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IDENTIFICATION AFTER TERROR ATTACK IN NORWAY 2011

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ABSTRACT

***Background:** On Friday afternoon 22nd July 2011 was a 90 kg bomb detonated in Oslo causing severe structural damage to government buildings. The bomb-man then drove x km to "Utøya", a small island on a lake where the youth movement of the Labour party held their annual summer camp. On arrival dressed in a home made police uniform he immediately shot two adults and then went round the island shooting, killing and injuring youngsters who were trying to hide from the gunman. The Norwegian ID-group were immediately mobilized and the following morning the post mortem examinations started. A standard forensic odontology examination was carried out which in addition to an oral examination included digital radiographs and photographs. The results were registered in the DVI-system.*

The aim of the presentation is to look at the dental findings and see if forensic odontology can be of use in an accident involving youngster from a supposedly caries free generation.

***Material and methods:** The dental status of the victims was registered with regard to dental restoration, missing teeth, orthodontic appliances, retained deciduous teeth and other dental characteristics that could be used for dental identification.*

***Results:** Eight people were killed at the Government buildings. They were all adults and not included in this review. At the campsite 68 were shot and killed and 1 died the following day in hospital. Of the 68 victims 7 were older than 25 years and the two youngest were only 14 years. The average age was 18 years. Only 9 victims had no fillings and 55 had composite fillings ranging from 1 to 15. Eleven of the victims had an orthodontic retainer after completed treatment and only one had a fix orthodontic appliance. Five victims had one retained deciduous tooth and one victim had two deciduous molars. Identification comparing filling position and contours on radiographs provided sufficient material for making a strong contribution to the final identification.*

***Conclusion:** In a group of young victims forensic odontology can demonstrate characteristics sufficient for identification provided that material is available for comparison.*

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