

Violent relationships could lead to homicide

HOMICIDES from page 1

murder commands intense media attention in Lincoln.

The most attention is paid to incidents where there is no victim-perpetrator relationship. Random incidents, like the murder of UNL freshman Martina McMenamin, get more exposure. And with more exposure comes more fear.

"We have a fear of the unknown," said Pat Tetrault, a sexuality education coordinator at the University Health Center and domestic violence lecturer. "It's harder to know what a stranger is going to do."

A murder case in Lincoln is far more likely to look like the murder of Tamara Ligenza. In September 1993, Ligenza was allegedly strangled and then burned in her apartment by Clifford Davlin, her ex-boyfriend.

Prosecutors claim Ligenza and Davlin got into a fight the night of her death. Ligenza ended the relationship, which had been stormy and abusive throughout, and Davlin then came back and killed her, prosecutors say.

Davlin has pleaded not guilty to the charge of first-degree murder. His case is pending in Lancaster County District Court.

While Davlin's case plods toward a trial, the pattern has been repeated in other cases in Lincoln and in Lancaster County. It is something researchers call the cycle of violence.

In the cycle, the relationship begins and there is a tension-building stage, which results in a fight with some sort of abuse. Then there is the honeymoon stage, where things are fine. But then the cycle starts again, shorter this time, and the violence escalates.

Tetrault said violence is a means of control, and violence escalates when a

"It's not about trying to change people, but that people change."

PAT TETRAULT
sexuality education coordinator

person feels he or she is not in control. Murder is the ultimate expression of control on the part of the abuser.

"When somebody leaves, that is the most dangerous time for the abuser to escalate," she said. "Many abusers will say to people 'If I can't have you, nobody can.'"

"The ultimate way to control that is to kill somebody."

An example of that is Jacquelyn Walker and Byron Blueitt.

Lincoln Police Sgt. Ann Heermann said the two had broken up. In December 1992, Blueitt saw Walker in a car with another man. Heermann said he pulled out a gun, shot Walker in the head and killed her, and also injured the man in the car.

Something Tetrault was quick to point out was that not all abusers kill. Some walk away from a relationship to go on and abuse others.

But for unknown reasons, other abusers are set off and go on to kill their loved ones.

Another example is Jeffrey and Tanner Fosler. They were shot in the head by Jennifer Kramer on July 6, 1993. Kramer, the mother of Tanner and former girlfriend of Jeffrey, reportedly wanted to get back together with him. She shot both of them, and then herself, on a country road southwest of Lincoln.

Domestic abuse has become a hot-button issue in America, and police departments are changing policies to

be more aggressive when it comes to spouse abuse.

Capt. Jim Peschong, who heads up the Lincoln Police Department's criminal investigations unit, said the department now has an officer to train others about domestic violence and to review cases to make sure they aren't missing a potentially serious situation.

"We would like to think that we are able to head off some of that violence beforehand," he said. "Let's hope, anyway."

Officers now are looking for signs of abuse and working more for the victim, getting them outside counseling.

That counseling, Tetrault said, is educational in nature. Counselors teach victims what relationships should be like and what spouses should not be like.

"It's not that people who are abusive are all bad," she said. "Abusers often have many good qualities. Those kinds of qualities may outweigh, for a short time, the abuse that happens."

Victims need to look at their relationships and determine if they are extremely possessive, controlling and negative. If the spouse listens, respects and accepts, they are not abusers.

"We need to try to educate people what healthy relationships are like," she said. "It's not about trying to change people, but that people change."

"It's about can you be who you are and grow in that relationship? Is there emotional support?"

Body count



The following statistics are from Lancaster County Sheriff and Lincoln Police Department records for murders in the '90s.

Weapon used

Gun shot	10
Stabbed	5
Asphyxiation	5
Trauma	4
Arson	1
Impaled	1

Fatal wound

Head	7
Neck	7
Torso	7
Multiple	3
Back	1
Groin	1

Information about the murder of Anne True is not included because it is an open case.

AARON STECKELBERG/DN

But one major obstacle in relationship counseling is emotional ties. People are loyal, she said, and that bond can sometimes be tough to overcome.

"But then the issue is how do you make people aware of and protect themselves against the people they know and love?" she said.

"It's much more difficult to deal with relationship violence when there is a relationship there."

Union services to alter hours for finals week

From Staff Reports

The Nebraska Union will have special hours for finals week. The hours for union services are as follows:

Monday and Tuesday:
 ■ Union from 7 a.m. to 1 a.m.
 ■ Information Desk from 7 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.
 ■ University Bookstore from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday and Thursday:
 ■ Union from 7 a.m. to midnight
 ■ Information Desk from 7 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.
 ■ University Bookstore from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Friday:
 ■ Union from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
 ■ Information Desk from 7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
 ■ University Bookstore from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday:
 ■ Union from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
 ■ Information Desk from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
 The union is closed Sunday.

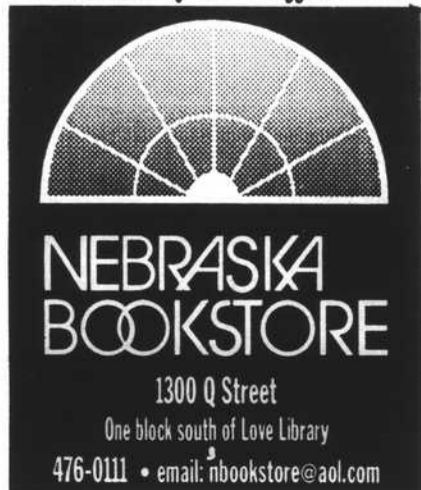
BONUS BUCKS

FOR YOUR TEXTBOOKS IN ADDITION TO CASH!

Only from Nebraska Bookstore

Use "Bonus Bucks" On Your Fall Textbook Reservation At Double Their Value!

There Really Is A Difference.



"Bucks Given Are Bucks Saved."

• Sell your textbooks to Nebraska Bookstore before May 11th, 1997 and receive "Bonus Bucks."

• Get one "Bonus Buck" for every \$10 we give you when you sell your textbooks back to Nebraska Bookstore.

• Use "Bonus Bucks" to purchase textbooks anytime until September 7, 1997.*

• We'll double the value of "Bonus Bucks" when applied toward your Fall Textbook Reservation at Nebraska Bookstore the day you sell your textbooks back.

• Reservation details on back side.

*One "Bonus Buck" per textbook when purchasing without a reservation.

TEXTBOOK RESERVATION CARD

Fill it out and bring it in by August 18, 1997 to reserve your books.

(Please type or print)

Name _____

Campus Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Permanent Address _____

Phone () _____ Work _____

Student ID# _____ PIN _____

I would prefer USED books _____ New books _____

Signature Authorization _____

Your signature gives Nebraska Bookstore the authority to cancel other reservations. Any information provided to Nebraska Bookstore will be kept confidential and will not be sold or shared.



"Bonus Bucks" in addition to cash for your textbooks...

No one gives you more than Nebraska Bookstore!