Escalation From Fetish Burglaries to Sexual Offending: A Case Study of Col. Russell Williams

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Background

Determining the pattern of offence escalation can be an important investigative tool for police agencies (Beauregard, 2010). Offence escalation is typically characterized by an increase in offence frequency and offence seriousness (Lui et al., 2011). Quantitative research in the area of offence escalation has lacked development, owing to the challenging nature of measuring crime seriousness and escalation trajectories (Lui et al., 2011). This paper explores offending through a case study of former-Colonel Russell Williams due to the large amount of detail recorded for each offence.

### Clusters x Life Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clusters</th>
<th>Life Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Exploratory</td>
<td>Never</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Quickening</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Plateau</td>
<td>46.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Deterioration</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Offence Progression

#### Exploratory Phase
- Pictures Taken x Cluster
  - $F(3,78) = 7.561, p < .001$

#### Quickening Phase
- Pictures Taken x Cluster
  - Mean time in house
  - Mean clothing stolen
  - Child Present
  - Masturbation
  - Method of entry
  - Interrupted
  - Repeat victimized

#### Plateau Phase
- Method of entry
- Interrupted
- Repeat victimized

#### Deterioration Phase
- Method of entry
- Interrupted
- Repeat victimized

### References
