

Name _____

Hunting the Shadow: The Boston Strangler's Reign of Terror

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. I would focus on building a detailed profile of the killer to understand his motivations and patterns. I'd also analyze the crime scenes for any overlooked evidence and try to establish a connection between the victims. Collaborating with other law enforcement agencies and increasing community awareness would be essential.
2. The Boston Strangler's crimes had a profound impact on the city and its residents. Fear and paranoia were rampant, causing people to take extra precautions. Women, in particular, felt vulnerable and lived in constant fear. The case also strained the resources of law enforcement and led to a massive manhunt, affecting the daily lives of Bostonians.
3. Whether or not Albert DeSalvo was the Boston Strangler is still a subject of debate. His confession and detailed knowledge of the murders suggest he could have been involved. However, some doubt the validity of his confession and question if he might have been a "confession hoaxer" seeking notoriety.
4. Several factors contributed to the Boston Strangler case's fame as an unsolved mystery. First, the killer's ability to elude capture and strike without warning created a sense of fear and intrigue. Second, the doubt surrounding Albert DeSalvo's confession added complexity to the case. Finally, the enduring fascination with unsolved mysteries and the unresolved questions surrounding the Boston Strangler's true identity have kept the case in the public eye.

