

CDC analyzes FBI data

ATLANTA (AP) - People who live in big cities are two to three times more likely to be killed by their spouses or lovers than people in small towns, the government says.

Women in the South and West are most at risk, according to the study of FBI data released Thursday by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Partner slayings dropped overall by nearly half from 1981 to 1998, and slayings in which men were the victim dropped by two-thirds. The statistics mirror the nationwide drop in crime generally during the 1990s.

The study did not include the total number of slayings by a lover or spouse each year.

"Understanding the reasons for the decreases may help us identify better means of protecting those at risk," said Dr. Sue Binder, director of CDC's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control.

The analysis of FBI homicide reports found rates of partner killings in cities with more than 250,000 people were two to three times higher than in those with fewer than 10,000.

In big cities, about one in 59,000 people is killed by a husband, wife, boyfriend or girlfriend each year, the data showed.

In small towns, the rate is about one in every 156,000.

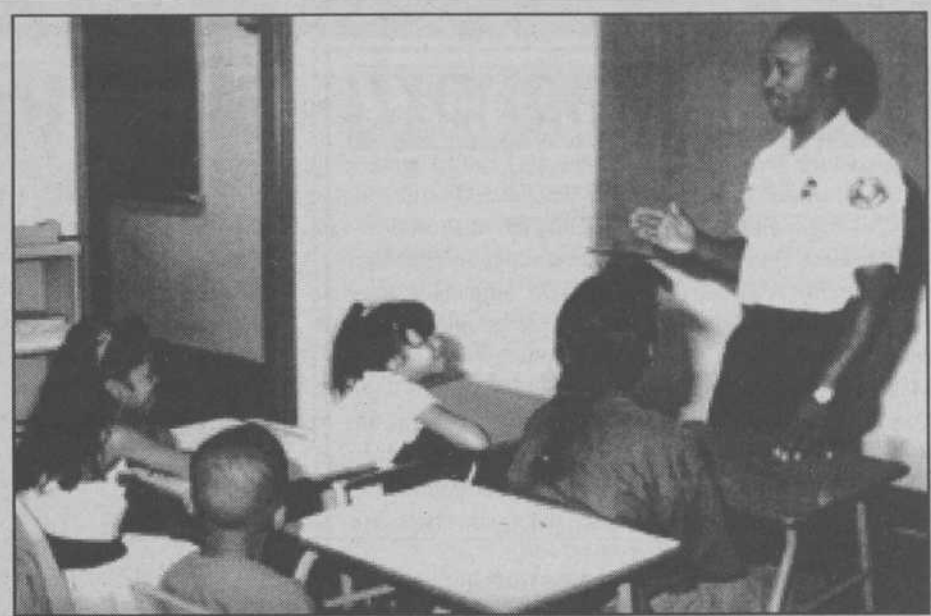
The CDC gave no explanation for the difference.

Janet Carter, managing director of the Family Violence Prevention Fund, said cities can harbor people - particularly minorities - who are afraid to turn to the justice system for help. "There just might not be as many places to turn," she said.

The CDC also did not explain why far higher rates of deadly domestic violence show up in the South and Rocky Mountains.

In all, women were about 60 percent more likely to be killed by a partner than men, and blacks were more than four times more likely to be killed than whites.

For men and women alike, guns were the weapon of choice in the killings. About 60 percent of men and more than 64 percent of women were killed by firearms in disputes with spouses and lovers. Knives were a distant second.



David Washington teaches children the importance of fire safety. (Sentinel-Voice file photo)

Washington

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ginia Valentine.

His commitment to his community played out during the celebrations that

followed his recent success. Instead of gifts, he and his wife, Marcia, requested that guests make donations to Camp Anytown, Camp Brotherhood and Camp Sisterhood.

Terrorism

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good."

Robert Sakai, technology and trade director for the Economic Development Alliance for Business in Oakland, Calif. and close to the effort that has so successfully turned that urban center around, is concerned about the strategic impact of the terrorist attacks on the technology sector. Significantly, he points out that research and development budgets (R&D), attached to both the private and public sector, yield efforts that bear fruit as early as one to as much as 10-12 years out. "All types of R&D are important and if any is not adequately funded, sooner or later the pace of technology development suffers." R&D spending will tell us what the future of the technology sector will look like in both the short and long term very soon.

Some experts believe, depending on how much domestic trauma results from our new "War on Terrorism," we could see a very strong economic recovery toward the middle of 2002. A White House stimulus package that neglects technology issues in urban centers will miss the mark. Continued technology investment is key to "strategic re-positioning" and necessary for the creation of new models of opportunity. Conventional wisdom suggests that when the technology sector comes back, it will do so with vigor. Sept. 11 has caused us all to view the world differently. What might have been considered impractical before, now gets a unique and new look.

Let's hope that terrorism doesn't leave the nation's cities in worse shape than they were before. If we allow this to happen, it will be yet another example of how the terrorists have won. This is a result our cities can ill-afford and a price too high for a patriotic nation to pay.

Professor Morse is President and CEO of The Institute For Strategic Thinking And Technology Development (Isttd) and is also an Adjunct Professor at both Pepperdine University's George L. Graziadio School of Business and Management and National University's School of Business and Technology.

Census

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executed in many respects," including advertising and the redesigned questionnaires.

But the report also noted problems with address lists, and questioned the counting of some 1.2 million people at addresses without information about the size of the households or whether the homes were even occupied.

Democrats have said not correcting undercounts would leave states and cities with large minority populations shortchanged on funding. According to some Republicans, sampled data would create "virtual people" and fail to place people who were missed in the neighborhoods where they actually lived.

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