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Crime Television

The first show I selected was CSI: New York. In this particular episode, one of the criminals is killed in the first few minutes of the show. This criminal is African American. The main criminals of the episode consist of one African American robber and one Caucasian robber. The law enforcement is mostly white but there are many different races in non-main characters.

The genders of the criminals are all male, and the police force consists of both male and female investigators. The first criminal seemed to be a low life drug dealer. The main robbers broke in to a building with lots of fancy technology, with a helicopter transport and high tech gear for hiding their faces from the cameras in the building. These criminals were definitely well connected.

The educational level of the criminals is likely completed high school. Some of the criminals have some higher education in certain areas that would help them rob a building and crack a safe. The law enforcement is mostly higher education because they investigate such complex crimes. Some of the law enforcement probably has associated degrees. But all of the investigators are scientists probably with master’s degrees or even some doctorates.

The criminals were wearing tactical armor while the crime was being committed. This is probably because the criminals were well connected and may have prevented themselves from getting shot at by the person they were robbing.

The law enforcement acted very apathetic towards the victims of the crime and portrayed a “just doing our job” attitude towards the case. The criminals or suspects were quite hostile towards the law enforcement, careful not to give the law enforcement any more information then what they ask for. This criminal could be a repeat offender, but this was certainly the largest job he has ever put on.

The main message conveyed from the show is that with enough time and planning you could pull off a very big heist. But with such an excellent team of investigators you will certainly be caught. This show was far from the usual stereo types of crime and justice.

The next show I chose is Law and Order: Special Victims Unit. The primary investigators are mostly Caucasian. The criminal was a white female who was also a victim of a raping.

The gender of the main law enforcements characters consists of one male and one female. The level of education of the investigators is the same as any FBI agent, probably a high level of education like a 4 year master’s degree in criminology.

The criminal seems to be a middle to low class citizen with psychological issues. But near the end of the episode the true criminal comes out, a middle aged white male proven guilty of rape. This criminal is higher class, indicated by having lots of money to pay people off.

The true criminal appeared to be some sort of business man. He wore a suit for most of the episode, and probably a college level education.

The criminal denied his actions to the cops, and the other witnesses of the rape helped cover it up. The cops solved the crime and expressed moral compassion for the victim and helped expose the true criminals. They went above and beyond in the name of justice. They finally exposed the criminal as a repeat offender who would go straight to jail.

This show depicts the criminal as a rapist who will receive a good hard punishment for his actions. It also depicts the lawyer in the show to be very cold hearted and “just doing her job”. The lawyer has no interest in exposing the true criminal rapist, but only convicting the original criminal and being done with the case. It depicts the investigators of being very efficient, logical, kind, and truly concerned for finding justice.

Dexter is the third show I selected. Dexter is about a forensic scientist who takes the law in to his own hands and kills murders. The criminals are the people being pursued throughout the episodes by the department Dexter works for. But there are other criminals that are not caught by the police, but by Dexter instead. The main criminal that is present throughout season 4 has been revealed and he is a Caucasian male who kills women. The main police characters consist of a female Hispanic lieutenant, a male Hispanic sergeant, and Asian scientist that works closely with Dexter, and other male and female officers.

The criminal was middle to upper class and a pasture at the local church as well as an organizer for a group of people that donate their time to build homes. The levels of education of some of the police in the show seem to have degrees in criminology and Dexter and his lab partner likely have science degrees.

The criminal dresses like a perfectly average person with. He has no aversion to the police at all. He thinks that he can get away with his murders scot free. The law enforcement is never aware the he is the murder, only Dexter. He acts like he will kill Dexter before Dexter kills him. This criminal has killed many times before. So he is definitely a repeat offender.

I think this show is trying to make Dexter out to be a vigilante. Dexter takes the law in to his own hands and kills murders so they can’t hurt any more people. They depict the police department as slightly dysfunctional but still focused on finding murders and solving crimes. This criminal is depicted as a complete sociopath, with no moral conflict in his actions. Dexter is not a stereotypical criminal because he only kills bad people. The intended criminal is depicted as someone very precise and careful like Dexter, not the type of criminal to get caught. The criminal is very smart and got away with many murders until Dexter found him.