



Rationale

In South Africa

- Rates of fatal violence in South Africa are among the highest in the world (Matzopoulos 2005b; Guerrero 2006) and the country is sometimes referred to as having a 'culture of violence' in which violence becomes the accepted norm in resolving disputes, gaining acceptance and acquiring goods (Thomson 2004; Schonteich & Louw 2001)



- It was estimated in 2000 that there were 27 563 homicides in South Africa. An age standardised interpersonal violence mortality rate of 64.8 per 100 000, **seven times** the global rate, placing South Africa among the most violent countries in the world.

● 30% higher than the WHO afro region including war torn states



Possible determinants for South Africa include

- economic inequality and poverty,
 - high unemployment,
 - rapid social change,
 - corruption and poor rule of law,
 - gender inequalities,
 - high firearm availability and collective violence, many of which are a legacy of our apartheid past (Norman et al. submitted).
- Substance abuse is another important risk factor with **53%** of fatal (Harris & Van Niekerk 2002) and up to **73%** of non-fatal (Plüddemann et al. 2004) interpersonal violence injuries testing positive for alcohol in urban areas of South Africa in 2001.

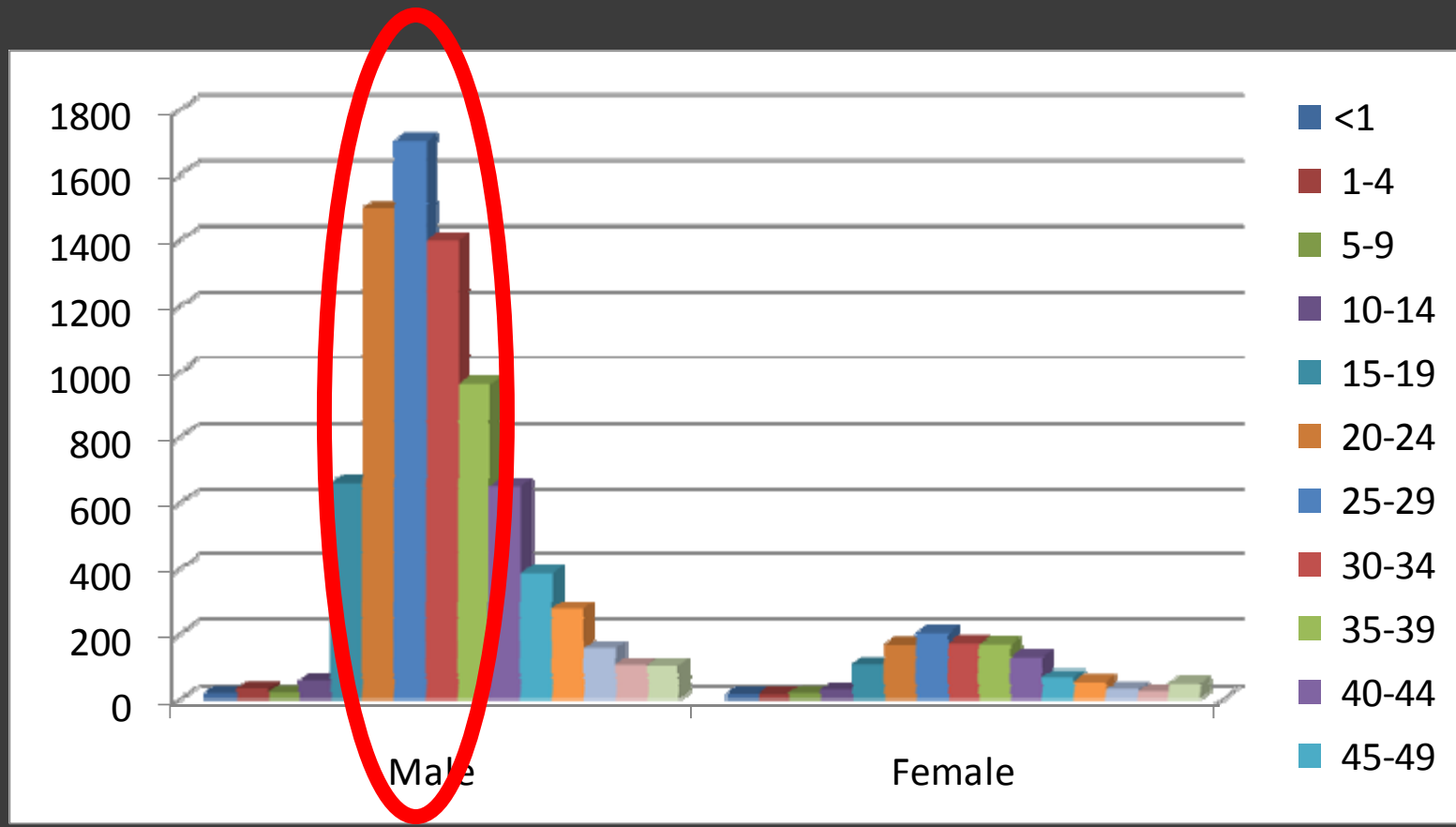


Demographics

- Sex: males -the second leading cause of death among males in 2000
- 6 male deaths due to interpersonal violence for every female death: the world average of 3.2 male deaths for every female death
- Men are also the perpetrators
- Programmes aimed at reducing violent behaviour among males should be the priority for primary prevention of violence in South Africa.



Violence-related deaths by age, 2003 (N = 9222)



Why Alcohol and Parenting?

- WHO 2007: A strengthened agenda would, first, prioritize the following 10 scientifically credible *prevention* strategies that address common underlying risk factors and so have the potential to simultaneously decrease different forms of violence:
 - **1. Increase safe, stable, and nurturing relationships between children and their parents and caregivers**
 - **2. Reduce availability and misuse of alcohol**



Other 8:

3. Reduce access to lethal means
4. Improve life skills and enhance opportunities for children and youth
5. Promote gender equality and empower women
6. Change cultural norms that support violence
7. Improve criminal justice systems
8. Improve social welfare systems
9. Reduce social distance between conflicting groups
10. Reduce economic inequality and concentrated poverty

