AN ANALYSIS OF INTIMATE PARTNER MURDERS IN OKLAHOMA

Using State Incident-Based Data

Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation

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An Analysis of Intimate Partner Murders in Oklahoma

Using Incident-Based Reporting Data

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Introduction

The Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) for Oklahoma conducted an analysis of the number of intimate partner murders that were reported by law enforcement in the State of Oklahoma from 2011-2016. The SAC conducted a qualitative and quantitative analysis of intimate partner murders (IPMs) that were reported in Oklahoma using State Incident-Based Reporting System (SIBRS) reports. During the study, researchers also assessed the quality of the SIBRS reports and developed recommendations to improve the data quality.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), an intimate partner is a person with whom one has a close personal relationship that includes an emotional connectedness and an ongoing physical relationship. For the purpose of this research, the following relationships were included for the study: spouses; common-law spouses; boyfriend or girlfriend; dating relationships; or former spouses. After all IPM reports (n=176) from 2011-2016 were reviewed, 38 were determined to be a SIBRS intimate partner murder report which met the criteria for this study.

Key Findings

- Representing 50% of reports, the most common victim to offender relationship type was a spouse.

- The gender of victims and offenders was evenly distributed.

- Over 57% of IPM reports occurred between November and February.

- Thirty-one SIBRS agencies reported at least one intimate partner murder from 2011-2016.

- Only two IPMs included a secondary offense to the murder.

- A firearm was the most common type of weapon used during an IPM.

Literature Review

The Oklahoma SAC has previously performed other research using SIBRS data; the initial SIBRS studies were performed using only a single agency's data for analysis. However, the SAC began conducting analyses in 2017 using data collected from all SIBRS reporting agencies in Oklahoma. Prior to SIBRS implementation, crime was reported using a summary reporting system (SRS). The SRS reporting style would report the number of murders that occurred. It includes an additional supplemental form that has information regarding the type of weapon used; circumstances for homicide; and demographics for the offender and victim. In addition to the previously listed information, the supplemental form has a brief description of events and a victim to offender relationship. In contrast, a SIBRS incident report has an exact incident location, the type of report, multiple offense classifications, offense information (type of location, criminal activity, type of weapon, etc.), arrestee and/or suspect information, and a detailed narrative. A SIBRS report can include additional fields for a witness and/or reportee, vehicle information, and property (if theft is involved). This study highlights the benefits of using SIBRS data to report crimes, and it studies the quality of the data reported from local law enforcement agencies.

National History of Crime Reporting

Crime reporting began in 1930 with the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program. The FBI's UCR Program receives reports from over 18,000 law enforcement agencies in the United States. Crime reporting from law enforcement agencies is on a voluntary basis and is not required. The crimes that are reported by law enforcement agencies are crimes that are known by the agency or have been reported to the agency. Initially crime reporting was geared to assist the law enforcement agencies in planning, administration, etc.

However, reported crime data has grown to be used by a variety of groups including researchers, legislators, media, and educators.

The FBI's UCR Program utilizes a summary reporting system (SRS). The SRS only included the most serious of offenses with each incident that occurred. The SRS method included a hierarchy of what crimes occurred during an incident. Using the Hierarchy Rule, the agency would only report the highest-ranking offense in a group of crimes. For example, if a suspect robbed a convenience store and killed the security guard as he was fleeing, the agency would report the incident as a homicide. In 1989, the FBI UCR Program began implementing an incident-based reporting system; nationally, the incident-based reporting system is referred to as NIBRS. By using NIBRS data, the law enforcement agencies are capable of reporting every offense that occurs in an incident, which can include up to ten crimes in one incident. NIBRS data collects data on index crimes as well as other crimes that are less severe. Index crimes include Murder, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Larceny (Theft), and Motor Vehicle Theft. The FBI's UCR Program is transitioning to use only NIBRS data by January 01, 2021 (NIBRS User Manual, 2018).

History of Crime Reporting in Oklahoma

In the early 1970s, Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation (OSBI) was mandated by the legislature to begin a statewide UCR Program. Title 74 O.S. §150.10, in 1976, mandated that law enforcement agencies are required to report crime statistics to the OSBI. In Oklahoma, crime statistics were initially reported using the SRS formatting. In 2003, Oklahoma began transitioning from the SRS format to the State Incident-Based Reporting System (SIBRS) for Oklahoma. Six years later, in 2009, the FBI certified Oklahoma's SIBRS data. With SIBRS certified, the data was then submitted to the national program, NIBRS.

In a May 2017 report, 89% of agencies that reported crime to OSBI in 2016 were agencies that participated in the SIBRS program (SIBRS, 2017). However, these agencies only covered 46.5% of Oklahoma's population. Half of Oklahoma's population was not covered by a SIBRS agency due to the state's largest jurisdictions still using the SRS format (SIBRS, 2017). Approximately 31.2% of index crimes that occurred in the State of Oklahoma in 2017 were reported by a SIBRS agency (SIBRS, 2017). Figure 1 depicts the number of SIBRS agencies that were reporting during 2011-2016.

Figure 1. Number of SIBRS Agency, per Year
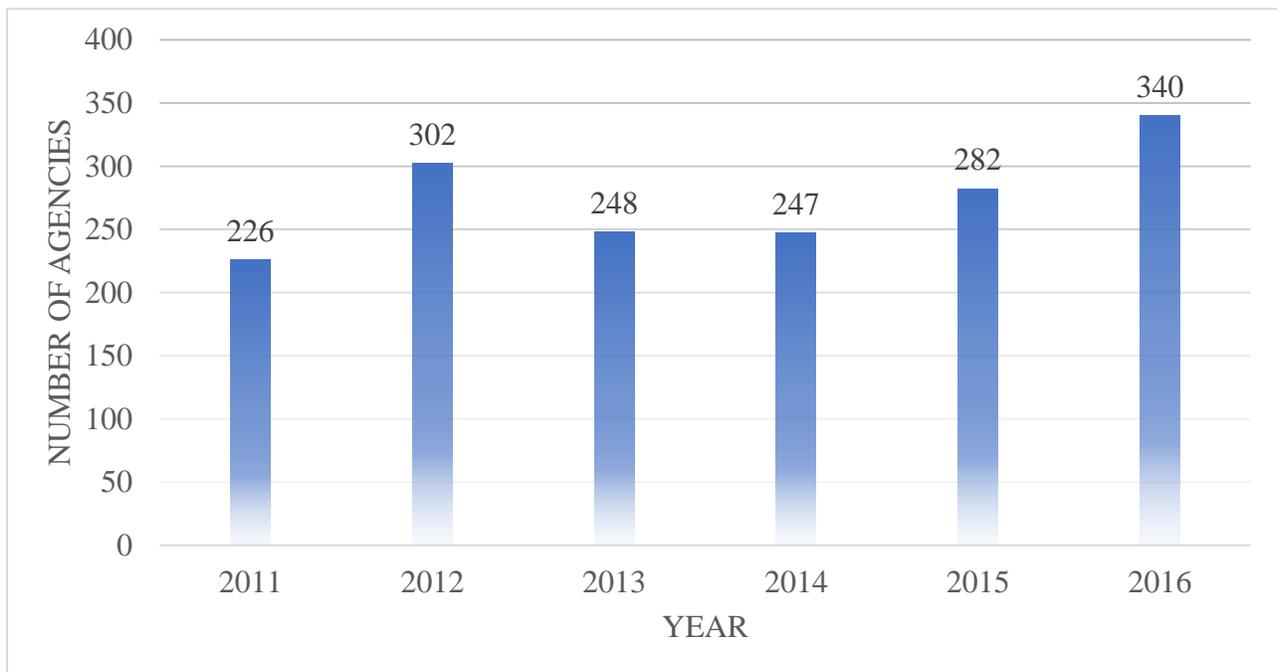
Intimate Partner Murders Defined

This study focused on intimate partner murders (IPMs) that occurred in the State of Oklahoma from 2011-2016. Intimate Partner Murders were defined as all instances where intimate partner violence (IPV) occurred resulting in death. Researchers used the CDC's definition of what defines an intimate partner. The CDC defines an intimate partner as "a person with whom one has

a close personal relationship (Breiding, MJ, Basile KC, Smith SG, Black MC, & Mahendra RR, 2015). Being emotionally connected or engaged in physical contact and/or sexual behavior can be characterizations of an intimate partner relationship. Characterization of an intimate partner relationship can include identifying as a couple and the individuals having a familiarity with one another's lives (Breiding et al, 2015). An intimate partner relationship does not need to include all of the above characterizations to be classified as an intimate partner relationship. For gathering data, researchers included an intimate partner relationship if the individuals were: current or former spouses; common-law spouses; boyfriends or girlfriends; and if the relationship included a dating or sexual partner.

Intimate Partner Violence

The CDC has several resources available related to intimate partner violence (IPV). The CDC defines IPV as physical and sexual violence; stalking; and psychological aggression that occurs with an intimate partner relationship (Breiding et al, 2015). These acts can occur while the victim and offender are in a current relationship, or they can occur if the victim and offender are former intimate partners. The acts of IPV can be different in each incident; the acts can be more or less frequent and more or less severe. Physical violence is defined as the intentional use of physical force causing death, injury, or harm. Sexual violence is defined as unwanted sexual contact or harassment; it include threats of sexual violence. The act of repeated and unwanted attention and/or contact that causes a fear or concern to the victim is defined as stalking. Lastly, psychological aggression is verbal or non-verbal communication intended to harm the victim mentally or emotionally. Psychological aggression can include acts such as coercive control, threats, and exploitation of the victim.

In the CDC's *Intimate Partner Violence Surveillance*, they describe how IPV is a public health issue (Breiding et al, 2015). The CDC conducts a survey called the National Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS); this survey presents data on IPV, stalking, and sexual violence among intimate partner relationships. In a 2017 report, the NISVS, using data from 2010-2012, found that one in four women were victims of IPV, and it found that one in nine men were victims of IPV (Smith, S.G., Chen, J., Basile, K.C., Gilbert, L.K., Merrick, M.T., Patel, N., Walling, M., & Jain, A., 2017). The IPV included sexual violence, physical violence, and stalking. The data from the 2010-2012 NISVS survey found that almost 1 in 4 women and 1 in seven men experienced a form of physical violence by an intimate partner (Smith et al, 2017). The NISVS includes questions regarding the type of negative impacts the victim felt during IPV; negative impacts include feeling fearful, concern for their safety, and symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). A majority of women (62%) captured in the survey reported they felt fearful, and 57% of women felt concern for their safety (Smith et al, 2017). Unlike the women, the men reported relatively low numbers in regards to negative impacts. Eighteen percent of men reported they felt fearful, and 17% reported they were concerned for their safety. Lastly, 52% of women and 17 % of men reported they had symptoms of PTSD (Smith et al, 2017).

In order to assist an understanding and prevention efforts of IPV, the CDC also analyzed data from the National Violent Death Reporting system (NVDRS) from 2003-2014. They included homicides surrounding non-IPV and IPV homicides. They found 55.3% of the homicides that occurred were related to IPV (Petrosky, E., Blair, J.M., Betz, C.J., Fowler, K.A., Jack, S.P., & Lyons, B.H., 2017). The most common circumstances surrounding the homicides were arguments and jealousy. From 2003-2014, the NVDRS captured over 4,000 IPV homicides; 79.2% of IPV homicides were committed by a current intimate partner (Petrosky et al, 2017). A former intimate

partner committed only 14.3% of the IPV homicides analyzed. One in 10 victims recorded in the IPV homicides were victims of violence in the months before their deaths (Petrosky et al, 2017).

Preventing Intimate Partner Violence and Murders

There are various ways to prevent IPV and IPMs. The victim of intimate partner violence or potential lethality may be protected by law enforcement or social services intervention. In addition to law enforcement or social service intervention, policies, laws, and programs can be implemented to prevent IPV or IPMs from occurring.

A lethality assessment is an example of how emergency responders can intervene when responding to an IPV call. The lethality assessment consists of interviewing victims to assess their risk of further severe IPV or IPM. If the victim is scored as a high risk of IPV or IPM, the law enforcement officer connects the victim with a social service provider. The lethality assessment also ensures that the victim of IPV is aware of their rights and resources to help (Messing, Jill T., Jacquelyn Campbell, Janet Sullivan Wilson, Sheryll Brown, Beverly Patchell, & Christine Shall, 2014). An evaluation of a lethality assessment program was conducted in Oklahoma from 2009-2013; the purpose of the lethality assessment program was to determine the effectiveness of law enforcement using the program when responding to emergency calls. The authors of the study theorized the lethality assessment program would reduce additional violent encounters between the victim and the offender and increase behaviors of victims to seek help or intervention (Messing et al, 2014). As authors expected, the 2014 study found victims participating in the assessment program reported less violence, and they were more likely to seek resources to prevent violence from occurring in the future (Messing et al).

On November 1, 2014, Oklahoma legislature passed a bill mandating law enforcement to conduct lethality assessments when responding to domestic violence or intimate partner violence

calls (21 O.S. § 142A.3). The statute describes law enforcement must inform victims of domestic abuse of a 24-hour, statewide, communication service, and law enforcement must advise the victim of their rights to pursue legal charges, protection from the offender, social services, etc. In regards to victims of IPV, the officer must assess the risk and danger the victim could experience. As previously stated, law enforcement in Oklahoma are to be conducting a lethality assessment when responding to domestic violence or IPV calls. However, there currently is not a mechanism to verify every law enforcement officer is conducting a lethality assessment on all domestic violence or IPV calls.

Methodology

Researchers exported data from the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) system for the state of Oklahoma. This data included all reported murders for the State of Oklahoma during 2011-2016. Using the UCR data, the information was queried to include murders that included the victim to offender relationship as Boyfriend, Girlfriend, Common-Law Husband, Common-Law Wife, Ex-Husband, Ex-Wife, Husband, and Wife. Once this query was performed, it resulted in potentially 176 intimate partner murders. Each case was then reviewed in the State Incident Based Reporting System, and it was determined that 134 cases were excluded due to the reporting agency being a Summary Reporting System (SRS) agency currently or at the time of the case. Two additional cases were excluded due to the murder not occurring in an intimate partner relationship. Lastly, two additional cases were excluded because the case was flagged as a classified report. After excluding these cases, 38 valid intimate partner murder SIBRS cases were available for analysis.

Data for the 38 valid IPM cases were analyzed using their corresponding SIBRS report. A SIBRS report has ten main segments to record data, and researchers collected IPM data from five of those ten segments. The five segments used were "Administrative," "Victim," "Offense," "Suspect/Arrestee," and "Narrative." Several variables were collected from the five segments used. The variables collected include Originating Agency Identifier (ORI), agency name, case number, report date and time, type of report, offense codes, and victim to offender relationship. In addition to the previous variables, data was collected for the victim's demographics, the offender's demographics, weapon type used, premise type, and circumstances surrounding the murder. Data was analyzed qualitatively and quantitatively.

Research Findings

Thirty-one State Incident-Based Reporting System agencies reported at least one intimate partner murder during 2011-2016. Twenty-seven of the 77 counties in the State of Oklahoma reported an intimate partner murder, and Tulsa County reported the most intimate partner murders during the six-year period. The 27 counties that reported IPMs and the number of reports can be seen in Figure 2. Tulsa County Sheriff's Office and Muskogee Police Department had the highest number (n=3) of IPM reports. The year 2016 had the highest number of IPM reports, and it accounted for 23.7% of reports. Only two of the 38 intimate partner murders had a secondary offense reported in addition to the primary offense of murder and/or non-negligent manslaughter. These two additional offenses reported were aggravated assault and a weapons law violation. Eighteen of the 38 reports were listed as a "Persons" report. "Domestic Violence" and "Arrests" represented the second most common type of report for intimate partner murders.

Table 1. Number of Reports, by Year

Year	Number	Percent of Reports
2011	8	21.1%
2012	1	2.6
2013	7	18.4
2014	5	13.2
2015	8	21.1
2016	9	23.7
Total	38	100.0%

Figure 2. Number of Intimate Partner Murder SIBRS Reports, by County

1 IPM Report

2 IPM Reports

3 IPM Reports
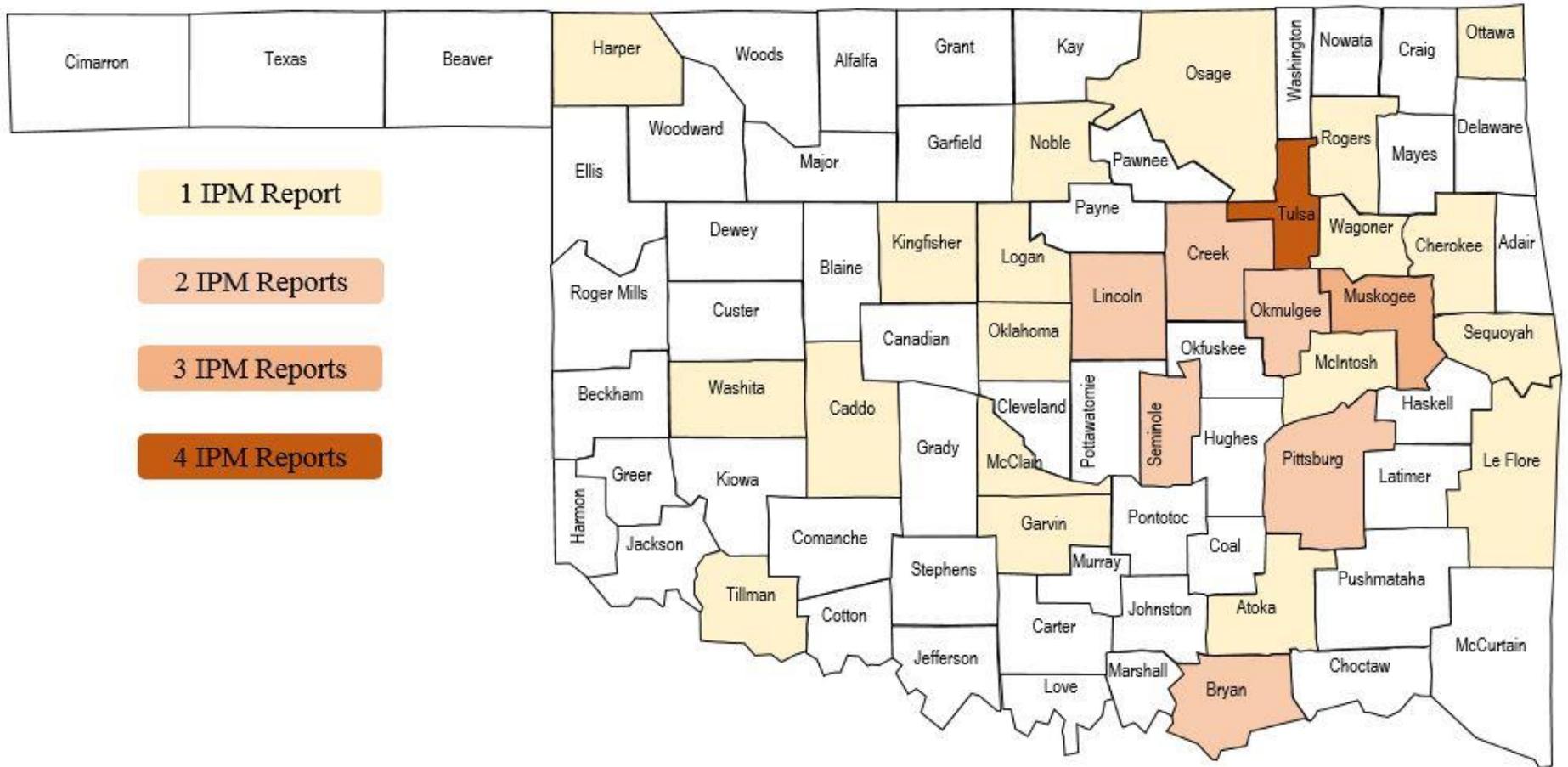
4 IPM Reports

Incident Report Analysis

From 2011-2016, over 57% of IPM cases occurred between November and February. November and December had six reports each, and January and February had five IPM reports each. The day of the week with the most IPM reports was Monday, with eight reports. Friday was the second highest, with seven reports, and at six reports, Tuesday represented the third highest number of intimate partner murder reports.

Table 2. Number of Reports, by Month

Month	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
January	1	-	2	-	1	1	5
February	1	-	-	1	2	1	5
March	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
April	1	-	1	-	-	-	2
May	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
June	-	-	1	-	1	1	3
July	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
August	1	1	-	-	-	2	4
September	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
October	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
November	-	-	1	3	1	1	6
December	2	-	2	-	1	1	6
Total	8	1	7	5	8	9	38

Table 3. Number of Reports, by Day of Week

Day of Week	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
Sunday	1	-	1	-	1	1	4
Monday	1	-	2	1	2	2	8
Tuesday	2	1	-	-	-	3	6
Wednesday	2	-	1	1	1	-	5
Thursday	1	-	-	1	2	-	4
Friday	1	-	2	2	-	2	7
Saturday	-	-	1	-	2	1	4
Total	8	1	7	5	8	9	38

In addition to examining the date of the IPM report, researchers also examined the time of day the IPM was reported. Researchers found intimate partner murders were reported the most

during the times of 21:01-22:00 and 22:01-23:00. These two hours of the day represented 26.3%

reports of IPM reviewed. With four reports, the second most common time of day for intimate

partner murders was 09:01-10:00.

Table 4. Number of Reports by Time of Day

Time of Day	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
01:01-02:00	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
03:01-04:00	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
04:01-05:00	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
05:01-06:00	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
08:01-09:00	-	-	1	-	1	-	2
09:01-10:00	-	-	1	2	-	1	4
10:01-11:00	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
11:01-12:00	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
12:01-01:00	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
12:01-13:00	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
13:01-14:00	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
14:01-15:00	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
16:01-17:00	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
17:01-18:00	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
18:01-19:00	1	-	-	2	-	-	3
19:01-20:00	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
20:01-21:00	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
21:01-22:00	1	-	2	-	1	1	5
22:01-23:00	2	-	-	-	1	2	5
23:01-24:00	1	-	-	-	-	1	2
Total	8	1	7	5	8	9	38

Victim to Offender Relationship Analysis

When reviewing the SIBRS reports for the intimate partner murders, the researchers

evaluated the type of relationship between the victim and offender.   The field of victim to offender

relationship should be reported as what the victim is to the offender. The relationship type was

confirmed by using the victim to offender relationship variable, as well as, the narrative of the

incident described by the reporting law enforcement agency. The most common victim to offender

relationship that was reported for an IPM was Spouse. Fifty percent of the intimate partner murder

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reports were described as a "Spouse" relationship. Representing 36.8% of the IPM reports, the second most common victim to offender relationship type was boyfriend and/or girlfriend. In one case, a relationship type was reported as "Relationship Unknown" between the victim and the offender. However, the narrative described the murder as an intimate partner relationship between the victim and the offender.

After analyzing the victim to offender relationship field, the researchers examined the marital status of the relationship as well. This variable was recorded to examine if the two variables were reported in a similar relationship type. Researchers found that 28 of the 38 victim's marital status fields were unfilled; they found the offender's marital status was unfilled in 22 of the 38 reports. For reports that had the marital status filled, the top marital status reported for the victim and offender was "Married." Six victims were reported as married, and seven offenders were reported as married.

Table 5. Victim to Offender Relationship

Relationship Type	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
Boyfriend/Girlfriend	3	-	3	3	2	3	14
Common-Law Spouse	1	-	-	-	1	1	3
Ex-Spouse	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Spouse	4	-	3	2	5	5	19
Relationship Unknown	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Total	8	1	7	5	8	9	38

Table 6. Victim and Offender Marital Status

	Victim							Offender						
Marital Status	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
Divorced	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	2
Married	1	-	-	-	2	3	6	1	-	1	-	1	4	7
Separated	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Single	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	1	1	4
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	2
Widowed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Unfilled	6	1	6	3	6	6	28	5	1	3	4	5	4	22
Total	8	1	7	5	8	9	38	8	1	7	5	8	9	38

Offense Analysis

Researchers examined the type of weapon used for each IPM, and in two IPMs, more than one weapon was used during the crime. Firearms accounted for 47.5% of the intimate partner murders; a handgun represented 47.4% of firearms used in the IPMs. With 20%, the second most common type of weapon used in the commission of an IPM was a knife and/or cutting instrument. Lastly, the third most common weapon used were personal weapons (ex. hands, feet, teeth, etc.). Other classifications of weapons reported were chemical (drugs/narcotics/sleeping pills, and poison), other, a motor vehicle, and weapon type unknown.

Table 7. Type of Weapon Used

Weapon Used	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
Firearms							19
Rifle	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Shotgun	-	1	-	1	-	1	3
Handgun – Full Automatic	1	-	-	1	-	1	3
Handgun	1	-	3	-	2	3	9
Firearm (type not stated)	1	-	1	-	-	1	3
Chemical							2
Drugs/Narcotics/Sleeping Pills	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Poison	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Objects							8
Knife/Cutting Instrument	3	-	-	1	3	1	8
Personal							4
Personal Weapons	-	-	3	-	-	1	4
Other or Unknown							7
Motor Vehicle	1	-	-	-	1	1	3
Other	1	-	1	-	-	-	2
Unknown	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
Total	8	1	8	5	8	10	40

According to the 2017 CDC study of homicides related to IPV from 2003-2017, the most common type of circumstance was an argument or jealousy. However, researchers found in Oklahoma, the most common type of circumstance reported in the IPMs was "Unknown

Circumstances." "Unknown Circumstances" accounted for 44.7% of the reports. The second most common circumstance reported was "Argument." It accounted for 36.8% of the reports.

Table 8. Circumstances around IPM

Circumstance	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
Argument	5	-	3	2	2	2	14
Lovers' Quarrel	2	-	1	-	1	2	6
Other Circumstances	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Unknown Circumstances	1	1	3	3	4	5	17
Total	8	1	7	5	8	9	38

In addition to examining the type of weapons being used in intimate partner murders, researchers examined the type of location where the incident occurred. Thirty-two of the 38 intimate partner murders occurred at a Residence or Home. Other locations of the intimate partner murders included: Commercial or Office Building; Fields or Woods; Highway, Road, or Alley; and a Lake or Waterway.

Table 9. Premise Type

Premise Type	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
Commercial/Office Building	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
Field/Woods	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Highway/Road/Alley	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Lake/Waterway	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Residence/Home	6	1	7	3	6	9	32
Total	8	1	7	5	8	9	38

Victim Analysis

When collecting victim information for IPMs, researchers made note that in two incidents an additional victim was injured or killed during the IPM. Since the project focused on an intimate partner relationship murder, the victim demographics for the additional victim were not included in the following analysis of victims. However, it should be noted that others could be harmed or killed during the commission of IPV or IPM.

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A common perception of IPV and domestic violence is that the majority of victims are female. However, researchers found gender of the victims was distributed evenly. Nineteen victims were reported as male, and nineteen victims were reported as female. When analyzing the victims' age distribution, researchers found 52.6% of victims were between the ages of 35-54. Eleven victims fell in the age range of 45-54; the second most common age range for victims was 35-44. No victims were under the age of 18. Figure 3 displays the distribution of the victim's and offender's age range.

Figure 3. Distribution of Victim and Offender's Age Range
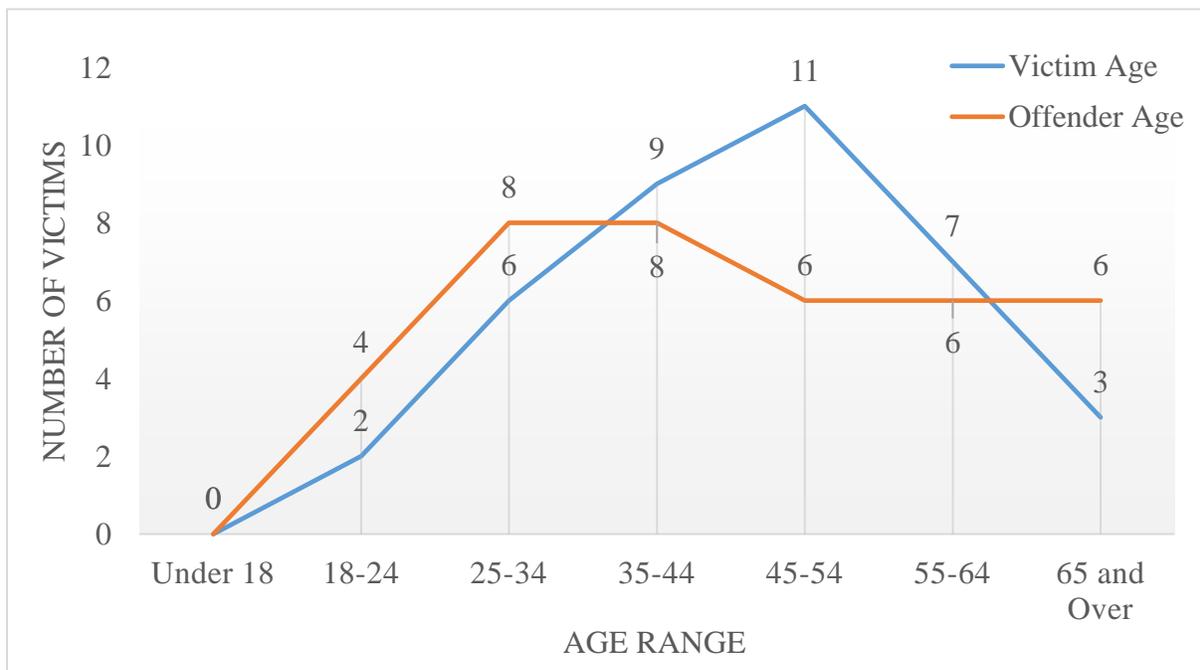
After evaluating the distribution of age, researchers made note of the victim's race and ethnicity. Thirty-two of the 38 victims were reported as white for race. Twenty-eight victims were identified as Non-Hispanic in ethnicity; however, nine victims were reported with their ethnicity unknown.

Table 10. Victim Analysis

Categories	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
Gender							
Male	5	1	4	2	4	3	19
Female	3	-	3	3	4	6	19
Total	8	1	7	5	8	9	38
Age							
Under 18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18-24	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
25-34	3	-	1	-	1	1	6
35-44	1	-	2	2	1	3	9
45-54	3	-	3	1	1	3	11
55-64	1	1	1	1	1	2	7
65 and Over	-	-	-	1	2	-	3
Total	8	1	7	5	8	9	38
Race							
White	7	1	6	5	7	6	32
Black	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
American Indian	1	-	1	-	1	-	3
Asian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaiian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Total	8	1	7	5	8	9	38
Ethnicity							
Non-Hispanic	7	1	7	3	2	8	28
Hispanic	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Unknown	-	-	-	2	6	1	9
Total	8	1	7	5	8	9	38

Offender Analysis

For the offender analysis, researchers found the gender was evenly distributed like the victim distribution. Nineteen male and nineteen female offenders were reported. When examining the age range for the offenders, the ages were more evenly distributed compared to the age range for the victims. In Figure 3, a comparison of the victim's and offender's age can be seen. Researchers found that 42.1% of the offenders fell between the ages of 25-44. The highest age ranges, with eight offenders each, were 25-34 and 35-44. The second highest age ranges included

45-54, 55-64, and 65 and over; each of these age ranges had six offenders per range. Like the victims, no offenders were found to be under the age of 18.

Table 11. Offender Analysis

Category	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
Gender							
M	3	-	3	3	4	6	19
F	5	1	4	2	4	3	19
Total	8	1	7	5	8	9	38
Age							
Under 18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18-24	-	-	2	1	1	-	4
25-34	2	-	1	1	2	2	8
35-44	2	-	2	-	1	3	8
45-54	3	1	1	-	1	-	6
55-64	1	-	-	2	2	1	6
65 and Over	-	-	1	1	1	3	6
Total	8	1	7	5	8	9	38
Race							
White	7	1	6	5	7	6	32
Black	-	-	1	-	1	3	5
American Indian	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Asian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaiian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	8	1	7	5	8	9	38
Ethnicity							
Non-Hispanic	8	1	7	3	3	6	28
Hispanic	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Unknown	-	-	-	2	4	2	8
Total	8	1	7	5	8	9	38

Once the demographics were examined for the offender, researchers examined the additional information that is available about the offender. Researchers assessed if the offender was reported as an "Arrestee" or a "Suspect." In addition to examining the number of arrestees and suspects, researchers took note of the type of arrest and what charges were reported for the offender if applicable. In regards to how many offenders were classified as an arrestee or a suspect,

researchers found the results to be almost evenly distributed between the two categories. Eighteen offenders were reported as an arrestee for the incident, while twenty of the offenders were reported to only be suspects in the IPM.

Table 12. Arrestee or Suspect

Arrestee/Suspect	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
Arrestee	6	-	5	3	2	2	18
Suspect	2	1	2	2	6	7	20
Total	8	1	7	5	8	9	38

After finding eighteen of the IPMs included an offender was arrested, the researchers analyzed the type of arrest performed on the individual. Additionally, the type of offense listed as the charge against the arrestee was analyzed. Thirteen of the arrestees were arrested "on-view"; meaning the individual was arrested without a warrant or a previous report. Four of the arrestees were arrested based on a warrant or a previously submitted report; this type of arrest is also referred to as "Taken Into Custody." One offender was listed as an arrestee; however, a type of arrest was left unfilled by the reporting agency.

Researchers were also interested to examine the type of charge that was recorded for the IPMs. The description of charges was available once the offender was classified as an "Arrestee." They found eight of the 18 arrestees were charged with Murder in the First Degree. According to Oklahoma State Statute (21. O.S. § 701.7), Murder in the First Degree is defined as a "person unlawfully and with malice aforethought causes the death of another human being." According to the incident reports, arrestees were charged with the following: Aggravated Assault With Great Bodily Injury; Murder (unspecified degree); and Possession of a Firearm After Former Conviction of a Felony (AFCF). These three charges only accounted for four arrestees. For the six remaining arrestees, the charge filed was left unfilled in the SIBRS report.

Table 13. Type of Arrest

Type of Arrest	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
On-View	5	-	3	2	1	2	13
Taken Into Custody	1	-	1	1	1	-	4
Unfilled	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Total	6	-	5	3	2	2	18

Table 14. Charges on Arrestee

Charge on Arrestee	2011	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
Aggravated Assault W/ Great Bodily Injury	-	-	1	-	-	1
Murder	2	-	-	-	-	2
Murder 1st Degree	1	4	1	1	1	8
Possession of Firearm AFCF	-	-	-	1	-	1
Unfilled	3	1	1	-	1	6
Total	6	5	3	2	2	18

Limitations

Limitations were experienced during the research of the IPMs. The limitations include the number of reports that could be analyzed; missing data for fields; and syntax errors. The first limitation is the available data to review in SIBRS. Local law enforcement agencies are continuously converted from a SRS agency to a SIBRS agency. In many cases, an IPM was reported by a SRS agency, and the agency would become SIBRS agency a month to a year later. Therefore, the IPM would be excluded from data available due to the IPM not reported using the incident-based format. In addition to agencies gradually transferring to a SIBRS agency, another limitation is the size of the agencies currently reporting. The agencies in this study served jurisdictions with 1,100 to 38,000 people. Oklahoma's largest agencies, which cover the highest population and highest crime areas, have not converted to incident-based reporting. Since reports of IPM from Oklahoma's largest agencies were excluded, it significantly reduced the number of reports that were eligible to be considered for this project.

In addition, 20 of the 38 reports the incident location field in the Administrative section was left unfilled; thus an address for the incident was not provided in this location. In a majority of the SIBRS reports, the location of the incident could be located in other sections such as the "Offense" or "Narrative" section. In some reports, an exact incident location was not available; although, where applicable, the reporting agency provided an approximate location for the incident in the "Offense" or "Narrative" sections. Due to the limited number of valid SIBRS reports and missing incident locations, an extensive geolocation analysis could not be performed.

In three of the 38 SIBRS IPM reports, a narrative of the events that occurred during the incident was not provided by the reporting agency. In addition to the three reports without a narrative, some reports contained a very brief narrative or only information regarding evidence.

In many cases, there were also syntax errors in the narrative portion of the SIBRS report. Figure 4 is an example of the syntax errors found in the SIBRS reports. Though the syntax errors in Figure 4 were prevalent, the text of the narrative could still be read. Another common syntax error consisted of apostrophes and other punctuation replaced by an upside down question mark. The syntax errors could be due to the law enforcement agency copying and pasting the narrative from other sources, or it could be due to the programming of the report.

Figure 4. Example of Syntax Error in Narrative

```
NARRATIVE:
P style="TEXT-INDENT: -0.5in; MARGIN: 0in 0in 0pt 0.75in; mso-list: I3 level1 lfo6; tab-stops: list .75in"
class=MsoNormal>B>SPAN style="FONT-FAMILY: 'Times New Roman'; FONT-SIZE: 10pt">1.SPAN style="FONT: 7pt 'Times
```

The narrative is an important component to the SIBRS report; it provides context to the crime(s) that occur in one incident. The narrative can provide a description if there was evidence of a struggle between the victim and offender, and it could provide other information pertinent to the incident reported. The narrative can also be used to confirm details reported in other sections of the report such as weapons present, witness statements if they were present, and an overall description of the crime scene.

Missing information was not limited to addresses or narratives, six of the eighteen arrestees did not have a charge in the charges section of "Arrest Information." When conducting the analyses, researchers found the PDF format of the SIBRS reports were missing two fields for race (White and American Indian). Data for these fields were only capable of being collected due to using the available UCR information from the supplemental homicide form. Except for the number of arrests an agency made and the supplemental homicide form, UCR data does not collect the victim or offender demographics for other crimes. It should be noted that data could be missing due to the limitations of available information at the time of the report. A SIBRS report contains

information available at the discovery of a crime, and they do not include information learned throughout the course of an investigation.

Conclusion

As law enforcement agencies gradually convert from SRS to SIBRS in Oklahoma, it is important to analyze the data and the benefits from using incident-based data. Using SRS data, the number of index crimes are reported, but other information regarding the crime is not reported. SRS data includes a Hiearchy Rule; with this rule in place, the crime reported during an incident is only the most severe. Meaning, if an offender is committing robbery and kills a bystander; only the murder is reported when using SRS data. A SIBRS report creates a larger picture of what occurs during each crime. A SIBRS report includes a detailed narrative of the incident; a specific location of the incident; specific date and time of report; and the victim to offender relationship. This information can be used in to examine what time most crimes are reported, day of week, and it can identify hot spots of crime that are occurring in the agency's jurisdiction. In addition, a SIBRS report will contain information on vehicles involved; property information in theft; offense information (premise type, weapon type, etc.); circumstances around crime; and victim and offender information. The SIBRS report contains more information for the offender including: if the offender was an arrestee and/or suspect; the type of arrest; and the charges for the arrestee.

The purpose of this study was to analyze the quality of data that is being received of incidents that are occurring in local law enforcement jurisdictions. By using SRS data, very little is known about the crime. With SRS data, researchers examined 176 IPMs. Due to various circumstances, only 38 IPMs were able to be reviewed using their corresponding SIBRS report. In the 38 incidents, researchers learned two incidents had an additional crime reported in addition to the murder. The gender distribution for victim and offenders was evenly distributed between male and female. Fifty percent of the IPMs had a victim to offender relationship of spouse, and 36.4% had a relationship of boyfriend and/or girlfriend. Over 57% of IPM cases occurred between the months of November and February, and the most common weapon type was a firearm. Most

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of the IPMs were reported as having "Unknown Circumstances" surrounding the crime; although, 36.8% of the IPMs reported the circumstance as "Argument."

As the FBI UCR program transitions to solely NIBRS reporting, it is important to analyze the data reported in Oklahoma as we transition to a SIBRS state. Even though limitations were apparent when examining the SIBRS reports, researchers were still able to display the vast amount of information that can be obtained when using SIBRS reporting. For future SIBRS analysis, it will be important to resolve these limitations. It is important to include as much relevant data to the incident as possible. When the SIBRS report is filled with detailed, accurate, and meaningful information, law enforcement agencies are able to use the information to effectively apply resources to high crime areas. The use of SIBRS data is not limited to law enforcement agencies; it can also assist legislators, municipal administrators, and researchers in identifying key variables when crimes are committed.

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The Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation is recognized by the Bureau of Justice Statistics as the Statistical Analysis Center (SAC). The SAC collects, analyzes, and disseminates justice information. These functions are located within OSBI's Office of Criminal Justice Statistics.

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