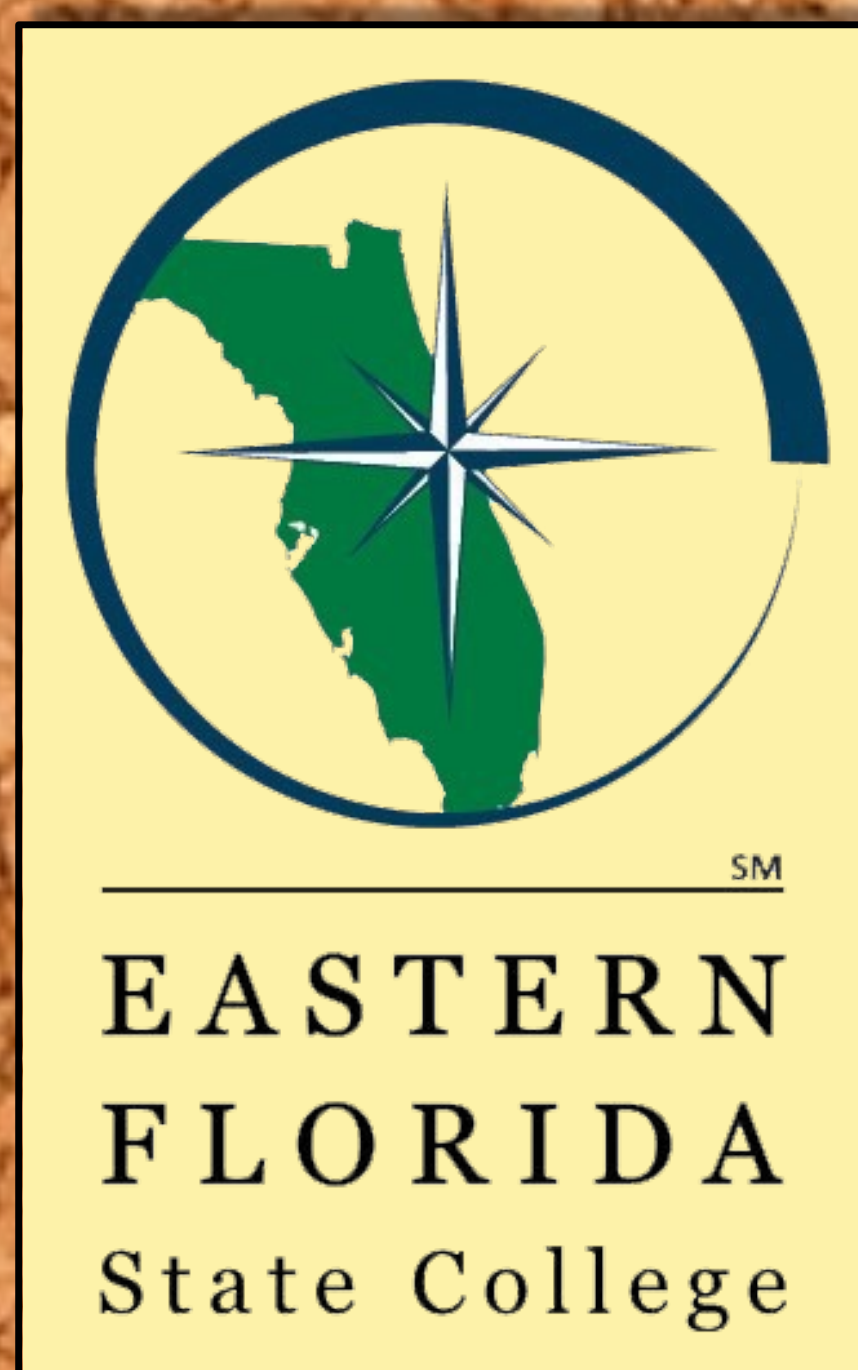
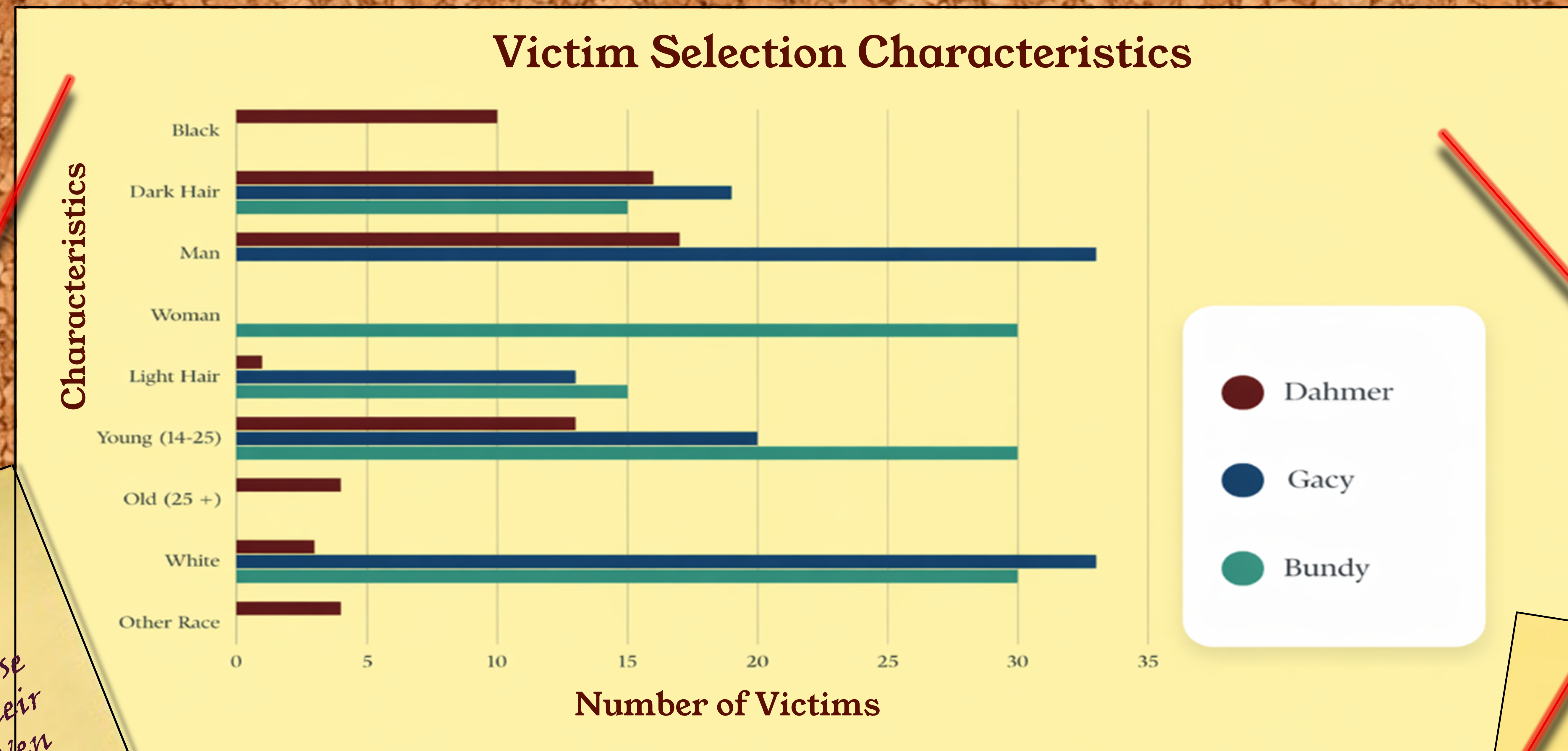




What Factors Influence Victim Selection in Serial Killers?

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Introduction
Serial killers often choose a specific appearance in their victims, especially sex driven serial killers. Dahmer had his young, black men while Bundy had his college age (and younger) women. This goal of this poster is to figure out what influences this victim selection.

Results
I found that serial killers typically choose their victims based off of an event or repressed desire. For example, Dahmer repressed his desire for men and eventually began to target them to release the pent up frustration. Or Ted Bundy, whome had an experience with one woman that seemingly triggered the rest of his killings.

Discussion
Overall the main influence of victim selection is repression, whether it's sexual or not. People repress so many feelings, yet they can regulate them at the same time. However for a serial killer (who statistically are more likely to have cognitive issues) this may be harder to do. This leads to them going for a specific group of people that fit their desires.

Serial Killer MO's



Bundy posed as injured or authority figure to gain trust, then abducted and assaulted young women.



Gacy lured young men with promises of work or money, then restrained, assaulted, and murdered them.



Dahmer lured men to his home, drugged them, then murdered and dismembered the victims.