Chapter 13

Limitation and future scope
The forensic psychological profiling does not have “recipe” or secret formula for bringing the behavioural perceptions to life in the context of investigation. It requires understanding of human behaviour, background of extensive criminal investigative experience, coupled with proper academic and forensic training. The crimes which needs the psychological, social, cultural and psychopathology assessment are appropriate for profiling; ie. serial killer, rapist, arsonists, child molestation (Hazelwood & Burgee, 1995).

The forensic psychological profiling will not solve the crime but it provides better understanding of the offender which helps the investigator to detect crime; not all crimes are fit for profiling for example.; an assault/murder during the commission of robbery or drug induced criminal which does not reveal the true personality of the criminal.

The forensic psychology report is taken with serious considerations by the investigating agencies and judiciary, under such circumstances, an erroneous psychological profile will lead to severe consequences and therefore, the forensic expert needs to have strong investigative and psycho-analytical skill along with the ability to understand and comprehend the crime scene, police records, forensic reports and the interpretation of psychological tests and techniques to develop a meaningful psychological profile. The self- acclaimed profiles often harm rather than help an investigation (Nordy.J.J, James. H et al; 2005).

The data collected had limited enquiry about the description of the drawing on the test. The fine details like the enquiry about the person drawn, the past, present and future related to the drawing, the suspect’s mood at the time of drawing, the focus or absence of body part, the position of the paper during drawing, his sequential
preference while drawing the body parts and his/ her thoughts and feelings expressed at the time of drawing were not recorded. No specific interpretation manual was followed by the expert, the reports were based on the expert’s professional experience and acumen. The other documents like FIR, postmortem report, FSL report were unavailable in some of the documents as the reporting officer had deposited with the court of law at the time of court evidence.

The use of projective test in clinical or forensic situation is always rewarding. The suspect gives subtle and underlying information about his aspirations, failures, intentions, motives and unexpressed feelings. This is considered to be one of the best ice breaking technique for resistant and non-cooperative suspects. The findings on the reliability and objectivity of the test are the major areas of study which will make it a scientific test. For the standardization of the test, the study of correlation to DAP test with other psychological test may widen the scope of study. An attempt to develop a module for interpretation (consisting of observation, scoring and enquiry) of DAP test in forensic set up, which will make the analysis an easy exercise.

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