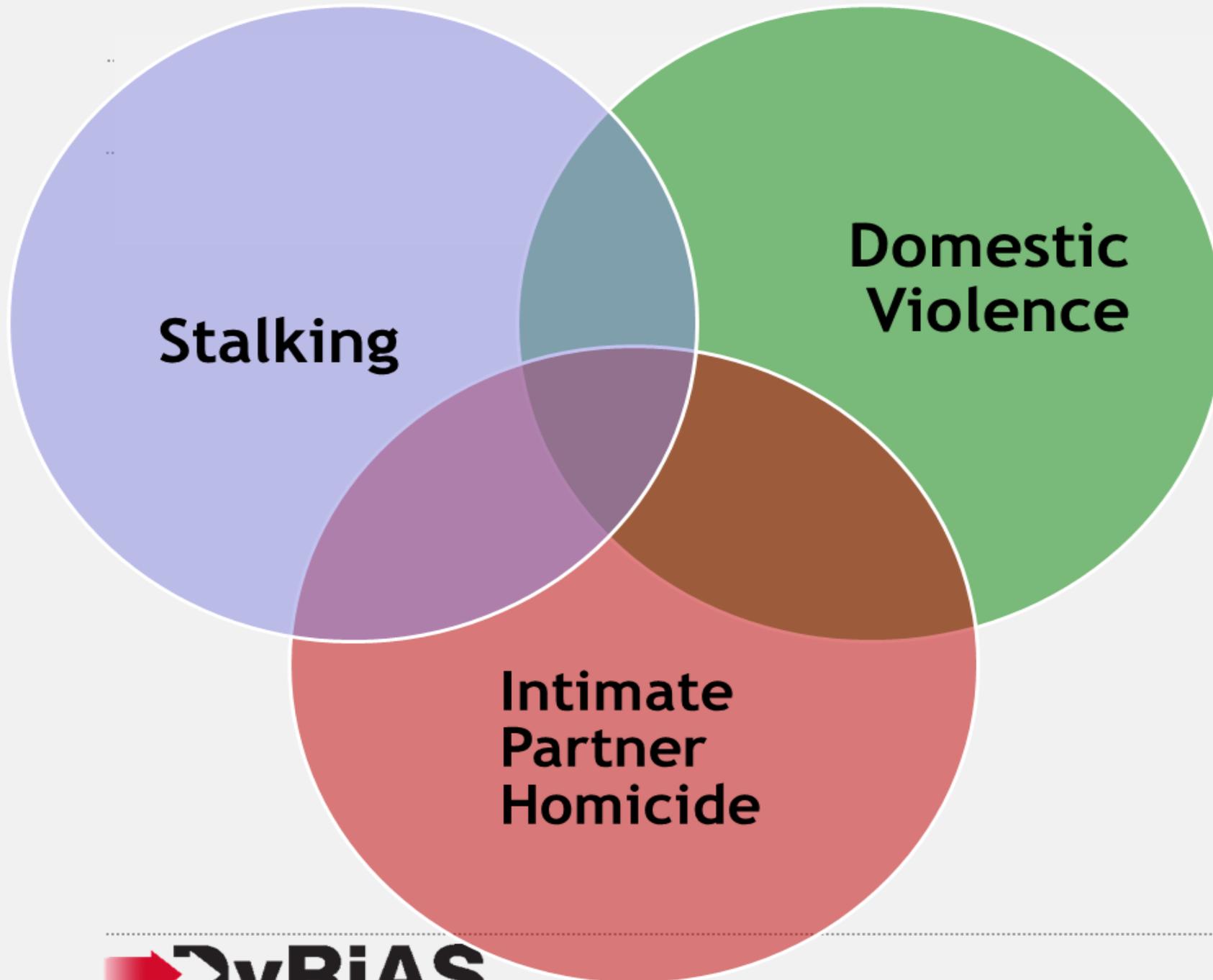


# Assessing the risk of lethal violence in cases of intimate partner violence

**Justine Glaz-Ocik (I:P:Bm)**



## Dynamics in Intimate Partner Violence

---

- Cyclic
- Overcontrolled
- Psychopathic

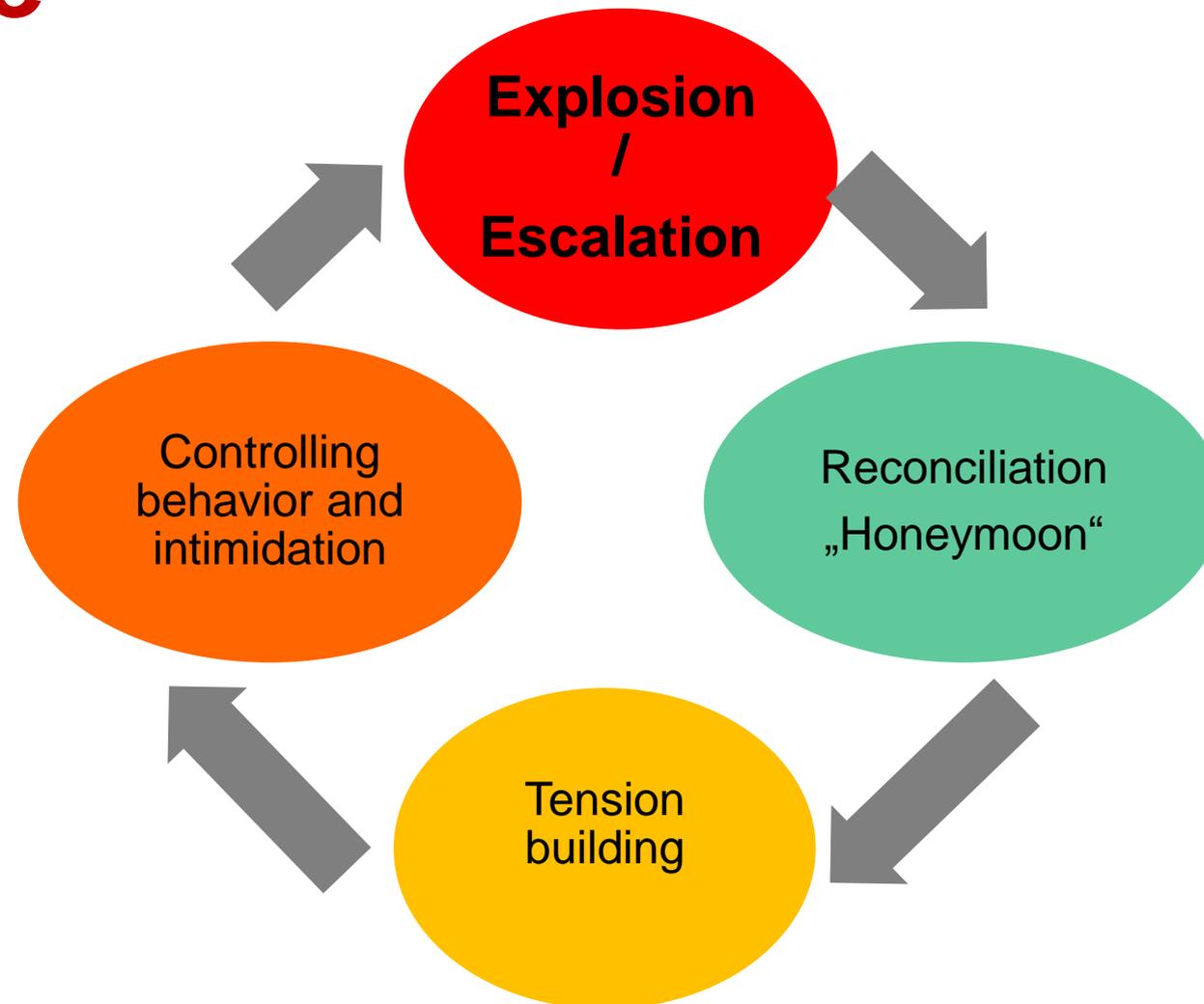
➔ These dynamics describe patterns in behavior and interaction of the male individual

# Cyclic

---

- Idealization vs. hatred (borderline dynamic)
- Mood swings, hopelessness
- Controlling behavior
- Sometimes previous conviction
- Cycle of violence

# Cycle of Violence



# Overcontrolled

---

- Socially well integrated
- Overconforming
- Inconspicuous - often without history of violence or threats
- Strong dependancy on relationship
- Depressive and ruminating prior to violent act
- Violence seems to erupt suddenly and impetuously

# Overcontrolled

---

## Two subtypes observable

- Worrying changes in behavior and communication noticeable
- Catathymic dynamic: critical process is not obvious for neither the victim nor professionals involved

# Psychopathic

---

- Feeling of grandiosity
- Manipulative and superficial charm
- Emotionally cold when aggressive
- Control / dominance
- Impulsiveness
- Unsteadiness

# Psychopathic

---

## With antisocial behavior

- Violence inside and outside of family
- Previous convictions / violent acts

## Socially well adapted

- Socially well integrated
- Sometimes very successful
- Prestige und reputation are of great importance

## Psychodynamic aspects of the three dynamics

---

- *Cyclic*: Aggressive control over relationship, fear of withdrawal, changes in mood, powerlessness and anger
- *Psychopathic*: Dominance & superiority, control and manipulation
- *Overcontrolled*: emotional dependence on relationship, idealization of partner, depression

## **Prevalence** (Glaz-Ocik & Hoffmann, 2011)

---

- Cyclic **27%**
- Overcontrolled **40%**
- Psychopathic **11 %**
  
- Inconclusive **22 %**

**The objective is to identify specific patterns in behavior that identify a woman's risk of being killed by her (former) intimate partner.**

## **DyRiAS** – Intimate Partners

---

- **DyRiAS = Dynamic Risk Assessment System**
- Identification of dangerous developments in cases of intimate partner violence
- Recognition of risk patterns
- Up to date with the latest scientific findings
- No checklists, no psychological testing
- Behavior-orientated assessment
- Prevents prejudiced results



### Overview - what do you want to do?



Create a new case



Open an existing case



Show library



Edit your user profile



Fall W. R.



74%

**Question 15 of 39**

**Does the male adult exhibit obsessive jealousy?**

- Yes  No  No information

**Quick info**



This risk factor exists if the male partner exhibits or has exhibited a high degree of jealousy towards the person concerned. This can become evident, for example, if the male partner believes that social contacts of the person concerned involve a sexual relationship or if he feels neglected as soon as the person concerned spends time with friends or family.

Case info

Report

Save

Back

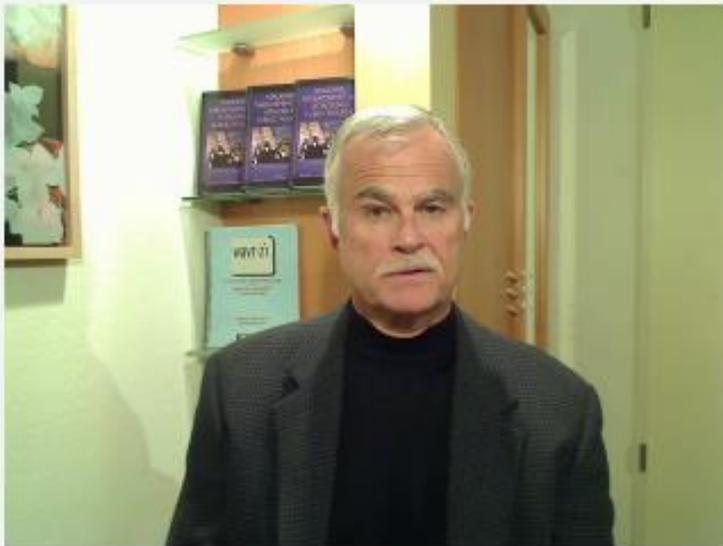
Next

### Does the male adult exhibit obsessive jealousy?

#### Content

1. Expert video
2. Background information
3. Case example
4. Source of informations
5. Reference

#### Expert video



Dr. J. Reid Meloy is one of the leading international experts on stalking and intemicide. With his scientific work he has greatly influenced threat management in cases of stalking and intimate partner violence. Among many other activities, he acts as consultant to the FBI.

#### Background information

## Background information

Jealousy is a highly complex emotion that incorporates judgments, fantasies, desires, and coping strategies (White & Mullen, 1989). At the root of jealousy lies the suspicion or the knowledge that a competing relationship exists. A combination of anger and self-righteousness can then lead to the conviction that violence is indeed justified (Mullen, 1995).

Studies show that jealousy regularly occurs in cases of domestic violence (Wilkinson & Hamerschlag, 2005). A comparison of mild and serious cases of domestic violence showed a slight difference in the frequency of the occurrence of jealousy (Echeburua et al., 2009). In instances of mild violence, jealousy was found to be present in 55,9% of the cases, in instances of serious physical violence jealousy played a role in 76,6% of the cases.

In a study carried out in the US (Dobash et al., 2007) it was found that in comparison to domestic violence offenders, intimate partner murderers showed stronger feelings of entitlement and jealousy. Overall, however, the difference was not marked; possibly the factor of feelings of entitlement being present in the male partner played a greater role in this context.

According to an Austrian study on homicide in relationships more than two thirds of the offences were related to the actual or imagined end of the relationship combined with feelings of jealousy and entitlement (Haller, 2012).

A phenomenon considered to be particularly problematic in the context of physical violence is that of morbid or pathological jealousy (Kingham & Gordon, 2004; Mullen, 2008).

## Case example

**Question 23 of 39**

**Has the male partner entered the home of the individual of concern against her will?**

- Yes  No  No information

How did the male partner succeed in entering her home and who or what is the source of this information?

**Quick info**

This risk factor exists if the male partner succeeded in entering the home of the individual of concern against her will, even if there was no restraining or ?no contact? order in effect at that time. It is irrelevant in this context whether the male partner used violence to enter the home of the individual of concern or not. The question of whether the individual of concern was at home at the time or not is also irrelevant here.

## Summary

Level main analysis: 4

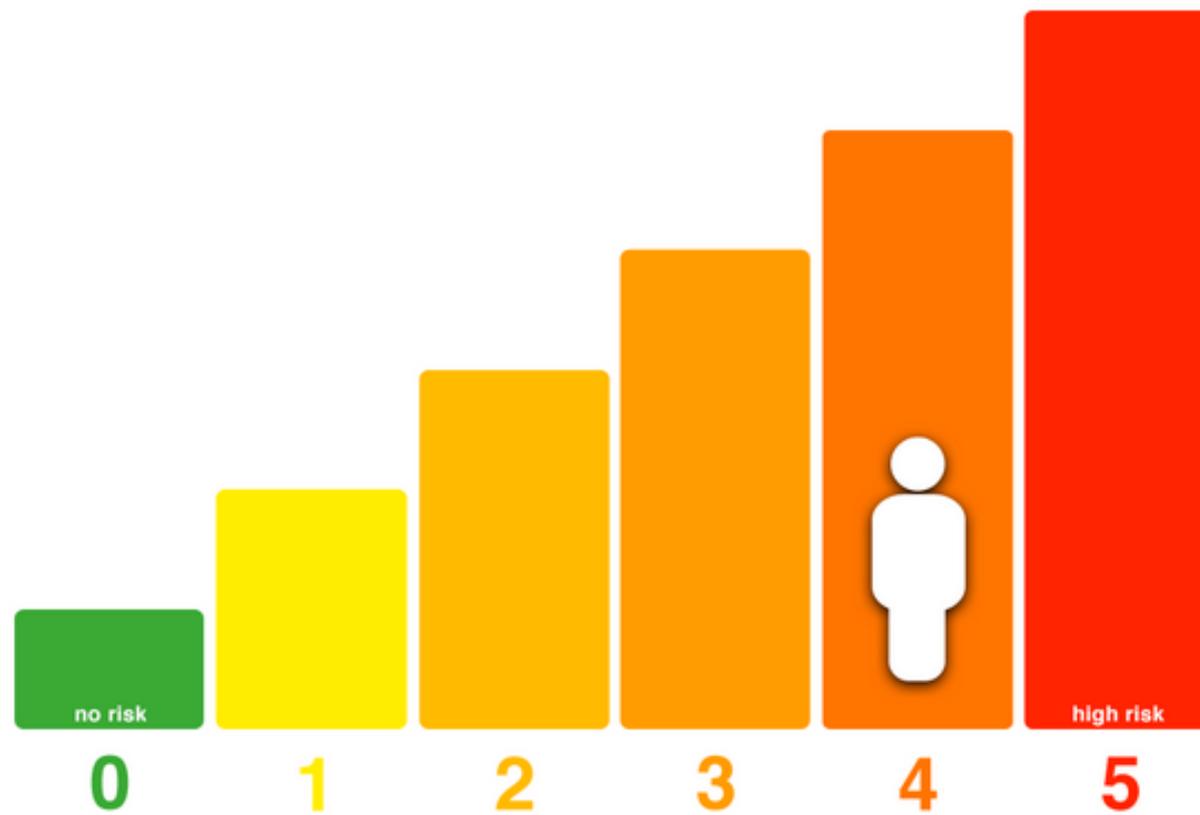
Level Situation: 4

Level Mind-Set: 3

Level Behaviour: 1

Level Less serious violence : 3

## Diagram of main analysis



## Contents

1. The DyRIAS method
2. The information barometer
3. Overall assessment
4. Detailed analysis: Situation, Mind-Set, Behaviour, Less serious violence
5. Red flag behaviour (potential high-risk behaviour)
6. Presentation of individual factors and given background information
7. Lines of investigation not yet covered
8. Timeline analysis

## 4. Detailed analysis: Situation, Mind-Set, Behaviour, Less serious

### violence

The overall risk of serious violence is composed of the sub-domains situation, mindset, behavior and moderate violence. The following diagrams indicate which of the four domains is especially critical at a given point in time. This information can be of relevance for subsequent case management. If one domain is considered to present a high risk, this may provide an entry point for deescalating actions.

#### Situation



The situation scale represents the external negative conditions the person in question is currently exposed to. The darker the shade of the scale, the higher the number of negative factors with an impact on the person in question.

#### Mind-Set



The mindset scale represents a person's internal representation of a given external situation. The darker the shade of the scale, the more negative the mental representation of a given situation.

**Behaviour**



The behaviour scale represents critical patterns of behaviour such as aggressive breaches of social rules or preparatory activities. The darker the shade of the scale, the higher the number of critical forms of behaviour present.

**Less serious violence**

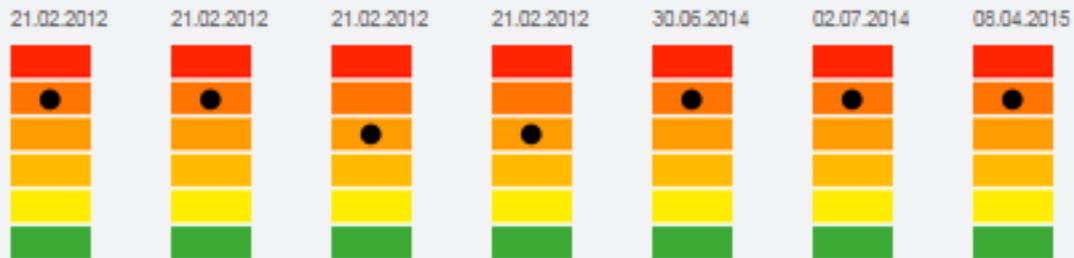
The following diagrams indicate the risk of petty violence and less serious violence. These are defined as physical attacks that do not result in serious injury. The risk factors relevant here are different from those for serious violence. This is the reason why the risk assessments for serious and less serious violence can differ in parts.



The less serious violence scale represents risk factors for petty violence and less serious physical violence. The darker the shade of the scale, the higher the risk of physical violence that does not result in serious injury.

## Timeline analysis

### Main analysis



### Situation

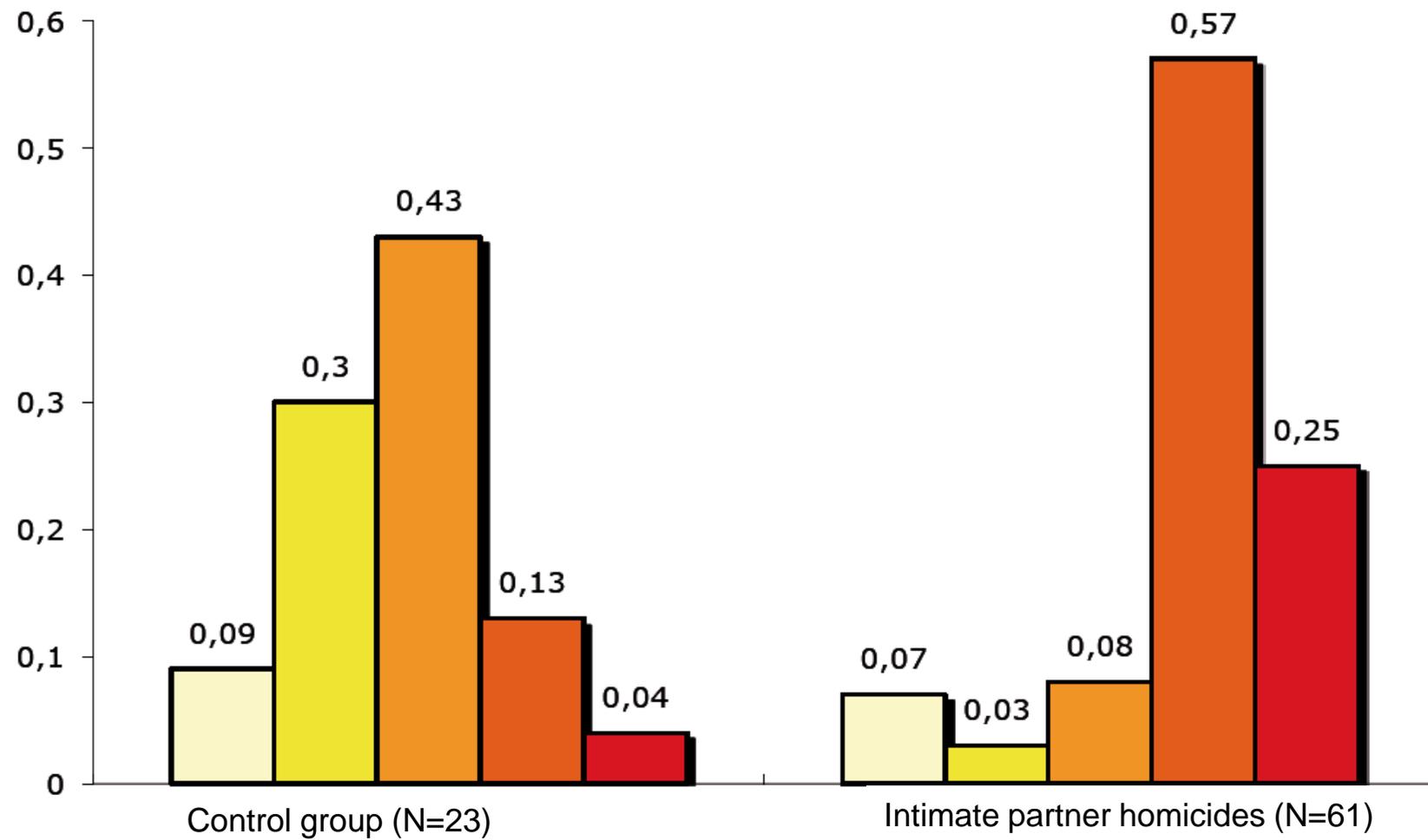


### Mind-Set



# **DyRiAS validation study - Comparison of intimate partner homicide cases with domestic violence cases**

(Hoffmann & Glaz-Ocik, 2012)



## Hoffmann & Glaz-Ocik, 2012 (GER)

---

### **Comparison of intimate partner homicide & domestic violence cases:**

- 82% of intimate partner homicides were identified as high risk
  - 18% were rated in low and middle risk category. In none of these 11 cases professionals were involved.
  
- 17% of the domestic violence cases were assessed as high risk. Prior to the DyRiAS assessment these cases were classified as high risk by the institution in which the men received therapy.

## Frei, 2014 (CH)

---

**Retrospective DyRiAS analysis of 12 intimate partner homicides (also attempts) and 48 cases of domestic violence:**

*The results suggest that DyRiAS is to be seen as a reliable instrument to assess the risk of potentially lethal violence in the context of domestic violence. DyRiAS validly discriminates between these two groups. Even though the groups compared were relatively small statistically significant differences between both groups were found.*

## Gerth, 2015 (CH)

---

### **Comparison of recidivists and non-recidivists of severe forms of intimate partner violence:**

*„[...]Keeping in mind the limitations of the current study, the DyRiAS was found to moderately, but non-significantly discriminate between recidivists and non-recidivists of severe forms of IPV within time at risk periods of three months to five years. On the basis of the current study, the ability of the DyRiAS to assess the risk of severe IPV could not be demonstrated. Nonetheless, further research is necessary to replicate these findings in larger samples and using a prospective study design.”*

# DyRiAS-Intimate Partners

## Screening List

Supports the user in his or her  
decision about whether or not a  
DyRiAS assessment is called for.

available under: [www.dyrias.com](http://www.dyrias.com)

### DyRiAS-Intimpartner-Screener

**Achtung!** DyRiAS-Intimpartner-Screening ersetzt keine Risikoeinschätzung. Dies ist ausschließlich ein Screening-Instrument zur DyRiAS-Nutzung. Es unterstützt Sie in Ihrer Entscheidung, ob in einem vorliegenden Fall eine tiefere Analyse für das Risiko schwerer bis tödlicher Gewalt angezeigt sein kann.

Beim DyRiAS-Intimpartner-Screener handelt es sich um eine anhand von Intimidations-Fällen wissenschaftlich validierte Faktorenliste. Diese kann als Screening-Instrument eingesetzt werden, ob eine tiefere Analyse des Risikos für schwere bis tödliche Gewalt gegen die (ehemalige) Intimpartnerin notwendig erscheint.

➔ **Wenn eine der folgenden Fragen mit "Ja" beantwortet werden kann, wird eine DyRiAS-Analyse des Falles dringend empfohlen.**

**Hat der Mann innerhalb der letzten 6 Monate bereits mehrere Male und jeweils länger als eine Stunde den Aufenthaltsort der Frau (z.B. ihre Wohnung) beobachtet?**

Dieser Screening-Faktor ist ausschließlich dann erfüllt, wenn der Mann bspw. auf der Straße steht und die Wohnung der Frau über den genannten Zeitraum beobachtet oder ein ähnliches Verhalten zeigt. Der Faktor gilt nicht als erfüllt, wenn der Mann wiederholt an der Wohnung vorbeiläuft oder vorbeifährt.

**Hat der Mann schon einmal Todesdrohungen gegen die Frau oder gegen andere Personen ausgesprochen?**

Dieser Screening-Faktor ist ausschließlich dann erfüllt, wenn in den Drohungen des Mannes der Tod der Frau oder anderer Personen wie bspw. der Kinder oder des (vermeintlichen) neuen Partners unmissverständlich formuliert wurde. Der Faktor gilt nicht als erfüllt, wenn der Mann ausschließlich Gewaltdrohungen ohne tödlichen Bezug äußerte.

**Hat der Mann bereits einmal mit einer potenziell tödlichen Waffe die Frau oder andere Personen bedroht oder angegriffen?**

Dieser Screening-Faktor ist ausschließlich dann erfüllt, wenn der Mann in der Vergangenheit die Betroffene oder Dritte mit einer Schusswaffe, einem Messer oder einer anderen potenziell tödlichen Waffe bedroht oder angegriffen hatte.

**Hat die Frau schon einmal Todesangst vor dem Mann empfunden?**

Dieser Screening-Faktor ist ausschließlich dann erfüllt, wenn die Betroffene eindeutig formuliert hat, dass sie Todesangst hat oder hatte. Formulierungen wie bspw. „Ich komme nicht lebendig aus der Beziehung heraus“, „Er wird mich umbringen“ zeugen von dieser Angst. Starke Ängste der Betroffenen, die keine Todesängste sind, tragen nicht zur Erfüllung des Faktors bei.

**Kam es innerhalb der letzten 6 Monate zu einer neuen Qualität der körperlichen Gewaltausübung? Begann der Mann bspw. damit, die Betroffene zu würgen, zu vergewaltigen oder bedrohlich auf die Betroffene mit einem Fahrzeug zuzufahren?**

Dieser Screening-Faktor ist ausschließlich dann erfüllt, wenn sich innerhalb der letzten sechs Monate die Qualität der körperlichen Gewalt gegen die Betroffene verändert hat. Dies kann sich bspw. dadurch äußern, dass neue Gewalttaten erkennbar sind oder die Gewalt nun auch im öffentlichen Raum stattfindet. Ein Beispiel wäre, wenn der Mann seiner Partnerin niemals sexuelle Gewalt angetan hatte, aber sie seit Kurzem zum Geschlechtsverkehr zwingt. Ein weiteres Beispiel wäre, wenn sich die körperliche Gewalt in der Vergangenheit in Schubsen und Schlägen gegen Rücken und Gesicht äußerte und nun der Mann damit beginnt, die Frau zu würgen.

**Zusätzlicher Screening-Faktor: Haben Sie als professionelle Fachperson bei der Betrachtung des Falles ein intuitives Gefühl von Gefahr, innerer Beunruhigung oder sehen Sie andere Anzeichen dafür, dass eine tiefere Analyse notwendig ist?**

Dieser Screening-Faktor ist ausschließlich dann erfüllt, wenn Sie als professionelle Fachperson aufgrund Ihrer fachlichen Expertise oder aufgrund von subjektiver Beunruhigung zu dem Schluss kommen, dass eine tiefere Analyse erforderlich ist.



## Welcome to DyRIAS!

Please select a module.



Intimate partner



School



Workplace  
Violence -  
Customer



Workplace  
Violence -  
Employee



Workplace  
Violence -  
Intimate partner



**Thank you very much!**

***justine.glaz-ocik@i-p-bm.de***

Institut Psychologie & Bedrohungsmanagement

64222 Darmstadt

Postfach 11 07 02

**www.dyrias.com**

Dynamic Risk Assessment System