

Getting to the bottom of Riverdale's 'serial-killer gene': Can it really drive you to violence?

The penultimate episode of *Riverdale* season three contained a lot of shocking revelations, but for Betty fans, nothing was crazier than the info that our favorite pony-tailed blonde received. ... In episode 21, Alice reveals to her daughter that she has the monoamine oxidase A (MAOA) AKA "the serial killer gene."

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If your MAOA is functioning, you're good to go, but the issue comes when you have low-functioning MAOA. This causes serotonin and other neurotransmitters to build up in the brain, which can cause behavioral problems like "aggressive and violent outbursts," according to the GHR. ...

It is important to note two things about the MAOA. One, it affects males almost exclusively, and two, according to Rose McDermott, PhD, ... it simply "increases the likelihood that a person who possesses this variant will engage in physical aggression in response to provocation... ."

...Alice also mentions CDH13. Well, there is significantly less information known about this gene's affect on the violent tendencies of a person.

CDH13 helps signal between cells, according to [the Genetic Literacy Project](#). It has been linked to everything from attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) to bipolar disorder, but its affect on criminality is still unknown.

Read full, original post: [Can You Really Have a Serial Killer Gene like Betty on "Riverdale"?](#)