


The Homicide 8- step timeline

Mapped and adapted

Dr Jane Monkton Smith

	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 5	Stage 6	Stage 7	Stage 8
 WARNING SIGNS	History A pre-relationship history of stalking or abuse and controlling behaviours.	Develops Quickly The romance develops quickly into a serious relationship.	Coercive Control Relationship warning signs: the relationship becomes dominated by coercive control and violence. The perpetrator is quick-tempered. General anxiety and depression – not causal but can exacerbate the situation.	Trigger A trigger threatens the perpetrator's control. Such as separation or threats of separation. A specific event that could prompt retaliation or revenge on the victim. Mental health deterioration .	Escalation An increase in the intensity or frequency of the partner's control tactics.	Change in thinking The perpetrator chooses to move on, either through revenge or by homicide. Attempts at reconciliation. Children can be targeted. Victim blaming.	Planning The perpetrator might buy weapons or seek opportunities to get the victim alone.	Homicide The perpetrator kills his or her partner and possibly hurts others such as the victim's children.
In this case: taken from information in the short practice episode and historical information only known retrospectively. (Mother =perpetrator, father/children = victim)	Not known by the reviewer, father shared that the relationship commenced while in a relationship with a previous partner, he shared an incident of jealousy and confrontation.	Father reported an intense relationship occurred quickly. The family moved to the UK away from family members.	Father described a relationship that featured coercive control, stalking, violence including the use of weapons (sticks and knives) short temper, and mood swings which he linked to her not taking her medication. Father described her behaving oddly like she had a split personality. She struggled to sleep becoming possessive and did not 'allow' him the use of a mobile phone. Misuse of medication reported to the GP, and co-existing physical and behavioural changes.	The mother reports verbal abuse to the police from the father. Father reported her behaviour and physical assaults towards him to the police. There were threats to stab him in his sleep. Derogatory comments about Child C were made. He became increasingly worried and contacted the police again. The mother was arrested for assault and admitted to slapping but denied other offences. She was released with a Community Resolution.	The mother was released from custody and returned home in the early hours. The mother becomes agitated, and the father is asked to leave the home to settle the situation. The children remain asleep in the family home	Father asks for a separation and to take time to sort their relationship out. The mother contacted him by phone several times.	In those calls the mother said she wanted a plan, and she did not want to care for the children on her own.	Within 12 hours of the mother's release from custody, she kills the children and attempts to harm the father. The criminal investigation is not concluded so more information about events is not known at this stage.
Mapped against the Key practice episode			Day 1	Day 3	Day 4	Day 4	Day 5	Day 5