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Trends in American Homicide, 1968-1978:
Victim-Level Supplementary Reports

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Marc Reidel and Margaret Zahn

ICPSR 8676

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TRENDS IN AMERICAN HOMICIDE, 1968-1978: VICTIM-LEVEL
SUPPLEMENTARY HOMICIDE REPORTS

(ICPSR 8676)

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U.S. Department of Justice
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Principal Investigator

Marc Reidel and Margaret Zahn

NCJRS

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ACQUISITIONS

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Reidel, Marc and Margaret Zahn.

TRENDS IN AMERICAN HOMICIDE, 1968-1978: VICTIM-LEVEL
SUPPLEMENTARY HOMICIDE REPORTS (ICPSR 8676)

SUMMARY: This study was carried out in order to standardize the format of national homicide data and to analyze trends over the period 1968-1978. The unit of analysis is the homicide victim, and variables include information on the reporting agency, the circumstances of the incident, and the characteristics of the victim and the offender. Within these categories are variables pertaining to population and city size, victim's and offender's age, race, and sex as well as the number of victims and offenders involved in the incident. Information about the incident includes the type of weapon used and the circumstances surrounding the incident. CLASS IV

UNIVERSE: Homicide victims in the United States.

NOTE: The data have been reformatted because of the difficulty in using FBI data as they are released. The reformatting has resulted in the unit of observation (homicide victim) being constant across the study period. The storage mode is "character-numeric". Two major changes in FBI coding of the Supplementary Homicide Reports have resulted in relatively consistent coding within the time periods 1968-1972, 1973-1975, and 1976-1978, but not between them.

EXTENT OF COLLECTION: 11 data files

DATA FORMAT: Logical Record Length

PART 1: 1968

FILE STRUCTURE: rectangular

CASES: 11957

VARIABLES: 37

RECORD LENGTH: 132

RECORDS PER CASE: 1

PART 2: 1969

FILE STRUCTURE: rectangular

CASES: 12918

VARIABLES: 37

RECORD LENGTH: 132

RECORDS PER CASE: 1

PART 3: 1970

FILE STRUCTURE: rectangular

CASES: 13039

VARIABLES: 37

RECORD LENGTH: 132

RECORDS PER CASE: 1

PART 4: 1971

FILE STRUCTURE: rectangular

CASES: 15323

VARIABLES: 37

RECORD LENGTH: 132

RECORDS PER CASE: 1

PART 5: 1972

FILE STRUCTURE: rectangular

CASES: 15832

VARIABLES: 37

RECORD LENGTH: 132

RECORDS PER CASE: 1

PART 6: 1973

FILE STRUCTURE: rectangular

CASES: 17124

VARIABLES: 37

RECORD LENGTH: 132

RECORDS PER CASE: 1

PART 7: 1974

FILE STRUCTURE: rectangular

CASES: 18632

VARIABLES: 37

RECORD LENGTH: 132

RECORDS PER CASE: 1

PART 8: 1975

FILE STRUCTURE: rectangular

CASES: 18642

VARIABLES: 37

RECORD LENGTH: 132

RECORDS PER CASE: 1

PART 9: 1976
FILE STRUCTURE: rectangular
CASES: 16821
VARIABLES: 37
RECORD LENGTH: 132
RECORDS PER CASE: 1

PART 10: 1977
FILE STRUCTURE: rectangular
CASES: 18300
VARIABLES: 37
RECORD LENGTH: 132
RECORDS PER CASE: 1

PART 11: 1978
FILE STRUCTURE: rectangular
CASES: 18941
VARIABLES: 37
RECORD LENGTH: 132
RECORDS PER CASE: 1

RELATED PUBLICATIONS:

Riedel, M., and M. Zahn. NATURE AND PATTERNS OF AMERICAN HOMICIDE: FINAL REPORT. Unpublished Report. Carbondale, Illinois: Southern Illinois University, 1981.

Riedel, M., Zahn, M., and Mock, L.F. THE NATURE AND PATTERNS OF AMERICAN HOMICIDE. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice, 1985.

TRENDS IN AMERICAN HOMICIDE, 1968-1978:
VICTIM-LEVEL SUPPLEMENTARY HOMICIDE REPORTS

User's Guide to the Machine-Readable Data Files

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for

National Institute of Justice
U.S. Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20531
NIJ award 79-NI-AX-0092

Data Set Documentation Revised by

Criminal Justice Data Resource Program
Institute of Criminal Justice & Criminology
The University of Maryland
College Park, Maryland 20742-8235

January 1987

ABSTRACT

Marc Riedel and Margaret Zahn

Trends in American Homicide, 1968-1978: Victim-Level
Supplementary Homicide Reports

Center for the Study of Crime, Delinquency, and Corrections,
Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois

79-NI-AX-0092

Purpose of the Study

The aim of the study was to standardize the format of national homicide data and analyze trends over the period 1968-1978.

Methodology

Sources of information

Data were provided by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) from their master tape files of Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program Supplementary Homicide Report (SHR) data originally submitted by U.S. law enforcement agencies.

Sample

As part of the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, participating U.S. law enforcement agencies are asked by the FBI to provide additional details about homicides that were reported in their jurisdictions. These data are collected on a UCR form entitled "Supplementary Homicide Report." The investigators obtained a copy of these data for the years 1968 through 1978 and performed additional processing. The data that make up this sample may be biased either because (1) homicides were not brought to the attention of the local police agency, or (2) the agency did not participate in the UCR program, or (3) a participating agency failed to forward the SHR portion of the UCR to the FBI. Coding and entry into machine-readable form was performed by the FBI's UCR Section staff. Because the coding scheme underwent substantial revision twice during the study period (1973 and 1976), the investigators re-

processed the data to obtain consistency and comparability of observations and variables over time.

Dates of data collection

Not available

Summary of Contents

Special characteristics of the study

These data are distinguished by their unit of observation and accessibility. The form in which the FBI distributes their master tape data is difficult to use because the data are stored in packed binary fields, the number of records per case varies, and the files include several different types of records. This data set is reformatted so that the unit of observation (the homicide victim) is constant across the study period, the storage mode is "character-numeric" (either alphabetic characters or numbers), and the data are rectangularly structured (i.e., all records are the same length and there is only one record per case).

Description of variables

Variables include information pertaining to the reporting agency, victim and offender characteristics, and the circumstances surrounding the incident. Agency-specific information includes total population, city and/or SMSA size, and county and state codes. The victim's and offender's age, race, and sex are present, as well as the number of victims and offenders involved in the incident. Information about the incident includes the type of weapon used, the relationship of victim to offender, and circumstance (e.g., related to a felony, justifiable, etc.). It is important to note that major changes occurred in the FBI coding of SHR's at two points during the time period. The result is relatively consistent coding within the time periods 1968-1972, 1973-1975, and 1976-1978, but not between them. The later time periods have more detailed information, particularly regarding the circumstance and relationship variables. It is noteworthy that the FBI did not collect information on the offender prior to 1976.

Unit of observation

Homicide victim

Geographic Coverage

United States

File Structure

Data files: 11; each file contains a calendar year of reported homicides
Unit: Victim
Variables: 37; 1 codebook defines all files
Cases: file 1 (1968) = 11,957
file 2 (1969) = 12,918
file 3 (1970) = 13,039
file 4 (1971) = 15,323
file 5 (1972) = 15,832
file 6 (1973) = 17,124
file 7 (1974) = 18,632
file 8 (1975) = 18,642
file 9 (1976) = 16,821
file 10 (1977) = 18,300
file 11 (1978) = 18,941

Reports and Publications

Riedel, M. and Zahn, M. (1981). Nature and Patterns of American Homicide: Final Report. Unpublished report, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL.

Riedel, M., Zahn, M., and Mock, L.F. (1985). The Nature and Patterns of American Homicide. Washington, DC: National Institute of Justice.

VARIABLE DESCRIPTION LIST

1. STATE CODE
2. AGENCY CODE
3. GROUP
4. SUB-GROUP
5. DIVISION
6. YEAR
7. AGENCY COUNT
8. POPULATION
9. COUNTY
10. SMSA
11. SMSA INDICATION
12. AGENCY NAME
13. STATE NAME
14. MONTH
15. LAST UPDATE
16. TYPE OF ACTION
17. HOMICIDE TYPE
18. INCIDENT NUMBER
19. SITUATION
20. VICTIM COUNT
21. OFFENDER COUNT
22. CK [undocumented]
23. J1 [undocumented]
24. J2 [undocumented]
25. VICTIM'S AGE
26. VICTIM'S SEX
27. VICTIM'S RACE
28. OFFENDER'S AGE
29. OFFENDER'S SEX
30. OFFENDER'S RACE
31. WEAPON
32. NEW RELATIONSHIP
33. NEW CIRCUMSTANCE
34. NCIRIND [undocumented]
35. OLD CIRCUMSTANCE
36. OLD CIRCUMSTANCE INDICATOR
37. OLD SUB-CIRCUMSTANCE

VARIABLE DEFINITIONS

1. STATE CODE Location: 1 Width: 2 Numeric
 (STATE)
 Two digit state code.

01 = Alabama
02 = Arizona
03 = Arkansas
04 = California
05 = Colorado
06 = Connecticut
07 = Delaware
08 = Washington, D.C.
09 = Florida
10 = Georgia
11 = Idaho
12 = Illinois
13 = Indiana
14 = Iowa
15 = Kansas
16 = Kentucky
17 = Louisiana
18 = Maine
19 = Maryland
20 = Massachusetts
21 = Michigan
22 = Minnesota
23 = Mississippi
24 = Missouri
25 = Montana
26 = Nebraska
27 = Nevada
28 = New Hampshire
29 = New Jersey
30 = New Mexico
31 = New York
32 = North Carolina
33 = North Dakota
34 = Ohio
35 = Oklahoma
36 = Oregon
37 = Pennsylvania
38 = Rhode Island
39 = South Carolina
40 = South Dakota
41 = Tennessee
42 = Texas
43 = Utah

44 = Vermont
45 = Virginia
46 = Washington
47 = West Virginia
48 = Wisconsin
49 = Wyoming
50 = Alaska
51 = Hawaii
55 = Reporting agency is not
located in the U.S.

2. AGENCY ORI CODE Location: 3 Width: 7 Character
(AGENCY)
FBI's identifying number for each agency.

3. GROUP Location: 10 Width: 1 Numeric
(GRP)
Groups 1-7 are cities; groups 8-9 are counties.
All populations are inclusive.

0 = Reporting agency is not located in the U.S.
1 = All cities 250,000 or over
2 = Cities between 100,000 and 249,999
3 = Cities between 50,000 and 99,999
4 = Cities between 25,000 and 49,999
5 = Cities between 10,000 and 24,999
6 = Cities between 2,500 and 9,999
7 = Cities under 2,500
8 = Non-SMSA counties
9 = SMSA counties

4. SUB-GROUP Location: 10 Width: 2 Character
(GRPSUB)
The sub-group variable expands upon the city and SMSA size
codes found in GROUP above. In the following codes, the
first digit refers to the GROUP code found above and the
second digit refers to the SUB-GROUP code.

1A = All cities 1,000,000 and over
1B = Cities between 500,000 and 999,999
1C = Cities between 250,000 and 499,999
2 = Cities between 100,000 and 249,999
3 = Cities between 50,000 and 99,999
4 = Cities between 25,000 and 49,999
5 = Cities between 10,000 and 24,999
6 = Cities between 2,500 and 9,999
7 = Cities under 2,500
8A = Non-SMSA counties 100,000 and over

8B = Non-SMSA counties between 25,000 and 99,999
8C = Non-SMSA counties between 10,000 and 24,999
8D = Non-SMSA counties under 10,000
9A = SMSA counties 100,000 and over
9B = SMSA counties between 25,000 and 99,999
9C = SMSA counties between 10,000 and 24,999
9D = SMSA counties under 10,000

5. DIVISION Location: 12 Width: 1 Numeric
(DIV)

Census geographic division in which state
is located.

- 0 = Reporting agency is not located in the U.S.
- 1 = New England States: Connecticut, Maine,
Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island,
Vermont
- 2 = Middle Atlantic States: New Jersey, New York,
Pennsylvania
- 3 = East North Central States: Illinois, Indiana,
Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin
- 4 = West North Central States: Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota,
Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota
- 5 = South Atlantic States: Delaware, Florida, Georgia,
Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia,
Washington, D.C., West Virginia
- 6 = East South Central States: Alabama, Kentucky,
Mississippi, Tennessee
- 7 = West South Central States: Arkansas, Louisiana,
Oklahoma, Texas
- 8 = Mountain States: Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana,
Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming
- 9 = Pacific States: Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon,
Washington

6. YEAR Location: 13 Width: 2 Numeric
(YEAR)

Last two digits of the year: 1968 - 1978.

7. AGENCY COUNTER Location: 15 Width: 4 Numeric
(AGENCYK)
Used by the FBI to accumulate "agencies used" totals.
- 0 = U.S. Park Police, State Police
agencies, and if agency is
covered by another agency
- 1 = single agency indicator
8. POPULATION Location: 19 Width: 10 Numeric
(POPU)
The total population for the agency.
The actual number is coded.
9. COUNTY Location: 29 Width: 3 Character
(COUNTY)
FBI Code for the county in which the agency
is located.
10. SMSA Location: 32 Width: 3 Numeric
(SMSA1)
FBI Code for the SMSA in which the agency
is located.
11. SMSA INDICATION Location: 35 Width: 1 Numeric
(SMSA2)
A suburban agency is described as follows: all
GROUP 9's and GROUPS 4 through 7 that have SMSA
numbers but are not core cities.
- 0 = Non-suburban
1 = Suburban
12. AGENCY NAME Location: 36 Width: 24 Character
(AGENCYN)
Alphabetic name of the agency.

13. STATE NAME Location: 60 Width: 6 Character
(STATEN)
Alphabetic name of the state.

14. MONTH Location: 66 Width: 2 Numeric
(MONTH)
Month of offense.

01 = January
02 = February
03 = March
04 = April
05 = May
06 = June
07 = July
08 = August
09 = September
10 = October
11 = November
12 = December

15. LAST UPDATE Location: 68 Width: 6 Numeric
(LASTUP)
The date this record was last updated by the FBI.
[MMDDYY]

16. TYPE OF ACTION Location: 74 Width: 1 Numeric
(TYPE)
Type of FBI processing action on the record.
0 = Normal update
1 = Adjustment

17. HOMICIDE TYPE Location: 75 Width: 1 Character
(HOMIC)
Indicates the type of offense.
A = Murder and non-negligent
manslaughter
B = Manslaughter by negligence

18. INCIDENT NUMBER Location: 76 Width: 3 Numeric
(INCNUM)

19. SITUATION Location: 79 Width: 1 Character
(SITUATN)
A code describing the data relative to the
number of victims/offenders involved.
- A = Single victim/single offender
B = Single victim/unknown offender(s)
C = Single victim/multiple offenders
D = Multiple victims/single offender
E = Multiple victims/multiple offenders
F = Multiple victims/unknown offender(s)
20. VICTIM COUNT Location: 80 Width: 2 Numeric
(VK)
Actual number of victims involved in the incident.
Not applicable (coded "01") for 1968-1975.
21. OFFENDER COUNT Location: 82 Width: 2 Numeric
(OK)
Actual number of offenders involved in the incident.
Not applicable (coded "01") for 1968-1975.
22. ??? Location: 84 Width: 2 Numeric
(CK)

[This variable is undocumented]
23. ??? Location: 86 Width: 2 Numeric
(J1)

[This variable is undocumented]
24. ??? Location: 88 Width: 2 Numeric
(J2)

[This variable is undocumented]
25. VICTIM'S AGE Location: 90 Width: 2 Character
(VAGE)
Age of victim. Numeric entries reflect the
actual age of the victim.

00 = Unknown
 UK = Unknown
 NB = Birth to one week
 BB = One week to twelve months
 99 = 99 years and over

| <u>1968-1972</u> | <u>1973-1975</u> | <u>1976-1978</u> |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 00 | BB | BB |
| 01 | NB | NB |
| . | UK | 00 |
| . | 01 | 01 |
| . | . | . |
| 99 | . | . |
| | 99 | 99 |

26. VICTIM'S SEX Location: 92 Width: 1 Character
 (VSEX)
 Sex of the victim.

F = Female
 M = Male
 U = Unknown

27. VICTIM'S RACE Location: 93 Width: 1 Character
 (VRACE)
 Race of the victim.

C = Chinese
 I = Indian
 J = Japanese
 N = Black
 O = Other
 U = Unknown
 W = White

28. OFFENDER'S AGE Location: 94 Width: 2 Character
 (OAGE)
 Age of offender. Numeric entries reflect actual age of the offender. The years 1968 through 1975 are coded UK because

the FBI did not collect offender information in this period.

UK = Unknown
00 = Unknown
01
.
.
.
99 = 99 and over

29. OFFENDER'S SEX Location: 96 Width: 1 Character
(OSEX)
Sex of offender.

F = Female
M = Male
U = Unknown

30. OFFENDER'S RACE Location: 97 Width: 1 Character
(ORACE)
Race of offender.

C = Chinese
I = Indian
J = Japanese
N = Black
U = Unknown
O = Other
W = White

31. WEAPON Location: 98 Width: 2 Numeric
(WEAPON)
Code indicating type of weapon used.

1968-1972 Weapon Codes

11 = Gun, type not stated
12 = Handgun
13 = Rifle
14 = Shotgun
15 = Other gun
20 = Knife or cutting instrument
30 = Blunt object
40 = Personal weapons
50 = Poison
60 = Explosives
70 = Other, narcotics
80 = Unknown

90 = Strangulation

1973-1975 Weapon Codes

11 = Firearm, type not stated
12 = Handgun
13 = Rifle
14 = Shotgun
15 = Other gun
20 = Knife or cutting instrument
30 = Blunt object
40 = Personal weapon
50 = Poison
60 = Explosives
65 = Arson
70 = Narcotics and drugs
80 = Strangulation
85 = Asphyxiation
90 = Other

1976-1978 Weapon Codes

11 = Firearm, type not stated
12 = Handgun
13 = Rifle
14 = Shotgun
15 = Other gun
20 = Knife or cutting instrument
30 = Blunt object
40 = Personal weapons
50 = Poison
55 = Pushed or thrown out window
60 = Explosives
65 = Fire
70 = Narcotics and drugs
75 = Drowning
80 = Strangulation
85 = Asphyxiation
90 = Other

32. NEW RELATIONSHIP

Location: 100 Width: 2

Character

(NRELATN)

Relationship of victim to offender.

This variable only applies to years 1976,
1977, and 1978. Years 1968 through 1975

are coded UK (unknown).

HU = Husband
WI = Wife
CH = Common-law husband
CW = Common-law wife
MO = Mother
FA = Father
SO = Son
DA = Daughter
BR = Brother
SI = Sister
IL = In-law
SF = Stepfather
SM = Stepmother
SS = Stepson
SD = Stepdaughter
OF = Other family
NE = Neighbor
AQ = Acquaintance
BF = Boyfriend
GF = Girlfriend
XH = Ex-husband
XW = Ex-wife
EE = Employee
ER = Employer
FR = Friend
HO = Homosexual relationship
OK = Other - known to victim
ST = Stranger
UN = Unknown

33. NEW CIRCUMSTANCE

Location: 102 Width: 2

Numeric

(NCIRCUM)

The circumstances surrounding each incident are divided into 5 categories as described below. This variable only applies to the years 1976, 1977, and 1978. Years 1968 through 1975 are coded 99.

Felony type - Felony murder is defined as killing which occurs in conjunction with the commission of another crime.

- 02 = Rape
- 03 = Robbery
- 05 = Burglary
- 06 = Larceny
- 07 = Motor vehicle theft
- 09 = Arson
- 10 = Prostitution and commercialized vice
- 17 = Other sex offense
- 18 = Narcotic drug laws
- 19 = Gambling
- 26 = Other - felony type
- 32 = Abortion

Other than felony type

- 40 = Lover's triangle
- 41 = Child killed by babysitter
- 42 = Brawl due to influence of alcohol
- 43 = Brawl due to influence of narcotics
- 44 = Argument over money or property
- 45 = Other arguments
- 46 = Gangland killings
- 47 = Juvenile gang killings
- 48 = Institutional killings
- 49 = Sniper attack

Manslaughter by negligent circumstances

- 50 = Victim shot in hunting accident
- 51 = Gun cleaning accident other than self-inflicted
- 52 = Children playing with gun
- 53 = Other negligent handling of gun which results in death of another
- 59 = All other manslaughter by negligence except traffic deaths
- 60 = Other non-felony type

Suspected felony type - victim found murdered. Circumstances indicate possible felony type murder, but sufficient facts to identify type of felony are not

available.

70 = All suspected felony type

Justifiable homicide

80 = Justifiable homicide - civilian

81 = Justifiable homicide - police

99 = All instances where facts provided
do not permit determination

34. NEW SUB-CIRCUMSTANCE

Location: 104 Width: 2 Numeric

(NCIRIND)

For 1976-1978, will contain zero except for circumstances
(V33, above) 80 and 81.

- 1 = Felon attack police officer
- 2 = Felon attack fellow police officer
- 3 = Felon attack civilian
- 4 = Felon attempt flight from crime
- 5 = Felon killed in commission of crime
- 6 = Felon resisted arrest
- 9 = Not enough information to determine

35. OLD CIRCUMSTANCE Location: 105 Width: 2 Numeric
(OCIRCUM1)

The circumstances surrounding each incident
are divided into four general categories for
the time period 1968 to 1972 and into four
categories for the period 1973 to 1975. This
field is blank for the years 1976 to 1978.

1968 - 1972 Circumstances

Group I circumstances: within family unit

- 11 = Spouse kills spouse
- 12 = Parent kills child
- 13 = Child kills parent
- 19 = Other family situation

Group II circumstances: altercations outside family
but usually among acquaintances

- 21 = Lover's triangle
- 22 = Drunken
- 23 = Money
- 29 = Other arguments

Group III circumstances: felony or first degree type
murders where death penalty may result

- 24 = Revenge
- 25 = Gang killing
- 26 = Institutional killing
- 31 = Juvenile gang
- 32 = Sex motive
- 34 = Citizen or police killed
by felon
- 36 = Illegal abortion

Other circumstances

- 37 = Found murdered, reason unknown
- 38 = Not stated

1973 - 1975 Circumstances

Within family

- 11 = Spouse kills spouse
- 12 = Parent kills child
- 13 = Child kills parent
- 14 = Relation kills relation
- 19 = Other family

Outside family but between friend and acquaintance

- 21 = Lover's triangle
- 22 = Brawl due to alcohol
- 23 = Argument over money or property
- 29 = other arguments

Crime related murder

- 31 = Gangland killing
- 33 = Institutional killing
- 34 = Felony murder
- 35 = Suspected felony type

Miscellaneous

- 51 = Illegal abortion
- 59 = Circumstance not described or
cannot be scored from information
given

36. CIRCUMSTANCE INDICATOR Location: 107 Width: 1
Numeric

(OCIRCUM2)

This variable indicates special circumstances related to the incident. It applies only to the years 1968 through 1975. This field is blank for the years 1976 through 1978.

- 0 = Normal
- 1 = Murder by a juvenile
- 2 = Murder followed by suicide
- 9 = Murder by an insane person

37. SUB-CIRCUMSTANCE Location: 108 Width: 2 Numeric
(OCIRCUM3)

Sub-circumstances apply to circumstances coded 31, 33, and 34 in "old circumstance" above. Sub-circumstance only applies to the years 1973, 1974, and 1975. Years 1968 through 1972 and 1976 through 1978 are blank for this field.

- 02 = Rape
- 03 = Robbery
- 05 = Burglary
- 06 = Larceny
- 07 = Auto theft
- 09 = Arson
- 16 = Prostitution and
commercialized vice
- 17 = Sex offenses
- 18 = Narcotic drug law
- 19 = Gambling
- 20 = All other offenses
- 21 = Offense not specified

BI - NEW FORMAT (1968-78) VARIABLE LIST

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| STATE (1-2) | VK (80-81) |
| AGENCY (3-9) | OK (82-83) |
| GRP (10) | CK (84-85) |
| GRPSUB (11) | J1 (86-87) |
| DIV (12) | J2 (88-89) |
| YEAR (13-14) | VAGE (90-91) |
| AGENCYK (15-18) | YSEX (92) |
| POPU (19-28) | VFACE (93) |
| COUNTY (29-31) | OAGE (94-95) |
| SMSA1 (32-34) | OSEX (96) |
| SMSA2 (35) | OFACE (97) |
| AGENCYN (36-59) | WEAPON (98-99) |
| STATEN (60-65) | NRELATION ^{NEGATN} (100-101) |
| MONTH (66-67) | NCIRCUM (102-103) |
| LASTUP (68-73) | NCIRIND (104) |
| TYPE (74) | OCIRCUM1 (105-106) |
| HOMIC (75) | OCIRCUM2 (107) |
| INCNUM (76-78) | OCIRCUM3 (108-109) |
| SITUATION ^{THIN} (79-70) | |

* means Character

1968 - 1972

Supplementary Homicide Report

Coding Guide

Weapons

11. Gun, type not stated. Do not include grease gun or caulking gun.
12. Handgun - pistol, revolver, etc.
13. Rifle
14. Shotgun
15. Other gun - other than 11, 12, 13, or 14. There will be very few of these.
20. Knife or cutting instrument - include icepick, screw-driver, ax, etc.
30. Blunt object - weapon unknown (there is a weapon indicated but unknown), facts suggest weapon was not hands or feet. Consider extent of injury.
40. Personal weapons - beating unless weapon is indicated.
50. Poison - do not include gas. Include sleeping pills.
60. Explosives
70. Other, Narcotics
80. Unknown
90. Strangulation - do not include hanging. Include drowning if victim is held under water, bath tub, sink, etc. This code is closely related to personal weapons.

Circumstances

- I. within family unit.
- II. altercations outside family but usually among acquaintances.
- III. felony or first degree type murders where death penalty may result.

Group I Circumstances:

11. Spouse kills spouse - wife, husband, common law wife or husband, ex-husband, or ex-wife. Do not include couples living together unless common law spouse.
12. Parent kills child - subcode to indicate M - Father or F - Mother (sex of parent)
13. Child kills parent - subcode to indicate M - Son or F - Daughter (sex of child).
19. Other family situation - cousin, brother, aunt, uncle, etc. Family situations not known. Baby sitter. Marital trouble. Despondent. Domestic argument.

Group II Circumstances:

21. Lovers and Triangle - include persons living together. Subcode sex of perpetrator if it can be determined.
22. Drunken - anytime liquor is involved; bartender shoots drunk; brawl or argument in bar, cafe, "tavern, night spot, etc.
23. Money - money or anything of value. Does not include ridiculous arguments such as "argument over cigarette," "argument over price of tomato," etc.
29. Other Arguments - include person killed by acquaintance (any time it can be determined from circumstances that victim and perpetrator are acquainted) if no other circumstances are available.

Group III Circumstances:

24. Revenge - death after argument but not as climax to argument. Careful if male vs female--more likely lovers quarrel.
25. Gang Killing - include any gangland killings. Also partners in crime.

(1968 - 1972)

- 26. Institutional Killing - do not include mental institution.
- 31. Juvenile Gang - include if part of crowd are juveniles.
- 32. Sex Motive - sex, rape or any indication of sex offenses, such as dismembering or mutilating body, etc. Crime of passion. Watch sex of victim.
- 34. Citizen or Police Killed by Felon - result of felon arson, robbery, etc. Must be a common law crime, not city ordinance. Murder because of race disturbance.
- 36. Illegal Abortion - victim must be female of childbearing age. Weapon will be coded as other.

Other circumstances:

- 37. Found Murdered, Reason Unknown - consider condition of body and clothing. May be scored as sex or felony.
- 39. Not Stated - enter those which cannot be scored from circumstances given.

Any murder by a juvenile is subcoded (J). Any murder by an insane person is subcoded (I). Any murder followed by suicide is subcoded (S).

Old Format

October 9, 1974

(1973 - 1975)

SHR TAPE

POSITION

DESCRIPTION

| | |
|---------|--|
| 1 - 2 | <u>NUMERIC STATE CODE</u> |
| 3 - 9 | <u>ORI CODE</u> - Identifying number for each agency |
| 10 - 11 | <u>GROUP</u> - Groups 1 thru 7 are cities, 8 and 9 are counties. The second digit is subgroup used only for groups 1, 8 and 9. Subgroup is blank if not used. Refer to Return A Master Description (position 14 and 15) for further information. |
| 12 | <u>DIVISION</u> - Geographic Division in which state located (1 thru 9). Possessions are division |
| 13 | <u>REGION</u> - Geographic Region in which division is located (1 thru 4) |
| 14 | <u>SEX OF VICTIM:</u> 'M' if Male 'F' if Female |
| 15 | <u>SEX OF PERPETRATOR</u> 'M' if Male 'F' if Female 'U' if unknown |
| 16 | <u>RACE OF VICTIM</u> 'W'-White 'N'-Negro 'I'-Indian 'C'-Chinese 'J'-Japanese 'O'-Other 'U'-Unknown |

POSITION

DESCRIPTION

17 - 18

CIRCUMSTANCE:

WITHIN FAMILY

- 11 - Spouse kills spouse
- 12 - Parent kills child
- 13 - Child kills parent
- 14 - Relation kills relation
- 19 - Other family

OUTSIDE FAMILY BUT BETWEEN FRIEND AND ACQUAINT:

- 21 - Lovers and triangle
- 22 - Brawl due to alcohol
- 23 - Argument over money or property
- 29 - Other arguments

CRIME RELATED MURDER

- 31 - Gangland killing
- 33 - Institutional killing
- 34 - Felony murder
- 35 - Suspected felony type

MISCELLANEOUS

- 51 - Illegal Abortion
- 59 - Circumstance not described or cannot
be scored from information given.

19

CIRCUMSTANCE INDICATION

- 0 - Normal
- 1 - Juvenile
- 2 - Suicide
- 9 - Insane

(1973 - 1975)

POSITION

DESCRIPTION

20 - 21

SUB-CIRCUMSTANCE:

For Circumstances 31, 33 and 34

- 02 - Rape
- 03 - Robbery
- 05 - Burglary
- 06 - Larceny
- 07 - Auto Theft
- 09 - Arson
- 16 - Prostitution and Commercialized Vic
- 17 - Sex Offenses
- 18 - Narcotic Drug Law
- 19 - Gambling
- 20 - All other offenses i.e., revenge
- 21 - Offense not specified

22 - 23

AGE OF VICTIM:

- 01 thru 99 - corresponding age of victim
- 00 - if unknown or victim under 12 months
- code as 99 if victim 100 years or older

24

AGE INDICATOR:

- 0 - Normal
- 1 - Infant
- 9 - Unknown

25 - 26

AGE SUB: - if age of victim is 00

- UK - Unknown
- NB - Birth to one week
- BB - One week to twelve months

POSITION

DESCRIPTION

27 - 28

WEAPON:

- 11 - Firearm - type not stated
- 12 - Handgun
- 13 - Rifle
- 14 - Shotgun
- 15 - Other gun
- 20 - Knife or cutting instrument
- 30 - Blunt object
- 40 - Personal Weapon
- 50 - Poison
- 60 - Explosives
- 65 - Arson
- 70 - Narcotics and drugs
- 80 - Strangulation
- 85 - Asphyxiation
- 90 - Other

29 - 30

BLANKS

31 - 32

OUTPUT: - (Used only in storage)

- 01 - Dupe Tape
- 02 - Dupe Change
- 04 - Invalid Agency
- 06 - Adjustment
- 07 - Deletion
- 08 - Adjustment - no previous record
- 09 - Deletion - no previous record
- 10 - Normal Change

33

OUTPUT INDICATION:

- 0 - Normal
- 1 - Adjustment
- 2 - Deletion

34 - 35

MONTH THE OFFENSE OCCURRED:

- (01 thru 12)
- 13 if unknown
- 99 if not stated

36

YEAR THE OFFENSE OCCURRED:

(Last Digit)

(1973 - 1975)

| <u>POSITION</u> | <u>DESCRIPTION</u> |
|-----------------|--|
| 37 - 38 | <u>FORM LINE NUMBER:</u> This is the line number on which the offense is recorded by the contributor. |
| 39 - 41 | <u>SMSA:</u> Number of SMSA area in which agency is located. Blank if not used. |
| 42 | <u>SUBURBAN (SMSA) INDICATION:</u> Ø - Non-Suburban 1 - Suburban A suburban agency is described as follows: All group 9's and groups 4 thru 7 that have SMSA numbers and they are not core cities. |
| 43 - 45 | <u>COUNTY:</u> A numeric code assigned to the county in which the agency is located. |
| 46 - 49 | <u>ADJUSTMENT DATE:</u> Date record was adjusted (packed data) |
| 50 - 55 | <u>POPULATION:</u> Total population for the agency (packed d |
| 56 - 58 | <u>AGENCY COUNT:</u> Used to accumulate "Agencies Used" totals in various tabulations. This field is norm '1' (packed format), but will be Ø for U.S. Park Police, State Police Agencies and if a is covered by another agency. |
| 59 - 82 | <u>AGENCY NAME:</u> |
| 83 - 88 | <u>STATE NAME:</u> |
| 89 - 90 | BLANK |

1976 - 1978

SUPPLEMENTARY HOMICIDE REPORT
CODING GUIDE

This coding is devised for translation of data from the Supplementary Homicide Report into a numerical language which will permit data processing of the information. The coding is as follows:

SITUATION

The situation code set forth below is designed to capture data relative to the number of victim/offenders involved in criminal homicides. A single situation code is used to describe a murder situation regardless of the number of victims or offenders involved. The utilization of a new code will signify the beginning of a new murder situation. The situation codes are as follows:

- A - Single Victim/Single Offender
- B - Single Victim/Unknown Offender or Offenders
- C - Single Victim/Multiple Offenders
- D - Multiple Victims/Single Offender
- E - Multiple Victims/Multiple Offenders
- F - Multiple Victims/Unknown Offender or Offenders

AGE OF VICTIM/OFFENDER

01 through 99 corresponding to age of victim

NB birth to one week old include
"abandoned infant"

BB if victim is one week to twelve
months old

00 age of victim unknown

Code as 99 if victim is 100 years old or older.

If age of victim is unknown, an estimate of age can be made in some cases by relationship to perpetrator; for example, husband and wife.

SEX OF VICTIM/OFFENDER

M if victim is male

F if victim is female

U if sex of victim is unknown

determined by relationship to perp. trator and circumstances; for example, "killed girlfriend - victim female," "lover's quarrel - victim opposite sex from perpetrator," etc.

RACE OF VICTIM/OFFENDER

(1976 - 1978)

| | |
|---|--|
| W | White (includes Mexican-Americans) |
| N | Negro |
| I | American Indian |
| C | Chinese |
| J | Japanese |
| O | Other (Includes classification "yellow" and other Oriental and non-whites) |
| U | Unknown |

Most entries will be W or N. If large number of other categories of race occur in reported data, the data should be verified through contributor.

WEAPON

| | |
|----|--|
| 11 | Firearm, type not stated. (Does not include mechanics grease gun or caulking gun.) |
| 12 | Handgun - pistol, revolver, etc. |
| 13 | Rifle |
| 14 | Shotgun |
| 15 | Other gun - (There should be few of these.) |
| 20 | Knife or cutting instrument - include icepick, screwdriver, ax, etc. |
| 30 | Blunt object - hammer, club, etc. Facts must suggest weapon was not hands and feet. |
| 40 | Personal weapons - include beating by hands, feet, and other body members or use of teeth. |

| | |
|----|--|
| 65 | Fire |
| 70 | Narcotics and drugs - includes sleeping pills. |
| 75 | Drowning (1976 - 1978) |
| 80 | Strangulation - hanging |
| 85 | Asphyxiation - include asphyxiation or death by gas. |
| 90 | Other - type of weapon not designated or type unknown. |

RELATIONSHIP OF VICTIM TO OFFENDER

I. Within family

| | |
|----|--------------------|
| HU | Husband |
| WI | Wife |
| CH | Common-law Husband |
| CW | Common-law Wife |
| MO | Mother |
| FA | Father |
| SO | Son |
| DA | Daughter |
| BR | Brother |
| SI | Sister |
| IL | In-law |
| SF | Stepfather |
| SM | Stepmother |
| SS | Stepson |
| SD | Stepdaughter |
| OF | Other family |

II. Outside family but known to victim

| | |
|----|--------------|
| NE | Neighbor |
| AQ | Acquaintance |
| BF | Boyfriend |
| GF | Girlfriend |
| XH | Ex-Husband |
| XW | Ex-Wife |
| EE | Employee |
| ER | Employer |

HO
OK
FR

Homosexual Relationship
Other - known to victim
FRIEND

III. Offender not known to victim

ST

Stranger

(1976 - 1978)

IV. Unknown relationship

UN

All instances where relationship
of victim to offender cannot be
determined

CIRCUMSTANCES

The unlimited set of possible circumstances surrounding homicide creates some difficulty in developing clear-cut and precise coding instructions. This coding, therefore, requires intelligent analysis of the circumstances. In the interest of uniformity of coding, the number of individual decisions should be kept to a minimum. Consult your supervisor if the circumstances do not lend readily to categorization.

Felony type - Felony murder is defined as a killing which occurs in conjunction with the commission of another crime such as a robbery, sex motive, and other felonious activities.

| | |
|----|------------------------------------|
| 02 | Rape |
| 03 | Robbery |
| 05 | Burglary |
| 06 | Larceny |
| 07 | Motor Vehicle Theft |
| 09 | Arson |
| 16 | Prostitution & Commercialized Vice |
| 17 | Other Sex Offense |
| 32 | Abortion |
| 18 | Narcotic Drug Laws |
| 19 | Gambling |
| 26 | Other - not specified |

Other than felony type

| | |
|----|--|
| 40 | Lover's Triangle |
| 41 | Child Killed by Babysitter |
| 42 | Brawl Due to Influence of Alcohol |
| 43 | Brawl Due to Influence of Narcotics |
| 44 | Argument Over Money or Property |
| 45 | Other Arguments |
| 46 | Gangland Killings |
| 47 | Juvenile Gang Killings |
| 48 | Institutional Killings |
| 49 | Sniper Attack. |
| 60 | Other |

(1976 - 198)

Suspected felony type - victim found murdered. Circumstances indicate possible felony type murder, but sufficient facts to identify type of felony not available.

70

All suspected felony type

Unable to determine circumstances

99

All instances where facts provided do not permit determination of circumstances

(1976 - 1978)

Manslaughter by negligent circumstances

- 50 Victim shot in hunting accident
- 51 Guncleaning death other than self-inflicted
- 52 Children playing with gun
- 53 Other negligent handling of gun which results in death of another
- 59 All other manslaughter by negligence except traffic deaths