*Event:*

The Astroworld catastrophe is gonna be analysed based on a psychological theory about crowds and how they function.

Crowd psychology is a sector of social psychology, which focuses on how the individual works inside the crowd and how the crowd acts as a whole. Crowd behaviour can be influenced by different factors as sense of anonymity, loss of self, size of the crowd, loss of personal values and social norms to achieve a crowd goal(Toch, 1988). An event which can be described throughout this psychological theory can be The Astroworld concert which lead to 10 deaths and hundreds of injuries(Siwak, 2021) because of a chaotic crowd movement.

The reason of why people act in certain ways inside a crowd can be explained throughout different psychological theories which are gonna be explained below. There are three stages which describe how an individual loses his self inside the crowd(LE BON, 2021)submergence, contagion, and suggestion. Submergence refers to the individuals losing their sense of self and social norms inside the crowd caused by a sense of anonymity and an idea of not being able to be persecuted individually. Contagion represents the idea that individuals after being submerged into a crowd they stop doubting the crowd behaviour. As the crowd becomes more united and individuals start acting as a whole crowd and not as individuals they become easier to be manipulated positively or negatively without they even doubting it. In the context of the Astroworld concert these stages can be seen. Submergence can be seen at the moment when the popular artist start performing and people from everywhere started running, jumping over fences and pushing themselves to be as close as possible to the crowd. In this part it is possible to notice that people lost their social norms in the process of becoming part of the crowd. Contagion and suggestion can be seen when the artist started shouting the crowd to jump one in another, and the crowd followed the instructions without thinking about the consequences of hurting each other. Loss of responsibility inside the crowd it is present when people started injuring themselves, falling down, but the crowd continued to jump into each other without thinking of the fallen and injured spectators.

Deindividuation theory sustains that individuals of the crowd because of their sense of anonymity and not being persecuted for their acts individually can diminish their sense of self. Because individual in the crowd lose their sense of self, feelings as guilt and shame stop arising, and individuals tend to take a more anti-social or irrational behaviour. This sense of antisocial behaviourism and lack of sense of guilt it is present at the concert. Two spectators tried to stop the concert, saying that people are dead, that they lost their consciousness and they can’t breath anymore, but people inside the crowd continued “raving” and jumping over bodies that were on the floor. Irrationality of the crowd can be seen when a person alerts two camera guys about the health injuries of people, and that there are people who are not breathing, they continued to enjoy the music and to film the concert. In this case the crowd effect does not limit to people who were closely positioned but also to people as the camera guys who were in the same state as the crowd.

Freud sustained that inside a crowd individuals lose their super-ego, the level of consciousness which decides morality of behaviour. This lost is due to a leader which takes control of the morality of the acts(Manstead & Hewstone, 1995). This leads to a similar behaviour of a horde where the complexity of the emotions of individuals is decreased. It is possible to make a correlation between the chaotic movement of jumping one into the other and the decreased complexity level of emotions. Jumping one into the other for the purpose of getting fun, could relate to a need to touch each other, to feel each other close, which could be related to the need for affection. Affection is part of main human needs, which can be fulfilled In different ways.

The theory of Freud suggesting that people act on low complexity levels of emotions, combined with the lost of social norms, could result in why individuals reach for affection in such way, and why they could enjoy this chaotic movement. The crowd movement could facilitate the fulfilment of affection, and people would not live emotions such as stress, fear of being rejected.

It may exist a confrontation of emotions and ideas inside a crowd that leads to unhealthy behaviours in this case of chaotic movements called rave.

Individuals lose their sense of social norms and start acting on without sense of consequences of responsibility, but at the same time they start behaving according to low complexity emotions. The reach of the need of affection inside the crowd could be the cause of understanding why individuals are enjoying doing this chaotic movements called “rave” which objectively produce injures. This affection in combination with loss of norms could possibly blind them even more from the consequences of their act.

Not only, from this idea it is possible to deduce why the individuals didn’t stop the concert, and this is probably because they were in the same affective state as the crowd. Freud theory sustains that in becoming a crowd, people start acting as a whole consciousness and as whole emotional state, and this could explain why even the camera guys even if not being situated in the crowd didn’t see the level of danger of the ongoing situation.

The bystander effect is a social theory which sustains that the more people in an environment the less individuals are gonna react to a problem. In analysing the Astroworld concert with this theory, it could be validated because of the large number of people(50.000), but it has some limitations. The crowd effect submerges the abilities of the individuals to think of consequences of their acts, or if their behaviour is unhealthy and this is because of their sense of anonymity and of their low level complexity of emotions. The bystander effect would presume that people know of an ongoing situation but do not react because they think someone else already did it. As mentioned above the Astroworld concert can be understood using the crowd theories. In this case the bystander effect can’t be applied on the Astroworld concert because of the individual being submerged in the crowd doesn’t know that the ongoing situation is dangerous, and so he assumes then there is no need to react not by himself or others.

In conclusion, this research shows how crowd work and in which way they influence the individuals inside them. The chaotic movement of individuals jumping one into the other can be described as a desire of affection in the confronts of others, and the representation of this desire in this way could be owed to how individuals start acting on a different lower level of emotion complexity.

*Serial Killer Case*

Ted Bundy case.

Serial killer is a person which commits multiple murderers, with no exterior motive, and could be recognised following a pattern behaviour. In this paper, serial killer Ted Bundy is gonna be analysed throughout different psychological theories and personality disorders.

Psychopathy is a personality disorder characterised by anti social behaviour, lack of remorse, lack of guilt and empathy. Psychopathy can be caused by neurobiology dysfunctions or by cognitive causes.

Ted Bundy was a serial killer which admitted to killed more than 36 women, but experts consider that his real number of victims being killed could be over 100 ("Ted Bundy", 2021). Ted Bundy had a complicated childhood. His mother,Louise Colwell ,refused to grow him along with his father, and instead moved with him to her parents. Teddy was raised knowing that his mother was actually his sister, and his grandparents where actually their parents. Repercussion of this could be understood in the context of his further stepfather. Bundy in his childhood was abused several times in different contexts. His grandmother had a depressive behaviour and his grandfather had a raging temper(Sara Ketller, 2019). There are some consideration regarding that Louise was raped by his father(Sara Ketller, 2019).

Other abuses were made by his colleagues boy scouts which were bullying him for having speech impediments during classes. He followed his grandfather addiction to pornography, and boy scouts found him several times in the closet masturbating, and they would throw water at him. While living at the grandparent house, Ted aunt found him hiding kitchen knives under her bed. Louise found a new partner which adopted Ted, here the name of Bundy. At this period of life when Ted is 14 is considered to have made his first victim, a girl aged 12, that she disappears from her home which was close to where Ted was living. Ted started breaking the law in his late young hood. In college he had only one date, which ended being left by her.

Ted Bundy is a serial killer which in this essay will be explained throughout different personality disorders as Anti Social Personality Disorder, Dissociative Identity Disorder, the Violence Inhibition Mechanism. Below actions of Ted Bundy are gonna be explained in correlations with the theories mentioned above.

Anti social personality disorder is characterised by lack of empathy, lack of guilt or remorse. Bundy abusive childhood by his colleagues ,grandfather, stepfather which it was considered abusive, could act as a cause for his later behaviour. The desire for having absolute control which consisted in killing and raping his victims could come from his childhood trauma. Bundy considered himself a Bastard, and that nobody could knew what it Is to feel like(Katie Serena , 2019). His killing pattern consisted of raping women, and beating them to death. His first killing is supposed to be the case of her 12 years old girl which stayed in the same neighbourhood as where Ted Bundy lived. Concluding by now, Ted Bundy already showed Anti Social Psychological Behaviour hiding knives, starring from a young age at people windows and even making already his first kill. Considering his already first killing happened before being left by his college girlfriend, it is possible to deduce that the motive of his pattern doesn’t come from his broken relationship, which could cause revenge toward other victims. Characteristics of ASPD can be seen by his young behaviour trying to hijack cars and shoplifting.

The Violence Inhibition Mechanism model is a neurocognitive model of how aggression is being inhibited(Blair, 1995; Blair, Jones, Clark, & Smith, 1997). This sustains that animals have similar mechanism for controlling violence. Submission cues display to the aggressor to terminate the attack, because the victim is showing cues of being in pain or harmed. Similar to when a cat or a dog get their tail between their legs showing signs of fear and submission. Similar to this humans percept expressions of fear, submission, sadness and they stop the aggression. This help humans and animals to inhibit and stop the violence.

Blair model sustains that VIM is firstly learned by self cues and by how people react to them. An abnormal learning of this submission cues, could lead to a wrong perception of how they are perceived. This could be learned as well from observations of others actions, in the case of children watching someone in pain and the aggressor stopping when the victim showed this cues. Tom Bundy grandfather which had a raging temper could have showed aggressive behaviour on some members of the family where submissive cues of his victim wouldn’t stopped him. This would have lead to confuse the understanding of how submissive stimuli works which could have affected Ted Bundy VIM mechanism.

Dissociative Identity Disorder is a personality disorder in which the identity is split into different sub selves in order to protect the self from abusive memories. This leads the self to be split in different sub selves which take different roles as abuser, manager, firefighter(Richard C. Schwartz, 1995). D.I.D is formed by the child not having enough coping mechanisms to face the trauma, so a sub-self is split from his identity to keep the memories of it, but also an abuser sub-self is split. Considering that it may exist the possibility that the VIM mechanism is dysfunctional because of stimuli unlearned by observation, it is possible to consider that Ted Bundy was part and watched traumatising behaviours, and this could be the rape of his mother, the aggression of his grandfather, or the abuse of his “sexist and abusive” stepfather, which friends witnessed Ted being stroked(Ketller , 2019). Even if people witnessed abuse on Ted, in one interview he said that he admired his stepfather(Rule, 2019). The same is with his grandfather where he said how he “clung to” his grandfather, and “identified with” and “respected” him (Rule, 2019). This seem to be in contradiction with the presumption made before on Ted VIM mechanics. In considering that Ted would suffer from dissociative identity disorder, here it is possible to observe how his sub-self stored the memory in a different conscious state (Scwartz book, 2019). Ted Bundy admits to have an entity which is fuelled by his pornography addiction, the same addiction as his grandfather. Psychiatrist Dr Dorothy Lewis when analysing Ted letters from jail toward his then-wife, found out that the signature where all the time different, and was signing under different names, this is one of did symptoms having different handwriting(Schwartz, 1995). From the explanation of his acts in terms of DID, to conclude Ted Bundy could have developed a different “entity” as he mentioned and create a dysfunctional VIM mechanism by watching the abuse of her mother caused by either his grandfather or caused by his stepfather. His sub alter as Ted Bundy mentioned was fuelled by his pornography addiction as his grandfather(1). Psychiatrist Dorothy Lewis, described Bundy grandfather as kicking dogs swing cats by their tail, beating people watching per hours pornography(Gina Tron, 2020), which could reinforce abusive behaviour towards Ted. Ted mentioned that he felt similar to his grandfather(3).

Presupposing that Ted grandfather raped Louise, the pattern of Ted killings could be described in concordance to his grandfather behaviour which are characterised by his raging temper and the rape of her mother. Considering all mentioned above, It is possible to say that Ted Bundy had a sub abusive alter in which the memories of the rape of her mother were stored. This “entity” as Ted describes which he admitted being addicted to pornography and said that he felt similar to his grandfather could be the alter state in which Ted could have raped and beat their victims similar to the trauma which he was part.

In conclusion, it is possible to approach Ted Bundy childhood trauma as being a cause of his killing desire and methods. The trauma could be one of the causes which made Ted split, and the presumption of his mother being raped while Ted saw this could correlate to Ted pattern of beating their victims and killing them after. The dissociation of Ted could be reinforced by his last words which shows his psychologic amnesia barrier between his conscious states “I’m not asking for mercy for I find it somewhat absurd to ask for mercy for something I did not do,”.

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