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Author site: [www.alcarlisle.com](http://www.alcarlisle.com)

#### Author Bio:

Al Carlisle is a practicing psychologist in Price, Utah. As a staff psychologist at Utah State Prison (where he retired as head of the Psychology Department in 1988), he interviewed and studied violent criminals, including Ted Bundy. Dr. Carlisle's books, *I'm Not Guilty* (2013) and *Violent Mind* (2017), chronicle his interviews with Bundy and give an extensive history of the killer. Dr. Carlisle has also interviewed Arthur Gary Bishop and Westley Allan Dodd, who are the subject of his book, *The Mind of the Devil* (2015), as well as Keith Jesperson (the Happy Face Killer) and the Hi-Fi Killers. He is currently working on two books, one on the Columbine massacre, and one that intends to redefine the concept of what it means to be a psychopath.

# VIOLENT MIND

## THE 1976 PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF TED BUNDY

### AL CARLISLE, PH.D.

In March 1976, Ted Bundy was convicted of the aggravated kidnapping of a young woman near Salt Lake City, Utah. Bundy had not been accused or convicted of any violent crime except this one. No one knew then how many women Bundy had murdered, and many thought him incapable of doing so.

Dr. Al Carlisle was part of the 90-Day Diagnostic team at the Utah State Prison when Bundy was sent there after the trial. Dr. Carlisle's assignment was specific: Determine to the best of his ability, without being biased by any of the reports previously done, whether Ted Bundy had a violent personality. The judge would use this information in deciding whether Bundy should serve time or be released on probation.

In *Violent Mind: The 1976 Psychological Evaluation of Ted Bundy*, Dr. Carlisle takes the reader step by step through this previously-unpublished evaluation process, and shows how he concluded that Bundy had the capacity to commit aggravated kidnapping, and perhaps much worse.

*Violent Mind* contains never-before-seen interviews with Ted Bundy and those who knew him, including a letter Bundy wrote to Dr. Carlisle that has been locked away for more than 40 years.

#### Praise for *Violent Mind*

*Violent Mind* is a fascinating read, for both process and product. Carlisle doesn't over-reach as others have done by proposing causes for Bundy's violence for which there is only speculation. Instead, he provides what he learned from actual interviews and test results. Like my experiences with Dennis Rader (link is external), who began killing around the same time and who followed Bundy's story, there are no simple formulas here. It's valuable to have the raw data to ponder.

—Katherine Ramsland Ph.D., in *Psychology Today*

#### Publicity Contact:

Steven W. Booth, Publisher  
Genius Book Publishing  
PO Box 17752, Encino, CA 91416  
818.585.9945  
[steven@geniusbookpublishing.com](mailto:steven@geniusbookpublishing.com)  
[www.GeniusBookPublishing.com](http://www.GeniusBookPublishing.com)

