

An Exploratory Assessment of Homicide in Shebel Berenta
Woreda, East Gojjam, North West Ethiopia

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Dedication

This paper is dedicated to those people who lost their life purposely by the hands of others!

Abstract

Introduction: Violent death has been among the leading public health and social problems in both western societies and developing countries. Ethiopia was estimated to have 20, 239 homicides at a rate of 25.5 per 100,000 populations in 2008, by UNODC. The available, fairly recent, literatures on homicide are quantitative comparisons of rates and mainly based on industrial societies. The theories developed are still in debate and were not tested in different cultural contexts in developing countries.

Objective: The objective of the study was to assess prevalence and associated factors of homicide in Shebel Berenta woreda, East Gojjam, North West Ethiopia.

Methods: A cross-sectional community based study using quantitative survey, qualitative methods and secondary data analysis was conducted from February -March 2012. The sample size of the study was 2008 but analysis was based on 1949 completed questionnaires. Three FGDs and 2 in-depth interviews with a total of 29 participants were involved in the qualitative methods. The sampling unit for the survey was households and the study unit was household head/an adult (≥ 18 years) in each sampled household. Participants for qualitative methods were selected purposively. Binary Logistic regression was used for the analysis of quantitative survey and the qualitative findings were analyzed thematically.

Result: The survey found out that the life time prevalence of homicide was 11.5 %, along with a life time perpetration of 12.1 %. The conditions/reasons for homicide to be justified as the right measure to be taken as a solution of conflict were more of honor related. Eight hundred fifty one 851 (43.7%) of respondents said they will kill for revenge if homicide is done to someone close to them. Almost half 973 (49.9%) of the respondents intend to have firearm for their security. Two hundred sixty six (13.6%) of respondents admitted they ever had thought to kill a person and 204(68 %) of them attempted to kill. Those who were in the age group 18-27[AOR (95% CI) = 1.859(1.181, 2.927)] were 1.9 times more likely to be exposed to physical fighting than those who were greater or equals to 38 years of age. Those who had no education [AOR (95% CI) = 4.407(1.097, 17.708)] were 4.4 times more likely to support homicide in some conditions than who achieved college and above. Those who earn ≤ 300 ETB/month were 1.6 times more supportive of homicide than those who earn 1500 ETB/month and were also 1.7 times and 6 times more likely to support revenge and to attempt killing than those who earn > 1500 ETB/month, respectively. Those who drink alcohol [AOR (95% CI) = 1.851(1.418, 2.416)] were 1.9 times more likely to support homicide than those who were not. Those who had a history of being drunk were 3.3 times more likely to be victim of murder trial than those who had not. Those who ever had firearm [AOR (95% CI) = 1.916(1.191, 3.084)] were 1.9 times more likely to be victims of murder trial than those who had not. Those who had no any brother [AOR (95% CI) = 0.493(0.266, 0.913)] were by 50.7 % less likely to be at risk of being victim of murder trial than those who had three or more brothers. Those who had victim families were 1.7 times more likely to be exposed for physical fighting and were 3 times more likely to be victims of murder trial. The trends of homicide in the study area had an irregular pattern with three high picks.

Conclusion: The effect of culture was so strong that the majority of reasons that were justified to be right to kill an individual were honor related. The role of cultural organizations in educating and working on harmful traditions like revenge should be strengthened in the study area.

Key terms: Homicide, Firearm, 'Honor culture', Attitude, Murder

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List of abbreviations

AOR: Adjusted Odds Ratio

CIS: Corrugated Iron Sheet

COR: Crude Odds Ratio

ETB: Ethiopian Birr

FBI: Federal Bureau of Investigation

FGD: Focus Group Discussion

GIS: Geographical Information System

HAT: Homicide Adaptation Theory

HEW: Health Extension Workers

HH: Households

HIV: Human Immunodeficiency Virus

AIDS: Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome

NERC: National Health Research Ethics Review Committee

SES: Socio Economic Status

UNODC: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

US: United States

USA: United States of America

WHO: World Health Organization

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Homicide is the most serious crime committed against a person. Killing of a human being, as a result of conduct of another is known as homicide. Killing of an individual is the highest level of aggression found in all cultures (1).

Modes of killing of the victims vary with the history and the cultural background of a country. Homicide which is committed with preplanning is classified as premeditated or intentional or first degree murder in different parts of the world. When sufficient proof of preplanning or malice aforethought was not present the term culpable homicide not amounting to murder is used in India, manslaughter in England and unintentional homicide in Iceland (1).

Primary Homicide is that homicide that did not occur during perpetration of another crime i.e. primary act of the assailant was the perpetration of a homicide against the victim. Whereas Secondary Homicide is homicide that occurs during or in conjunction with the perpetration of another crime such as robbery, rape, etc (1).

Murder is a form of criminal homicide, where the perpetrator intended to kill the other person, sometimes with premeditation (a plan to kill). Manslaughter is a legal term for the killing of a human being, in a manner considered by law as less culpable than murder(2). The laws of homicide are also quite complex because there are different types of homicide and unclear circumstances surrounding the death and huge variation in jurisdictional definitions (1).

In Ethiopia the principles and classifications of homicide are treated in articles, 538,539,540,541 and 542 of proclamation number 414/2004 (3).

1.2 Statement of the problem

Violent death has been among leading public health and social problems in both western societies and developing countries (4). Globally, approximately 520,000 people are victims of homicide every year. According to different sources (National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, and Federal Bureau of Investigation) in 2002, 17,638 individuals, in 2007, 16, 929 individuals, and in 2009, 13,636 people were the victims of homicide in the USA only(5- 7). The total numbers of annual homicides estimated by United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime(UNODC) (2011 or the latest available year) in 2010 was 468,000, with the largest proportion, some 36 per cent or 170,000 homicides, estimated to occur in Africa, 31 per cent, or approximately 144,000, in the Americas and 27 per cent, or 128,000, in Asia. Europe

and Oceania account for significantly less at 5 per cent, or 25,000, and less than 1 per cent, or 1,200 homicides, respectively (8).

About 4400 people die every day because of intentional acts of self-directed, interpersonal, or collective violence. Additionally, tens of thousands of lives are destroyed, families shattered, and huge costs are incurred in treating victims, supporting families, repairing infrastructure, prosecuting perpetrators, or as a result of lost productivity and investment. In several circumstances homicide may be considered not only as a single phenomenon in isolation, but also as a reasonable proxy for violent crime in general. Thus, the analysis of homicide trends and patterns is important as a starting point for more extensive research into other forms of violent crime (8, 9).

In western countries homicide has gained increasing acceptance as a public health issue, Homicide is the leading cause of death for African Americans aged 15 to 34 years, the second leading cause of death for Hispanics aged 15 to 34 years and for Asian Pacific Islanders aged 15 to 24 years and the third leading cause of death for American Indians and Alaskans (6).

There are so many studies conducted and theories developed in those western societies and off course a few in Africa, Asia and Latin America (5-8). A major limitation of those literatures, however, is its nearly exclusive focus on Western industrialized societies. As one analyst said, “Scholars in the field of homicide research should make an effort to widen their scope of interest beyond the American scene, then it can increase our knowledge of homicide in different countries and it will allow American/western-based theories and methodologies to be tested in other countries and other cultural contexts” (10).

The available, fairly recent, literatures on homicide are quantitative comparisons of rates and mainly based on industrial societies (6-8)

There are few theories developed very recently. Among the theories the most comprehensive homicide adaptation theory (HAT) suggests that homicide is not part of our evolutionary psychology, but rather it is an adaptation which was used by our ancestors to survive. But, those theories are still in debate and are not tested in different cultural contexts in developing countries (5-8).

In Ethiopia studies were conducted for the purpose of Forensic (Medico-legal) aspects. Which was Pathology based at hospitals (11).As far as the investigator’s knowledge there are no studies conducted in Ethiopia to explore the social context of homicide and its importance to public health. However, there are national estimates by United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime(UNODC) which Ethiopia is estimated to have 20, 239 homicides at a rate of 25.5 per 100,000 populations in 2008 (8).

Homicide is a common phenomenon in the study area, the study area was reported to be one of the leading in this specific crime in Amhara Region continuously for decades and there are reports that the area is still “unclean” of the so called “shifta” who are hide criminals of homicide that did not presented for justice and continued to be perpetrators or victims of homicide (12).The woreda resides along Abay River and has boarders with South Wollo Zone and Oromia Region across the river, which might help perpetrators to migrate from region to region easily to hide themselves.

Since we have different social context, studies conducted in western societies might not represent our society and even the African studies may be different in this case due to their colonial history. So the investigator argues that in some parts of the country, particularly in the study area mentioned, homicide is a public health problem and even it may have higher rates of occurrence per 100,000 populations than mortality due to major known communicable diseases.

1.3 Research questions

The central research questions the study attempted to answer were, how prevalent is homicide and what are the underlying perception/ attitude of people towards homicide in the study area.

The study also addressed the following sub-questions:

1. How common is homicide in the study area?
2. Why is homicide happen in the study area?
3. What are the underlying perceptions/attitudes of the population towards homicide?
4. What factors influence attitudes of adults towards homicide?
5. What are the common practices of the community in relation homicide?
6. What are the risk factors for common practices related to homicide?
7. What are the trends of homicide in the past 20 years in the study area?

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Homicide Prevalence

Globally, approximately 520,000 people are victims of homicide every year. According to different sources (National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, and Federal Bureau of Investigation) in 2002, 17,638 Americans, in 2007, 16, 929 individuals, and in 2009, 13,636 people were the victims of homicide in the USA only (5- 7). The total numbers of annual homicides estimated by UNODC (2011 or the latest available year) in 2010 was 468,000, with the largest proportion, some 36 per cent or 170,000 homicides, estimated to occur in Africa, 31 per cent, or approximately 144,000, in the Americas and 27 per cent, or 128,000, in Asia. Europe and Oceania account for significantly less at 5 per cent, or 25,000, and less than 1 per cent, or 1,200 homicides, respectively (8).

Homicide is the leading cause of death for African Americans aged 15 to 34 years, the second leading cause of death for Hispanics aged 15 to 34 years and for Asian Pacific Islanders aged 15 to 24 years, and the third leading cause of death for American Indians and Alaskan Natives. Homicide was the second leading cause of death among young males aged 15 to 24 years in 10 out of 21 Latin American countries with populations greater than 1 million, with the highest being in Colombia (267 per 100,000 in 1994), Puerto Rico, Venezuela, and Brazil (72 per 100,000) (6, 7, 15).

The homicide rate has showed a change on time in US. The rate was 69 per 100,000/year for black men ages 15–24 years from 1966 to 1974 and rose to 275 per 100,000 from 1992 to 1993. The homicide rates in many other countries are equivalent to or exceed those in the United States. The lifetime probability of being a homicide victim in Venezuela and Moldova is 1 in 90, In Estonia and Puerto Rico, 1 in 60, and in Colombia and South Africa, greater than 1 in 20 that a person will die at the hands of a killer, which is 2, 3 and ten times the lifetime risk of homicide in the United States, respectively (5-7).

However, in South Africa, a reduction of 42% was recorded from 1994 to 2008 which was 66.9 per 100 000 population in 1994 and 18 487 homicides at a rate of 38.6 per 100 000 population in 2008, according to South African Police Service (16).

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) estimated Ethiopia had 20, 239 homicides at a rate of 25.5 per 100,000 populations in 2008(8). Lack of literature on the topic made difficult to know how much homicide is a public health problem in rural Ethiopia.

2.2 Theories to explain homicide

The most comprehensive evolutionary explanation specifically advanced to account for patterns of homicide was proposed by Daly, Wilson, and their colleagues, followed by Buss and Duntly and a critical reviewer Russil Durrant among others (2, 5).

So for easy understanding of theories on homicide the main focus is on those authors' perspectives, first, because they are developers, proponents and critical evaluators of homicide adaptation theory. Second, because their work is comprehensive/ inclusive of most theories of homicide in literature (2).

In the beginning of their work, Daly & Wilson, said that “we have only the most rudimentary scientific understanding of who is likely to kill whom and why” their theory was mainly contrary to homicide adaptation theory; they argued that homicide is a byproduct of other offences not an evolved adaptation. But it was not an accepted theory by evolutionary psychologists, since they argue that homicide is rather an evolved adaptation which is not happen suddenly as a result of other offences like rape, theft, etc (5).

From the relatively few theories that have been developed specifically to explain homicide, scholars Buss and Duntley have developed a theory – Homicide Adaptation Theory (HAT) – specifically designed to explain why individuals sometimes kill each other. In short, they proposed that “humans possess adaptations designed specifically for killing conspecifics(own species)”. Their proposition is that human beings came through psychological adaptations for killing which was evolved because it was successful for our ancestors in solving specific and recurrent problems which helps them to survive (5).

Evolutionary psychologists including the above mentioned, Buss and Duntley, suggest killing as unnatural and not part of our evolved psychology. Previously others like Eibl-Eibesfeldt proposed that killing (e.g., in war) is a culturally imposed behavior which is not part of human evolved psychology (5). But this is not accepted explanation on the side of Duntley and Buss because they argued that there are no detailed predictions about the various forms of homicide or about the contexts in which it occur (2).

Interestingly, Russil Durrant argued that “Because the concept of adaptation is necessarily a historical one the claim that humans possess psychological adaptations specifically designed for homicide is a claim (or series of claims) about human evolutionary history” (2). In his critical evaluation Russil Durrant argued based on the three main types of evidence typically advocated by evolutionary psychologists: a)cost-benefit analyses; b) special design Features ; and c) comparative evidence(2).

It will be fairly good if we can use the way he used to sum up for arguments on HAT. He argued in response to the developers of HAT (Duntley & Buss) mainly for their update until 2008, but here I raised his arguments and try to summarize their (Duntley & Buss) recent update of 2011, which they did not mention to respond to his (Russil Durrant) arguments but specifically addressing his points. So here I try to compare his points of argument because I found it more comprehensive and reasonable for questioning HAT as best explanation why people kill. And I scan their recent work to seek the addressed issues and gaps of the theory, which is useful for our easy understanding of homicide adaptation theory.

2.2.1 Cost-benefit analysis

The argument that homicide is different from non-lethal strategies for inflicting costs because it leads to the absolute end of direct competition between two individuals, did not seem accepted by Russel Durrant(2). They (Duntley & Buss) propose that, the person who is killed can no longer compete with his killer. Once dead, a person can no longer damage the killer's reputation, steal his resources, prevent the killer from attracting a romantic partner, or have sex with the killer's spouse. (5).

Russil Durrant, strongly argued that “There are at least three main, inter-related problems with the cost benefit analyses provided in support of HAT. First, no formal (or even semi-formal) attempt has been made to quantify the costs and benefits of killing. Just how much reproductive benefit, for example, is obtained by a man who kills another man in a dispute over reputation?”(2)

The second problem he argued about was, for psychological adaptations for murder to have evolved they must have successfully solved the adaptive problems, highlighted in HAT, better than alternative strategies. In other words, It was not clear that murder would have been a reproductively more beneficial strategy than, say, aggression with the threat of non-lethal violence. Thus, he proposed that the costs of killing a conspecific almost certainly would have been much greater (2).

The third major problem raised by Russel Durrant is the cost of killing is not fully addressed in HAT; first, the escalation of aggression with the purpose of killing must increase the possibility being killed in the process. Second, the killing may significantly increases the risk of retaliation from the kin or coalitional partners of the murdered individual (2).

In their recent work Duntley and Buss tried to look this argument and accepted in a way that strengthens HAT. They said “On the contrary, we propose that evolved defenses against being killed have made the costs of a homicidal strategy prohibitively high in many circumstances.” Because as they argued humans have evolved anti-homicide adaptations designed to prevent

being killed. Successful homicides may provoke costly retaliation by the victim's kin, friends, or mates, inflicting damage or death on the killer. Thus, they articulated the theory of a co-evolutionary arms race between adaptations for homicide and defenses against being killed (5). But still they insisted that, the potential fitness benefits of conspecific killing are so large in number and substantial that there is no a priori reason to be skeptical about the possibility that homicidal adaptations could have evolved (5).

Here what is still unanswered in cost-benefit analysis of HAT is that how could we attempt to quantify the costs and benefits of killing as raised by Russil Durrant as there are no formal (or even semi-formal) strategies. This gap still needs further theoretical development, and remained unaddressed by Duntley & Buss till 2011(2, 5).

2.2.2 Special design Features

In their most recent work Duntley & Buss, strengthen their former argument “We agree with Daly and Wilson that some homicides are byproducts of the operation of evolved mechanisms designed for non-lethal outcomes such as coercion and control. However, we suggest that these represent a minority of killings. ” They propose that humans have evolved distinct, context-sensitive psychological mechanisms that determine whether homicide or a non-lethal adaptive solution will be implemented (5).

But for this argument Russil Durrant disagree on the point and said that the precise sets of circumstances that result in homicidal behavior have not been clearly delineated by Buss and Duntley, it is difficult to ascertain how efficient, reliable, economical, functional, or specialized such putative mechanisms are (2).

A second major difficulty in identifying special design features for homicide evaluated by Rusill Durrant is that the nature of the proposed psychological mechanisms underlying homicide has not been developed in any kind of detail. The example homicide fantasy is also not enough explanation as there is also suicidal fantasy which has no any relevance feature. The research conducted to date on homicidal fantasies does support the idea that these tend to occur in the specific contexts predicted by HAT. However, there is little evidence to support the idea that homicidal fantasies reflect the existence of specific adaptations for homicide (2). They proposed that “First, unlike non-lethal aggression, homicide is a behavior that, under some circumstances, will leave no witnesses other than the killer.” (5).

Their second reason why they hypothesized that adaptations for homicide have design features that are unique from adaptation for non-lethal violence is that dead people cannot directly retaliate. Third, a person who intends to use non-lethal violence faces the problem of using an

appropriate amount of force to alter conspecifics' behaviors in desired ways, but not to kill them. Fourth, the potential benefits that could flow to a successful killer can be much greater than the benefits that flow to a non-lethal aggressor. They concluded that for any competitive strategy, homicide has the highest probability of a zero sum outcome (5).

In sum, the design feature argument in the recent work of Buss & Duntley seemed more comprehensive and presented in detail which can answer the Russil Durrant critical evaluation on their former publication. But we should not forget that there is still unfilled gap for homicides which occurred for different context (E. g during other offences). There are also unaddressed issues regarding fantasies of other human behavior and suicide in comparison to homicidal fantasies. There is also a gap in addressing homicidal ideation at individual level unless appropriate measurements are introduced.

2.2.3 Comparative methods

The cannibalistic killing of males after copulation found in species like the black widow spider is irrelevant for understanding human homicide, according to Russel Durrant, the killing of unrelated infants by adult males is, however, widespread among mammalian species and has been documented in a large number of primate species but using it in support of HAT, for killing of step children is superficial resemblance as Durrant argued against HAT, and he added, among humans, most stepchildren deaths are the result of an ongoing pattern of abuse and neglect and death is typically accidental rather than intentional(2).

From the above theoretical argument between the proponents of HAT and the others opposing it, we can conclude that the theoretical development of homicide is currently on debate and only a few scientists are part of this theoretical debate till now. As it is a young field of study and is mostly consider the western society the why and how of homicide in our context, is gap of knowledge for public health, psychology and law.

2.3 Factors affecting attitudes towards homicide

1. Individual Factors

Gender and age

Men are more likely than women to express violence-supportive attitudes. It is gender role prescriptions rather than gender per se that shapes men's and women's attitudes. Individuals who support traditional gender roles are more likely to express violence supportive attitudes. For example, factors shaping attitudes towards violence against women cannot be considered in isolation from factors shaping gender (17).

Children who either witness violence or are subjected to violence themselves are more likely to adhere to violence-supportive attitudes. The effects of witnessing or experiencing violence are greater for males than females. Prior experience of violence can also lead to violence-intolerant attitudes. Age and development can also influence attitude and adolescent males are more likely than older males to express violence-supportive attitudes (17).

2. Cultural factors

Culturally-specific norms and social relations have a profound influence on attitudes towards violence. It may support violent behavior by endorsing and teaching violence as an acceptable way to resolve conflicts (17, 18).

It is well-known that the southern states of the United States have higher homicide rates than the northern states. For example, from 1976 to 2002, the homicide rate in the South was 10.24 per 100,000 residents, compared to 8.32 in the West and 6.60 in the North (19, 21, 23).

The explanation is most researchers believe these regional differences are a result of cultural differences. For example, a “culture of honor” may make the South more lethally violent. According to this perspective, southern whites have an honor culture where violent retaliation is normative behavior when there is adequate provocation (22-23).

In honor cultures, men are expected to defend themselves when threatened and to respond to verbal provocation with aggression. Honor cultures, however, may affect women as well. Experimental research on college in US students has also shown that southern men react more strongly to an insult than northern men on behavioral, attitudinal, and biological measures. Ownership of long guns for example is high in the south than north (19, 23).

A study done in Israel, on the perceptions of the seriousness of criminal offenses, comparing Native Born, Ethiopian immigrants and Former Soviet Union immigrants, found that the seriousness attributed to the violent offenses like murder were considered most serious offenses by all three groups but the Ethiopians consider the offences significantly lower than among the native-born respondents(24).

The explanation provided in the American context (southern honor culture) as the cause of geographical homicide rate difference may or may not be applied in our context. The gaps in literature in our case necessitate further studies to be conducted.

Participation in peer groups, contexts and social relations, religion, beliefs and spirituality had been influencing factors (17).

Religious adherence

Through public statements, proclamations, theological teachings and the content of their worship, churches and religious leaders influence the attitudes of their congregations (17).

Many recent studies have found direct effects of religiosity on several forms of unlawful behavior. Others however are, dismissed its impact on crime, but the methods they used to measure religiosity (e.g. church attendance) were not fair enough to exclude its relationship with crime, as most scholars agreed (25).

The role of religion as a reflection maintaining high rates of violence was studied in the US. Those studies documented that metropolitan areas with significant conservative Protestant populations had higher rates of homicide. However another study demonstrated that communities having larger civically engaged religious populations had lower rates of juvenile homicide. Because religion is perhaps the main embodiment of cultural orientations, which seems like a fruitful line of inquiry (26)

Beliefs

Most Ghanaians (90%) believe in witchcraft as well as the power of witches to cause havoc in the lives of others and children accused of being witches will be killed. The victims typically attacked by close family members for spreading disease and illness, inhibiting fertility, and causing financial ruination. (27).

3. Societal Factors

At the societal level, important positive and negative factors on attitudes to violence and homicide include the mass media, the institutional activities and responses of police, the criminal justice system, and health services (17).

2.4 Risk factors for homicide occurrence

The risk factors for homicide generally can be categorized at five ecological levels. The complex nature of homicide and violence make it difficult to develop causal relationships (28).

1. Biological risk factors

Age

Young males are more likely to be perpetrators and victims of violence worldwide. Fatal interpersonal violence for males and females increases sharply from the age of 15 years, peaking in the 25–29-year age category for males and the 35–39-year age category for females (28). According to the World Health Organization, over 540 adolescents and young adults die every day from interpersonal violence (19). Studies done in Germany, USA, Sweden and Columbia found that relatively large young cohorts (15-24 years old) increased crime rates in the majority of crime categories, particularly when they are unemployed. In the USA, Counties with a larger

percentage of the population between the ages of 15 and 24 have higher average homicide rates (29-30).

In Brazil, between 1977 and 1994, the specific death rate among 15- to 19-year-olds owing to homicide increased by 160% and currently homicide is responsible for 30% of all deaths among this age group (14-16). In South Africa, the highest homicide victimization rates were seen in men aged 15–29 years (184 per 100 000) (29-31).

An evolutionary explanation for these patterns is that natural selection has shaped young men to be more risk prone and to discount the future more than other people do: Prior to their own reproduction, young men are relatively likely to adopt risky behavioral options in social confrontations because they have higher potential reproductive gains and/or less to lose than older men (31).

Gender

According to Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) 2010 homicide data, at least 78.5 percent of homicide victims in 2009 were males (5). Interestingly, gender of victims and offenders seemed to be clear and different studies supported that males commit up to approximately 90% of all homicides and represent 75% of the victims. Women generally do not kill, but when they do; it is often in their own defense. Women who are repeatedly victimized are at risk of becoming either an offender or a victim of homicide (31, 32).

It has been suggested that adultery has distinct consequences for men, such that men may be uncertain of the paternity of any offspring that are born. Jealousy, separation or the threat of separation, were the major precipitating factors, particularly when the victims were young women (10, 32, 34).

Somewhat surprisingly, a study showed that counties with a higher percentage of males have lower homicide rates on average. A greater number of males in the population are associated with more stable family structures, which in turn are associated with lower homicide rates (29). Here we may wonder if the explanation of why young men more affected than females and older people is applicable in a rural Ethiopian context.

2. Behavioral factors

Alcohol

Alcohol and substance abuse cut across various ecological levels as risk factors, they impact primarily at the behavioral level. The role of alcohol is three-fold. First, as alcohol lowers inhibition, it is an important situational factor in precipitating aggressive behavior and violence. Second, due to alcohol's effect of lowering motor-coordination and cognitive perception,

intoxicated people are more likely to become victims of violence. Alcohol thus has an enhancing effect which can fuel violent conflicts. Third, both victims and perpetrators have an increased likelihood of using alcohol as a coping mechanism (28).

History of violent behavior

The strongest predictor of involvement in violence is a history of previous violent behavior (18, 21, 32). Low intelligence, learning problems, and school failure are also significant risks for youth violence (18).

3. Proximal societal factors

Abusive parental behavior

The risk factors at the family level for a child's development of aggressive or violent behavior include a family having a large number of children, a mother having a child at a young age, a low level of family cohesion, single parent households, low socioeconomic status and abusive parental behavior including harsh physical punishment and parental conflict (18).

Violent friends

The risk factors outside the family for violence among adolescents and young people usually relate to having violent friends. Youth who socialize with peers who are engaging in violent or criminal behavior, whether by choice or by default, are more likely to engage in violent behavior by themselves. Another important contributor to rates of violence is social integration within the community (18, 28).

Sexual jealousy/ infidelity

The role of sexual dispute was also an immediate contributing factor in many cases of spousal homicide (10, 34). In Ghana Conflict emerges when men's sexual demands cannot be satisfied by their partners (10). An interesting finding was that large numbers of spousal homicides were attributable to, or fueled by husbands' suspicion of wife infidelity. For example, in Ghana, as elsewhere, women who threaten to, or initiate the termination of relationships with intimate partners are at greatest risk for spousal murder (10).

Relationship between the victim and perpetrator

Most murders are not the results of attacks by strangers. Instead, they usually result from arguments between people who know each other, often people who are related to each other, by an intimate, relative, friend, or acquaintance, in which the arguments escalate and the participants have ready access to guns. Contrary to popular belief, women are more than 11–12 times more likely to be killed by a man they know than a stranger. In many studies close to 50–77% of murder victims were either related to or acquainted with their killers, and only 4–15%

were killed by strangers. Indeed, 28-33% of female victims were killed by their husbands or boyfriends (20- 22).

4. Distal societal factors

Culture

Socio-cultural factors such as traditional gender and social norms supportive of violence are associated with a man's risk for abusing his partner. Studies indicate that intimate-partner violence is more likely in societies where violence has become an everyday occurrence. (28). Common motives when men kill men are seemingly trivial conflicts over social status, face pride, and reputation, as well as conflicts over material resources (31). Sub cultural arguments also emphasize the effects of third parties. Actors learn attitudes favorable to crime from others or comply because they are concerned about audience opinion (23).

5. Structural factors

Socio economic inequality

A study done in Cape Town ,South Africa, the highest rates of homicide were recorded in the relatively impoverished sub-districts of Nyanga (132 per 100,000 populations) and Khayelitsha (120 per 100,000 populations) double the citywide average of 66 per 100,000 and three times the rate recorded in the city centre (42 per 100,000)(28).

A study using GIS (geographical information system) concentrated disadvantage consistently remains the strongest predictor of homicide rates (with the highest statistical significance) across all geographic units (35).

A detailed analysis of survey data from 63 countries showed that the relations between socioeconomic inequalities (income inequality, low economic development, and high levels of gender inequity) are strong positive predictors of rates of violence, including homicide. South Africa had the worst income inequality and the highest rate of homicide of the 63 countries studied. The explanation is that, where there is great inequality there is likely to be great anger and frustration, and so violence might be used to gain the resources, power, and influence that others have, or are perceived to have (16).

People were more likely to become homicide victims in neighborhoods with fewer high school graduates, more unemployed, more households headed by females, and a lower median household income(36).

A study in US, showed that Counties with greater levels of divorce and unemployment over the study period exhibit higher homicide levels—for example, for every one percentage-point increase in the average unemployment level of a county over the period, the homicide rate, on

average, rises by 6.8%. Other studies done in US and Russia also found that poverty and single-parent households commonly co-vary with homicide rates (29, 30, 37).

A study done in Taiwan, on the other hand showed economic condition is positively related to crime rates when other predictors are held constant concluded that crime rates increase when the nation as a whole gets richer (38).

The potential role of culture in the overall high rate of violence in a country, as well as in the geographic patterning of rates, also deserves attention (37).

Where there is political and social instability, such as in Colombia in the 1990s and in Russia, youth homicide rates were high (84.4 per 100 000 in Colombia in 1995, 18.0 per 100 000 in Russia in 1998). In South Africa in 2004, 51.7% of injury deaths in 15- to 24-year-olds were caused by violence. Conversely, in the politically stable countries of Western Europe, homicide rates were much lower (<2 per 100 000 estimated in 2000) (18).

However, political variation was also found to have a negative impact on the homicide. For example interaction between Taiwan and China benefits the island because crime rates tend to consequently decrease. The explanation was, distorting the historically antagonistic confrontation status against China helps Taiwan deflate the pressure on its public security that otherwise would have become more critical (38).

Firearm availability

South Africa's rate of firearm deaths is among the highest in the world, along with those of countries such as the USA, Mexico, Colombia, Estonia, and Brazil. A third of all homicides of women and 39% of those of men are committed with guns (16).

In the USA Guns, primarily handguns were used in more than 740,000 crimes of violence in 1991. In that year murders reached an all-time high of 24,703. Firearms were used in two-thirds of the murders and handguns were used in 80% of the murders. Gunshot wounds are the second leading cause of death for all people in USA aged 10 to 34 years. Among African- American males aged 15 to 34 years, firearm homicide is the leading cause of death (20). None of the studies prove causation, but the available evidence is consistent with the hypothesis that increased gun prevalence increases the homicide rate. Higher availability of firearms could lead to higher homicide rates if used in robberies and criminal assaults, making encounters more lethal. We might also expect a positive relationship between firearm ownership levels and homicide rates if high homicide rates in an area lead households to arm themselves for protection. Which may be bidirectional, firearm availability might lead to higher homicide rates, and higher homicide rates may lead to more people acquiring firearms (7, 19, 34).

Criminal justice system

Studies and survey reports in many countries clearly showed that countries with strict firearm regulation has low homicide rate involving the use of guns. In South Africa, for instance, firearm-related casualties are more significant than in many other countries like Cameroon, Victoria, where a strict regulatory approach seems to have been successful at curbing acts of violence involving the use of guns. On the other hand, in Turkey even if there were legislative restrictions on firearms illegal access to firearms made firearm the most important factor for increasing death (22, 33).

Surprisingly, a retrospective comparison of two samples of adolescent males from the same geographic localities in the USA found that court-involved adolescents were almost 22 times more likely to have sustained an assault-related firearm injury, when compared to non court-involved patients with firearm injuries. For most of the juvenile offenders (88%), court involvement preceded their injuries (39).

Developing specific causal factors in this case is difficult and theories and ecological models are being used to explain risk factors for homicide. The problem here is that we have no models and theories developed that may be applicable in our context. This needs further investigation in the future.

2.5 Time and seasonal variations in homicide

More contemporary analyses of policing data from American communities tended to find that many types of personal and property crimes were more common during periods of warm versus cool or cold weather and that demand for police services was greater during periods of warmer temperature (i.e., spring and summer). Research suggested this relationship generally held true, though there were upper limits. The social contact hypothesis explain that , during times of pleasant weather, aggressive and hostile acts may be more common because there is an increase in normal human interactions, which increases the opportunity for interpersonal conflict(40). The influence of temporal and weather variables was presumably a result of changes in routine activities of offenders and victims, though these effects might be trumped by situational variables (40, 41).

A study done in Pretoria South Africa showed that most homicides committed on Sundays (34).Due to entertainment linked to alcohol consumption, violence frequently occurs in public spaces and peaks over recreational periods, including weekends and festive periods (7, 16, 18,

32). However, a study done In Bersia, Italy, there was no pattern identified as to the monthly or seasonal predominance of homicidal deaths (33).

2.6 Health impacts of homicide

The health consequences homicide is beyond the death of the victim, there is immeasurable grief and Suffering (18).

Because many families are dealing with revenge fantasies, anger, and perhaps fear; there is no real “post” in their compilation of symptoms. The threat and feelings of fear may be ongoing and very real. In a study, 150 family members of homicide victims were compared to two groups, one ($n = 108$) composed of victims of another type of trauma and the other with non victims ($n = 119$) Not surprisingly, researchers found that 26% of surviving family members experienced clinical distress. A Survivor Spoke: “As a mother of a homicide victim, I was not prepared to know or to even begin to understand what I was supposed to do after the murder of my son. While I received much support, no one prepared me for what was yet to come—no one reached out to me and explained what the next steps would be, what I would be forced to deal with as a mother of a murder victim. I would have to learn how to live with the pain, the void, the anger and the confusion, and somehow to reconcile this with the joy and tears that would come as I celebrated my two children who are alive” (6).

A study done in USA, found that, children homicide survivors generally displayed internalizing (e.g., depression or avoidance of anything remotely associated with the homicide, withdrawal from family and friends, and an overall decrease in all activities) or externalizing symptoms (e.g., increases in aggressive behavior toward peers, siblings, and pets) (6).

2.7 Prevention interventions

Individual-level protective factors for violence include emotional health, school achievement, and a personal sense of religiosity or spirituality. Other key protective factors found in resilient young people are positive social skills and general self-efficacy (18).

Different studies support investing in the early development stages of childhood, which shows greater promise than programs directed at adults; increasing positive adult involvement in the monitoring and supervision of children and adolescents, reducing the availability of alcohol, changing cultural norms in order to promote such positive norms as equality for women or respect for the elderly, and to challenge negative norms associating violent behavior, reducing income inequality; and improving the efficiency and resource base of the criminal justice and social welfare systems.(6)

A focus on two key risk factors, firearms and alcohol, has positive outcomes in the short term. Already, stricter gun control legislation appears to have had a positive effect in reducing the percentage of firearm-related fatalities in Cape Town, South Africa and in the USA (7, 28). Other findings suggest that primary health caregivers be trained to understand how trauma exposure affects health risk behaviors and to refer patients to appropriate organizations.(6) The other intervention suggested was the police role in reducing the number of illegally carried firearms would be an effective investment of resources (42).

2.8. Significance of the Study

This exploratory assessment on homicide was important for the following reasons; first, a gap exists in literature specifically in developing world context. Most literatures were in industrial societies which might not be relevant in developing countries with different socio economic conditions. The theories developed were mainly on those industrial countries like US. So the prevalence, influencing factors, perceptions, beliefs and experiences of people on homicide in countries like Ethiopia were lacking. The others were entirely quantitative which were done for the purpose of comparison of homicide rates of different countries. Thus, the second reason of this study was to undertake an exploratory assessment using quantitative, qualitative and secondary data analysis methods in order to gain an in-depth understanding of the Why and How and the magnitude and trend of homicide in a rural setting, Shebel Berenta Woreda, East Gojjam, North West Ethiopia.

Third, given that homicide is continued to be a public health and legal concern of the study area and an anticipated socio-demographic change of the population, it was necessary to conduct an exploratory assessment. Thus, the study will contribute information for responsible local governmental offices and formal and informal organizations to plan and implement interventions supported by evidence to solve the problem.

Fourth, this study will add new knowledge to this neglected area, and provide information to social scientists, health care providers, mental health professionals and educators, to better understand how much homicide is a public health and legal concern in the study area.

2.9 Conceptual Frame Work

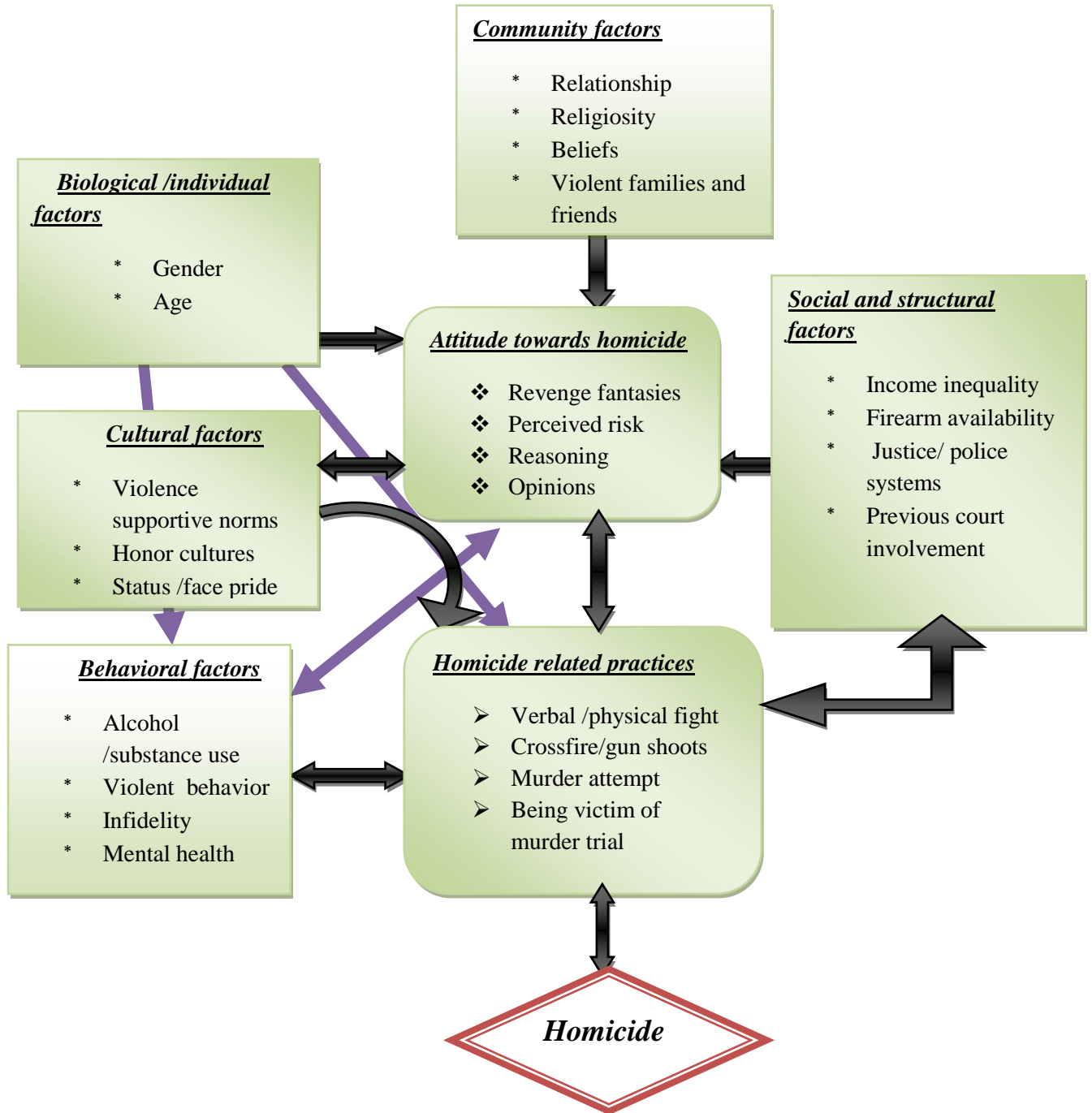


Figure 1: Conceptual frame work of factors influencing attitudes and risk factors for homicide related practices

3. OBJECTIVES

3.1 GENERAL OBJECTIVE

To assess prevalence and associated factors of homicide in Shebel Berenta woreda, East Gojjam, North West Ethiopia

3.2 SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1. To assess the life time prevalence of homicide in the study area
2. To explore the main reasons of killing in the study area
3. To explore attitudes of the community towards homicide
4. To assess factors associated with attitudes of adults towards homicide
5. To assess practices of the community in relation to homicide
6. To identify risk factors associated with homicide related practices
7. To display the trends of homicide from 1993-2010

4. METHODS

4.1 STUDY AREA

Shebel Berenta Woreda is one of 19 woredas in East Gojjam Zone, Amhara Region, North West of Ethiopia, bounded in the north with Enarjena Enawga woreda, in the east across Abay River to South Wollo Zone, in the South East across Abay River with Oromia Region (North Shewa, Dera woreda), in the south Dejen woreda and in the west Enemay woreda. The total area of the woreda is 85,497 sq.km, of this 72.5 % is Kola and 27.5 % is Woyna Dega. The average annual rain fall is 400-1200ml. According to the 2010 estimate it has a total population of 111,215 of which 54,051 are males and the estimated adults (≥ 18 years of age) is 48379 and has a total of 25,864 households. There are 5 health centers and 21 health posts and 17 community policing posts staffed with 30 police officers (12-13).

4.2 STUDY DESIGN AND PERIOD

A cross-sectional community based study was conducted from February -March 2012.

4.3 SOURCE POPULATION

All adults (≥ 18 years of age) residing in Shebel Berenta Woreda

4.4 STUDY POPULATION

All adults (≥ 18 years of age) who were present in the selected households during the survey

4.5 INCLUSION/EXCLUSION CRITERIA

Inclusion: - An adult (≥ 18 years) who were present during survey regardless of gender had been interviewed.

Exclusion: - Adults who were unable to give an informed consent were excluded from the study.

4.6 SAMPLE SIZE AND SAMPLING TECHNIQUES

The proportion of households with homicide victim was unknown and was expected to be quite low. So, a rough guess of proportion of 5 % was taken. Yet to get the largest sample size for this rare event the marginal error (precision) should have been as small as possible. Therefore, it was assumed that the sample size required estimating the true proportion within $\pm 1\%$ points with 95% confidence level. The sample size was calculated using single population proportion formula.

Assumption

$$Z_{\alpha/2} = 1.96$$

p = prevalence of homicide in households which was approximately = 5%

d = degree of precision (marginal error) = $\pm 1\%$

$$n = \frac{(Z_{\alpha/2})^2 P (1 - P)}{d^2} = \frac{(1.96)^2 (0.05) (0.95)}{(0.01)^2} = 1825$$

Adding a non-response rate of 10% the total sample size was=2008 adults in selected households. Design effect in this case was not documented and a guess of multiplying by 2 would inflate the sample size and that was not possible for resources reasons.

Sampling Techniques

Twelve (12) kebeles were selected from the total 21 kebeles of the woreda. The kebele selection was based on geographical classification. About 70 % of kola kebeles (10 kebeles randomly from 16 kebeles) and 30 % of woyna dega kebeles (2 kebeles randomly out of 5 kebeles) was selected by simple random sampling technique. This enabled frontier and accessible kebeles to be sampled proportional to their size and more geographical area of the woreda to be covered. The number of households sampled in each selected kebele were decided by a probability equals to their share of the total households in the 12 kebeles. Then household list of those selected kebeles (registration books of health extension workers) were used as frames for selection of households. The households were selected using systematic sampling from the enumerated and listed households. In each household, interviewers selected household head if he/she was present during survey hours or the next responsible member of the household (≥ 18 years) who was present during the survey to be interviewed. Thus, the sampling unit was households and the study unit was household head/an adult (≥ 18 years) in each sampled household.

Participants for qualitative methods were selected purposively. There were three focus group discussions (FGDs) and were stopped due to the saturation of ideas during field work. The focus group participants were homogeneous groups by responsibility and risk. The First FGD involved kebele leaders and community policing officers together. The second group was out of school youth (18-27 years) of both sexes from 5 different kebeles. Because this group often involve actively in the socio economic activities and is most affected group by homicide (31). The third was community elders and religious leaders recruited from 4 different kebeles. The participants were eight, nine and eight, respectively. Two in-depth-interviews were conducted with a

delegated health professional from woreda health office and one responsible key informant who was police inspector.

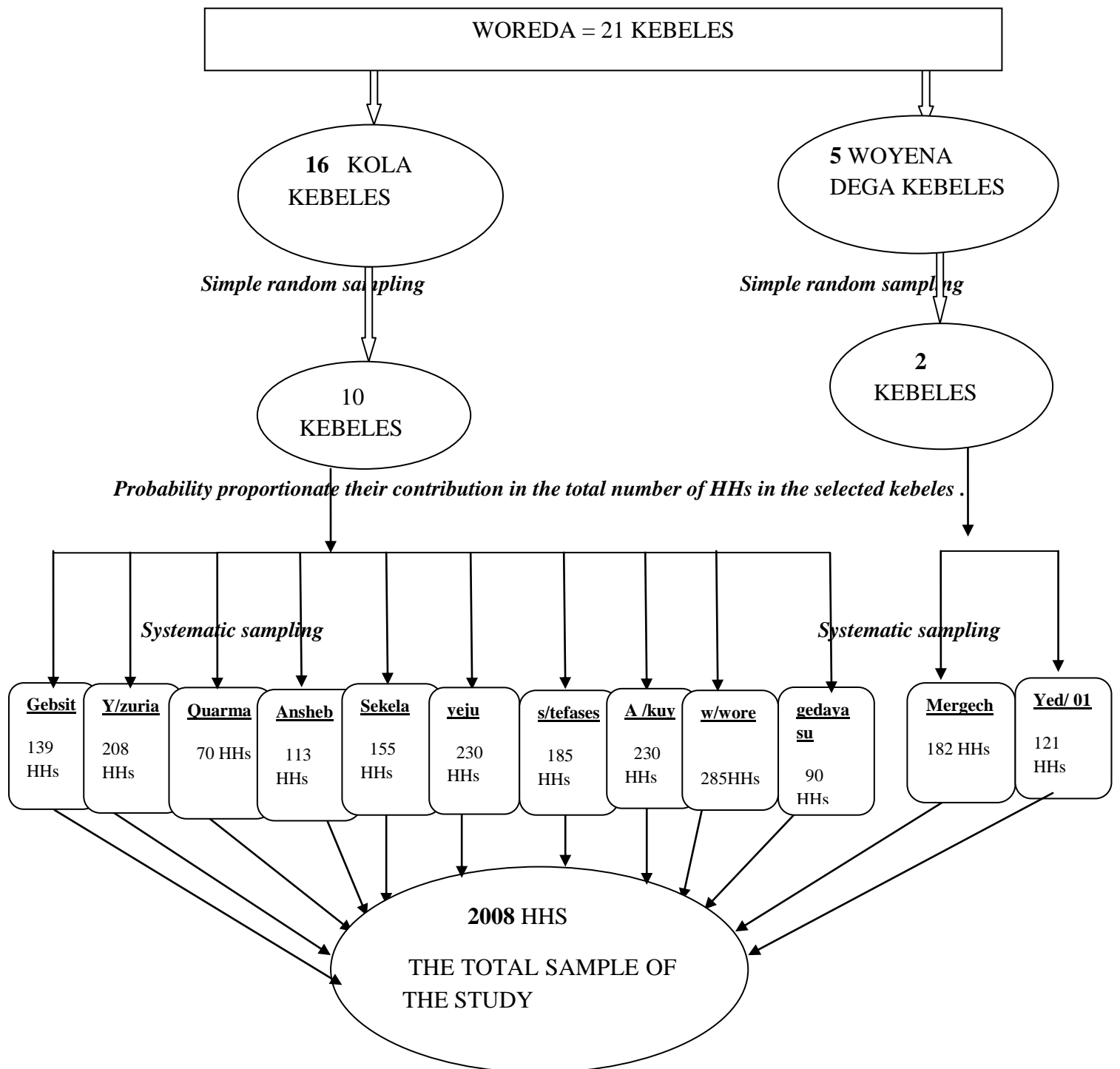


Figure 2: Schematic presentation of sampling technique of the survey

4.7 STUDY VARIABLES (MEASUREMENTS)

4.7.1 For quantitative part

Dependent

Attitude towards homicide

Homicide related practices

Independent:

Socio-demographic variables: age, sex, educational status, occupation, religion, marital status

Economic variables: number of oxen, presence of radio, roofing materials, monthly income

Behavioral variables: history of violence, substance / alcohol use, infidelity

Household variables: family size, number of dependent children, number of brothers, presence of fire arm,

Relationship variables: number of nephew, uncle, cousins (≥ 18 years) presence of victim or perpetrator families and relatives

4.7.2. For qualitative part

The expected themes which were explored using the FGDs/in-depth interviews were:-

Attitudes of participants towards homicide

Why and how of homicide

Perceived risks

Possible solutions to minimize homicide

4.8 DATA COLLECTION

4.8.1 PROCEDURES

For the household survey 15 interviewers were assigned in kebeles which were not their place of birth, after two days of training. The training was given by the principal investigator and addressed all the necessary ethical and technical issues in conducting the interviews. Establishing ease before delving into sensitive topics, asking follow-up or clarification questions (or probing), while avoiding an aggressive approach, building upon initially established rapport throughout the interview and how the informed consent is obtained and confidentiality issues were discussed in detail. The training was conducted using role plays and practical sessions. Guideline on how to use the questionnaire and conducting the interviews was attached to the questionnaire as a cover page.

Due to the sensitivity of the topic, the questionnaire was organized in a way that less sensitive questions set before more sensitive ones. A rapport was tried to be established between the data collectors and interviewee before starting interviews. Verbal and non-verbal probing and an informal way of discussing sensitive questions were the other methods used to avoid sense of being interrogated and to encourage disclosure. Whilst being non-collusive or consciously collusive in lessening the extent of interviewee's behavior were used to support disclosure and minimize embarrassment. The interviews were conducted anonymously in a confidential setting. Flexibility in the interview sessions was used to enhance fluctuation and unpredictability in dialogue, much like the dialogue in people's day-to-day lives. Reciprocal exchange (giving own secrets and getting theirs) was another skill to foster trust and reduce transaction costs associated with disclosing private details.

A selected household was re-visited in case of absence of adults during the survey. But in case of absence for second visits and involuntary to participate, non response was documented.

The participants for the FGDs and in-depth interviews had been informed and agreed on the date and place of the sessions many days before sessions and they had been reminded the day before the session. The FGDs took an average time of one hour and fifteen minutes and conducted in two health centers and one farmers' association hall. The sessions were conducted in quiet rooms to avoid embarrassment and disturbance from outside. The in-depth interviews took forty to sixty minutes and conducted in the participants' office. The participants had been informed to use anonymous if they need to and their information kept secret. Informed consent was asked verbally before the sessions. After obtaining consent from participants, both FGDs and in-depth interviews were tape-recorded. Notes were also been taken during the focus group discussions and in-depth interviews. Reflections about the overall process of a session were documented on the same day and transcribing audios was started immediately. The FGDs were moderated not to be dominated by few orators. The investigator made the sessions more interesting by probing relevant issues and avoiding boring talks systematically. There was only one session per day and a gap of at least two days between sessions was given to have time to transcribe the conducted sessions immediately. The in-depth interviews were conducted in a way that the interviewees feel it as an informal conversation rather than question and answer. The participants had a refreshment budget (4 birr per person). Side by side, police and justice records on homicide were retrieved.

4.8.2 DATA COLLECTORS AND TOOLS

A total of 15 at least 10th grade completed (11 grade 10 completed, 3 grade 12 completed and 1 had college diploma) youth were identified and recruited. The supervisors were 3 health officers and 1 nurse who were working at 4 different health centers.

A Semi- structured questionnaire was used for the quantitative survey which mainly focused on socio -demographic characteristics, attitudes and practices related to homicide which was prepared in English and was translated in to Amharic. Interview guides for FGDs and in-depth interviews were prepared in English. The questionnaire then had been back-translated into English by language experts to verify that the meaning was retained.

The questionnaire was pre tested 28 households only for debriefing purpose (too large sample size to use standard percentages) on similar kebeles which were not included in the study, by field supervisors before the training of data collectors, days before actual data collection. Each pre test interview was followed by debriefing. FGD interview guides were modified for different groups considering the social status and responsibility. It was refined to explore new concepts and themes which came later in the research process. In-depth interview guides were informed by the preliminary results of the FGDs and targeted the status of the respondent and refined during the process. The focus group discussions were moderated by the investigator and were assisted by a Health expert and in-depth interviews were conducted by the investigator. The issues the topic guides tried to address were the perception of people on homicide, why people in that particular area are being killed, their experiences, beliefs, firearm cultures and revenge to homicide. Both FGDs and in-depth interviews were tape recorded after a verbal consent of participants. The participants were informed the recording was only used for remembering what they said for later analysis.

Secondary data were collected using formats which mainly focused on, demographic characteristics of victims and perpetrators, reasons of murder. The secondary data were collected by police officers after they took orientation from the principal investigator.

4.9 OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS

Intentional homicide: - the definition used in this study, for intentional homicide is “unlawful death purposefully inflicted on a person by another person”. And can be interchangeably used with ‘**homicide**’. This definition contains three elements characterizing an intentional homicide:

- The killing of a person by another person (objective element).
- The intent of the perpetrator to kill the victim (subjective element).
- The intentional killing needs to be against the law; the law considers the perpetrator liable for intentional homicide (legal element). (adopted from UNODC 2011) (8).

Attitude towards homicide: - includes negative and positive attitudes about homicide and revenge fantasies and perceptions about risk, opinions what to do about, reasoning of homicide , who should do what on homicide related practices.

Positive attitudes towards homicide: - attitudes which accept revenge and who agree on the killing of family members of the perpetrator even though they were not part of the conflict and negative for other wise

Homicide related practices: - involving in practices like physical fighting, gunshots (cross fire) with someone, being victim of murder trial, attempt to murder and accused of murder.

Mental illness: - any visit to a health facility, holly water places or to witches for the purpose of illness related to their mental health.

Household: - Defined as a group of people normally sleeping under the same roof and preparing and eating together.

Victim family: - A family from which one or more of its members (father, mother, sister or brother) were killed.

Perpetrator families: - A family which one or more of its members (father, mother, sister or brother) perpetrated killing.

Murder trial: - a deadly injury due to any physical act, poison and gun shoot which let the victim survive even if it was supposed to be death by the perpetrator.

4.10 DATA QUALITY CONTROL

In addition to training of data collectors the questionnaire were pretested. Based on the pretest, necessary corrections were added like choices ‘fear of migration from birth place’ and ‘hot temperedness’ were added on the protectors and immediate triggers for homicide in the questionnaire. The quality of data had been monitored frequently both in the field and during data entry. All completed questionnaires were examined for completeness and consistency. This was done in the field through close supervision of interviewers. Four Supervisors and the

principal investigator did monitor the data quality. Data cleaning and edition were conducted starting from field work. A code book was prepared before data was entered into data base.

The FGD and in-depth interview guides were modified for each respondent's responsibility and based on saturation. The trustworthiness of the qualitative finding was increased by selection and training of assistant moderator, transcribing tapes word by word to minimize selective retention by the transcriber and preliminary analysis during data collection, storing list of categories and themes used, were among the strategies.

The data collection format for secondary data was modified based on the richness of the documents. Questionnaires, audio tapes and transcripts were documented for auditing which would increase the credibility of the findings. Finally, the researcher inquired the assistance of peer debriefing and mentoring from colleagues and the draft thesis were reviewed and criticized by advisors.

4.11 DATA PROCESSING AND ANALYSIS (MANAGEMENT)

The data, after cleaned and edited entered to SPSS version 16.0 for window database and cleaned and coded before analysis. Then the data were analyzed descriptively for socio demographic and other outcome measurements. The associated factors influencing attitudes towards homicide and risk factors to homicide related practices were analyzed using bivariate analysis in binary logistic regression for the presence of significance association and those which were significant at ($p < 0.05$) were entered in to multivariate logistic analysis to control the effect of each explanatory variable. Variable selection was made using backward Likelihood Ratio method and ninety five percent confidence limits with 5% significance level were employed where appropriate using SPSS version 16.0 for windows. Crude ratios with 95% CI were used to show the presence and strength of association between selected variables. The analysis was presented using tables and charts that did consider the main research questions.

The qualitative analysis was involved coding and classifying data (categorization). Each code was constantly compared to all other codes to identify similarities, differences, and general patterns. Thus, the extract of data that was informative in some way was identified from the transcripts and it was possible to sort out the important messages hidden in the mass of each interview and FGD. The themes and categories which were emerged in the analysis process had been used along with the structure of the results section of the report. The themes were presented in sections related to quantitative findings. Further evidence to support the findings was provided by direct quotations from respondents. The secondary data were used to calculate rate and to display the trends from 1993-2010. Additional information from 101 consecutive

homicides was used to explore the main reasons of killing in the study area. The ages of 397 perpetrators were also used to assess the age group who were highly involved in homicide.

5. ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS and DISSEMINATION PLAN

5.1. ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

All of the participants were treated in accordance to the ethical guidelines of the Ethiopian National Health Science and Technology Council sub-committee National Health Research Ethics Review Committee (NERC) and Jimma University Post Graduate School approved the proposal and a letter of permission was obtained before data collection.

When dealing with homicide experienced families, and in case participants might had hidden grief or feeling of anger and the interview might unleash painful emotions and memories in participants. So a lot of considerations were kept in mind. Given that the study was on homicide they might seen the discussion as investigation of crime. This was thoroughly discussed in the training sessions of data collectors. So to solve those ethical issues, the research was introduced as “why homicide is our problem?” Participation in the study was totally on voluntary basis. There was an informed consent form (Annexes 5-8) written in simple and plain language that was understandable to everyone to explain the basic nature of the study and obtain the agreement of the respondent to be interviewed. Measures had been taken to ensure confidentiality. Codes instead of names were used in questionnaires, secondary data retrieving formats and transcripts. The sessions were arranged in a quiet place relatively convenient for the participants. Permission had been secured from responsible leaders and offices in the study area. During data collection spot checks were made to be sure that the informed consent form was being used by the interviewers.

5.2. DISSEMINATION PLAN

The findings of the study will be submitted to Department of Epidemiology, College of Public Health and Medical Sciences, Jimma University. It will be disseminated to the participants and public through seminars and workshops in collaboration with responsible bodies. Attempt will be made to present findings in different conferences. Publishing the findings will be the other plan to make it available for use and to shade light on the context of homicide in rural settings in Ethiopia.

6. RESULTS

6.1. Socio demographic characteristics

The sample size of the survey was 2008, but 47 houses holds missed for different reasons and 12 respondents stopped somewhere in the interview so rejected from the analysis due to incompleteness, thus the analysis was based on 1949 completed questionnaires. A response rate of 97.1%

The majority of the respondents were males 1402 (71.9%), almost half 961(49.3%) of them were age greater or equals to 38 and most of them 1915(98.3%) were Orthodox Christians. The majority of respondents 1652(85.1%) were farmers by occupation, had no education 1171(60.1 %) and were married 1614 (82.8%) (Table1). The majority of the respondents 1715(88%) were house hold heads

The qualitative methods involve a total of 29 participants (9 in youth FGD, 8 in elderly FGD, 8 in community policing FGD and 2 in the in-depth interviews) there were only 2 female participants. The mean age of the youth FGD participants was 23.

The age of 397 charged perpetrators were also retrieved from the secondary data of police records. The age range was from a 10 year old child to an 83 year old man was involved in the killing of an individual. Thirty (7.6 %) of the perpetrators were from 10-18 years, 125(31.5%) were from 19-27 years, 147(37 %) were from 28-37 years, 51(12.8 %) were from 38-47 years and 44(11 %) were \geq 48 years of age. Nine (2.3%) of the perpetrators were females.

There were no available information on age of all victims but from the available records a minimum age of a victim was 2 years and the maximum was 81 years.

Table 1: Socio-demographic variables of respondents, Shebel Berenta Woreda, East Gojjam, North West Ethiopia, February – March 2012

Variables	Number (n=1949)	Percent
Sex		
Male	1402	71.8
Female	547	28.1
Age in years		
18-27	315	16.2
28-37	673	34.5
>= 38	961	49.3
Religion		
Orthodox	1915	98.3
Islam	31	1.5
Others	3	0.2
Educational status		
No education	1171	60
Read and write	341	17.5
Grades 1-4	175	9
Grades 5-8	161	8.3
Grades 9-12	82	4.2
College and above	19	1
Occupation		
Farmer	1658	85.1
House wife	70	3.6
Trade	106	5.4
Other/civil servant	115	5.9
Current marital status		
Not married yet	102	5.2
Married	1614	82.8
Separated	152	7.8
Widow/widower	81	4.2

The majority of respondents 1495 (76.7%) live in house built with corrugated iron sheet roofs but the majority 1039(69.5%) were built from 20-50 Corrugated iron sheets and 1402 (71.9%) households had 1-3 dependent children. Seven hundred twenty five (37.2%) of the households had a monthly income of less than or equal to 300ETB. 815(41.8%) of households had two or more oxen but 625 (32.1%) had no any plowing ox. About one-fifth (22.1%) of households had a radio to listen (Table 2).

Table 2 : Household variables of respondents, Shebel Berenta Woreda, East Gojjam, North West Ethiopia, February – March 2012

Variables	Number (n=1949)	Percent
Number of family members		
2-4	768	39.4
5-6	653	33.5
>=7	528	27.1
Number of children (< 18)		
1-3	1402	72
4-5	445	22.8
>=6	102	5.2
House roof type		
Corrugated iron sheet	1495	76.7
Thatched roof	454	23.3
Number of Corrugated iron sheet (n=1495)		
20-50	1039	69.5
51-70	367	24.5
71 and above	89	6
Average monthly income		
< = 300	724	37.2
301-500	294	15.2
501-1000	358	18.4
1001-1500	293	15
>1500	279	14.3
Number of oxen		
no any	625	32.1
only one	509	26.1
two or more	815	41.8
Presence of radio		
Yes	430	22.1
No	1519	77.9

The majority of the respondents 1542 (79.1%) used to drink alcoholic beverages like ‘tella’, ‘areke’ and beer with different frequencies and the largest frequency 616 (39.9%) were those who drink 1-2 times per week. Three hundred forty six (22.5%) of respondents who used to drink alcohol had history of being drunk. 144 (40.4%) of them had an experience of verbal insult or physical fighting after drunk. Six hundred sixty one (33.9%) of respondents had been in health facility, holly water places or witchcraft to be cured from mental illness (Table 3).

Table 3 : Behavioral variables of respondents, Shebel Berenta Woreda, East Gojjam, North West Ethiopia, February – March 2012

Variables	Number	Percent
Drink alcohol (n=1949)		
Yes	1542	79.1
No	407	20.9
How frequent do you drink? (n=1542)		
Daily	245	15.9
1-2 times a week	616	39.9
1-3 times/month	440	28.5
Less than 1 times/month	136	8.8
Don't know	104	6.8
No response	1	0.1
History of drunk (n= 1539)		
Yes	346	22.5
No	1183	76.8
Don't know	9	0.6
No response	1	0.1
History of fighting/ verbal insult after drunk (n=356)		
Yes	144	40.4
No	204	57.3
Don't know	6	1.7
No response	2	0.6
Mental illness (n= 1949)		
Yes	661	33.9
No	1278	65.6
Don't know	10	0.5

6.2. Prevalence of Homicide

The life time prevalence of homicide was measured from the households with victim families in the survey. From the total 1909 households in the survey 220 (11.5%) of the respondents told the presence of victims of homicide in their families, with 40 respondents excluded who didn't know or did not respond about it. At about equivalent to victim families 235 (12.1%) of the respondents admitted that they had perpetrator family member of homicide. with 10 respondents excluded who say they did not know about it (Table 4).

Table 4: Prevalence/experience of homicide in the respondents families/in the household/, Shebel Berenta Woreda, East Gojjam, North West Ethiopia, February – March 2012

Variables	Yes N (%)	No N (%)	Don't know N	No response N
Have victim families	220(11.3)	1689(86.7)	37	3
Have perpetrator families	235(12.1)	1704(87.4)	10	

6.3. Reasons, triggers and protectors of homicide

Seven hundred thirty six (37.8%) of the respondents thought homicide is a problem in their kebele/village. There were also 118 (6.1%) respondents who said they didn't know about this and other 10 didn't respond. The overall homicide problem in the district as one of the key informants in the in-depth interview explained:-

“There are only two crimes always occurring in this area; the first majority is violence (physical fighting) and the second majority is homicide. Other crimes like theft and robbery are rare events in this woreda/district...”

Eight hundred ninety seven (46%) of respondents said that homicide is acceptable for some conditions. Respondents were probed to specify some of the conditions/reasons they believed homicide to be justified as the right measure to be taken as a solution of conflict. Given that multiple responses were possible, 1278 votes (24.3 %) were given for red-handing a man having sex with own wife (Figure 3).

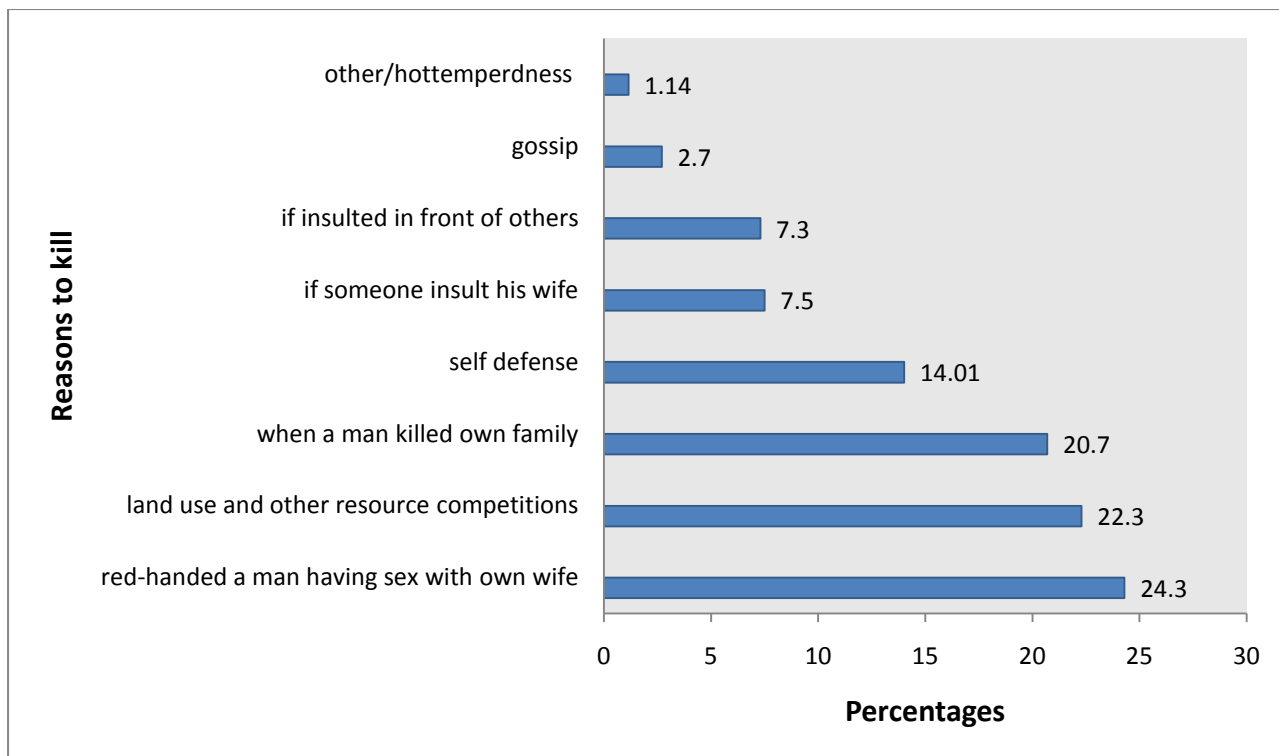
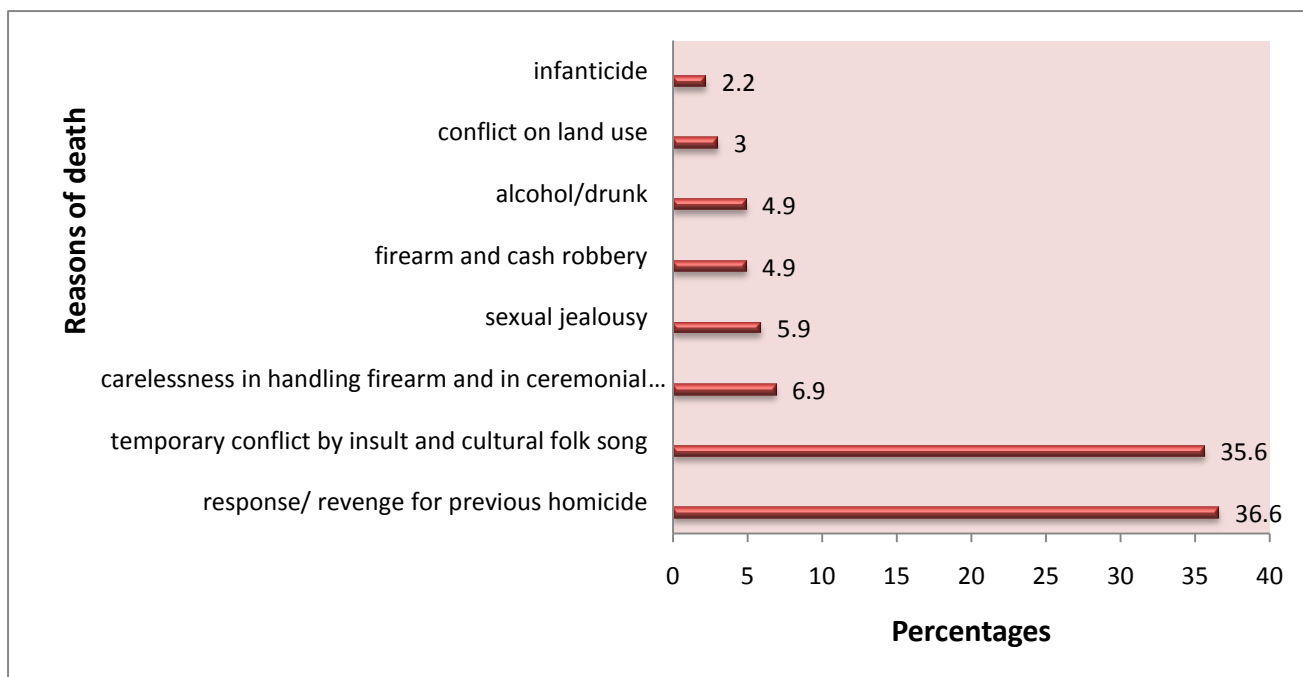


Figure 3: Conditions/ reasons on which respondents believed homicide is justified as the right measure to be taken as a solution of conflict, Shebel Berenta Woreda, East Gojjam, North West Ethiopia, February – March 2012

A secondary data analysis was conducted on 101 recent consecutive homicides from police records to explore the main reasons of killing in the study area and it was found that 37 (36.6 %) of the homicides were conducted as response/ revenge for previous homicide and about equal to that 36 (35.6 %) were due to immediate conflict by insult and cultural folk song (Figure 4).



(Source: Shebel Berenta Woreda Police Office records)

Figure 4: Percentage of 101 consecutive homicides by reasons of death, Shebel Berenta Woreda, East Gojjam, North West Ethiopia.

The qualitative methods were also used to gain the contexts and reasons of why people kill in the study area. There were expressions of how complex were the causes/ reasons of killing in the study area.

“...we can’t say this or that is the reason of killing in this area...there is scarcity of plowing land ...an inch touch of the neighbor plowing land may end in killings, there are guys who want to take other’s firearm from their hand...if there is no job... whatever ... you may do unnecessary things...this is I think un solvable. There are also cultural folk songs ‘fukera’ in this area and things may end badly. ... there are also people who kill if someone married his divorced wife specially if he is his relative or neighborhood...in small towns where we drink alcohol and search for a sex mate we are always in competition... if she is beautiful everything around will be worse ...” (youth FGD participant, age 19, Male)

Another opinion was forwarded from an elderly male of age 52 (Elderly and religious leaders FGD)

“I think the government is responsible for this... why is officials hear gossips of some guys?! ...if someone informs them there is hidden firearm they just came to your house... but the informer will be known after a while and then he will pay....” (Anger reflected in his voice tone).

A community militia member age 34 insist on the effect of the culture, alcohol and illiteracy

“...the main problem is our old tradition...if someone killed my brother I should kill him or his closes ...unless you can't insult with anyone else! ...because they will tell you to work on your hangovers!...as your brother blood is in your hand. So you will be initiated and forced to kill for revenge ...because we are illiterate ...additionally in market days there is alcohol and females thenat the end of the day... insults will be changed in to fights, fights upgrade to shootings and ...” (Community policing and kebele leaders FGD)

A community policing officer worked in 4 different kebeles for the past 3 years explained the reasons behind killings in the area.

“As my experience conflicts on plowing and grazing land, cultural festivities and folk songs, insults after alcohol drink in market days and sometimes sexual competition on females in town areas are among the reasons ...but if there is prior homicide, revenge will be the most an avoidable cause”. (Community policing and kebele leaders FGD)

An expert view was forwarded in the in-depth interview with a key informant who worked for 5 years in the area and had an opportunity to work in many districts in the region.

“The people in this area are honest...obey for the rule of law...I worked here for five years...I know other places too...there is one thing here... the public is hot tempered! For every minor problem they need to take a retaliation action ...but after that they will come to you and be under the rule of law. As it is known and I approved in my stay here, the people upgrade minor conflicts in to a major life threatening situation. What makes this area unusual is that there is female and child killing for revenge. I knew a child untied from her mother's back and shoot dead. According to their culture, there should be another death form the enemy side to be buried on the same date. Most of the revenge killings were happened within a few days after the first killings. Only a few happened

years after...so if someone kill their close relatives they will kill someone who is far and didn't hear what happened there...that will be before the funeral of their dead relatives. But if that anger time passed they usually obey to the rule of law.

As I think the area is hot... they lack to solve things easily ...for a word of insult they immediately respond with fight with wood stick or shootings. They usually talked about honors, as heroes like Belay Zeleke was from this area, in relation to this fighting and aggressiveness are acceptable culture and they respond fast and with courage, they never hesitate back. Due to this even they do not care for witness and they kill at any time at any place and they did not deny their act, unlike other places.”

Extending on the conditions/reasons they believed homicide to be justified, respondents in the survey had been asked about their perception on immediate causes or triggers for a perpetrator to kill, given that multiple responses were possible the largest votes 1583 (40.8 %) were for alcohol use and the second majority 902 (23.3 %) were for sexual jealousy (Figure 5).

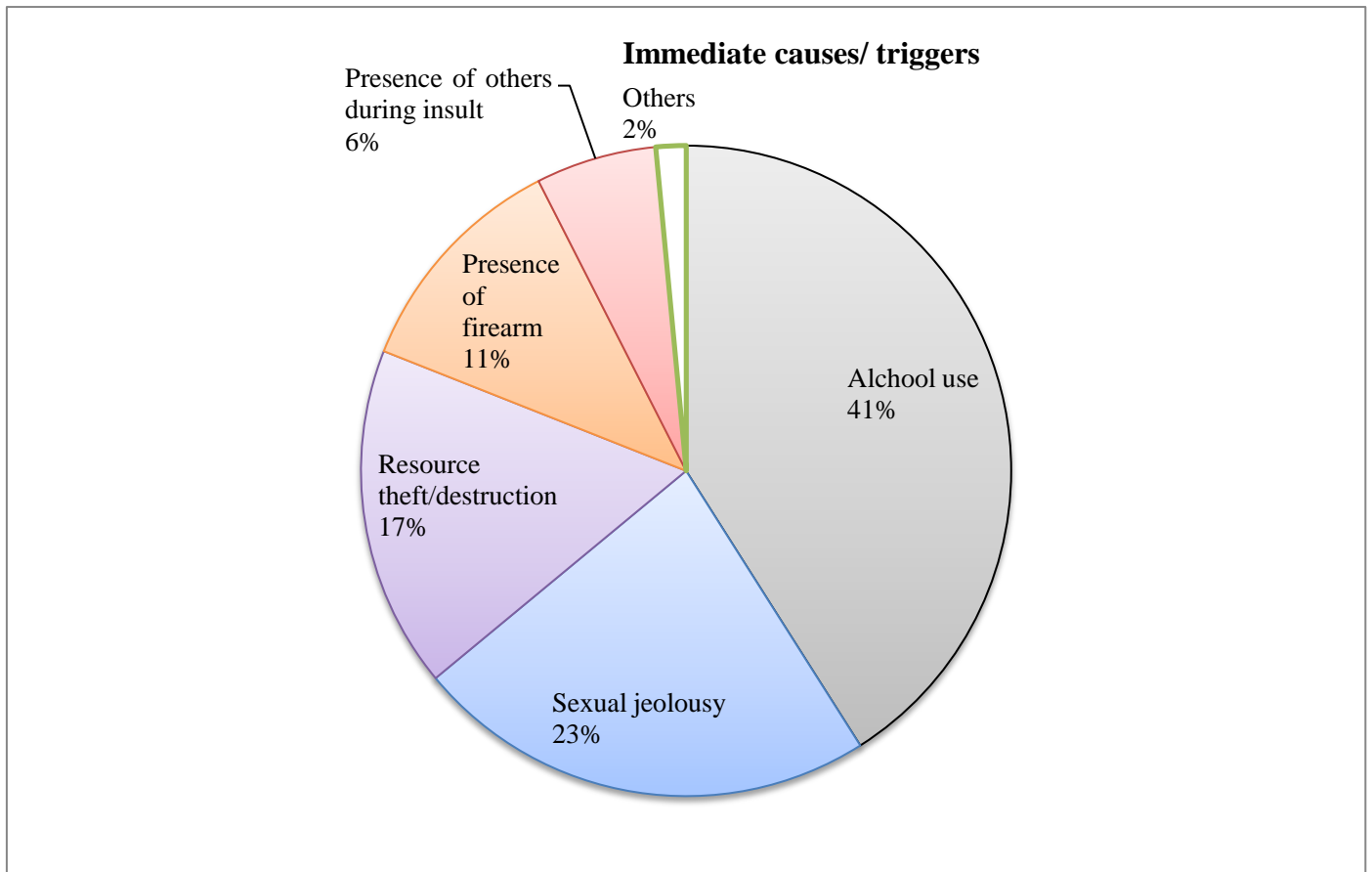


Figure 5: Percentages of triggers of homicide, Shebel Berenta Woreda, East Gojjam, North West Ethiopia, February – March 2012

On the other hand, there were also probing on the protectors or reasons which may protect/hinder perpetrators not to kill. That means the reasons which can prevent the will be killers from committing the act of homicide. The largest votes 1417 (29.1 %) said the number of his dependent children and the second largest 1030 (21.2 %) voted having high material possessions were among the protectors of an individual not to kill (Figure 6).

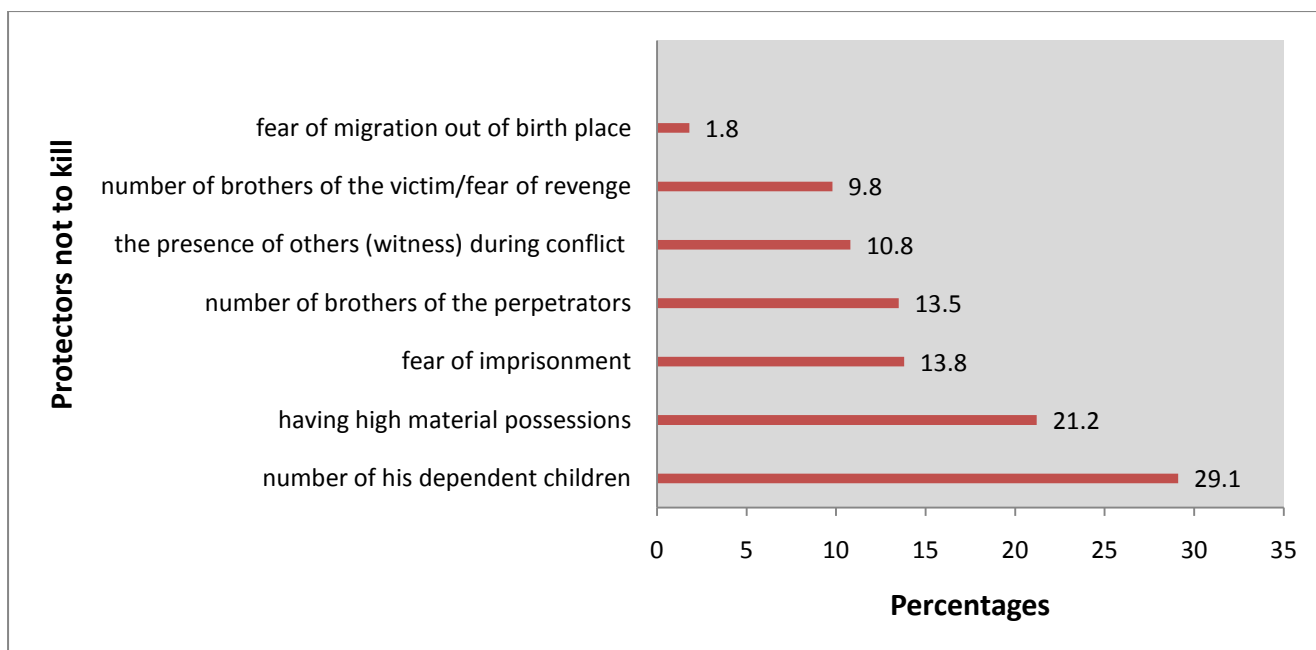


Figure 6: Respondents’ perceptions on factors that may hinder the perpetrator not to kill, Shebel Berenta Woreda, East Gojjam, North West Ethiopia, February – March 2012

6.4. Perception /Attitudes towards Homicide

Eight hundred ninety seven (46%) of respondents said that homicide is acceptable for some conditions but the majority of respondents 1247 (64%) thought ‘killing for revenge’ is not acceptable norm. Nine hundred forty one (48.3%) of respondents said that there is a cultural influence which forces/ encourages an individual to kill (Table 5).

The attitude of FGD participants were also explored on what to do if their brother or close relative were killed and most of the participants agree on the unavoidability of revenge.

“If someone kills my brother... it is a must to kill. Unless how would I live in the area? ...it is like an epidemic it will never end by that...” (Elderly age 47)

In the youth FGD 5 participants said they will revenge with fight for an injury to their brother due to fighting and kill for revenge if he dies. Two of them point out that they do not revenge for injuries due to fight but if the case is homicide they will kill if immediately, but if time passed they will charge their enemy instead. The other two participants totally disagree with this and they said they only do what will be legal and peaceful because they think it is not right to kill human beings and they said they are also afraid of being killed.

The experience of police officers was explained:-

“What we usually faced is, the families of victims don’t want to charge the perpetrator the reason behind is they don’t want to miss him... if he is in prison they will be very disappointed” (A community policing officer 3 years experience).

In the survey, a more specific question was asked on the families of the perpetrator, whether they should be killed or not even though they were not participated in the conflict between the victim and the perpetrator. Three hundred seventy five (19.2%) of respondents agreed that families of the perpetrator should be killed for revenge even though they were not part of the conflict between the victim and the perpetrator. But the vast majority 1496 (76.8%) did not agreed on this point (Table 5).

About half 961 (49.3%) of the respondents perceived that they are at risk of being killed and about equal to their risk perception half 973 (49.9%) of the respondents believed the importance of firearm for their security (Table 5).

Table 5: Perception/attitude of respondents, Shebel Berenta Woreda, East Gojjam, North West Ethiopia, February – March 2012

Variables	Yes N (%)	No N (%)	Don’t know N	No response N
Is homicide acceptable in some conditions?	897(46)	991(50.8)	56	5
Culture influences an individual to kill?	941(48.3)	981(50.3)	27	
Homicide revenge is an acceptable norm	660(33.9)	1247(64)	39	3
The family of the perpetrator should be killed Even though they were not part of the conflict?	375(19.2)	1496(76.8)	70	8
Are you at risk of homicide?	961(49.3)	949(48.7)	36	3
Firearm important for security?	973(49.9)	961(49.3)	14	1

The interest on firearm was reflected in the qualitative findings too. All except one of the 9 youth FGD participants agree on the need of firearm for security of their lives.

But one of the participants age 23 raised an idea:-

“I think fire arm is important but as we know it initiate to kill. So what I suggest is either all of us should have it (government shall distribute) or no one should have it because during conflicts, even the government militias target the mouth towards his rivals not to his relatives, (Looking sad and surprised).”

Two community policing officers added comments on it:-

“As to Shebel , they need to have firearm than building house before they got married , we know that the unregistered firearms are more than the registered and we couldn't control it ...because they will come with one hiding two in other places, with no evidence how could you manage it?...”(age 34, 5years working experience in the area).

Another community policing officer added

“Having firearm is an honor in this area even those who are hired to work for other farmers desperately need to buy firearm than buying oxen” (age 27 worked for 3 years in the area).

A key informant explained the same themes on the issue during an in-depth interview

“As I worked in many other districts in the region ...and tell you comparing with other areas, in this area farmers who had only one ox sold that ox and buy firearm, where as in other areas people are trying to raise their children. Love to firearm is a long tradition in the area, the reason behind is, most of the people are targets or have targets of blood revenge at different directions. In other districts people need firearm for their cattle and properties protection but in this area no such crimes. The only reason is for own protection. We expect that even if they register for one firearm there will be at least another illegal. We had the highest number of registered and legalized firearms in the region but we still expect there will be 40 % kept hide in the community”

Respondents were asked their suggestions to other victim families about what measures should they mainly took if their family member is killed and 917(47%) of the respondents suggested that ‘killing for revenge’ is the right measure to be mainly taken by sons/brothers/relatives (victim families) of homicide, for their killed brothers /their relatives (Table 6).

Similar questions were forwarded to the respondents, at this time they were asked what will they are going to do if violent acts and homicide were done to their families. Consistent to their suggestions for other people 851 (43.7%) of respondents said that they will kill for revenge if

homicide is done to someone close to them and 847(43.5%) of respondents said that ‘charging the perpetrator’ will be the main option they will took. In addition to this when violent acts were the issue 466(23.9%) admitted they will fight for revenge but the majority 1026(52.6%) of respondents said they will charge the perpetrator. In cases, if there is no witness of who killed their brother/ father/relatives and they are unable to charge their enemy, respondents were asked their suggestions to other people on the main measure to be taken, the majority of respondents 1442 (74%) suggested ‘leaving for God’, as the main option that victim families /brother/father/relatives/ should do (Table 6).

Table 6: Intention /suggestion of respondents, Shebel Berenta Woreda, East Gojjam, North West of Ethiopia, February – March 2012

Variables	Number (n=1949)	Percent
What shall victim families do for their killed beloved one?		
Kill for revenge	917	47
Charging the perptrator	913	46.8
Other /peace resolution	61	3.2
Don’t know	47	2.4
No response	11	0.6
What shall victim families do if there is no witness?		
Killing suspected perptrator	170	8.7
Witnessing falsly	276	14.1
Leaving for God	1442	74
Don’t know	44	2.3
No response	17	0.9
What do you do if violent act is done to someone close to you?		
Fight for revenge	466	24
Charging the perptraror	1026	52.6
Leaving for God	416	21.3
Don’t know	28	1.4
No response	13	0.7
What do you do if homicide is done to someone close to you?		
Killing suspected perptrator	851	43.7
Witnessing falsly on suspected killer	847	43.5
Leaving for God	217	11
Don’t know	27	1.3
No response	7	0.5

The usual targets of revenge for homicide according to the respondent's perception were probed with the possibility of multiple responses and the majority 1868 (70.9 %) of the respondents said the perpetrator himself (Figure 7).

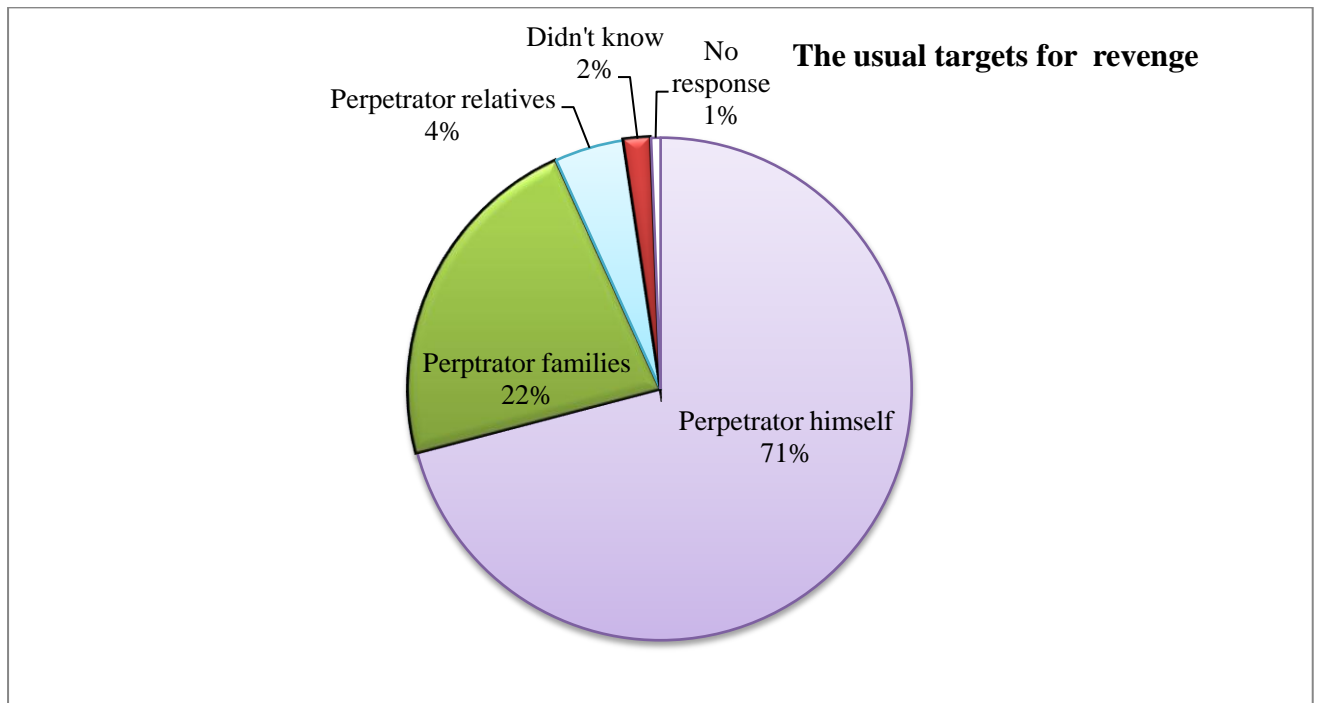


Figure 7: The usual targets for revenge according to the respondents' perspectives, Shebel Berenta Woreda, East Gojjam, North West Ethiopia, February – March 2012

The qualitative methods and secondary data from police records were also used to explore the usual targets of revenge in the study area. Most of the opinions and attitudes explored on the targets for revenge were similar except a few:

“If I were I wouldn’t kill anyone else I will kill the perpetrator himself ... I do not kill others” (A 24 year old male, youth FGD).

“...I don’t agree on this...what do you get from the killing of him? Even if he is the perpetrator he shall live!” (18 years’ old, male, from youth FGD).

“...of course he shall live but he should be imprisoned and even if he finished his imprisonment and it will be resolved in peace, he shouldn’t live in the area he should at

least cross a big river... away from his original place... I will be hot tempered when I see him and will be difficult to pass” (participant in youth FGD age 27).

A more comprehensive over view was explored from a key informant in the in-depth interview (worked for 5 years in the area):-

“If it is immediately after first death there will not be choices, children, females, and elderly will be killed if the perpetrator is not there. The age ranges from 2 year-up to 81year olds. But if the time passed, they usually made choices, someone who have power, material or other advantages for the perpetrators will be targeted to make the revenge a complete satisfying, on the other hand if there is someone they fear that he will be a security problem when they kill others, he will be killed first. The targets may even extend up to son- in- laws and brother- in-laws, the thing is, they should be closes and advantageous for the perpetrator”.

6.5. Factors Associated with Attitudes of Adults towards Homicide

Socio demographic and other household variables and experiences had been tested for association with three selected indicators for attitude towards homicide.

Acceptability of homicide in some conditions, acceptability of revenge culture and more specifically the attitude of respondents on the point that ‘families of the perpetrator should be killed even though they were not part of the conflict between the perpetrator and the victim’ were used as indicators to explore some factors affecting the attitude of respondents on homicide.

Educational status, marital status, monthly income, drinking alcohol, mental illness, believing the influence of culture and believing being at risk of homicide were significantly associated with attitude on homicide acceptability in some conditions after controlling for the effect of other variables.

Those who had no education [AOR (95% CI) = 4.407(1.097, 17.708)] were 4.4 times , who only read and write [AOR (95% CI) = 4.290(1.053, 17.478)] were 4.3 times , who achieved grades 1-4 [AOR (95% CI) = 4.190(1.009, 17.400)] were 4.2 times and who achieved grades 5-8 [AOR (95% CI) = 4.770(1.147, 19.829)] were 4.8 times more likely to support homicide in some conditions than who achieved college and above. Those who were separated [AOR (95% CI) =

0.527(0.526, 0.855)] were by 47% less likely to support homicide than who were widow/widower. Those who live in houses built with corrugated iron sheet roofs [AOR (95% CI) = 0.671(0.526, 0.825)] were by approximately 33% less likely to support homicide than those who lived in houses built with thatched roofs. Consistently, those who earn less than or equals to 300 ETB/month [AOR (95% CI) = 1.616(1.168, 2.237)] were 1.6 times more supportive of homicide in any condition than those who earn 1500 ETB/month. Similarly, and with caution because there may be linear trend, those who earn 301-500 ETB/month [AOR (95% CI)=2.731(1.878, 3.972)] 2.7 times ,those who earn 501-1000 ETB/month [AOR (95% CI) = 2.170(1.520, 3.097)] 2.2 times and who earn 1001-1500 ETB/month [AOR (95% CI) = 3.981(2.736, 5.794)] were approximately 4 times more supportive of homicide in some condition than those who earn greater than 1500 ETB/month. Generally, those at lower monthly income were more likely to support homicide in some condition than those who earned greater than 1500 ETB/month. Those who drink alcohol [AOR (95% CI) = 1.851(1.418, 2.416)] were 1.9 times, who had mental illness [AOR (95% CI) = 1.447(1.159, 1.808)] were one and half times and who believe there is influence of culture [AOR (95% CI) = 2.629(2.133, 3.239)] were 2.6 times more likely to support homicide than those who were not. On the other hand those who believe they are at risk of homicide [AOR (95% CI) = 0.525(0.422, 0.653)] were by approximately 46% less likely to support homicide in some conditions than those who don't believe they are at risk of homicide (Table 7).

Even if they were not significant in the multivariate model, age group 28-37 [COR (95% CI) =1.23(1.001, 1.495)] were more supportive of acceptability of homicide than age group >=38. Males [COR (95% CI) = 1.540(1.252, 1.893)] were also more likely to support homicide than females. Those who said they need firearm [COR (95% CI) = 1.226(1.022, 1.469)] were on the direction of supporting homicide than those who need not. Those who had perpetrator family [COR (95% CI) = 1.375(1.043, 1.813)] were also showed in the direction to support homicide in some conditions than those who had no perpetrator family (Table 7).

Table 7: Relationship between socio-demographic and other selected variables and homicide acceptability in some conditions, Shebel Berenta Woreda, East Gojjam, North West Ethiopia, February – March 2012

Independent variables	Is homicide acceptable in some conditions?		Crude OR (95% CI)	Adjusted ** OR (95% CI)
	Yes	No		
Age in years				
18-27	125	176	0.815(0.626, 1.060)	0.820(0.596, 1.129)
28-37	337	316	1.23(1.001, 1.495)*	1.189(0.951, 1.487)
>= 38	435	499	1.00	1.00
Sex				
male	696	686	1.540(1.252, 1.893)*	1.148(0.864, 1.525)
female	201	305	1.00	1.00
Occupation				
farmer	793	820	1.473(0.994, 2.181)	1.009(0.609, 1.671)
housewives	28	35	1.218(0.652, 2.278)	0.942(0.455, 1.951)
trade	32	69	0.706(0.401,1.244)	0.617(0.325, 1.172)
others/civil servant	44	67	1.00	1.00
Educational status				
No education	548	583	2.632(0.942, 7.356)	4.407(1.097, 17.708)*
Read and write	167	161	2.904(1.023, 8.248)*	4.290(1.053, 17.478)*
Grades 1-4	78	95	2.299(0.793, 6.663)	4.190(1.009, 17.400)*
Grades 5-8	73	85	2.405(0.827, 6.996)	4.770(1.147, 19.829)*
Grades 9-12	26	53	1.374(0.446, 4.226)	2.946(0.675, 12.858)
College and above	5	14	1.00	1.00
Marital status				
not married yet	45	53	0.849(0.464,1.554)	1.177(0.580, 2.391)
married	761	809	0.941(0.590,1.500)	0.981(0.584, 1.648)
separated	54	92	0.587(0.333,1.034)	0.527(0.526, 0.855)*
widow/widower	37	37	1.00	1.00
Roof type				
CIS	656	798	0.658(0.531, 0.817)*	0.671(0.526, 0.825)*
thatched roof	241	193	1.00	1.00
Monthly income				
< = 300	277	423	1.261(0.942, 1.688)	1.616(1.168, 2.237)*
301-500	159	124	2.469(1.753, 3.477)*	2.731(1.878, 3.972)*
501-1000	174	167	2.006(1.446, 2.783)*	2.170(1.520, 3.097)*
1001-1500	193	96	3.871(2.730, 5.490)*	3.981(2.736, 5.794)*
>1500	94	181	1.00	1.00

*significant at p<0.05

**adjusted: for other selected variables

Table 7: continued

Independent variables	Is homicide acceptable in some conditions?		Crude OR (95% CI)	Adjusted** OR (95% CI)
	Yes	No		
Radio				
yes	209	208	1.144(0.920, 1.422)	1.174(0.911, 1.513)
no	688	783	1.00	1.00
Drink alcohol				
yes	768	730	2.129(1.684, 2.690)*	1.851(1.418, 2.416)*
no	129	261	1.00	1.00
Mental illness				
yes	334	312	1.301(1.075, 1.575)*	1.447(1.159, 1.808)*
no	557	677	1.00	1.00
Culture influence				
yes	535	381	2.372(1.970, 2.857)*	2.629(2.133, 3.239)*
no	354	598	1.00	1.00
At risk of homicide				
yes	412	526	0.753(0.627, 0.904)*	0.525(0.422, 0.653)*
no	467	449	1.00	1.00
Firearm is important				
yes	475	474	1.226(1.022, 1.469)*	1.017(0.810, 1.278)
no	417	510	1.00	1.00
Ever have firearm				
yes	149	135	1.259(0.928, 1.621)	1.150(0.856, 1.544)
no	748	853	1.00	1.00
Have victim family				
yes	107	108	1.148(0.863, 1.525)	1.022(0.721, 1.449)
no	758	878	1.00	1.00
Have perpetrator family				
yes	126	105	1.375(1.043, 1.813)*	1.333(0.979, 1.815)
no	768	880	1.00	1.00
Ever witness homicide				
yes	73	81	0.996(0.716, 1.385)	0.971(0.653, 1.445)
no	820	906	1.00	1.00

*significant at p<0.05

**adjusted: for other selected variables

Occupation and some variables which were positively associated with ‘homicide acceptability’ (monthly income, firearm need, believing on the influence of culture and ever witnessing homicide) had a similarly statistically significant association with the dependent variable ‘acceptability of revenge as a culture’. But the others had no association in this case.

Farmers [AOR (95% CI) = 2.297(1.415, 3.730)] were 2.3 times more likely to support revenge for homicide than others/civil servants. Those who earn less than 300 ETB/month [AOR (95% CI) = 1.676(1.210, 2.321)] were also 1.7 times more likely to support revenge for homicide than those who earn greater than 1500 ETB/month. Those who believe on the influence of culture [AOR (95% CI) = 1.421(1.155, 1.749)] were 1.4 times more likely to support revenge for homicide than those who do not believe. Those who said they need firearm [AOR (95% CI) = 1.651(1.332, 2.047)] for their security approximately 1.7 times more likely to support revenge as a culture than those who need not and those who witnessed homicide [AOR (95% CI) = 1.809(1.246, 2.626)] were 1.8 times more likely to support revenge than those who didn’t witnessed (Table 8).

Inconsistent to the association with ‘homicide acceptability’ in the bivariate analysis mental illness [COR (95% CI) = 0.816(0.667, 0.998)] had showed on the direction of less supporting revenge (Table 8).

Table 8: Relationship between socio-demographic and other selected variables and revenge acceptability, Shebel Berenta Woreda, East Gojjam, North West Ethiopia, February – March 2012

Independent variables	Is revenge acceptable norm?		Crude OR (95% CI)	Adjusted ** OR (95% CI)
	Yes	No		
Age in years				
18-27	106	200	0.968(0.738, 1.269)	0.839(0.607, 1.159)
28-37	220	437	0.919(0.745, 1.134)	0.877(0.698, 1.102)
>= 38	334	410	1.00	1.00
Sex				
male	478	906	1.012(0.819, 1.250)	0.797(0.621, 1.024)
female	182	341	1.00	1.00
Occupation				
farmer	585	1034	1.802(1.156, 2.810)*	2.297(1.415, 3.730)*
housewives	15	55	0.869(0.424, 1.778)	1.024(0.481, 2.183)
trade	33	72	1.460(0.803, 2.653)	1.348(0.715, 2.543)
others/civil servant	27	86	1.00	1.00
Educational status				
No education	401	740	2.890(0.837, 9.978)	1.586(0.319, 7.595)
Read and write	116	222	2.787(0.796, 9.760)	1.673(0.335, 8.354)
Grades 1-4	52	118	2.350(0.656, 8.416)	1.380(0.271, 7.016)
Grades 5-8	60	97	3.299(0.922, 11.799)	2.016(0.402, 10.112)
Grades 9-12	28	54	2.765(0.743, 10.299)	1.673(0.325, 8.624)
College and above	3	16	1.00	1.00
Marital status				
not married yet	43	58	1.572(0.847, 2.915)	1.840(0.918, 3.690)
married	544	1039	1.110(0.682, 1.806)	1.148(0.661, 1.994)
separated	48	97	1.049(0.583, 1.889)	1.138(0.597, 2.169)
widow/widower	25	53	1.00	1.00
Roof type				
CIS	513	956	1.062(0.848, 1.331)	0.999(0.776, 1.287)
thatched roof	147	291	1.00	1.00
Monthly income				
<= 300	284	419	1.285(0.962, 1.716)	1.676(1.210, 2.321)*
301-500	91	193	0.894(0.629, 1.270)	1.025(0.703, 1.494)
501-1000	110	244	0.855(0.612, 1.194)	0.946(0.662, 1.353)
1001-1500	79	209	0.717(0.501, 1.025)	0.785(0.538, 1.144)
>1500	96	182	1.00	1.00

*significant at $p < 0.05$

**adjusted: for other selected variables

Table 8: continued

Independent variables	Is revenge acceptable norm?		Crude OR (95% CI)	Adjusted** OR (95% CI)
	Yes	No		
Radio				
yes	139	288	0.888(0.707, 1.117)	0.948(0.735, 1.224)
no	521	959	1.00	1.00
Drink alcohol				
yes	535	980	1.166(0.920, 1.478)	1.135(0.864, 1.490)
no	125	267	1.00	1.00
Mental illness				
yes	206	444	0.816(0.667, 0.998)*	0.815(0.655, 1.014)
no	452	795	1.00	1.00
Culture influence				
yes	348	581	1.289(1.066, 1.559)*	1.421(1.155, 1.749)*
no	303	652	1.00	1.00
At risk of homicide				
yes	335	615	1.072(0.886, 1.297)	1.020(0.814, 1.280)
no	310	610	1.00	1.00
Firearm is important				
yes	377	580	1.523(1.258, 1.843)*	1.651(1.332, 2.047)*
no	280	656	1.00	1.00
Ever have firearm				
yes	98	187	0.986(0.756, 1.285)	0.885(0.656, 1.193)
no	562	1057	1.00	1.00
Have victim family				
yes	81	135	1.176(0.877, 1.578)	1.027(0.727, 1.451)
no	558	1094	1.00	1.00
Have perpetrator family				
yes	78	155	0.946(0.708, 1.265)	0.750(0.544, 1.035)
no	578	1087	1.00	1.00
Ever witness homicide				
yes	70	84	1.652(1.185, 2.304)*	1.809(1.246, 2.626)*
no	585	1160	1.00	1.00

*significant at p<0.05

**adjusted: for other selected variables

Respondents' attitude on killing of the perpetrator families even though they were not part of the conflict between the victim and perpetrator was significantly associated with occupation, monthly income, believing on the influence of culture, perceived risk of homicide, firearm need and ever witnessing homicide.

Consistent to the association with revenge acceptability, farmers [AOR (95% CI) =2.610(1.339, 5.087)] were 2.6 times more likely to support the killing of perpetrator families considering they were not part of the conflict between the victim and the perpetrator than others/civil servants. The association of monthly income in this case was inconsistent to the association with homicide acceptability and revenge acceptability, those who earned 301-500 ETB/month [AOR (95% CI) =0.562(0.359, 0.879)], 501-1000 ETB/month [AOR (95% CI) =0.492(0.323, 0.750)] and 1001-1500 [AOR (95% CI) = 0.543(0.353, 0.837)] were generally less supportive of the killing of perpetrator families than those who earned greater than 1500 birr per month. Consistent to both acceptability of homicide and supporting revenge, those who believe on the influence of culture [AOR (95% CI) = 1.374(1.062, 1.778)] were approximately 1.4 times more likely to support the killing of perpetrators' families than those who didn't believe. Consistent to accepting homicide in some conditions, those who believed they are being at risk of homicide [AOR (95% CI) = 1.892(1.436, 2.493)] were 1.9 times and who need firearm for security [AOR (95% CI) = 1.360(1.036, 1.785)] were 1.4 times more likely to support the killing of perpetrators' families, than those who were/need not. Consistent to supporting revenge those who ever witnessed homicide [AOR (95% CI) = 3.364(2.310, 4.898)] were approximately 3.4 times more likely to agree on the killing of the perpetrator families even if they were not part of the conflict, than those who were not (Table 9).

In the bivariate analysis the directions of the associations generally indicate males were 1.3 times more supportive on the killing of the families of the perpetrator than females. Ever having firearm, having a victim of homicide in the family and having a perpetrator in the family were also indicated above 1.8 and above times more supportive of the killing of perpetrator families than those who had not (Table 9).

Table 9: Relationship between socio-demographic and other selected variables and supporting killing of perpetrator families Shebel Berenta Woreda, East Gojjam, North West Ethiopia, February – March 2012

Independent variables	Families of the perpetrator should be killed even though		Crude OR (95% CI)	Adjusted ** OR (95% CI)
	Yes	No		
...				
Age in years				
18-27	63	239	0.967(0.703, 1.331)	1.285(0.877, 1.282)
28-37	115	534	0.790(0.612, 1.021)	0.878(0.660, 1.167)
>= 38	197	723	1.00	1.00
Sex				
male	287	1069	1.303(1.001, 1.696)*	0.951(0.671, 1.349)
female	88	427	1.00	1.00
Occupation				
farmer	338	1254	2.224(1.207, 4.097)*	2.610(1.339, 5.087)*
housewives	2	61	0.270(0.059, 1.250)	0.165(0.020, 1.344)
trade	23	82	2.314(1.086, 4.932)*	1.893(0.854, 4.199)
others/civil servant	12	99	1.00	1.00
Educational status				
No education	235	877	4.019(0.528, 30.584)	1.868(0.209, 16.682)
Read and write	72	261	4.138(0.538, 31.855)	1.847(0.206, 16.573)
Grades 1-4	27	142	2.852(0.361, 22.504)	1.312(0.142, 12.085)
Grades 5-8	27	134	3.022(0.383, 23.857)	1.078(0.118, 9.815)
Grades 9-12	13	67	2.910(0.353, 23.996)	1.333(0.143, 12.450)
College and above	1	15	1.00	1.00
Marital status				
not married yet	21	78	0.868(0.424,1.774)	0.993(0.451, 2.186)
married	307	1246	0.794(0.461, 1.367)	0.643(0.354, 1.168)
separated	29	114	0.820(0.420, 1.598)	1.064(0.511, 2.247)
widow/widower	18	58	1.00	1.00
Roof type				
CIS	280	1166	0.834(0.641,1.085)	0.794(0.590, 1.068)
thatched roof	95	330	1.00	1.00
Monthly income				
< = 300	138	552	0.550(0.401, 0.755)*	0.849(0.591, 1.219)
301-500	46	233	0.434(0.289, 0.653)*	0.562(0.359, 0.879)*
501-1000	57	289	0.434(0.296, 0.636)*	0.492(0.323, 0.750)*
1001-1500	49	235	0.459(0.307, 0.685)*	0.543(0.353, 0.837)*
>1500	85	187	1.00	1.00

*significant at p<0.05

**adjusted: for other selected variable

Table 9: continued

Independent variables	Families of the perpetrator should be killed even though ...		Crude OR (95% CI)	Adjusted** OR (95% CI)
	Yes	No		
Radio				
yes	80	338	0.929(0.706, 1.223)	0.964(0.701, 1.326)
no	295	1158	1.00	1.00
Drink alcohol				
yes	311	1174	1.333(0.991, 1.792)	1.039(0.733, 1.473)
no	64	322	1.00	1.00
Mental illness				
yes	144	500	1.244(0.984, 1.573)	1.007(0.769, 1.319)
no	229	989	1.00	1.00
Culture influence				
yes	215	694	1.553(1.234, 1.955)*	1.374(1.062, 1.778)*
no	156	682	1.00	1.00
At risk of homicide				
yes	247	699	2.227(1.752, 2.831)*	1.892(1.436, 2.493)*
no	122	769	1.00	1.00
Firearm is important				
yes	233	719	1.782(1.412, 2.250)*	1.360(1.036, 1.785)*
no	140	770	1.00	1.00
Ever have firearm				
yes	79	195	1.787(1.336, 2.389)*	1.280(0.912, 1.798)
no	295	1301	1.00	1.00
Have victim family				
yes	64	147	1.948(1.416, 2.681)*	1.180(0.800, 1.740)
no	297	1329	1.00	1.00
Have perpetrator family				
yes	70	160	1.919(1.411, 2.609)*	1.2247(0.865, 1.796)
no	303	1329	1.00	1.00
Ever witness homicide				
yes	71	83	2.975(2.829, 5.586)*	3.364(2.310, 4.898)*
no	303	1408	1.00	1.00

*significant at p<0.05

**adjusted: for other selected variables

6.6. Experience and practice in relation to homicide

Two hundred eighty seven (14.7%) of respondents ever had firearm in the house and 170 (8.7%) of respondents ever involved in cross fire. One hundred fifty five (8%) of respondents had ever witnessed homicide. One fifth 389 (20%) of respondents had an experience of angry at some one's act or insult and physically fought with him (Table 10).

Out of these who physically fought 55 (13.9%) fought with family member, 73 (18.4%) of them fought with relatives, 88 (22.2%) of them fought with other non stranger and the rest 180 (45.5%) of them fought with a stranger person to them.

Two hundred sixty six (13.6%) of respondents admitted they ever had thought to kill a person who harmed them or their family (Table 10).

Out of these respondents who responded ever thought to kill a person 204(76.7%) had attempted to kill the person. The outcomes were 8/3.9%/ Attempts ended in death, 45 (22.1%) ended in injury of the victims, 34(16.7%) missed in shooting, 15(7.4%) fired back to them from the targeted person, half 102(50 %) of the attempts were grouped in others outcomes/ run and escaped the attempt.

About five percent 96(4.9%) of the respondents were accused_of murder even if they did not kill or it ended in peace. There were also 165(8.5%) respondents who had been victims of murder trial (Table 10).

Table 10: Prevalence of some experiences of respondent, Shebel Berenta Woreda, East Gojjam, North West Ethiopia, February – March 2012

Variables	Yes N (%)	No N (%)	Don't know N	No response N
Ever have a fire arm	287(14.7)	1659(85.1)	2	1
Crossfire with someone	170(8.7)	1762(90.4)	17	0
Physical fighting	389(20)	1550(79.5)	9	1
Witnessed murder	155(8)	1786(91.5)	7	1
Thought to kill	266(13.6)	1666(85.5)	14	3
Attempted to kill (n=266)	204(68.2)	92(30.8)	3	0
Accused of murder	96(4.9)	1850(94.9)	3	0
Being victim of murder trial	165(8.5)	1781(91.3)	2	1

Specific horrible incidents in relation to homicide were raised from participants in the qualitative methods. Any special events you remember? (A question from the investigator to a key informant in the in-depth interviews)

“I remember three shocking crimes. The first was love related ... a lover ... due to jealousy... he shaved half of her head and slaughtered the girl with a knife... the second horrible killing was a 70 years old elderly killed 2 female children with their mother...it was a revenge for his son’ s death by the father of the children. The third incident was a death of 6 people in two days...that happened between blood enemies from both sides the 5 victims didn’t involve in the conflict and they didn’t hear about it because they were at different places..... They were killed because they didn’t know what was happening in the residence of their relatives! We couldn’t stop it because we were far and we didn’t know who the close relative to whom is!”

6.7. Factors Associated with homicide related practices.

Some homicide related practices had been chosen as better explanatory practices. Exposure to physical fighting ,attempt to kill, and being victim of murder trial were chosen as indicator variables on the dependent side and socio demographic, household and attitude and other practice variables were used as explanatory variables and were tested for statistical significant association. But educational status, occupation, marital status and number of cousins were excluded from the analysis due to numeric problem (multi-co linearity) with the criteria of standard error greater than 2.0. Drinking alcohol was also eliminated by itself due to complete separation of responses for its categories.

Age in years, number of nephews, history of being drunk, accepting revenge as a culture, firearm need, having victim family, ever witnessing homicide and ever accused of murder had statistically significant association with physical fighting after adjusted for confounders.

Those who were in the age group 18-27[AOR (95% CI) = 1.859(1.181, 2.927)] were 1.9 times more likely to be exposed to physical fighting than those who were greater or equals to 38 years of age. Having no any nephew [AOR (95% CI) = 0.366(0.253, 0.530)] was protective that those who had no any nephew were by 63 % less likely to be exposed to physical fight than those who had three or more nephews. This was also true for number of brothers in the bivariate analysis. For example those had no any brother [COR (95% CI) = 0.482(0.357, 0.651)] were less likely to

be exposed for physical fight than those who had three or more brothers. Generally, those who had no any, only one and two brothers and nephews were less likely to be exposed to physical fighting than those who had three or more brothers and nephews. Those who had history of being drunk [AOR(95% CI) = 2.371(1.712, 3.284)], who accept revenge as a culture [AOR (95% CI) = 1.799(1.323, 2.447)], who said they need firearm [AOR (95% CI) = 1.487(1.077, 2.052)], had victim families [AOR (95% CI) = 1.663(1.104, 2.603)] , who ever witnessed homicide [AOR(95% CI) = 4.836(3.110, 7.518)] and ever accused of murder[AOR(95% CI) = 2.623(1.553, 4.429)] were more likely to be exposed for physical fighting than those who were/had not (Table 11).

In the bivariate analysis being male, belief on the influence of culture, ever having firearm and having perpetrator family were found to be significant risk factors to be exposed to physical fighting. Whereas, having smaller family size and having no any or one brother and nephews were found to be protective factors from physical fighting, before adjusted for confounders (Table 11)

Table 11: Relationship between socio-demographic and other selected variables and ever exposure to physical fighting Shebel Berenta Woreda, East Gojjam, North West Ethiopia, February – March 2012

Independent variables	Ever exposed to physical fighting		Crude OR (95% CI)	Adjusted ** OR (95% CI)
	Yes	No		
Age in years				
18-27	65	249	1.087(0.792, 1.491)	1.859(1.181, 2.927)*
28-37	139	531	1.090(0.852, 1.394)	1.316(0.938, 1.847)
>= 38	185	770	1.00	1.00
Sex				
male	326	1070	2.321(1.736, 3.104)*	1.563(0.980, 2.495)
female	63	480	1.00	1.00
Family size				
2-4	131	632	0.679(0.515, 0.895)*	0.792(0.493, 1.275)
5-6	135	515	0.859(0.651, 1.133)	0.947(0.629, 1.426)
>= 7	123	403	1.00	1.00
Number of dependent children				
1-3	271	1123	1.126(0.665, 1.906)	1.226(0.619, 2.430)
4-5	100	343	1.361(0.781, 2.372)	1.445(0.703, 2.973)
>=6	18	84	1.00	1.00
Monthly income				
< = 300	147	574	0.935(0.667, 1.311)	1.268(0.780, 2.061)
301-500	53	238	0.813(0.538, 1.228)	1.012(0.575, 1.780)
501-1000	75	281	0.974(0.664, 1.428)	1.066(0.631, 1.800)
1001-1500	54	238	0.828(0.549, 1.249)	0.949(0.546, 1.646)
>1500	60	219	1.00	1.00
Number of brothers				
no any	70	415	0.482(0.357, 0.651)*	0.962(0.598, 1.547)
only one	58	252	0.658(0.474, 0.913)*	0.991(0.630, 1.557)
two	64	320	0.572(0.418, 0.782)*	0.795(0.520, 1.215)
three or more	197	563	1.00	1.00
Number of nephews				
no any	92	706	0.323(0.248, 0.421)*	0.366(0.253, 0.530)*
only one	25	118	0.525(0.332, 0.829)*	0.652(0.359, 1.185)
two	37	144	0.636(0.430, 0.941)*	0.616(0.367, 1.033)
three or more	235	582	1.00	1.00
Frequency of drinking				
daily	54	190	0.953(0.577, 1.575)	1.100(0.580, 2.089)
1-2 times /week	156	456	1.148(0.739, 1.783)	1.225(0.707, 2.125)
1-3 times/month	80	360	0.746(0.467, 1.191)	0.694(0.386, 1.247)
< 1 times/ month	31	104	1.00	1.00

*significant at p<0.05

**adjusted: for other selected variables

Table 11: continued

Independent variables	Ever exposed to physical fighting		Crude OR (95% CI)	Adjusted** OR (95% CI)
	Yes	No		
History of being drunk				
yes	139	206	3.606(2.764, 4.705)*	2.371(1.712, 3.284)*
no	186	994	1.00	1.00
Mental illness				
yes	118	542	0.809(0.636, 1.029)	0.986(0.701, 1.388)
no	269	1000	1.00	1.00
Homicide is acceptable				
yes	195	698	1.210(0.966, 1.515)	0.904(0.663, 1.231)
no	185	801	1.00	1.00
Culture influence				
yes	216	719	1.436(1.147, 1.799)*	1.156(0.847, 1.578)
no	169	808	1.00	1.00
Revenge is acceptable				
yes	197	461	2.374(1.891, 2.981)*	1.799(1.323, 2.447)*
no	189	1050	1.00	1.00
At risk of homicide				
yes	198	760	1.135(0.905, 1.424)	0.799(0.576, 1.109)
no	176	767	1.00	1.00
Firearm is important				
yes	237	733	1.751(1.394, 2.200)*	1.487(1.077, 2.052)*
no	149	807	1.00	1.00
Ever have firearm				
yes	99	184	2.561(1.944, 3.373)*	1.250(0.848, 1.844)
no	287	1366	1.00	1.00
Have victim family				
yes	80	139	2.809(2.075, 3.804)*	1.663(1.104, 2.603)*
no	286	1396	1.00	1.00
Have perpetrator family				
yes	87	148	2.724(2.033, 3.650)*	1.182(0.763, 1.830)
no	301	1395	1.00	1.00
Ever witness homicide				
yes	91	63	7.316(5.182, 10.328)*	4.836(3.110, 7.518)*
no	293	1484	1.00	1.00
Ever accused of murder				
yes	50	46	4.813(3.170, 7.306)*	2.623(1.553, 4.429)*
no	339	1501	1.00	1.00

*significant at $p < 0.05$

**adjusted: for other selected variables

Monthly income, accepting revenge as a culture and ever accused of murder were significantly positively associated with attempt to kill somebody. Whereas believing being at risk of homicide was significantly negatively associated with attempt to kill somebody.

Those who earn a monthly income of less than or equal to 300 ETB/month [AOR (95% CI) = 5.933(2.075, 16.959)] were approximately 6 times more likely to attempt killing than those who earn greater than 1500 ETB/month. Those who accept revenge [AOR (95% CI) = 3.358(1.682, 6.703)] were 3.4 times more likely to attempt killing than who do not accept. Those who ever accused of murder [AOR (95% CI) = 7.277(2.283, 23.194)] were 7.3 times more likely to attempt killing than those who were not. On the other hand those who believe they are at risk of homicide [AOR (95% CI) = 0.295(0.140, 0.620)] were by 70.5 % less likely to attempt killing than those who did not believe they are at risk of homicide (Table 12).

Mental illness and culture influence to kill were significantly negatively associated in the bivariate analysis but not in the multivariate. Those who had mental illness [COR (95% CI) = 0.450(0.267, 0.759)] were less likely to attempt killing than those who had no mental illness. Those who accept the influence of culture [COR (95% CI) = 0.551(0.329, 0.923)] were less likely to attempt killing than those who did not accept influence of culture (Table 12).

Table 12: Relationship between socio-demographic and other selected variables and ever attempt to kill, Shebel Berenta Woreda, East Gojjam, North West Ethiopia, February – March 2012

Independent variables	Ever attempt to kill somebody?		Crude OR (95% CI)	Adjusted ** OR (95% CI)
	Yes	No		
Age in years				
18-27	24	17	0.547(0.268, 1.117)	0.826(0.223,3.058)
28-37	69	32	0.835(0.483, 1.444)	0.773(0.317, 1.884)
>= 38	111	43	1.00	1.00
Sex				
male	171	75	1.175(0.616, 2.239)	0.954(0.238, 3.828)
female	33	17	1.00	1.00
Family size				
2-4	78	42	0.628(0.344, 1.149)	0.468(0.199,1.100)
5-6	58	27	0.727(0.377, 1.402)	0.465(0.159, 1.028)
>= 7	68	23	1.00	1.00
Number of dependent children				
1-3	152	73	1.514(0.584, 3.925)	2.566(0.509, 12.943)
4-5	41	11	2.711(0.877, 8.375)	5.064(0.831, 30.873)
>=6	11	8	1.00	1.00
Monthly income				
< = 300	85	23	3.528(1.658, 7.504)*	5.933(2.075, 16.959)*
301-500	31	14	2.114(0.886, 5.042)	1.619(0.545, 4.811)
501-1000	37	14	2.523(1.070, 5.948)*	2.120(0.691, 6.506)
1001-1500	29	20	1.384(0.606, 3.161)	1.665(0.571, 4.853)
>1500	22	21	1.00	1.00
Number of brothers				
no any	36	13	1.092(0.526, 2.265)	1.154(0.362,3.676)
only one	32	19	0.664(0.339, 1.301)	0.640(0.238, 1.718)
two	32	19	0.664(0.339, 1.301)	0.395(0.127, 1.226)
three or more	104	41	1.00	1.00
Number of nephews				
no any	46	21	0.862(0.468, 1.589)	0.708(0.278, 1.803)
only one	8	8	0.394(0.140, 1.106)	0.484(0.112, 2.092)
two	23	13	0.697(0.327, 1.482)	0.373(0.115,1.213)
three or more	127	50	1.00	1.00
Frequency of drinking				
daily	31	9	1.269(0.405, 3.972)	1.190(0.232, 6.105)
1-2 times /week	74	31	0.879(0.336, 2.303)	0.820(0.206, 3.268)
1-3 times/month	48	25	0.707(0.262, 1.908)	0.841(0.196, 3.599)
< 1 times/ month	19	7	1.00	1.00

*significant at p<0.05

**adjusted: for other selected variables

Table 12: continued

Independent variables	Ever attempt to kill somebody.		Crude OR (95% CI)	Adjusted** OR (95% CI)
	Yes	No		
History of being drunk				
yes	75	28	1.300(0.750, 2.254)	0.888(0.408, 1.931)
no	103	50	1.00	1.00
Mental illness				
yes	52	39	0.450(0.267, 0.759)*	1.008(0.402, 2.527)
no	151	51	1.00	1.00
Homicide is acceptable				
yes	114	49	1.220 (0.741, 2.008)	1.785(0.820,3.884)
no	82	43	1.00	1.00
Culture influence				
yes	107	62	0.551(0.329, 0.923)*	0.550(0.264, 1.145)
no	94	30	1.00	1.00
Revenge is acceptable				
yes	126	37	2.420(1.459, 4.013)*	3.358(1.682, 6.703)*
no	76	54	1.00	1.00
At risk of homicide				
yes	95	64	0.375(0.220, 0.639)*	0.295(0.140, 0.620)*
no	103	26	1.00	1.00
Firearm is important				
yes	116	60	0.703(0.422, 1.172)	1.026(0.411, 2.563)
no	88	32	1.00	1.00
Ever have firearm				
yes	60	23	1.268(0.724, 2.219)	1.210(0.458, 3.199)
no	142	69	1.00	1.00
Have victim family				
yes	57	24	1.225(0.698, 2.148)	1.345(0.551, 3.281)
no	128	66	1.00	1.00
Have perpetrator family				
yes	48	18	1.273(0.693, 2.339)	1.089(0.365, 3.250)
no	155	74	1.00	1.00
Ever witness homicide				
yes	48	17	1.357(0.731, 2.519)	2.290(0.975, 5.377)
no	154	74	1.00	1.00
Ever accused of murder				
yes	45	4	6.226(2.167, 17.887)*	7.277(2.283, 23.194)*
no	159	88	1.00	1.00

*significant at $p < 0.05$

**adjusted: for other selected variables

Being victim of murder trial was significantly negatively associated with number of brothers and number of nephews but positively associated with history of being drunk, believing being at risk of homicide, ever having firearm, having victim family, ever witnessing homicide and ever accused of murder, after adjusted for confounders.

Those who had no any brother [AOR (95% CI) = 0.493(0.266, 0.913)] were by 50.7 % less likely to be at risk of being victim of murder trial than those who had three or more brothers. This was also true for no any nephews [AOR (95% CI) = 0.497(0.275, 0.897)]. Generally, those who had no any and only one or two brothers and nephews were less likely to be victims of murder trail than those who had three or more (Table 13).

Those who had a history of being drunk [AOR (95% CI) = 3.324(2.149, 5.143)] were 3.3 times more likely to be victim of murder trial than those who had not. Those who believe being at risk of homicide [AOR (95% CI) = 2.284(1.406, 3.713)] were 2.3 times, Ever had firearm [AOR (95% CI) = 1.916(1.191, 3.084)] were 1.9 times, had victim family [AOR (95% CI) = 1.828(1.077, 3.103)] were 3 times, ever witnessed homicide [AOR(95%) = 4.596(2.774, 7.614)] were 4.6 times and ever accused of murder [AOR (95% CI) = 9.369(5.187, 16.923)] were 9.4 times more likely to be victims of murder trail than those who were/had not (Table 13).

Being male, mental illness, belief on the influence of culture, having perpetrator family, firearm need were found to be significant risk factors to be victim of murder trial before adjusted for confounders. Whereas having no any or only one brothers and nephews, being in the younger age group of 18-27 and being in lower monthly income categories were protective factors (Table 13).

Table 13: Relationship between socio-demographic and other selected variables and being victim of murder trial Shebel Berenta Woreda, East Gojjam, North West Ethiopia, February – March 2012

Independent variables	Being victim of murder trial		Crude OR (95% CI)	Adjusted ** OR (95% CI)
	Yes	No		
Age in years				
18-27	17	298	0.519(0.305, 0.884)*	1.170(0.526, 2.603)
28-37	53	619	0.779(0.548, 1.107)	1.004(0.599, 1.682)
>= 38	95	864	1.00	1.00
Sex				
male	146	1255	3.221(1.976, 5.250)*	1.651(0.747, 3.651)
female	19	526	1.00	1.00
Family size				
2-4	54	712	0.725(0.485, 1.084)	0.926(0.480, 1.788)
5-6	61	591	0.987(0.666, 1.462)	1.080(0.603, 1.937)
>= 7	50	478	1.00	1.00
Number of dependent children				
1-3	121	1278	1.112(0.528, 2.345)	1.767(0.628, 4.974)
4-5	36	409	1.034(0.466, 2.298)	1.403(0.466, 4.223)
>= 6	8	94	1.00	1.00
Monthly income				
< = 300	55	670	0.451(0.294, 0.690)*	0.727(0.385, 1.374)
301-500	16	275	0.319(0.175, 0.582)*	0.486(0.221, 1.067)
501-1000	27	331	0.448(0.269, 0.745)*	0.605(0.303, 1.208)
1001-1500	24	269	0.490(0.288, 0.831)*	0.591(0.286, 1.222)
>1500	43	236	1.00	1.00
Number of brothers				
no any	29	457	0.566(0.364, 0.882)*	0.493(0.266, 0.913)*
only one	41	271	1.350(0.901, 2.022)	1.671(0.969, 2.883)
two	18	366	0.439(0.259, 0.744)*	0.430(0.215, 0.859)*
three or more	77	687	1.00	1.00
Number of nephews				
no any	39	760	0.358(0.244, 0.524)*	0.497(0.275, 0.897)*
only one	9	134	0.468(0.231, 0.948)*	0.947(0.400, 2.245)
two	14	169	0.577(0.322, 1.034)	0.765(0.359, 1.629)
three or more	103	718	1.00	1.00
Frequency of drinking				
daily	32	213	1.893(0.900, 3.981)	1.584(0.639, 3.925)
1-2 times /week	58	556	1.314(0.654, 2.643)	0.841(0.382, 1.850)
1-3 times/month	45	395	1.435(0.703, 2.931)	0.828(0.364, 1.883)
< 1 times/ month	10	126	1.00	1.00

*significant at p<0.05

**adjusted: for other selected variables

Table 13: continued

Independent variables	Being victim of murder trial		Crude OR (95% CI)	Adjusted** OR (95% CI)
	Yes	No		
History of being drunk				
yes	69	277	3.622(2.548, 5.147)*	3.324(2.149, 5.143)*
no	76	1105	1.00	1.00
Mental illness				
yes	71	590	1.512(1.094, 2.092)*	1.172(0.735, 1.868)
no	94	1181	1.00	1.00
Homicide is acceptable				
yes	78	816	1.060(0.766, 1.465)	1.156(0.748, 1.789)
no	82	909	1.00	1.00
Culture influence				
yes	95	844	1.486(1.075, 2.054)*	0.926(0.588, 1.458)
no	69	911	1.00	1.00
Revenge is acceptable				
yes	68	590	1.381(0.996, 1.913)	1.074(0.679, 1.700)
no	96	1150	1.00	1.00
At risk of homicide				
yes	121	839	3.108(2.161, 4.469)*	2.284(1.406, 3.713)*
no	42	905	1.00	1.00
Firearm is important				
yes	115	857	2.492(1.761, 3.526)*	1.037(0.608, 1.769)
no	49	910	1.00	1.00
Ever have firearm				
yes	66	221	4.697(3.337, 6.611)*	1.916(1.191, 3.084)*
no	99	1557	1.00	1.00
Have victim family				
yes	58	162	5.337(3.728, 7.639)*	1.828(1.077, 3.103)*
no	106	1580	1.00	1.00
Have perpetrator family				
yes	65	170	6.187(4.358, 8.785)*	1.628(0.972, 2.726)
no	99	1602	1.00	1.00
Ever witness homicide				
yes	58	96	9.469(6.475, 13.847)*	4.596(2.774, 7.614)*
no	107	1677	1.00	1.00
Ever accused of murder				
yes	49	47	15.557(9.998, 24.207)*	9.369(5.187, 16.923)*
no	116	1731	1.00	1.00

*significant at $p < 0.05$

**adjusted: for other selected variables

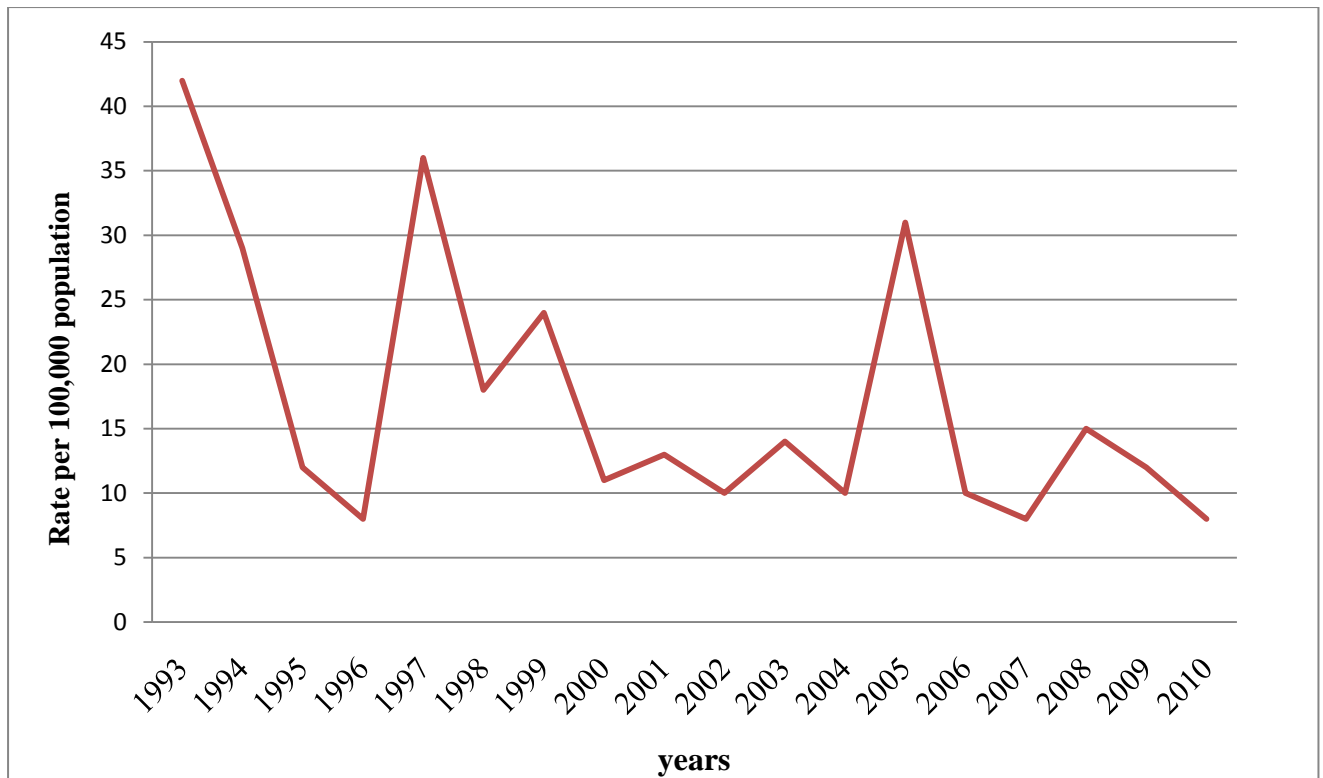
6.8. Trends of Homicide in the area

The secondary data from Shebel Berenta Woreda Police Office from 1993-2010 was retrieved to assess trends of homicide in the study area. The counts of homicide in some years were higher for example in 1993, 1997 and 2005. Consistent to victims the number of charges and charged perpetrators were high in those years. Twenty two charges on 32 perpetrators, 17 charges on 34 perpetrators and 29 charges on 49 perpetrators were among the highest figures in 1993, 1997 and 2005 , respectively (Annex 10).

In all crimes there was no one -to -one relation with victims. Almost in all years the number of charged perpetrators was greater than the number of victims and number of charges (Annex 10).

The secondary data from the district police office was retrieved as counts of homicide for 18 consecutive years from 1993-2010. The crude rates per 100, 000 population was calculated using back population projection using the Amhara Region population growth rate projection factors. The crude rate for the year 1993 was 42 per100, 000 population, in 1994 it was 29 per 100,000 population, in 1997 it was 36 per 100,000 population, in 1999 it was 24 per 100,000 population, in 2005 it was 31 per100, 000 population and in 2010 it was 8 per 100,000 population(Annex 10).

The rates of homicide across 18 years had been in irregular occurrence but there were high peaks in some years. For example, the years 1993, 1997 and 2005 have had higher peaks than the rest of the years and relative a decline was observed in recent years (Figure 6).



(Sources: Records of Shebel Berenta Woreda police office)

Figure 8: Trends of homicide over the 18 years period of 1993-2010 Shebel Berenta Woreda, East Gojjam, North West of Ethiopia.

The qualitative methods were entertained to get the perception and oral evidence of how the magnitude of homicide in the area is going along days of the week, seasons of the year and for the recent past years. Almost all of the participants agreed that Saturday is a risky day of the week. December – February and April – June are risky seasons of the year. As to their explanation Saturday is famous market day where most of the people never miss to go to towns. So on Saturday’s excessive intake of alcohol and sexual mate competition is higher and most conflicts and killings happened on this day, even if HIV/AIDS has a positive influence these days, as to their explanation.

December-February is a season after harvest and marriage ceremonies and festivities are higher and the interaction and traditions are sources of conflict and killings. April to June is the same but around June plowing land borders were said to be additional cause of conflict, according to the participants. They also mention the critical historical times like the transitional times of the

country where there were so many ‘shifta’ in the woreda and inter personal conflicts during land distribution in the region and 2005 election was also raised as one of the critical times.

The magnitude of homicide was also said to be decreasing in most recent years as a key informant explained:

“When I came here to this town (before 5 years) ...there was no a day on which you didn’t hear gun shots...even in the woreda town! ... But now charges are coming... people are charging for insults, provocation... before they retaliate by insulting, fighting or killing ...now they are accustomed to the rule of law.

These days ...enemy groups are coming for peace resolution and living together in the same community ... this was not possible before , there were many perpetrators living in forests as ‘Shifta’ or who left their birth place due to the action of their brothers...but now there are only two ‘Shifta’ in the woreda who did not presented for justice. But still we are not saying it is much reduced their hot temperedness and alcohol use are challenging for intervention”.

Those solutions were forwarded by participants:-

- Community policing officers should work on awareness creation at community level
- Religious leaders should play their role in educating on the issue
- Elderly ‘Yager shimagle’ should focus on their role traditionally as ‘ blood driers’ (making oath between enemies)
- Re registration of firearm should be initiated
- The woreda Administration, police, health and other sectors should give emphasis on awareness creation than legal measures after the occurrence of homicide.

7. DISCUSSION

7.1. Prevalence of homicide in the study area

The prevalence of homicide was triangulated from the secondary data of police records and the survey from 1909 households excluding who don't know or gave no response. The survey found out that the life time prevalence of homicide was 11.5 %, along with a life time perpetration of 12.1 %. The crude rates were also higher. The crude rates per 100, 000 population was calculated using back population projection using the Amhara Region population growth rate projection factors. The crude rate for the year 1993 was 42 per100, 000 population, in 1994 it was 29 per 100,000 population, in 1997 it was 36 per 100,000 population, in 1999 it was 24 per 100,000 population, in 2005 it was 31 per100, 000 population and in 2010 it was 8 per 100,000 population. Most of the rates might be relatively lower than estimates in the Americas and South Africa but higher than studies done in Europe. The rates in those years were also inclusive of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) estimate that Ethiopia had a rate of 25.5 per 100,000 populations in 2008(8).This might help to see the difference but methods, sources, scope and denominator population estimates in those studies were different. For this study the denominator population was calculated by an average population projection factor due to lack of accurate population figure for each year.

7.2 The why of homicide

This exploratory study uncovered the reasons of homicide in Ethiopian context in general and in the study area in particular. The survey pointed out that homicide is a complex phenomenon of socio economic and deep rooted cultural and traditional reflection. The conditions/reasons they believed homicide to be justified as the right measure to be taken as a solution of conflict were more of honor related. For example if someone red handed having sex with own wife accounted for 24.3% and if someone killed their family accounted about 20.7% in addition to these reasons if someone insult his wife account about 7.5%, if insulted in front of others account about 7.3% not forgetting the percentage share of gossip and hot temperedness these totally about 64% were honor related reasons that were justified to be right reasons to kill an individual. Only around 22 % were related to resource.

These figures from the survey were consistent to the secondary data analysis and to the qualitative findings. The main causes of death for 101 recent consecutive homicides in the study area were retaliations for previous homicide 36.6 %, due to immediate conflict by insult and cultural folk song 35.6%, carelessness in handling firearm and in ceremonial shootings 6.9 % and sexual jealousy 5.9% were among honor related causes sum up to 85 %. Interestingly, 941

(48.3%) of respondents in the survey agreed that there is a cultural influence which forces/ encourages an individual to kill.

An expert opinion was sought in the in-depth interviews and some of the basic points were:-

“I worked here for five years...I know other places too...there is one thing here... the public is hot tempered! For every minor problem they need to take an affirmative action ...but after that they will come to you and be under the rule of law. As it is known and I approved in my stay here, the people upgrade minor conflicts in to a major life threatening situation. What makes this area unusual is that there is female and child killing for revenge... According to their culture, there should be another death form the enemy side to be buried on the same date. And most of the revenge killings were happened within a few days after the first killings.

As I think the area is hot... they lack to solve things easily ...for a word of insult they immediately respond with fight with wood stick or shootings. They usually talked about honors, as heroes like Belay Zeleke was from this area, in relation to this fighting and aggressiveness are acceptable culture and they respond fast and with courage, they never hesitate back. Due to this even they do not care for witness and they kill at any time at any place and they did not deny their act, unlike other places.”

To my knowledge, there were no studies done on homicide in our country and most studies in the developed countries were mainly focused on rate comparison. The reasons why human beings kill each other were not a well addressed issue but homicide adaptation theory (HAT) that was developed by Duntley & Buss was the most recent work on the reasons why homicide happen. They proposed that, the person who is killed can no longer compete with his killer. Once dead, a person can no longer damage the killer's reputation, steal his resources, prevent the killer from attracting a romantic partner, or have sex with the killer's spouse. So according to this theory human beings had an adaptation for this and analyze its cost before they are doing it. In addition to this they argued that homicide has a design feature that unlike non-lethal aggression, homicide is a behavior that, under some circumstances, will leave no witnesses other than the killer (5). They again propose that if there is an advantage of returning a reputation people usually kill in the presence of third parties to return their lost reputation by the victim. Hence some explanations and propositions of HAT might be consistent to this finding (5).

7.3. Effect of culture on intentions and attitudes

The intention of retaliation is very high in this finding; around half 917(47%) suggested that the families of the victim should kill in response. when it was extended to themselves consistent to their suggestion for other people 851 (43.7%) of respondents said they will kill for revenge if homicide is done to someone close to them. Relatively lower retaliation intention was responded if the case was physical fight, only 466(23.9%) of respondents said they will retaliate even for violent acts. The majority 1026(52.6%) prefer to charge the perpetrator in this case. Despite the above suggested figures the majority of respondents 1247 (64%) thought ‘killing for revenge’ is not acceptable norm this might indicate they practice what they are supposed to do by the culture but that is not normally acceptable for the majority of them.

In the qualitative part charging and retaliation was discussed as a solution of resolution for homicide. Most of the discussants didn’t hesitate to tell what they will do if homicide is done to someone close to them; some strong quotes can be revised:

“If someone kills my brother... it is a must to kill. Unless how would I live in the area? ...it is like an epidemic it will never end by that...” (Elderly age 47)

“What we usually face is, the families of victims don’t want to charge the perpetrator the reason behind is they don’t want to miss him... if he is in prison they will be very disappointed...” (A community policing officer 3 years experience).

The implication of these explanations is that they usually may not want to kill for revenge but the culture and socialization process forced them to retaliate for what was done to someone close to them. Unless, they will never raise a dispute, never insult or fight with other persons in their life time because they had a big hangover behind. It is consistent to sub cultural arguments that emphasize the effects of third parties. Actors learn attitudes favorable to crime from others or comply because they are concerned about audience opinion (23).

Comprehensive researches that might be consistent to this finding had been taken place in the USA more specifically to explore why southern whites are more aggressive and violent than the rest of the regions. Different researchers prove the existence of violence and homicide due to a long and deep rooted culture of honor. As they found out the southern residents are scot-Irish descendents and that may have augmented an already rowdy and tough set of cultural dispositions characteristic of Celtic culture in the British highlands and Northern Ireland that was transported to America. Others find out that the southern part of the USA is a rural frontier,

for a long period of time administration to the area was impossible and the people forced to protect their material and cattle by themselves. As many researchers concluded, all this developed into what some refer to as a “culture of honor,” in which any insult or threat to family, property or person would meet a quick and violent response. This “culture of honor” was passed to future generations through the socialization process. Hence the high levels of violence observed in the contemporary South are a relic of cultural adaptations to a more rugged era, which have survived an intergenerational process of transmission. Researchers recently argued that this Scots-Irish cultural effect may have crossed racial lines, spawning a similar culture of honor among African Americans (23, 43).

Studies in Russia also concluded that Siberia has long been a frontier region, an area where there is greater freedom from the control of the state than in other parts of the country. This might necessitate cultural adaptations such as a willingness to resort to violence to resolve disputes to protect oneself in the absence of formal control (37).

The study area might have similar situations, it is a frontier, which more than 70 % of the area is in Nile river gorge (12, 13) which might made inaccessible for administration for long period of time and as the cultural monuments and oral history tells the area was a head-quarter of the 5 years operation of patriots against Italy colonization. Which might rendered the public to keep courage and honor for a long period.

7.4. The passion of firearm

The other sound finding of this study was the love and passion of the community towards firearm. Almost half 973 (49.9%) of the respondents intend to have firearm for their security. But when they were probed ever having a firearm the majority seemed hesitated to respond. Only 287 (14.7%) of respondents admit their ever having firearm in the house but interestingly recall that 170 (8.7%) of respondents admitted ever involvement in crossfire. This might not be the case in the real situation because such survey questions might not be the right to explore its prevalence as they might take the interview as an investigation. So this will be another venue for further research. But their real passion for firearm is discussed in the FGDs and in-depth interviews. All most all of the participants in the FGDs agreed the need of firearm and the intention of having firearm is so high that individuals prefer to buy fire arm than building a house even before their marriage, as explained in the FGDs and the expert opinion was:

“As I worked in many other districts in the region ...and tell you comparing with other areas, in this area farmers who had only one ox sold that ox and buy firearm, where as in other areas people are trying to raise their children. Love to firearm is a long tradition in

the area, the reason behind is, most of the people are targets or have targets of blood revenge at different directions. In other districts people need firearm for their cattle and properties protection but in this area no such crimes. The only reason is for own protection. We expect that even if they register for one firearm there will be at least another illegal. We had the highest number of registered and legalized firearms in the region till we expect there will be 40 % kept hide in the community”

The main interest of discussing the finding about firearm in this area is to see its effect and interaction on homicide. Studies all over the world indicate that firearm is among the highly contributing factor for homicide. None of the studies prove causation, but the available evidence is consistent with the hypothesis that increased gun prevalence increases the homicide rate. There might also a positive relationship between firearm ownership levels and homicide rates if high homicide rates in an area lead households to arm themselves for protection. Which may be bidirectional, firearm availability might lead to higher homicide rates, and higher homicide rates may lead to more people acquiring firearm (19, 34).

The passion of firearm in the study population might be caused due to the uncertainty of their own security since there might be a high contamination of ‘blood revenge’ that lead to a high interest to acquire firearms either legally or illegally. From a long time of interest and passion the possibility of developing a subculture of honor might be the case. Similar studies on the Southern part of the USA showed that due to their culture of honor holding a long riffle in public places both by males and females was common that was totally strange for the other parts of the USA (23).

7.5 Factors affecting attitudes and practices related to homicide

Despite the difference in methods used, most of the findings of this study were consistent to studies done using a variety of methods. Additionally it has new findings that wouldn’t be achieved using other methods than survey.

Those who were in the age group 18-27[AOR (95% CI) = 1.859(1.181, 2.927)] were 1.9 times more likely to be exposed to physical fighting than those who were greater or equals to 38 years of age. That is consistent to a conclusion of a study done in Australia that age and development can influence attitude and younger males are more likely than older males to express violence-supportive attitudes. Young males are more likely to be perpetrators and victims of violence worldwide (17, 19). An evolutionary explanation for this is young men are relatively likely to

adopt risky behavioral options in social confrontations because they have higher potential reproductive gains and/or less to lose than older men (31).

Farmers [AOR (95% CI) = 2.297(1.415, 3.730)] were 2.3 times more likely to support revenge for homicide than others/civil servants. Consistent to the association with revenge acceptability, farmers [AOR (95% CI) = 2.610(1.339, 5.087)] were also 2.6 times more likely to support the killing of perpetrator families considering they were not part of the conflict between the victim and the perpetrator than others/civil servants. There was no study done on this particular occupation as factor but it can be highly attributed to illiteracy of the respondents who had this occupation. Those who had no education [AOR (95% CI) = 4.407(1.097, 17.708)] were 4.4 times, who only read and write [AOR (95% CI) = 4.290(1.053, 17.478)] were 4.3 times, who achieved grades 1-4 [AOR (95% CI) = 4.190(1.009, 17.400)] were 4.2 times and who achieved grades 5-8 [AOR (95% CI) = 4.770(1.147, 19.829)] were 4.8 times more likely to support homicide in some conditions than who achieved college and above. This is true in other studies; People were more likely to become homicide victims in neighborhoods with fewer high school graduates and low intelligence, learning problems, and school failure are also significant risks for youth violence (16, 18).

Those who were separated [AOR (95% CI) = 0.527(0.526, 0.855)] were by 47% less likely to support homicide than who were widow/widower. It is inconsistent to the practice that Jealousy, separation and/or the threat of separation were the major precipitating factors, particularly when the victims were young women (10, 32, 34).

Those who live in houses built with corrugated iron sheet roofs [AOR (95% CI) = 0.671(0.526, 0.825)] were by approximately 33% less likely to support homicide than those who lived in houses built with thatched roofs. Consistently, those who earn less than or equals to 300 ETB/month [AOR (95% CI) = 1.616(1.168, 2.237)] were 1.6 times more supportive of homicide in any condition than those who earn 1500 ETB/month. Similarly, those who earn 301-500 ETB/month [AOR (95% CI) = 2.731(1.878, 3.972)] 2.7 times more supportive of homicide in some condition than those who earn greater than 1500 ETB/month. Generally, those at lower monthly income were more likely to support homicide in some condition than those who earned greater than 1500 ETB/month. Those who earn \leq 300 ETB/month [AOR (95% CI) = 1.676(1.210, 2.321)] were also 1.7 times more likely to support revenge for homicide than those who earn greater than 1500 ETB/month. Those who earn a monthly income of less than or equal to 300 ETB/month [AOR (95% CI) = 5.933(2.075, 16.959)] were approximately 6 times more likely to attempt killing than those who earn greater than 1500 ETB/month. This was

consistent to studies in all over the world that economic inequality is one of the most challenging factor that increase violence and homicide. A study done in Cape Town, South Africa, the highest rates of homicide were recorded in the relatively impoverished sub-districts of Nyanga and Khayelitsha (28).

A study done in Chicago using GIS (geographical information system) concentrated disadvantage consistently remains the strongest predictor of homicide rates (with the highest statistical significance) across all geographic units (35). The explanation is that, where there is great inequality there is likely to be great anger and frustration, and so violence might be used to gain the resources, power, and influence that others have, or are perceived to have (16). However, the association of monthly income was inconsistent to the above explanation that those who earned 301-500 ETB/month [AOR (95% CI) =0.562(0.359, 0.879)], 501-1000 ETB/month [AOR (95% CI) =0.492(0.323, 0.750)] and 1001-1500 [AOR (95% CI) = 0.543(0.353, 0.837)] were generally less supportive of the killing of perpetrator families than those who earned greater than 1500 birr per month.

Those who drink alcohol [AOR (95% CI) = 1.851(1.418, 2.416)] were 1.9 times more likely to support homicide than those who were not. Those who had history of being drunk [AOR (95% CI) = 2.371(1.712, 3.284)] were more likely to be exposed for physical fighting than those who had not. Those who had a history of being drunk [AOR (95% CI) = 3.324(2.149, 5.143)] were 3.3 times more likely to be victim of murder trial than those who had not. This is consistent to conclusions by different studies and the explanations were, the role of alcohol is three-fold. First, as alcohol lowers inhibition, it is an important situational factor in precipitating aggressive behavior and violence. Second, due to alcohol's effect of lowering motor-coordination and cognitive perception, intoxicated people are more likely to become victims of violence. Alcohol thus has an enhancing effect which can fuel violent conflicts. Third, both victims and perpetrators have an increased likelihood of using alcohol as a coping mechanism (28).

Those who said they need firearm for their security [AOR (95% CI) = 1.651(1.332, 2.047)] were approximately 1.7 times more likely to support revenge as a culture, were 1.4 times more likely to support the killing of perpetrators' families[AOR (95% CI) = 1.360(1.036, 1.785)] and 1.5 times more likely to be exposed to physical fight[AOR (95% CI) = 1.487(1.077, 2.052)] than those who said they need not. Those who ever had firearm [AOR (95% CI) = 1.916(1.191, 3.084)] were 1.9 times more likely to be victims of murder trail than those who had not. The relationship between firearm and homicide related attitudes and practices is documented specifically a subculture of honor towards homicide might develop in societies who had a

culture of honor (19, 23). The explanation of being at risk of murder might be due to the anticipation the parties (fear of counter attack) from those who have it may lead to use more lethal force than those who have no firearm as it was also explained in homicide adaptation theory (5).

One of the new findings of this study was the effect of social relation variables like number of brothers and nephews which generally showed a negative association with the study variables. For example, having no any nephew [AOR (95% CI) = 0.366(0.253, 0.530)] was protective that those who had no any nephew were by 63 % less likely to be exposed to physical fight than those who had three or more nephews. This was also true for number of brothers in the bivariate analysis. For example those had no any brother [COR (95% CI) = 0.482(0.357, 0.651)] were less likely to be exposed for physical fight than those who had three or more brothers. Generally, those who had no any, only one and two brothers and nephews were less likely to be exposed to physical fighting than those who had three or more brothers and nephews. Those who had no any brother [AOR (95% CI) = 0.493(0.266, 0.913)] were by 50.7 % less likely to be at risk of being victim of murder trial than those who had three or more brothers. This was also true for no any nephews [AOR (95% CI) = 0.497(0.275, 0.897)]. Generally, those who had no any and only one or two brothers and nephews were less likely to be victims of murder trail than those who had three or more.

There was no study to compare this but the possible explanation might be as the number of close relatives increase their interaction to the society will increase that in turn increases the probability of violence occurrence and the retaliation for them will force an individual to be part of these practices. That implies if a person is alone the violence behavior is in his own control. The other explanation might be self- provocation and confidence to these practices might decrease at an individual level as the number of those closes relatives decreased.

Those who believed there is influence of culture on homicide [AOR (95% CI) = 2.629(2.133, 3.239)] were 2.6 times more likely to support homicide than those who were not and consistently, were 1.4 times more likely to support revenge [AOR (95% CI) = 1.421(1.155, 1.749)], were approximately 1.4 times more likely to support the killing of perpetrators' families[AOR (95% CI) = 1.374(1.062, 1.778)], were more likely to be exposed for physical fighting[AOR (95% CI) = 1.799(1.323, 2.447)] and were 3.4 times more likely to attempt killing[AOR (95% CI) = 3.358(1.682, 6.703)] than who didn't believe. This is consistent to studies done in the southern parts of the USA (19, 23).

Those who ever witnessed homicide [AOR (95% CI) = 1.809(1.246, 2.626)] were 1.8 times more likely to support revenge than those who didn't witnessed. Consistently they were approximately 3.4 times more likely to agree on the killing of the perpetrator families even if they were not part of the conflict [AOR (95% CI) = 3.364(2.310, 4.898)], were 4.8 times more likely to be exposed for physical fighting [AOR(95% CI) = 4.836(3.110, 7.518)] and were 4.6 times more likely to be victims of murder trail [AOR(95%) = 4.596(2.774, 7.614)] than those who had not. Those who ever accused of murder [AOR (95% CI) = 2.623(1.553, 4.429)] were 2.6 times more likely to be exposed for physical fighting, were 7.3 times more likely to attempt killing [AOR (95% CI) = 7.277(2.283, 23.194)] and were 9.4 times more likely to be victims of murder trail [AOR (95% CI) = 9.369(5.187, 16.923)] than those who were/had not. Those who had victim families [AOR (95% CI) = 1.663(1.104, 2.603)] were more likely to be exposed for physical fighting and were 3 times more likely to be victims of murder trail [AOR (95% CI) = 1.828(1.077, 3.103)] than those who had not. As to many studies the strongest predictor of involvement in violence is witnessing violence and a history of previous violent behavior. A study done in the USA showed for most of the juvenile offenders (88%), court involvement preceded their injuries. Abusive parental behavior including harsh physical punishment and parental conflict were among the factors which affect violence and homicide (18, 21, 32, 39).

On the other hand those who believe they are at risk of homicide [AOR (95% CI) = 0.525(0.422, 0.653)] were by approximately 46% less likely to support homicide in some conditions and were by 70.5 % less likely to attempt killing [AOR (95% CI) = 0.295(0.140, 0.620)] but were 2.3 times more likely to be victims of murder trail [AOR (95% CI) = 2.284(1.406, 3.713)] than those who didn't not. Inconsistent to the above findings those who believed they are being at risk of homicide [AOR (95% CI) = 1.892(1.436, 2.493)] were 1.9 times more likely to support the killing of perpetrators' families. This might be due to fear that they less likely to support homicide and less attempt killing but they again might be more likely to be targets, even if there is no study to compare and needs further study.

The trends of homicide from the secondary data had an irregular pattern but there was clear high picks at the years 1993, 1997 and 2005 the explanation might be the transitional period of the country, land redistribution of the region and 2005 national election respectively might affect the instability of the community and that at least, at an individual perception level, might initiate individuals to be out of the rule of law and work on retaliations as it was raised in FGDs. Most

studies indicated the effect of political instability on violence and homicide both on the increasing and decreasing (in Taiwan) directions (18).

7.6. STRENGTH AND LIMITATIONS

This exploratory study is new in its kind that no other similar studies done in the country as far as the investigator's knowledge. The methods used in general were triangulated approaches that most researches were based on secondary data and/or national indexes. Despite this the findings were comparable to findings using other methods. Thus, it will be a valuable bench mark for planning and implementation of interventions to reduce homicide in the area and similar areas all over the country.

The sample size of the study was relatively larger, expecting that the event is rare and due to lack of prior studies on the topic but that was found to be strength as the prevalence was more than the estimated percentage for calculation but still design effect was not considered. From the total 2008 planned interviews 1949 (97.1%) were completed and included in the analysis. This is a high response rate despite it is a very sensitive topic. This high response rate could be partially due to the rapport developed between the research team and respondents and well done training and communications, in addition to careful design of the research methods.

The results obtained cost a due attention not to overestimate or underestimate during data collection. The wide geographical area covered and the randomization made the findings generalized to the study population.

Nevertheless, bias might be introduced from the respondents. For example double counting of victims and perpetrators might happen for a single victim/perpetrator shared by two different households even if the randomization and training sessions were delivered appropriately in line with the methods. Social desirability bias and recall bias of the respondents might underestimate their violent behavior.

Data collectors may be also a source of bias if they prejudge the responses of participants. The other limitations were the validity of the questionnaire and some categorization might not be standardized due to lack of previous developed instruments on the issue. Design effect was not considered in the study due to unavailability of previous work and for resources reasons.

8. CONCLUSIONS

From this exploratory assessment we can conclude that;

- The majority of the respondents used to drink alcoholic beverages like ‘tella’, ‘areke’ and beer.
- The effect of culture was so strong that most of the reasons that are justified to be right to kill an individual were honor related.
- The intention of retaliation for homicide was very high, but relatively lower retaliation intention was responded if the case was physical fight.
- People commit homicide related practices due to third parties in the culture expect them to do but that might not be normally acceptable for the majority of them.
- The love and passion of the community towards firearm was very high
- Younger age groups were affected by homicide related practices.
- Farmers and those who had no education were more supportive of homicide and revenge than civil servants and who were educated ones.
- People at lower monthly income were more likely to support homicide in any condition, support revenge for homicide and were more likely to attempt killing than those who earn greater. But inconsistently less supportive on the killing of perpetrator families who were not part of a conflict.
- People who drink alcohol were more supportive of homicide than those who did not and those who had a history of being drunk were more likely to be at risk of being exposed to physical fighting and being victim of murder trial.
- Those who said they need firearm for their security were more likely to support revenge, more likely to agree on the killing of perpetrator families and were more exposed to fighting than those who need not. Those who ever had firearm were more likely to being at risk of murder trial.
- Social relationships with close relatives mattered a lot in the violence drama existed in the area, even though it needs further study
- Those who believe they are at risk of homicide were less likely to support homicide, less likely to attempt killing but were more likely to be victims of murder trial.
- History of violence behaviors, witnessing homicide and having victim families affect the attitude towards homicide and predispose individuals to physical fighting and homicide related attempts.

- The trend of homicide was at an irregular pattern, except some picks and a relative decline in recent years.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

a) To the community

1. This study suggests the need of increasing the role of cultural organizations in educating and enforcing cultural values and working on harmful traditions like revenge. The role of religious leaders and elderly ‘yager shimagle’ committee the so called ‘blood driers’ role should be strengthened by the community organizations like ‘edir’, ‘mahiber’ and religious leaders

b) To community policing officers and police officers

2. The passions towards firearm should gain an attention and registration of illegally owned firearms should be strengthened by all possible means.
3. The work of community policing should be strengthened in the direction of homicide related problems and attitude changing communications.

c) To woreda administration, health office and police office together

4. A peace resolution committee of civil professionals, community and religious leader should be established at woreda level which can coordinate subcommittee at keble level
5. Alcohol use in market days should due attention to control its consequences
6. School interventions should be used as a new intervention strategy, as more people are educated and aware about the problem, the possibility of reduction of homicide might be realized

d) Further study focusing on:-

- ✓ The effect of social relationship on homicide
- ✓ Theories can be tested
- ✓ Involving perpetrators and using standardized measurements can be recommended

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11. ANNEXES

ANNEX 1 QUESTIONNAIRE OF THE QUANTITATIVE SURVEY /English version

QUESTIONNAIRES FOR SURVEY OF PERCEPTION, ATTITUDE OF PEOPLE AND HOMICIDE EVENT		
Name of kebele _____ Gott _____	Code _____	Date _____

Section 1 : Socio demographic characteristics		
101.	What is your age in years?	<input type="text"/>
102.	Sex	1. Male 2. Female
103.	What is your religion?	1. Orthodox 2. Islam 3. Other (specify) -----
104.	Occupation?	1. Farmer 2. House wife 3. Trading 4. Other(specify) -----
105.	Educational level	1. No education 2. Read and write 3. 1-4 4. 5-8 5. 9-12 6. College and above
106.	Marital status	1. Not married yet 2. Married 3. Separated 4. Widow/widower
Section 2: Household variables		
201.	How many individuals live in the house now?	<input type="text"/>
202.	How many dependent (age < 18) children in the house?	<input type="text"/>
203.	House roof type	1. Corrugated iron sheets 2. Thatched roof
204.	If the answer to Q 203 is 1, how many CIS covered the roof?	1. 20-50 2. 51-70 3. 71 and above
205.	How many oxen do you have?	<input type="text"/>
206.	what is your estimated monthly income?	<input type="text"/>
207.	Do you have a radio in your house?	1. Yes 2. No 88. don't know

		99. no response
Section 3 : social variables		
301.	How many brothers (≥ 18 years) do you have?	<input type="text"/>
302.	How many nephews (brother and sister sons) (≥ 18 years) do you have?	<input type="text"/>
303.	How many cousins (uncle and aunt Sons) (≥ 18 years) do you have?	<input type="text"/>
Section 4: Behavioral variables		
401.	Do you drink alcoholic beverages like Arake , Tela, beer?	1. Yes 2. No \rightarrow go to Q 403 88. Don't know 99. No response
402.	If the answer to Q 401 is yes, How frequent do you drink?	1. Daily 2. 1-2 times/week 3. 1-3 times/month 4. Less than 1 times/month 88. Don't know 99. No response
403	Did you have any history of being drunk?	1. Yes 2. No \rightarrow go to Q 405 88. Don't know 99. No response
404.	Did you have any experience of fighting/verbal insult after drunk?	1. Yes 2. No 88. Don't know 99. No response
405.	Have you been in health facility or holy water to be cured from any mental illness?	1. Yes 2. No 88. Don't know 99. No response
Section 5: perception and attitude variables		
501.	Do you think Homicide is a problem in this kebele?	1. Yes 2. No 88. Don't know 99. No response
502.	Is homicide acceptable for some conditions?	1. Yes 2. No 88. Don't know 99. No response
503.	What are the reasons you think a person should use killing as a solution of conflict in this community? (Probe and circle all that applies. Multiple responses are possible)	1. If insulted in front of others 2. If some one insult his wife 3. When a man killed own family 4. If a man redhanded having sex with own wife 5. Resource compition 6. For self defence 7. Gossip 8. Others (specify)-----

504.	What triggers a perpetrator to kill? (Immediate causes) (Probe and circle all that applies. Multiple responses are possible)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Alcohol use 2. Sexual jealousy 3. Resource theft/distruction 4. The presence of others during insult 5. The presence of fire arm 6. Other(specify)-----
505	What protects the perpetrator not to kill? (Probe and circle all that applies. Multiple responses are possible)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The number of brothers of the perprtrator 2. The number of brothers of the victim/fear of revenge 3. The presence of others during conflict 4. The number of his dependent children 5. His material possessions 6. Fear of imprisonment 7. Fear of migration/others -----
506.	Is there any cultural influence which encourages an individual to kill?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Yes 2. No 88. Don't know 99. No response
507.	What shall the brothers/sons/relatives of victims mainly do for their killed brother/father/ relatives?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kill for revenge 2. Charging the perprtrator 3. Other (specify)----- 88. Don't know 99. No response
508.	Do you think homicide revenge is an acceptable norm?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Yes 2. No 88. Don't know 99. No response
509.	Who do you think is usually the target of revenge for homicide? (Probe and circle all that applies. Multiple responses are possible)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Perprtrator 2. Perprtrator families 3. Perprtrator relatives 88. Don't know 99. No response
510.	Do you agree the family of the perpetrator should be killed even though they were not part of the conflict?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Yes 2. No 88. Don't know 99. No response
511.	What shall the brothers/sons/relatives of victims mainly do if there is no witness of who has killed their brother/father/ relatives and they are un able to charge their enemy?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Killing suspected perprtrator 2. Wittnessing falsly 3. Leaving for God 88. Don't know 99. No response

512.	What would you mainly do if any violent act done to someone close to you (brother, father, uncle, relative)?	1. Fight for revenge 2. Charging the perpetrator 3. Leaving for God 88. Don't know 99. No response
513	What would you mainly do if homicide done to someone close to you (brother, father, uncle, relative)?	1. kill for revenge 2. Charging the perpetrator 3. Leaving for God 88. Don't know 99. No response
514.	As you know people may come to be enemies even you try to avoid it. Did you think you are at risk of homicide?	1. Yes 2. No 88. Don't know 99. No response
515.	Do you think fire arm is important for your security?	1. Yes 2. No 88. Don't know 99. No response
Section 6: Experience variables		
601	Did you ever have a fire arm?	1. Yes 2. No 88. Don't know 99. No response
602	Have you ever involved in gun shoot/crossfire?	1. Yes 2. No 88. Don't know 99. No response
603	People say homicide is common in this area and everyone has either perpetrator or victim families or both. Do you have victim family member of homicide?	1. Yes 2. No 88. Don't know 99. No response
604	Do you have perpetrator family member of homicide?	1. Yes 2. No 88. Don't know 99. No response
605	Did you ever witness homicide?	1. Yes 2. No 88. Don't know 99. No response
606	Sometimes as human being we may be very angry by Someone's act or insult and tried to fight him. Did you have an experience of physical fighting?	1. Yes 2. No → go to Q .608 88. Don't know 99. No response
607	If the answer to Q 606 is yes, with whom did you	1. Other family member

	physically fight?	2. Relatives 3. Stranger 4. Other non stranger
608	When things are out of our control we may even think to kill him and others may expect us to do so. Have you ever thought to kill a person who harms you or your family?	1. Yes 2. No 88. Don't know 99. No response
609	If the answer to Q 608 is yes .Did you ever attempt to kill that person or any other?	1. Yes 2. No 88. Don't know 99. No response
610	If the answer to Q 609 is yes. What was the outcome of your attempt?	1. He run and Escaped 2. I missed in shooting 3. He fires back 4. Injurred 5. Dead 6. Other(specify)-----
611	Even if you didn't do it or it ended in peace .Did you ever accused of murder?	1. Yes 2. No 88. Don't know 99. No response
612	Did you have an experience of being victim of murder trial?	1. Yes 2. No 88. Don't know 99. No response

Thank you for your time!

Name of data collector

Signature

Date -----

Name of supervisor

Signature

Date -----

Annex 2. QUESTIONNAIRE OF THE QUANTITATIVE SURVEY /Amharic version

ህብረተሰቡ በሰው መግደልና ተያያዥ ድርጊቶች ላይ ያለውን ግንዛቤ፤ አመለካከት <input type="checkbox"/> እና ባህሪ ለማወቅ አሰሳ የሚያደረግ መጠይቅ		
ቀበሌ ----- <input type="checkbox"/> -----	የቤት መለያ ኮ <input type="checkbox"/> -----	ቀን-----

<input type="checkbox"/> ል 1፤ ዲሞክራሲና ማህበራዊ ሁኔታ <input type="checkbox"/>		
101.	ዕድሜዎት ስንት ነው?	<input type="text"/>
102.	<input type="checkbox"/> ታ	1. ወንድ 2. ሴት
103.	የሚከተሉት ሀይማኖት ?	1. ኦርቶዶክስ 2. ሙስሊም 3. ሌላ(<input type="checkbox"/> ቀስ) -----
104.	ሥራ	1. <input type="checkbox"/> ስራ 2. የቤት አመቤት 3. ነጋዴ 4. ሌላ(<input type="checkbox"/> ቀስ) -----
105.	የትምህርት ደረጃ	1. ጸልተማሪ 2. ማንበብና መጻፍ 3. 1-4ኛ <input type="checkbox"/> ል 4. 5-8ኛ <input type="checkbox"/> ል 5. 9-12ኛ <input type="checkbox"/> ል 6. ኮሌ <input type="checkbox"/> እና ከዚያ በላይ <input type="checkbox"/>
106.	የጋብቻ ሁኔታ <input type="checkbox"/>	1. እስካሁን ያላገባ/ች 2. ያገባ/ች 3. አግብቶ የፈታ/ች 4. የሞተበት/ባት
ክፍል 2. የቤት ሁኔታ መለኪያዎች		
201.	በቤት ውስጥ በቋሚነት ስንት ሰው ይኖራል?	<input type="text"/>
202.	በቤት ውስጥ ራሳቸውን ያልቻሉ (18 ዓመት ያልሞላቸው) ስንት ልጆች አሉ?	<input type="text"/>
203.	የቤቱ ክዳን የተሰራው	1. ከቆርቆሮ 2. የሣር ክዳን
204.	ለ <input type="checkbox"/> ጸቁ ቁ <input type="checkbox"/> 203 መልሱ (1) ከቆርቆሮ ከሆነ፤ የቆርቆሮ ብዛት ስንት ነው?	1. 20-50 2. 51-70 3. 71 እና ከዚያ በላይ
205.	ስንት በሬ አላችሁ?	<input type="text"/>
206.	በአማካኝ የወር ገቢያችሁ ስንት ይሆናል?	<input type="text"/>
207.	በቤት ውስጥ ሬዲዮ አለ?	1. አዎ 2. <input type="checkbox"/> ለም 88. አላውቅም 99. መልስ አልሰጡም

ክፍል 3 : የግንኙነት መለኪያ		
301.	ስንት ወንድሞች(≥18 ዓመት) አሉህ(ሽ)	<input type="checkbox"/>
302.	ስንት የወንድም እና አህት ወንድ ልጆች(≥18 ዓመት) አሉህ (ሽ)?	<input type="checkbox"/>
303.	ስንት የአክስት እና <input type="checkbox"/> አጎት ወንድ ልጆች(≥18 ዓመት) አሉህ (ሽ)?	<input type="checkbox"/>
ክፍል 4: የባህሪ መለኪያ		
401.	እንደ ጠላ፤ አረቂ፤ ቢራ የመሳሰሉትን መጠጦች <input type="checkbox"/> ወስኑ (<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> ሉ)?	1. አዎ 2. <input type="checkbox"/> አዎ →ወ <input type="checkbox"/> ቁ. 405 88. አላወቅም 99. መልስ አልሰጡም
402.	ለጥያቄ ቁጥር 401 መልስ አዎ ከሆነ፤ በየስነት ጊዜ <input type="checkbox"/> - ስኑ (<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> ሉ)?	1. በየቀኑ 2. 1-2 <input type="checkbox"/> ዜ በሃምንት 3. 1-3 <input type="checkbox"/> በወር 4. ከ 1 ጊዜ ያነሰ በወር 88. አላወቅም 99. መልስ አልሰጡም
403.	ሞቅ ብሎዎት (ሠክረዉ) የሚያወቁበት ጊዜ አለ?	1. አዎ 2. <input type="checkbox"/> አዎ →ወ <input type="checkbox"/> ቁ. 405 88. አላወቅም 99. መልስ አልሰጡም
404.	ከሞቅታ (ከሠክሩ) በኋላ ከሌሎች ጋር ተሰዳድበው (በአካል ገጥመው) የሚያወቁበት ጊዜ አለ?	1. አዎ 2. <input type="checkbox"/> አዎ 88. አላወቅም 99. መልስ አልሰጡም
405.	ከአዕምሮ ህመም ጋር በተጻጸ <input type="checkbox"/> ጸበል፤ አዋቂ ወይም ሀኪም ቤት ሄደዉ ያዉቃሉ?	1. አዎ 2. <input type="checkbox"/> አዎ 88. አላወቅም 99. መልስ አልሰጡም
ክፍል 5 : የአስተያየትና አመለካከት መለኪያዎች		
501.	ሰው መግደል የዚህ ቀበሌ ችግር ነዉ ብለው ጸስባሉ?	1. አዎ 2. <input type="checkbox"/> አዎ 88. አላወቅም 99. መልስ አልሰጡም
502.	በአንዳንድ አስገዳጅ ሁኔታዎች ሰው መ <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> ል ተቀባይነት የሚያገኝበት ጊዜ ይኖራል?	1. አዎ 2. <input type="checkbox"/> አዎ 88. አላወቅም 99. መልስ አልሰጡም
503.	አንድ ሰው ሰው ለመግደል የሚያነሳሱት ምን ምን ምክንያቶች ናቸዉ ? (እያንዳንዱን ምርጫ አቅርብ፤ የሚስማሙበትን አክብብ፤ ከአንድ በላይ መልስ መስጠት ይችላሉ)	1. በሰው ፊት ሲሰደብ 2. ሚስቱን ሰው ሲሰድብበት 3. ሌላ ሰው ቤተሰቡን ሲገልበት 4. ባለቤቱ/ ተ <input type="checkbox"/> ር ሌላ ሰ <input type="checkbox"/> ግንኙነት ሲፈጽም ቢገኝ 5. በንብረትና መሬት ጠብ 6. ራስን ለመከላከል 7. በሀሜት መነሳሳት 8. ሌላ(<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> ቀስ) -----

504.	<p>ገዳዩን <input type="checkbox"/> እንዲገል የሚያነሳሱ ቅጽበታዊ ምክንያቶች ምን ምን ናቸው?</p> <p>(እያንዳንዱን ምርጫ አቅርብ፤ የሚስማሙበትን አክብብ፤ ከአንድ በላይ መልስ መምረጥ ይቻላል)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. መ<input type="checkbox"/> 2. ወሲባዊ ቅናት 3. ንብረት ሲወድም(ሲሰረቅ) 4. ሲሰዳደቡ የሌሎች መኖር 5. የመሳሪያ መኖር 6. ሌላ(<input type="checkbox"/> ቀስ) -----
505	<p>ገዳዩን <input type="checkbox"/> እንዳይገል የሚከለክሉት ምክንያቶች ምን ሊሆኑ ይችላሉ?</p> <p>(እያንዳንዱን ምርጫ አቅርብ፤ የሚስማሙበትን አክብብ፤ ከአንድ በላይ መልስ መምረጥ ይቻላል)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. የወንድሞቹ ብዛት 2. ሲገል ጸሰበ <input type="checkbox"/> ሰው ወንድሞች ብዛት (በቀልን ፈርቶ) 3. በግጭቱ ወቅት የሌሎች መኖር 4. ራሳቸውን ያልቻሉ ልጆች መኖር 5. ያለው ሀብትና ንብረት መጠን 6. እስርን በመፍራት 7. ሌላ(<input type="checkbox"/> ቀስ) -----
506.	<p>በዚህ አካባቢ አንድ ሰው እንዲገል ተጽኖ የሚያደርግ ባህል አለ?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. አዎ 2. <input type="checkbox"/> ለም 88. አላውቅም 99. መልስ አልሰጡም
507.	<p>እንደርስዎ ሀሳብ፤ ወንድም ወይም የቅርብ ዘመድ <input type="checkbox"/> ተገደለበት ሰው በዋናነት ምንድነው ማድረግ ያለበት?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ደሙን መመለስ 2. ገዳዩን መክሰስ 3. ሌላ (<input type="checkbox"/> ቀስ)----- 88. አላውቅም 99. መልስ አልሰጡም
508.	<p>ደምን መመለስ ተቀባይነት ያለው ባህል ነው ብለው ጸስባሉ?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. አዎ 2. <input type="checkbox"/> ለም 88. አላውቅም 99. መልስ አልሰጡም
509.	<p>እንደርስዎ ሀሳብ፤ ደም ለመመለስ ማን ላይ ነው የሚነጣጠረው?</p> <p>(እያንዳንዱን ምርጫ አቅርብ፤ የሚስማሙበትን አክብብ፤ ከአንድ በላይ መልስ መምረጥ ይቻላል)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input type="checkbox"/> ላ 2. የገዳዩ ቤተሰቦች ላይ 3. የገዳዩ ዘመዶች ላይ 88. አላውቅም 99. መልስ አልሰጡም
510.	<p>ምንም እንኳ የግጭቱ አካል ባይሆኑም የገዳዩ ቤተሰቦች መገደል አለባቸው ብለው ያስባሉ?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. አዎ 2. <input type="checkbox"/> ለም 88. አላውቅም 99. መልስ አልሰጡም
511.	<p><input type="checkbox"/> ማች ቤተሰቦች የተገደለባቸውን ወገን ማን እንደገደለው ምስክር ከሌለ በዋናነት ምንድን ነው ማድረግ ያለባቸው?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input type="checkbox"/> ረ <input type="checkbox"/> ሩትን ሰው መ<input type="checkbox"/> ል 2. በሀሰት መስክር <input type="checkbox"/> ረ <input type="checkbox"/> ሩትን ማሳሰር 3. ለእግዚአብሔር መተወ 88. አላውቅም 99. መልስ አልሰጡም

512.	ለእርስዎ ቅርብ በሆነ ሰው (ወንድም፣ አባት፣ አጎት ወዘተ) ላይ ድብድብ ቢፈጸምበት በዋናነት ምን ጸርግሎት?	1. ጥቃቱን በድብድብ መመለስ 2. ተደባዳቢውን መክሰስ 3. ለእግዚአብሔር መተወ. 88. አላወቅም 99. መልስ አልሰጡም
513	ለእርስዎ ቅርብ በሆነ ሰው (ወንድም፣ አባት፣ አጎት ወዘተ) ላይ ግድያ ቢፈጸምበት በዋናነት ምን ጸርግሎት?	1. ደሙን መመለስ 2. ገዳዩን መክሰስ 3. ለእግዚአብሔር መተወ. 88. አላወቅም 99. መልስ አልሰጡም
514.	አንዳንዴ ቢሸሹትም የማይተወ ሰው ይኖራልና፤ አርስዎ ሰው ሲገለጽ ይችላል ብለው ያስባሉ?	1. አዎ 2. <input type="checkbox"/> አዎ 88. አላወቅም 99. መልስ አልሰጡም
515.	ለደህንነትዎ የአጅ መሳሪያ ጸስግሎት ብለው ጸስባሉ?	1. አዎ 2. <input type="checkbox"/> አዎ 88. አላወቅም 99. መልስ አልሰጡም
ክፍል 6: የድርጊት(ልምድ) መለኪያዎች		
601	በቤት ውስጥ የአጅ መሳሪያ አላችሁ(ነበራችሁ)?	1. አዎ 2. <input type="checkbox"/> አዎ 88. አላወቅም 99. መልስ አልሰጡም
602	ወደ ሌላ ሰው ተኩሰው ወይም በተኩስ ልውውጥ ተሳተፈው ያውቃሉ?	1. አዎ 2. <input type="checkbox"/> አዎ 88. አላወቅም 99. መልስ አልሰጡም
603	ብቻ ሰው ይህን አካባቢ በመጠጠል (ግም በመመለስ) ታወቀ ነው ይላል። በግም ምክንያት ብዙ ቤተሰብ የገዳይ ወይ የማች ወይም የሁለቱም ወገን ያልሆነ ማግኘት ይከብዳል ይላሉ። ለመሆኑ በአናንተ ቤት ከዚህ ጋር ተያይዞ የሞተ ሰው አለ?	1. አዎ 2. <input type="checkbox"/> አዎ 88. አላወቅም 99. መልስ አልሰጡም
604	ነፍስ የጠፋበትን የቤተሰብ አባል ይኖር ይሆን?	1. አዎ 2. <input type="checkbox"/> አዎ 88. አላወቅም 99. መልስ አልሰጡም
605	ምናልባት አርስዎ ሰው ሲገደል አይተው ያውቃሉ?	1. አዎ 2. <input type="checkbox"/> አዎ 88. አላወቅም 99. መልስ አልሰጡም
606	አንዳንዴ እንደ ሰው ፍጡር በሰዎች ድርጊት ወይም ስድብ በጣም ልንናደድ እንችላለን በዚህም የተነሳ ድብድብ ሊከሰት ይችላል። አርስዎ ከሰው ጋር ተጠቅመው ጸድቃሉ?	1. አዎ 2. <input type="checkbox"/> አዎ → ወጪ ቁ. 608 88. አላወቅም 99. መልስ አልሰጡም

607	ለጥያቄ ቀጥሮ 606. መልስ አዎ ከሆነ፤ የተደባደቡት ከማን ጋር ነበር?	1. ከቤተሰብ አባል ጋር 2. ከዘመድ ጋር 3. ዘመድ ካልሆነ ሌላ ሰው <input type="checkbox"/> ር 4. ከማይታወቅ ሰው: <input type="checkbox"/> ር
608	ነገሮች ከቁጥጥር ውጭ ይሆኑና አንዳንዴ ሰው ለመግደል ሁሉ አናስባለን፤ ሌሎችም ያን አንድናደርግ ሊገፋፉን ይችላሉ። ለመሆኑ እርሱ-ራስዎን ወይም ቤተሰብዎን የጎዳን ሰው አንደዚያ ያሰቡበት ጊዜ አለ?	1. አዎ 2. <input type="checkbox"/> ለም 88. አላወቅም 99. መልስ አልሰጠም
609	ለጥያቄ ቀጥሮ 608. መልስ አዎ ከሆነ፤ ሃሳብዎን ለመተግበር ሙከራ አድርገው ያውቃሉ?	1. አዎ 2. <input type="checkbox"/> ለም 88. አላወቅም 99. መልስ አልሰጠም
610	ለጥያቄ ቀጥሮ 609. መልስ አዎ ከሆነ፤ የሙከራዎ ውጤት ምን ነበር?	1. ተፍላጊው ርጦ አመለጠ 2. ተኩሽ ሳትኩት 3. ተኩስ ተከፈተብኝ 4. ቆስሎ ነበር 5. ሞተ 6. ሌላ(<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> ቀስ) -----
611	ባልፈጸሙትም ሆነ፤ ወይም በአርቅ የተጠናቀቀ በግድያ የተከሰሱበት ጊዜ ነበር?	1. አዎ 2. <input type="checkbox"/> ለም 88. አላወቅም 99. መልስ አልሰጠም
612	በአርቅ ላይ የግድያ ሙከራ ተደርጎ ያውቃል?	1. አዎ 2. <input type="checkbox"/> ለም 88. አላወቅም 99. መልስ አልሰጠም

ለትብብርዎ አመሰግናለሁ !

ታ ሰብሳቢ ስም ----- ርማ ----- ቀን -----

የሱፐርቫይዘር ስም ----- ርማ ----- ቀን -----

ANNEX 3. TOPIC GUIDE FOR THE FGDs /English version/

I. Warm-up and Explanation (10 minutes)

A. Introduction

1. Thanks for coming. My name is Sewnet Beyene and my assistant is Yirga Alem. I am a postgraduate student in public health at jimma University and my assistant is an expert in Shebel Berenta Woreda Health office.
2. Your presence is important. We are going to have group interview and discussion. We will ask you very general questions.

B. Purpose

1. We are aware that communities are a source of knowledge and have a solution for every problem. We want to learn from your experiences about homicide and how community manage problems arising in this case, so that the solution will be formulated based on the reality on the ground.
2. I am interested in all your ideas, comments and suggestions. There is no right or wrong answers. All comments-both positive and negative-are welcome.
3. Please feel free to disagree with one another; we would like to have many points of views.
4. Whatever you say will not make me feel good or bad or affect me in any way. So feel free to give frank and honest answers.

C. Procedure

1. If you don't mind, we will record (audiotape) the discussion. The purpose is to ensure we don't miss anything you said. All comments are confidential, used for research purposes only. You don't need of mentioning your name during discussion
2. I want this to be a group discussion. So you need not wait for me to call on you. Please speak one at a time, so that the tape-recorder can pick up everything. I expect you to talk to one another but you should not interrupt when someone is speaking. You have to respect the views of others even if it may be different from yours.
3. We have a lot of ground to cover, so I may change the subject or move ahead. Please stop me if you want to add something.
4. If anyone of you have a mobile phone please switch it off until the end of the session.

5. You all participants have an obligation to keep confidential what you hear from other participants.

D. Self introduction

Tell us your age and something about yourself (will be done before starting recording and will be on voluntary basis)

II. Main discussion – Homicide

A. How do you describe/account the existing homicide condition in this community?

- How common is homicide in this woreda?
- Do you think this woreda is known for homicide?
- What do you feel about it?
- Can you explain it by taking example from real cases of you knows?

B. When do you think homicide is unavoidable and justified to be right?

- What are the main reasons do you think a person should use killing as a solution of conflict in this community?
- Describe risk factors which can lead a conflict to homicide?
- Is there any cultural influence which encourages an individual to kill?
- Do you think the revenge of victim families on the perpetrator families as the right measure to be taken?
- Who should kill for revenge from families/relatives of victims?
- Who should be targeted to be killed as revenge from the perpetrator side?

C. Do you think fire arm is important for every house hold in this area?

- Why do we need fire arm?
- What should be done to control fire arm?
- Is legal selling and licensing a better option than total control?

D. Who in the community most often commits homicide (or experiences) it? What are your reasons for feeling that way?

E. What do you think of the pattern /magnitude of homicide?

- At different political situations?

- Is there any gender, age, geography, season of the year, day of the month difference in homicide

F. Why do you think homicide happens?

- What do you think some of the causes are?
- What predisposes victims to homicide?
- What triggers perpetrators to kill?
- What is the role of cultural values and belief systems in the occurrence of homicide? Are there specific cultural elements which promote homicide? Are there any norms which discourage killers? Please tell me more about these.

G. What would you do if any violent act or homicide done to someone close to you (brother, uncle, relative)? What makes you feel this way?

- Is homicide revenge an expected norm? What is expected? What is not expected? What makes you feel that way?
- Is homicide acceptable sometimes? What is acceptable? What is not acceptable? What makes you feel that way?

H. What do you think should be done about homicide?

- What measures are there to manage homicide?
- Who should do what?
- What actions are being undertaken now? In what context?
- What would you do if you had the authority?

III. Closing

- ✓ Summarize the themes discussed
- ✓ Before we end, do you have anything else you would like to say or ask? Anything you liked or disliked about this discussion? Do you suggest anybody else whom you think to be very knowledgeable to be interviewed? If you want to talk to me in person, you are welcome to do so after we finish.
- ✓ Thank you so much for coming and sharing your views! Your insights have been very helpful!

ANNEX 4. TOPIC GUIDE FOR IN-DEPTH INTERVIEWS/English version/

I. Warm-up and Explanation (5 minutes)

A. Introduction

1. Thanks for coming. My name is Sewnet Beyene. I am a postgraduate student in public health at jimma University.
2. Your presence is important. We are going to have in-depth interview and discussion. I will ask you very general questions.

B. Purpose

1. We are aware that your profession and responsibility will be a source of knowledge and have insights to the solution of the problem. We want to learn from your experiences about homicide and how your profession contributes to manage problems arising in this case, so that the solution will be formulated based on the reality and professional opinions.
2. I am interested in all your ideas, comments and suggestions. There is no right or wrong answers. All comments-both positive and negative-are welcome.
3. Please feel free to disagree on points that you don't accept; we would like to have many points of views.
4. Whatever you say will not make me feel good or bad or affect me in any way. So feel free to give frank and honest answers.

C. Procedure

1. If you don't mind, we will record (audiotape) the discussion. The purpose is to ensure we don't miss anything you said. All comments are confidential, used for research purposes only. You don't need to mention your name if you want.
2. I want this to be a free discussion so please say what you want to say.
3. We have a lot of ground to cover, so I may change the subject or move ahead. Please stop me if you want to add something.
4. If don't mind a mobile phone may disturb our discussion please let us switch it off until the end of our session.

D. Self introduction

Tell us your educational status, work experience, others about yourself (will be done before tape recording and is voluntary)

II. Main discussion – Homicide

A. How do you describe/account the existing homicide condition in this community?

- How common is homicide in this woreda?
- Do you think this woreda is known for homicide?
- What do you feel about it?
- Can you explain it by taking example from real cases of you knows?

B. When do you think homicide is unavoidable and justified to be right?

- What are the main reasons do you think a person should use killing as a solution of conflict in this community?
- Describe risk factors which can lead a conflict to homicide?
- Is there any cultural influence which encourages an individual to kill?
- Do you think the revenge of victim families on the perpetrator families as the right measure to be taken?
- Who should kill for revenge from families/relatives of victims?
- Who should be targeted to be killed as revenge from the perpetrators side?

C. Do you think fire arm is important for every house hold in the area?

- Why do we need fire arm?
- What should be done to control fire arm?
- Is legal selling and licensing a better option than total control?

D. Who in the community most often commits homicide (or experiences) it? What are your reasons for feeling that way?

E. What do you think of the pattern /magnitude of homicide?

- At different political situations?
- Is there any gender, age, geography, season of the year, day of the month difference in homicide?

F. Why do you think homicide happens?

- What do you think some of the causes are?
- What predisposes victims to homicide?
- What triggers perpetrators to kill?
- What is the role of cultural values and belief systems in the occurrence of homicide? Are there specific cultural elements which promote homicide? Are there any which norms which discourage killers? Please tell me more about these.

G. What would you do if any violent act or homicide done to someone close to you (brother, uncle, relative)? What makes you feel this way?

- Is homicide revenge an expected norm? What is expected? What is not expected? What makes you feel that way?
- Is homicide acceptable sometimes? What is acceptable? What is not acceptable? What makes you feel that way?

H. What do you think should be done about homicide?

- What measures are there to manage homicide?
- Who should do what?
- What actions are being undertaken now? In what context?
- What would you do in relation to your responsibility?

III. Closing

- ✓ Summarize the themes discussed
- ✓ Before we end, do you have anything else you would like to say or ask? Anything you liked or disliked about this discussion? Do you suggest anybody else whom you think to be very knowledgeable to be interviewed? If you want to talk to me in person, you are welcome to do so after we finish.
- ✓ Thank you so much for coming and sharing your views! Your insights have been very helpful!

ANNEX 5. ORAL CONSENT FORM FOR QUANTITATIVE SURVEY/English version/

INTRODUCTION:

My name is ----- . I am working as data collector in a survey conducted by the Department of Epidemiology, College of Public Health and Medical Sciences, Jimma University. We are interviewing adults here about homicide, exploring community’s opinions, perception/attitude, and practice in order to generate information necessary for the planning of appropriate strategies (interventions) to prevent its impact on the public well being and health. To attain this purpose, your honest and genuine participation by responding to the question prepared is very important and highly appreciated.

CONFIDENTIALITY AND CONSENT

We would ask you to answer some personal questions that some people may find it personal and secrete to answer. But we assure you that your answers are completely confidential. Your name will not be written on this form. The administrators, police, health workers and other People will not be told what you said in connection to your name. You do not have to answer any question if you don't want to and you can stop the interview at any time. However your honest answer to these questions will help us to better understand the experience of people related to homicide. We would greatly appreciate your help in responding to this study. The interview will take about 20 - 30 minutes. If you have any questions, you can contact the researcher at (058)7714124 or (09)23434310 during or after the study is completed.

Would you be willing to participate?

Yes Proceed

No Thank and stop here.

Signature of interviewer

(Certifying that respondent has given informed consent verbally)

ANNEX 6. ORAL CONSENT FORM FOR QUANTITATIVE SURVEY/ Amharic version

በጥናቱ ለሚሳተፉ በቃል የሚሰጥ የስምምነት መጠየቂያ ቅጽ

እኔ-----እባላለሁ። በጅም ዩኒቨርሲቲ የህብረተሰብ ጤናና ህክምና ሳይንስ ኮሌጅ የኢ.ፒ.ዲ.ሞሎጅ ትምህርት ክፍል በሚያጠናው ጥናት የመረጠ ሰብሳቢ ሆኜ እየሠራሁ ነው። ጥናቱ በእጣ በተመረጡ ቤቶች የሚገኙ አዋቂዎችን፣ በመጠየቅ ስለ ሰው መግደልና ደም መመላለስ፣ የህብረተሰቡን አመለካከት አስተያየትና ተግባራት በማወቅ የተሻለ ግንዛቤ ማግኘትና የህብረተሰቡን ጤናና ደህንነት ለመጠበቅ የሚረዱ ተግባራትን ለማከናወን ያግዛል።

ይህን ተግባር ለመገምገም እርስዎ በጎ ፈቃድና መጠይቁን በመመለስ የሚያደርጉት ቅን ተሳትፎ በጣም አስፈላጊና እጅግ የምናደንቀው ይሆናል።

ስለሚሰጥራዎትና ለመጠይቁ መስማማት

አንዳንድ ግላዊ ጥያቄዎችን እንጠይቀዎታለን አንዳንድ ሰዎች ሚስጥራዊ የሚሉትን ዓይነት። ነገር ግን የሚነግሩን መልስ ሙሉ በሙሉ ሚስጥራዊነቱ የተጠበቀና ለማንም የማይነገር ይሆናል። በዚህ ስምዎ ላይ ስምዎ አይጻፍም። እኔም አስተዳዳሪዎች፣ ፖሊስ፣ የጤና ባለሙያዎችም ሆኑ ሌሎች እርስዎ የመለሱት መልስ ከስመዎ ጋር ተያይዞ አይነገራቸውም። የማይፈልጉትን ጥያቄ አለመመለስ ፣ ቃል መጠይቁንም ካለፈሉት ማቋረጥ ይችላሉ። ነገር ግን የእርስዎ ጥያቄዎችን መመለስ ሰው መግደልና ደም መመላለስን በተመለከተ በአካባቢው ህብረተሰብ ዘንድ ያለውን ልመድና አመለካከት እንድናውቅ በእርሳ ይረዳናል። ተሳትፎዎንም በጣም እናደንቃለን። ቃል መጠይቁ ከ20-30 ሰቂቃ ይደረጋል። መጠየቅ የሚፈልጉት ካለ በጥንቱ ወቅትም ሆነ ከዚያ በኋላ የጥንቱን ባለቤት በስልጠና ቁጥር 058 771 4124 ወይም 09 23 43 43 10 በመደወል መጠየቅ ይችላሉ።

ለመሳተፍ ስቃይ ነዎት?

አዎ መጠይቁን ቀጥል

አይደለሁም አመስግነህ ተሰናበት

 መረጠ ሰብሳቢው፣ ርም

(በቃል ቆይቶ፣ ተሳታፊዎች መስማማታቸውን በማረጋገጥ)

**ANNEX 7. ORAL CONSENT FORM FOR FOCUS GROUPS/English version/
(To be read to the group by the moderator)**

Name of the study: Why Homicide is our problem

Investigator: Sewnet Beyene

You are being asked to take part in a group discussion facilitated by me and we will have several other similar sessions like this and in-depth interviews. The groups will talk about why and how homicide is happen in this area. The findings will inform policy-and decision-makers and, consequently, help the law and health sector programs to be informed directly from the community. Thus, your involvement is highly appreciated.

If you wish to participate in this study, you will be interviewed for 1-1: 30 hours. You are free to decide not to enroll in this study or to withdraw at any time. We are asking you to participate because we thought you know something about the subject under study.

This discussion will give you an opportunity to share your views and learn from the discussion. We think others can learn a lot from your experiences and the findings will be used to help people. There may be a chance that some of the things that will be raised might make you uncomfortable. There is also a small chance that others in the group may tell someone you were taking part or report what you said. We, however, would like to note that participants must not do so.

No one will know that you took part in the research. The groups will be tape-recorded with voices only. The audiotape is only to help us remember what was said. They will be kept absolutely confidential and will be destroyed after sometime.

The note-taker will write down the opinions of the group during the sessions. We will not record your name or any other personal things about you during the discussion. We strongly urge participants not to reveal outside the group information they may have heard during the session.

We will protect information about you and your participation in this research to the best of our ability. If the results of this research are published, your name will not be shown. There is no payment for your participation but, 10 birr for each participant will be expended for entertainment during discussion. If you have any questions, you can contact the researcher at (058)7714124 or (09)23434310 during or after the study is completed.

Are you willing to be in the focus group to talk about homicide?

I further will agree to keep confidential anything that is said in the group discussion.

Name and Signature----- (Date) -----

(Moderator who obtained verbal consent of respondents)

ANNEX 8. ORAL CONSENT FORM FOR IN-DEPTH INTERVIEWS/English version/

Name of the study: why Homicide is our problem

Investigator: SEWNET BEYENE

This interview is conducted to gather detailed information on the why and how of homicide occurrence in the community. We are talking to people whom we believe have knowledge about the issue under study. The findings will inform policy-and decision-makers and consequently help the laws, policies and programs to be based on the reality on the ground, and hence, your involvement is highly appreciated. The interview might include some questions on private matters. It will take most people up to 90 minutes to answer the questions.

The names of people who agree to be interviewed will not be recorded without their permission. But the information you give will not be linked to your name or identity so that no one else knows whether you participated in the research or not.

Your participation is voluntary and you can refuse to take part. You may refuse to answer any question in the interview or stop the interview at any time.

You will not be paid for taking part in the research but an entertainment cost of 10 birr will be expended (mineral water and coffee)

If you have any question, you can contact the researcher at (058)7714124 or (09)23434310

Are you willing to be part of the study?

Every aspect of the research outlined above has been fully explained to the volunteer in Amharic.

I further agree to keep confidential everything said by the interviewee.

(Name and Signature of person obtaining consent)

(Date)

ANNEX 9. FORMAT FOR SECONDARY DATA COLLECTION ON HOMICIDE

Table1. Format for victims on homicide from police /court records of Shebel Berenta Woreda East Gojjam, Ethiopia

C/code	Demography of victims			Crime scene					
	When killed			kebele	Day of the week	Time of the day	month	year	Method of Killing/tool
Age	sex	MS							
001									

Table 2: Format for corresponding perpetrators of the victims in table 1, from police /court records of Shebel Berenta Woreda East Gojjam, Ethiopia

C/ code	Demography of perpetrators			perpetrator				remark (killer not known)
	Age	sex	M S	Relationship with victim	Reason of killing	Current status	cross fire Yes/no	
001								

Keys:

C/code: - common code for victim and corresponding perpetrator

MS: - Marital Status

Current status

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| 1. Married | 1. Imprisoned |
| 2. Not married | 2. hide |
| 3. Divorced | 3. killed |
| 4. Widow/widowed | 4. Unknown |
| 5. Other (specify in the space briefly) ----- | |

Annex 10. Year of crime versus counts of homicide victims, number of charges and number of charged perpetrators, Shebel Berenta Woreda, East Gojjam, North West Ethiopia, February – March 2012

Year of crime	Number of victims (killed)	Projected population	Rate /100,000 population	Numbers of charges	Number of charged perpetrators
1993	29	69836	42	22	32
1994	21	71774	29	15	30
1995	9	73766	12	7	10
1996	6	75813	8	6	10
1997	28	77917	36	17	34
1998	14	80079	18	10	21
1999	20	82301	24	15	34
2000	9	84585	11	8	13
2001	11	86932	13	9	35
2002	9	89344	10	9	15
2003	13	91823	14	13	25
2004	9	94371	10	9	14
2005	30	96990	31	29	49
2006	10	99681	10	9	13
2007	8	102447	8	8	14
2008	16	105290	15	16	24
2009	13	108212	12	13	16
2010	9	111215	8	9	11
Total	264	-	-	224	400

(Source: - Police records of Shebel Berenta Woreda,)