





Lesbians, gays and the law

Legal status of homosexuality 2007

In many countries anti-gay laws specify male homosexuality or male sexual acts, but in all cases the laws also apply to lesbians. Legal prohibitions are typically written against specific sexual acts, but often are wielded broadly to police gays and lesbians.

-  criminalized in national law and subject to the death penalty
-  criminalized in national law
-  legal or no laws are in place that criminalize homosexuality
-  unknown or unclear

Netherlands 2001
First country to allow same-sex couples to marry on same terms as heterosexuals.

Iraq
Death penalty may apply under shari'a laws that now have legal standing.

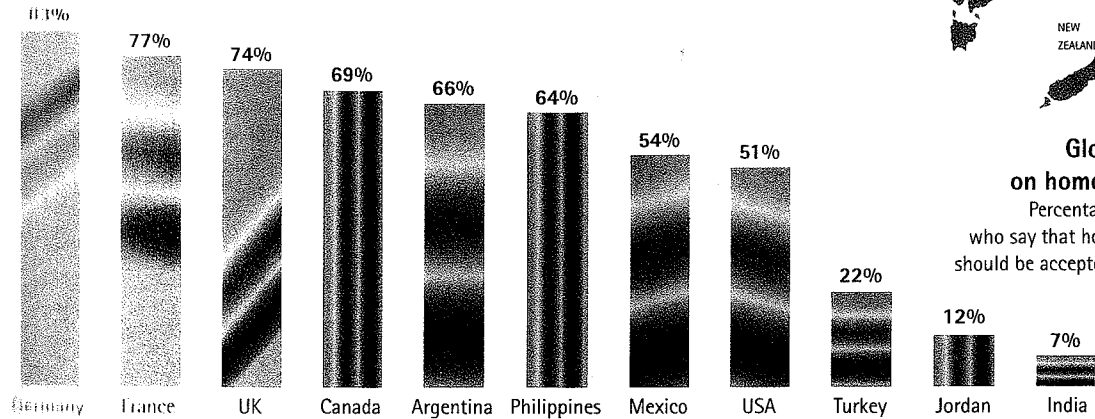
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The Court ruling ended all remaining sodomy laws; vs had been used to police gay men ans.

Iran
Since 1979, more than 4,000 people have been executed for homosexuality.

South Africa 1994
First country to include equal protection for lesbians and gays in a national constitution.

Where homosexuality is criminalized, the prevailing view is that recognition of same-sex relationships is not possible.

ended in same-sex relationships.
Australia time-sexual relationships.



Global views on homosexuality

Percentage of people who say that homosexuality should be accepted by society 2003

7 Domestic Violence

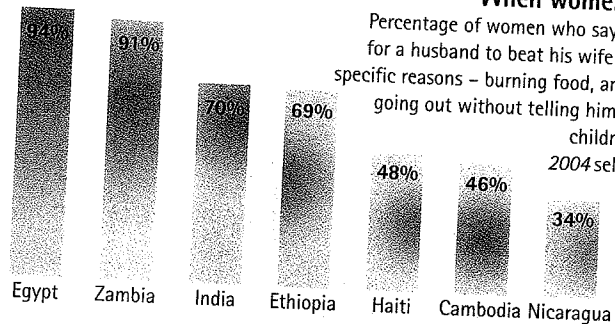
For millions of women, the home is the most dangerous place they could be. Far from being a place of safety, the family is often a cradle of violence. Women suffer cruelties in their homes every day, from all family members. Domestic violence is a means of keeping women "in their place," literally confined to relationship, household, or family structures defined by patriarchal authority. Violence against women sustains particular sexual, family, and household structures, and keeps women subordinate to them.

Domestic violence is the most ubiquitous constant in women's lives around the world. There is virtually no place where it is not a significant problem, and women of no race, class, or age are exempt from its reach. Statistics on domestic violence are notoriously unreliable. What information we do have about it is only available because of concerted campaigns by women to bring attention to this issue.

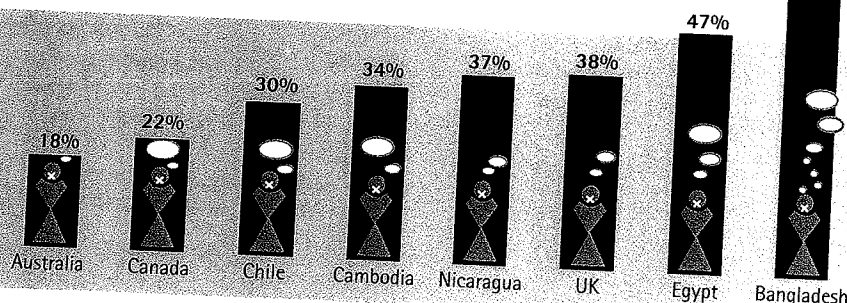
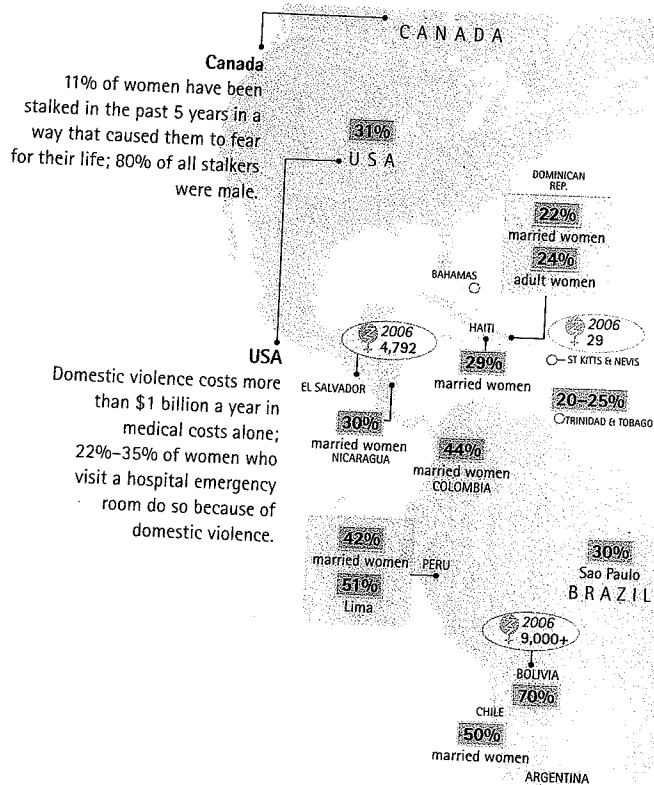
Violence against women is often ignored or even condoned by the state on the grounds that it is a "private" matter.

“ Significant numbers of the world's population are routinely subject to torture, starvation, terrorism, humiliation, mutilation and even murder simply because they are female. Crimes such as these against any other group would be recognized as a civil and political emergency. ”

Charlotte Bunch and Roxanna Carrillo



When women say it's OK
Percentage of women who say it is acceptable for a husband to beat his wife for one or more specific reasons – burning food, arguing with him, going out without telling him, neglecting the children, refusing sex
2004 selected countries



Suffering in silence
Percentage of physically abused women who never told family or officials about their abuse
2002 selected countries

Canada Nr.

women say it's OK
 to say it is acceptable
 to be wife for one or more
 men, arguing with him,
 neglecting the children,
 refusing sex

14%

Argentina

22%
 married women
 24%
 all women

20-25%
 TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

30%
 Sao Paulo
 BRAZIL

2006
 9,000+
 BOLIVIA
 70%

Argentina

Argentina
 Buenos Aires
 10% of
 women
 1 day

10%
 physically abused women
 by police or officials

es

UK

One incident of domestic violence is reported to the police every minute, accounting for 16% of all crime; 77% of victims of domestic violence are women; 25% of women will be affected by domestic violence in their lifetime; For women aged 19-44, domestic violence is the leading cause of morbidity.

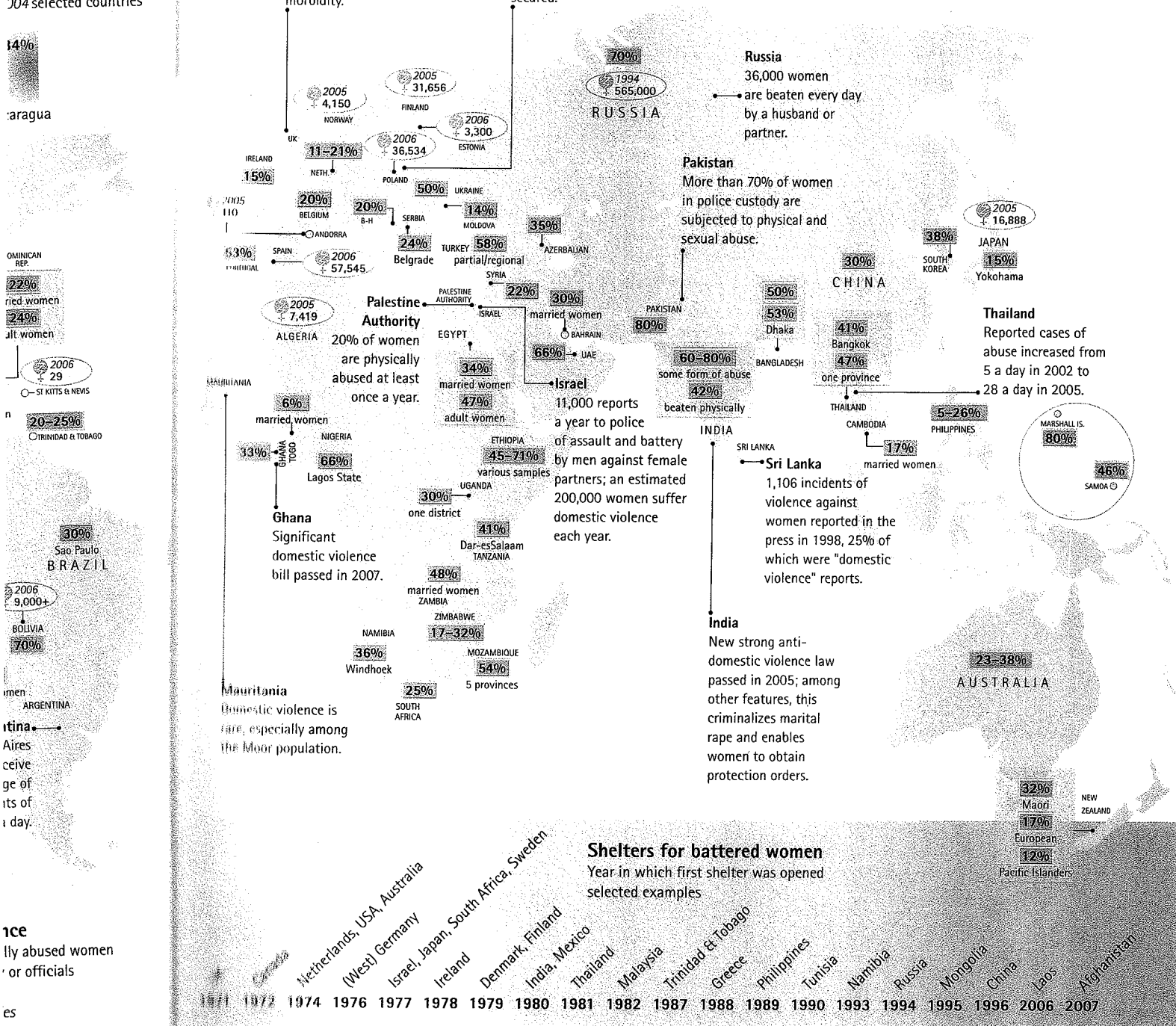
Poland

In 2006, 20,809 cases were prosecuted, 8,938 convictions were secured.

Violence against women

10% proportion of adult women who say they have experienced physical abuse by a male partner or intimate

number of cases of domestic violence reported to the police date given



Shelters for battered women

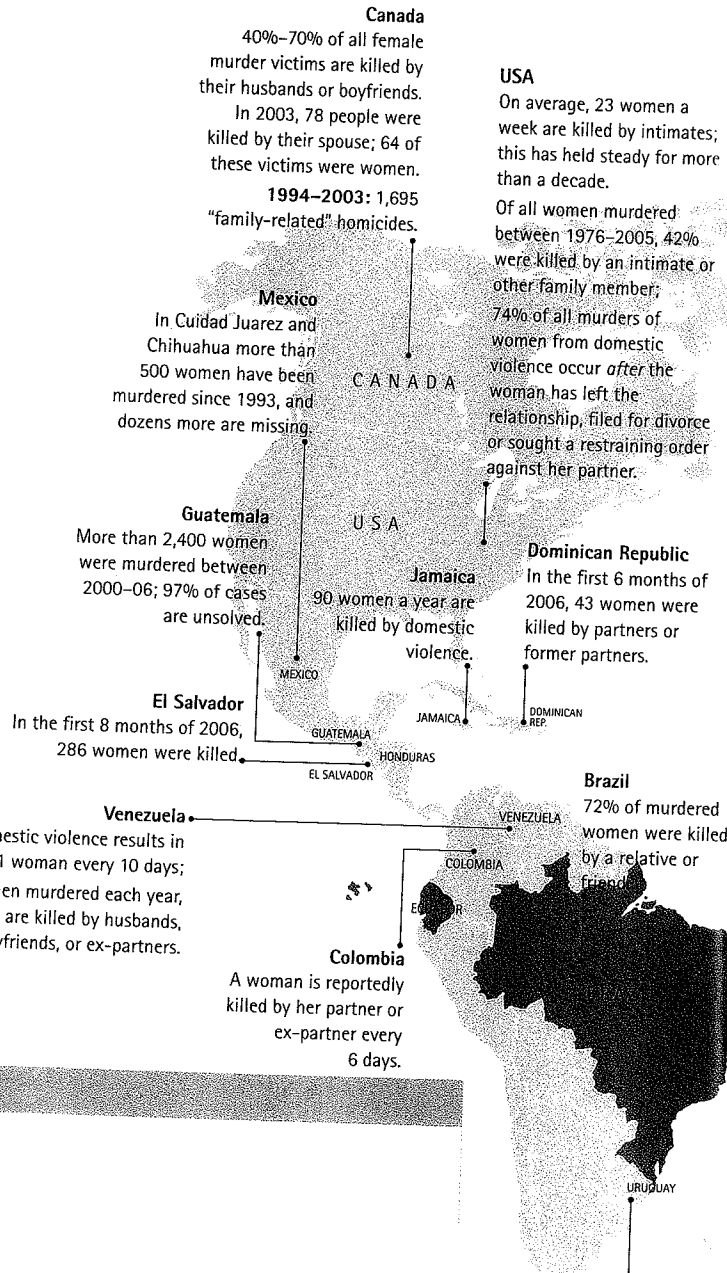
Year in which first shelter was opened selected examples



8 Murder

At least one woman in three in the world has been beaten, coerced into sex, or otherwise abused in her lifetime by a member of her family. For the majority of such women, the abuse is repeated over months or years. In an astonishing number of cases, "ordinary" domestic violence culminates in murder. Violence against women often escalates when the woman tries to leave an abusive relationship – this is when violent partners are most likely to turn to murder.

Some patterns of women-murder are culture and place-specific: dowry-burnings in India and Pakistan, bride-price murders in Zambia, gun-murders in the USA. "Honor killing" is a term used to identify a form of legally or socially sanctioned revenge exercised within a family against a woman who is deemed to have soiled the family's honor, usually through behavior that is judged to be sexually inappropriate. Women's human rights activists are increasing pressure on governments to take action against honor killings, but many governments are reluctant to do so.

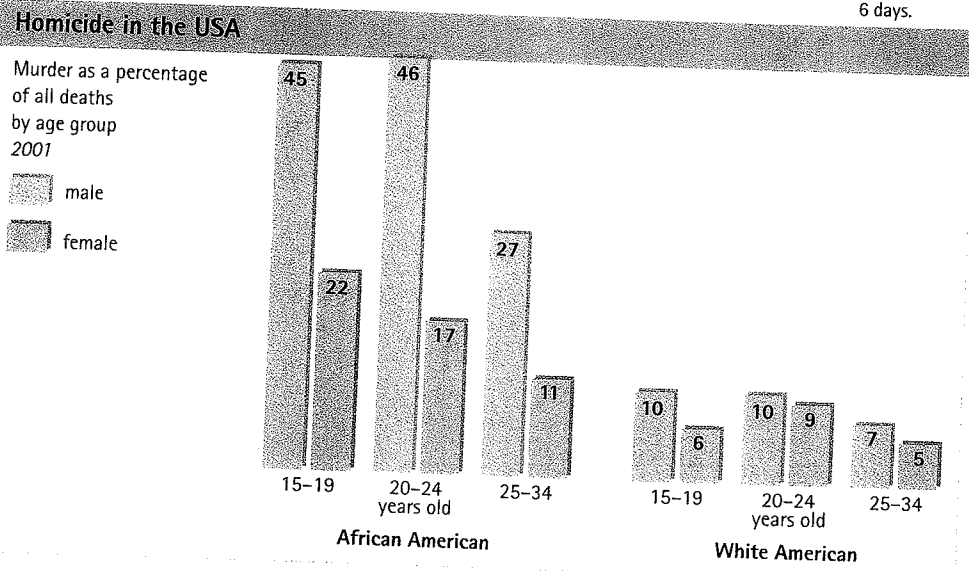


France: A v every 4 day partner and

UK: were on 11

Lebano penalties are reduced if a woman is killed in response to a "socially unacceptable" sexual relationship

In 2007 Lebanon's most senior Shi'ite cleric issued a religious decree against honor killings.






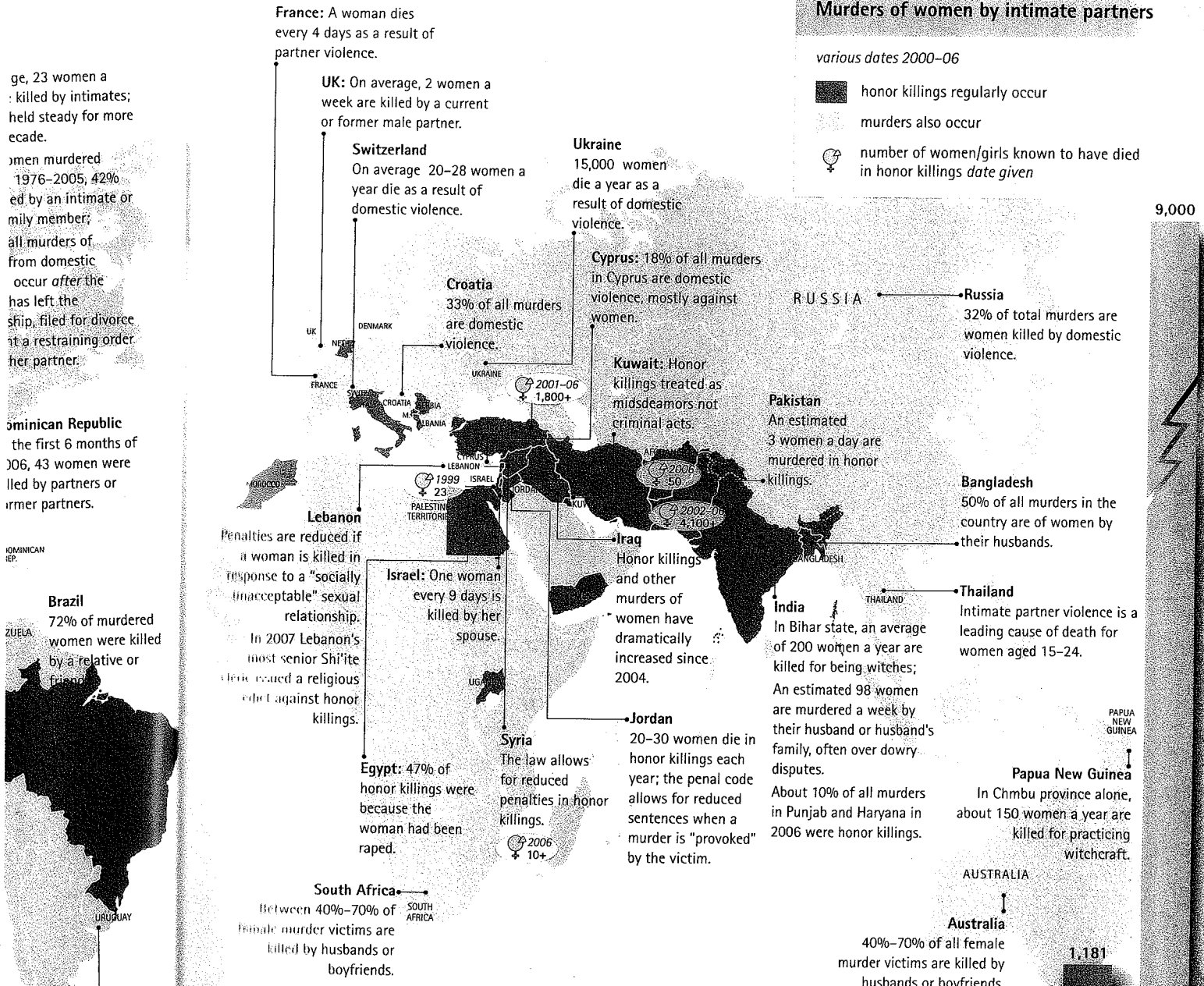
South / Between 40%–71% male murder victims killed by husband or boyfr

Women by dome In any one most recee

Murders of women by intimate partners

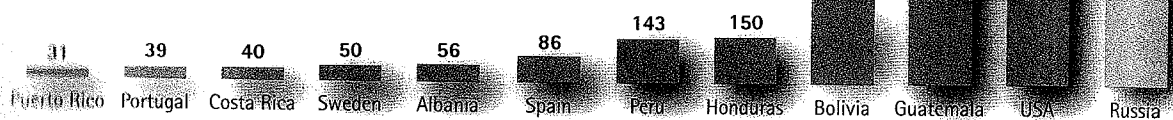
various dates 2000-06

-  honor killings regularly occur
-  murders also occur
-  number of women/girls known to have died in honor killings date given



Women known to have been killed by domestic violence

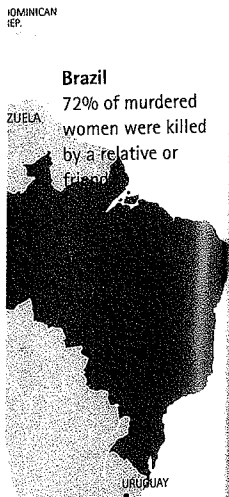
In any one year most recent since 2003



ge, 23 women a : killed by intimates; held steady for more ecade.

men murdered 1976-2005, 42% ed by an intimate or mily member; all murders of from domestic occur after the has left the ship, filed for divorce t a restraining order tier partner.

ominican Republic the first 6 months of 2006, 43 women were lled by partners or rmer partners.



Uruguay domestic violence ults in death of 1 woman every 9 days.