

Female Serial Killers

"These are the quiet killers, every bit as lethal as male serial murderers, but we are seldom aware of one in our midst because of their low visibility." - Eric Hickey

- Females usually account for 15% of all violent crime, but that statistic is rising
- Usually assume a "secondary follower role"
 - work with a male or female accomplice
- Female serial killers account for only 8% of American serial killers, but American females account for 76% of all serial killers worldwide

A sub-sample of 62 females out of 399 serial killers used the following methods and motives.

Methods	Motives
1. Poison (80%)	1. Money (74%)
2. Shooting (20%)	2. Control (13%)
3. Bludgeoning (16%)	3. Enjoyment (11%)
4. Suffocation (16%)	4. Sex (10%)
5. Stabbing (11%)	5. Drugs, Cult involvement, cover up, or feelings of inadequacy (24%)
6. Drowning (5%)	

Female serial killers fall into 2 categories:

1. Acting alone
2. Acting in partnership

Within these 2 categories, there are several subtypes:

Acting alone:

Black Widow - systematically kills multiple spouses, partners, or other family members

Angel of Death - systematically kills people who are in her care for some form of medical attention

Sexual Predator - systematically kills others in clear acts of sexual homicide

Revenge - systematically kills out of hate or jealousy

Profit or Crime - systematically kills for profit or in course of committing another crime

Acting in partnership:

Team Killer - kills or participates in the killing of others in conjunction with at least one other

Question of Sanity - kills in apparent random manner and later judged to be insane

Unexplained - kills for reasons that are totally inexplicable or for unclear motives

Unsolved - a pattern of unsolved killings that may be attributed to a woman (or women)