

The Moors Murders

The crimes of Myra Hindley and Ian Brady were one of the most atrocious in England's history, and till this day their crimes strike horror and disgust towards people. Myra Hindley and Ian Brady were a couple that committed crimes against children in England from 1963-1964. They are known as "The Moor's Murders" because of the location the couple decided to bury and, in some cases, attack their victims in which was in Saddleworth Moor, Northwest England. These two "met in Manchester in 1961, Myra Hindley quickly became infatuated with Brady, a self-styled Nazi, who had a substantial library of Nazi literature and an obsession with sadistic sex." These two were truly horrible, they fulfilled their sick desires by kidnapping and torturing kids, in total they claimed a total of 5 victims. "Their first victim was 16-year-old Pauline Reade, who vanished on the way to a disco near her home in Gorton, Manchester, on the 12th of July 1963." After this was 12-year-old John Kilbride who was abducted and killed 4 months after Pauline. Following that, there was a brief period until "June 1964 when the sadistic couple took 12-year-old Keith Bennett as their third victim." The fourth victim was the youngest of them all, 10-year-old Lesley Ann Downey, her along with the previous victims were all buried in the moors. Lastly came 17-year-old Edward Evans, whose body was found in the couples They were caught by Hindley's brother-in-law David Smith; he had witnessed Ian Brady attack and kill Edward Evans. David Smith gave his account of events which were as follows, "When I ran in, I just stood inside the living room, and I saw a young lad. He was lying with his head and shoulders on the couch and his legs were on the floor. He was facing upwards. Ian was standing over him, facing him, with his legs on either side of the young lad's legs. The lad was still screaming... Ian had a hatchet in his hand... he was holding it above his head, and he hit the lad on the left side of his head with the hatchet. I heard the blow, it was a terrible hard blow, it sounded horrible."

Throughout the course of the murders, it is mentioned that “over the years, Brady had attempted to deprave the teenager and had been trying to groom him as a partner-in-crime.” This couple tried to involve Smith and believed he would aid them and keep it concealed, but it was not at all like that. He aided in the cleaning up of the murder out of fear for his life, he fled as soon as he could and called the police to confess it all. For a while they refused to speak and denied doing anything, the police eventually found it all, more specifically two suitcases that contained all the information and plans of the murders. “Stuffed inside the suitcases were pornographic photographs of Lesley as well as the audio recording of her murder. In a notebook written in Brady’s handwriting, they also found the name 'John Kilbride' scribbled down as well as handwritten plans on how to dispose of Edward’s body on Saddleworth Moor.” When it came time to present the audio recording in court it was a horrifying site, it is described as “the grim tape that reduced even the most seasoned police officers to tears. For its 16 minutes, the people in the courtroom sat still and silent.” It is said that the jurors heard “voices of a man and a woman, and also of a girl, believed to be Lesley, crying out for her mother and asking God to help her before she was killed.” Along with this evidence were photos containing Hindley posing on top or near the burials of the kids, which was sick and twisted. The couple was found guilty and sentenced to life in person, Hindley tried to state that “her role in the killings was to abduct the children and that she had not taken part in the murders or sexual assaults. She was charged in the murders of Edward Evans and Lesley Ann Downey, and as an accessory in the murder of John Kilbride.” While Ian Brady was charged with all the murders, the story continues with news of Hindley having an affair with one of the guards in the prison. Soon after Hindley died at the age of 60 in 2002, and Brady died at the age of 79 in 2017.

How Ian Brady and Myra Hindley, the Moors Murderers were caught

<https://www.crimeandinvestigation.co.uk/article/how-ian-brady-and-myra-hindley-the-moors-murderers-were-caught>

The Moors Murderers begin their killing spree

<https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/the-moors-murderers-begin-their-killing-spreed>

The Moors Murders: A Notorious Couple and Their Young Prey

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/05/17/world/europe/moors-murders-ian-brady-myra-hindley-victims.html>