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## Mothers Who Kill Their Children: Understanding the Acts of Moms from Susan Smith to the "Prom Mom"

By Cheryl L. Meyer, Michelle Oberman, Kelly White

New York University Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Mothers Who Kill Their Children: Understanding the Acts of Moms from Susan Smith to the "Prom Mom", Cheryl L. Meyer, Michelle Oberman, Kelly White, A special kind of horror is reserved for mothers who kill their children. Cases such as those of Susan Smith, who drowned her two young sons by driving her car into a lake, and Melissa Drexler, who disposed of her newborn baby in a restroom at her prom, become media sensations. Unfortunately, in addition to these high-profile cases, hundreds of mothers kill their children in the United States each year. The question most often asked is, why? What would drive a mother to kill her own child? Those who work with such cases, whether in clinical psychology, social services, law enforcement or academia, often lack basic understandings about the types of circumstances and patterns which might lead to these tragic deaths, and the social constructions of motherhood which may affect women's actions. These mothers oftentimes defy the myths and media exploitation of them as evil, insane, or lacking moral principles, and they are not a homogenous group. In obvious ways, intervention strategies should differ for a...



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