

UDC 343.1

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## THE SIGNIFICANCE OF PROFILING

### Introduction

Data and information have high significance in investigative work. Information takes investigation further forward and may establish crime analysis tasks. Crime analysis is a coordinated activity that focuses upon evaluating information and recognising the connection between them.

The 13/2001. (X.2.) ORFK directive about the issue of the Crime Analysis Rules of the Hungarian Republic divides crime analysis into two groups: strategic and operative crime analysis.

The directive differentiates crime analysis as follows:

*- Strategic crime analysis: a crime analysis activity that sets changes for longer terms and long term targets, defines reconnaissance recommendations and priorities by examining criminality as a whole or the participants, features, penetration, tendencies of certain crimes.*

*The forms of strategic crime analysis:*

*a, analysing crime sample,*

*b, general profile analysis,*

*c, analysing reconnaissance methods.*

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- *Operative crime analysis: an activity that deals with examining the data of criminal intelligence and the information- content of a certain case, and that may help with detecting unknown perpetrators, planning investigative activities and determining the tasks of criminal investigative work against criminals and criminal groups.*

*The forms of operative crime analysis:*

- a) case analysis,*
- b) comparative case analysis,*
- c) analysing groups of perpetrators,*
- d) specific profile analysis,*
- e) analysing investigation.*

In this study, specific profiling will be presented through a specific practical example.

Forming a hypothetic picture about the perpetrator of a crime is called profile analysis. It aims to describe the features of the perpetrator according to the obtained information. These features can be physical ones (e.g. height, strength), mental ones (e.g. education, chemistry skills) and emotional ones (e.g. likes children). The perpetrator can be described on the basis of the objects and tracks left at the crime scene, also evidences and other available data (technical statements, studying the victim, photos about the autopsy).

During the evaluation-analyst work the following questions must be answered:

- what is the perpetrator's personality like?
- how can we catch him/her?
- how can we cooperate with him/her the most (hearing technique).

This form of analysis may efficiently be used in case of crimes where the psyche or social status, culture of the perpetrator have a strong impact on motivation, on selecting the victim and on the method of perpetration.

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Its aims:

- the narrowest possible determination of the circle of perpetrators
- working out investigation strategy
- working out hearing strategy
- working out criminal investigation strategy.

In highlighted cases, mainly in especially serious cases, and where there are too few tracks left that give information about the perpetrator, specific profile analyst may be called to help. Specific profile analysis is mainly used in case of serial crimes, especially in case of murders or sexual crimes. The analyser may also need a psychologist expert.<sup>1</sup>

The basis of specific profiling is a computer program that currently includes about 2000 detected anti-life cases (about 1500 completed murders and about 700 attempted murders). During profiling, the data of the crime fixed in the program are compared with the data of the crime in question. The officer in charge has to fill in a questionnaire of 256 questions, regarding the crime.

The form asks for 256 pieces of information in the following distribution:

1-10 questions contain identification data,

11-70 questions want to know the victim's data,

71-120 questions ask for information about the circumstances and description of the crime,

121-146 questions for listing the victim's injuries,

147-165 contains the perpetrator's means and the motives of his act,

166-245 questions list the perpetrator's data.

From the established data the profiler creates the profile that describes the unknown perpetrator the most, determinates the possible motives of the case and the circumstances of the perpetration.

The profiler does not look for the answer to the fundamental question of forensics 'Who', but to the question 'What is it like', that is what the perpetrator

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could be like. (The profile helps answering the question 'What is it like', whereas answering the question 'Who' is the investigator's task.)

The determination of the perpetrator's personality as an independent set, significantly contributes to knowing a past event, to the effectiveness of the investigation.

In case of specific profiling, profilers build on their practical experience, furthermore, they comply the relevant data of the specific case (256 questions) with data in the database, considering that a similar crime is committed against a similar victim in a similar way by possibly similar perpetrators.<sup>2</sup>

The specific profile does not indicate a specific person, but, on one hand, the possible perpetrator, on the other hand, the presumed circumstances and motives of perpetration. The accuracy of completed profiles is over 80%, on the basis which, the Hungarian profile established at least 16 out of the 20 features, so the perpetrator was the type of person that the profile had indicated.

The profile is an aid or method during the investigation and appears as a hypothesis in a form of assumption, probability. Its result can be only a version during the investigation, that may add to the investigative plan or may modify it, furthermore it may lead to an investigative act, and later to applying a coercive measure as a chain process.

### **Description of a Case**

The significance of specific profile analysis and its utility will be presented through a case.

One day it was reported that there had been a double murder. According to the information, an old lady and a young woman were killed. The young woman stayed with the old lady temporarily. First the police wanted to know who the target person of the victims was, and that determined the direction of the investigation.

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There were several injuries on the victims, there were multiple knife cuts. According to the first data, the perpetrator did not steal anything. With regard to the crime, the police started to detect the case with great force.

Specific profiling was asked for in the case, and the questionnaire of 256 questions was filled in. The profiler viewed the scene, the inspection visit record and the forensic science opinions, then created the profile on the basis of the result of the computer program and of his own experience.

According to the profile, the perpetrator could be a local resident who knew the neighbourhood well. The perpetrator was a man of over about 31, 175 cms tall and heavier-built than the average. He lived in a troubled relationship, was married, had average intelligence, was a skilled worker and lived on casual labour. Furthermore, the profile indicated that the perpetrator's financial condition was average, lived in a detached house, and was possibly under the influence of alcohol when committing the crime. On the basis of the established data, the perpetrator had been possibly under treatment previously, or was under treatment at that time. In case of the old lady, the computer program indicated conflict solving and thirst for revenge as motives, and in case of the young woman, getting rid of her.

On the basis of the profile, the perpetrator did not arrive at the scene with the intention to kill, he might have been hurt in his self-esteem, and wanted to make the old lady silent when attacking her on her neck.

A cigarette butt was left at the scene which was assumed to belong to the perpetrator. Salvia sample was left on the butt which was suitable for DNA-identification.

The leader of the investigation had to determine whose sample to send for the identification first, from out of the (40-50) suspected people. The leader chose those who fitted into the profile the most. The biggest help was that the

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perpetrator was under psychiatric treatment, so on the basis of this, some people were filtered.

The requested person was among the first three samples sent for the identification. Profiling helped the investigation.<sup>4</sup>

Profiling may contribute to recognising and reducing certain hazards, and also to forming forensic thinking.

The result of profiling appears as a hypothesis during investigation, which serves reconnaissance first of all, but certain work done by versions may establish procedural acts, during which the obtained data appear in the taking of evidence.

### **Conclusion**

This study shows the efficiency of criminal investigation, especially the analysis of specific profile.

In this case, crime analysis is based on processed cases, considering the logical conclusion, assumption that similar crimes are committed against similar victims by similar perpetrators.

The Hungarian method that is built on database has passed the test, and it is also confirmed by the above mentioned case.

In most cases, the profiler's help is used in case of murders. The system is also suitable for making a profile in case of other violent crimes.

Furthermore, the database may also be used in case of identified perpetrators, and in that case the data and certain features of the identified person are entered into the system and compared with about 2000 cases. The result, as a hypothesis, indicates how a certain person would commit a murder or a violent crime against what victim. If, according to the result of the profile, the perpetrator did not kill a person who is similar to the victim, it would provide a basis for scepticism whether it was the suspect who committed the crime.

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Profile is also called to help in case of missing people, and according to the profile, it may be assumed whether a crime has been committed against the missing person or not.

The result of the profile can also be used as a tactical element during the interrogation.

Further applications may be the polygraph test. The suspect's evidence and the witness' evidence – except witnesses under 18- can be examined with using the polygraph, in case of their consent. If the defendant's and the witness' evidence are examined by polygraph, applying a consultant is compulsory. A juvenile defendant's evidence must not be examined by polygraph.

The result of the profile as a version can be used in several ways. However, the completed profile must not be used as an evidence, but only as a version, as an opinion.

On the basis of the cases, the profile has passed the test, but the system needs continuous improvement and data expansion.

It would be important to organise continuous trainings from national and international point of view, as criminality may also cross the borders when opening the borders inside the EU. Within the frame of international conferences, sharing professional and practical experiences and ensuring gradual cooperation are needed.

Modern technical life requires improving knowledge and sharing international experiences during investigation.

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*Nitрай E.*

### *Значення профілювання*

Це дослідження розглядає значимість і сенс існування угорського спеціального профілювання під час розслідування, яке представлено через приклади з практики. Структура угорського спеціального профілювання включена в процес аналізу злочинності, детально описано її використання в якості версії.

**Ключові слова:** аналіз злочину, анкета, версія, розслідування, поліграф.

*Nитрай E.*

### *Значение профилирования*

Это исследование рассматривает значимость и смысл существования венгерского специального профилирования в ходе расследования, которое представлено через примеры из практики. Структура венгерского специального профилирования включена в процесс анализа преступности, подробно описано ее использование в качестве версии.

**Ключевые слова:** анализ преступления, анкета, версия, расследование, полиграф.



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*The significance of profiling*

This study discusses the significance and raison d'être of Hungarian specific profiling during investigation, which is presented through a case. The structure of the Hungarian specific profiling is placed into the crime analysis process, and its usage as a version is described together with the options.

**Key words:** crime analysis, profile, version, investigation, poligraph.

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