



A descriptive analysis of suicidal ideation and the relationship with serious domestic abuse and homicide in Leicestershire from 1997 - 2015.



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Study overview

The study evaluated serious domestic assault and homicide offenders who held a suicidal or self-harm warning marker in Leicestershire between 1997-2015. Data was taken from the Crime and Intelligence (CIS) system.

Followed on from previous research which had used police data and suggested that suicidal ideation in serious domestic offenders may carry greater significance than previously believed.

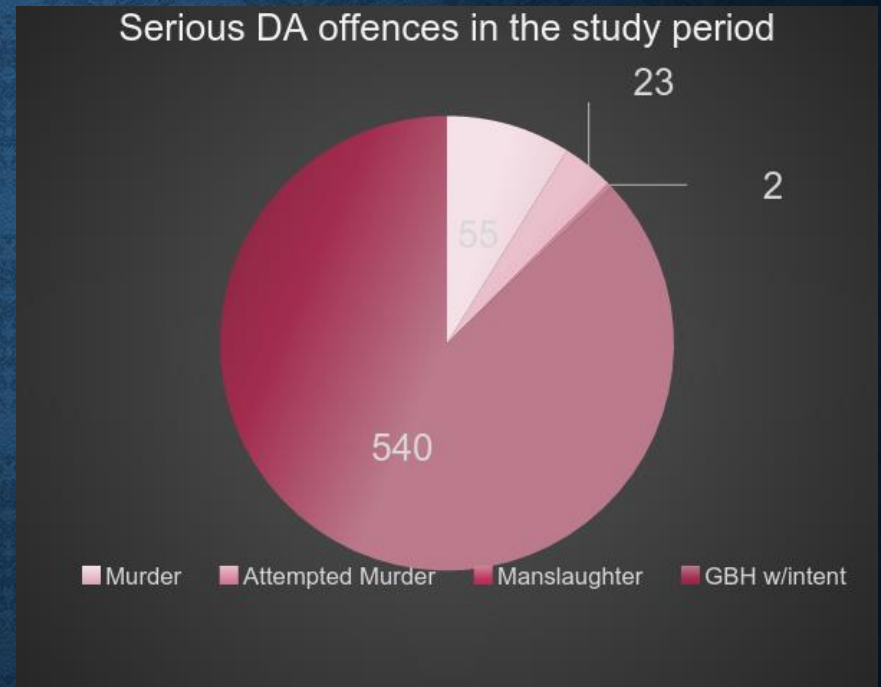
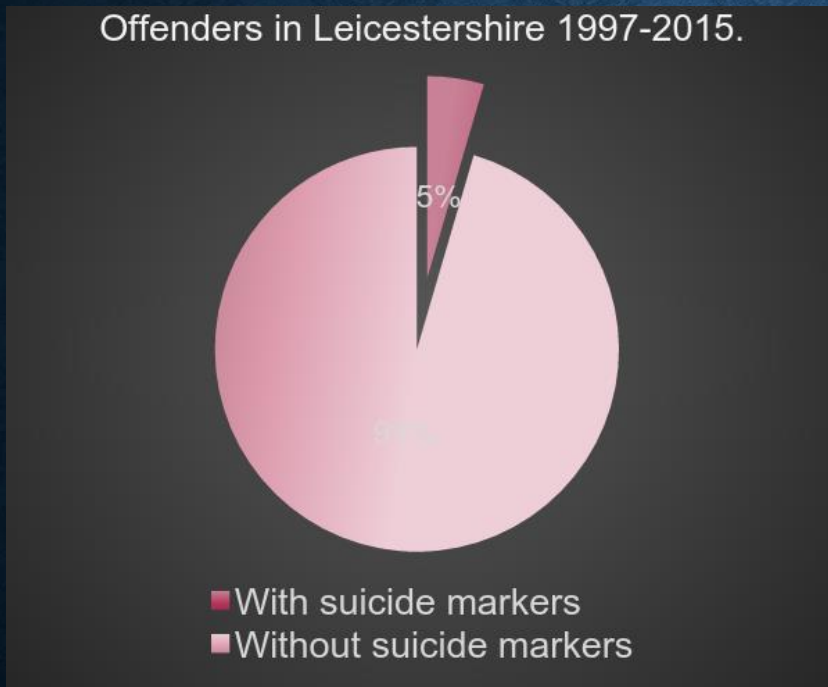
Serious domestic offenders were classified as those who had committed either a domestic related murder, attempted murder, manslaughter or GBH w/intent.

Research questions

- What are the characteristics of domestic homicide and serious domestic abuse offenders, who had suicidal warning markers?
- What is the comparison between the rate of suicidal markers amongst serious domestic offenders, with the general population?

In the study period there were 158,379 recorded offenders (for all offences)

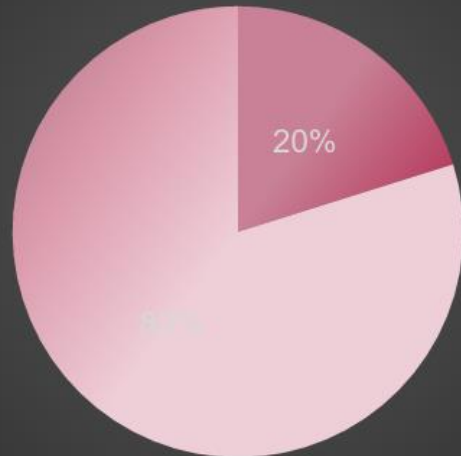
Only 7,193 (5%) of those held suicidal/self-harm markers.



There were 620 serious domestic offenders who committed murder, attempted murder, manslaughter or GBH w/intent in the study period. 80 of those were homicide offenders.

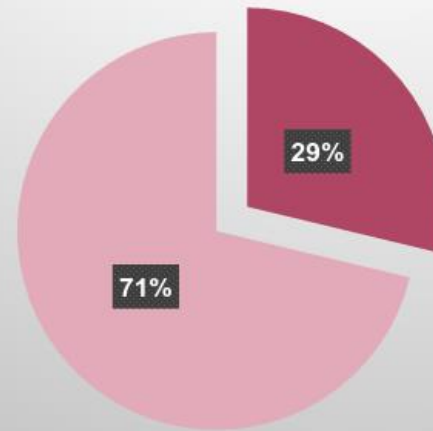
Of those 620 serious domestic offenders, 125 (20%) were recorded as having either a suicidal or self-harm warning marker, and 23 (29%) homicide offenders held markers.

Percentage of offenders who committed serious DV offences in Leicestershire 1997-2015, with and without suicide markers



■ With suicide markers ■ Without suicide markers

Homicide offenders



■ With suicide markers
■ Without suicide markers

SDOs & NSDOs

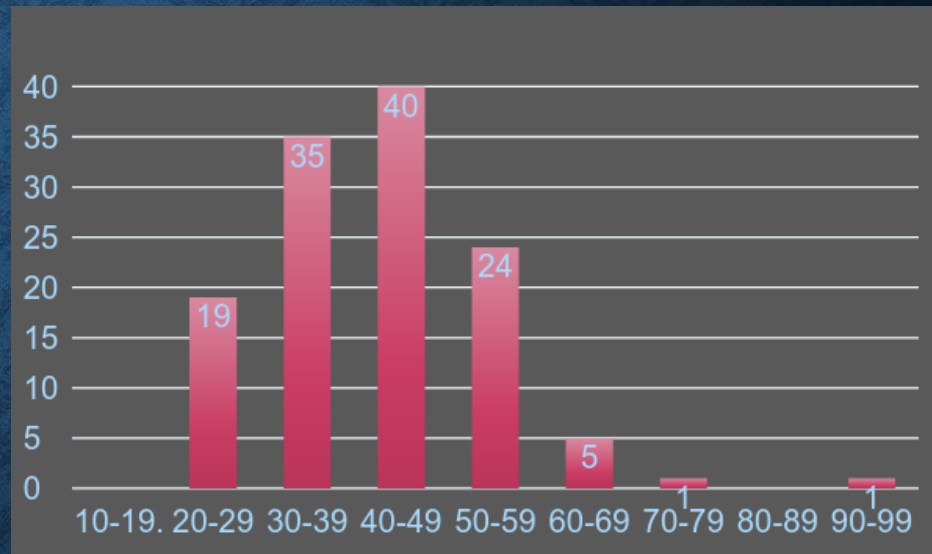
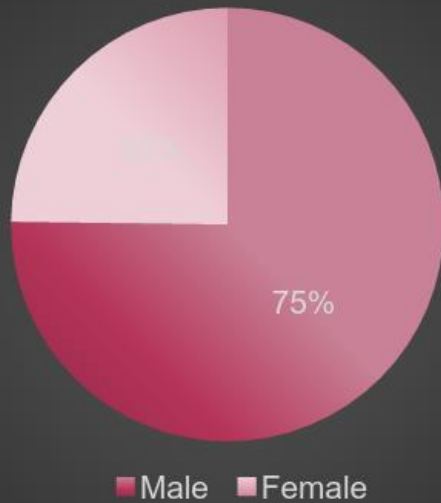
- 158,379 offenders in the study period.
- 620 Serious Domestic Offenders (SDOs), 125 had suicide/self-harm warning markers
- 157,759 Non-Serious Domestic Offenders (NSDOs), only 5% of NSDOs held suicidal/self harm WMs.
- 20% of SDOs held suicidal/self-harm WMs. 29% of homicide offenders held suicidal/self-harm WMs.
- Comparatively, the SDOs were four times and the domestic homicide offenders six times, more likely to hold these markers.

Prior markers

- 28% suicidal/self-harm WMs for SDOs were attributed prior to the offence.
- 80 homicide offenders, 7 had a suicide/self harm markers (9%) attributed prior to the offence.
- If we consider about a third of suicide/self-harm markers attributed prior to a crime, the comparison rate is:
 - 2% prior markers for NSDOs
 - 9% prior for domestic homicide offenders.
- People with suicidal markers are about 3 times more likely to be found among domestic homicide offenders, than other persons arrested for NSDOs.

SDO Characteristics

Of the SDOs (with suicidal/self-harm markers), 75% were male and the mean age was 38yrs (range = 21-91yrs old; mode= 27yrs).



Comparison rate of suicidal markers in SDOs, with the general population

- Major issue for the study was trying to establish a base rate of suicidal ideation in general society.
- Very limited literature on the study.
- Attempts made to try and obtain data from the NHS through a number of FOI requests made to Leicestershire Partnership Trusts. To try and obtain data on the number of patients who had expressed suicidal ideation to their GP.
- Unable/unwilling to support the project, citing issues with GP recording practices.

Study limitations and issues

1. Subjectivity of the data recorded, i.e. how does a practitioner determine whether an offender is suicidal or not?
2. The decommissioning of the Crime and Intelligence (CIS) system.
3. The difficulties in understanding the rate of suicidal ideation amongst the general population.

Future research and conclusions

- A review of data across multiple police organisations or at a national level. Leicestershire Police now moved onto a regional crime and intelligence system.
- Police data used in comparison with health data.

This is now one of a number of recent studies using police data which has identified suicidal ideation in offenders as a potential indicator of serious domestic abuse. Consideration should be given to treating it as a more serious WM than it is currently.