Lethal and non-lethal intimate partner violence: Comparing murderers to non-lethal abusers

3 Comparisons

- Intimate partner murder (IPM) x male-male murder (MM)
- Intimate partner murder (IPM) & intimate partner abusers (IPV)
- Two sub-types of IPM: men with and without previous convictions

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CONTENTS

PART I - Intimate partner murder
PART II - Sexual murder
PART III - Murder of older women

Each part contains three chapters:

The knowledge
The murder event - relationships, contexts and circumstances
Perpetrators - lifecourse, orientations and cognitions
Intimate partner murder

Murder event – relationships & contexts

Perpetrators – orientations & cognitions

Delilah - 50yrs of popular culture
- stalking
- perceived ‘infidelity’
- possessiveness
- victim blaming
- ‘changing the project’
- murder
- lack of remorse, lack of empathy
OVERVIEW

*Murder in Britain Study (Objectives, Data, Focus)

Comparisons of:

1. Intimate Partner Murder (IPM) & Male-Male Murder (MM)
2. IPMurder (IPM) & *Non-lethal violence against women (IPV)

Two Studies Compared:

*Murder in Britain Study       * Violent Men Study

3. Comparison of two sub-types of IPMurderers
   (with previous convictions & with no previous convictions)

Main Findings & Implications

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Objectives
Examine ALL types of murder:
- pathways to murder
- contexts, situations, circumstances & murder events
- relationships between perpetrators & victims
- lifecourse of perpetrators - child, adult, at murder, in prison

3 Sources of Data: (quantitative & qualitative)
- Homicide Index [official database for UK]
- 866 Casefiles of murder: (786 men, 80 women)
  - Sample from all men & women in prison for murder:
    - England/Wales (n=3,000 men, 115 women)
    - Scotland (n=500 men, 10 women)
- 200 Interviews in 7 prisons across England & Scotland
  - (Men=180, Women=20)
FOCUS of Murder Study

Murder Event:
- Relationships of victims and offenders
- Murder Event, Circumstances, Situations, Violence

Lifecourse of men convicted of murder:

Childhood
- Family - School – Social, Medical & Legal Services, Offending

Adult Life and Circumstances
- Employment, Relationships, Problems/alcohol, Social Services

Previous Violence & Offending
- Previous offending, Violence Against Women, Convictions

Prison
- Adjustment, Programmes, Remorse, Empathy, Change
MURDER STUDY

All murders committed by (Adults only)
Men against Men & Men against Women, total=695

Male-Male Murder, n=424
61%

Male-Female Murder, n=271
39%
WOMEN MURDERED BY MEN – 3 Types of Murder
Intimate partner, Sexual Murder, Older Women, (n=243) [*other=28]

- Intimate Partner: n=105, 39%
- Sexual Murder: n=98, 36%
- Older Women (age 65+): n=40, 15%
Comparison 1

Intimate Partner Murder (IPM) & Male-Male Murder (MM)
MURDER EVENT
INTIMATE PARTNER MURDER & MALE-MALE MURDER


IPM n=105 MxM n=424

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CHILDHOOD (pre16) – IPMURDER & M-M MURDER

- IPMurder n=105
- MxM n=424

Parent Broken Rel 3+ Carers Alco Abuse <16 Early offending pre13 Sch Probs

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ADULTHOOD – IPMURDER & M-M MURDER

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Comparison.2

Intimate Partner Murder (IPM) & Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Non-lethal Violence
IPMurder & IPViolence
(comparing findings from 2 studies)

1. IPMurder- Murder in Britain Study, n=105 casefiles
2. IPViolence- Violent Men Study, n=122 men, 134 women
   In-depth Interviews with: men convicted of non-lethal violence against a woman partner & women partners
LETHAL AND NON-LETHAL VIOLENCE CONTEXT, CIRCUMSTANCES & VIOLENT EVENT

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LETHAL AND NON-LETHAL VIOLENCE

CHILDHOOD AND ADULTHOOD

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BUT.....

- .. some IP murders have no previous convictions, more conventional backgrounds, and fewer problems in childhood or adulthood, so..

?? Does IPMurder group contain two types of men??

- 1. Men with criminal backgrounds, problems in childhood & adulthood, and previous violence against women …
  - [the expected.. (75%) IP abuser becomes IP murderer ]

- &
- 2. Men with no criminal history (perhaps undetected abusers - perhaps without previous abuse) & more conventional backgrounds who seem to suddenly come, ‘Out of the Blue’
  - [the unexpected.. (25%) IP murderer with no previous convictions]
Comparison.3

(IPM Murderers – 2 sub-types)

IPM with previous convictions (76%, n=79), ‘the expected’

IPM with NO previous convictions (24%, n=25) ‘out of the blue’
DIFFERENCES – 2 sub-types of IPMurderers

NoConvict group (24%, n=25)
Childhood: *more conventional*
  ➤ few problems
Adulthood: *more conventional*
  ➤ - educational qualifications
  ➤ - less substance abuse
  ➤ - no offending
  ➤ - regularly employed, married
-- evidence supports ‘out of the blue’

…BUT…
nearly half, - breakdown in prev. relationship
about 1/5, - viol. in previous relationship
nearly half, - prev. viol. to victim

PrevConvict group (76%, n=79)
Childhood: *problematic*
  ➤ considerable adversity
  ➤ behavioural problems
  ➤ 20% early onset offenders
Adulthood: *persistent offender*
  ➤ - limited education
  ➤ - alcohol abuse
  ➤ - chronic offending
  ➤ - unemployed, cohabiting
  ➤ - violence in previous relationship
-- evidence supports abuser to murderer

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SIMILARITIES – 2 sub-types of IPMurderers, n=105

--Relationships:
  - tenuous
  - prolonged conflict
  - previous violence to victim

--Contexts:
  - Possessiveness & jealousy
  - Separation/ attempts to leave

--Violence in murder:
  - Choke/strangle
  - Use instruments/knives/clubs
  - Forced sex

What were they thinking?
  - Male entitlement/privilege

  - Specialize in violence to women

  - ‘Change the project’ from trying to keep woman partner to decision to destroy her

  - Fixed intention to kill

  - Blame the victim

  - No empathy, No remorse

--- also:
  - collateral murders of children, protectors & new partners (n=62)
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