



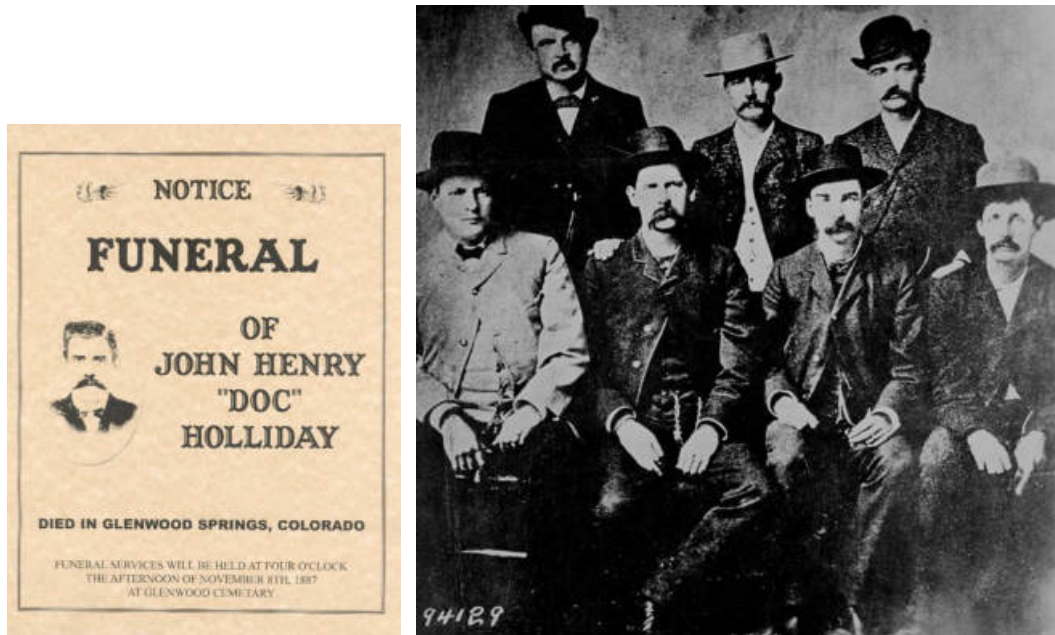
## NEWSFLASH – *SUMMER 2014*

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Not your typical summer picture on the front page of this edition of Newsflash. Dr. Reid Meloy, sent us this picture he took during his holiday in Colorado. Doc Holliday's grave, buddy to Wyatt Earp and notorious gunslinger with his colt 45. Famous for the shoot out at the O.K. Corral in Tombstone Arizona, and one of the great 19th century American threat assessors and threat managers. Wyatt Earp is second from the left (seated).



## Message from the Board

Dear members,

Our past conference in beautiful Stockholm brought a change to the executive board. In April this year, I had the pleasure to take the role of the association president. The excellent work that Bram Van der Meer has done clearly left excellent footprints to follow. A lot of the international networking between various Threat Assessment Associations would not have been possible without the leadership that Bram has shown. So, big boot to fill expectation wise, but I am happy and eager to take the responsibility for the two years.

The Stockholm conference also had a wonderful result regarding our membership numbers. We had many new people, seasoned professionals, join our association. Hopefully we will see the same development continue in the near future. This also creates growing pressure for the board and associate board members to make sure that you all get benefits that you see useful in your line of work.

One of the main benefits is definitely the professional accreditation, which hopefully will be started before next year. I personally feel this to be extremely important for the development of threat assessment in Europe. Another benefit is the JTAM.



Unfortunately the first issue has seen some delays, but based upon the recent communication with the editors and publishers, AETAP members should be getting 1st and 2nd issue within the next few weeks. Also, if you haven't done this already, please join our LinkedIn group, where you can find information on how to access the electronic version of JTAM. Sometimes any updates regarding AETAP might get to you in a more reliable way, when mass emails get stuck into organizations firewalls or are automatically put into trash folder.

During this summer the board has also been discussing a number of new developments, related to the visibility and "marketing" of AETAP, possible local workshops as well as our activity in the social media. Most likely we can share more information about these issues after the next board meeting in November.

Finally, please mark the dates 14th-16th April 2015 into your calendar. The next main AETAP conference will take place in the magnificent town of Lucerne, Switzerland. Our call for abstracts has already started, so the program for 2015 should be out in November. And in the spirit of global networking, please check out the dates for ATAP, CATAP and APATAP for this year. Great conferences and excellent networking events like ours.

With enthusiasm, energy and excitement

Totti Karpela  
President

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## **New developments**

### **Publications in progress**

#### ***Comparing school shooters with threateners of school shooting without intent***

In threat assessment casework the question often is if a person makes a threat or poses a threat. To answer that question in the field of school shootings an international group of researchers compared a sample school shooters with other students of concern. A typology of eight warning behaviors for targeted violence—acute, dynamic patterns which may indicate accelerating risk of violence—were tested in a small sample of German school shooters (n=9) and students of concern (N=31) to see if any warning behaviors would be significantly different between the groups. Five warning behaviors were found to occur with greater frequency in the school shooters and discriminate between the samples: pathway, fixation, identification, novel aggression and last resort. All effect sizes were large ( $\phi > 0.50$ ). The findings are discussed in the context of school shooting data from Germany and the United States and their implications for threat assessment.

The paper "Some Warning Behaviors Discriminate between School Shooters and Other Students of Concern" authored by J. Reid Meloy, Jens Hoffmann, Karoline Roshdi & Angela Guldemann will be published in one of the next issues of the *Journal of Threat Assessment and Management*.



## **Journal of Threat Assessment and Management**

We have had some bad luck with the first issue of JTAM. Most of our members have not yet received the first issue of JTAM and as the board we on feel bad about this frustrating delay. However, logistics have now been sorted out and we should be expecting the 1st and 2nd issues to be delivered shortly to all of us. If you haven't done this already, please join our LinkedIn group, where you can find information on how to access the electronic version of JTAM. Thank you for your patience.

## **Violence and Gender**

The new journal of "Violence and Gender", recently set up by Mary Ellen O'Toole, had a very successful start. Already two new issues have been published during the last few months. There are just too many interesting articles to summarize for you. Topics are: mass murderer (new typology), Why do young males attack schools?, Risk factors in targeted violence, Perspectives on mass violence. We recommend to visit the website. Some articles are freely accessible and some are available for a small amount of money: <http://online.liebertpub.com/toc/vio/1/2>.

## **Published research**

### **"Factors present when battered women kill" (Lynn, e.a., 1989)**

During our annual conference in Stockholm, Lisa Warren commented on some interesting research from the United States. Though this research is far from new, it is still very informative and unique. Not many researchers have access to such a goldmine of information. The researchers interviewed 12 women who had killed their intimate partner after a history of abuse. Death threats, alcohol abuse by the partner on a daily basis, and the presence of firearms in the house existed in the majority of these former relationships. Moreover, psychological abuse (e.g. enforced isolation, jealous accusations, humiliation and verbal threats to harm the children) was perceived as more devastating than physical abuse. This is consistent with other research. The respondents reported limited use of outside resources to escape from their abusive situation. Half of the women still loved their partner they had killed. The full article can still be purchased at: <http://informahealthcare.com/doi/abs/10.3109/01612848909140850>.

### **"Cyberstalking versus off-line stalking in a forensic sample" (Cavezza and McEwan, 2014)**

These renowned Australian researchers have recently filled the gap for the lacking knowledge of cyberstalkers. They compared 36 online stalkers with 36 off-line stalkers. Analyses showed only few differences between the groups, although cyberstalkers were more likely to be ex-intimate partners and less likely to approach their victim. Contrary to expectations, cyberstalkers were no more likely than off-line stalkers to have multiple victims. The majority of cyberstalkers also used off-line stalking tactics. The majority of the whole sample was diagnosed with a personality disorder. The full article from Psychology, Crime and Law can be purchased at: <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/1068316X.2014.893334>.



**“Innovating Responses to Managing Risk: Exploring the Potential of a Victim-focused Policing Strategy” (Paterson & Clamp, 2014)**

This is an interesting article from the United Kingdom. The researchers investigate the potential benefits of developing partnerships with victims, in managing threats to their personal safety via intelligent use of electronic monitoring techniques by the police. The authors propose to shift from offender monitoring to placing victims at the heart of surveillance. The reasons for this are clear: offenders often do not comply with restrictions and tend to develop adaptive strategies that displace, resist and reformulate offending behavior in new forms and new areas. It is thought that the combination of intelligence-led policing and a surveillance-enabled response makes smarter use of scarce resources. Response speed can be accelerated through an interconnected system that identifies high-risk instances and anticipates potential threats against vulnerable repeat victims. Police recording systems do have the potential to monitor repeat service users and to use these data to assess risk.

This article inside *Policing Advance Access by Oxford University Press* is available at the link: <http://policing.oxfordjournals.org/content/8/1/51>.

**“Assessing Violence Risk Among Female IPV Perpetrators: An examination of the B-Safer” (Storey & Strand, 2013)**

Susanne Strand from Sweden presented an interesting poster session during our annual conference in Stockholm earlier this year. She provided an opportunity to contribute to her research on stalking. This made us all curious about her publications so far and we found out that together with a Canadian colleague she carried out this very useful research. The question was to what extent the B-Safer (already widely used by the Swedish police) is applicable to women being the perpetrator? They found that women possessed fewer risk factors. In addition, results suggest that additional risk factors to those in the B-Safer are required to assess risk for female IPV. The most substantial difference between males and females was found for the item of negative attitudes.

If you would like to read further, the full article can be purchased at:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/10926771.2013.835015>.

## **Threat Assessment Tools & Techniques**

### **FAM**

A researcher from The Netherlands, dr. Vivienne de Vogel, developed an additional guideline, complementary to the HCR-20 in order to assess female violence risk. Though validation research is still in progress, the first results are promising. Several risk factors for violent behaviour in women differ substantially from those in men. On the basis of mental health expertise and literature Vivienne and her researchers have been able to formulate 9 women specific risk factors to take into account.

These are:

- Prostitution
- Parenting difficulties
- Pregnancy at young age





- Suicidality / self-harm
- Covert / manipulative behaviour
- Low self-esteem
- Problematic child care responsibility
- Problematic intimate relationship

More (ordering) information in English is available at:  
[http://www.eburon.nl/fam\\_en](http://www.eburon.nl/fam_en) and <https://www.cavershambooksellers.com/search/X18031>.

### **HCR-20 Version 3**

As mentioned in our previous newsletter there now is a new version of the HCR-20. The International Journal of Forensic Mental Health has recently published a special issue, focussing on this new contribution to the international forensic psychological community. There are articles on the development of this new version, the use of the tool in populations in The Netherlands and German, reliability and validity, adapting the tool in pre-trial settings as well as a case study. All of this interesting material is accessible for free at:  
<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/ufmh20/current>.

### **PATRIARCH**

The PATRIARCH, a tool for assessing the risk of honor-based violence has now officially been released. The PATRIARCH has been developed by Drs. Randall Kropp, Henrik Belfrage, and Stephen Hart, and should be considered a structured professional judgment (SPJ) guideline, specially designed for use by law enforcement, criminal justice, security, child protection, school, post-secondary institution, and mental health personnel.

The PATRIARCH builds on the authors' related work on violence risk assessment, most notably the Spousal Assault Risk Assessment guide (SARA), the Brief Spousal Assault Form for the Evaluation of Risk (B-SAFER), the Guidelines for Stalking Assessment and Management (SAM) and the History Clinical Risk-20 for general violence (HCR-20:V3). The PATRIARCH is the first published evidence-based comprehensive risk assessment procedure for honour based violence, which is defined as any actual, attempted or threatened physical harm that is motivated, at least in part, by beliefs about honour.

The official launch took place May 12 in Bergen, Norway, with two additional days of training provided. All three authors gave presentations, together with experts from Sweden and Norway. Henrik Belfrage presented on the work with a previous draft version in Sweden, and Randall Kropp presented the final version of the PATRIARCH and how it is presently used in Canada. Juno Blom, the Swedish Government's coordinator in honour related issues, presented on "Honour based violence. The content of the problem". Linda Ekman, analyst at the Stockholm County Police, presented on "Using the PATRIARCH within Stockholm County Police", and Guro Angell Gimse presented on "Using the PATRIARCH in dialogue processes within cases of honour based violence".



The chair for the event, Dr. Stephen D Hart, concluded that the PATRIARCH hopefully will be an important contribution to the field of threat assessment and that it will be an important evidence-based aid for professionals working with cases within this context. The PATRIARCH manual and worksheet are available from ProActive ReSolutions ([www.proactive-resolutions.com](http://www.proactive-resolutions.com)). It is currently being translated for use in Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Iceland, The Netherlands, Belgium and Switzerland.

*Henrik Belfrage*

## **SAPROF**

SAPROF (the Structured Assessment of Protective Factors for violence risk) is a relatively new instrument for assessing protective factors for violence risk. The authors would like to see it used besides the already widely used risk assessment tools such as the HCR-20.

SAPROF has recently been validated. During the Spring of this year the Dutch researcher Michiel de Vries Robbé successfully presented his dissertation on this subject. He concludes that the protective factors of the SAPROF show a good predictive validity for non-violent incidents while the offender is still undergoing treatment. Good results are found across different groups of patients. Two findings in this thesis are especially meaningful:

1. Protective factors demonstrate to provide incremental predictive validity over risk factors in predicting violent recidivism, in other words future violent behaviour can be assessed more accurately when protective factors are incorporated in the risk assessment;
2. Improvements on protective factors during treatment show to be related to reductions in violent recidivism after treatment, in other words the more protective factors are developed during treatment the less likely it becomes that a person will re-offend after treatment.
3. His full thesis can be downloaded at:  
[http://www.saprof.com/\\_files/Phd%20Thesis%20Protective%20Factors.%20Michiel%20de%20Vries%20Robbe.pdf](http://www.saprof.com/_files/Phd%20Thesis%20Protective%20Factors.%20Michiel%20de%20Vries%20Robbe.pdf).

## **G4S Analysis tool for Operational Level & Venue Specific Risk Assessment**

Mr. Simon Murphy from G4S presented at our annual conference in Stockholm and showed us the use of threat assessment during major sport events. We are very fortunate that Mr. Murphy was willing to share the analysis tool with our participants and members. Attached is a useful template in which the expert can fill in the necessary information: the baseline situation, a risk table (defined as the likelihood x impact), venue attractiveness, threat & vulnerability. Everyone who is involved with threats during major events is advised to look into this instrument.

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## International Associations, Professional Networks & Education

### ATAP

Just around the corner is the conference of our American colleagues, held from 12 – 15 August in beautiful sunny California. This will be the organization's twenty-fourth annual conference! Our president, Mr. Totti Karpela will be in California, representing the European association. We wish our American friends of the ATAP board all the best with the final preparations, and everyone attending a successful learning experience. For more information visit:

<https://m360.atapworldwide.org/event.aspx?eventID=89052>

### **Swiss conference on Threat Management, September 9<sup>th</sup> 2014, Olten CH**

*"Threat Management in practice - Practical approaches and case management"*

On the 9<sup>th</sup> of September the second Swiss Threat Management Conference in Olten will take place. Experts from different fields will speak about case management and how they have taken care of their cases.

Different forms of threatening behavior will be focused on, like querulous complainers, threats and aggression in public offices, universities, domestic violence, stalking, risks for children and muss murder. Universal elements of successful case management using threat assessment tools will be presented within a great variety of topics. Another focus will be case management on an interdisciplinary level. Presenters will be experts from different professions like police, psychology, social work, corporate security and psychiatry.

The day before the conference there are two different expert workshops:

1. Querulous complainers – Personality aspects, psychological background, threat assessment and management - Dr. Jens Hoffmann (Institute of Psychology and Threat Management)
2. Psychological de-escalation - Managing aggressive people within public authorities – Karoline Roshdi (Institute of Psychology and Threat Management)

Conference and seminar language is German. More information is available at:

<http://www.i-p-bm.com/unserethemen/bedrohungsmanagement-konkret.html>.

**Karoline Roshdi**

### CATAP

*Annual conference 19 – 24 October 2014*

Then our Canadian friends are next in line to have their annual conference. We are confident that this will be another impressive event and advise our AETAP members to attend. The conference will be held at one of the most beautiful places in Canada – in Whistler, North of Vancouver.





Besides the main conference, there will also be interesting threat assessment **workshops** for you to attend, starting on the Sunday prior to the main event.

Dr. Laura Guy and dr. Randy Kropp will do a 2-day workshop (19 and 20 October) with the title **“Foundational Spousal Assault and Stalking – Threat Assessment & Risk Management skills”**.

*ProActive Resolutions is pleased to offer a two day Workshop on Spousal Assault and Stalking Threat Assessment & Risk Management at the annual conference of the Canadian Association of Threat Assessment Professionals (CATAP). Spousal violence is one of the most common and dangerous forms of violence and stalking is a specialized form of violence that often intersects with spousal violence, increasing risk of lethality. The Workshop will be held 19-20 October 2014 at the Chateau Fairmont Whistler in Whistler, British Columbia, Canada.*

*On Day 1, Participants will learn general principles and skills related to threat assessment and risk management. On Day 2, participants will apply skills learned on Day 1 to a case and discuss critical issues in risk for intimate partner violence and stalking. Participants also will learn to administer the Spousal Assault Risk Assessment Guide (SARA) and the Guidelines for Stalking Assessment and Management (SAM). This workshop is designed for those who are new to the field of threat assessment, have completed some training (e.g., 1-4 days), or want to refresh previous training. Methods of instruction will include lecture and group exercises. Lectures will be supplemented with audiovisual material (e.g., PowerPoint presentations). Group exercises will include completion of practice cases based on audiovisual and written materials.*

*The Workshop will be facilitated by two of ProActive’s Threat Assessment Specialists, Drs. P. Randall Kropp and Laura Guy. Dr. Kropp is a clinical and forensic psychologist with the Forensic Psychiatric Services Commission of British Columbia, and an Adjunct Professor of Psychology and a member of the Mental Health, Law, and Policy Institute at Simon Fraser University. He specializes in the assessment and management of violent offenders. Dr. Kropp has published numerous journal articles, book chapters, and research reports and has co-authored several manuals on violence risk assessment and management. Dr. Guy has a doctorate in clinical-forensic psychology. She is an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Massachusetts Medical School and a member of the Mental Health, Law, and Policy Institute at Simon Fraser University. Her research focuses on forensic assessment, the role of mental disorder for violence risk, and violence risk assessment and management with adolescents and adults. She is the (co) author of over 125 articles, chapters, reports, manuals, and presentations. Drs. Kropp and Guy have conducted numerous workshops on violence risk assessment and management for diverse professionals around the world. Thousands of professionals from hundreds of settings across the world have taken part in our Workshops to date and the procedures developed by our Threat Assessment Specialists are among the most widely used in the field. Our Threat Assessment and Risk Management Workshops are the only ones in this field that have been subjected to systematic empirical research.*



*Early bird pricing for the Spousal Assault and Stalking Threat Assessment & Risk Management Workshop and the CATAP conference is in effect until 12 September 2014. Please register at <http://www.catap.org/events>.*

AETAP board member, Bram Van der Meer will provide a 2-day **'Investigative Interviewing for Threat Assessment'** workshop.

*Fundamental to any threat assessment is the information it is based on. In order to conduct a threat assessment the assessor has to use information provided to him by the client, or by sources he/she finds and investigates by himself/herself. The core of the business of a threat assessment professional is to then synthesize the information collected and develop a comprehensive management plan aimed at reducing risk for violence by targeting situations that are under their control. The quality of information and its sources can depend on the case and also change over time, but are essential to the quality of the management tactics and strategies provided.*

*The first part of this two-day expert workshop will focus on the problems that threat assessment professionals face in the process gathering information. Sufficient and reliable information is a fundamental requirement of every case assessment and risk management plan. What can we do and where should we focus on to make sure that what we work with is indeed based on the truths and on facts? Which processes can influence our own emotions and expectations influence and lead to wrong judgments? What kind of sources can help us to gain a better understanding of the individual, or individuals, we are dealing with? His motivations, his concerns, his relationships and the way he handles relationships, his attitudes towards the workplace, mental health, and stress coping strategies - important factors that can be essential for a good quality threat assessment and – management program. Behavioural information not only crucial for the final assessment and management strategy, it also is very helpful for the interviews that we have with subjects. Understanding the motivations and needs of someone we are speaking to, and having some form of understanding of his / her personality style significantly influences the quality of the interview.*

*Identifying different personality styles and how to deal with aggressive or manipulative interviewees who are resistant to share information will be discussed during the workshop. The following topics form part of the program:*

- *Interview preparation*
- *Identifying the goal and the setting of the interview*
- *The psychology of influencing behaviour*
- *Communicative skills and the working relationship*
- *Non-verbal behaviour*
- *Personality styles & interviewing difficult people*
- *Interviewing delusional individuals*
- *Dealing with unwanted behaviour*
- *Lying and deception*



Participants can also attend the 1-day workshop on Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup> of October. The well-regarded professionals dr. Stephen Hart and dr. Reid Meloy together will do a research update on “**Current Direction in Threat Assessment**”.

*This workshop will summarize recent research on threat assessment and management from around the world.*

*Interesting and important publications from the last two years of research will be presented, and the state of the science discussed with participants. The workshop is most appropriate for senior threat assessment professionals.*

#### **APATAP**

This association has managed to develop interest within professionals around Asia Pacific, and the membership numbers are growing slowly but surely. In 2013 the conference was held in Melbourne and this year in November the APATAP conference will take place in Brisbane. The line of speakers is interesting and topics will cover a broad range of topics within threat assessment.

Next year APATAP will host it's annual conference in Singapore, so if you cannot make it Brisbane, then perhaps Singapore provides a location that is within easier reach from Europe.

#### **AETAP**

April 13 – 17, Lucerne, Switzerland

#### **Annual Conference of the Association of European Threat Assessment Professionals**

[www.aetap.eu](http://www.aetap.eu)

For those interested in being a speaker at the conference, send us your abstract:

<https://www.webpolsurveys.com/S/B37A23B17EAF8050.par>

April 20-24, 2015 The Hague, The Netherlands

#### **ProActive ReSolutions Inc. and Van der Meer Investigative Psychologists - Foundational Threat Assessment and Risk Management Workshop**

For more information visit:

<http://proactive-resolutions.com/news/events/>