

CASE REPORT: A PROFILE OF SEXUAL ASSAILANT

CİNSEL SALDIRGAN PROFİLİ; BİR OLGU SUNUMU

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ABSTRACT

Although there are numerous studies related to victims of sexual assault, there are few reports about assailants. In this study, a profile of sexual assailant was presented. The case was male, and 17 years old. In his received expression which was taken with claim of crime about sexual assault, the assailant said that he graduated from primary school, worked in production of Tahin halva, liked to touch women and enjoyed looking at their underwears. The assailant narrated that he chose women with different religious beliefs as Alaouite, because he predicted those not to wear underwear. He added that he knew these women's desires about a man, predicted all of these from their faces, and entered into their homes without sexual intercourse. He expressed that some of women liked his behaviour, and the others feared. Investigative document reported that the assailant was a cannabis user, entered into people's homes which he followed them before, turned flashlight to the victim's face, cut their underwears with razor, touched only, was not in a sexual intercourse and went away the home after taking their underwears.

The assailant was a case of fetishism, because he desired underwears of women. And, remarkable point was that desire was only directed to women who had an ethnic identity as Alaouite which was common in south region of TURKEY. Furthermore, another interesting feature of case was absence of sense of revenge or hate while doing this, and assault was carried out attacks in order to remove only his curiosity. In this study, we aimed to present a case of fetishism directed towards women with only a certain religious belief.

Keywords: Sexual assault, assailant, ethnic fetishism

INTRODUCTION

The crimes which are committed against sexual privacy, include all behaviors that are executed for sexual purposes without consent of victim, or performed towards people who do not have valid consent due to be younger or lack of mental health (1,2,3).

The reports are showed that proportion of victims is higher than what is known, because victims of sexual violence are mostly hidden due some reasons (4,5). Trials which support this view were demonstrated that the majority of victims did not complain to official authorities. However, victims generally complained due some reasons such as psychiatric problems, fear and feelings of guilt, and 55.6% of the victims was sexually assaulted years ago in their report (6,7).

In this study, we aimed to present a case of fetishism of which was directed towards women with only a certain religious belief.

CASE

Public authorities have been stated that complaints for sexual assaults which occurred in the city center increased, and similarity of profile and form of event were described by victims. The assailant was arrested as result of long time follow-up. The assailant was a man, and 17 years old. In his received expression which was taken with claim of crime about sexual assault, assailant confessed that he graduated from primary school, occasionally run away home and stayed in streets, worked in production of Tahin halva, liked to touch women and enjoyed cutting at their underwears, and chose women who believed in Alaouite, because he predicted those not to wear underwear. He said that he knew these women's desires about a man, knew them from their face, and occasionally entered into homes of women who had a different beliefs. He had not done any sexual intercourse. He expressed that some of women liked his behaviour, whereas the others feared. He confessed his crime by saying that he never entered into same home again. The document of inquiry included that assailant was a cannabis user, entered into people's homes which followed before, turned flashlight to the victim's face, cut heir underwears with razor, touched only, was not in a sexual intercourse and went away the home after taking their underwears. One of the victims was only under 18 years. The statements of victims made clear that no sexual intercourse took place. Victims said similar expressions to defendant's statements. A total of 26 criminal records which generally includes

robbery except sexual crimes were found. In psychiatric examination, a report was organized that there was no lack of intelligence or mental illness.

DISCUSSION

The literature pointed out that suspects of sexual assault are generally male, and from familiar environment(8-10). In the studies which was conducted in Turkey, most of assailants have also been reported to be a man from familiar environment(11-13). Those are mostly older than victims. Our case was currently an underage adolescent. These people tend to seek the elder opposite sex. Assailant processed women who planned his action previously for sexual purposes. However, performing attacks against unrecognized victims was not consistent with the literature. Therefore, sexual attack against people according to their specific beliefs is also an important point in this case. Findings showed that fancy of wearing no underwear of women who have this belief become an obsession for assailant. Likewise, question of "How do you know these women?" was directed towards him in the police station. The assailant answered that he recognized them from their faces.

In this case, absence of defendant's violence to victims and avoiding from sexual intercourse indicated that it was for women's underwear and his purpose was only satisfaction of curiosity. Because, he took their underwear to his home without entering sexual intercourse. When he was arrested, clothes of victims were obtained from defendant's home.

Absence of mental or psychological illness in psychiatric examination of assailant showed that defendant's purpose was only to eliminate desire of fetishism. We suggested that it was a phenomenon of fetishism, because case was male, and felt strong passion for women's underwear. Remarkable point was that his desire was only for women with a certain religious belief. Furthermore, another interesting feature of case was absence of sense of revenge or hate while doing this, and assault was carried out attacks in order to remove only his curiosity.

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