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# **They Called Him The Killer Clown: But Is JW Gacy a Mass Murderer or Another Victim?**

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## **Questionable Conviction**

John Wayne Gacy, convicted in 1980 of killing 33 men and boys, raises a number of provocative questions regarding his alleged crimes. An extensive study of over 15,000 pages of official records and transcripts leads to the conclusion that if you could take all of the facts and transcripts and feed them into a computer along with all of the Illinois laws, his conviction would be reversed.

## **Improper Confessions**

Police claimed to have five separate statements from Gacy confessing to crimes. Yet none of these so-called confessions are signed. Three of them were taken orally and written up days later from memory and without notes. All of these statements were written by police in a self-serving manner.

## **Manner of Killing**

Police claimed Gacy strangled

all victims with a rope. However, Dr. Robert Stein, Cook County Medical Examiner, testified at trial that six deaths were caused by ligature strangulation, 13 by suffocation, one by stabbing, one by manual strangulation, and 10 undetermined.

## **River Victims**

The cause of death of the two victims recovered from the river were listed on death certificates as unnatural drownings. The state claimed these were strangulations. However the Forensic Pathologist stated that for both victims, the neck area and the entire body were *atraumatic*, showing no evidence of injury that may have caused death.

## **Time Period**

Gacy owned the house in Des Plaines for seven years. The state claims that the victims were killed and buried under the house over a six-year period, with most during the last four



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## **FBI Criticizes Investigation**

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*Special Agent Robert Ressler of the FBI's National Center for the Analysis of Violent Crime stated that Des Plaines police "did a sloppy job" of their investigation into Gacy's 33 alleged murders.*

*After focusing their investigation on Gacy, police failed to fully examine three other suspects. Nor did they correlate the disappearance of victims with Gacy's presence in Des Plaines.*

years. Yet an expert from the Cook County Sheriff's office testified that the bodies could have been there anywhere from six months to ten years or longer. Anthropologists were never used to scientifically determine the actual length of time the bodies were buried.

employee who was believed to be involved disappeared and has never been found.

#### *Records Destroyed*

Gacy's work as a building contractor took him to 14 states, and in at least 16 cases, he was out of Cook County when the victims disappeared. This infor-

Only six were positively identified; identification of the rest was only tentative. Nine are buried in common graves with no identification at all. None of the families of identified victims received the entire bodies. The heads and hands were cut off and saved by the medical examiner's office.

## ***The question is, if Gacy was out of town when those murders were committed, then who did commit the murders?***

#### *Victim Connection*

During nearly six weeks of trial, not one witness placed Gacy with any of the victims before, during or after the crime. The fact that Gacy owned or rented out the property does not necessarily mean he was the person who committed the crime or put the victims at that house.

#### *Access to House*

The house rented to PDM Contractors had 12 keys, many of which were held by employees with access to the property at all times. Keys to all vehicles and other business properties were similarly available to PDM employees. Two employees who had keys were given lie detector tests and failed them. Another

mation was suppressed at trial, and Gacy's business records documenting his absence from Chicago were destroyed by Cook County Sheriffs and the State's Attorney.

#### *Drugs and Liquor*

The State claimed that no drugs were found in Gacy's home. However, large quantities of Valium, Placidyl, Preludin and other drugs were removed from the house without being inventoried on the search warrants. The same is true with over 200 bottles of liquor and over 25 cases of beer.

#### *Victim Identity*

Nineteen of the victims were known to be male prostitutes.

#### *Improper Procedures*

On December 13, 1978, Gacy was illegally detained and abused by police for nine hours, and denied an attorney. On December 22, he was illegally arrested on a drug charge, kidnapped and brought to the police station. In June of 1979, Gacy was questioned for over three hours under the influence of truth serum. The results showed that he didn't know any more about the crimes than he had already mentioned. In August of 1979, defense investigators who had turned up evidence pointing to the involvement of others were dismissed.