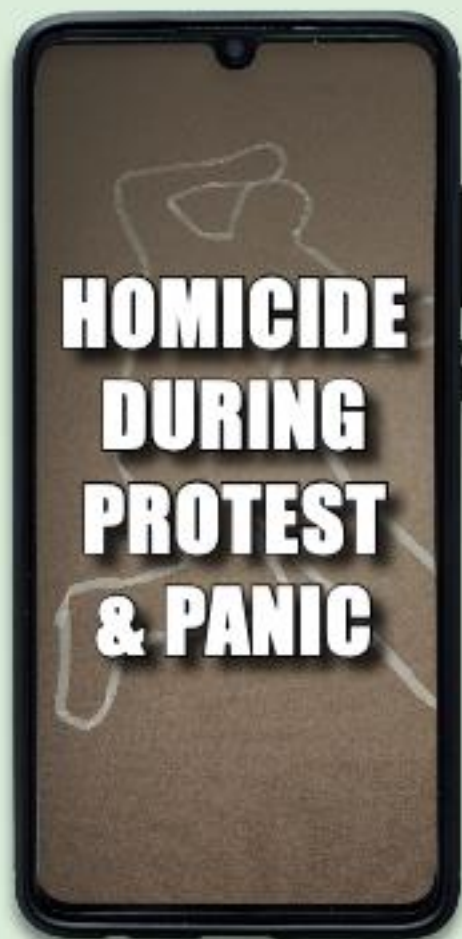


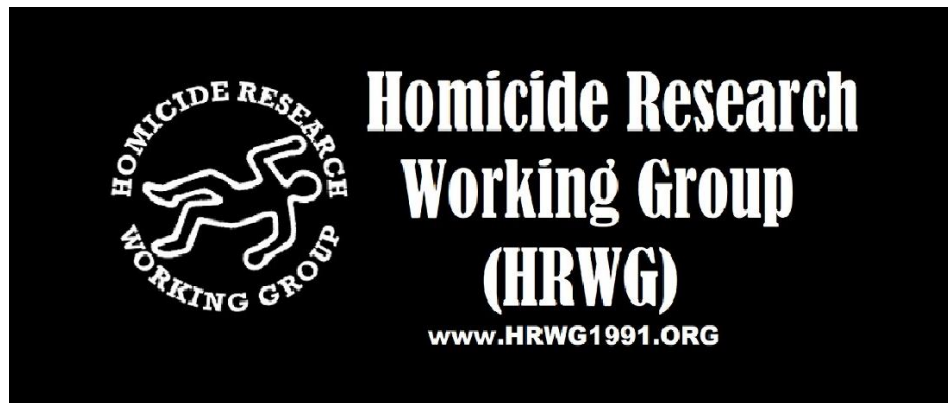


HOMICIDE RESEARCH WORKING GROUP 2021 ANNUAL MEETING



**MAY 25-28, 2021
VIRTUAL MEETING**

Committee: Melissa Tetzlaff-Bemiller (Co-Chair),
Kim Davies (Co-Chair), Shila Hawk, Ashley Mancik,
Sonya Spence, and Amber Scherer



ABOUT: [HTTPS://HRWG1991.ORG](https://hrwg1991.org)

*The **Homicide Research Working Group (HRWG)**, an interdisciplinary and international organization. Though homicide research, dataset development, and intervention programs literally involve life-and-death issues, work in lethal violence had been scattered among numerous disciplines and was largely uncoordinated. In order to address this problem, practical and academic homicide experts from criminology, public health, demography, medicine, sociology, criminal justice, and a variety of other disciplines created the Homicide Research Working Group. We welcome individuals from both the academic and practitioner communities who are interested in understanding and preventing lethal violence, both in the homicides themselves and situations (e.g., domestic violence) that can result in murder.*

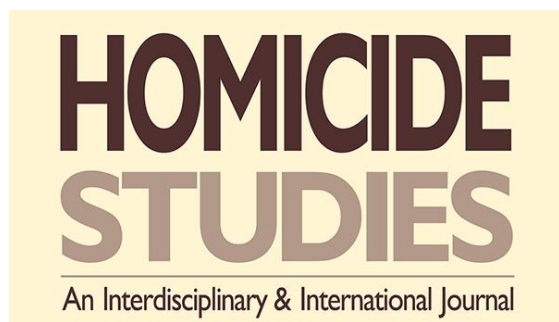


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Homicide Studies is the official journal of HRWG.
Get more information at <https://hrwg1991.org/about-homicide-studies/>



Homicide Studies (HS), published quarterly, bridges the gap between academic and practitioner with high quality, multidisciplinary articles devoted to the dissemination of information concerning research, public policy, and applied knowledge related to the study of homicide. HS brings you the latest thinking and discussion in homicide studies aiding more effective public policies to help reduce and possibly

prevent future homicides.

Bridging the gap between academic and practitioner, as well as between wide-reaching disciplines, Homicide Studies brings you papers from the following areas:

Criminology
Criminal Justice
Sociology
Psychology
Public Health Public Policy

Anthropology
Social Work
Medicine
Law
Forensics

Political Science
History
Geography
Nursing

Comprehensive Focus

Homicide Studies is essential reading for academic researchers, people involved in law and practice, and those involved in the development and evaluation of public policy. *The journal publishes a wide range of current scholarship relating to homicide, including such topics as:*

- The effects of capital punishment in deterring homicides
- Projected psychological profiles of serial killers and the match to actual offenders
- Feminist theories of homicide
- Cross-cultural and/or international comparisons of homicide research findings
- Analyses of trends in homicide offending and victimization
- The correlation between child abuse and homicidal tendencies
- Evaluations of support groups for family members of homicide victims
- Assessment of brain injury through child abuse among convicted homicide offenders
- Determining predictors of lethal violence among couples with histories of domestic violence
- Differentiating the dynamics of homicide and non-lethal assaults
- Investigative techniques that enhance probabilities of offender identification
- Methodological problems posed by decreasing homicide clearance rates

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HOMICIDE DURING PROTEST AND PANIC

2021 Annual HRWG Meeting Call for Papers

How have these global events separately or together impacted homicide, violence, and the criminal justice system as it relates to homicide or violence? How might they affect homicide, homicide investigations, and the criminal justice system as related to homicide and violence in the future? We call for papers, papers-in-progress, and poster presentations related to the study of homicide and violence; and this year, we are particularly interested in papers on the protests, police brutality, and/or the Covid-19 Pandemic.

As academics, pracademics, practitioners, and everything in between, HRWG welcomes all papers, addressing any aspect of homicide, and at all stages of development. The Working Group is designed to help author(s) think through aspects/issues/questions related to the research, including student ideas for thesis or dissertation proposals. Presenter(s) are expected to draft a five-page summary of their work approximately one month prior to the meeting (end of April) for inclusion in the program and to receive valuable direction and feedback on your work.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABOUT: HTTPS://HRWG1991.ORG	i
4/21/2021Homicide Studies: An Interdisciplinary & International Journal.....	ii
2021 COMMITTEES OF THE	iii
HOMICIDE RESEARCH WORKING GROUP.....	iii
Call for Papers	v
Agenda Snapshot (EDT)	1
Presentation Order (EDT).....	2
FULL AGENDA: Wednesday, May 26, 2021.....	7
FULL AGENDA: Thursday, May 27, 2021	15
FULL AGENDA: Friday, May 28, 2021	23
PRESENTATION AUTHORS	29



Agenda Snapshot (EDT)

Tuesday, May 25, 2021	
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Welcome, Opening Remarks, and Introductions
2:00 pm – 2:05 pm	BREAK
2:05 pm – 3:50 pm	Keynote Presentation by Dr. Richard Rosenfeld
3:50 pm – 4:00 pm	Adjourning Remarks
Wednesday, May 26, 2021	
9:30 am – 10:45 am	Session 1: Comparative Homicide and Trends
10:45 am – 12:00 pm	Session 2: Homicide Spatial and Clustering
12:00 pm – 12:45 pm	LUNCH
12:45 pm – 2:00 pm	Session 3: Intimate Partner Homicide
2:00 pm – 3:15 pm	Session 4: Policing, Race, and Gang Homicide
3:15 pm – 3:30 pm	BREAK
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm	Practitioners' Plenary 1: Homicide Investigations During a Pandemic
Thursday, May 27, 2021	
9:30 am – 10:45 am	Session 5: Femicide and Child Homicide
10:45 am – 12:00 pm	Session 6: Innovations in Linking Data, Tools, and Theory
12:00 pm – 12:30 pm	LUNCH
12:30 pm – 1:15 pm	Business Meeting #1
1:15 pm – 2:30 pm	Session 7: Pandemic, Homicide, & Violence: I
2:30 pm – 2:45 pm	BREAK
2:45 pm – 4:00 pm	Session 8: Pandemic, Homicide, & Violence: II
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Practitioners' Plenary 2: Cold Case Homicide Investigations
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Happy Hour: Open Discussion
Friday, May 28, 2021	
9:30 AM – 10:15 AM	Session 9: Pauline and Pawel
10:15 AM – 11:30 AM	Session 10: Multiple Homicide
11:30 AM – 12:00 PM	LUNCH
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM	Session 11: Post-Homicide
1:30 PM – 2:30 PM	Business Meeting #2
2:30 PM – 2:45 PM	Closing Remarks



Presentation Order (EDT)

Tuesday, May 25, 2021	
2:05 PM – 4:00 PM	Keynote Presentation on the Increasing Rates of Murder in 2020-2021 Richard Rosenfeld, <i>University of Missouri-St. Louis</i>
Wednesday, May 26, 2021	
SESSION 1 9:30 AM – 10:45 AM <u>MODERATOR:</u> Melissa Tetzlaff-Bemiller	Firearm Homicides in Europe: Exploring Cross-National Variations Katharina Krüsselmann, Pauline Aarten, <i>Leiden University</i>; Andri Ahven, <i>Estonian Ministry of Justice</i>; Hugo D'Arbois de Jubainville, <i>National Observatory of Delinquency And Penal Responses</i>; Sven Granath, <i>Swedish National Police</i>; Janne Kivivuori, <i>University of Helsinki</i>; Aurelien Langlade, Keltourne Larchet, <i>National Observatory of Delinquency And Penal Responses</i>; Martti Lehti, <i>University of Helsinki</i>; Nora Markwalder, <i>University of St. Gallen</i>; Asser Hedegaard Thomsen, <i>Aarhus University</i>; Simone Walser, <i>University of Zurich</i>; & Marieke Liem, <i>Leiden University</i> Homicide in the Dutch Caribbean: Recent Trends Simone van der Zee, <i>Leiden University & University of Curacao</i> A Systematic Analysis of Serial Homicide Incidents in India S.A. Deepak, <i>DG Vaishnav College</i>
SESSION 2 10:45 AM – 12:00 PM <u>MODERATOR:</u> Marieke Liem	Temporal and Spatial Profile of Firearm Suicide and Homicide Deaths Over 22 Years in a Large Metropolitan Area Stacy A. Drake, <i>Texas A&M University/Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences</i>; Ned Levine, <i>Ned Levine & Associates</i>; Yijiong Yang, <i>University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston</i>; Alicia Medina, <i>Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences</i>; Dwayne A. Wolf, <i>Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences</i>; & Michael Kenneth Lemke, <i>University of Houston-Downtown</i> Birds of Feather, Flock Together?: Examining Spatial Clustering In Drug-Related Homicides and Gun Violence Arnaldo Rabolini, Katharina Krüsselmann, & Marieke Liem, <i>Leiden University</i> Taking Homicide out of the Realm of Crime: Clustering of Homicide with other Adverse Health Outcomes J.A. van Breen & Marieke Liem, <i>Leiden University</i>



HRWG 2021 (Virtual) Meeting: Homicide during Protest and Panic

SESSION 3 12:45 PM – 2:00 PM <u>MODERATOR:</u> <i>Kim Davies</i>	1. Typology of Intimate Partner Homicide: A Couple-Based Approach <i>Alexandra Lysova, Simon Fraser University</i> 2. Firearm Use in Intimate Partner Homicide: A Comparison <i>Karissa R. Pelletier, Jesenia M. Pizarro, Millan AbiNader, Jill T. Messing, Arizona State University; April M. Zeoli, Michigan State University; & Jacquelyn Campbell, Johns Hopkins University</i> 3. ‘The Father, The Son, and The Abuser’: The Portrayal of Male Victims of Intimate Partner Homicide in the News Media <i>Kenzie Hanson & Alexandra Lysova, Simon Fraser University</i>
SESSION 4 2:00 PM – 3:15 PM <u>MODERATOR:</u> <i>Grainne Perkins</i>	1. Police Accountability: A Theatre of Transparency? <i>Grainne Perkins, Seattle Police Department</i> 2. Gendered Racial Threat: A State-Level Analysis of Black Female Homicide Victimization, 1980-2019 <i>Kaitlin M. Boyle, University of South Carolina; P’trice Jones, University of California-Irvine; & Ashley Mancik, University of South Carolina</i> 3. Preliminary Methodological, Theoretical and Practical Findings from Contextualizing the Processes of ‘Interrupting’ Gang Homicides in Poor Black Communities in Los Angeles <i>Bill Sanders, California State University Los Angeles</i>
PRACTITIONERS’ PLENARY 1 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM <u>MODERATOR:</u> <i>Shila Hawk</i>	Homicide Investigations During a Pandemic <i>Atlanta Police Department Chamblee Police Department DeKalb County Police Department East Point Police Department</i>



HRWG 2021 (Virtual) Meeting: Homicide during Protest and Panic

Thursday, May 27, 2021	
SESSION 5 9:30 AM – 10:45 AM <u>MODERATOR:</u> Jacquelyn Campbell	1. Child Homicide in Georgia Melissa Tetzlaff-Bemiller, <i>Augusta University</i> 2. Pediatric Mortality Related to Intimate Partner Violence Kathryn J. Spearman, <i>Johns Hopkins University</i>; Karissa Pelletier, <i>Arizona State University</i>; Jacquelyn Campbell, <i>Johns Hopkins University</i>; Jill T. Messing, Jesenia M. Pizarro, & Millan AbiNader, <i>Arizona State University</i> 3. Intimate Partner Femicide: Offender Behaviour and Planning Freya McLachlan, <i>Queensland University of Technology</i> 
SESSION 6 10:45 AM – 12:00 PM <u>MODERATOR:</u> Mark Winton	1. Linking Data for Better Rates and Profiles: Using Clinical and Justice System Data to Define Firearm Violence Exposure Shila Hawk, <i>Applied Research Services, Inc. & University of Arkansas</i> 2. Postdicting Different Forms of Homicide using the Psychopathy Checklist-Revised (PCL-R) Jiseun Sohn, <i>Georgia College & Georgia State University</i> 3. Can Violentization Theory Explain Terrorism? Mark A. Winton, <i>University of Central Florida</i>
SESSION 7 1:15 PM – 2:30 pm <u>MODERATOR:</u> Jaclyn Schildkraut	1. Unmasked: Mask-Related Violence during the COVID-19 Pandemic Sonya Spence & Lin Huff-Corzine, <i>University of Central Florida</i> 2. A New Wave of Mass Shootings? Exploring the Potential Impact of COVID-19 Jaclyn Schildkraut, <i>State University of New York at Oswego</i>; Jillian J. Turanovic, <i>Florida State University</i> 3. Rethinking the Nexus of Firearm Homicides, COVID-19, and Social Unrest: How Syndemic Theory and Complex Systems Approaches Can Innovate Understanding and Prevention Michael Kenneth Lemke, <i>The University of Houston-Downtown</i>; Stacy A. Drake, <i>Texas A&M University/Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences</i>; Dwayne A. Wolf, <i>Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences</i>; Ned Levine, <i>Ned Levine & Associates</i>; & Yijiong Yang, <i>University of Texas Health Sciences Center</i>



HRWG 2021 (Virtual) Meeting: Homicide during Protest and Panic

SESSION 8 2:45 PM – 4:00 PM <u>MODERATOR:</u> Wendy Regoeczi	1. The Minneapolis Crime Panic: A Study in Disaster Criminology amidst a Global Pandemic and Civil Unrest Dallas S. Drake, <i>Center for Homicide Research</i> 2. The COVID-19 Pandemic, Job Loss, and Violent Crime: Chicago as a Case Study Avery Worrell & Ashley Mancik, <i>University of South Carolina</i> 3. Retaliatory Gun Violence in Chicago: An Analysis of Repeat and Near-Repeat Fatal and Non-Fatal Shootings Hadley Wellen & Ashley Mancik, <i>University of South Carolina</i>
PRACTITIONERS' PLENARY 2 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM <u>MODERATOR:</u> Shila Hawk	Cold Case Homicide Investigations Sheryl McCollum, <i>Cold Case Investigative Research Institute (CCIRI)</i> Introduced by: Didi Nelson, <i>Special Assistant for Intergovernmental Affairs/Law Enforcement Coordinator, U.S. Attorneys' Office, Northern District of Georgia</i>
Friday, May 28, 2021	
SESSION 9 9:30 AM – 10:15 AM <u>MODERATOR:</u> Lin Huff-Corzine	1. The Truth about our Parentage: Pauline Tarnowsky, the True Mother of Criminology Lin Huff-Corzine & Kayla Toohy, <i>University of Central Florida</i> 2. Teaching Criminal Investigations Pawel Waszkiewicz, <i>University of Warsaw</i>



HRWG 2021 (Virtual) Meeting: Homicide during Protest and Panic

SESSION 10 10:15 am – 11:30 pm <u>MODERATOR:</u> Ashley Mancik	1. Mass Murder, Mass Shootings, and Active Shooter: A Comparison across Definitions and Data Sources Rachel R. Rodriguez & Ashley Mancik, <i>University of South Carolina</i> 2. Operationalizing Mass Murder Alec Szalewski, <i>High Point University</i>; Amy Reckdenwald, Lin Huff-Corzine, Jay Corzine, <i>University of Central Florida</i>; & Melissa Tetzlaff-Bemiller, <i>Augusta University</i> 3. The Contributory Role of Psychopathology and Inhibitory Control and also the Application of the Typology of Eight Warning Behaviors for Assessing the Threat of Intended Violence in the Case of Mass Shooter James Holmes Clare S. Allely, <i>University of Salford</i>, <i>Gillberg Neuropsychiatry Centre</i>, <i>Sahlgrenska Academy</i>, & <i>University of Gothenburg</i>
SESSION 11 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM <u>MODERATOR:</u> Jesenia Pizarro	1. Attending to Trauma: Promoting Vicarious Resilience and Preventing Vicarious Traumatization among Homicide Researchers Millan A. AbiNader, Megan L. Brown, Jesenia M. Pizarro, & Jill T. Messing, <i>Arizona State University</i> 2. Transformative Trajectories: Creating Growth after Homicide Judith Ehrman-Shapiro, <i>California Institute of Integral Studies</i> 3. Assigning Punishment: Reader Responses to Crime News Kat Albrecht, <i>Northwestern University & Northwestern University</i>; & Janice Nadler, <i>Northwestern University</i> 4. Do Firearm Sentence Enhancement Statutes Predict Sentencing Outcomes: An Examination of New Jersey's Graves Act Daniela Oramas Mora, Juan Ghiorzo, & Jesenia M. Pizarro, <i>Arizona State University</i>



HRWG 2021 (Virtual) Meeting: Homicide during Protest and Panic

FULL AGENDA: Tuesday, May 25, 2021

1:00-2:00 PM EDT

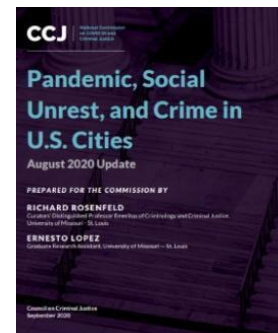
Welcome, Opening Remarks, and Introductions

2:05-3:50 PM EDT

Increasing Rates of Murder in 2020-2021

Featured Speaker: Dr. Richard Rosenfeld

Dr. Richard Rosenfeld, Curators' Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of Missouri – St. Louis and author of the recently released CCJ & Arnold Ventures Report on the Pandemic, Social Unrest, and Crime in U.S. Cities



3:50-4:00 PM EDT

Adjourning Remarks

FULL AGENDA: Wednesday, May 26, 2021

9:30-10:45 AM EDT

SESSION 1: COMPARATIVE HOMICIDE AND TRENDS

1. Firearm Homicides in Europe: Exploring Cross-National Variations

Katharina Krüsselmann, *Leiden University*; Pauline Aarten, *Leiden University*; Andri Ahven, *Estonian Ministry of Justice*; Hugo D'Arbois de Jubainville, *National Observatory of Delinquency And Penal Responses*; Sven Granath, *Swedish National Police*; Janne Kivivuori, *University of Helsinki*; Aurelien Langlade, *National Observatory of Delinquency And Penal Responses*; Keltourne Larchet, *National*



HRWG 2021 (Virtual) Meeting: Homicide during Protest and Panic

Observatory of Delinquency And Penal Responses; Martti Lehti, University of Helsinki; Nora Markwalder, University of St. Gallen; Asser Hedegaard Thomsen, Aarhus University; Simone Walser, University of Zurich; & Marieke Liem, Leiden University

Each year, approximately one thousand homicides are committed with firearms in the EU. In depth research into the characteristics and dynamics of gun homicide in Europe is scarce, due to a lack of reliable and detailed data. Drawing on incident-level data from the European Homicide Monitor, we compare firearm- to non-firearm homicides across -, as well as temporal variations within seven European countries (Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland). The results reveal significant national differences in rates, as well as characteristics of these homicides, their victims and perpetrators. In this evolving work, we theoretically explore various socio-demographic and relevant legal contextual factors, such as firearm availability that might help explain some of these cross-national variances.

2. Homicide in the Dutch Caribbean: Recent Trends

Simone van der Zee, Leiden University & University of Curacao

Central America, Latin America and the Caribbean are among the most violent regions in the world. In 2020 the top three countries in the region with the highest homicide rates were Jamaica with a homicide rate of 46.5 victims per 100.000, Venezuela with a rate of 45.6 and Honduras with a rate of 37.6. Fatal violence is also a frequent phenomenon in the Caribbean part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, nowadays also referred to as the Dutch Caribbean.

Police data show that Curaçao counted 28 homicide victims in 2017. With a population of around 160,000, the homicide rate amounts to 18. In the Netherlands, the homicide rate in 2017 was 0.93. This means that the risk of becoming a homicide victim is much higher in the Caribbean part of the Netherlands than in the European part. However, in recent years the risk has decreased. In 2018 the number of victims in Curaçao was 21 and in 2019 this number amounted to 19. With only 13 homicide victims in 2020, an all-time low has been recorded. In the current year, this trend seems to be continuing. Mid-March 2020 only one homicide has taken place. In particular, the number of criminal homicides has declined. Criminal homicide has traditionally been a prominent type of homicide in Curaçao. As homicide numbers decreased, clearance rates have increased from 36 percent in 2016 to 67 percent in 2020.

What happened in Curaçao in 2020 is not unique. Many countries in the region have recorded significant drops, but in Curaçao the decline could be seen even before the Covid-pandemic. Although homicides have not been a rare occurrence on Curaçao for decades, not much is known about the nature and causes. Scientific interest has been scarce. Numbers are counted, but comprehensive statistics are lacking. Insight into the nature of these crimes is important, both for the design of policies to prevent fatal killings and for police investigation purposes. To fill this gap, a research project was started in 2018 with the aim of providing in-depth insight into homicide in the Dutch Caribbean in the past ten years: from 2010 until 2020. To this end a Dutch Caribbean Homicide Monitor was constructed, modelled on the Dutch Homicide Monitor. A pilot study has been conducted in Curaçao. In this paper some first results will be presented, and recent trends will be explored.



3. A Systematic Analysis of Serial Homicide Incidents in India

S.A. Deepak, *DG Vaishnav College*

Serial Killings are a recurring phenomenon in most Indian States but so far there are no measures from public or private agencies to understand the nature and frequency of this phenomenon. The National Crime Records Bureau of India does not classify the homicides, and therefore it is impossible to know the intensity of such incidents in the overall homicide rates. A massive systematic study of literature including research papers, thesis, non-fiction books, media articles, print materials were undertaken to analyse the incidents of serial killings in India for the last forty years (1981 to 2020). The study has identified 96 separate incidents of individuals involving in serial killings reported from the 29 states in India during the last forty years. Several interesting patterns were drawn regarding the profile of serial homicide offenders, their victims and the modus operandi. The study found several significant differences in aspects such as the profiles of the murderers, victim profiles, modus operandi adopted by the killers compared to similar studies conducted in western countries.

10:45-12:00 AM EDT

SESSION 2: HOMICIDE SPATIAL AND CLUSTERING

1. Temporal and Spatial Profile of Firearm Suicide and Homicide Deaths Over 22 Years in a Large Metropolitan Area

Stacy A. Drake, *Texas A&M University/Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences*; Ned Levine, *Ned Levine & Associates*; Yijiong Yang, *University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston*; Alicia Medina & Dwayne A. Wolf, *Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences*; and Michael Kenneth Lemke, *University of Houston-Downtown*

This study is a follow up to our previous study that examined the spatial patterns of firearm homicides and suicides and their socio-economic correlates in Harris County, Texas in 2014. Homicide and suicide deaths as a result of firearm remains a public health problem in the United States. Combined, firearm suicides and homicides comprise the third leading cause of injury deaths (CDC, 2017). The purpose of this retrospective study is to address the following for both homicides and suicides: 1) time series analysis; and 2) spatial and temporal interactions.

The public data comes from the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences (IFS) and includes firearm deaths from January 1, 2009 – December 31, 2020. The IFS, which includes the medical examiner, investigates all non-natural deaths in the county, and forensic pathologists determine the manner of death (homicide, suicide, accident, or undetermined). Texas A&M University IRB deemed the study as exempt human subjects' research.

Bivariate and multivariate statistical analyses was carried out to examine differences between homicide and suicide firearm fatalities over time. Additionally, hot spot analysis of homicide and suicide deaths



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were conducted with plans to conduct geospatial analysis and multivariate spatial modeling using Markov Chain Monte Carlo simulation regression models to be ready for the workshop.

Of the N=7,449 fatal firearm events, 3246 were classified as suicide, 4102 as homicide, 32 as accident, and 69 were undetermined. Also, 684 involved more than one death of which 437 were multiple homicides and 247 were homicide-suicide paired events. The age distribution of firearm related homicide and suicide deaths was 0-14 years (115), 15-24 years (1788), 25-64 years (4780) and 65+ years (665). The total number of male and female decedents were 6316 and 1032, respectively. Race/ethnicity included non-Hispanic White (2633), Black (2495), Hispanic (1943) and other (277); the latter includes Asians, American Indians, multi-ethnic, and unknown.

Significant statistical association was found in suicidal firearm deaths with non-Hispanic White ethnicity, prior psychiatric history, and veteran status. Significant statistical association of homicide firearm deaths included Black and Hispanic ethnicity, and prior history of gunshot wound injury. It also appears that the homicides occurred disproportionately in low-income neighborhoods.

The overall temporal trend was an increase in both homicide and suicide firearm deaths over the time frame. Further, firearm homicide deaths have increased even more after June of 2019 but not firearm suicide deaths. Firearm-related homicides were higher at nighttime while suicide firearm deaths were highest in the daytime. Homicide deaths were highest on Friday nights, Saturday nights, and Sunday early mornings while suicides were highest on Mondays. Lastly, two concentrations of hot spots were identified among the homicides and three among the suicides, with some overlap.

These emerging results suggest the presence of key interactions over time between firearm deaths and the spatial, temporal, and psychosocial contexts in which they occur. This may indicate latent mechanisms that exhibit *dynamic complexity* are important in shaping these outcomes. For example, the co-occurrence of homicides and interpersonal violence may be mutually reinforcing and nonlinearly shape firearm deaths, thus constituting a vicious cycle.

To explore this possibility, we will conceptualize an agent-based model (ABM) that can illustrate how a community intervention might reduce gun violence in Harris County, for example by modeling through computational simulation how various prevention initiatives (e.g., expanding the Affordable Care Act in Texas) might improve welfare in neighborhoods with high gun violence.

Further, the presence of dynamically complex mechanisms may warrant homicide studies that embrace novel theoretical perspectives. For example, homicides were disproportionately present among populations of color and in neighborhoods that are socioeconomically deprived, and such spatial characteristics have been iteratively shaped by macrostructural forces and processes over long periods of time. Additionally, the co-occurrence of homicides and suicides in some deprived neighborhood (as indicated by overlapping hotspots) may reinforce excessive disparities in health and well-being. Altogether, such patterns of synergistic outcomes and clustering within specific communities and populations may indicate the presence of a firearm *syndemic*. The integration of syndemic theoretical perspectives in homicide research may shed new light on the dynamically complex causality of firearm deaths and suggest innovative prevention regimes.



2. Birds of Feather, Flock Together?: Examining Spatial Clustering In Drug-Related Homicides and Gun Violence

Arnaldo Rabolini, *Leiden University*; Katharina Krüsselmann, *Leiden University*; and Marieke Liem, *Leiden University*

Drug-related homicides (DRH) constitute the most severe type of drug-related violence and could be thought of as an indicator of underlying criminal violence. So far, however, the validity of using drug-related homicide as a proxy for such violence is a largely untested hypothesis, and the exact relationship between drug-related homicide and other types of criminal violence, particularly gun violence, is so far unknown. In this presentation we describe and discuss the spatial distribution of drug-related homicides in the Netherlands and assess to what extent it spatially relates to gun homicides, other criminal homicides, and non-lethal gun incidents.

3. Taking Homicide out of the Realm of Crime: Clustering of Homicide with other Adverse Health Outcomes

J.A. van Breen, *Leiden University*; and Marieke Liem, *Leiden University*

In this project we examine whether homicide 'clusters together' with other adverse health outcomes in the Netherlands. Like many other (Western) European nations, homicide in the Netherlands is relatively infrequent. The annual number of deaths as a result of homicide range from around 260 in the early 1990s to about 100 each year in the late 2010s, which represents a rate of victimisation of between 0.62-1.80 per 100.000 of the population (Aarten et al., 2019). The current study examines whether homicide clusters with suicide, infant mortality, teenage pregnancies, and substance abuse, across different regions of the Netherlands between 1996 and 2019.

This 'clustering approach' examines correlations between rates of homicide and other phenomena, rather than rates of homicide *per se*. Even low absolute homicide rates can thus generate patterns of correlations with other phenomena that offer relevant insight into societal dynamics. As such, this clustering approach particularly beneficial when applied to contexts where absolute number of homicide rates are relatively low, such as in the Netherlands, which is the focus of the current study.

Following previous work by Ousey (2017) conducted in the United States, we expected to observe substantial and significant correlations amongst the phenomena (hypothesis 1), which are reduced in size when social deprivation is controlled for (hypothesis 2). However, results showed that correlations between homicide and the other phenomena were small in size – ranging from $r = .005$ to $r = .32$. That is, there was limited evidence that these adverse phenomena cluster together in certain regions. In the presentation, we would like to ask the audience to reflect on the interpretation of these findings. What do these findings tell us about the dynamics underlying homicide? And what does this mean for the interpretation of homicide as an indicator of 'social problems'?



12:45-2:00 PM EDT

SESSION 3: INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDE

1. Typology of Intimate Partner Homicide: A Couple-Based Approach

Alexandra Lysova, *Simon Fraser University*

Most of the typologies or classifications of intimate partner homicides (IPHs) have focused on the characteristics of IPH perpetrators. Given that men are more likely to be perpetrators of these offences, the existing literature has concentrated on femicide and distinct subtypes of male IPV perpetrators. A few studies have also examined types of IPHs committed by women. However, a more comprehensive review of different types of IPHs from a couple-based perspective has not been developed. The proposed typology extends our understanding of different types of IPHs perpetrated by men and women within the context of intimate terrorism, violent resistance, and situational violence and also addresses the dominant theories explaining each type. Individual risk factors identified in earlier research are important and can interact with the couple-based risk factors of IPH. This couple-based typology includes both male and female victims and perpetrators of IPH and reflects the heterogeneity in IPH types. Policy recommendations and the implications for future research are discussed.

2. Firearm Use in Intimate Partner Homicide: A Comparison

Karissa R. Pelletier, *Arizona State University*; Jesenia M. Pizarro, *Arizona State University*; Millan AbiNader, *Arizona State University*; Jill T. Messing, *Arizona State University*; April M. Zeoli, *Michigan State University*; and Jacquelyn Campbell, *Johns Hopkins University*

Women who are murdered are most often killed by a current or former intimate partner (Fridel & Fox, 2019; Jack et al., 2018). A study examining NVDRS data demonstrated that intimate partners committed approximately 17% of U.S. homicides in 27 states, with the overwhelming majority of victims being women (Jack et al., 2018). Further, using data from the Uniform Crime Report between 1990 and 2016, Kivisto and colleagues (2019) found that there was an association between state-level firearm ownership and rates of domestic firearm homicide. Despite evidence that homicide of women is often committed in the context of an intimate relationship, there have been limited examinations into firearm use in homicides motivated by intimate partner (IP) violence. Those that have examined this area have found increase in the use of firearms by 26% in IP homicide incidents since 2010 (Fridel & Fox, 2019). Other work has shown that 56.2% of IP homicides have been committed with a firearm (Kivisto, 2019), and 62% of children killed in an intimate partner homicide incident were killed with a firearm (Adhia, 2019). There are also been few examinations that compare firearm use in IP homicide and homicides committed with other motivations. The relative rarity of these studies warrants an examination into the subject, particularly given the weight of the issue. This presentation will discuss the differences between firearm use in IP-motivated homicides and firearm use in homicides committed with other motivations. In order to do this, this study will use data from the Arizona Intimate Partner Homicide Study to examine firearm homicides at the individual- and situational-level. Implications for theory and policy will be discussed.



3. 'The Father, The Son, and The Abuser': The Portrayal of Male Victims of Intimate Partner Homicide in the News Media

Kenzie Hanson, *Simon Fraser University*; and Alexandra Lysova, *Simon Fraser University*

Media research on intimate partner homicide (IPH) primarily focuses on male perpetrators and female victims. It can be attributed to the fact that women are substantially more likely to be victims of male perpetrated IPH. At the same time, a growing body of research on male victims of female perpetrated intimate partner violence shows that a large number of men are "battered" in their relationships and suffer from mental and physical health problems. This necessitates that male victims of female perpetrated IPH also be considered, which may potentially lead to a more effective prevention of future deaths related to IPH of both men and women. This study analysed 203 English-language news articles of IPH involving male victims and female perpetrators for the year 2019. Using thematic analysis, this study aimed to determine how news media portray male victims of female perpetrated IPH. Given the limited research on the portrayal of male victims of IPH, we juxtaposed some of our findings with the representation of female victims of IPH. Three themes were identified: doubting the victim (who is the victim?), victim recognition ("he didn't deserve this"), and the legalistic approach (police frame). The findings suggest that in the news media male victims of female perpetrated IPH tend to be blamed for their victimization and represented as non-ideal and illegitimate victims. When conforming to normative gender norms, male victims of IPH appear to be portrayed more positively. News media is recommended to utilize more responsible gender-inclusive and contextual reporting which may allow for the existence of 'true' male victims of IPH.

2:00-3:15 PM EDT

SESSION 4: POLICING, RACE, AND GANG HOMICIDE

1. Police Accountability: A Theatre of Transparency?

Grainne Perkins, *Office of Police Accountability, Seattle Police Department*

The question of who guards the guardians has been debated since Plato's time. Recent protests stemming from the murders of African Americans in North America has brought such guardianship into sharp focus where police misconduct is now viewed on a global stage. However, what happens when involved officers are not criminally charged has been less well examined. There is a lack of research relating to how internal affairs departments address complaints about police brutality. Recognising how the police are internally policed is central to understanding and identifying key police accountability issues. Establishing a conceptual framework around how police complaints are received, processed, and investigated is an essential element in understanding what it means to hold police officers accountable to the public they serve. This paper takes a unique look at police accountability through the lens of an internal affairs department against the backdrop of recent protests in Seattle about the murder of George Floyd.



2. Gendered Racial Threat: A State-Level Analysis of Black Female Homicide Victimization, 1980-2019

Kaitlin M. Boyle, *University of South Carolina*; P'trice Jones, *University of California, Irvine*; Ashley M. Mancik, *University of South Carolina*

Violence against Black women has historically been overshadowed by state-sanctioned violence against Black men and domestic violence against white women. The nexus of hypotheses about these phenomenon—racial threat and gender equality backlash or amelioration, respectively—are used to understand the killing of Black women by Black and white men (Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1980-2019) and by law enforcement (Fatal Encounters, 2000-2019). In a series of multi-level negative binomial models, we find that when Black women have higher absolute socioeconomic status, they are less vulnerable to lethal violence perpetrated by Black men. In other words, when fewer Black women experience poverty and unemployment, fewer are killed by Black men, providing support for the amelioration hypothesis. However, when Black women have greater political power and socioeconomic status *relative* to white men, they are more likely to be killed by both white men and law enforcement. Thus, the killing of Black women by white men and law enforcement appears to be partially the result of threats to racial and gender power hierarchies that have historically privileged white men. Implications for this “gendered racial threat” phenomenon for theory and Black women’s experiences are discussed.

3. Preliminary Methodological, Theoretical and Practical Findings from Contextualizing the Processes of ‘Interrupting’ Gang Homicides in Poor Black Communities in Los Angeles

Bill Sanders, *California State University Los Angeles*

Gang interventionists have a history of ‘interrupting’ homicides. How they do this is largely unclear. This presentation offers preliminary methodological, theoretical, and practical findings from contextualizing the processes involved in interrupting homicides. Data are based on interviews with a gang interventionist in Los Angeles over a 28-month period. The objective of the research was to better contextualize how exactly he does this, as well as the extent that such an ‘interruption’ stopped the homicide altogether or simply postponed it. Previous presentations have offered details about the various contexts and processes how the interventionist accomplished these events. This presentation provides information on replicating this research, theoretical insight gained on how and why gang murders are committed, and practical considerations related to the value of gang interventionists who interrupt homicides.



HRWG 2021 (Virtual) Meeting: Homicide during Protest and Panic

3:30-5:00 PM EDT

PRACTITIONERS' PLENARY 1: HOMICIDE INVESTIGATIONS DURING A PANDEMIC

Detective Jim Thorpe, *Atlanta Police Department*

Lieutenant Alex Cushenan, *Chamblee Police Department*

Detective Adam Quigley, *DeKalb County Police Department*

Detective TBD, *East Point Police Department*

The occupational stressors of being a homicide detective are distinct, both in terms of intensity and specific sources compared to other officer assignments. This may be particularly true during the COVID-19 pandemic. This panel of law enforcement practitioners, from metro-Atlanta police agencies ranging in size and organization, will discuss the extra challenges of homicide investigations throughout the past year.



FULL AGENDA: Thursday, May 27, 2021

9:30-10:45 AM EDT

SESSION 5: FEMICIDE AND CHILD HOMICIDE

1. Child Homicide in Georgia

Melissa Tetzlaff-Bemiller, *Augusta University*

According to data from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System, an estimated 1,840 children died from abuse or neglect in 2019, a 10.8% increase from 2015, in the United States (Child Welfare Information Gateway, 2019). Of these over two-thirds (70.3%) of the children were younger than three years old with nearly half, 45.4%, being younger than 1 year old (Child Welfare Gateway Information, 2019). While Georgia has seen an increase in child abuse and neglect over the past several years,



HRWG 2021 (Virtual) Meeting: Homicide during Protest and Panic

fatalities from it have remained pretty consistent ranging from 23-30 children under the age of five per year. In 2019, Georgia had 26 children under the age of five die because of child abuse or neglect. This study examines sociodemographic correlates of child homicide in the state of Georgia and uses geospatial analysis to visualize correlations and patterns.

2. Pediatric Mortality Related to Intimate Partner Violence

Kathryn J. Spearman, *Johns Hopkins University*; Karissa Pelletier, *Arizona State University*; Jacquelyn Campbell, *Johns Hopkins University*; Jill T. Messing, *Arizona State University*; Jesenia M. Pizarro, *Arizona State University*; Millan AbiNader, *Arizona State University*

Childhood exposure to intimate partner violence (IPV) can result in adverse physical, mental, and behavioral health outcomes for children throughout their lifespans (Bair-Merritt et al., 2013; Feletti et al., 1998). However, less is known about the relationship between IPV and pediatric mortality. The US has the highest rate of pediatric mortality (3rd leading cause of death) related to homicides among high income countries (Adhia, Austin, Fitzmaurice, & Hemenway, 2019; CDC, 2019). Approximately 20% of child homicides for children ages 2-14 can be classified as intimate partner homicide (IPH)-related, where a child was killed in an incident related to an attempted or completed IPH or the homicide was preceded by adult intimate partner violence or conflict (Adhia et al., 2019). Other scholars have identified divorce or partner estrangement and child custody disputes as risk factors in IPH-related homicide and suicides (Holland, Brown, Hall, & Logan, 2018; Sillito, & Salari, 2011). A stepchild of the perpetrator in the home has also been identified as a risk factor. This is consistent with the literature on familicide, which is overwhelmingly perpetrated by males against a current or former partner and one or more of their biological children or stepchildren followed by their own suicide (Karlsson et al., 2021). However, few scholars have examined the circumstances surrounding IPV-related homicides of children, and especially how firearm access, ownership and behaviors affect IPH risk for children. We will discuss what is currently known in the literature about the risks and protective factors related to children (under age 18) who are murdered in the context of intimate partner violence, including firearm access, ownership, and behaviors, and identify gaps and directions for future research. Additionally, we will present preliminary findings from the PAIRS study¹, a multistate research study that focuses on examining the risk factors for intimate partner homicide, as they relate to children and youth homicides. Finally, the presentation will conclude with a discussion on the novel methods that are being used to elucidate the risk factors and context around pediatric mortality related to IPH.

¹ "A comparison of firearm-related intimate partner homicide in Texas and Maryland: Prevalence, identification of those at risk, and the effect of firearm regulations" (1 R61 HD104570-01) (PI: J. Campbell, PhD, RN, JHU SON; Co-PI: J. Messing, PhD, MSW, ASU SSW); "A comparison of firearm-related intimate partner homicide in Missouri and Oregon: Prevalence, risk, and the effect of firearm regulations" (NCGVR; PI: J. Messing, PhD, MSW, ASU, SSW; Co-PI: J. Campbell, PhD, RN, JHU SON; Co-I: J. Pizarro, PhD, ASU; Co-I: A. Zeoli, PhD, MSU); "An Examination of Risk Factors of Intimate Partner Homicides in Arizona" (WATTS, Social Work_School of, PGK0020) (PI: J. Messing, PhD, MSW, ASU SSW); "An Examination of Risk Factors for Intimate Partner Homicide" (Everytown for Gun Safety, Co-PI: J. Messing, PhD, MSW, ASU SSW, J. Campbell, PhD, RN, FAAN, JHU SON, & J. Pizarro, PhD, ASU).



3. Intimate Partner Femicide: Offender Behaviour and Planning

Freya McLachlan, *Queensland University of Technology*

Intimate partner femicide (IPF) is the murder of a woman within the context of a current or former intimate relationship (Bugeja, Dawson, McIntyre, & Walsh, 2015). It can be a lethal consequence of intimate partner violence (IPV) but can also occur without any violence preceding it (Johnson, 2019). While IPF can occur in all types of relationships, it is overwhelmingly perpetrated by men (Stark, 2018). IPF is a rare event when compared to domestic violence (DV) and IPV in Australia and globally, however large amounts of research have highlighted key risk factors that could prevent IPF deaths from occurring (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2018; Bridger, Strang, Parkinson, & Sherman, 2017; Cullen et al., 2019; Cunha & Goncalves, 2016). Widely accepted risk factors of IPF include previous violence, an offender's criminal history, excessive use of alcohol or other drugs, separation, coercive and controlling behaviours, and non-fatal strangulation (Dobash & Dobash, 2015; Messing & Thaller, 2013; Spencer & Stith, 2018). More recently, research conducted by Monckton Smith examines offender behaviour prior to the IPF and the timeline commonly followed by offenders (Monckton Smith, 2019). This presentation will discuss a research project conducted as part of a PhD which aims to examine these risk factors and offender behaviours and how they are associated with IPF, using a feminist lens (see Johnson, 2008; Stark, 2007). This project collected risk factors and analysed offender behaviour from Australian cases of male perpetrated IPF. Using statistical quantitative analysis and qualitative narrative analysis, this research will highlight the common risk factors in IPF as well as the associated offender behaviours pre-IPF and post-IPF. These findings will aim to confirm recent research that seeks to highlight patterns in offender behaviour prior to IPF and may help in understanding the increase of DV and high-risk offenders in a post Covid-19 world.

10:45 am-12:00 pm EDT

SESSION 6: INNOVATIONS IN LINKING DATA, TOOLS, AND THEORY

1. Linking Data for Better Rates and Profiles: Using Clinical and Justice System Data to Define Firearm Violence Exposure

Shila Hawk, *Applied Research Services, Inc. & University of Arkansas*

Background: Firearm related injury is an important and growing public health issue. Hospital patients who have a firearm-related injury have a 45% higher risk of repeat gun shot wound (GSW) or criminal justice interaction within 5 years. Being a victim of violence increases the possibility of being a perpetrator of violence, so understanding the nexus between violent injury and violent behavior is paramount to prevention. Violence intervention programs can identify high risk individuals at the time of injury, and intervene, breaking the cycle of violence. Siloed data mean that researchers only get part of the story when seeking to define the rates and risks of firearm violence.

Purpose: Triangulate imaging, clinical, and criminal justice data to determine factors associated with repeat firearm injury or violent offense among intentional, secondary firearm victims in a major southeastern metropolitan area.



Methods: For this cohort study, initial qualifying individuals were identified if they experienced an intentional firearm injury from 2013-2016 as documented in the clinical health records of an urban level 1 trauma center or by the Atlanta Police Department. Subsequently, all related lifetime records for these qualifying individuals were extracted from five criminal justice databases. Data were also obtained from 2008 – 2017 radiology reports at the trauma center by querying firearm-related terms (e.g., bullet, ballistic, shrapnel) to augment documentation of a prior shooting. Significance level was $p < .001$.

Results: 4,058 persons were injured by nonfatal intentional firearm violence from 2013-2016. 90% were male, 94% were non-white, and mean age was 30 years old. Nearly a third (1,202) experienced repeat firearm victimization or committed a serious violent offense; half within a year of the first shooting. Individuals at risk of repeat or retaliatory shooting exhibited significant differences compared to those not at risk. Factors associated with an at-risk individual included non-white race, male gender, 18-35 years old, index injury in high-violence zip codes, prior abuse/injury, prior illegal drug use, and prior arrest, gun or drug charge ($p < 0.001$). Independent odds ratios (OR) were calculated for descriptors related to repeat firearm injury with the highest being verified gang member $OR = 8.69$, prior gun charge $OR = 4.06$, prior felony arrest $OR = 3.68$, and prior incarceration $OR = 3.72$.

Conclusion: This study demonstrates a novel use of healthcare and criminal justice data to identify individuals who experienced recurrent firearm violence. Half of patients seen at the hospital were unknown to the police and approximately 10% of shootings victims were never treated by a medical professional. Repeat cases were found among radiology data suggesting imaging are a valuable piece of the patient's medical history and can be extracted to supplement medical history records and help understand the epidemiology of public health issues. Combining data can lead to better research findings and efforts to reduce violence exposure. Further, there is a significant profile for whom are most at risk of repeat victimization or retaliation. Applying this knowledge will reduce public costs.

2. Postdicting Different Forms of Homicide using the Psychopathy Checklist-Revised (PCL-R)

Jiseun Sohn, *Georgia College & State University*

While many studies reported a relationship between psychopathy and crime, few studies have explored a link between psychopathy facet scores and different forms of homicide. The study analyzes 550 homicide offenders' scores of the Psychopathy Checklist-Revised (PCL-R) that were assessed after they committed homicide. The study compares family homicide offenders with those who killed strangers and with those who killed nonfamily victims that included friends, acquaintances, and neighbors, using multinomial logistic regressions. All four PCL-R facets differed in a comparison between family homicide and stranger killing. For a comparison between family homicide and nonfamily homicide, facet 3 and facet 4 showed differences. Results advise that those who killed complete strangers are more likely to have higher scores on facet 2 (affective), facet 3 (lifestyle), and facet 4 (antisocial) and lower facet 1 (interpersonal) score compared to family homicide offenders. In addition, those who killed nonfamily acquaintances tend to have higher facet 3 and facet 4 scores compared to family homicide offenders. These preliminary findings suggest that psychopathy facet scores differentially contribute to the different forms of deadly violence and that stranger and nonfamily acquaintance killers have higher psychopathic traits than family homicide offenders.



3. Can Violentization Theory Explain Terrorism?

Mark A. Winton, *University of Central Florida*

Lonnie Athens developed violentization theory to explain how people become violent and dangerous perpetrators. This theory has rarely been applied to terrorism. The purpose of this presentation is to explore how the five stages of the violentization theory processes may be applied to terrorists. These stages include brutalization, defiance, violent dominance engagement, virulency, and violent predation. Additionally, these stages will be compared to the radicalization process among different types of terrorist groups.

12:30-1:15 PM EDT

BUSINESS MEETING #1

1:15-2:30 PM EDT

SESSION 7: PANDEMIC, HOMICIDE, & VIOLENCE: I

1. Unmasked: Mask-Related Violence during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Sonya Spence, *University of Central Florida*; and Lin Huff-Corzine, *University of Central Florida*

The first objective of this paper is to explore the experiences workers have had when they are responsible for seeing that customers wear a mask when entering the enclosed area. COVID-19 has forced all of us to change our normal routine activities. Customers are now expected to wear a mask when shopping or entering public transportation. Employees, who work as security officers, convenience store cashiers, bartenders, and bus drivers, for example, have the added duty to explain that donning a mask is necessary to enter the establishment or vehicle. These are not the high-paying positions within their respective companies. However, they are often targeted by the violent outburst a would-be customer exhibits when told they need to wear a mask or leave. They are also the ones who often must intervene when customers argue about having to wear masks. Findings indicate that they experienced name-calling, racial slurs, assault, batteries, and even death due to the angry would-be customer. For example, in May of 2020, a security guard was killed after confronting someone for not wearing a mask, and a Waffle House cook was shot for refusing to serve a maskless customer who was asked to wear a mask. Nearly 90 assaults and batteries have been recorded. Once findings are presented, a second objective is to explore alternative ways to approach people. Essentially, increasing knowledge about mask-related violence incidents could decrease the number of incidents in the current and future pandemics.



2. A New Wave of Mass Shootings? Exploring the Potential Impact of COVID-19

Jaclyn Schildkraut, *State University of New York at Oswego*; and Jillian J. Turanovic, *Florida State University*

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought much of U.S. society to a grinding halt, including the occurrence of public mass shootings. In March 2020, for example, news outlets reported that it was the first March in nearly two decades without a school shooting, due in large part to the fact that schools were shut down and learning had transitioned to an online format. This begs the question, however, of whether mass shootings really have dissipated or if they have simply relocated. Previous research has identified two distinct waves of mass shootings. The first wave occurred in the 1920s and largely involved familicides as a result of the strain from the Great Depression. Conversely, the second wave began in the 1960s and was marked by more public mass shootings (e.g., Columbine, Las Vegas, Parkland). With the public largely being confined to their homes in an effort to slow the spread of the virus, we consider whether the COVID-19 pandemic has led to a shift back towards the first wave of mass shootings or potentially even created a third wave. Using data from the Gun Violence Archive, we explore patterns of mass shootings for 12 months prior to and after the March 13, 2020 declaration of the coronavirus as a national emergency, with particular focus on the location of such incidents. We also consider the broader implications for the findings related to potential response strategies for combatting mass shootings.

3. Rethinking the Nexus of Firearm Homicides, COVID-19, and Social Unrest: How Syndemic Theory and Complex Systems Approaches Can Innovate Understanding and Prevention

Michael Kenneth Lemke, *The University of Houston-Downtown*; Stacy A. Drake, *Texas A&M University/Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences*; Dwayne A. Wolf, *Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences*; Ned Levine, *Ned Levine & Associates*; and Yijiong Yang, *University of Texas Health Sciences Center*

Homicide research has demonstrated that population-level patterns of firearm homicide are shaped by an array of causal factors across multiple levels of influence, spanning from macrostructural forces and policies (e.g., universal background checks; restrictions on assault rifles) to individual-level factors (e.g., minority ethnicity; socioeconomic status). In conjunction with longstanding factors (hereafter referred to as vulnerabilities, to embody their roles in shaping disparate and undesirable outcomes at the population-level), recent events – namely, the COVID-19 pandemic and social unrest in response to incidents of police brutality, along with policy responses to these events – have corresponded to rises in firearm homicide rates in numerous urban locales, thus plausibly introducing novel vulnerabilities. For example, following a long decline in both the national and Harris County, TX rate of homicides from about 1992, in Harris County the homicide rate started to increase in 2018 and jumped substantially at the end of 2019. Research frameworks that are typically employed in homicide studies are grounded in reductionist and linear (proportionality and unidirectionality) assumptions about cause and effect and seek to identify so-called “risk factors.” Although the body of evidence is still emerging, the nexus of longstanding and novel vulnerabilities that shape firearm homicide rates may warrant alternate theoretical and methodological approaches that move beyond risk factor epidemiology to holistically



HRWG 2021 (Virtual) Meeting: Homicide during Protest and Panic

capture the multifactorial and interactive causal nature of these events over time. In particular, complex systems approaches may provide newfound insights into the nexus of these vulnerabilities within communities and populations that experience disparities in firearm homicides. Syndemic theory may provide a powerful, complex systems-grounded 'lens' to holistically contextualize the nexus of endemic vulnerabilities that shape firearm homicides and novel vulnerabilities related to COVID-19 and social unrest. The term 'syndemic' is defined as the clustering, due to sociostructural forces, of two or more interacting and exacerbatory afflictions within a population (e.g., the substance use, violence, and HIV/AIDS [SAVA] syndemic). Conceptualizing firearm homicides as a firearm homicide syndemic can embody the clustering of these events due to longstanding (i.e., endemic) vulnerabilities within communities disproportionately burdened by these events; how these vulnerabilities are continually shaped by dynamic macro-level policies and forces that have unfolded over time, including those related to COVID-19 and social unrest; and how the co-occurrence of firearm homicides and comorbid afflictions may synergistically perpetuate extant health and safety disparities within these clusters. Computational modeling and simulation (CMS) approaches typically utilize computer-based formal models, where the dynamically complex 'virtual worlds' of CMS formal models play out in electronic space over time to enable the exploration of basic and applied counterfactuals. While there are several broad types of CMS techniques, agent-based modeling (ABM) may be especially useful for exploring the hypothesized presence of a firearm homicide syndemic due to its ability to model nonlinearity generated by the interactions among heterogeneous objects across space and time (e.g., feedback loops). Objects (i.e., agents) have internal states, or "memory", that can track exposures and other key individual-level causal mechanisms over time. Additionally, ABM can include environments that embody explicit spatial characteristics to shed light on how macro-level place-based factors and policy environments can affect firearm homicides over long time periods, as well as the influence of agent-environment interactions on these events. Thus, our paper-in-progress has three objectives: 1) to explore the presence of a firearm homicide syndemic; 2) to demonstrate the rationale for using ABM to explore the presence of a firearm homicide syndemic and for identifying high-leverage preventive solutions; and 3) to propose an analytic plan to develop, test, and analyze an ABM of firearm homicide syndemicity in Harris County, TX, which could subsequently be extended to other contexts. More broadly, it is our hope that this project will introduce promising new theoretical perspectives and methodological and analytical approaches into homicide research and prevention in a broader sense, which may complement the existing knowledge base of firearm homicides.

2:45-4:00 PM EDT

SESSION 8: PANDEMIC, HOMICIDE, & VIOLENCE: II

1. The Minneapolis Crime Panic: A Study in Disaster Criminology amidst a Global Pandemic and Civil Unrest

Dallas S. Drake, *Center for Homicide Research*

Two major events befell the City of Minneapolis nearly simultaneously, 1) the Covid-19 Pandemic, and 2) the killing of George Floyd by a law enforcement officers. The result of Floyd's killing led to widespread civil unrest. Homicide and crime doubled in the city, but homicides returned to relative normal by year's



end. Despite receding numbers in all crime categories, citizens continued to believe that crime was out of control. Using mixed methods, this research investigates the competing claims and their underlying motivations, as well as an examination of the quality and character of homicide during this past year and its implication for preventing non-disaster homicides.

2. The COVID-19 Pandemic, Job Loss, and Violent Crime: Chicago as a Case Study

Avery Worrell, *University of South Carolina*; and Ashley M. Mancik, *University of South Carolina*

Preliminary statistics indicate non-fatal shootings and homicides have risen sharply over the past year in tandem with the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic, despite fundamental shifts in Americans' routine activities. Unemployment rates have also spiked as the COVID-19 pandemic led to stay-at-home orders, the closing of "non-essential" businesses, and resulting job loss. The impact was not felt equally across communities, however, with African Americans disproportionately experiencing more serious health conditions and higher death rates from COVID, greater job loss, and more exposure to violence and homicide. Drawing on Wilson's (1986) work documenting the deleterious effects of deindustrialization on inner-city life, including increased joblessness and social isolation, and subsequent scholarship linking these concentration effects with heightened rates of homicide and violence, we draw parallels linking current economic conditions stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic with increased violence. Utilizing violent crime data from the Chicago Data Portal and unemployment data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics for the years 2019 and 2020, we examine whether current economic instability and job loss resulting from COVID-19 is linked to increased shootings and homicides in the city of Chicago. In contrast to the lack of governmental aid to address rapid job loss due to deindustrialization, which predominately impacted low-skilled African Americans, the government issued stimulus checks to somewhat offset the economic hardship resulting from COVID-19. As such, policy implications and the disproportionate impact the pandemic has had on minority communities, are emphasized.

3. Retaliatory Gun Violence in Chicago: An Analysis of Repeat and Near-Repeat Fatal and Non-Fatal Shootings

Hadley Wellen, *University of South Carolina*, and Ashley M. Mancik, *University of South Carolina*

Homicide researchers often conceptualize homicide as one end of a continuum of violent assaults, recognizing the distinction between whether a victim survives an attack or succumbs to their injuries may be influenced by several factors, including EMS response time and proximity to medical care, lethality of weapon used, and accuracy of the offender. Implicit in this assumption is that the offender's intention was to kill or seriously injure the victim. Conceivably, if an offender shoots at his intended target with the intention of killing him, but misses completely or wounds him instead, we would expect an increased likelihood the offender would attempt again. The current analysis utilizes the near-repeat calculator to examine the probability of a repeat shooting occurring within a pre-defined time frame and geographic proximity if the initial shooting is unsuccessful (i.e., non-fatal), and whether this relationship is statistically significant. We also analyze retaliatory events and examine the probability of a repeat shooting occurring within a pre-defined time frame and geographic proximity after a fatal shooting occurs. After determining the probability and significance of a repeat shooting following both non-fatal and fatal shootings, we utilize multi-level models to examine the victim, incident, and environmental factors that contribute to the probability a repeat shooting occurs. Implications for law enforcement and crime prevention strategies are discussed.



HRWG 2021 (Virtual) Meeting: Homicide during Protest and Panic

4:00-5:00 PM EDT

PRACTITIONERS' PLENARY 2: COLD CASE HOMICIDE INVESTIGATIONS

Sheryl McCollum, *Cold Case Investigative Research Institute (CCIRI)*

Introduced by: Didi Nelson, *Special Assistant for Intergovernmental Affairs/Law Enforcement Coordinator, U.S. Attorney's Office, Northern District of Georgia*



The Cold Case Investigative Research Institute (CCIRI) was founded by Sheryl McCollum in 2004. At the CCIRI, college students work side-by-side with professionals of the criminal justice community to advance research, training, and techniques in solving unsolved murders, kidnappings, and missing persons cases. In this presentation, McCollum will give an overview of the work at the CCIRI, and she will lay out a case in war-room fashion. She will highlight possible things to be done to crack this case. You are not simply watching her presentation of the case - you are participating! This is your case too, and McCollum will bring you what you need to push this case. You ask the questions; you provide theories. During this presentation, you will help to solve a real cold case!

FULL AGENDA: Friday, May 28, 2021

9:30-10:15 AM EDT

SESSION 9: PAULINE AND PAWEL

1. The Truth about our Parentage: Pauline Tarnowsky, the True Mother of Criminology

Lin Huff-Corzine, *University of Central Florida*; and Kayla Toohy, *University of Central Florida*

In the summer of 2019, we reported the preliminary translation of a sample of case studies reported in Pauline Tarnowsky's *Les femmes homicides*, a remarkable research attempt to study women who had committed, or attempted to commit, homicide in Russia during the last half of the 19th century. Throughout the project we have gained new insights into the life and background of Tarnowsky, highlighting the contributions she made to the discipline of Criminology which have long been forgotten, lost to the passage of time and the gender biases that prevailed in the academic world that surrounded her. Tarnowsky's work in the area of biological positivism was published in the same period of years as founding criminological contributors such as Caesar Lombroso, Jeremy Bentham, and Raffaele Garofalo but has been often neglected in the retelling of the historical development of the discipline. Here we re-examine her contributions to the field, discuss her background and its influence on her work and recognition, and share a few additional case studies that we have translated in the past two years of



work we have conducted. We argue that Tarnowsky should be considered our criminological mother, the counterpart to Lombroso's title of the father of Criminology.

2. Teaching Criminal Investigations

Pawel Waszkiewicz, *University of Warsaw*

The public interest in crime, criminals, and law enforcement is a well-known and studied phenomenon. On the different levels, it answers the demand on law and order, happy ends, and believing in justice and just foundation of the world. Forensics and criminalistics received their share of the public hype fueled by popular TV series, such as *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation*. Universities all over the world opened undergraduate and master programs in forensics. Teaching how to investigate crimes was no more taking place only at the police academies or police stations.

Teaching criminal investigations on the one hand may seem to be a really easy job. It is really hard to think of a more appealing subject (with no offense to statistics). On the other hand, it is a very demanding task. Starting from answering the questions - who are the students and what is the actual goal of such class. And - bearing in mind the subject potential - the distinction between having fun and teaching. In some cases that line may become blurred to the degree when neither teachers nor students remember the original objective of such a course. The presentation will cover experiences of teaching criminal investigations and criminalistics in 4 different countries (Canada, Poland, United Kingdom, United States) for different groups of students (law students VS. other majors). The difference in teaching such classes during a pandemic will be highlighted.

10:15 AM-11:30 PM EDT

SESSION 10: MULTIPLE HOMICIDE

1. Mass Murder, Mass Shootings, and Active Shooter: A Comparison across Definitions and Data Sources

Rachel R. Rodriguez, *University of South Carolina*, and Ashley M. Mancik, *University of South Carolina*

Rarely a day goes by without a newspaper headline featuring the latest "mass shooting," "mass murder," or "active shooter" incident, or how this year's numbers exceed previous years, stoking fear among the general public, policymakers, and politicians. The specific terminology and definition used, however, can have a large impact on our understanding of these rare, but highly publicized events. This is complicated by the fact that these terms are often used interchangeably, and possibly even inaccurately, in news accounts and public discourse. Increased media attention, coupled with rising public fear surrounding these types of incidents, necessitates a need to understand the prevalence of these events, whether they are increasing over time and/or becoming more fatal, and potential risk factors and warning signs. Our understanding of these events is further hampered by the fact that different data sources utilize different operational definitions, even for the same term. Common sources of divergence include motivation, location, victim threshold, weapon, and time span, among other considerations. Scholars and



practitioners are increasingly calling for consistent terminology, and a universal definition, to help us better understand these events. The current research effort is a modest step toward that overall goal. Drawing on data derived from multiple commonly used crowdsourced databases, including Mother Jones, the Washington Post, Gun Violence Archive, Everytown for Gun Safety, the FBI, and more, we examine the commonalities and differences in prevalence, trends, and predictors by definition and data source. Preliminary results reveal important differences by term. Implications of these differences for our understanding of this type of mass violence and policy prevention efforts will also be discussed.

2. Operationalizing Mass Murder

Alec Szalewski, *High Point University*; Amy Reckdenwald, *University of Central Florida*; Lin Huff-Corzine, *University of Central Florida*; Jay Corzine, *University of Central Florida*; and Melissa Tetzlaff-Bemiller, *Augusta University*

Operationalizing mass murder consistently has yet to be achieved. Mass homicide definitions often use time and space, but other key factors (e.g., victim count) vary widely across literature and agencies. Because of this, the current study argues for a mass family homicide definition of two or more victims, not including the offender, with no method of killing requirement. The purpose of using this victim count derives from the average family size and how many victims can be killed before an entire family annihilation. Next, using the suggested definition, three exploratory logistic regression models were run to further the understanding and achieve consistency on a topic of research that is underexplored, given its relatively large occurrence. Each model uses SHR data from 2010 to 2016.

The first model determined significant characteristics associated with family mass homicide. Findings lend support that two or more victim family mass homicide does have significant and important results. The second model compared two victim family mass homicide with three or more victims to try and determine if the suggested definition is significantly different than a standard definition from the FBI. Though the current study does not find support for this, future studies should continue to assess different victim counts using different data and methods. Finally, model three assessed characteristic differences between family mass murder with primary minor victims compared to family mass homicide with primary adult victims. This is important because minors are a unique subgroup in family violence that may play a significant role. Significance was found that suggests further studies continue to assess the unique role of child victims in family mass homicide. It is important to note that the current study is an initial exploration into a topic previously understudied that warrants further research to help establish proper and consistent findings for comparison.

3. The Contributory Role of Psychopathology and Inhibitory Control and also the Application of the Typology of Eight Warning Behaviors for Assessing the Threat of Intended Violence in the Case of Mass Shooter James Holmes

Clare S. Allely, *University of Salford*

In this presentation, the case of Mr. Holmes is discussed in detail with a particular focus on the treatment he received when he was at graduate school in the months leading up to the shooting and, primarily, the findings from the sanity evaluation carried out by Dr. Metzner. The typology of eight warning behaviors for assessing the threat of intended violence is explored in relation to this case. These eight warning



behaviors include: pathway, fixation, identification, novel aggression, energy burst, leakage, directly communicated threat, and last resort warning behaviors (Meloy et al., 2012). In this presentation the I³ model is also applied to the case of Mr. Holmes. His attack can be seen as resulting from an increase in dispositional and situational impelling factors, presence of instigation factors and a decrease in inhibiting factors, based on a detailed review of available information. The instigation, impellance and inhibition factors potentially present during the lead up to the shooting (approximately five months) and present at the time of the shooting are explored in this article. Instigation factors included a breakup with his girlfriend and academic failure at graduate school. Impellance factors included chronic (i.e., persistent) and severe mental illness associated with psychotic features (e.g., delusions, hallucinations and disordered thinking); social anxiety disorder (and trichotillomania); chronic suicidal thinking; chronic homicidal thinking and his perceived biological shortcomings. Inhibition factors included experiencing a “loss of fear” or “overcoming fear” of the consequences of killing people (in other words, he was becoming disinhibited); prescription medication which may have decreased his inhibition (specifically, antidepressant medication, sertraline — he was eventually prescribed 150 mg of sertraline) and individuals with ASD may be ‘more readier’ compared to others to act on psychotic impulses. This may have been what was happening in the case of Mr. Holmes. Specifically, why he was potentially more vulnerable to acting on his psychotic ideas and beliefs. Also, disinhibition caused by his severe mental illness associated with psychotic features (later diagnosed by the four psychiatrists before the trial as either schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder or schizotypal personality disorder) may also have been an important contributory factor (Allely, 2020).

12:00-1:30 PM EDT

SESSION 11: POST-HOMICIDE

1. Attending to Trauma: Promoting Vicarious Resilience and Preventing Vicarious Traumatization among Homicide Researchers

Millan A. AbiNader, *Arizona State University*; Megan L. Brown, *Arizona State University*; Jesenia M. Pizarro, *Arizona State University*; and Jill T. Messing, *Arizona State University*

Background: Vicarious trauma refers to the cognitive and affective impacts of being exposed to trauma through one's work; vicarious traumatization indicating negative effects (increased fear, nightmares, etc.) and vicarious resilience indicating positive effectiveness (increased pride, gratitude, etc.). While vicarious trauma, and avenues of intervention, have been frequently studied among practitioners, little is known about the effects of trauma exposure on researchers, particularly homicide researchers. Methods: Using qualitative research methods, our team will evaluate the vicarious resilience promotion and vicarious traumatization prevention policies and procedures in place on a homicide research project in Arizona. For the homicide research project, research assistants (staff, undergraduate students, and graduate students) abstracted data on homicides from newspaper articles, medical examiner files, and police reports. As members of the research team, all research assistants received training on vicarious trauma and traumatization prevention, are subject to written policy that codifies workers' rights to take steps to protect their well-being, and meet twice a month in a group setting or individually to discuss



data collection. Our evaluation aims to test if these steps have normalized a culture of self-care and validated students' struggles with this work. Focus groups with research assistants, led by a researcher that is not part of the homicide project, will explore how the team's structure, policies, and norms have or have not affected the emotional impact of this work. The facilitator will also conduct a focus group with the team leadership to discuss their approach. Focus group data will be analyzed using a thematic analysis approach: becoming familiar with the data, generating initial codes, coding data, and collapsing codes into distinct, definable themes. Results: Project leads will present the study's approach to vicarious traumatization prevention and vicarious resilience promotion and preliminary results from the evaluation. Discussion: For homicide researchers, exposure to traumatic material is inevitable, but how they are affected, in the short and long-term can be managed. It is imperative that studies take active steps to promote vicarious resilience among research teams to ensure sustainable and accurate data collection, prevent burnout of research team members, and to effectively train future homicide researchers to sustain this work throughout their careers.

2. Transformative Trajectories: Creating Growth after Homicide

Judith Ehrman-Shapiro, *California Institute of Integral Studies*

Psychological investigation of homicide-related bereavement has been scant. Empirical research has shown that surviving homicide involves a complex interaction of grief and trauma: two separate fields of inquiry that typically have little overlap. Homicide bereavement involves a unique and prolonged process and there are few therapeutic interventions specifically designed for these survivors. In addition, homicide occurs more frequently in minority populations in the United States, which are themselves often misunderstood, disenfranchised, underprivileged, and understudied. Transpersonal scholarship provides a conducive context to engage this area of study in meaningful ways. This mixed methods study investigated how thriving and creativity play a role in the depression-based descriptions of trajectories of grief as expressed in the subjective experiences of homicide survivors. Thriving-relevant variables included social connectedness, spiritual growth, identifying personal strengths, recognition of new possibilities, and life appreciation (Tedeschi & Calhoun, 1996, 2004). Quantitative psychometric measures investigated construct relationships, and informal measures, including narrative questions, provided qualitative data. This study examined how individuals experienced the tragedy of homicide over time and how they transformed their circumstances in order to survive and grow. A participatory frame was suggested to correct distortions in how homicide survivors are viewed and treated, to provide guidelines for the development of future interventions, and to encourage a transformative perspective.

3. Assigning Punishment: Reader Responses to Crime News

Kat Albrecht, *Northwestern University/Northwestern University*; and Janice Nadler, *Northwestern University*

In this study we test we how the composition of crime news articles contributes to reader perceptions of the moral blameworthiness of vehicular homicide offenders. After employing a rigorous process to develop realistic experimental vignettes about vehicular homicide in Minnesota, we deploy a survey on Amazon Mechanical Turk to test differential assignments of blameworthiness operationalized as duration of suggested punishment. We find that readers respond to having very little information by choosing neutral or mid-point levels of punishment, but are able to incorporate negative information about alcohol consumption and driving to consistently recommend increased levels of punishment.



Importantly, in our experimental condition about unrelated past illegal immigration, respondents are split into two large and near-equally sized groups on whether the offense deserves neutral or increased punishment. We find that self-reported conservative political views predict recommendations of more years of carceral punishment. We argue that this difference represents a moral dimension to punishment and blameworthiness that incorporates factors outside the active offense and therefore reveals the social influence of differential reporting in shaping public perception.

4. Do Firearm Sentence Enhancement Statutes Predict Sentencing Outcomes: An Examination of New Jersey's Graves Act

Daniela Oramas Mora, *Arizona State University*; Juan Ghiorzo, *Arizona State University*; and Jesenia M. Pizarro, *Arizona State University*

The use of a firearm in the commission of a homicide has been widely cited. In 2011, 68 percent of homicides were gun-related homicides (National Institute of Justice, 2019). Additionally, the federal government reported, through its Healthy People 2030 initiative, that in 2018, there were 11.9 firearm-related deaths per 100,000 individuals of the population. As a result, all fifty states have passed firearm sentence enhancements (FSE), with state-by-state variation on whether the enhancement is mandatory and on the lowest permissible minimum (Restore Justice, 2018). Evaluations of FSE have produced mixed results. For example, while McDowall, Loftin, and Wiersema (1992) found that FSE resulted in a decrease in the number of homicides, Raphael and Ludwig (2003) and Marvell and Moody (1995) found little to no support for the ability of FSE to reduce crime rates and gun use. Despite the evaluation of FSE, there has been limited examination into the effects of FSE on prison admissions and sentence lengths. Of those studies, they have generally found mixed results on whether FSE affects the length of prison sentences (Farrell, 2003; Lizotte & Zatz, 1986; Loftin, Heumann, & McDowall, 1983). Given the lack of examination on the effects of FSE on prison sentences and sentence lengths, the current study aims to address this gap in the literature using data from Newark, NJ. On January 13, 2008, New Jersey expanded the Graves Act to include a sentencing enhancement for the unlawful possession of a handgun. Prior, the sentencing enhancement only applied to "convictions for possession of a firearm for an unlawful purpose, or possession of a firearm during the course of committing certain specified predicate crimes (e.g., murder and manslaughter)" (P.L., 2007, c. 341). This presentation will discuss the effect of the Graves Act (2008) on both the likelihood of receiving a prison sentence and the length of the sentence. In order to do this, this study will use data of homicide offenders in Newark, NJ, from 1997 to 2017. Policy implications, limitations, and suggestions for future research will be discussed.

1:30-2:30 PM EDT

BUSINESS MEETING #2



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