

Guns...and Domestic Violence

We talk about the ties between domestic violence and guns often because of the staggering statistics in our state. Here are details about domestic violence in South Carolina...

'When Men Murder Women', Violence Policy Center's annual reports detail that (click [HERE](#) for the full report):

- South Carolina had the 5th highest rate of females murdered by males in 2014 (in the 2016 report).
- The SC national rank has been among the highest 10 states for over a decade, and in the 4 years prior to 2014 SC was ranked 1st or 2nd.
- In the last 5 release years 257 SC women have been murdered by men, 56% with a firearm, 69% of those by an intimate partner.

The 2017 publication (containing 2015 data) is anticipated soon... For those of you who dive deep into these numbers, here's information to note about the parameters of these studies --and a link to the study itself:

Additional information on "When Men Murder Women"

The parameters of these studies are restricted to:

- Voluntary Homicide submission to the FBI's UCR SHR
- Single Victim - Single Offender Homicide

Not included:

- Homicide data not submitted to the FBI's UCR SHR
- Homicide data from other sources
- Homicides involving multiple victims (such as children, other family members, etc.)
- Non-fatal violence with injury and/or threat

*UCR SHR = Uniform Crime Reports, Supplementary Homicide Report

Nationwide there were 1,613 single victim/single-offender homicides in 2014 (43 in SC). Additional delimiters include: where relationship can be determined (1,495), male known by victim (1,388) and intimate relations (870). You can find the full current and past reports at the Violence Policy Center (2) and a summary in Tuesday's Post & Courier (3). <http://www.postandcourier.com/tilldeath/title.html>

South Carolina Criminal Domestic Violence Task Force was formed in February of 2015 (6). The state began to address this problem in the legislature with the June 2015 ratification of the Criminal Domestic Violence Offenses and Penalties bill (4, 5). However, firearm restrictions for persons convicted of misdemeanor domestic violence or persons subject to certain protective orders has been left to judiciary discretion.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/public-safety/supreme-court-domestic-abusers-can-be-banned-from-owning-firearms/2016/06/27/b2afebaa-3c79-11e6-80bc-d06711fd2125_story.html

References:

- 1) <http://www.postandcourier.com/20160922/160929830/police-arrest-man-accused-of-threatening-woman-with-shotgun>
- 2) <http://www.vpc.org/revealing-the-impacts-of-gun-violence/female-homicide-victimization-by-males/>
- 3) http://www.postandcourier.com/20160920/160929971/south-carolina-falls-to-fifth-worst-in-nation-for-domestic-killings#.V-FF_UTV5yM.facebook
- 4) http://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess121_2015-2016/bills/3.htm
- 5) <http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150604/PC1603/150609697/signing-ushers-in-stiffer-penalties-gun-ban-for-domestic-violence-crimes>
- 6) <http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150210/PC1603/150219951/nikki-haley-to-domestic-violence-panel-x2018-this-is-personal-x2019>