

Maternal filicide and mental illness health and social care essay

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The intent of this paper is to look into and place the common factors that influence maternal filicide, and its relationship to mental/psychological upsets within the culprits. Filicide has been defined as the knowing act of a parent/guardian killing her or his own kid (Putkonen, Amon, Almiron, Cederwall, Eronen, Klier, Kjelsberg, Weizmann-Henelius, 2009) . There are two subcategories that branch from filicide which include infanticide and neonaticide. Infanticide is best described as the slaying of a 1 's own kid that is younger than one twelvemonth. Whereas, neonaticide is the violent death of a kid that has been born non more than 24 hours earlier (Putkonen, et Al, 2009) . Surprisingly, this act is non uncommon and has been reported to take topographic point all around the universe. Previous surveies have found that filicide has taken topographic point in 3rd universe states such as Bolivia in under developed communities (Hilari, Condori, Dearden, 2009) , and besides in states such as England, China and France (McKee, 2006) . Although this act is practiced around the Earth, there is really small information and research recorded about the subject. Filicide is a really sensitive issue and is hard for most to hold an unfastened treatment about the topic. Past surveies include Putkonen et Al. (2009) , and their research on filicide in Austria and Finland. The intent of their survey was to analyze the common traits between filicide culprits and if these persons shared any psychological upsets. In order to carry on this survey the research workers had to garner all filicide instances that occur between 1995 and 2005. They examined factors such as motivation, method of offense, relationship between culprit and victim, and mental wellness intervention of the culprit. They besides took into history the poisoning of the executor during the

filicide act. Other research in this country included the work by Kauppi, Kumpulainen, Vanamo, Merikanto, and Karkola (2007) where 10 female parents that committed filicide were examine to see the relationship between filicide and maternaldepression. In all instances, female parents showed marks of crossness, shouting for long periods of clip without cause or ground, weariness, anxiousness among other symptoms that are common in depression. The research workers did noninterviewthe adult females nevertheless were able to look into the similarities that lead to the slaying and the common factors after the act was committed. These two research surveies were examined in Finland and Austria. Hilari, Condori, and Dearden (2009) , besides looked at parents that committed filicide nevertheless examined the pattern in Bolivia. They explored two communities within Bolivia and found that unlike the yesteryear to surveies the grounds for filicide were frequently due to biological defects of the kid or societal factors within the community. Their research looked at how the autochthonal people of Bolivia justified the violent death of kids. Most frequently, the slaying of a kid went unnoticed as the kid life was taken within 24 hours of birth.

Oberman andMeyer (2009) surveies the societal economic well being of adult females that have committed filicide. They interviewed adult females that have been convicted with the offense and found similarities in societalenvironment, household history, and instruction degree. Their research brings to illumine a universe that is unknown to most other persons. The intent of their survey was to take the reader into the heads of these adult females and to see what the rational was when make up one's minding to perpetrate the act of filicide. Their findings revealed that most adult

females that performed filicide are not making it out of hate for the kid ; instead it was due to confusion and a sense of not being able to supply for the kid.

This paper intends to look into each article in further detail and determine if there are commonalities between the topics and their mental province, their socio-economic environment, educational degrees, and household history. This paper will besides propose other patterns and resources that can be attempted by adult females who find themselves in this type of state of affairs as all signifiers of filicide should be avoided.

Obeman and Meyer (2009) wrote a book that discussed maternal filicide and different interviews that were made in prison on female parents who were convicted of this offense. The writers explained how most of these adult females felt uncomfortable and would not desire to discourse it in general. Obeman et Al. 's (2009) conducted face-to-face interviews at the Ohio State Reformatory. They explained how the givens ' that were made of these adult females slaying their kids were not ever accurate. Their options based on their societal and familial systems were really restricted and limited. The writers explained how most of these adult females expressed themselves as not holding a topographic point that should experience safe, when it was suppose to experience like place (Obeman et al. , 2009) . Many common factors were attributed to these adult females such as ; fright, economic want, isolation and deficiency of fiscal support. The female parents normally indicated a deficiency of instruction, emotion and really minimum medical support (Obeman et al. , 2009) . Physical, mental, and emotional

maltreatment were normally early symptoms that these persons experienced prior and after the filicide were committed. Obeman et Al. 's (2009) identified history of maltreatment in the household that factored these adult females 's behavior throughout their lives. The book explained how these adult females struggled against the odds of being good female parents to protect themselves and their kids. In add-on, the female parents normally fought back against the power of maltreatment they were living with their spouse (Obeman et al. , 2009) . Most of the time, for some of these adult females they thought that giving up was safer so contending back. The writers identified some external support that came from caring others. This normally gave them a self-awareness of their own strength (Obeman et al. , 2009) . The female parents were normally isolated by fright of their own spouse.

Most of them were besides affected with mental unwellness (Obeman et al. , 2009) . The book explains how the U. S justice system purely relies more on retribution oppose to rehabilitation. In add-on, there appears to be more of a broad assortment of shelters for animate beings so there is for people (Obeman et al. , 2009) . They explained how these adult females travel on a painful procedure to accept who they are, and what they have done. Many of the issues that the female parents faced was non recognizing where to happen aid, how to entree it, and whom to swear (Obeman et al. , 2009) .

Kauppi, Kumpulainen, Vanamo, Merikanto, Karkola (2008) besides conducted research on female parents that committed filicide. There were

unable to interview the adult females in their survey nevertheless were able to recover informations on their mental wellness after kid birth, and household history which included opprobrious parents being surrounded in an alcoholic environment. They were besides able to obtain information on the kids that were murdered.

Their survey provided information that indicated that none of the births were unwanted. When the babes were born, all showed good wellness and had no marks of upsets or malformations. It was stated that the motivation behind all filicide instances examined were non of selfish nature. Majority of the female parents believed that the universe was a bad topographic point and that it was non the topographic point for a kid to be raised. Six out of the 10 adult females in this survey tried to perpetrate self-destruction after slaying their kid. An of import factor that was discovered in this survey was that in most instances the individual responsible for the decease of the kid had a hardchildhoodwith demanding parents and a deficiency of emotional support (Kauppi et. Al, 2008) . The research workers of this survey besides found that more than 50 % of the adult females were abandoned by their ain female parents during their childhood. In the scrutiny stage, in four instances the female parents were diagnosed with some sort of depression such as ; postpartum depression, major depression and psychotic depression (Kauppi et. Al, 2008) . Keeping in head, none of these adult females were convicted in the tribunal. In most instances, the female parents ne'er wanted to be left entirely with their babes as it would do symptoms to increase in badness. Other symptoms developed when the kid was left entirely with female parent

which included but are non limited to hallucinations and anxiousness (Kauppi et. al, 2008) .

Another book reappraisal written by Mckee (2006) , examined the gender differences within the filicide population. Statistics showed that within the population forty seven per centum of female parents were the culprit and 50 three per centum of male parents committed the act of filicide. Mckee (2006) found that kids under 1 twelvemonth old were more vulnerable to filicide than kids over the age of one. In the United Kingdom, future research suggest about 10 to 20 maternal filicide instances will be committed annually (Mckee, 2006) . The United States averages 256 filicide instances per twelvemonth. Reasons for this high sum of filicide instances in developed states include economic want, lower educational degrees and a deficiency of resources that guide and help immature female parents when faced with postpartum depression (Oberman, Meyer, 2009) . Mckee`s (2006) book discusses prevalence rates and old research completed on maternal filicide. In add-on, hazard appraisals and direction schemes are besides analysed for this peculiar country homicide. Mckee (2006) discovered five wide classs of maternal filicide. These classs include rejection, mental unwellness, unintended, antisocial, and revenge. By utilizing instance illustrations, Mckee explains his `` Maternal Filicide Risk Matrix `` . This explains the association of the mother`s unprotected cell and protective factors based on two dimensions. These dimensions are known as phase and sphere. This tool must include hazard intercession points for each phase of maternity and gestation. Unfortunately, the appraisal is non through

empirical observation validated. The writer besides discusses different rules and their strengths and failing of the `` Maternal Filicide Risk Matrix ``. He besides argues the sum of abandoned kids who are ne'er found and job specifying the cause of decease may be the prevalence of female parent who kills. The last article in this reappraisal, written by Hilari, Condori, Dearden (2009) took a different attack to look into filicide instances. Their survey took topographic point in Bolivia where they examined the autochthonal people of two countries. The first country is Qaqachaka and had 38 communities participate in the survey. In the 2nd country is Ancoraimes which had 28 communities in the survey. The grounds why these countries were chosen are due to the surveillance systems that have been installed by the authorities to supervise the communities. The intent of their survey was to look into why households partake in filicide Acts of the Apostless. Unlike old literature examined in this reappraisal, the chief causes for filicide are due to biological and societal factors. Examples of biological factors include physical malformations and duplicate ship. In this civilization, when a female parent gives birth to male and female twins, it is seen as evil and is socially accepted to destruct both genders. As for the societal factors, the communities seldom excuse the liquidator ; nevertheless the life of the kid is taken within 24 hours after birth and is ne'er recorded. Often there is no disciplinary action as the slaying has gone unnoticed. Individual interviews and concentrate groups were besides utilized to derive informations. Findings indicated that female filicide were higher in both countries, for illustration Qaqachaka had 14 deceases in entire, 13 in which were female. Qaqachaka besides recorded 20 times higher than neonatal

mortality rate, compared to national rural norm. Some drawbacks to Hilari et Al. (2009) , research are that the communities surveillance under reported births as camera`s were non set up in individual`s places.

Besides, information gathered from sources could hold been bias as many stated that they did non partake or witness the filicide instead heard about it through word of oral cavity.

Discussion In most instances of filicide, in general frequently occur with immature adult females that come from a deprived childhood and low socio-economic position. Often these adult females lack the instruction to admit the effects of their actions. In most of these instances, there was a limited sum of resources and entree to seek aid. For female parents in these countries, there should be societal workers that are readily accessible to observe and mention early symptoms of postpartum depression and psychological/ behavioral upsets. Many of the restrictions that were common is these surveies were the deficiency of empirical grounds, and how many adult females did non desire to discourse the traumatic event. The fundss to convey psychologists and head-shrinkers into these lower income communities are unluckily non available. Weekly follow ups by the female parent 's householddoctor would be a positive attack to placing certain behaviors that may take to temper upsets, which may ensue to filicidal Acts of the Apostless. Understanding each phase of the female parent 's gestation and parentage, these are the ideal stages to seek of import forms. To reason, this research has been reasonably new and different theories have been developed to better understand the rational of these murderous

wrongdoers. Future research should obtain different methods and garner more information from past culprits to analyse and look into and develop proactive steps to forestall the act of maternal filicide.