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## *The Allure of Premeditated Murder*

### Why Some People Plan to Kill

By Jack Levin and Julie B. Wiest

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#### **About the Book**

Any murder causes pain and suffering that ripple through families and communities—of both the victims and the perpetrators—but premeditated murders cause the worst kind of damage. Drawing on extensive research and interviews with murderers, sociologists Jack Levin and Julie B. Wiest help readers understand why such vicious murders occur and what we can do to minimize their incidence. Throughout *The Allure of Premeditated Murder*, they examine why people engage in acts of premeditated murder—planning and implementing terrible violence against others—from the perpetrator’s viewpoint. As violence remains such a prominent and troubling topic nationwide, this book successfully explores the reasons behind the worst violence as well as the most promising solutions.

#### **About the Author**

**Jack Levin** is the Brudnick Professor Emeritus in the Department of Sociology at Northeastern University, where he co-directs its Center on Violence and Conflict.

**Julie B. Wiest** is an Associate Professor of Sociology at West Chester University of Pennsylvania.

#### **Praise for the Book**

“This is, by far, one of the most comprehensive and well-researched scholarly works I have come across in quite some time. It is clever, masterfully written, and even a bit risky. Levin and Wiest cover a wealth of material that is sure to be an invaluable resource for homicide researchers, criminal justice practitioners, policymakers, and students. I highly recommend this book.”

— **Robert Worley, Associate Professor and Director of Criminal Justice, Lamar University**

“*The Allure of Premeditated Murder* includes meticulous research of a wide variety of murders, insights into the motives of the murderers, and most, importantly, how well planned they are over months if not years. The lessons learned in this book will advance murder investigations as well as provide serious debate over prevention of such crimes.”

— **Ann Wolbert Burgess, Professor, Boston College**

“Focusing on the myriad of benefits killers derive from their crimes—benefits that outweigh the possible pains of punishment in the calculus of deterrence—Levin and Wiest offer a fascinating and unique look into the mindset of murderers.”

— **James Alan Fox, PhD, The Lipman Family Professor of Criminology, Law and Public Policy at Northeastern University; author of *Violence and Security on Campus: From Pre-School through College***

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