



CANADA

LIBRARY OF PARLIAMENT  
BIBLIOTHÈQUE DU PARLEMENT

Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A9  
26 April 2002

Mr. Garry W. Breitkreuz, M.P.  
Room 452-D  
Centre Block  
House of Commons  
Ottawa

Dear Mr. Breitkreuz:

In response to your request of 15 April 2002 concerning female domestic homicide victims and your recent telephone conversation with my colleague Emmanuel Preville, we are pleased to forward a table prepared by the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.

This table depicts the homicides of female spouses committed by family members for the period 1995 through 2000, broken down into three categories: *Rifle / Shotgun*; *Other Firearms*; and, *Other Weapons / Unknown*. As you will see, the data show that 18.6% (i.e., 13 of 70) of all female spouse homicides committed by family members in 1998 were due to the use of a rifle or a shotgun, while a further 7.1% (i.e., 5 of 70) were from the use of other firearms.

With regard to the female domestic homicide statistics used in the 10 April 2002 House of Commons Debate, please note that we were unable to find a publication (Statistics Canada or otherwise) that replicates these numbers. This is because Statistics Canada does not always use a separate category for sawed off rifles and shoguns, but often clusters such weapons use in the *Rifle / Shotgun* category.

Homicides of female spouses<sup>1</sup> by family members<sup>2</sup>, Canada, 1995-2000

	1995		1996		1997		1998		1999		2000	
	Victims	%	Victims	%	Victims	%	Victims	%	Victims	%	Victims	%
Rifle / shotgun	13	16.7%	23	29.5%	15	20.0%	13	18.6%	19	26.8%	8	14.0%
Other firearms <sup>3</sup>	9	11.5%	8	10.3%	11	14.7%	5	7.1%	6	8.5%	8	14.0%
Other weapons / Unknown	56	71.8%	47	60.3%	49	65.3%	52	74.3%	46	64.8%	41	71.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>78</b>		<b>78</b>		<b>75</b>		<b>70</b>		<b>71</b>		<b>57</b>	

<sup>1</sup> Includes female victims whose marital status is legally married, common-law, divorced or separated.

<sup>2</sup> Family members include spouses, parents, children, siblings or other members related to the victim either by blood, marriage or adoption.

<sup>3</sup> Other firearms category is too small to be broken down.

Source: Homicide Survey, Policing Services Program, October 2001.