

The Danger Assessment

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Arizona Femicides

#8 among states in 2010

- Femicide = The killing of women (Campbell & Runyon, 1998; Russell, 1992, 2001)
- Supplementary Homicide Report (FBI) data compiled by the Violence Policy Center (www.VPC.org)
- AZ = 1.62 homicides / 100,000 population
 - Highest rate = 2.62 (NV), Lowest rate = 0.25 (SD), Average = 1.22)
- 52 women killed by men in AZ in 2009
 - Average Age = 42 (4 under 18, 4 over 65)
 - 2 African American; 1 Native American; 3 Asian/Pacific Islander; 44 White
 - 94% killed by someone they knew, 27 (60%) were killed by an intimate
 - 60% of victims were killed with guns (of those 74% handguns)

Intimate Partner Homicide & Domestic Violence

- Between 65-80% of female intimate partner homicide victims were previously abused by the partner who killed them, making domestic violence the single largest risk factor for intimate partner femicide (Sharps et al., 2001; Campbell et al., 2003b; Campbell et al., 2007; Moracco, Runyon & Butts, 1998; Pataki, 1997)
- 75% of male intimate partner homicide victims had battered the intimate partner that killed him prior to his homicide (Campbell, 1992; Moracco et al, 1998)
- 44.3% of male perpetrators of intimate partner homicide were arrested in the year before the homicide (Sharps et al., 2001)
 - 37% of these were arrested for domestic violence
 - 34.1% were arrested for another violent crime
 - 46.4% were arrested for a non-violent crime

The Danger Assessment

- Created by Jacquelyn Campbell, PhD, RN, FAAN (Campbell, 1986; Campbell et al., 2003)
- Specifically designed to predict lethality / homicide
- 12-month calendar, 20-item survey
- Weighted Scoring, 0-37
- Four categories:
 - Variable Danger (0-7)
 - Increased Danger (9-13)
 - Severe Danger (14-17)
 - Extreme Danger (>18).

Development of The Danger Assessment 10 City Femicide Study

Funded by NIDA/NIAA, NIMH, CDC, NIJ, VAWA #R01 DA/AA1156

- Baltimore, MD
- Chicago, IL
- Houston, TX
- Kansas City, KS & MO
- Los Angeles, CA
- New York, NY
- Portland, OR
- Seattle, WA
- Tampa/St. Pete, FL
- Wichita, KA
- P. Sharps (GWU)
- B. Block (ICJA)
- J. McFarlane (TWU)
- Y. Ulrich (UW)
- C. Sachs (UCLA)
- S. Wilt (NYDOH)
- M. A. Curry (OHSU)
- Y. Ulrich (UW)
- D. Campbell (FSU)
- Y. Ulrich (UW)

Women Included in the Study

Sample	Data Source
1. Women who were killed by their intimate partners	Police Homicide files Proxy informants
2. Women who were almost killed* by their intimate partners	Women themselves
3. Women who were physically abused by their intimate partners	Women themselves

* Gunshot wound or stab wound to the head, neck or torso; strangulation or near drowning with loss of consciousness; severe injuries inflicted that easily could have led to death; gunshot wound or stab wound to another body part with unambiguous intent to kill; or unambiguous intent to kill.

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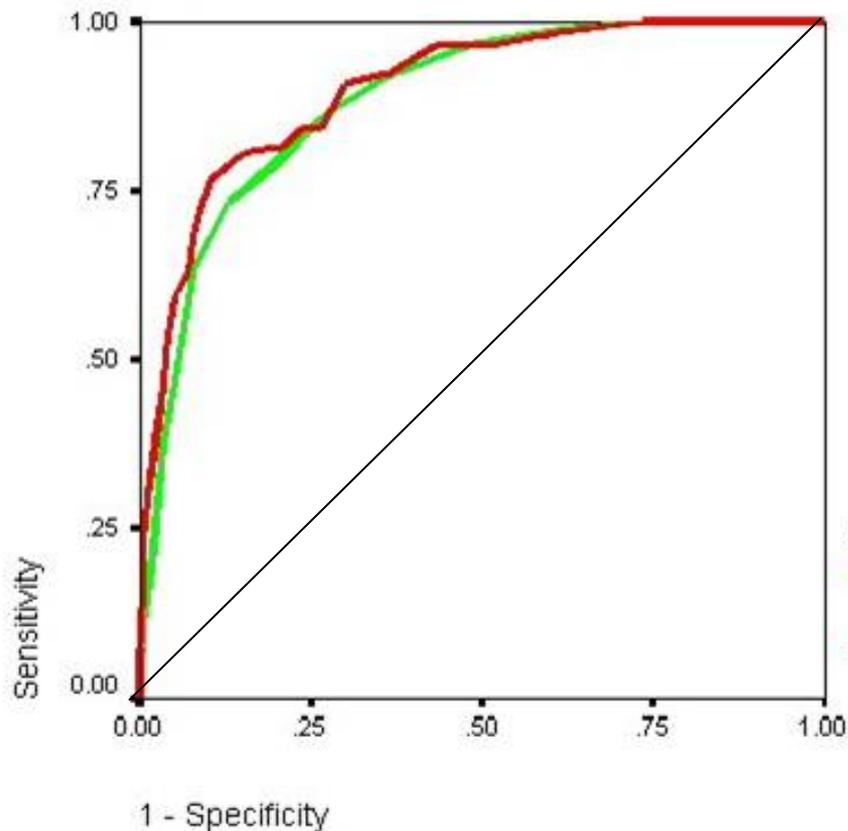
Predictive Validity

- The correct prediction of future events
 - Correctly identify homicides / recidivists (sensitivity)
 - & Correctly identify non-homicides / non-recidivists (specificity)
 - & Minimize false-positives & false-negatives
- Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC)
 - Plots sensitivity as a function of the false-positive rate
 - Less sensitive to base rates, selection ratio
 - Area Under the Curve (AUC)
 - Range AUC = 0-1
 - AUC = .5 no ability to predict
 - AUC = .65 = A recidivist / homicide has a 65% chance of having a higher score on a particular risk assessment than a non-recidivist / non-homicide

Predictive Validity of The Danger Assessment

(Campbell et al., 2003)

ROC curve for Femicides and Attempted Femicides



AUC = .92 for
Attempted Femicides

AUC = .90 for
Femicides

Other Risk Assessment Instruments & Predictions of Recidivism

(Messing & Thaller, 2013)

Risk Assessment	Predictive Validity
ODARA	ROC = .666
SARA	ROC = .628
Danger Assessment	ROC = .618
Victim Assessment	ROC = .615
DVSI	ROC = .582
K-SID	ROC = .537

Danger Assessment for Immigrant Women

(Messing et al., 2013)

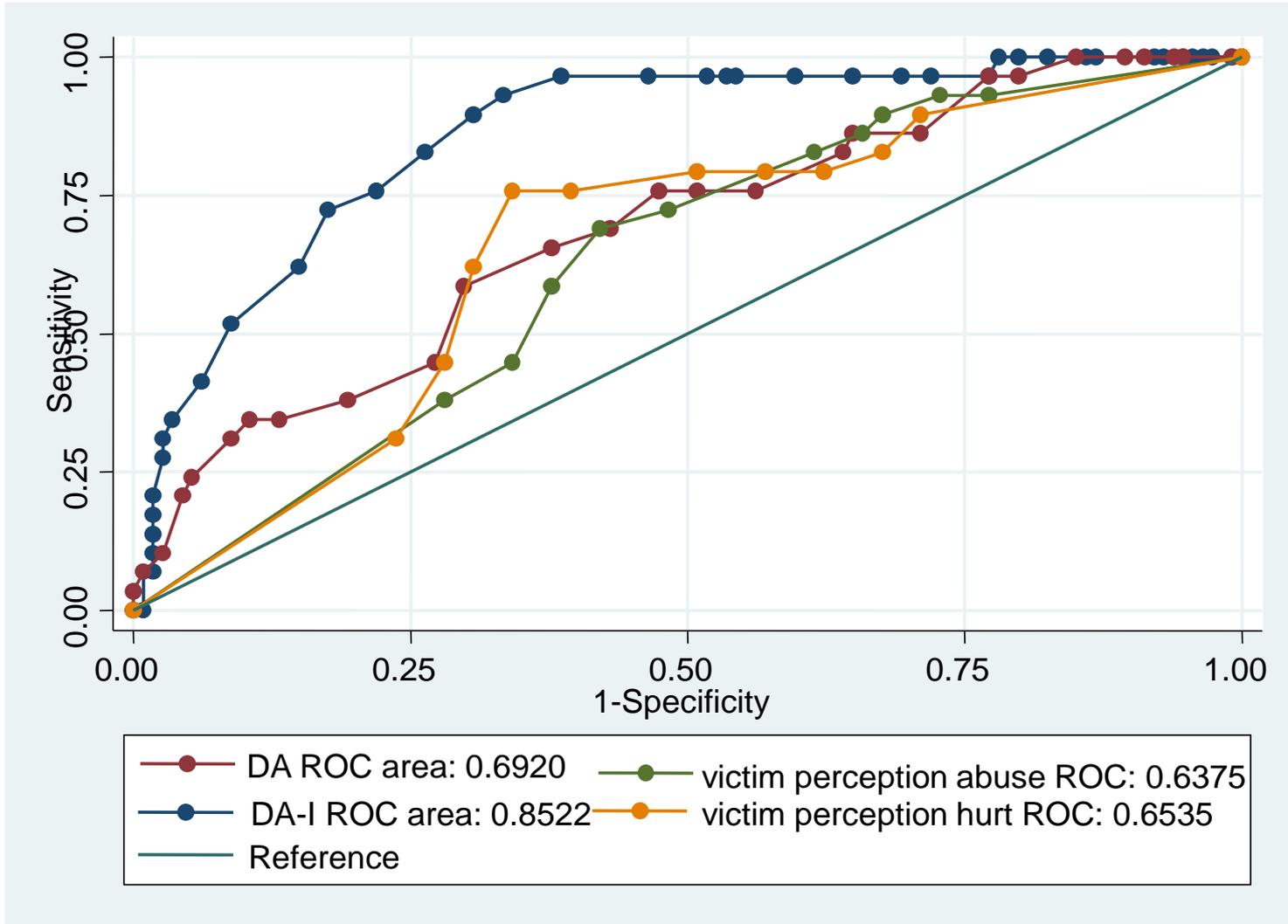
Different populations = Different risk factors

- Isolation (Crandall et al., 2005; Sullivan et al., 2005)
- Fear of deportation (Erez et al., 2009)
- Cultural practices that may forbid school, learning English, work (Sullivan et al., 2005; Abraham, 2000; Dasgupta & Warriier, 1996; Bhuyan et al., 2005)
- Conflict due to acculturation (Bhuyan et al., 2005; Bui & Morash, 1999; Erez et al., 2009; Tran & Des Jardins, 2000)

Danger Assessment for Immigrant Women (DA-I)

- 25 Items:
 - 14 from the original DA
 - 11 additional risk items
 - Weighted from 1-25
 - Total Score: 0-54
 - Sample Score: $M=24.75$ ($SD=9.03$), Range: 4-48
- ROC analysis:
 - Severe IPV, $AUC = 0.8513$
 - Any IPV, $AUC = 0.7811$

ROC Curves: Severe Abuse



Cultural Competence Cont.

- Danger Assessment – Revised (N. Glass)
 - Female same sex relationships
- Danger Assessment – Circle for Aboriginal Victims of Domestic Violence
 - Alberta Council of Women's Shelters, Edmonton, AB

Intervention

- Assessment of Risk / Lethality
 - Educate & Empower
- The Lethality Assessment Program (MNADV)
 - Oklahoma Lethality Assessment Study (NIJ #2008-WG-BX-0002)
 - High Risk Teams (Newburyport, Connecticut)
- The Use of Technology
 - IRIS Project (NIH/NIMH #1R01MH085641-01A1)
 - OneLove Foundation
 - Danger Assessment App
 - College Student / Decision Aid App

Items on the Danger Assessment used by the Glendale PD

What's the evidence?

Has the physical violence increased in frequency or severity over the past year?

- In 59.9% of homicide cases, the frequency of abuse was increasing in the previous year (vs. 25.7% of abused women)
(Campbell et al., 2003)
- In 64.4% of homicide cases, the severity of abuse was increasing in the previous year (vs. 20.4% of abused women)
(Campbell et al., 2003)

Have you left him after living together during the past year?

- “Separation homicide” = theorized as a loss of control
- Risk increases when the victim physically leaves the relationship OR begins steps toward legal separation; risk is greatest when both of these things occur (Wilson & Daly, 1993)
- In cases of homicide, the victim was 3.64 times more likely to have recently separated from her partner (Campbell et al., 2003)
- AND, if her partner was controlling and there was a separation, the odds increase up to 9 times (OR=8.98) (Campbell et al., 2003)
- BUT, if the victim has never lived with her partner, her overall risk for homicide decreases by 66% (Campbell et al., 2003)
- Highest risk is in the first 3 months, and in the first year after separation, but *eventually* more safe (Wilson & Daly, 1993; Wilson et al., 1995)

Has he ever used a weapon against you or threatened you with a lethal weapon?

- In cases of homicide, the perpetrator was 4.08 times more likely to have threatened the victim with a weapon (Campbell et al., 2003)
- In cases of homicide, the perpetrator was 41.38 times more likely to have used a gun in during the worst incident of violence (Campbell et al., 2003)

Does he threaten to kill you?

- In cases of homicide, the perpetrator was 2.6 times more likely to have made threats to kill his intimate partner (Campbell et al., 2003)
- Threats to kill are particularly dangerous when a victim believes that her partner is capable of killing her (Campbell et al., 2003)

Has he avoided being arrested for domestic violence?

- Prior arrest for domestic violence decreased the likelihood of homicide and attempted homicide by 66% (Campbell et al., 2003)
- This is particularly true among highly dangerous or extremely abusive men (Campbell et al., 2003)
- Arrest has been found to increase the likelihood of future non-fatal abuse (Gondolf, 1997; Heckert & Gondolf, 2002; Williams & Houghton, 2004)

Has he ever forced you to have sex when you did not wish to do so?

- Sexual violence occurs in up to 70% of relationships where physical violence occurs (Messing et al., in press)
- Survivors are often reluctant to report sexual violence to the police or to identify sexual assault in an intimate relationship as “rape” (Bagwell et al., under review)
- In cases of homicide, the victim was 1.87 times more likely to have been forced into sexual activity (Campbell et al., 2003)

Does he ever try to choke you?

- Strangulation
- Women who have been strangled by their intimate partner are 7.48 times more likely to be the victim of intimate partner homicide (Glass et al., 2008)
- Women who have been strangled by their intimate partner are 6.70 times more likely to be the victim of an attempted intimate partner homicide (Glass et al., 2008)
- Manual strangulation also causes acute injury including loss of consciousness, vision changes, dysphagia (difficulty swallowing), neck pain, and psychiatric problems that include depression and post traumatic stress disorder (see Smith, Mills & Tallaferro, 2001)

Does he control all or most of your daily activities?

(e.g., tell you who you can be friends with, when you can see your family, how much money you can spend, when you can use the car)

- Women whose partners are highly controlling are 2.9 times more likely to be killed by their intimate partner (Campbell et al., 2003)
- Among women whose partners are highly controlling, a separation leads to an 8.98 times increase in the likelihood of being killed (versus separation only odds = 3.94) (Campbell et al., 2003)

Does he threaten to harm your children?

- Child abuse occurs in between 30% and 60% of homes where domestic violence is present (Edleson, 1999)
- Important check on the safety of the children
- Threats to kill children, especially when combined with suicide threats, are an important indicator of familicide

Does he follow or spy on you, leave threatening notes or messages, destroy your property, or call you when you don't want him to?

- 62% of stalking victims are stalked by an intimate partner (Tjaden & Thoennes, 1998)
- Stalking may be one of the most common risk factors for intimate partner homicide (McFarlane et al., 1999)
- Stalkers are more likely to be violent if they have had an intimate relationship with the victim (Coleman, 1997; Meloy, 1998)
- 76% of homicide victims were stalked in the year prior to the homicide (McFarlane et al., 1999)
- 85% of attempted homicide victims were stalked in the year prior to the attempted homicide (McFarlane et al., 1999)
- Stalkers who also make threats, such as threats to kill, are more likely to carry out those threats (Adams, 2007)