

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

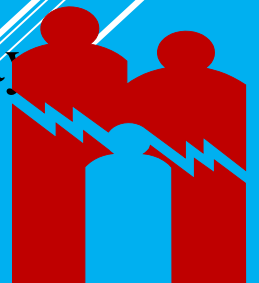
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Research Seminar on Intimate Partner Homicide in Norway

Oslo, Norway, February 3, 2016





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**

WHEN MEN MURDER WOMEN

**R.EMERSON DOBASH
RUSSELL P. DOBASH**

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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

WHEN MEN MURDER WOMEN

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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

Murder Study

(funded by ESRC, Economic & Social Research Council)



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

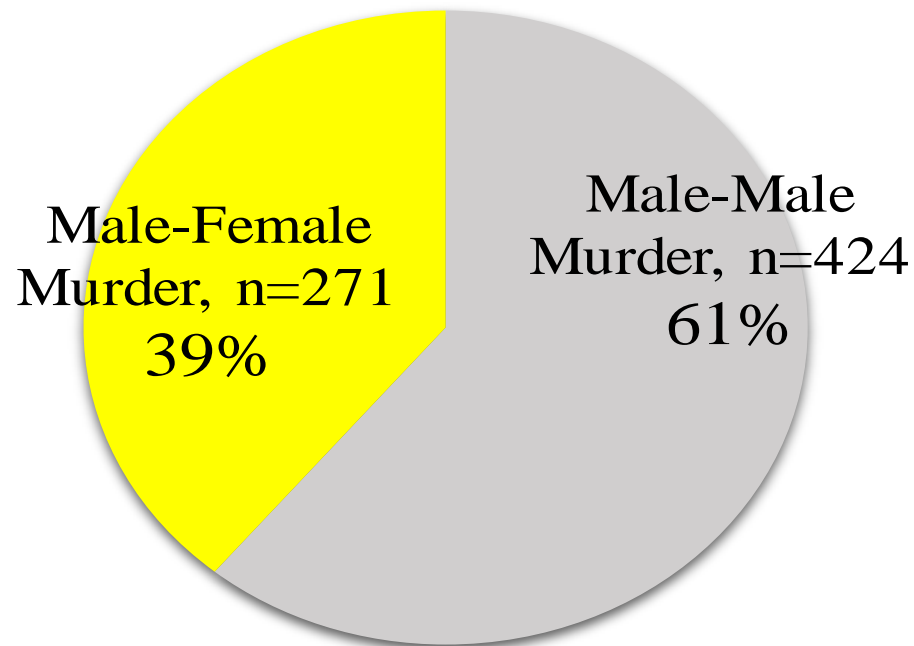
-Previous offending, Violence Against Women, Convictions

Prison

-Adjustment, Programmes, Remorse, Empathy, Change

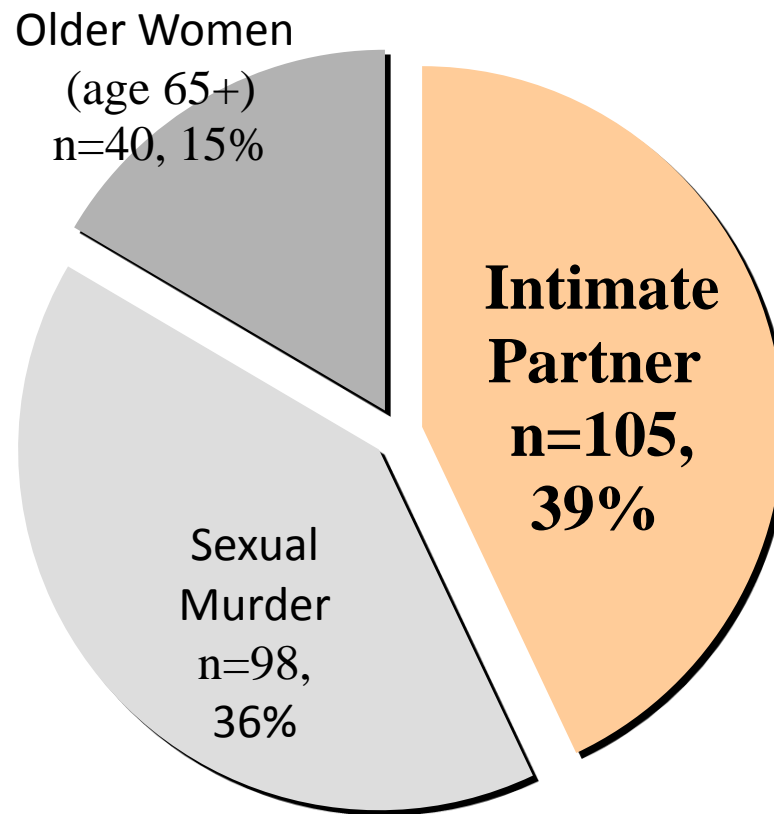
MURDER STUDY

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



WOMEN MURDERED BY MEN – 3 Types of Murder

Intimate partner, Sexual Murder, Older Women, (n=243) [*other=28]

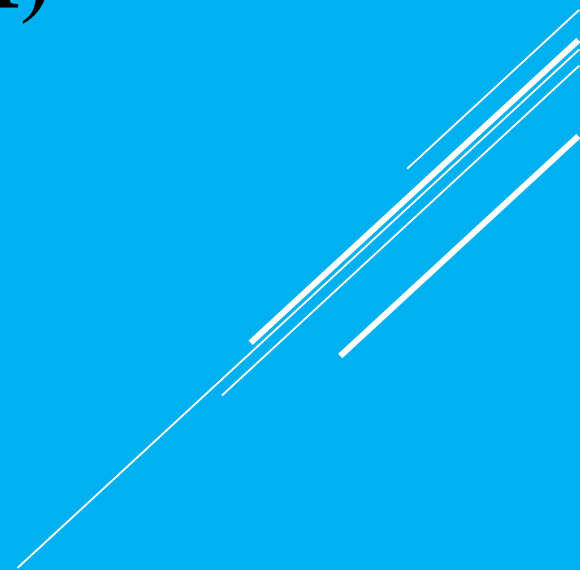
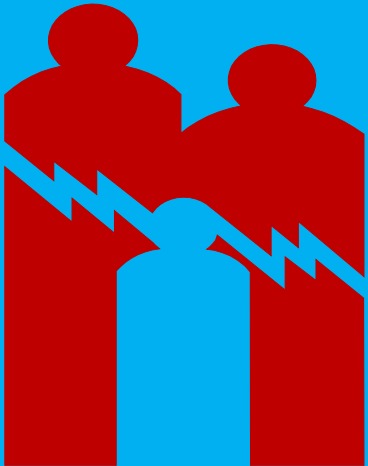


Comparison.1

Intimate Partner Murder (IPM)

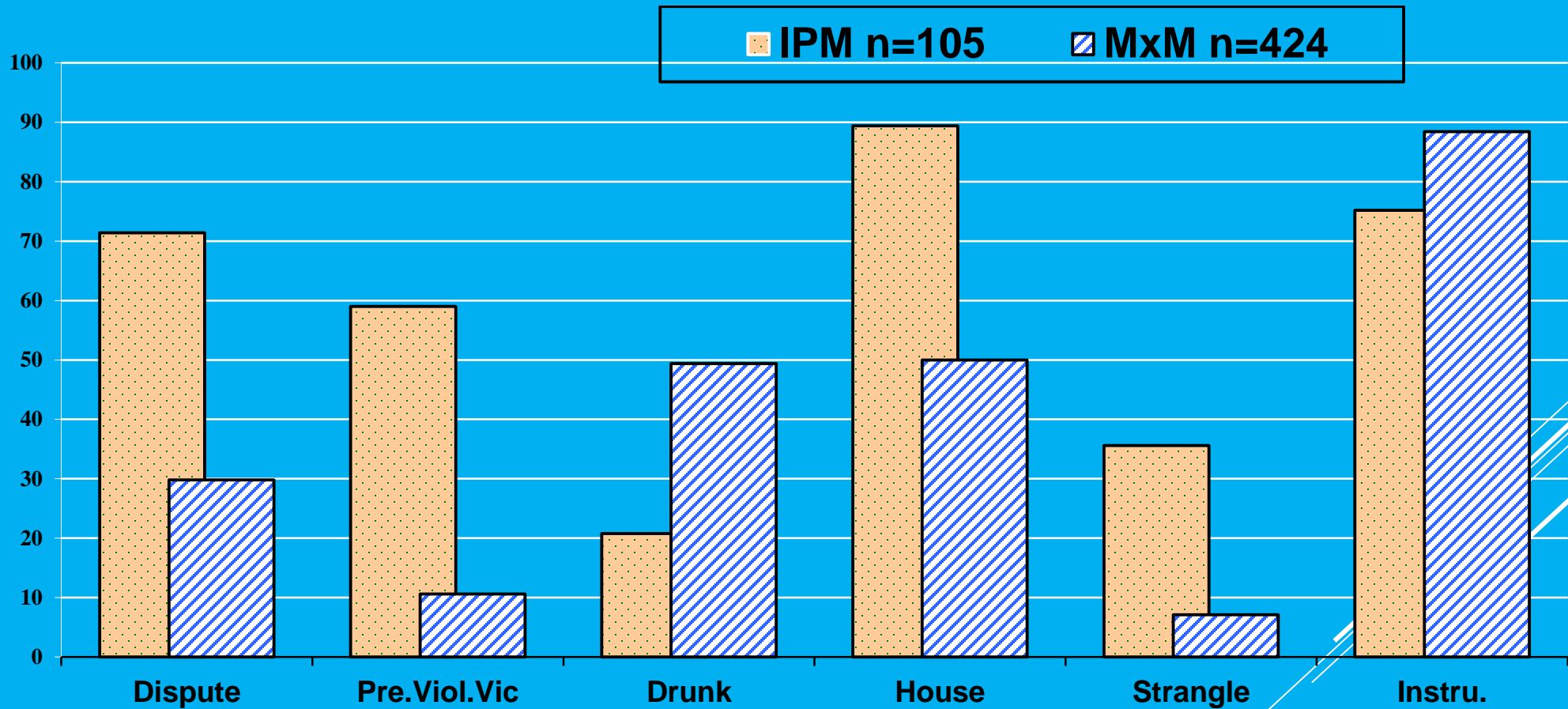
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Male-Male Murder (MM)

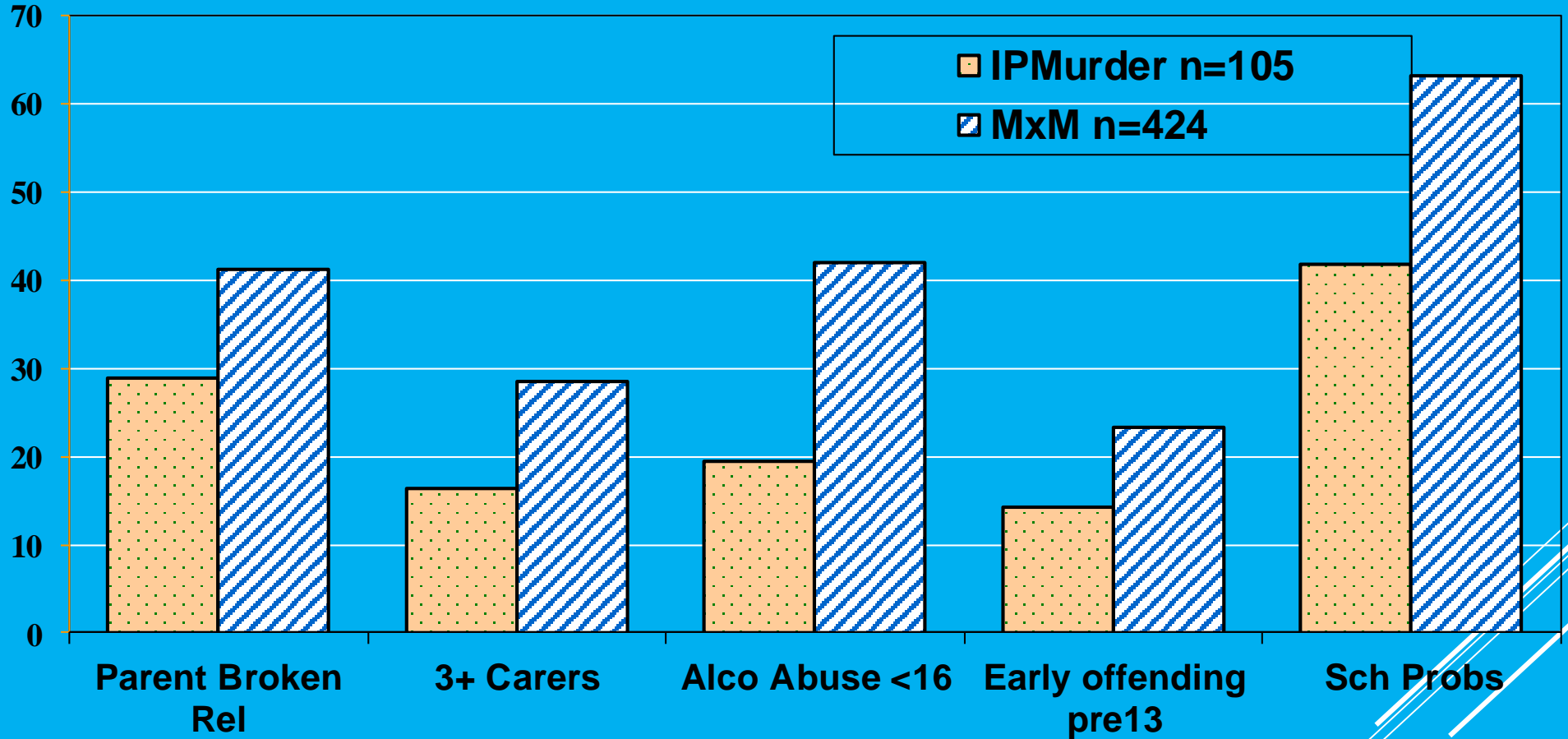


MURDER EVENT

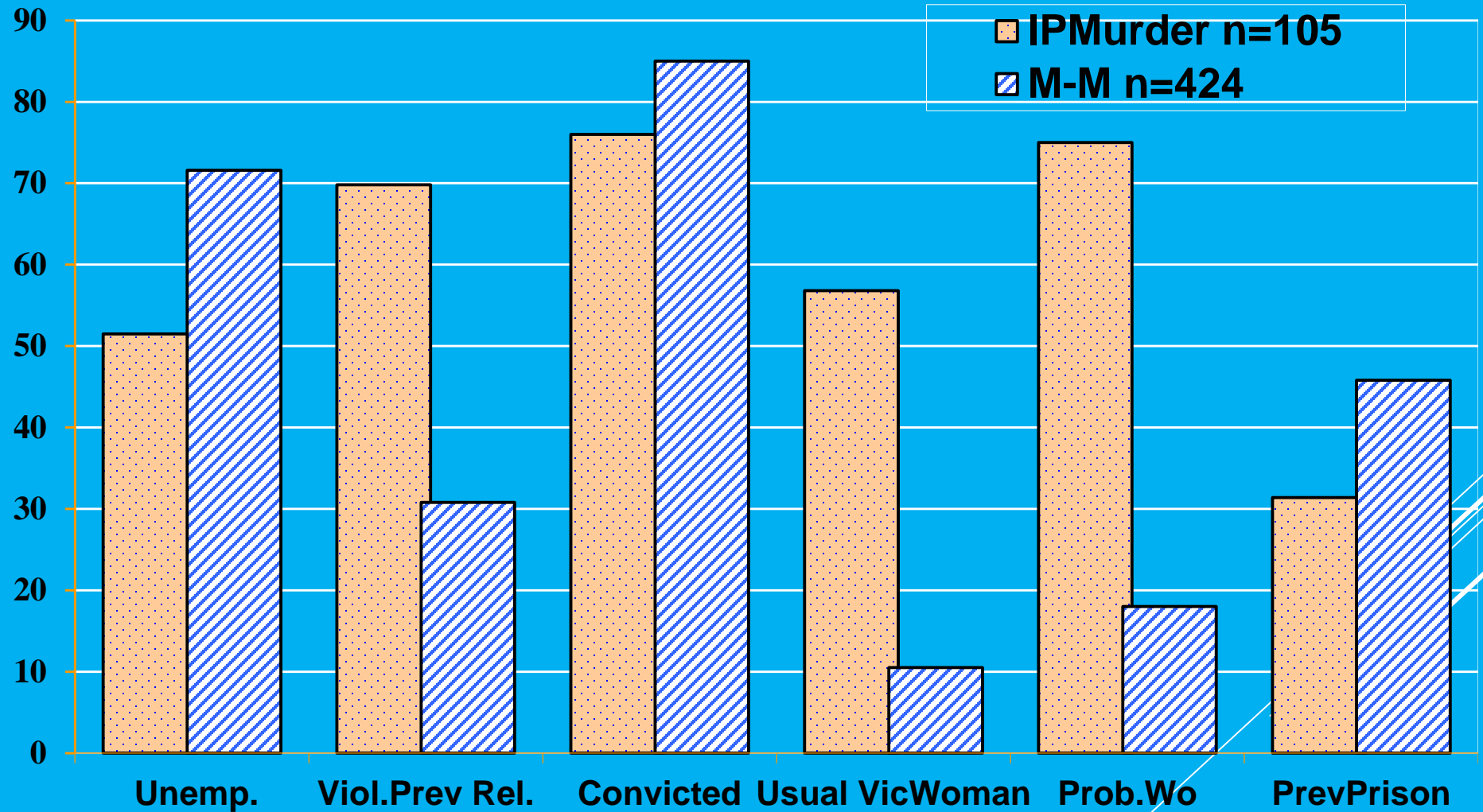
INTIMATE PARTNER MURDER & MALE-MALE MURDER



CHILDHOOD (pre16) – IPMURDER & M-M MURDER



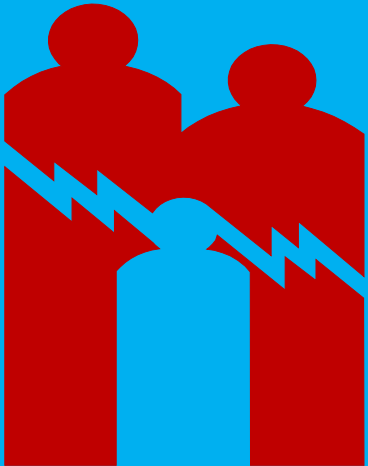
ADULTHOOD – IPMURDER & M-M MURDER



Comparison.2

**Intimate Partner Murder (IPM)
&**

▶ **Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)
Non-lethal Violence**

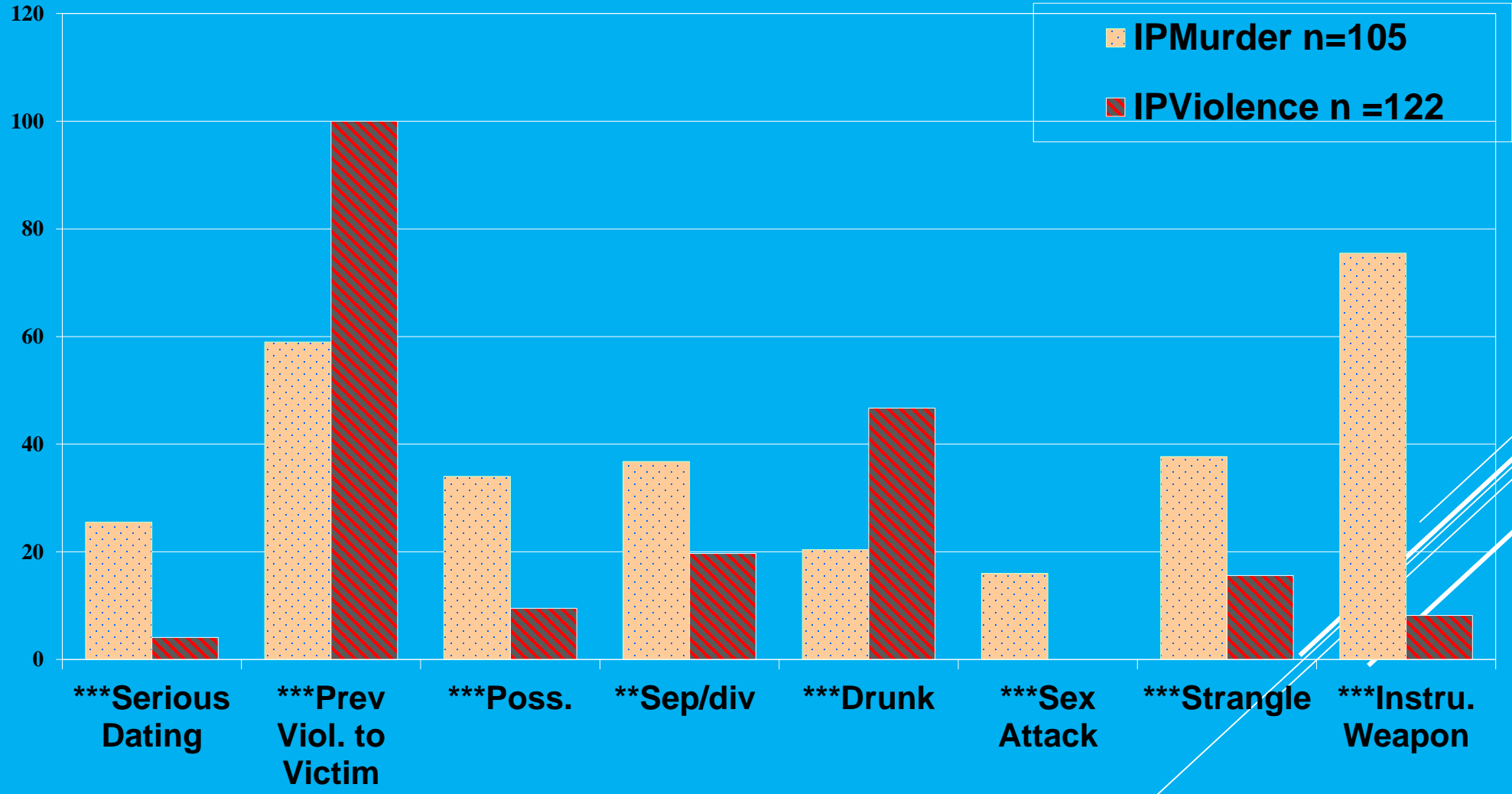


IPMurder & IPViolence

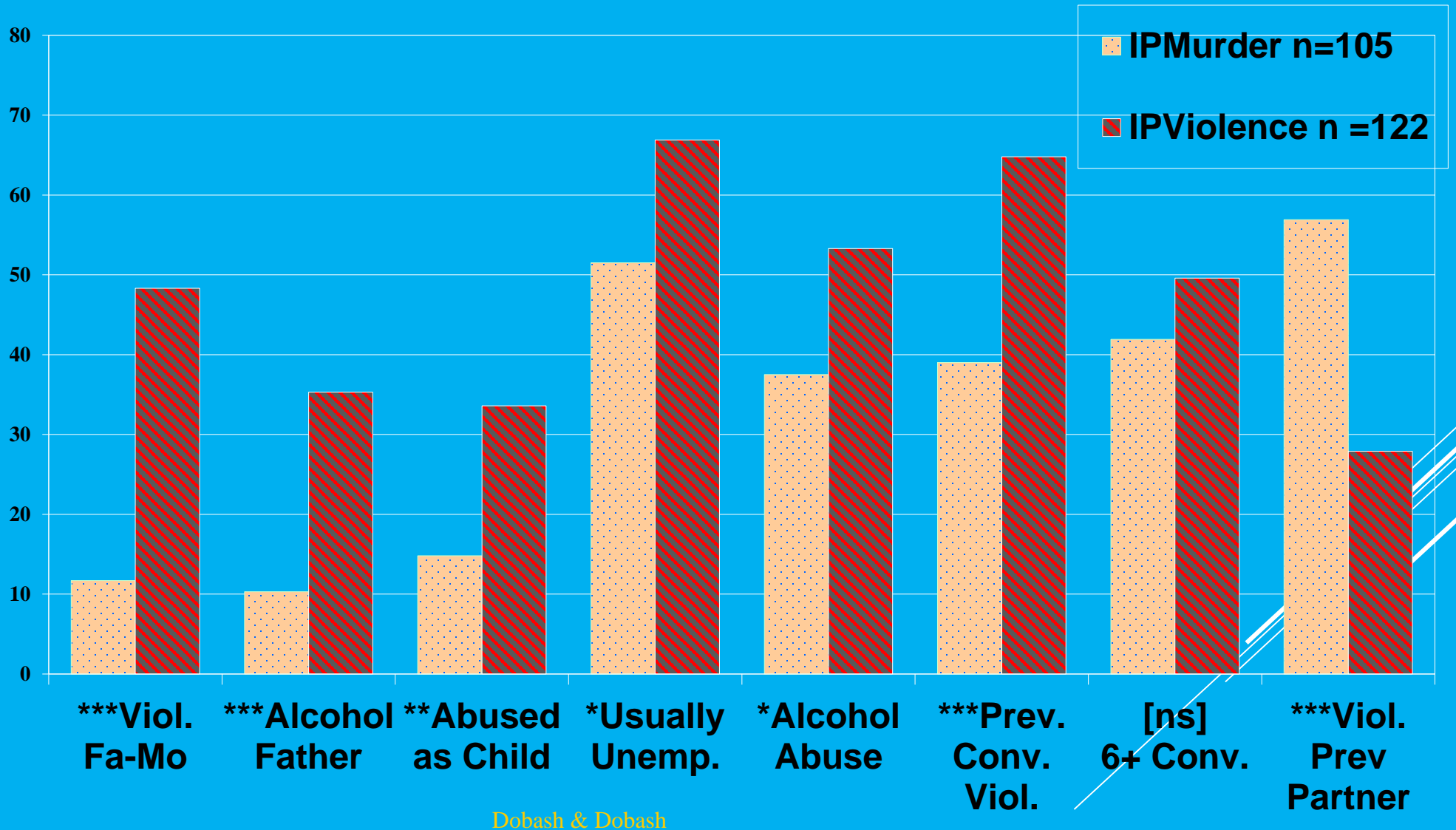
(comparing findings from 2 studies)

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



LETHAL AND NON-LETHAL VIOLENCE CHILDHOOD AND ADULTHOOD



BUT.....

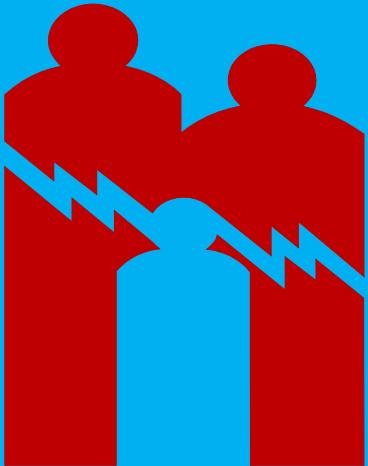
- ▶ .. some IP murders have no previous convictions, more conventional backgrounds, and fewer problems in childhood or adulthood, so..
- ▶ **?? Does IP Murder group contain two types of men??**
 - ▶ 1. Men with criminal backgrounds, problems in childhood & adulthood, and previous violence against women ...
 - ▶ [*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

▶ (IPMurderers – 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 IP Murderers

No Convict 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

Prev Convict 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

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)

PUBLICATIONS - BOOKS

DOBASH & DOBASH

- 2015 *When Men Murder Women.* Dobash & Dobash
New York, Oxford Univ. Press.
- 2000 *Changing Violent Men.*
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- 1998 *Rethinking Violence Against Women.*
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- 1992 *Women, Violence and Social Change.*
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- 1979 *Violence Against Wives.* Dobash & Dobash
New York: Free Press.
- 

ARTICLES – DOBASH & DOBASH - MURDER STUDY

2016 Sexual Murder of Women Intimate Partners in Great Britain. In K. Yllo & M.G. Torres (eds) *Marital Rape*. New York: Oxford University Press. (forthcoming)

2016 When Women are Murdered. In Brookman, et al (eds) *Handbook on Homicide*, John Wiley (forthcoming)

2012 *Who died? Murder of collaterals related to intimate partner conflict*. *Violence Against Women*, 18:662-671.

2011 *What were they thinking? Men who murder an intimate partner*. *Violence Against Women*, 17:111-132.

2009 *'Out of the blue': Men who kill intimate partners*. *Feminist Criminology*, 4:194-225.

2007 *Onset of offending and life course of men convicted of murder*. *Homicide Studies*, 11:243-271.

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2004 *Not an ordinary killer-just an ordinary guy. Men who kill their intimate female partner*. *Violence Against Women*, 10:577-605.

ARTICLES – DOBASH & DOBASH – MURDER STUDY

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2004 *Women's Violence Against an Intimate Male Partner: Working on a Puzzle*, British Jr Criminology, Dobash & Dobash, 44:324-349.

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