



## Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences Section – 2011

### I31 The Phenomenon of Homicide-Suicide in Italy

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After attending this presentation, attendees will have a better understanding of a particular crime: the Homicide-Suicide phenomenon in Italy.

This presentation will impact the forensic science community by providing a better understanding of the misdeed excluding emotional impulses it arouses, discussing observations conducted through the quantitative and qualitative analysis of data, and sharing the description of the phenomenon's characteristics that forensic scientists can evaluate in order to establish the right to a prevention strategy, which could lead to a reduction of the phenomenon.

This research has been focused on the classification of a single event, which allows the identification of five groups at risk following the Cluster Analysis.

These groups are: Alpha, Sierra, Tango, Golf, and India. The labels have fancy names but helped us to better identify individual clusters with particular characteristics. It has not been possible to assess whether, or not, the perpetrator was suffering from psychopathology because the detection of this condition was not conducted by mental health experts.

To date, there has been little research on this phenomenon in Italy, hence a study was conducted. Existing relevant literature will be reviewed. Using data from all information available taken coming from media, Internet, as well as offender data, data was extracted from both investigations and trial documentation.

Data will be presented using 578 cases, from January 1, 1997 to December 31, 2009. Some cases were not included, where the will of the victim's death was evident, as it became an active part in the criminal event.

The most relevant cases in order to better identify the factors that determine these particular events and try to find a way to set up a prevention policy will be reviewed and discussed.

#### **Homicide-Suicide, Psychopathology, Prevention**