



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

Serial Killers

Brooke Alba
Illinois Wesleyan University

Natalie Wittter
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: <https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc>

Alba, Brooke; Wittter, Natalie; Kaeb, Lizabeth; Novakow, Alison; and Brown, Faculty Advisor, Daryll, "Serial Killers" (2012). *John Wesley Powell Student Research Conference*. 1. <https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc/2012/posters/1>

This Event is protected by copyright and/or related rights. It has been brought to you by Digital Commons @ IWU with permission from the rights-holder(s). You are free to use this material in any way that is permitted by the copyright and related rights legislation that applies to your use. For other uses you need to obtain permission from the rights-holder(s) directly, unless additional rights are indicated by a Creative Commons license in the record and/ or on the work itself. This material has been accepted for inclusion by 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.

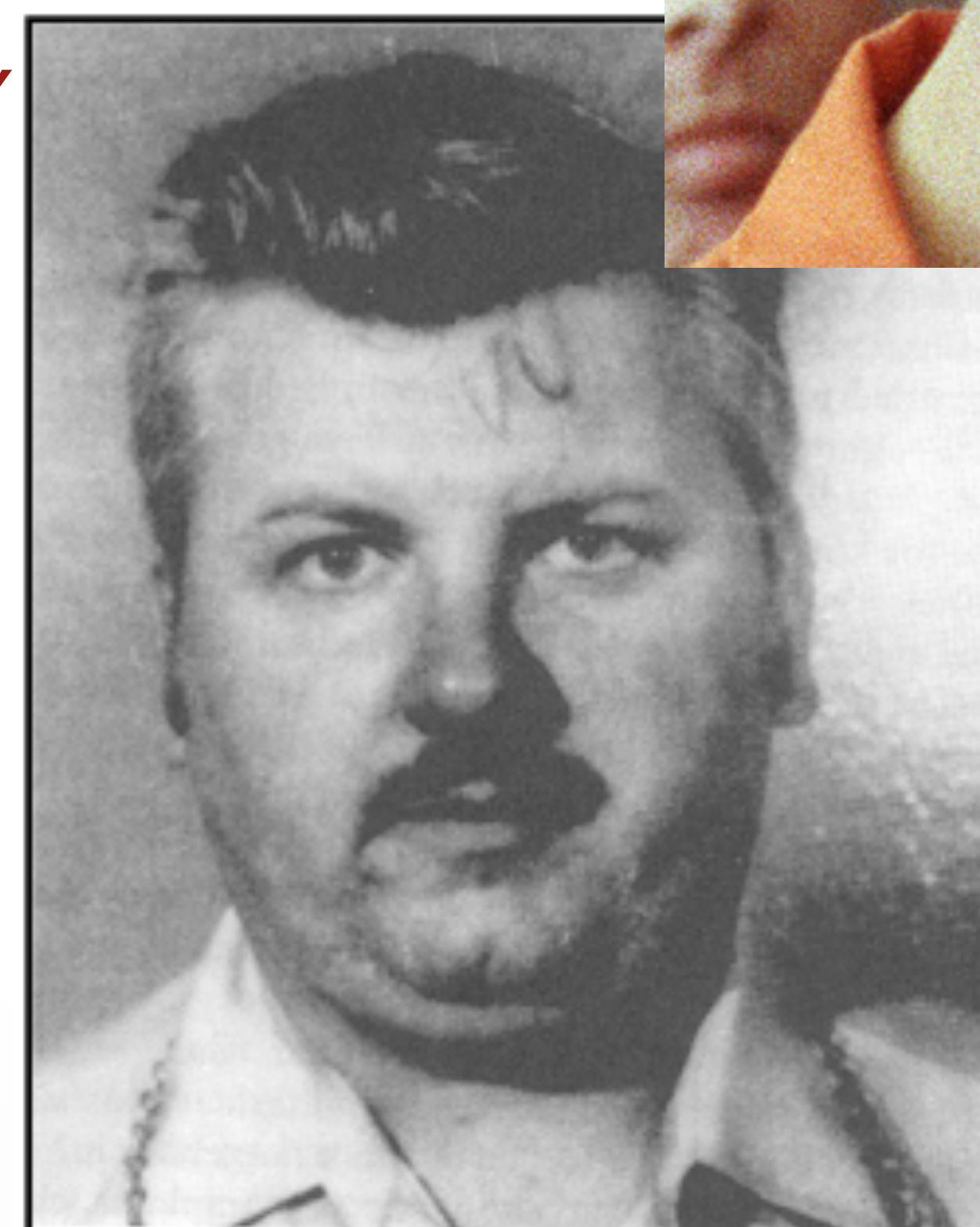
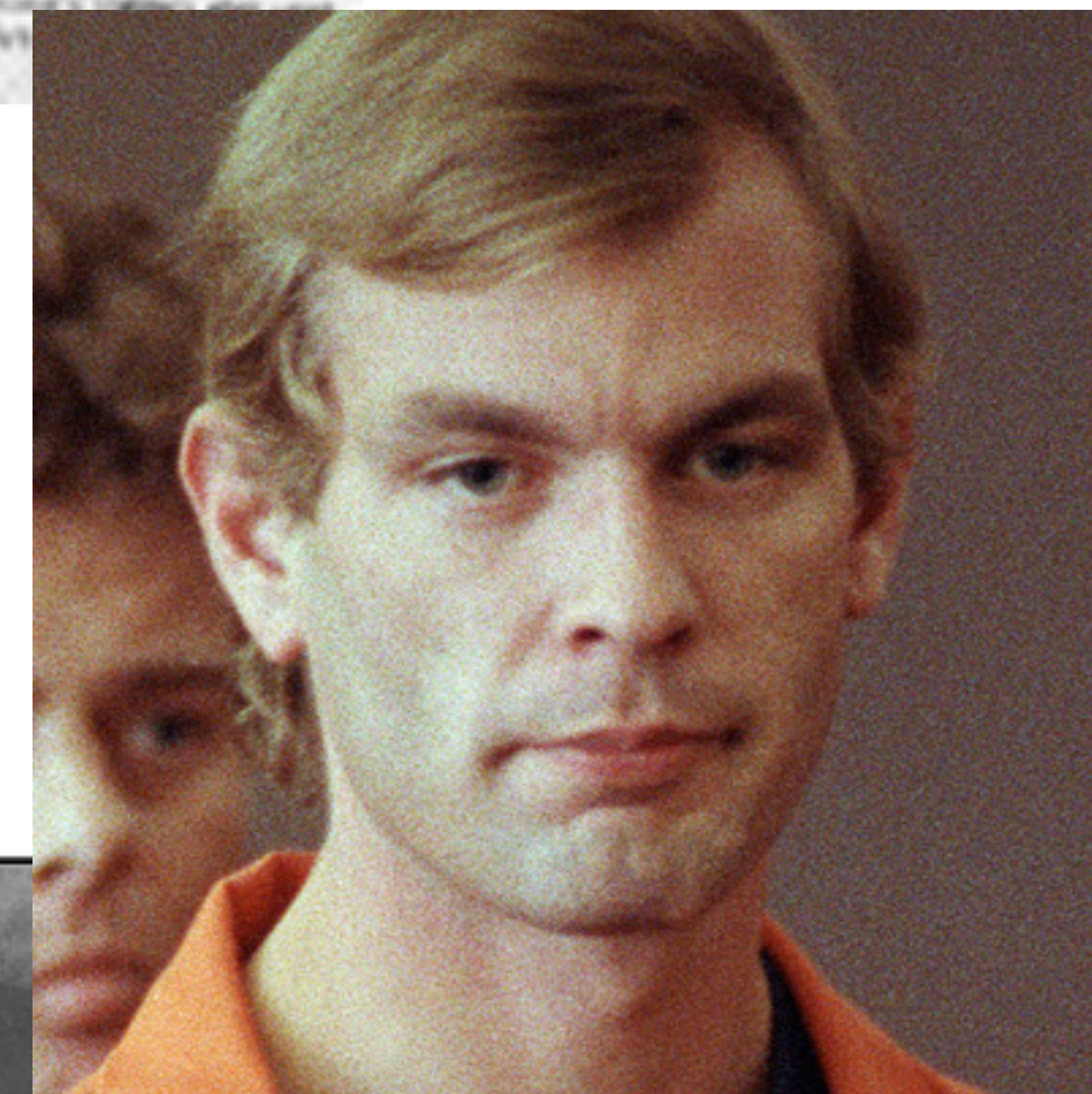
Literature Review

- 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.