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### Criminal Profile and List Infographic

"During a single year, an estimated 2.1 million youth under the age of 18 are arrested in the United States" ("Youth Involved with the Juvenile Justice System"). Society views children as the age group that holds great power in their hands to make a difference in the world and better the community. However, a great number of adolescents are limiting themselves and their opportunities in life by committing crimes. It can be difficult for individuals to understand the societal implications that can cause an adolescent to commit a crime. To best inform the public and make them more aware of the impact of factors that can contribute to youth delinquency, I believe the information should be shown through a character profile and a list infographic. Therefore, this paper will seek the audience and conventions of the genres, criminal profile and list infographic.

#### **Criminal Profile**

To begin, criminal profiles are extremely helpful in criminology. These character profiles contain extensive information about a person. The type of information that is explored is comprehensive and meticulous. Oftentimes, the information recorded relates to the person's basic information, such as name, alias, age, and address. Other information on a criminal profile is the criminal's physical characteristics, personality traits, and family and criminal history. The facts documented will vary based on what is known about the criminal.

There are three main purposes of criminal profiling. One purpose of criminal profiling is to collect information about a person and determine if that person is a possible suspect in an

investigation. This is feasible because criminal justice workers know what kinds of people are more susceptible to commit crimes from their personality traits and history. On the other hand, criminal profiling can aid in locating and predicting what a criminal is capable of and what they will do next. Lastly, criminal profiling is advantageous to research. Therefore, criminal profiling is used to determine if someone is a criminal, capturing the criminal based information that was gathered, and for research purposes. The purposes of criminal profiling drive the audience, characteristics, and variations of the profile.

From the three purposes of criminal profiling, the audience is understandably criminal justice workers. The people who benefit from criminal justice are detectives and police officers because they are the ones actively going after the criminals trying to apprehend them. These groups of people go through the process and learn about a criminal inside and out to infer the criminal's next move and the best way to proceed the investigation. Criminologists also profit from criminal profiling. Criminal profiling can aid criminologists in understanding the criminal and recognizing the criminal's motives. The criminal's history of past criminals warrant criminologists to draw conclusions, such as reasons why one commits crime and the societal constraints that cause one to commit crimes. If we are able to understand crime through criminal profiling, we will know how to prevent it. Yet, the audience can go beyond the bounds of criminal justice workers when the information becomes public or leaked to the public. In that case, the audience would be the public. By the release of a criminal profile, the public knows to be more aware. Thus, the public would take more precautions if they knew a suspect was on the loose. Overall, the three groups of audiences are criminal justice workers, criminologists, and the public.

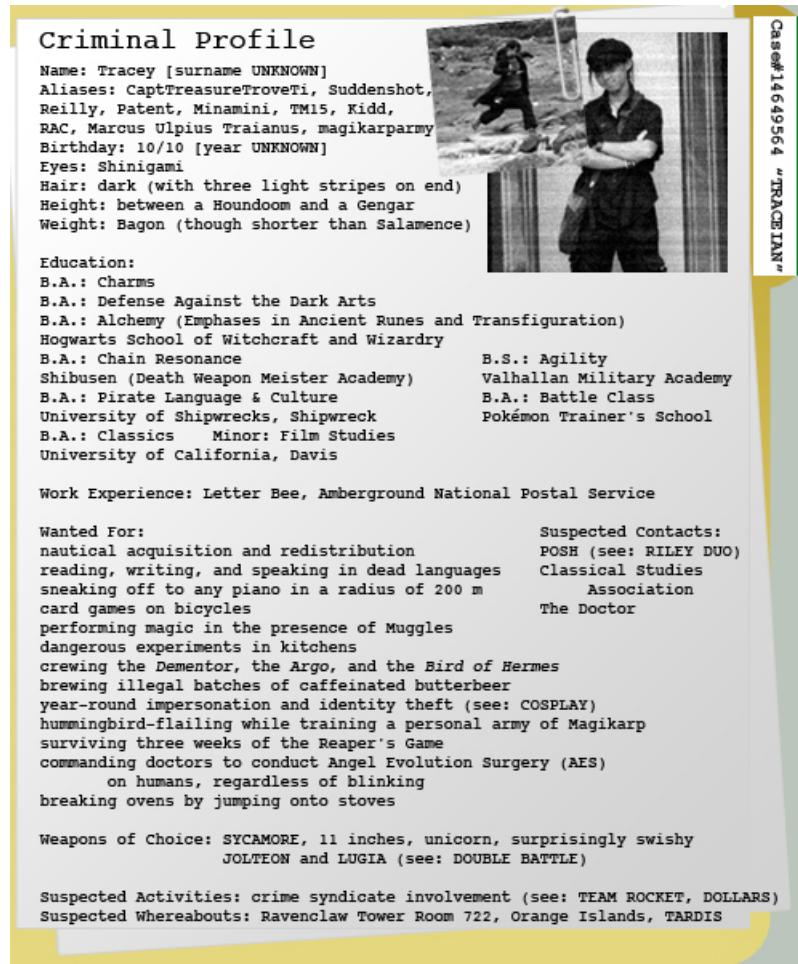


Figure 1: This is a sample of a criminal profile ("Criminal Profile I by handstobraces on DeviantArt").

In this example of a criminal profile, the information recorded includes the suspect's contacts, the typical weapons they use, what they are wanted for and their suspected movements (see Figure 1). It is clear that the information on the profile could aid in finding the suspect Tracey. The contacts help detectives know who else to monitor as the suspect could be with said persons or communicating with them, which could give clues of where the suspect is and what they are planning next. The suspect's typical weapons can be used to determine what type of crime will be committed. In the example, the weaponry is sycamore and the detectives alluded to the idea and/or tendency of the criminal participating in a battle. The type of weapon is also important because if

the suspect buys another weapon of the same kind, it could be used to help find the suspect. It is helpful to know what the suspect is wanted for because it is a clear indication of what the person is skilled in based on the crimes they have committed. And it allows investigators to plan accordingly when in contact with the suspect. The crimes that were previously committed guide criminal justice workers to determine the suspect's trends and tendencies. Lastly, the suspected movements were derived from the other information of the suspect and will give officers the opportunity to locate the accused criminal and plan the capture. So, all of the information provided is to determine the suspect's plans and next steps to arrest her.

There are some defining features in criminal profiling. One defining feature is that the character profile is as descriptive informative as possible. This meticulous description leads criminal justice workers to make proper predictions and calls because they understand the criminal thoroughly. In the example, the physical characteristics are specific. The criminal profile notes the differences in the criminal's hair and her weight is explained by comparing it to something else. In addition, the profile specifies all of the degrees the criminal has and what type of degrees they are. This is practical because understanding the extent of information a criminal has can determine how investigators will approach the situation. Another defining feature is that criminal profiles contain images of the criminal. An image aid investigators to know who to look for, the facial features to note, and their style of clothing. Furthermore, images of a person enable criminal justice workers to come infer conclusions about the person in question. In the example, the criminal contains two pictures outside of the folder, but possibly more inside. The images show the criminal's outfit and what seems to be their actions, which can help determine what they are planning. In addition, investigators can come up with inferences about the criminal based on their criminal's body language; in this example, it would be the fact that she has her arms crossed. Other than those two defining features, other features come in different variations.

Not all information is presented in the same way in every criminal profile. The variations in the profile are how the information is presented and what information is collected. Investigators may format the information through sentences or by listing. And depending on the criminal's crimes and facts, it can determine what other information is included and expanded on. This occurs because some circumstances about a person need to be further explained to be able to understand the criminal more, what they are capable about, and it allows criminal justice workers to know where conclusions came about. For instance, the example appears to use a listing and short phrases method of recording information. It can also be seen that some information about the criminal was expanded upon based on the crimes that the criminal committed, their weaponry, their contacts, and their suspected activities. Thus, not all criminal profiles follow the same format nor guidelines.

### **List Infographic**

List infographics are visuals that provide information about a particular topic. These types of infographics are organized and separate groups on information. Therefore, this form of genre is well-planned and information is placed strategically. To guarantee visual aesthetics, colors, fonts, and visuals must be considered. This method may be altered depending on the audience. However, the purpose is the same for all list infographics and there are key defining features that all infographics share.

The main purpose of a list infographic is to educate a particular group of people. The designer of an infographic wants their audience to learn something about a particular topic. The other purpose of a list infographic is to make it easy for the audience to understand and comprehend the visual. In order to make the graphic easy to understand, the creator places their information strategically. Overall, the list infographic aims to educate people by making it easy to read through visuals.

The audience of list infographics can vary based on the information that is presented. Through the use of both words and images, anybody is able to read an infographic and comprehend the message. So, the audience of the infographics can equally be adults and children. The audience can differ based on the purpose or where the list infographic is placed. For example, a list infographic about how to share in a classroom would be directed for students. On the other hand, a list of infographics about the spread of germs in a doctor's office is likely for adults. While the audience can be either children or adults, most of the time the audience is teenagers or adults because list infographics try to explain or simplify more complex topics, which children probably will not understand. For instance, a list infographic about climate change with graphs could be confusing to a child since they would most likely not be aware of the topic and terms nor know how to read the graph. Therefore, list infographics for adults can have a more formal and professional and list infographics for children will typically have more images and colors. Based on where the infographic is located, can tell one who the infographic's audience is based on the purpose of the infographic.

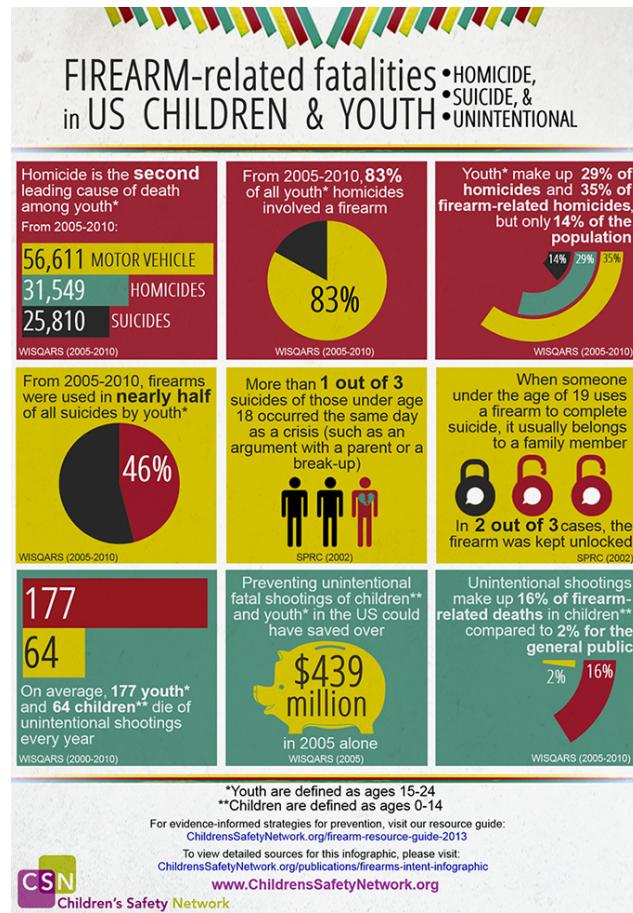


Figure 2: This is an example of a list infographic (“Firearm-Related Fatalities in US Children & Youth: Homicide, Suicide, and Unintentional.”).

In this example, one can understand the purpose or what the creator wants to educate their audience on based on the title (see Figure 2). In this case, the creator wants to educate their audience about firearm killings that involve youth and children. In this case, it is evident that the information and purpose of this list infographic contain more serious matters and is a heavy topic. Therefore, this infographic would be meant for adults. To continue, the use of the graphics also prove that this genre would be meant for adults since children may not know how to interpret the information. Based on the purpose of the list infographic, it allows one to interpret the audience.

There are many defining features of list infographics. At the top of a list infographic, there is a title that summarizes the information listed. Majority of time, the title will be centered and in a larger font than the rest of the information. This example's title allows the audience to easily locate the title because of the font size and location and understand what this infographic pertains to. Another defining feature is the use of colors and images to make the visual more aesthetically pleasing. In this infographic, the creator uses a color scheme and follows it throughout the whole infographic. This example also incorporates a lot of images and graphs to aid the audience in comprehending the material. In this case, the graphs allow the audience to understand the differences between some of the material. For instance, in the first chart about how youth have died, the audience is able to understand which ways are more common and which ways are least common by comparing all of the forms. List infographic also places information strategically in the graphic by separating information into different sections. This example places each idea into a different square to divide the information, so it is not overwhelming. The last defining feature is that list infographic aims to be clear and concise, therefore information is explained in one to two sentences. This is proven since all of the graphs and images are followed with one sentence. Overall, list infographics have some key defining features.

There are very few variations in list infographics. The layout of the infographic can vary. A creator will always put the information in separate sections, but sometimes the creator will connect the ideas with lines or arrows. This enables the information to flow better and show the reader where they should read next, which can aid to their understanding. The other variation is that some creators will number their different sections or provide bullet points to give it the same look of a list and make it easier to understand. From this example, it is void of any of the

variations. There is no connection of idea nor ways of listing visible. So, there are different ways of designing the list infographic.

Criminal character profiling and list infographics are two different ways of providing information to an audience. Each genre has different purposes, affecting their audience and conventions. Nevertheless, the conventions for each genre enable the audience to understand the information at hand, analyze the information, and come up with conclusions based on the information. For the purposes of explaining juvenile delinquency, these two genres would allow the audience to understand the full picture and the causes and implications relating to the topic in their own manners. Thus, these two forms are both helpful in their own manner and can aid a creator in educating their audience.

### Works Cited

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