Facet theory and criminal types of robbery offender

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The facet theory and the Radex model are an alternative to classical classification models and they are widely used in recent research on offender profiling. Variation between criminals has two facets. One is the facet of specificity, moving from the general shared by all offences and therefore conceptually in the middle, to the specific at the periphery. The other is the thematic facet, which distinguishes between the different qualities of offences, conceptually radiating around the core. Differences between people and crimes can be combined in a hierarchical model, such as in Alison's research, which is uniquely for robbery offenders. One central research question is to identify the behaviourally important facets of offences. These facets are of most use in revealing the salient psychological processes inherent in offences and are often also of value in helping to answer questions posed by investigators.

Key words: robbery offenders, psychological profiling, criminal type, facet theory, Radex model

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