



National  
**network**

to end violence  
against women and  
domestic violence

**ANALYSIS OF CASES OF  
FEMICIDES  
– KILLINGS OF WOMEN –  
IN THE REPUBLIC OF  
MACEDONIA**

October, 2018



# PURPOSE OF THE ANALYSIS

- ◉ To establish more accurate number of femicides in the Republic of Macedonia;
- ◉ To present the institutional response when a case of violence against woman is reported;
- ◉ To offer specific recommendations for improving and advancing the system of protection of women-victims of domestic violence

**THIS STUDY IS BASED ON THE NEED TO UNDERSTAND THE SERIOUSNESS OF FEMICIDES, AS WELL AS THE NEED TO PREVENT AND TO PROTECT THE VICTIMS OF THIS TYPE OF VIOLENCE.**

# STRUCTURE OF THE ANALYSIS

Three chapters:

1. Defining femicides, types of femicides, and national and international legislation;
2. Methodology and Findings from the analysis;
3. Conclusions and recommendations for improvement of the system for protection from gender-based violence, aiming towards preventing femicides in the Republic of Macedonia.

# METHODOLOGY

- ◉ Period for data collection:

September - November 2017

- ◉ Desk review of all relevant national and international documents and laws

- ◉ 1<sup>st</sup> stage of data collection: Defining the number of women victims of femicides

- Requests for public information send to:

Basic Public Prosecutor's Offices

Basic Courts with extended jurisdiction

- State Statistical Office web site

**“THE REQUESTED INFORMATION IS NOT INFORMATION THAT WE HAVE AVAILABLE OR THAT WE HAD CREATED, ... I.E. INFORMATION THAT ALREADY EXIST IN THE REQUESTED FORMAT, SINCE NEITHER THE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR’S OFFICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA, NOR THE BASIC PUBLIC PROSECUTOR’S OFFICES IN THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA DO NOT PRODUCE THIS TYPE OF STATISTICAL ANALYSES.”**



# METHODOLOGY

- ◎ 2<sup>nd</sup> stage of data collection: Identification of victims in order to have an insight into the court cases through overview of the media reports about killings that took place in the period between 01.01.2008 and 31.12.2016,
- ◎ 3<sup>rd</sup> stage of data collection: Review of the court cases for killings of women



# FINDINGS

- ◉ Analyses were carried out for 34 cases of killings of women.
- ◉ While processing the data received, the following were considered:
  - ◉ age of the victim/perpetrator;
  - ◉ relationship;
  - ◉ employed/unemployed status;
  - ◉ existence of reports to the local PS and CSW
  - ◉ method of killing;
  - ◉ motivation for the killing;
  - ◉ location;
  - ◉ psychological state of the perpetrator;
  - ◉ duration of sentence;
  - ◉ duration of the court procedure;
  - ◉ and defense of the perpetrator/admission of guilt.

# FINDINGS: AGE OF VICTIMS AND PERPETRATORS

Age (years)	Victim	Perpetrator
Younger than 20	1	
21 - 30	4	4
31 - 40	7	6
41 - 50	13	12
51 - 60	4	7
Older than 61	5	1

# FINDINGS: RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE VICTIM AND THE PERPETRATOR

Types of relationships	
Spouses	11
Extramarital partners	3
Intimate partners	5
Former spouses / partners	2
Father / Daughter	1
Son / Mother	2
Brother / Sister	1
Family members of the female partner	3
Acquaintances	2
Unknown	4

# FINDINGS: EXISTENCE OF VIOLENCE

Psychological violence	5
Threats of killing	4
Psychological violence accompanied with threats of killing	7
Several forms of violence	4

# FINDINGS: METHOD OF KILLING

Blunt force trauma	2
Stabbing wound in the neck and face	6
Stabbing wound in the stomach and back	4
Kicks and fist blows	2
Firearms - gun/automatic rifle	15
Strangling	4
Blows with an axe	7

# FINDINGS: MOTIVATION FOR THE KILLING

Conflicting relations between current partners	10
Mental condition / disorder	6
Addiction to alcohol, drugs and other psychotropic substances	4
Divorce / termination of a relationship	7
Financial conflicts	4
Non-harmonized parental attitudes	1
Disapproval of intimate relationship	1

# FINDINGS: LOCATION OF THE KILLING

Family home	14
Public space	4
Victim's home	8
Victim's workplace	3
Home of the parents/other family members of the victim	5



# FINDINGS

- ⦿ Employed/unemployed status
- ⦿ Reports to the local PS and CSW
- ⦿ psychological state of the perpetrator;
- ⦿ duration of sentence;
- ⦿ duration of the court procedure;
- ⦿ and defense of the perpetrator/admission of guilt.

# CONCLUSIONS

- From the insight into the cases of killings of 34 women, the crime can be classified as a femicide in 28 cases;
- In more than 60 percent of the analyzed cases, the crime was committed by current or former marital or extramarital partner with whom they lived in a union;
- In more than 80 percent of cases, the killing took place in the mutual home, or if divorce proceedings were initiated, in the home of the parents of the victim;
- Most commonly used weapon to commit the killing is firearm - handgun;

# CONCLUSIONS

- Pronounced and extreme anger is present in most of the cases of femicides;
- Disagreements with their demands and attitudes, not meeting their needs, and the perceived fear in the perpetrator that the victim was unfaithful, are key factors in depriving the female partner of her life;
- Motive for the killing played no significant role in the judicial procedure and in meting out the sentence;
- In a small percentage of analyzed cases, the violence was reported to the police and the center for social work, which points to the distrust of the victims towards the institutions and the existing protection system;

# CONCLUSIONS

- ◉ Despite the fact that in 24 cases the killing was perpetrated by a marital, extramarital or intimate partner, only in 8 cases the indictment cites the crime of Murder in domestic violence;
- ◉ Lack of specialized services for victims of violence;
- ◉ Adequate risk assessment by both the police and the center for social work is also lacking;
- ◉ Media coverage of cases of killings of women it is still the only source for obtaining information about the killings of women.

THANK YOU 😊  
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