

Creeper

“Was that the only time with your daughter?”

No, I, I molested her all through, you know, I licked her vagina, I kissed her, I French kissed her.”

“When she was nine?”

“Yeah.”

“He [son] never said anything, he never told me to stop or nothing. And, you know, I perceived that, as if he did tell ... You know, he was enjoying it ‘cause his dick got hard. I mean I was playing with him and his little, his little pecker got hard. I thought he was enjoying it like I did.”

Creeper’s history is more complicated than that of many offenders in this study. At the time of the interviews, he was about 56 years old and had spent the prior 19 years confined. At a much younger age, he was sexually abused by his then 16 year-old cousin and a priest. He considered both experiences pleasurable when they occurred and also now in retrospect. Creeper reported on 18 victims, 13 girls and 5 boys. The victims included his brothers, one of whom was physically and mentally handicapped, step-daughters, and his own daughter and son.

Mother

Creeper described his now deceased mother as a 5’2”, heavy-set, somewhat religious Catholic, smoker and poorly-educated (fifth grade reading level) woman with a mixed set of adjectives. He described her as “warmhearted,” “loving,” “caring,” “controlling [his actions],” “passive,” “uneducated,” and “not smart.” Reportedly, she opened her heart to others, especially to her challenged son and much less so to Creeper, but was available to him when he needed comfort. She deferred (passive) all major decisions to his father. As a result of his father’s death, the family sustained significant loss of resources (house, property, and construction equipment from his company) and required welfare assistance. Creeper further reported that his car was repossessed and attributed it and the family’s financial demise to his mother’s lack of intelligence and elementary school level of education. To exemplify his assessment, Creeper stated that she didn’t know how to handle money and deal with bills.

Creeper made a solemn statement more than once during the interviews. He felt he was “put on the back burner,” that he did not receive much attention from his parents. His mother and father were affectionate to each other but not to the children. His parents had a total of eight children, Creeper was the oldest, and they were preoccupied with their handicapped and retarded son.

In his quest for a more ideal mother, he succeeded in attaching himself to a friend's mother who gave him the attention he craved.

Father

The man was described as “strong” and a competent provider who, otherwise, was minimally available yet “close to his own brothers.” As a result, Creeper found it necessary to replace his father with a “substitute” as he had done with his mother. However, he grew closer to his Dad during the months preceding the latter's death in 1989 following cardiac surgery.

Childhood to early adulthood

Creeper felt psychologically and emotionally neglected by his parents because, to his understanding, his challenged brother required so much attention. His two sisters were born when he was about eleven, two more children requiring significant attention. He reported, “I was not very sociable. I didn't know how to relate to people.” He further added that he was neither close to his siblings nor able to “bond” to his extended family.” He recalled that in junior high school, he had two favorite (male) teachers, favorites because they gave him attention.

During his school years, Creeper was picked on by other children. “I was always teased, humiliated, beat upon, degraded.” At some point he was sent to another grade school and placed in a “slow learning class.” “And the kids, you know, would call me retard, stupid, idiot, no good, you know. They would put signs on my back with an arrow pointing to my ass, ‘kick me,’ and I was being pushed into the locker doors.” He derived limited comfort from the other children in his special education class. “I only had peace during the summer when I didn't have school. It got to the point where I really hated going.” At about age 11, Creeper was beaten by two boys, and as a consequence, upon seeing them he deployed evasive maneuvers to avoid further abuse. Given the lack of mention, it is presumed that he was not subjected to familial abuse.

At about age 9, Creeper had his first sexual experience. He recalled meeting twins from his class in the woods and one of them suggested a “you show me yours and I'll show you mine” activity. “I was very fascinated with a female's body because they didn't have no penis or balls or anything, all they had was a vagina and they of course had flat chests. I don't remember any touching, just looking.” At around age 11, Creeper was subjected to sexual abuse at the hands of his then 16 year-old male cousin. This account is mentioned here for chronological continuity and will be further discussed in the Sexual abuse section.

Creeper recalled his first sexual touching experience at the age of 14 with a girl about a year older than he was. This mutual touching evolved into a near intercourse; the interruption resulted from the girl's parents returning home. Around the same time in his life, Creeper was molested by a priest over a three-month period. This will also be discussed below.

While on her way to a Tupperware Party, one of Creeper's female cousins stopped to pick him up. In her car was "a beautiful woman with the most beautiful green eyes." After a brief courtship and intermittent copulations, Creeper moved in with this woman and, against parental counsel, married her about four weeks later. He was 24; she was 29 with three daughters from a prior relationship. The marriage ended after two and one-half months. Each of them suspected the other of adultery and they were both correct. Creeper admitted he felt insecure and highly jealous during his brief marital life.

Was Creeper looking for an emotionally intimate relationship or just sex or both? When asked directly if he married this woman because she had three daughters, possible future sex partners, Creeper said that he had not although we will see later that he actually molested two of them. He also stated that prior to marrying this woman, he only sexually engaged with one partner at a time, never dating multiple partners at the same time. While with his wife, sexual contact was a daily occurrence -- she was expected to satisfy his sexual appetite.

As a matter of fact, I heard my father tell her [his mother], listen get with it. And they'd go and lock the bedroom door and do whatever they got to do. So my perspective was, as the man of the house, right, she's supposed to do what I want. And I felt being married gave me the entitlement to have her, to have sex with her any time I want.

On several occasions, when speaking about various sex partners, Creeper discussed the amount of sex he was having.

I felt like I was addicted to sex 'cause the more I got it the more I wanted it and the strangest thing about it, even though I was getting it four times in a 24 hour period from her ... I [still] went to my other girlfriend and screwed her a couple of times.

At another point in the interview he said, "As a matter of fact I did have sex for six and one-half hours straight." He went on to offer that with one particular partner, each night included an assortment of sexually gratifying positions. Given that for him sex was as central as work may be for most, he was facetiously asked about the Sabbath. To this Creeper replied that he always had sex on Sundays as "God said to rest from work but sex was not work." Was he bragging about his sexual prowess? Was he attempting to provide ample evidence that he was over-sexed and thus only partially

responsible for his varied sex life that included adult women, boys, girls and relatives? While he provided quite explicit details, only he knows for certain whether they were reality based or imagined. After all, he has had 19 years of deprivation and embellishment as a way to self-soothe during this period of time.

Sexual abuse

On one occasion, Creeper's mother and one of her sisters got together for a visit. Both Creeper and his then 16 year-old cousin went off to play in an abandoned car in the back yard. After some "small talk," the cousin asked if Creeper wanted to play a game called "I touch you [and] you touch me." Touching led to genital fondling and that led his cousin to place his penis between Creeper's legs and ejaculate. Creeper said this about the experience, "I was a little scared but the sensations, the sensual arousing, things, you know, feelings I never felt before and they were intense. Something I really enjoyed." It was his cousin's warning to not tell anyone of what had occurred that raised Creeper's suspicion that something was wrong.

Creeper was saddened that his cousin did not return. He used to lie in bed self-fondling while recalling what had occurred between them. "But it got old fast." Within weeks he was reliving the experience with his brothers. These escapades ended when the house caught on fire and the family was forced to move to a transitory house arranged by a Roman Catholic priest.

At some point, about one to two years later, Creeper was abused again, this time by a Roman Catholic priest. In the interim, Creeper's home caught fire and this same priest had arranged for housing for the family. Creeper was mowing lawns as a part-time job, and one day he offered to cut the lawn at the Church. The priest agreed and after a few lawn cuttings, the priest invited Creeper to lunch and then to join him in a small sauna. While undressed and while seated disrobed in the sauna, the priest began to make advances and Creeper responded with an erection. The priest brought him to his bedroom where each took turns ejaculating between the other's legs. These "sessions" continued for three summer months and included at least one over-night. All "sessions" were devoid of anal and oral contact and culminated in ejaculations between their legs. He never told anyone and never even thought of doing so. "Like I said, I appreciated that it was a relationship and I felt, you know, why should anybody else know?" Creeper never considered the priest to be a sexual victimizer. While he preferred to masturbate to images of females, he confessed to later using the priest in his fantasies. Apparently, he enjoyed the relationship. Looking back on these experiences, Creeper believed that his cousin had not molested him and he did not molest his brothers. "I didn't know anything about molestation until I got locked up, you know."

Creeper received sexual attention from only two individuals, his cousin and the priest. He found both experiences enjoyable and most gratifying. He did not perceive these episodes as negative, abusive, or acts of manipulation. No wonder he soon began to engage his brothers in almost identical interactions. He was twice sexually taken advantage of and reportedly, he sexually took advantage of 18 others. How can this lopsided equation be understood?

Creeper's victims

Covering all 18 victims, five males and thirteen females, is beyond the scope of this chapter. Instead, the most significant aspects of these crimes will be presented and two of his victims, his own son and daughter, will be given separate sections.

Brothers

Shortly after Creeper and his male cousin had their first and only sexual interaction, Creeper began molesting two of his brothers who were eight and nine. Why did one event follow the other within two to three weeks? "It was something that I enjoyed [the experience with the cousin], like a child with a brand new toy. So I experimented and went to my brothers." He crawled into bed with them, one at a time, pulled down their underpants, put his penis between their legs and fondled them. In effect, Creeper emulated what his cousin did to him. Did the brothers enjoy the act? Although he believes so, he really doesn't know for sure because at the time he assumed they slept through the experience. He now believes that they may have pretended to be asleep, out of fear of saying anything. Did he look at them during the acts? No, he always approached them from the back. Later in years, he tried to speak to one of his brothers about what he did to him; the brother declined the invitation to discuss the topic. After several acts with the nine-year-old, Creeper moved onto the eight-year-old. The house fire ended the molestations because, in part, their new living arrangement did not provide the necessary privacy for further sexual contacts. At about age 18, Creeper molested his then 17 year-old handicapped brother. "He was too, he, he was too mentally, you know, he had the mind of a three year-old. So he didn't know what I was doing." Creeper had molested one other boy, a five-year-old, who was known to him. This boy is the only non-relative male that Creeper molested. Of note, one of his brothers was also incarcerated for a sexual offense. There is no evidence that he ever sexually interacted with his sisters. To this end, he reported on visits from them and their daughters, and on phone contacts. At the time of the interview, he had no contact with his brothers.

Female victims

Creeper admitted that his preference was for females from about 13 to 17 or 18 years of age. He responded in the affirmative when asked, "You only picked a boy when you couldn't find a girl?" Even when he was having sex with his then 29 year-old wife, he was fantasizing about a prior 16 year-old girlfriend. Technically, it is debatable to consider him a pedophile, perhaps more of a hebephile. How did he develop this age preference that made up 11 of his 13 female victims? He believed it had something to do with the first female with whom he had intercourse. He was 19, she was 13, although he thought she looked older, perhaps as old as 16 or 17. We don't know if he had the preference and then found a victim of that age to have intercourse with, or if something about the sexual experience imprinted him on the preferred age-range. With the majority of his victims, Creeper maintained sexual relations that lasted from one month to over one year. It is noteworthy that his own aging did not impact his preference for underage females as may be expected.

How did Creeper choose these girls and young women? First, he explained that he knew all of his victims, some were related to him and the others were known to him. "It made it easier for me to manipulate them, control them. I met them, talked with them, I tried to fill the void that they had in their lives. One girl, well she was always put down 'cause she was overweight." She told him that she had been a rape victim. Did he see this as molesting someone who was raped? "No, I didn't look at it as molesting 'cause to me I was dating her, taking her out." He was 16, she was 13. In this particular case, he had been told by other boys that she was 16 and "she likes to give head, like blowjobs." Would it be accurate to presume that Creeper was "dating" this young female because she was already 'damaged goods' whose favors could be with minimal to no effort?

In addition to the girl who was overweight, he states that most of the girls he "dated" had something wrong with them, a weakness. Most were overweight and "unattractive to most guys. They wouldn't look at them as a date or anything. I complimented them. You know, I think it was more of a savior type thing." When asked to explain further, "the first girl I was telling you about ... she's a fat ugly girl. Another girl, her mother worked all the time, she was always home by herself. And I became a safety to her because now ... I could take her places, take her out, treat her to things, compliment her, you know make her feel like she's something, only to have sex with her." He was asked, "So when you say you were like a savior, do you mean that you tried to bring some sunshine to their lives?" "That's true," said Creeper. "How come you couldn't find gals of your age that you could be a savior to?" Creeper answered, "Every time I asked a girl out, the answer was no and I couldn't see any of them that I could control. I wasn't very, well, my social skills were very poor. I didn't feel like I could stand up to, be as smart as other people. So I used younger girls that I could relate to." He said later, "During high school when I did ask a girl out, it was, who the hell wants to go out with a retard?"

Like I said, I was in a special class and that's the type of response I get, 'You're a fucking retard, nobody wants to go out with a fucking retard.'" Yet, at 19 he claims to have had a close non-sexual relationship with a female one year his junior. He said he had deep feelings for her and did not have intercourse because she wanted to remain a virgin until married. Is this an example of true feelings for a woman? If so, this was an asexual relationship. Did he place her in a different category of females for precisely this reason? Did he place women in either the Madonna or Whore category?

As noted earlier, he also molested his two step-daughters. Did he molest the two to satisfy his reported insatiability or for a different reason? He and his wife were having problems, finances were a major issue. He was giving his wife money when he claimed he really didn't have it to give. "Some entitlement came into it and that's the reason why I molested my 11 year-old step-daughter, and I also molested my 13 year-old step-daughter." It stands to reason that his insatiable sexual appetite and anger may have converted to the force behind the assault on the two girls.

Regardless of their ages, Creeper never asked any of his victims to provide him with oral sex. With his "chosen" victims, he only wanted to have penile-vaginal intercourse. The only exceptions to this occurred with the younger girls. "You know, I'm looking at this girl, you know, with a little, with a little tiny hole that's the size of a pen, you know." Only one young woman offered him oral sex but that was not until he was in his 20s. Similarly, he had anal sex with one of the young females he abused and, according to him, at her behest.

To check on his sincerity, Creeper was asked if he ever really wanted to have a relationship with these victims. Did he ever want to talk to them, take them to the movies, and buy them treats sold in the lobby? "No, all I wanted to do was get in her panties ... get my needs met." Later, he said, "I want to change, I don't want to be focused on sex, I want a relationship when I get out of here."

Son

Creeper's son and daughter were born to a woman he was living with for at least two years. The sexual abuse of his son, occurring on three occasions, began when Creeper was about 37 and the youngster was 11. Again, the form of the molestation was similar to that used with his other male victims. He played with his son's penis and scrotum, placed his penis between the child's legs, and also had his son masturbate him.

On one occasion, after Creeper was released from prison for molesting his step-daughters, his son told him that his friend was being molested by his mother's

boyfriend. The son wanted to know what this meant. Creeper explained that this conversation actually led him to molest his son. He reasoned,

Of course being addicted to having sex, and not getting any, I think that's what really played a role in what led me to molest him because not only did I tell him that it felt good, it was enjoyable, and stuff like that. That's the way I felt sex was. It made it easier for me to show him. He [son] never said anything, he never told me to stop or nothing. And, you know, I perceived that, as if he did tell ... You know, he was enjoying it 'cause his dick got hard. I mean I was playing with him and his little, his little pecker got hard. I thought he was enjoying it like I did.

He was asked, "And you showed him?" "Yes, it's hard to swallow, but there were other things that played a role in that." One of these "other things" was the arousal Creeper felt by watching his children's mother walk around the house in her unfastened bathrobe.

How is it possible to engage in these activities with your son? Creeper stated that he did not experience attachment to him. He cared for him but "only for what I could get out of him. My son actually made me quite angry several times. There was a lot of resentment towards him. I really didn't think about the mental anguish I was creating." Not unexpectedly, they have not seen each other since the abuse occurred in 1978.

Daughter

Creeper related how he "set up" the first occasion of his abuse of his daughter. She was nine and in the tub. He walked in and asked if he could use the bathroom. "I was already excited 'cause I already had seen her naked body, right, so my dick was hard and everything." Creeper was in her bedroom (ironically, he had been using her bedroom because of problems between him and his children's mother). He pulled her toward him, telling her how pretty she was ("setting her up"). He rubbed her body head to toe and then placed her hand on his penis. She was turned on her side when he placed his penis between her legs and ejaculated. On another occasion, she entered their bedroom in the evening and started fondling her father and inquired, "I want to know what you do to Mommy?" He told her that he could not place his penis into her because she's not old enough. But as an inexplicable alternative, he tells her, "I might be able to do something that I had never done to Mommy. I put some Vaseline on my dick and tried to put my dick in her ass, which I had never done to her mother." She said it hurt so he stopped and resorted to ejaculating between her legs. "I was preparing her, and I got locked up before it happened, which I'm glad, to have her suck ... suck on my dick. I was preparing her to do whatever, a total blowjob. And eventually when she got

old enough, I would have intercourse.” How old is old enough? His answer was 12 or 13.

Did he love his daughter? He gave an answer similar to the one regarding his son. “Not as a daughter, it was a different type of love.” Creeper admitted that he had previously equated love with intercourse. So how could he love his daughter? At this point, he admitted to being very uneducated, a description that he had used for his mother. Father and daughter have not had any contact since 1978.

Creeper related another event that affected him. He had taken his daughter to the park and at some moment she told him “she hated my stinking guts.” An obvious question, was this a result of the abuse? “Yeah, I truly believe that’s why she said that because I was doing something that she didn’t want me to do, but she didn’t know how to tell me ‘no, stop.’” For most pedophiles, a child agrees to sexual contact if she/he does not say “No!” Stated differently, for the offender, responsibility to stop the abuse is with the child, another example of predatory reasoning.

Arrests

Creeper was arrested five times, the first time for sexually assaulting one of his brothers. It is clear that incarceration failed as a deterrent. If he is telling the truth about the number of his victims, then it means that he molested 13 others with impunity. The odds of not getting caught were clearly in his favor. His reasons for stopping his activities with any particular victim were varied and included fear of being caught or arrested, and in one case becoming bored. He claims to have never threatened any of his victims either verbally and/or with any physical force. Instead, “I’m pretty good at manipulating them to do what I want.”

Had he ever watched *To Catch a Predator on TV*, the show that shows men using chat rooms online in an attempt to have sex with a minor? Yes, he has seen it and thinks that the men portrayed are “idiots” because some of them have been charged before for the same activity. Creeper did just that. He was arrested, multiple times, and continued to misbehave. His answer was, “I was stupid, too.”

Therapy

Creeper referred to himself as uneducated and we can add that he was largely unsophisticated about the definition and impact of sexual molestation. He was attending therapy sessions at this civil commitment facility. Has therapy helped him to understand these issues? In his words, “I never thought I had a

problem, I never thought of being a pedophile, I never heard of 'pedophile' until I got locked up here. I knew it was illegal, right, but I didn't really care as long as I thought that I wasn't hurting them, right?"

Did his molestation affect how he viewed what he did to his victims? "They've done it to me ... I was all right, so, you know, that's the reason why I never thought I was hurting them." He believed that while he was not physically hurt by his abusers, they did somehow set him on a path to gratify his own sexual needs in any way he could. According to Creeper he now believes that he adversely impacted his victims' childhood, sexual identity, and innocence. He claims to have acquired cognitive tools in therapy that would greatly help him to not repeat past behavior. "I wish to God I knew what I know today 'cause then it would have never happened."

Fantasies

An important question is whether Creeper still thinks sexually about young girls. One girl, who was in his preferred age-range many years ago, with whom he engaged in consensual foreplay activities, was still on his mind at the time of the interview. He found these imaginings exciting but said that he did not masturbate in response. How about seeing girls on TV? He stated that he gets aroused but can stop his thoughts and refrains from autoerotica. His current fantasies focus on two adult women, one of whom is his ex-wife, and on one adult male with whom he had a brief relationship. He also stated that, "I barely masturbate at all as it is. It takes a lot for me to, to get an erection to masturbate." At times, "it doesn't even twitch." However, the absence of "twitch[ing]" does not preclude sexual thoughts or eradicate memories.