problems that arose from the injuries. It consists of seven questions related to regional pain, and eight questions related to general physical discomfort. For each symptom, the subjects' responses were recorded as follows: 0 ("not bothered at all"); 1 ("bothered a little"); or, 2 ("bothered a lot").

Results: Six-months following the traumatic event, only four of the survivors (22.2%) showed no psychopathological symptomatology. Fourteen survivors (77.8%) exhibited emotional/affective symptoms related to the event. Seven (38.9% of the entire sample) presented with all of the symptoms of PTSD; two had co-morbid depressive disorder; and seven presented with subsyndromal psychopathological symptoms for PTSD, which mostly involved increased arousal (i.e., hypervigilance, exaggerated startle reaction, and difficulty sleeping).

In addition to the severity of the traumatic event itself, other risk factors identified that correlated to the development of PTSD were the loss of a relative, the manifestation of depressive symptoms, and the severity of physical injuries sustained. Conversely, low levels of hostility and high levels of self-efficacy represented protective factors against developing PTSD.

Conclusion: The results demonstrate that, in a similar traumatic event, individual characteristics may constitute risk factors for the development of symptoms of PTSD. Conversely, maintaining cognitive, emotional, and physical efficiency while actively coping with the traumatic event (self-efficacy) is shown to be a protective factor.

Reference:

Air Disaster, Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), PTSD Risk Factors

I34 Honor Killing and Psychiatry

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After attending this presentation, attendees will gain knowledge of the emerging phenomena of "honor killing" in the United States and learn how forensic psychiatrists may be called upon to examine defendants who commit these crimes.

This presentation will impact the forensic science community by increasing awareness of the phenomenon of "honor killings," its origins, recent cases, and how the forensic psychiatrist may be called upon in these cases.

Honor killings have become increasingly visible to the Western world in the last several years and appear also to be more prevalent in the West. A phenomenon previously occurring only in parts of the Middle East, South Asia, and Africa, now occurs in the Western world. Europe, the United Kingdom, and Canada reported the first cases, but in the last ten years, honor killings have increased in the United States. This presentation provides forensic scientists with a basic understanding of honor killings. The authors examine some of the cultural roots of honor killings, describe five cases occurring in the United States, and discuss policies toward immigrants, cultural defenses, and psychiatric aspects of the phenomenon. The careful psychiatric and cultural study of defendants will be needed to gain additional insight into any relationship that may exist between psychopathology and cultural determinants of the killing of a family member for "honor."

Honor Killing, Homicide, Family Violence

* Presenting Author