

James A. Blatt
PSYCH-103
Prof. []

Michael Joseph Jackson August 29, 1958 - June 25, 2009

The subject **Michael Joseph Jackson** was an American entertainer who was born on August 29, 1958 and died on June 25, 2009 (age 59). Michael Jackson was a child star who performed with his brothers as part of the group the Jackson 5 and later as a solo artist. Into his adolescence, at the start of his teenage solo career, Michael worked relentlessly in the recording studio and performing under the management of his father, Joe Jackson. As an adult Michael assumed control of his own career and became a worldwide superstar.

Infancy

Michael Jackson from at latest 12 onwards never went anywhere without a bodyguard. Michael "compensates" for those children's things he "never had" by constantly keeping kids around him in his free time. Also in the Oprah interview Michael states that off stage he would "cry from loneliness" and be "very sad" because he missed out on childhood (e.g. at "9 going on 10" never playing in the park and instead working in every free moment in the studio). Joe Jackson, Michael's father, beat him, and exploited Michael's talents for maximum pay for Michael's entire infancy. "[Joe Jackson] was very strict, very hard, very stern ... [Michael] was frightened of him his entire life ... but [he] do[es] love him [and he] forgives him". Also according to Oprah, Joe Jackson was abusive.

Adulthood

As an adult Michael suffered from vitiligo, a skin pigmentation disease, which led Michael to bleach his skin so that it appeared uniform and not blotchy. Michael was proud of his afro-American heritage and simply had a skin issue. In the Oprah interview Michael mused why caucasoids don't get labeled as hating their race because they tan.

Michael also opined in the Oprah interview that unless you hear it from the person directly one ought to "never-ever judge" because you don't know the whole story. (Oprah) There is only one intriguing instance where a youth was able to accurately describe an typical anatomical feature unique to Michael's genitalia and notwithstanding Michael was twice acquitted of paedophilia related crimes. (Wikipedia accessed 2/5/2018).

As a global superstar Michael was hounded by paparazzi who would even climb the trees around his California mansion for a chance at an exclusive photo. "It did appear a few times [Michael] was on [drugs] ... you could tell his demeanor ... it changed ... you knew something was not right at the moment ... we were with Michael Jackson the person, not the entertainer". For example, Michael insisted on ordering for himself and his children at fast food drive thru's with body guards in tow. The body guards

do not believe there was any truth whatsoever to allegations Michael was a paedophile. (From Michael Jackson's Body Guards <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3oP4BUPybjE> accessed 2/7/2018)

At one point, Lisa Marie Presley believed Michael was dependent on drugs and encouraged him to seek treatment, which he did. At another point Janet Jackson stated the Jackson family staged an intervention with Michael.

Demise

The autopsy report states that Michael Jackson was prescribed medication including clonazepam, trazodone, diazepam, lorazepam, and flomax and it is unknown if he was compliant with his medications. Death was due to acute propofol intoxication and benzodiazepine effect. The toxicology findings were for propofol, lorazepam, midazolam, lidocaine, diazepam, and nordiazepam identified in blood samples; propofol, midazolam, lidocaine and ephedrine identified in urine. The death was ruled a homicide.

Dr. Conrad Murray was convicted of involuntary manslaughter in the tragic and foreseeable death of Michael Jackson who was under his care for sleep problems which he treated at home with propofol, midazolam, and lorazepam.

(<http://www.thesmokinggun.com/file/michael-jackson-autopsy-report?page=1>)

Dr. Christopher Rogers reported at the wrongful death trial against Dr. Murray that Michael's lips were tattooed pink, while his eyebrows were a dark tattoo, and the front of his scalp was also tattooed black, apparently to blend his hairline in with the wigs he wore.

(<https://www.cnn.com/2013/05/07/showbiz/jackson-death-trial/index.html>)

Conclusion

Michael Jackson was a 21st Century world-renowned phenom whose life was cut tragically short, like Janis Joplin, Jimi Hendrix, Jim Morrison, and John Lennon before him.

Diagnoses

Depression/Dysthymia

Anxiety

Anorexia Nervosa

Panic Attacks

Substance Dependence

The Oprah Interview with Michael Jackson

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BbltFJJPPmA> (accessed 2/7/2018)(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3oP4BUPybjE> (accessed 2/7/2018))