

Gypsy Rose

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In this paper, we'll delve into the complex and harrowing case of Gypsy Rose Blanchard, whose story of victimization and eventual violence captivated the nation. We will apply Agnew's general strain theory to understand the psychological and environmental pressures that led to the crime. By examining the strains Gypsy experienced, including severe parental abuse, medical coercion, and psychological manipulation, we will explore how these factors may have contributed to her decision to commit matricide. Also I'll analyze the relationship between strain and criminal behavior, shedding light on the potential for extreme stressors to push individuals towards deviance as a means of escape and freedom.

This is a story about a woman named Gypsy Rose. She did something very bad to her mom, Dee Dee, a long time ago. Gypsy's mom told everyone that Gypsy was very sick with many different health problems. But it wasn't true. Gypsy's mom was actually making her seem sick so that she could get attention and special things for taking care of her. After a series of tumultuous events, Gypsy finally unraveled the hidden truth, leading her to conspire with her devoted partner, Nicholas Godejohn, to meticulously orchestrate and execute the unthinkable act of eliminating her very own mother. This particular case is truly heart-wrenching as it delves deeply into the intricate web of abuse, deceit, and the perplexing dynamics within the legal system, especially in instances where victims themselves morph into perpetrators. After accepting a plea deal for the charge of second-degree murder, Gypsy was handed a 10-year prison sentence by the court. The legal system punished Gypsy for causing someone's death by saying she was partly responsible for it. The legal system punished Gypsy for causing someone's death by saying she was partly responsible for it. It's a tricky situation because her mom was mean and made her do things that now affect how she acts. This situation made people wonder if the justice system treats people who are being hurt and do something very extreme to get away from the hurting a fair way. Gypsy Rose's case is

like a big puzzle. There are lots of different parts to it that all fit together. It's about someone tricking and controlling another person, and that person trying to escape from a bad situation. Her case is really complicated and sad. It's like a big mess of lies and trickery that ended in something really surprising. This story shows how some people can be mean and hurt others. It also shows how someone might do anything they can to escape from this bad situation. It's a story that makes you think about how people's relationships with each other can change, and how hard things that happen to someone can affect them. This story makes you think about how people's friendships can change and how difficult experiences can impact someone. There's been a lot of talk about her possibly getting out of prison early for good behavior. Gypsy Rose was released from prison on December 28 of last year, starting her new life as a girlfriend and new beginnings in her new chapter. When she was released they went with her to buy clothes, a phone, some shoes and any other little things that she was in need of. They also got her a hotel room that she could stay in for a couple of days until she got situated and found a comfortable place. They also made her an Instagram platform where she reached a lot of followers and subscribers that were interested in her story and her background.

The theory I will be applying for my case is Agnew's General strain theory. I choose that theory because it fits best for the case that I'm writing about which is the Gypsy Rose case. The General strain theory explains how people feel emotional strains that cause them to commit crimes and when individuals experience strain or stress that they can't handle in a legal way, they may turn it into criminal behavior. In this case the intense emotional burden inflicted by her mother's manipulative behavior, as she pretended that gypsy was sick, pushed her to the point where she believed the only means of escape was to partake in murder, even if it meant her boyfriend carried out the actual act. Gypsy Rose was dealing with a ton of stress from her mom, like extreme control and Munchausen by proxy, which is a totally good

fit with Agnew's theory. She might have seen killing her mom as the only way out of her situation and an only way out from that toxic dangerous household. In her case she had been subjected to years of emotional and physical abuse by her mother. This strain created a toxic and oppressive environment for Gypsy. Gypsy felt like she was stuck and couldn't do anything to change her situation, which made her very sad and scared. The constant control and manipulation she endured most likely caused immense psychological distress. When she was young she was going through so much, in 2011 Gypsy tried to get away from her mother by running away with a guy she met online. When her mom found out that she wasn't in the house she smashed Gypsy computer and when she returned home she physically restrained her to her bed, gypsy also stated that her mother would sometimes deny her food and hit her... She was 19 years old at the time going through so much with her mother and her health as well. Gypsy eventually managed to get back online and she joined a christian dating site and that's where she met Nicholas Godejohn who was the man who murdered Dee Dee Gypsy's mother. She told him the truth and everything that was going on with her and her mother and ended up telling Nicholas to kill her mother so that they can be together. Later in June 2015 he went to gypsy's house and stabbed Dee Dee while gypsy was waiting inside the restroom while she was waiting she had her ears covered. She most likely didn't want to hear the tragic incident that was just about to happen right outside... Agnew's theory helps explain why someone in Gypsy's position might turn to such drastic measures when feeling overwhelmingly trapped and desperate.

The case I picked for step 1 was the Gypsy Rose Blanchard case. I chose that case because it was very interesting and I wanted to know and dig deeper into that case. The Gypsy Rose case is a really intense story. Gypsy Rose Blanchard was a girl who was believed to be seriously ill with multiple diseases, but it turned out her mother, Dee Dee Blanchard, had been faking Gypsy's symptoms for years, a situation known as Munchausen syndrome by

proxy. Gypsy, realizing she wasn't actually sick, and after years of psychological abuse, conspired with her boyfriend, Nicholas Godejohn, to kill her mother. They did, and both Gypsy and Nicholas were found guilty. Gypsy received a 10-year prison sentence, and Nicholas received a life sentence. The case raises a lot of questions about victimhood and the criminal justice system. The Agnew strain theory, which I chose to describe the Gypsy Rose case in step 2, focuses on how strain or stress can lead to criminal behavior. According to Agnew's strain theory, individuals experience strain when they face negative experiences or are unable to achieve their goals. In Gypsy Rose's case, she experienced significant strain due to her mother's manipulation and abuse, as well as the constant deception surrounding her supposed illnesses. This strain, combined with her desire for freedom and escape from her oppressive situation, may have influenced her decision to conspire to kill her mother. The Agnew strain theory helps us understand how the strain Gypsy experienced could have played a role in her involvement in deviant behavior. Based on the Agnew strain theory, we can analyze the motivations of the perpetrator in the Gypsy Rose case. Gypsy Rose Blanchard experienced significant strain in her life due to her mother's manipulation and abuse. Her mother's actions created a sense of frustration, anger, and a desire for escape. Gypsy's inability to achieve her own goals and desires, coupled with the constant deception surrounding her health, contributed to the strain she experienced. This strain, combined with her longing for freedom and independence, may have motivated her to conspire with her boyfriend to kill her mother. The Agnew strain theory helps us understand how the accumulation of strain can lead individuals to engage in deviant behavior as a means of coping or seeking relief.

. In conclusion, this case illustrates how Agnew's General Strain Theory can be applied, as Gypsy experienced strains through the abuse and control exerted by her mother, leading to a negative/ depressed emotional response and eventually, deviance. The immense

pressure and lack of coping mechanisms to deal with her mother's Munchausen by Proxy led Gypsy to see crime as a means of escape, participating in the murder of her mother as a way to end her suffering. This case serves as a stark reminder of the complexities of human behavior and the dire need for early intervention in abusive situations to prevent such tragic outcomes.

References

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