On a Case of Matricide: Forensic and Psychopathological Analysis

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The relationship between mother and son puts matricide among the most morally reprehensible crimes. Common sense often assimilates it to mental pathology. This may be misleading for the judgment on offender's imputability. The paper proposes a case of matricide. The author is an addict with previous complaints of violence against the mother. Forensic investigations revealed the mechanisms that led the victim to death. Forensic-psychiatric assessment on the offender excluded a habit of mind. Through autopsy findings and appropriate forensic survey it was possible to understand the crime dynamics, the criminogenesis and the psychodynamics, providing scientific evidence to the Judicial Authority.