?

**Gacy:** No, Rossi didn't say nothing. Rossi was sleeping on the couch. I just left.

**Interviewer:** And how did he get buried? Do you know?

**Gacy:** He was buried in the crawl space. When I come back, he wasn't there. So Walter, that's your guess as to who put him in the ground and that.

No, I started back in 1984, I started taking 10 milligrams of valium, and by the time 1978 came around, I was doing 130 milligrams of valium. But then I was moving 80 jobs a year, and I was working 16 and 18-hour days, and I just had to have something to take the pressure off. When I was arrested, they claimed, well, there was a putrefied



odor in the house. And I contend that was a lot of hogwash, too, because one officer Schultz.

claims on the 18th or on the 19th, that as he came into the house, we had come into the house and my little Lhasa Apso was in the house. And of course he had been locked in the kitchen, you know, all day. Well, the little puppy, he piddles, see, and while he's piddling and while he is doing his business on the paper and that, you can imagine what it smells like if you go into a closed room.

And when the heat came on, as soon as the heat came on, it'd give you that strong feces odor. I found it as odd when we bought the house that a house with a crawlspace would need a sump pump. But then I learned the first time it rained that this ground gets wet under there, and then the crawlspace actually floods up to a foot deep in water. And then as it recedes, it puts out a musty odor. There was always a musty odor in that house. I'm just as lovable and jokeable as I was back then.

I don't sit around worrying about the death penalty or things like that, no.

**Interviewer:** How could you not?

**Gacy:** If you believe you've lived your life the right way, then you do not have nothing to fear in my case.

**Interviewer:** You're not worried about facing God?

**Gacy:** No. I'm fairly comfortable with him. I've been at the Catholic services. I'm the server for the priest for the last 10 years. I have no qualms about doing that. I've had confession. I have communion. And I am at peace with myself.

## APPENDIX B

### Richard Ramirez Interview Transcript

**Interviewer:** What do you want the world to know about you?

**Richard:** The world has been fed many lies about me.

I have read very few truths.

**Interviewer:** Who are you?

**Richard:** Just a guy. That is all I care to say.

**Interviewer:** Really.

**Richard:** They are open-minded people.

**Interviewer:** Did you kill 13 people?

**Richard:** It would be improper for me to comment on my LA convictions and on my pending case here in San Francisco.

**Interviewer:** Why?

**Richard:** Because of my appeals.

**Interviewer:** Are you appealing these because you say you're innocent? You didn't kill 13 people?

**Richard:** That is correct.

**Interviewer:** You didn't kill 13 people?

**Richard:** Again, it would be improper for me to comment in any regard to that question.

**Interviewer:** You have now entered a very rare group of people in this country. You're in the ranks of Charlas Manson, Ted Bundy. You claim you didn't commit these murders, but you're right in there now as far as everybody else is concerned.

**Richard:** Serial killers do on a small scale what governments do on a large one. They are a product of the times, and these are bloodthirsty times.

Even psychopaths have emotions if you dig deep enough. But then again, maybe they don't.

**Interviewer:** Do you have emotions, Richard?

**Richard:** No comment.

**Interviewer:** Tell me what kind of emotions you got going through you right now?

**Richard:** I'll tell you what. I gave up on love and happiness a long time ago.

**Interviewer:** Why?

**Richard:** I don't care to explain that. Let the quote stand for itself. People in this day and age are brainwashed and programmed like a computer at being nothing more than puppets. This nation, this country is founded in violence. Violent delights tend to have violent ends. Madness is something rare in individuals, but in groups, people and ages, it is a rule. Killing is killing, whether done for duty, profit or fun.

**Interviewer:** You're good at reading your script, Richard. But you're not much answering my direct questions. A lot was made that you're a devil worshiper. Do you worship devil? Have you ever studied Satanism?

**Richard:** Men murdered themselves into this democracy.

**Richard:** There are different sects of Satanism.

**Interviewer:** Have you studied, just yes or no, have you studied satanism?

**Richard:** Yes, Yes I have.

**Richard:** No comment.

**Interviewer:** Come on **Richard**

**Richard:** I can tell you a little bit about Satanism.

**Interviewer:** Well I'm interested in hearing what you've got to say.

**Richard:** It is undefiled wisdom instead of hypocritical self-deceit. It is power without charity. Satan admits to being evil.

**Interviewer:** Do you admit being evil Richard?

**Richard:** We are all evil in some form or another. Are we not?

**Interviewer:** I'm asking you the question my friend?

**Richard:** Yes, I am evil. Not 100%, but I am evil. Evil has always existed. Perfect world most people seek shall never come to pass. And it's going to get worse. The great epochs of our life is when we gain the courage to rebaptize our evil qualities as being our best qualities.

And that's it. Thank you.

Put the camera.