

Presentation title:

The victim offender overlap in intimate partner violence among males in Germany

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Research often focuses on female victims of intimate partner violence and the development of support measures for this group. Yet, according to German police crime statistics, 21% of victims of intimate partner violence in 2022 are male (BKA, 2021). The crime statistics only shed light on cases that have come to the attention of the police - but what is the number of unreported cases of male victims who have experienced intimate partner violence? A study conducted by the Criminological Research Institute of Lower Saxony (KFN) addresses this question. From October 2022 to January 2023, the KFN conducted a representative online survey and queried both lifetime and 12-month prevalence of various forms of psychological, physical, sexual, and digital violence. It indicates that just under one in two people has experienced at least one form of intimate partner violence. Of those, one-third has experienced it in the past 12 months. The most commonly experienced violence by participants was psychological violence, with 4 in 10 experiencing at least one form in their lifetime. In addition to their own victimization, participants were also asked about perpetration of each form within one of their relationships. Based on the sample of 1,200 men aged 16 to 69, this paper will present not only the exposure to intimate partner violence, but also the prevalence of the perpetration of the men surveyed and the overlap of perpetrators and victims. The different forms and degrees of violence will also be taken into account. In a further step, the sociodemographic and biographical characteristics, as well as the correlation of selected risk factors of the three groups victims, perpetrators, and perpetrator-victims, will be analyzed.