

**IS THERE A LINK  
BETWEEN HEAD INJURY  
AND CRIMINAL  
BEHAVIOUR?**

# CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR

- “WILFUL”

- Born Delinquent
- Negligent Parental Control
- Emotional Instability

- HEAD INJURY

- Impaired Cognitive Ability with associated frustration
- Limited Insight
- Emotional Lability

# Brower & Price 2001 Review Paper

Considered:

- Clinical “Frontal-Lobe Disorder”
- Neuropsychological Measures of Executive Function in Aggressive Subjects
- Neurological Findings in Criminal Populations
- Neuro-imaging in Aggressive Subjects

**LINK - FRONTAL IMPAIRMENT AND  
AGGRESSIVE DYSCONTROL**

# SARAPATA ET AL 1998

- INVESTIGATED LINK BETWEEN HEAD INJURY AND CRIMINALITY IN 1<sup>ST</sup> OFFENDERS
- ENQUIRIES RE COG FUNCTION, EMOTIONAL ADJ & HISTORY OF HI
- 50% OFFENDERS REPORT HI (5% CONTROLS). 83% PRE 1<sup>ST</sup> ENCOUNTER WITH LAW

# POSSIBLE CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

- INCREASED REPORTED ANGER  
(LOWER THRESHOLD FOR FRUSTRATION)
- LACK OF APPRECIATION OF DANGER
- HOPELESSNESS

# IMPLICATIONS

- INCREASED NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING FOR OFFENDERS
- EARLIER AND MORE INTENSIVE TMT FOR COGNITIVE AND EMOTIONAL DIFFICULTIES ARISING FROM HI
- EDUCATING THE “SYSTEM”

# THEORETICALLY BASED PSYCHOLOGICAL TREATMENT

- IMPROVING THE ABILITY TO PREDICT BEHAVIOUR
- ESTABLISH MONITORING OF DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN INTENTION, ACTION AND OUTCOME OF OWN BEHAVIOUR
- PREDICT, ANTICIPATE AND EVALUATE BEHAVIOUR OF OTHERS

# CTD....

- SELF-INSTRUCTIONAL TRAINING VIA FACILITATION OF SUPERVISORY CONTROL PROCESS
- GOAL MANAGEMENT TRAINING
- INCREASING AWARENESS VIA VIDEO REVIEW (SOCIAL SENSITIVITY)
- STRESS INOCULATION TRAINING
- COGNITIVE RESTRUCTURING

# CONCS/COMMON THEMES

- ANTICIPATION
- APPRECIATION OF CAUSE AND EFFECT
- ERROR DETECTION & UTILISATION
- UTILISATION OF INTERNAL VS EXTERNAL COMPARISONS
- TAILORED INTERVENTIONS