

HSP 3MI

Article Analysis : "Is Karla Fit to be a Mother?"

As we continue to learn about psychopathic behaviour, we are introduced to more case studies of people who fit the profile of a psychopath. Upon the release of convicted killer, Karla Homolka in 2005, many questions arose surrounding her future and the realities of a successful rehabilitation. The following questions are meant to act as a guide to your reading of the article about this woman. Please read and answer the questions for homework. Come to class prepared for a discussion on the controversial issues in the article. Keep in mind the different perspectives on her diagnosis.

1. For what crimes was Karla/Leanne convicted?
2. Do you believe that a psychopath is fit to bear and raise children?
3. Do you believe Karla's/Leanne's risk of re-offending is high or low?
Why?
4. What did the psychiatric reports reveal about her character and predictions for her future? Do you feel this is a valid explanation?
5. What did Dr. Angus MacDonald conclude?
6. Is there evidence to suggest that Karla's/Leanne's child is in danger?
7. Do you believe that a "psychopath" can heal and have a normal family life?