# Femicide Around the World

DIDA 325-02 Spring 2024: Catherine Canelas, Joelle Dimino, Natalia Gierlachowski, & Sophia Lam





# **ALEXANDRA'S STORY**

- On June 5, 2021-the day before she was murdered-Alexandra Inshina told her friend she was in love
  - Alexandra was a 35-year-old single mother to a 10 year-old-boy
  - The day before her death, she was sunbathing with a friend, by a lake in Berezovsky, Russia
  - She had lots to be excited about-she was a team leader at the factory where she worked and had just booked a trip to Egypt for her and her son
- There was a man from a nearby city, who she was meeting for a date that evening









## **ALEXANDRA'S STORY**

- He wasn't sure he'd be free for their date, which upset her
  - Alexandra and her friend stayed by the lake chatting, then they left for their respective homes, promising to check in with each other the following day
- Later, Alexandra decided she would go out after all, to an all-night pub
  - At 1:30 am, she ordered a taxi, and CCTV footage showed that by 3:00 am, she was at the pub, alone
  - Alexandra texted the man inviting him to join her, but he did not reply





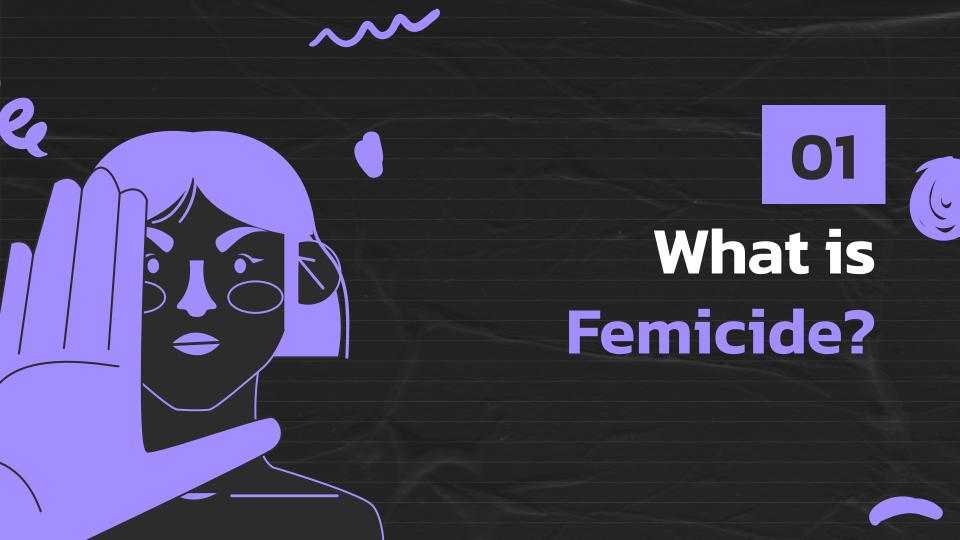


## **ALEXANDRA'S STORY**

- At 5:00 am, Alexandra left
  - She was approached by a man in a car who was moonlighting as a taxi driver
  - According to CCTV pictures, at first, she refused to get in, then changed her mind
- Within the hour, Alexandra Inshina had been stabbed six times and had her hands tied behind her back
- It was two days before her body was discovered in the woods about 25 miles away
- Alexandra's murderer, Marat Imashev, was an ex-convict, who had been freed after spending 28 years in jail for murder, rape, robbery, fraud, and more than 10 attacks on women
- "Alexandra was a normal, young woman, a mother, she could have been any of us."











## **STATISTICS**

- Femicide is often defined as the murder of women because of their gender
- UN Women
  - In 2022, ~89,000 women and girls were killed intentionally around the world
    - ~48,800 were by an intimate partner or family member
  - Every day, more than 133 women or girls are killed by someone in their family







#### **INTRODUCTION**

- Femicide differs from regular homicides
  - Motive is related to the position of women within society, gender stereotypes, and unequal distribution of power between men and women
  - Globally, overall homicide numbers saw a drop after peaking in 2021, but femicide numbers have not
  - o Therefore, drastic changes to our patriarchal system are needed
- Dismantling the patriarchy requires global, communal effort
- Previous research focuses on specific factors that may be associated with increased femicide rates
  - Goal of preventing femicide through targeting other issues







What factors are associated with higher rates of femicide?



#### **RISK FACTORS**

01

#### **Economy**

GDP and Unemployment Rates

03

#### Region

Europe, Asia, Americas, Oceania

02

#### Religion

Christianity, Buddhism, Islam, Folk Religions, Hinduism, and Unaffiliated 04

#### Year

Focus on 2000-2022





# **RESEARCH BACKGROUND**

#### Economy

- Previous research found that low-medium socioeconomic status was associated with intimate partner femicide
- This association was greater if the perpetrator was unemployed and did not receive unemployment benefits or a pension

#### Religion

- Several research papers have conflicting conclusions when it comes to religion being correlated with higher femicides rates
- Strong religious presence, such as Islam, Catholicism, and Hinduism, have been seen in geographic areas where honor killings are dominate



#### **RESEARCH BACKGROUND**

#### Region

- Femicide is not limited to third-world or low-income countries.
  - US: 3 women killed by partner daily
- Countries with some of the highest rates per 100,000: South Africa, El Salvador (13.9), Jamaica (11), CAR (10.6), Honduras (6)

#### Year

- The incidence of femicide in the United States has increased by 24 percent from 2014 to 2020
- Intimate partner violence (IPV) rose an estimated 8 percent during the coronavirus pandemic and does not appear to have subsided

#### **HYPOTHESES**

01

#### **Economy**

Lower GDP and higher unemployment rates will correlate with increased numbers of femicide.

02

#### Religion

A greater religious influence will be correlated with higher rates of femicide.

03

#### Location

Femicide rates will be highest in the Latin American region compared to other regions.

04

#### Year

Femicide rates will increase as years go on, and rates will be highest during COVID years.



#### **DATASET AND METHODS**

- R Studio used to manipulate a Kaggle dataset (Gender-Based Violence)
- Variables
  - Iso Code
  - Country
  - Region
  - Subregion
  - Indicator
  - Dimension
  - Category
  - Sex
  - o Year

- Unit of measurement
- Value
- o GDP
- Unemployment rate
- Buddhism, Hinduism,
   Christianity, Islam, Folk
   religion, and Unaffiliated
- Corona Year
- Immigrants



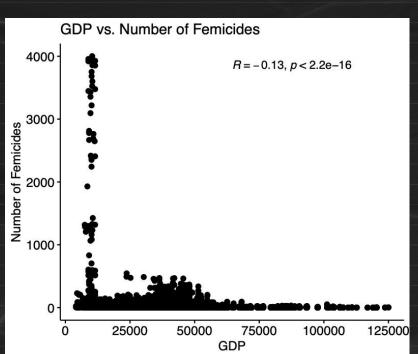


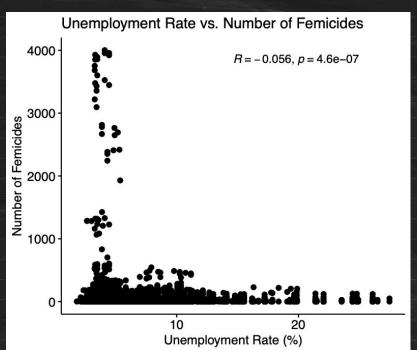
Findings



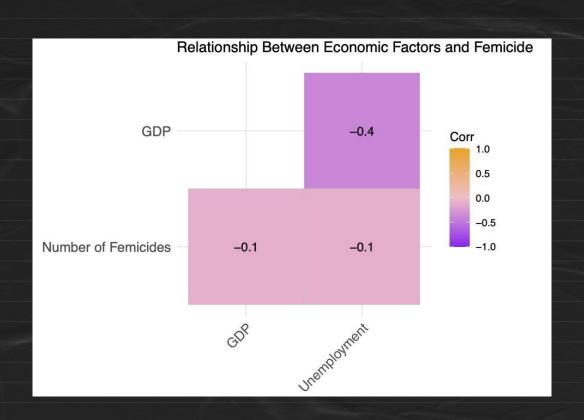


# **ECONOMIC FACTORS**

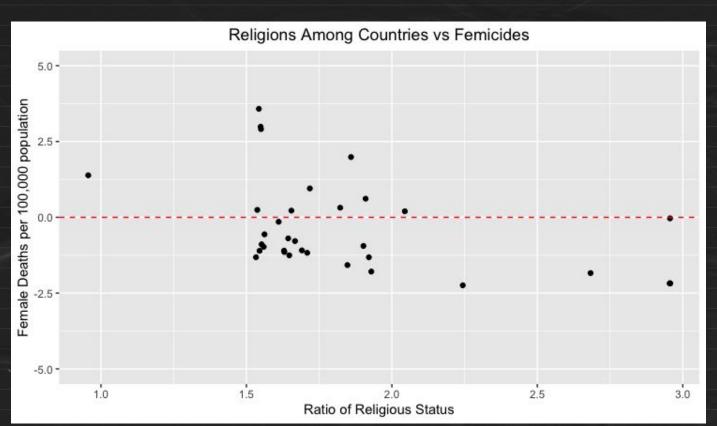




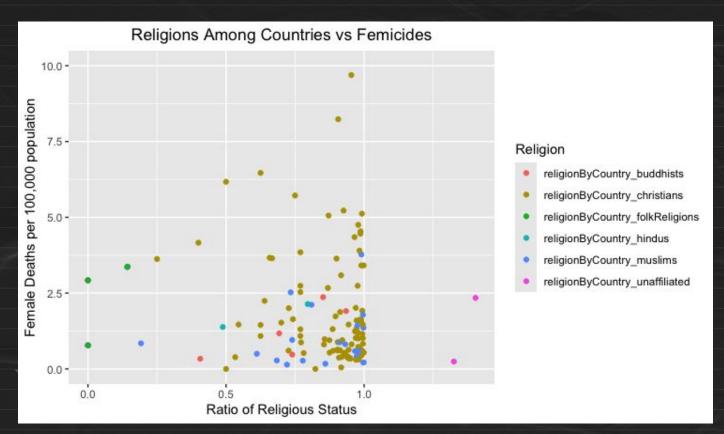
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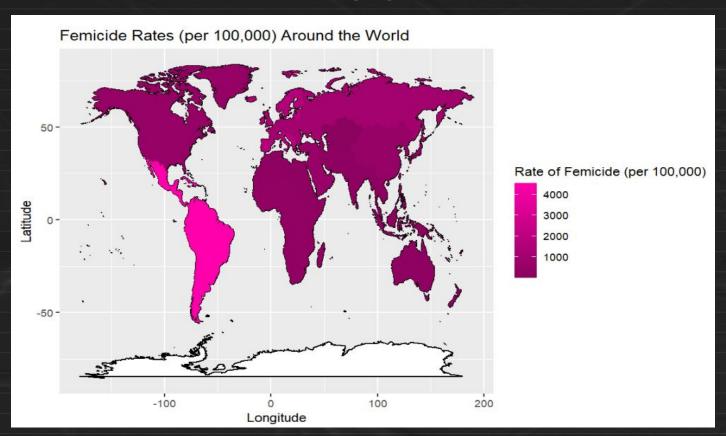
# **RELIGION**



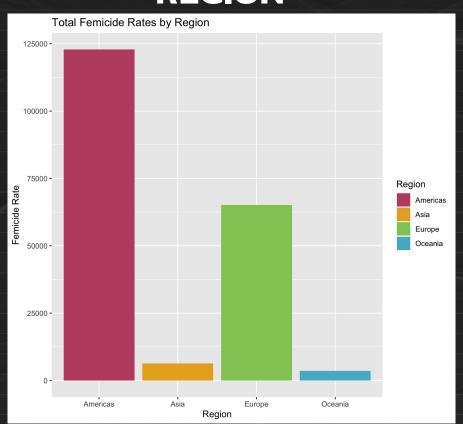
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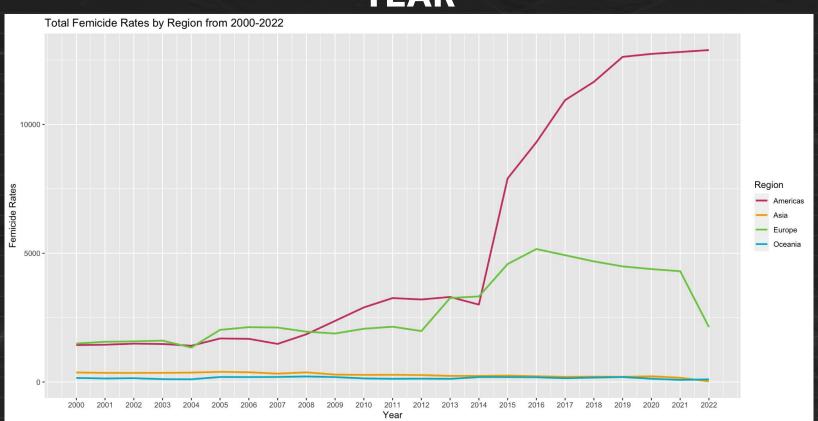
# **REGION**



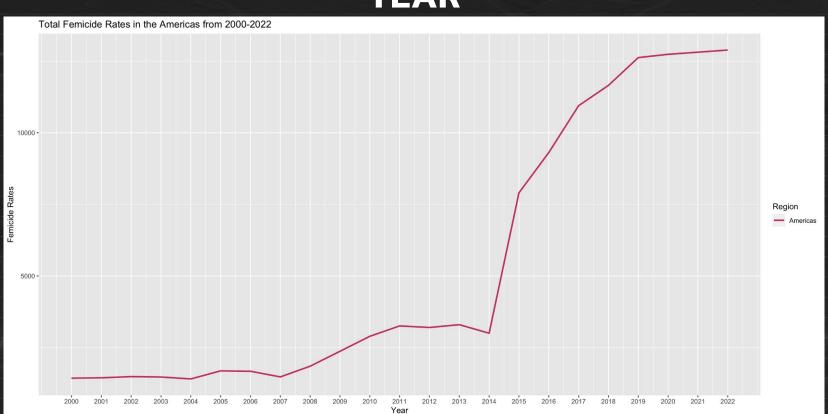
# **REGION**



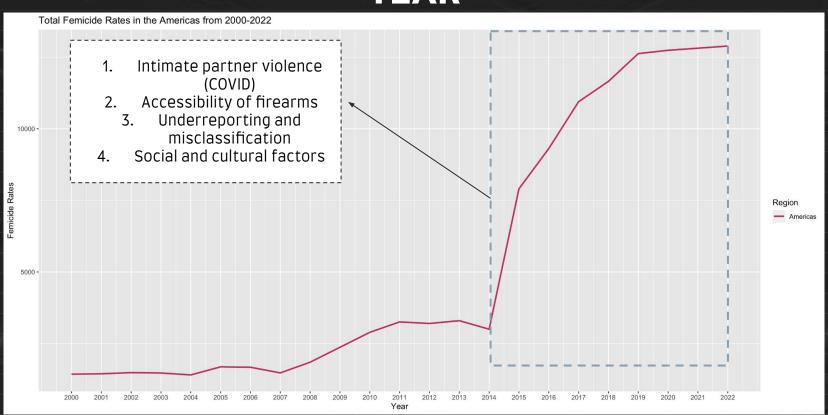
# **YEAR**



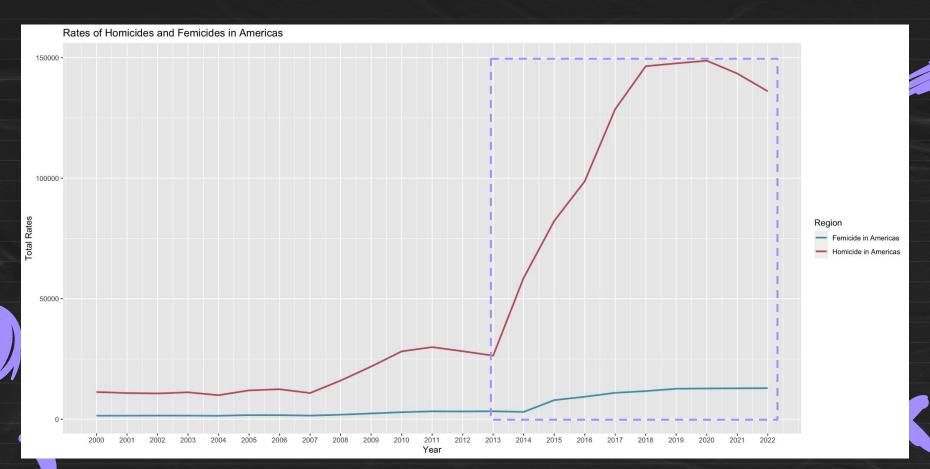
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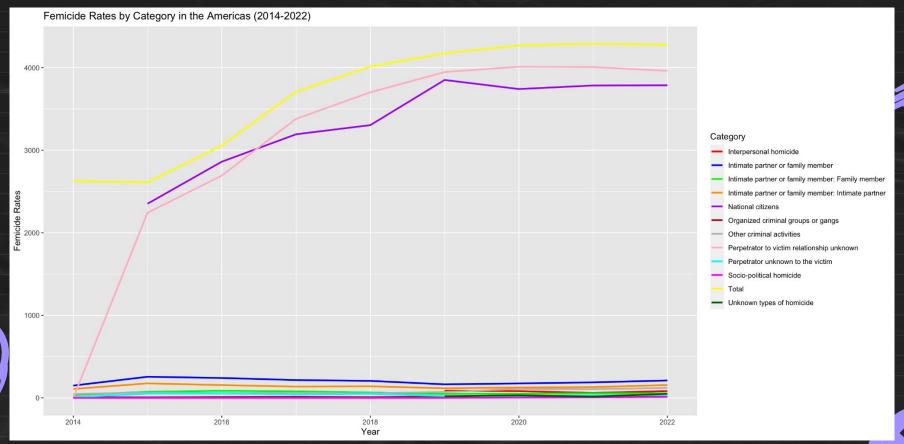
## **YEAR**



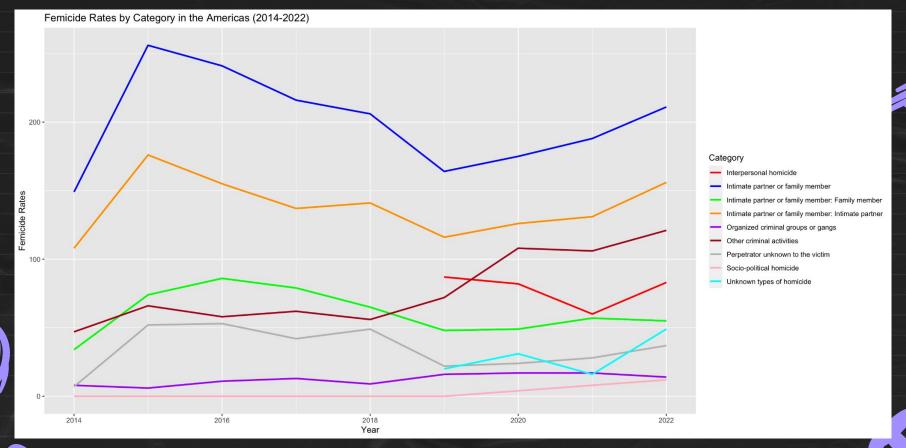
## COMPARING HOMICIDE VS. FEMICIDE RATES IN AMERICAS



## **LOOKING INTO CATEGORIES & YEAR**



## **LOOKING INTO CATEGORIES & YEAR**



#### **SUMMARY**

#### Economic Factors

- GDP and unemployment rate are both very, weakly (and negatively)
   correlated with the number of femicides
  - GDP is slightly more correlated, but still very weak
- These results do not support the hypothesis

#### Religion

- In general, there is no observed correlation between religion and femicide
- These results do not support the hypothesis

#### **SUMMARY**

#### Location and Year

- Latin America and the Caribbean demonstrate the highest femicide rates
- These results support the hypothesis
- From 2000-2022, the Americas saw a general increase in femicide rates
  - Europe also saw an increase, which hit a peak in 2016 and then decreased
  - Asia and Oceania rates remained fairly constant
  - Only slightly supports the hypothesis that rates would increase as time progresses
- The Americas saw the largest increase from 2014-2015, but rates remained fairly constant from 2020-2021 (COVID years)
  - The Americas' highest rates were from 2019-2022
  - Rates in Europe, Asia, and Oceania were not highest during COVID (2020-2021)
  - Does not support the hypothesis that femicide rates would increase during the pandemic

#### **LIMITATIONS**

- Needed to remove a significant amount of data
  - Removed male victims and female perpetrators
  - $\circ$  Removed NAs (100,000 rows  $\rightarrow$  ~28,000 rows)
- Reliability and accuracy of the data is questioned
- Data Assumptions
  - GDP is in dollars
    - Conversions of other countries GDP from their currencies to dollars may not be fully accurate
  - North America and South America grouped together
  - Not all religions are included
  - The high femicide rates during COVID may just be a result of the steady increase in rates, and not necessarily due to COVID



## CONCLUSION

- Overall, conflicting results among the four risk factors
- There appears to be other factors that are likely contributing to higher rates of femicides among certain geographic areas
  - o History? Culture? Patriarchy?
- Femicide is a multifactorial phenomenon making it difficult to tackle
- Future research should be focused reliable and detailed data among countries, especially for those who have fewer resources
  - This must be done in order to accurately assess risk factors of femicide



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# THANK YOU

