

The Perfect Poison. By Dr. Janet Parker  
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## **The Perfect Poison**

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Drug Facilitated Rape is similar to other poisonings, as it is one of the easiest crimes to commit, and very hard to prosecute. The perfect drug poison for this purpose would be tasteless, odorless, colorless, easy to obtain and impossible to detect. So it is now evident that a new weapon in the form of a drug, is now available for rapists and it costs only a few dollars to buy. It is readily available on the streets of our major cities, at raves, in health food stores and gyms. Although GHB isn't tasteless and odorless, its taste may be masked and it has no distinctive odor. It is a drug called GHB (Gamma Hydroxybutyrate). There are also several other drugs GBL, GB and others. GHB is known as G, liquid X, liquid E, Georgia homeboy, goop, gamma-oh, grievous bodily harm, easy lay, and Blue Verve. GHB renders the rape victims unable to protect themselves.

A serial rapist had been using this drug to rape young girls at the local shopping mall. The scheme is quite simple. The rapist places an advertisement for models in the local newspaper. He arranges for an appointment with the young girl or boy for a "photo shoot". He has a courier pick up the girl/boy and drive her to the "studio". The courier then gives the girl a dose of this drug hidden in a soda can of Mountain Dew, Pepsi or Sprite. The dosage of this drug is determined by the "photographer" by estimating the girl's weight. When the drug starts to take effect the victim starts to vomit. This is a sign that the drug is working and the "photo shoot" can begin. The young victim will not remember the day's events because she/he will have almost complete amnesia due to the effects of the drug. The

courier delivers the victim to the photographer when she feels the victim is adequately impaired. That way the victim can never identify the rapist. Before the amnesia of the drug wears off the victim is dumped in a 3rd location 20 minutes away from the site of the "photo shoot". If the victim is able to remember any details of the crime, her/his recollection will be confusing and frightening, and disjointed memories of the events. There are multiple victims of this serial rapist.

A 55 gallon drum of the drug GBL diverted to illegal use and represents 80,000 doses of the date rape drug. This rapist was involved in that diversion and the money laundering apparatus behind this organized crime group. A 55 gallon drum costs but a few hundred dollars but nets 1.9 million dollars in profits. That buys a lot of protection. If the victim is fool hardy enough to report to the police, she/he may experience immediate retaliation. Protection can include accusations by drug addicts that the victim is actually a drug abuser. These accusations are easy to obtain by the drug dealer offering several months of free drug supply in exchange for the falsified complaint. This can leave the victim helpless in the face of an organized campaign of character assassination.

Drug Facilitated Rape is a crime that is difficult to investigate and even harder to prosecute. This drug not only may render the victim unconscious but produces Anterograde amnesia which is a condition in which events that occurred during the time the drug was in effect are forgotten. Because the drug impairs the victim's memory and their ability to recognize signs of sexual assault, victims may not seek help until days after the assault. The surreptitious drugging of a victim is, in and of itself, a cruel and criminal violation of the person. There are estimates that as many as 20% of all rapes are facilitated with drugs. Gay and lesbian populations use GHB as a recreational drug. In some cases, it is also used in this community for rape or robbery purposes. Delayed reports also are common, particularly in acquaintance rapes. A Victim may appear drunk or impaired and the rapist taking the victim to another place may appear to

onlookers as assisting an impaired person. The rapist may even call in a complaint to the police or medical professionals that the victim is impaired. These accusations are impossible to deflect as the victim is unable to protect themselves while under the affects of the drug, the rapist administered. The coercive drug treatment programs may not allow the victim to prove their innocence and may further degrade, humiliate and psychologically damage the rape victim. Some victims suffer auto accidents while trying to get home when they are still under the effects of the drug. Responding police officers may assume the voluntary ingestion of alcohol or drugs and sometimes they may not consider the driver to be a rape victim and do the appropriate rape kit.

The symptoms of GHB (generally brought on by only one to two teaspoons) may peak in as few as 15 minutes and last from 3 to 6 hours. The person may not remember anything or very little about the episode and may experience impaired judgment. GHB may cause enhanced sexual feelings by the victim. Thus the victim may participate in reciprocal acts, as a result of the drug, rather than free will. After ingestion, GHB will remain in the blood stream in a measurable amount for only 4 to 7 hours. However, the urine stream should have GHB in it for up to 12 hours after ingestion. There is no hospital screening test for GHB/GBL and very few forensic labs can perform the analysis.

While the victim is still under the effects of the drug, the rapist has plenty of time to create a plausible cover story. In drug-facilitated rapes, the additional deprivation of cognition during the assault, combined with anterograde amnesia afterwards, subjects the victim to an extreme form of powerlessness which is profoundly traumatic. Victims may be unable or unwilling to go to a hospital until after the drug may have completely metabolized from their system. Victims feel powerless as a result of the sexual assault and being drugged, and now may have difficulties prosecuting. Because the victim's ability to describe the events of the rape is impaired, these cases are especially hard to investigate and prosecute. The victim's statement is essential to guide the medical/evidentiary

examination and the police investigation.

Because most victims of drug-facilitated rapes have no memory of the sexual assault, people may mistakenly minimize the trauma. The majority of mental health professionals surveyed (84%) agreed that contact with law enforcement and social service providers re-traumatizes rape victims. Remember that Rape drugs make it relatively easy for rapists to gain control of their victims. The rapist does not have to overcome any form of resistance. There is no need for physical force or threats. The drugs they administer immobilize and silence the victim. Drug rapists are most commonly serial rapists. They will commit this crime again.

For further information visit the web site <http://www.projectghb.org/>

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