

Jane Doe has always had a very difficult time with relationships. She always seems to pick “the wrong type” man. She ran away from home at 15, leaving one abusive environment for another with a man 20 years her senior. A few people who casually met her tried to take an interest in her life; however, she never really liked them. She found she couldn’t relate to them. She didn’t understand how they thought they had problems; her problems were so much bigger and more important than theirs. Sooner or later, all of these individuals would “dissert” her, reinforcing her feelings that they weren’t really her friends.

Jane felt a constant sense of isolation. Her only lifeline was her boyfriend, but they would have terrible fights and she would leave him often. Even though she left him, she felt abandoned by him and resented him for making her leave. They always seemed to get back together and their “love” would be stronger than ever; then the cycle would repeat itself. With the intensity of emotions that she felt toward him, love or hate, their fights got more and more explosive- resulting in both parties being arrested for domestic violence on several occasions. When she wasn’t with her boyfriend, she would quickly find other men to date, but they didn’t stick around long.

On one occasion, after a particularly nasty fight, she heard a female police officer who had been to her home on several occasions say, “What the fuck is wrong with her- she just keeps coming back.” The officer’s partner responded, “They’ll kill each other off one day.” This triggered a violent outburst from her toward the officers, resulting in her arrest for PC69. She was only 20 years old.

Item: journal

How do you feel about arresting this woman?

What mental health issues do you think she may be experiencing?

What do you think the item represents to her?