

INTRODUCTION

- ❖ Intimate partner murder is one of the most brutal forms of violence
- ❖ Global data show that women are disproportionately affected as victims (39% women vs 6% men)
- ❖ Very little is known about women who perpetrate male partner murder in South Africa

AIM

To describe the profile of women in SA who killed their male intimate partners, the context in which murder occurs, women's reasons for murder, and the outcomes of the case drawing from the 2017 national male homicide study data

METHODOLOGY

- ❖ Retrospective national mortuary-based study using a multistage stratified cluster sample
- ❖ 81/121 mortuaries sampled and weighted
- ❖ Perpetrator data obtained at police stations

RESULTS

- ❖ **379/5571 (6.8%)** men were killed by women
- ❖ **226/5571 (4%)** were killed by female intimate partners
- ❖ **226/379 (56.8%)** women perpetrators were intimate partners

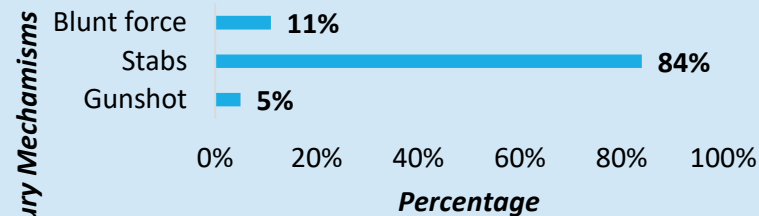
RESULTS

Perpetrators profile

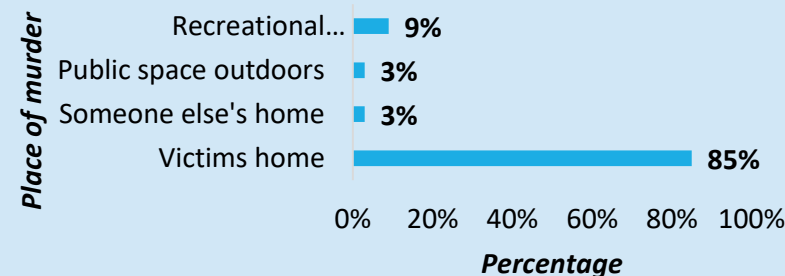
- ❖ Mean age of 33 years
- ❖ 18% were employed
- ❖ **74%** were cohabitating girlfriends, **16%** wives, 4% non-cohabiting girlfriends and 5% ex-girlfriends.
- ❖ 17% were known to have children with victims
- ❖ 30% had a history of perpetrating IPV in their relationships.
- ❖ The proportion of women who have been subjected to IPV from the victims is unknown
- ❖ 53% were suspected to have used alcohol at the time of the incident

Context of murder

Mechanisms of Injury

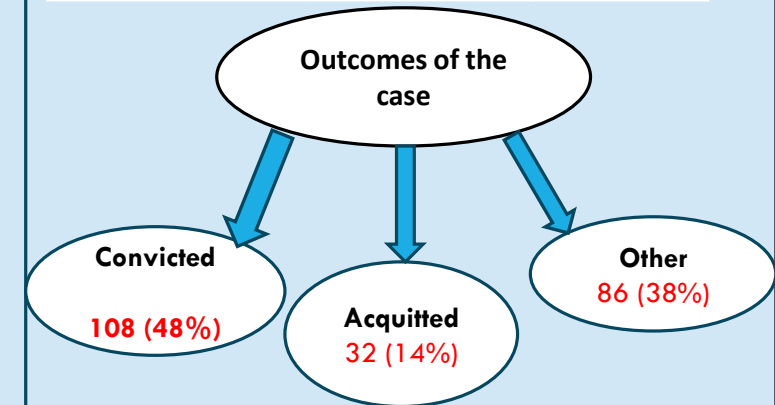


Place Victim Murdered



Reasons for murder

Reasons	n (%)
Self-defense/retaliation	75 (35%)
Argument over perpetrator's infidelity	13 (6%)
Argument over victims' infidelity	10 (5%)
Financial gain	12 (5%)
Argument reason not stated	66 (30%)
No explanation	20 (9%)
Other	21 (10%)



* Other included nullified, not enough evidence, perpetrator whereabouts unknown

CONCLUSION

- ❖ This quantitative study shows the context and circumstance in which female intimate partner-perpetrated murders occur in SA
- ❖ Findings are important for prevention efforts and for the development of tailored interventions for women & men