

## UNDERSTANDING HUMAN BEHAVIOUR SERIES-8

Lecture: 8

(Duration: 1 hour)

### INDIVIDUAL BEHAVIOUR: MOTIVES, DRIVES, INSTINCTS AND EMOTIONS

Police ask the question: what motivates a man to behave in a particular manner? Unless the motives are said or made clear, they are inferred. Motives cannot be observed directly. We may even at times fail to understand or to discern our own motives. Yet motives determine what we do, how we feel about others and things in general. They influence the ideas we develop, the opinions we express and the beliefs we hold. A motive is a hypothetical internal process that provides the energy for behaviour and directs it towards a specific goal. Hence a motive may be anything which energises us towards an activity. It satisfies some need drive or goal objective. The motives of murder as seen in Crime in India published by the National Crime Records Bureau, Government of India are the following - namely

1. Personal Vendetta or enmity,
2. Property dispute
3. gain,
4. love intrigues and
5. dowry etc.

### MOTIVES IN POLICE BEHAVIOUR

Policeman do a lot of work and their motives are understood by seeing how do they express their needs. The needs can be -1 basic physical needs - they are called primary needs and 2- social and psychological needs- they are called secondary needs. The physical need include food, water, air, sleep, sex etc. They are very essential

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for the survival of man and thus the primary needs are universal and eternal.

Social and psychological needs- secondary needs- are often more vague than the primary needs. For example, a man may be motivated by a desire to feel important or for self- assertion or take vengeance etc.

Primary needs do rarely motivate a police officer/ man because they are reasonably satisfied with them. Occasionally they may be dissatisfied, situations may be too much work without taking rest or sex- starvation owing to the inability to visit home as they want.

It is the secondary needs which often motivate the police in the way they behave. They want to get quick results in investigation and therefore they employ third degree methods. They want recognition

and acceptance in the case they investigate and towards this end, they may concoct evidence.

### **MOTIVES AND HUMAN BEHAVIOUR**

Except in certain instances where people want to achieve their primary needs, in every human activity people are motivated by the secondary motives. Or better, there may be primary and secondary needs, which together motivate people to do a particular thing in a particular way.

Examples:

1. Being motivated to quench the thirst, the detainee in police lock-up requested a cup of water (physical need, primary need).

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2. Being motivated to show the authority, the police officer refused to give him water. He said further that he would be given water only if he confessed his guilt (Secondary need).

When the need is not satisfied, the organism becomes restless. As a result, the organism gets activated. "The deprivation of needs leads to the arousal of drives which in turn activates man animals to behave in a particular fashion".

### **INSTINCTS AND HUMAN BEHAVIOUR**

Instincts caused human behaviour. According to Mc. Dougall, an instinct is an innate or inherited psychophysical disposition which (determines its) makes the organism to attend to certain kind of objects rather than others, to experience an emotional excitement of a particular quality upon perceiving such an object, and to act in regard to it in a particular manner or at least to experience on impulse to such an action. There are 14 instincts such as sex, combat, parental, acquisitiveness etc. and each instinct is accompanied by certain emotions. For examples sex is accompanied by lust and combat (pugnacity) is accompanied by anger.

#### **Examples**

1. While interrogating a suspect in a crime, the investigator gets angry. This is an instinctual behaviour, the instinct being pugnacity. Here the investigating officer is not behaving in an intelligent way.
2. Seeing a god looking girl coming alone, a teenager attempts at eve-teasing. The instinct here is sex and the accompanying emotion is lust.

A person can and should control his instinctual expression. It is the duty of the socialising agents to see that sufficient ego- strength

is given to individuals to control the expressions of instincts. The police is expected to function as a control mechanism to effect necessary controls over people who become aggressive or otherwise agitated.

People may commit crimes because of instinctual influence and it is seen that any amount of punishment may not detect them from committing crimes. At the same time, a control device-either internal or external-can effect necessary controls over people's instinctual behaviour. The role of the super- ego, ethics, norms, rules and the police is nothing but to exert controls over the instinctual behaviour of man.

### **EMOTIONS AND HUMAN BEHAVIOUR**

Emotion is a complex feeling state accompanied by characteristic motor and glandular activities.

### **CASE EXAMPLES**

1. A man sees that his son is beaten. He becomes emotional.
2. A man on the street calls epithets to a police officer to which the police officer becomes emotional. A superintendent of police was called an owl by an associate and the police officer became angry at it. Education cannot stop a man becoming emotional, but can control the expressions of emotions.
3. How to understand that a man become emotional? This can be seen by the way emotions are expressed. They are expressed in the form of anger, fear, range, disgust, etc. Emotions may be positive and negative.

### **NON- VERBAL CLUES AND UNDERSTANDING INDIVIDUAL BEHAVIOUR**

The posture, tune of voice, manners and mannerisms, eye-contact etc. will show what emotions do the individuals have at a given time. Researches show that 86% of human transactions can be understood through the non-verbal clues. Emotions- guilty, depressed, resigned, surprised, humiliated, apprehensive, discouraged, angry, revengeful, concerned, appreciated, excited, annoyed, frustrated, irritated, puzzled, excited, loved, etc. can be appreciated by looking into the non- verbal clues during a human transaction. The physical clues such as furrowed brow, pursed lips, pointing index finger, head wagging horrified look, foot-tapping hands on hips, arms folded across the chest, wringing hands, tongue clicking, patting another etc. are indicative of the emotions a person has.

## EXAMPLE

1. While interrogating a suspect a person cries aloud.
2. Seeing a suspect not answering a question put to him, the interrogator jumps up.

One may accept the fact that people can disguise emotions which may be deceptive. Tears, quivering lips, pouting, high pitched, whining voice, rolling eyes, teasing delight, laughter, nose thumbing, giggling etc. are expressive of emotions and therefore can be disguised.

## CLASS ROOM EXERCISES

1. Discuss the importance of motives in fixing the criminal liability in law.

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2. Distinguish between mens rea and motive. How is motive different from motion ?
3. Write down the motives you had to join the police service and the same for continuing in the service.

## 4. GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Role of emotions during the interrogation of suspects and lie detection tests.
2. Instinctual crimes and their differences from conventional crimes.

## NOTES

1. Norman C. Mitter, The Psychology of Human Relations from Psychology for Law Enforcement Officers, by George J. Dudyhya ( e.d) Charles C. Thomas, Springfield, 1995.
2. Quoted from James Vadackumchery and John Kattayam, Human Behaviour and Law Enforcement. Ashish Publishing House, Delhi 1995.
3. James Vadackumchery and John Kattakayam, op Cit.
4. English H.B.and English A.C. A Comprehensive Dictionary of Psychological and Psychoanalytical Terms. Longmans, Green New York, 1958.

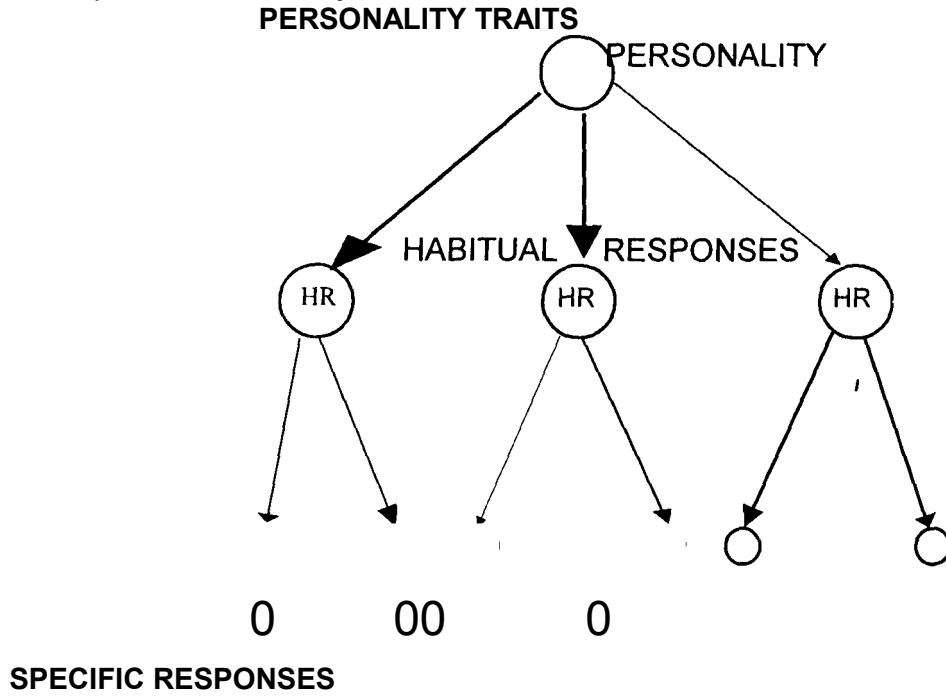


Fig. 5