# Survey reveals British fascination with unresolved crimes



A recent survey has highlighted the British public's enduring fascination with unresolved crimes, with nearly a quarter of respondents indicating that they watch television shows or documentaries about these issues at least once a week. The poll, which surveyed 2,000 individuals, found that cases of disappearances are particularly captivating, followed closely by unsolved murders and enigmatic serial killer scenarios.

When asked to elaborate on their interest in such programming, over a third of those polled expressed a preference for immersing themselves in historical mysteries. Interestingly, one in five adults claimed that they believed they could personally solve an unsolved case. Among the myriad of unresolved crimes that continue to capture public attention, the infamous Jack the Ripper murders emerged as the most desired case for resolution.

The survey indicated that almost a quarter of respondents are of the opinion that the true identity of the killer has already been established, although it remains unverified. Despite the ongoing mystery surrounding the Ripper's identity, many individuals in the UK hold varying theories regarding the infamous letters supposedly sent by the killer to the press. One third of the participants suggested that these letters were merely hoaxes, while 30 per cent believe they contained both genuine and fabricated elements. Additionally, a significant majority, around two thirds, maintain that a single individual was responsible for the killings, rather than multiple perpetrators.

The appeal of the Jack the Ripper case appears to stem largely from the enigma surrounding the killer's identity, with over half of those surveyed attributing the case’s enduring notoriety to the graphic and gruesome nature of the murders. A representative from Sky HISTORY, which commissioned the study in conjunction with the launch of its new programme "Jack the Ripper: Written in Blood," commented on the public’s fascination. They noted, "We seem to be fascinated by crimes of the past – especially those that are still a mystery. These cases, shrouded in intrigue and unanswered questions, offer a unique glimpse into the darker aspects of history."

The survey also unveiled a number of other infamous unsolved cases that continue to intrigue the British public, including the murder of Elizabeth Short, famously known as the Black Dahlia; the mysterious Dyatlov Pass incident, where nine Soviet ski hikers perished in the northern Ural Mountains in February 1959; and the lingering mystery of the Zodiac Killer.

The spokesperson for Sky HISTORY further stated, “These unsolved cases captivate our imagination and drive us to seek answers. The allure of Jack the Ripper lies in the combination of historical intrigue and the chilling nature of the crimes. Our new docudrama aims to delve deeper into the evidence and theories, offering viewers an entirely new angle on a crime that has been shrouded in mystery for many years.”

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/news/nwns-crime-and-community-survey-2023-findings-released> - This URL provides information about crime surveys in the UK, focusing on general crime perceptions and experiences, which can offer some context on public attitudes towards crime.
* <https://brc.org.uk/media/682083/crime-survey-report-2023_final_lowres.pdf> - Although this report is primarily about retail crime, it highlights increasing patterns of violence and abuse, which might also reflect broader public concerns about crime.
* <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/bulletins/crimeinenglandandwales/yearendingseptember2023> - This URL contains data on crime trends and rates in England and Wales, offering insight into the general landscape of crime in the UK.
* <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jack_the_Ripper> - This page provides detailed information about the Jack the Ripper case, which remains one of the most famous unsolved serial murder cases in history, aligning with public fascination as mentioned in the article.
* <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_Dahlia_murder> - The Black Dahlia murder is another infamous unsolved case that continues to captivate the public's imagination, similar to Jack the Ripper.