P-653 - SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC, CLINICAL AND CRIMINOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF FEMALE INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDE

E.Cechova-Vayleux¹, M.Brière¹, J.-B.Garré¹, B.Gohier¹, J.-P.Lhuillier², S.Richard-Devantoy³

¹Department of Psychiatry and Psychology, Angers University Hospital, Angers, ²Psychiatric Hospital, Psychiatric Center of Angers, Saint-Gemmes sur Loire, ³Laboratory Processus de Pensées et Interventions, UPRES EA 2646, University of Angers, Angers, France

Introduction: A female spouse homicide occurs in France every two days, in majority of cases after an episode of physical violence against the woman. Our objective was to determine socio-demographic, clinical and criminological characteristics of the male authors of a spouse homicide.

Methods: We have studied 210 records of psychiatric expertise of homicides perpetrated between 1995 and 2005 in West of France. We have analyzed the socio-demographic, clinical and criminological characteristics of the authors of a female intimate partner homicide (n=30) and compared to the authors of a non female intimate partner homicide (n=180).

Results: The authors of a female intimate partner homicide were older (38.4 years old (yo) versus 32.7 yo, p=.019) and had significantly more frequently a personal history of violence (50% versus 28%, p=.045) than the authors of a non-female intimate partner homicide. Compared to the non-female spouse homicides, female spouse homicides were not associated with other criminal behaviours (6.7% versus 21.7%, p=.055). A mental disorder was found in the minority of cases (13.3% versus 18.3%, p=.506). Paranoid delusional disorder was the most frequent severe mental disorder in the authors of female intimate partner homicide (10%).

Conclusion: Our results confirm the general and the specific risk factors of violence in female intimate-partner homicide. Legal and health care professionals should be aware that women are vulnerable to intimate partner violence and homicide from both nonmarital and former partners as well as from current husbands. The history of domestic violence should be researched by the clinicians.