

THE VICTIMS OF BAD BOYS. WHY DOES EVIL FASCINATES SO MUCH? GUILTY OR INNOCENT VICTIMS

Salah-Eddine Abbassi

My passion for criminology arose from my personal experience and was developed by the dialogue between professionals and by empirical and scientific investigation. A known fact is that theory, practice and dialogue are three indispensable tools to understand and manage the discipline and subject in question.

The two authors Jean Audet et Jean François Katz kept my mind busy with their work «Précis de victimologie générale» considered as the bible of criminology.

«Sometimes there are victims who seem to be the artist of their own misery and suffer of the syndrome known as the « failure syndrome» furthermore there is an existence of unlucky events which reproduce themselves in a repeated way as if they are imposed by an external fate which allows to describe the nervous disease of fate». This question finds its roots in the works Benjamin Mendelshon (a criminal lawyer considered by some people as the founder of victimology, 1937). Mendelsohn starts to wonder why the focus lies on the guilty ones and never on the victims in the trial. He also wondered what the role of a victim in the realization of a crime was.

Other researchers occupied with the same questions talk about the victim of fate. When we will talk to you about some authentic cases which crossed our path. These cases which we are about to discuss about are not really similar to the Stockholm syndrome as some like to think.

Even though different situations are to be distinguished, we are sometimes surprised to see a young girl or woman with a boyfriend/husband known as a Bad boy. These (young) men are defined as bad boys because of their delinquent past or by his every day deviant behavior. We are surprised to see these girls/women in such a situation because we thought to know her by her education, her passive past, her profession, her intellectual degree, her social origin... etc

It seems when we give these women some good advice we get in return ungrateful even hostile reactions. They turn to us to find a refuge and ask help because they suffer from violence of «Bad boy». They seem to be a victim. Because of that and other reasons our goal to investigate with our focus on that angle but also to describe this phenomenon.

Which is really surprising is that that the woman in different cases can be the source of this evil even more than the man himself. She even seems to play the role of victim. We recommend a book which is based on these experiences and conduct some theories about this matter. This book is written Anne POIRET and is titled *l'ultime Tabou*.

We can ask ourselves a first question about these reflections. This question is: what do we understand under Bad boys? what we also should consider is : why do certain women find some

attraction in these bad boys and why are they so fascinated by this «bad behavior»? are they really victims? what does the law and psycho criminology stipulate?

What do we generally understand under Bad boy's? their ages is different they are men with a passion of fashion of crimes, they had a past of delinquency. Their prides is distinguished by their deviant behavior of breaking the law and standards. They seem to be proud of the fact that they did time in prison and they don't forget to mention this in every conversation. Their criminal libido is nourished by the existence of fans, they feed on the echo of their words and their admiration. It seems for easier for them to steal then to work. They are born and attracted to violence and manipulation of vulnerable people, under them girls fascinated by this type of phenomenon.

These bad boys produce in their criminal career victims which actually suffer under their criminal conduct. They seem to feel hatred and contempt against these bad boys. But some their victims do not share the same feelings as the them ! these victims (women) are not disorganized or chaotic, more in the opposite they had a good social and familial situation. Their fascination of these bad boys is found in something else. They adore criminal behavior when they have other victims than themselves and they can be spectators. They are almost morbid sightseers. They see this tragedy as a life full of action, they have a dramatic and Hollywoodian vision of this behavior.

It's a mix of false confidence and feelings of sympathy for this Bad boy, which evolves in an downward evolution of deviant behavior of this bad boy.

Where comes this fascination and admiration from? to investigate this problem let's describe a testimony of a young girl who was attracted to these bad boys: «A couple of years ago I met a man who asked me to drink a cup of coffee with him. I have to say at first sight it seemed very corny and I wasn't physically attracted to him at all. I accepted the invitation because this man seemed very nice. Now, with hindsight and now aware of the manipulations he used in this relationship I have to confess I stayed with this man for about 2 years. At this first date, it seemed to be just a conversation between two people, he interrogates me about my perception of the world, my life, my family, my work, love, my hobbies... etc I was very open with him, because I felt at ease and he was easy to confide in, I didn't feel any distrust. It was like he was my soul mate, the person I waited for all my life; But he actually adapted my characteristics to his profile, which wasn't too difficult because I already told him my perception of everything and view of the world. I was completely dazed, but it worked because he knew exactly what to say, he was a real smooth operator. I instantly and absolutely adored him. I saw him as a true man, a protector, he was afraid of nothing, he was ambitious, he was seductive, intelligent,... he seduced me, he was played the role of prince charming. I immediately fell in love with him, I was captured by his passion, his joie de vivre, he made me feel like I was alive again., without any fear, limits. I was proud to have such a "manly" man. He was afraid of nothing and nobody, he had such a huge confidence. He was a very charming man and used his charms on his environment, that's also the reason why everybody appreciated him so much and why he didn't have a bad image. He was really a people pleaser and could charm everybody. Those first weeks were magical, I love him more than life even though I didn't know exactly what he did in with his life he was very vague about his own life, he had

numerousness telephone calls, but I never knew who called him and I heard how he easily manipulated and turned the conversation around but at the same time I didn't want to believe he could be like that, I closed my eyes for the truth. Little by little he changed me and my beliefs. I thought and acted the way he wanted me to do, just to be his perfect girl. He said it was "for my own good". He had the power to remodel me into his desires, it did everything he wanted me to do because I was so captured by him. It was a self destructing and daily need, I needed him badly, I felt lost without him. I didn't feel like myself if wasn't around. I lost all of my self- confidence. He seemed indispensable in my life., just because I was enchanted by him he could do and ask anything from me. He demanded that I didn't have any contact with any male friends and colleagues and restricted the contact with my female friends, I just could have contact with those "who were good for me, so very few in fact". My eyes couldn't even cross these of a man walking down the street, which is almost impossible,...so when somebody looked in my direction and when this happened he would "verbally" be aggressive to these poor men and to me, when I asked to him in vain to stop because this man didn't do anything wrong; he just answered to me it was because "he loved me so much". He also took financially advantage of me(always make me believe the opposite o have pity for him, knowing I couldn't say no to him) he had me in a stranglehold, he was choking me. He called me in the morning, afternoon and evening and when I missed a call he became very aggressive: he wanted to know where I was was, with whom is was, what I was doing... it was a daily struggle, he pushed my limits every day and when I couldn't take any more he played his role as mister charming again, seduced me, he apologized, he cried. He didn't want me to leave him when I persisted on leaving, he screamed and yelled at me, he became violent and it was even worse when I was defending myself. I couldn't do anything without him becoming violent. First verbally and later physically and sexually. The he cried and told me it was al my fault that he was acting so violent. The he apologized and acted "normal" again. It was very hard to get over this "love" (or what appeared to be love). But I have to say I couldn't take anymore, this "love" was so self-destructive. Finally it opened my eyes, I realized that it was all manipulation, nothing was real, everything was calculated. I left him without warning him, I accompanied him to his train like every week. I didn't answer any telephone call because I was afraid for his reaction. And as a confirmation I didn't know him at all: I have heard he was arrested a few days later and was convicted to stay in prison for 2 years...».

To explain, bad boys use with they call the perverse seduction: they used what they call a "preparation phase". The bad boy destabilizes the victim and they lose progressively confidence in her. So it is about seducing her, then influence her and finally capture her, withdrawing her form every form of liberty. » it is easy to distinct this phase in the different testimonies, although the degrees varies from one case to another;

To whom it ay concern, it is our concern to treat this ambivalent position who exists under these young girls who are destined to follow such a deviant course. We have research if these girls are predestined to follow such a path. Are they guilty in this vicious cycle or are they real victims? Are they considered to bet real victims? Are they the victims of what exactly? Which is their contribution of responsibility in the interaction of the criminal couple(bad boy victim)? Are they primary or secondary victims? In conclusion what psychological help can we propose?

Archivos de Criminología, Criminalística y Seguridad Privada

Reserva de Derechos: 04-2011-040811150700-102

ISSN 2007-2023

Director: Wael Sarwat Hikal Carreón

To conclude it is important to identify this problem. It is important that the judges treat these girls as actresses and accomplices, because they take advantage of their situation. They have to understand the consequences of this pseudo love and attraction to these delinquents, because they are not abused in their weakness. They have to understand this life with a bad boy does not only exist of a glimmer side but is in reality a life of search warrants and interrogations 6 o'clock in the morning visits in prison,.. that these things are the other dark side they can't escape from of this life with a bad boy

But you also have to consider that these young girls are thrown into a bottomless pit and that we have to reach out for them so they can get out of this cycle. U have to watch them closely and accompany them. If it is incurable it is still treatable. They suffer not so much from the Stockholm syndrome as some seem to think. They seem to our opinion to suffer from the bad Boy's syndrome.