

DANIELLE'S MURDERER LET ME KILL MYSELF!

Monster Westerfield wants to spare executioner the job

THE fiend convicted of kidnapping and slaughtering little Danielle van Dam wanted to cheat the executioner by blowing his own brains out!

That suicidal moment is revealed in the chilling videotape police made of David Westerfield's interrogation - which the jury never got to see.

On the tape, the 50-year-old monster refuses to admit he snatched the pretty 7-year-old from her room, imprisoned her in his motor home and murdered her. But the child-porn addict, a



neighbor of the van Dams in the San Diego suburb of Sabre Springs, talks like a guilty man who knows he's been found out.

"As far as I'm concerned, my life's over," he tells homicide investigators Michael Ott and Mark Keyser. And when Ott momentarily leaves the interrogation room, the child-killer turns to Keyser and makes an

eerie request. "If you want to leave your gun here for a few minutes, I'd appreciate it," he says in a calm voice. The detective replies, "That's silly, that's silly," but Westerfield tells him, "Silly in your opinion."

He didn't get his wish. All 12 jurors in the penalty phase of his trial voted for death by lethal injection.

When cops asked Westerfield about the photos he'd collected on his computer showing adults having forced sex with children, he gives a bizarre explanation.

"It was perfectly innocent," he says. "All I was doing was documenting it." Ott asks, "For whom?" and Westerfield replies, "I can't answer that."

When cops tell him his ex-wife Jackie said that he used to cut off her

underwear while she slept, he shrugs it off. "Pure experimentation," he tells them.

Twenty-two days after the Feb. 5 interrogation, Danielle's remains were found in a remote wasteland outside San Diego. Ironically, the girl may not have been Westerfield's target.

A source close to the case says the pervert thought that a teenage girl would be babysitting Danielle and her two brothers the night of the kidnapping, but at the last moment, dad Damon stayed home.

"Westerfield really wanted the babysitter," says the source. "But after he slipped into the home and spotted Damon, he ducked into Danielle's room. She would have recognized him. He hit her and that was it."

