



PRESS RELEASE

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Nevada Ranks #1 in Rate of Women Murdered by Men for Second Year in a Row According to Violence Policy Center (VPC) Study

Reno, NVState has held top spot for four of the last five years

According to a study released by the Violence Policy Center this week, Nevada ranked first in the nation in the rate of women killed by men for the second year in a row with a rate of 2.70 per 100,000. This rate was more than double the national average. Nevada has held the top position for four of the last five years.

Snapshot of Nevada, according to the VPC study:

- In 2009, 35 women were murdered by males in Nevada.
- For homicides in which the weapon used could be identified, 48 percent of female victims were shot and killed with guns.
- For homicides in which the victim to offender relationship could be identified, 91 percent of female victims were murdered by someone they knew, 67 percent were wives, common-law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders.

Sue Meuschke, executive director of the Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence, states, "Violence against women too often escalates to homicide and Nevada has held the top rank in four of the last five years. When do we say 'no more'?"

The annual VPC [report](#), *When Men Murder Women: An Analysis of 2009 Homicide Data*, details national and state-by-state information on female homicides involving one female murder victim and one male offender. The study uses the most recent data available (2009) from the Federal Bureau of Investigation's unpublished Supplementary Homicide Report and is released each year to coincide with Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October. The study concludes, "The picture that emerges from *When Men Murder Women* is that women face the greatest threat from someone they know, most often a spouse or intimate acquaintance, who is armed with a gun. For women in America, guns are not used to save lives, but to take them."

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[About the Violence Policy Center](#)

The Violence Policy Center (VPC) is a national tax-exempt educational organization working for a safer America through research, investigation, analysis, and advocacy. The VPC provides information to policymakers, journalists, organizations, advocates, and the general public. For more information about the VPC study, contact Patrick McGarrity 202.822.8200 x110.

About NNADV:

The Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence was founded in 1980 to work toward the elimination of domestic and sexual violence against all persons. As Nevada's statewide coalition, NNADV is an inclusive network which both supports its member programs, and educates the public at large. Our agency is based in Reno, but our member programs span the entire state.

Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence

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