



Apr 14th, 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Serial Killers

Brooke Alba

Illinois Wesleyan University

Natalie Witter

Illinois Wesleyan University

Lizabeth Kaeb

Illinois Wesleyan University

Alison Novakow

Illinois Wesleyan University

Daryll Brown, Faculty Advisor

Illinois Wesleyan University

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc>

Alba, Brooke; Witter, Natalie; Kaeb, Lizabeth; Novakow, Alison; and Brown, Faculty Advisor, Daryll, "Serial Killers" (2012). *John Wesley Powell Student Research Conference*. 1.

<http://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc/2012/posters/1>

This Event is brought to you for free and open access by The Ames Library, the Andrew W. Mellon Center for Curricular and Faculty Development, the Office of the Provost and the Office of the President. It has been accepted for inclusion in Digital Commons @ IWU by the faculty at Illinois Wesleyan University. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@iwu.edu.

©Copyright is owned by the author of this document.



Serial Killers

Brooke Alba, Lizabeth Kaeb, Alison Novakow, Natalie Witter and
Dr. Darryl Brown*

Business Administration, Illinois Wesleyan University

Purpose:

- Explore contribution of nature and nurture to the making of a serial killer.
- Use results of research to draw conclusions.
- Use conclusions to help better society.

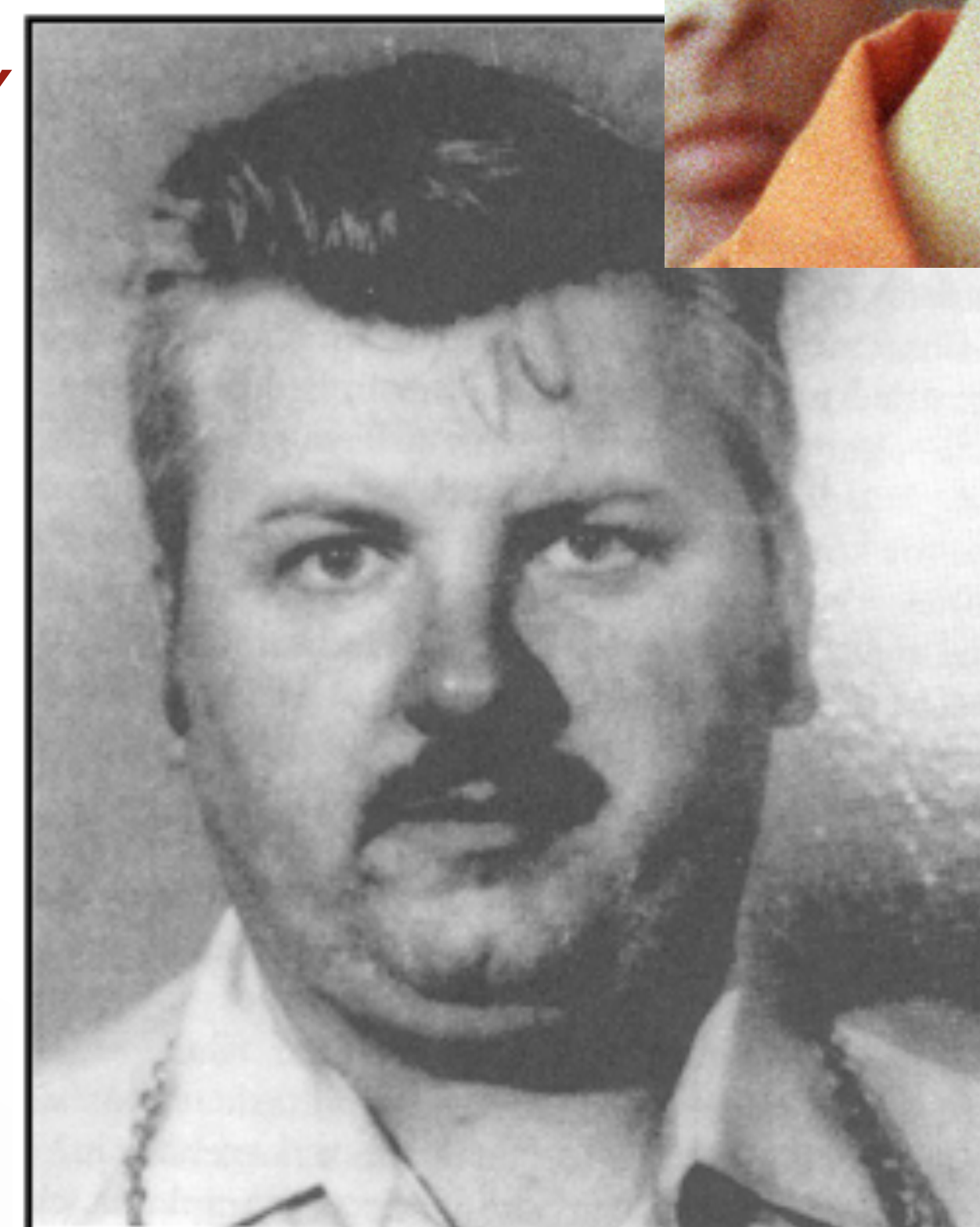
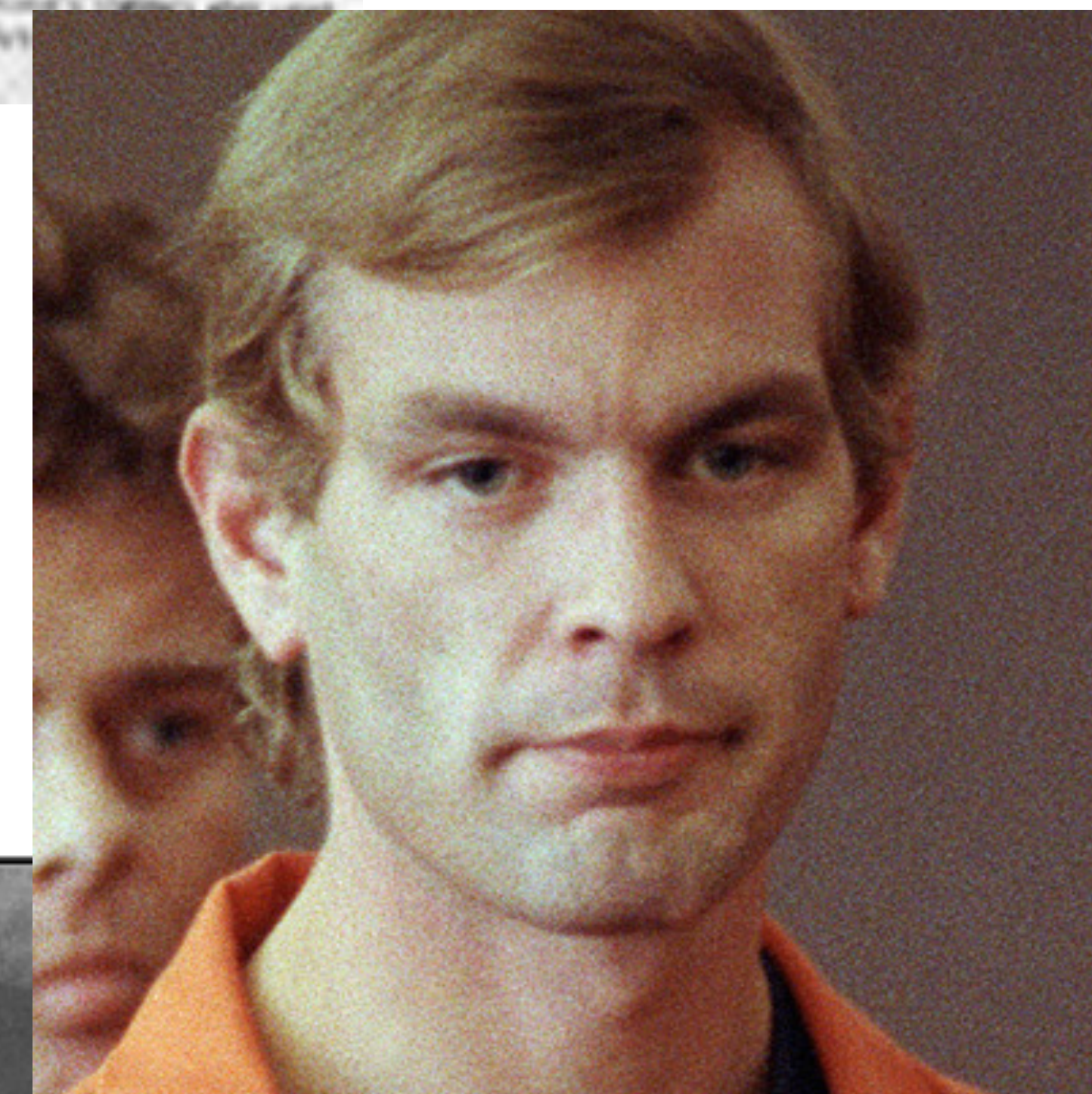
Literature Review

- Books:
 - *The Psychology of Criminal Conduct* by D.A. Andrew.
 - *Born Killers: Childhood Secrets of the World's Deadliest Serial Killers* by Christopher Berry-Dee.
 - *The Encyclopedia of Serial Killers: A Study of the Chilling Criminal Phenomenon, From "Angels of Death" to the "Zodiac" Killer* by Michael Newton.
 - *A Child Called "It"* by David J. Pelzer.
 - *The Blank Slate: The Modern Denial of Human Nature* by Steven Pinker.
- Academic Journal Articles:
 - "Criminal Destiny: Nature Meets Nurture" by B. Bower.
 - "The Search For A Murder Gene" by Michael D. Lemonick.
 - "Heinous Spaces, Perfidious Places: The Sinister Landscapes of Serial Killers" by Barney Warf.



Pictures from
top to bottom:

- Serial Killer Theodore Bundy
- Serial Killer Jeffrey Dahmer
- Serial Killer John Wayne Gacey, Jr.



Methodology

- Used various forms of media to acquire background knowledge on the subject.
- Utilized many different resources from experts on this subject.
- Looked at the childhoods of three well-known serial killers.

Analysis

- Possibility of a genetic predisposition to violence.
- The home life of the three serial killers contributed to their negative adult decisions.
- Not all childhood abuse cases result in serial killers.

Conclusion

- Nature has a small impact on an individual's tendency to become a serial killer.
- Nurture has the greatest affect on individuals.
- Home life and environment are the most influential aspects of nurture.
- A large amount of responsibility is placed on society to prevent the molding of serial killers and help those who have violent tendencies.