

CRIME TIME

FUN FACT

Venezuela has a crime index of **84.36**, the highest of any country in the world.

Life of Ted Bundy : the Infamous Serial Killer

THE SMOOTH CRIMINAL

By: Charlene Weiss, Reuters

Ted Bundy was born on November 24, 1946 in Burlington, Vermont and grew up to be a charming, articulate, and intelligent young man. However, by the time he was a teenager living in Washington, Bundy already exhibited signs of the sadistic serial killer he would become.

In interviews he recalled being antisocial and wandering the streets looking for discarded pornography or open windows through which he could spy on unsuspecting women; he also had an extensive juvenile record for theft that was dismissed when he turned 18. By 1972 he had graduated college and showed great promise in a career in law or politics. That career would be cut short though when he discovered his true passion, viciously assaulting his earliest confirmed victim in 1974.

He tended to prey on young and attractive college women, first near his home in Washington, then moving east to Utah, Colorado, and finally in Florida. Bundy would prey on these women with a ruse, often wearing his arm in a sling or his leg in a fake cast and walking on crutches. He would then use his charm and faked disability to convince his victims to help him carry books or unload objects from his car. He was also known to impersonate authority figures, such as police officers and firefighters, to gain victims' trust before he

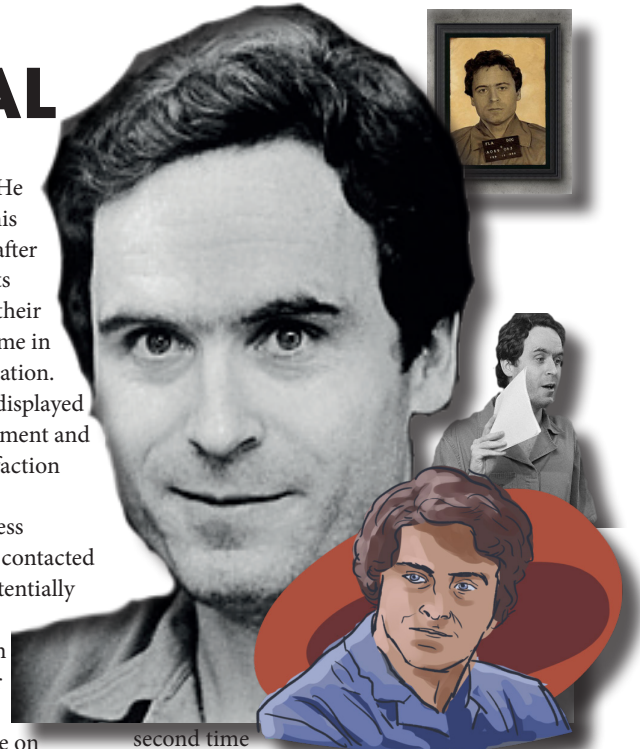
Bundy was able to rape and murder scores of women this way. He typically strangled or bludgeoned his victims as well as mutilating them after death. He then prolonged the events by returning to visit the corpses at their dump sites or even taking them home in order to gain further sexual gratification. In some cases, he even shockingly displayed their decapitated heads in his apartment and slept with their corpses until putrefaction made it unbearable.

As body counts rose and witness descriptions spread, several people contacted authorities to report Bundy as a potentially matching suspect. However, police consistently ruled him out based on his seemingly upstanding character and clean-cut appearance. Bundy was finally arrested for the first time on August 16, 1975, in Utah after fleeing from a patrol car. A search of the vehicle yielded masks, handcuffs, rope, and other nefarious items, but nothing definitively linking him to the crimes. He was released but remained under constant surveillance, until he was arrested again for the kidnapping and assault of one of his victims several months later. Bundy escaped custody a year later after being transferred from Utah to Colorado for another trial but was recaptured within a week.

He then managed to escape a

second time

on December 30, 1977, at which point he was able to reach Florida and resume his killing spree. He raped or murdered at least six more victims, five of them Florida State University students, before he was apprehended again for a traffic violation on February 15, 1978. He was finally sentenced to death and died in the electric chair on January 24, 1989. At the time of his execution, Bundy had confessed to 30 murders, though the actual number of his victims remains unknown.



True crime documentaries to watch in 2021

The pandemic is leaving us with a lot of spare time in our hands. A good true-crime documentary will surely help us rack up our brains. These are few of the documentaries.

1. *The Ripper* (Netflix)

The Ripper came out in December of 2020. The four-part miniseries investigates a serial killer (known as the Yorkshire Ripper) who took the lives of 13 women in West Yorkshire and Manchester from 1975 through 1980.



2. *Murder Among the Mormons* (Netflix)

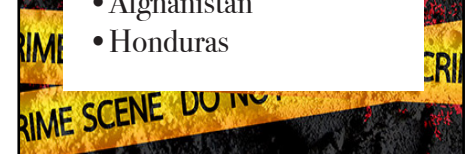
This docuseries focuses on Mark Hoffman's creation of fraudulent documents for the Latter Day Saint movement and the subsequent murders he committed when the ruse went sour.



By: Raina Shenoj
CT

Top 5 countries with highest crime index

- Venezuela
- Papua New Guinea
- South Africa
- Afghanistan
- Honduras



Welcome to South Africa's Republic of Sexual Abuse

Johannesburg has its own currency, passports and a blood-stained map, but this is no ordinary country. Welcome to the Republic of Sexual Abuse, the creation of a group of campaigners in South Africa, where a woman is murdered every three hours.

The fictional country is the centrepiece of an exhibition held in a Johannesburg mall that seeks to raise awareness of South Africa's high levels of violence against women - and inspire action against it.

It was thought up by Roanna Williams, executive creative director of the advertising agency Black River FC, after she saw women protesting against the violence from her office window.

"Most women in South Africa have a story of sexual abuse," said Williams at the exhibition, which opened on Nov. 26 to coincide with the United Nations' 16 days of activism campaign against gender-based violence.

"We are not just trying to shock, we are showing that this is everyone's problem and we all need to act, not just during 16 Days of Activism, but 365 days of the year."

Recent murders, rapes and kidnappings

of South African women sparked mass protests in September where women called for justice for rape survivors.

Soon after, President Cyril Ramaphosa announced a five-point plan to tackle violence against women, including media campaigns, strengthening the criminal justice system, and providing training for healthcare workers and counsellors.

The exhibition, run together with women's rights group People Opposing Women Abuse (POWA), includes a huge red map painted in fake blood with all the excuses men use to rape women - including "I was drunk".

At the back of the exhibition, a warning sign marks the entrance to a bedroom where blood stained sheets hide behind a curtain. Recordings of cries and slaps fill the room.

"This room is where reality kicks in for people in the exhibition," said Patricia Naha, a volunteer and counsellor with POWA, adding it showed women were not safe anywhere.



About 3,000 women in South Africa were murdered in 2018 - one every three hours and more than five times higher than the global average, according to the World Health Organization.

The number of recorded murders of women went up 11% between 2017 and 2018. A video advertising South Africa as a tourist destination is played on repeat, with images of the country overlaid with jarring narration about sexual violence.

"Retreat to the spectacular bushveld," a voice is heard saying over a video of zebra running through a national park. "Where women are dumped after being murdered," the sentence continues.

Some men visiting the exhibition get defensive, said Clayton Swartz, Black River FC's art director, but many leave taking pamphlets and asking how they can help.

"I am proud to be South African, but not with these rape stats,"
-Swartz.

By: Jumaila Sheikh

BIGGEST HEIST TO HIT BAGHDAD

a whopping \$282 million dollars were stolen from The Dar Es Salaam Investment Bank in Baghdad making this one of the biggest heists in the world

The largest bank robbery took place on 11 July 2007 at the Dar es Salaam Investment Bank in Baghdad, Iraq. The theft was reportedly an inside job, with two (or perhaps three, reports vary) of the bank's security guards involved. The thieves made off with \$282 million in US Dollars and 220 million Iraqi Dinars (worth around \$173,000 at the time).

As this robbery took place during the Iraqi Civil War (2006–2008), the resources and reach of the Iraqi police were severely constrained and no-one seems to have ever been charged. It is likely that the guards were either working for or with one of the sectarian militias active in Baghdad at the time.

The biggest unanswered question, however, is how a relatively small private bank came to have \$282 million US Dollars in cash. Reports immediately suspected a link between the cash, Iraqi Government corruption, poor financial management on the part of the Coalition Provisional Authority (who famously shipped in more

than 300 tons of cash during the first few months of the occupation) and the sectarian militias that filled the power vacuum in post-invasion Iraq. As a consequence of these politically difficult questions, there seems to have been little appetite to get to the bottom of this case.

The Dar Es Salaam Bank (which was 70% owned by HSBC between 2005 and 2013) remained in business for more than a decade after the heist, but seems to have shut down in 2018. Its last financial statements were submitted to the Iraqi Securities and Exchange Commission in Q2 2018.

The history of this category is complicated by the fact that many of the largest thefts in history have been carried out by heads of state against the banking systems of their own countries. In many cases, such as Saddam Hussein's removal of \$920 million in cash reserves from the Iraqi Central Bank on 18 March 2003, this action isn't technically illegal as it was carried out by an absolute ruler unfettered by the rule of law.

By: Ananya Jahuri, ANI

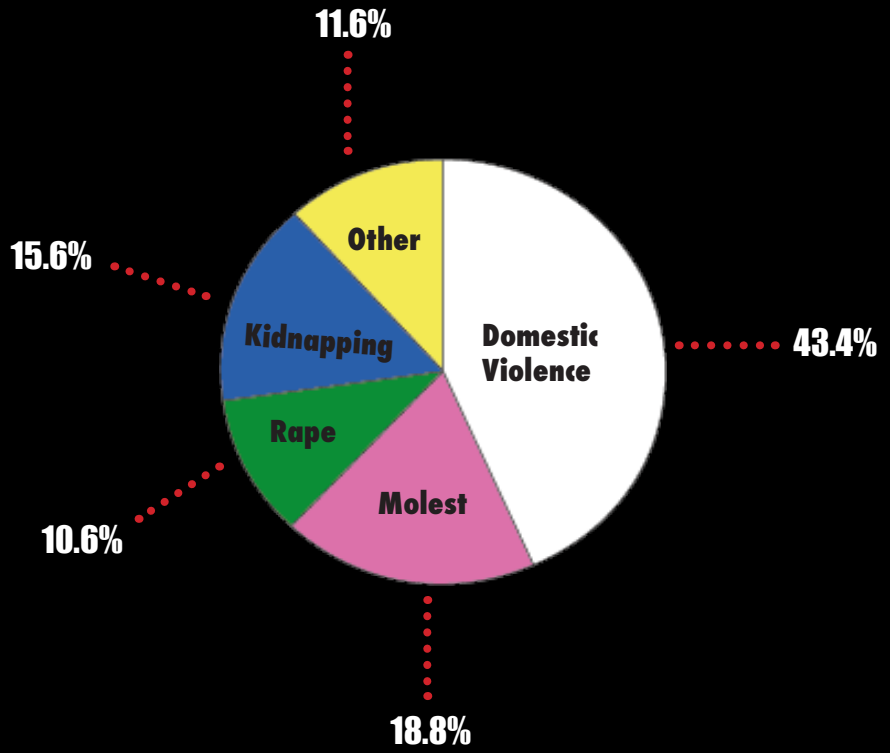
Edited, printed and published by Avantika Vital for Xavier Institute of Communications, St. Xavier's College, Mahapalika Marg, Mumbai 400 001, website: www.xaviercomm.org (for private circulation only)



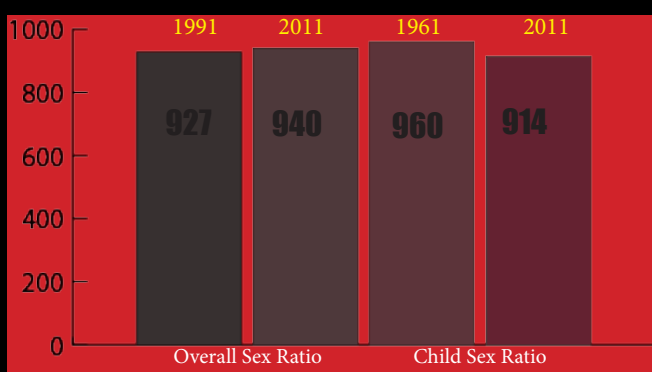
Crimes against women in India

India ranks **2nd** in the world for crimes committed against women

- one rape every **22 minutes**
- Dowry death every **1 Hour**
- Every 1 Hour **4 Kidnapped**



FEMALE FOETICIDE AND INFANTICIDE



The overall sex ratio in India has been improving since 1991. But, the Child sex ratio has been unabated since 1961.

CRIME AGAINST FEMALE MINORS

% value of top 5 states in crime against female minors				
Uttar Pradesh	Madhya Pradesh	Delhi	Maharashtra	Bihar
16.6	13.2	12.8	10.2	6.7

- 32,256** Children Kidnapped
- 15,220** Girls below 13 raped
- 2,368** Abused & Murdered
- 13,980** Other Crimes