

دراسة العلاقة بين الخصائص الاجتماعية والديموغرافية والرأي العام فيما يتعلق بالعوامل
المساهمة في زيادة حالات القتل في أربيل

م.م. ساكار علي جلال

كلية الإدارة والاقتصاد

جامعة صلاح الدين/ أربيل

Sakar.Jalal@su.edu.krd

م.م. بناز وليد يعقوب ميران

كلية الإدارة والاقتصاد

جامعة صلاح الدين/ أربيل

banaz.yaqoob@su.edu.krd

أ.م. درخشان جلال حسن

كلية الإدارة والاقتصاد

جامعة صلاح الدين/ أربيل

drakhshan.hassan@su.edu.krd

م. زيان محسن جلال

كلية الإدارة والاقتصاد

جامعة صلاح الدين/ أربيل

zhian.jalal@su.edu.krd

الكلمات المفتاحية: قضايا القتل، والخصائص الاجتماعية والديموغرافية، واختبار مربع كاي، واستبيان.

كيفية اقتباس البحث

ميران ، بناز وليد يعقوب، ساكار علي جلال ، زيان محسن جلال ، درخشان جلال حسن،
دراسة العلاقة بين الخصائص الاجتماعية والديموغرافية والرأي العام فيما يتعلق بالعوامل
المساهمة في زيادة حالات القتل في أربيل، "مجلة مركز بابل للدراسات الانسانية، آب
٢٠٢٦، المجلد: ١٦، العدد: ٨.

هذا البحث من نوع الوصول المفتوح مرخص بموجب رخصة المشاع الإبداعي لحقوق التأليف
والنشر (Creative Commons Attribution) تتيح فقط للآخرين تحميل البحث
ومشاركته مع الآخرين بشرط نسب العمل الأصلي للمؤلف، ودون القيام بأي تعديل أو
استخدامه لأغراض تجارية.

مسجلة في
Registered ROAD

مفهرسة في
Indexed IASJ





“Investigating the Relationship between Socio-Demographic Characteristics and Public Opinion Regarding Factors Contributing to Increased Murder Cases in Erbil”

Asst. Lec. Banaz Waleed Yaqoob Meran
College of Administration and Economics
Salahaddin University/Erbil
banaz.yaqoob@su.edu.krd

Asst. Lec. Sakar Ali Jalal
College of Administration and Economics
Salahaddin University/Erbil
Sakar.Jalal@su.edu.krd

Lec. Zhian Mohsin Jalal
College of Administration and Economics
Salahaddin University/Erbil
zhian.jalal@su.edu.krd

Asst.Prof. Drakhshan Jalal Hassan
College of Administration and Economics
Salahaddin University/Erbil
drakhshan.hassan@su.edu.krd

Keywords : Murder cases, socio-demographic characteristics, Chi-square test, questionnaire survey.

How To Cite This Article

Meran, Banaz Waleed Yaqoob , Sakar Ali Jalal, Zhian Mohsin Jalal, Drakhshan Jalal Hassan, “Investigating the Relationship between Socio-Demographic Characteristics and Public Opinion Regarding Factors Contributing to Increased Murder Cases in Erbil”, Journal Of Babylon Center For Humanities Studies, Auguts 2026, Volume:16, Issue8.



This is an open access article under the CC BY-NC-ND license
(<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>)

This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License.

المستخلص

تستخدم هذه الدراسة استنباطاً وتحليلاً إحصائياً باستخدام اختبار مربع كاي لدراسة العلاقة بين السمات الاجتماعية والديموغرافية والعوامل المرتبطة بارتفاع معدلات جرائم القتل في أربيل. يهدف البحث إلى تحديد كيفية تأثر تصورات الناس للعناصر الاجتماعية والنفسية والثقافية





المؤثرة في جرائم القتل بالمعايير الديموغرافية كالجنس والعمر والمهنة والوضع الاقتصادي والمستوى التعليمي. جُمعت البيانات من ٣٠٠ مستجيب باستخدام استبيان مُهيكل. استُخدم معامل ألفا لكرونباخ لاختبار موثوقية الاستبيان، وأظهرت النتائج درجة كافية من الاتساق الداخلي بقيمة ٠.٦٨٦. استُخدمت الإحصاءات الوصفية واختبارات مربع كاي للاستقلال ضمن الأساليب الإحصائية المستخدمة لتحليل البيانات المجمعة باستخدام برنامجي SPSS و STATGRAPHIC. أظهرت النتائج وجود ارتباط قوي بين تصورات المستجيبين للأسباب المساهمة في زيادة جرائم القتل وعدد من السمات الديموغرافية. وتبين أن تصورات الوعي الاجتماعي، والأسلحة غير المشروعة، والمشاكل الأسرية، والضغوط النفسية، وقضايا الشرف، وغيرها من العناصر المساهمة، تتأثر بالجنس والمهنة والعمر والوضع الاقتصادي. تُظهر النتائج أن جريمة القتل ظاهرة اجتماعية معقدة تتأثر بعدد من الأسباب المترابطة. وللد من السلوكيات العنيفة في المجتمع، تقترح الدراسة تعزيز الوعي الاجتماعي، وتحسين البرامج التعليمية، ودعم استقرار الأسرة، وتقوية المؤسسات القانونية. في هذا السياق، ركز العديد من الباحثين في مجالات علم الاجتماع وعلم الجريمة وعلم النفس على دراسة هذه الجريمة، ساعين إلى فهم الظروف والأسباب المختلفة التي تؤثر على بعض الأفراد وتدفعهم لارتكاب هذا الفعل الشنيع. مع ذلك، أغفلت بعض هذه الدراسات جانباً مهماً: الجاني، رجلاً كان أو امرأة. قد يُعزى ذلك إلى نظرتنا الاجتماعية المتخصصة التي تعتبر المجرم دائماً إنساناً. تختلف الأسباب والدوافع، ولذا نركز على فهم ما يدفع المجرم إلى القتل، مع مراعاة حرمة الحياة البشرية. تُرتكب الجريمة أحياناً نتيجة لأسباب اجتماعية (مشاكل أسرية، ضعف الأسرة، العنف، انهيار القيم الدينية، ضعف آليات الرقابة الاجتماعية، وسوء التربية). تشمل الأسباب الأخرى عوامل نفسية كالأزمات العقلية والاضطرابات النفسية والمشاكل السلوكية. تُعد العوامل الاقتصادية، وحتى الفقر والبطالة، من بين الأسباب التي كانت ولا تزال، وغيرها.

Abstract

This study uses a questionnaire survey and Chi-square statistical analysis to examine the association between socio demographic traits and factors linked to the rise in murder cases in Erbil. The goal of the study is to determine how people's perceptions of the social, psychological, and cultural elements influencing murder cases are influenced by demographic parameters such as gender, age, occupation, economic status, and educational level. Data was gathered from 300 respondents using a structured questionnaire. Cronbach's Alpha was used to examine the questionnaire's reliability; the results showed an adequate degree of internal consistency, with a value of 0.686. Descriptive statistics and Chi-



square tests of independence were among the statistical techniques used to examine the gathered data using SPSS and STATGRAPHIC Program. The findings showed a strong correlation between respondents' perceptions of the reasons contributing to an increase in murder cases and a number of demographic traits. Perceptions of social awareness, illegal weapons, family troubles, psychological pressure, honor-related issues, and other contributing elements were found to be influenced by gender, occupation, age and economic status. The results demonstrate that murder is a complicated social phenomena that is impacted by a number of interrelated causes. In order to lessen violent behaviors in society, the study suggests bolstering social awareness, enhancing educational programs, promoting family stability, strengthening legal institutions. In this context, many researchers in the fields of sociology, criminology, and psychology have focused on studying this crime, attempting to understand the various circumstances and causes that influence some individuals and drive them to commit this heinous act. However, some of these studies have neglected an important aspect: the perpetrator, as a man or woman. This may be attributed to our specialized social view that always considers the criminal as a person. The reasons and motives are of various types, and in doing so, we focus on understanding what drives the criminal to kill, taking into account the sanctity of human life. The crime is sometimes committed as a result of social reasons (family problems, family weakness, violence, the breakdown of religious values, weak social control mechanisms, and improper upbringing). Other reasons include psychological factors such as mental illnesses, psychological disorders, and behavioral problems. Economic factors, and even (poverty, unemployment), are among the causes that were and still are, and others

Introduction:

Émile Durkheim (1817–1858) contended that crime is an inherent aspect of all societies, even in a community of virtuous individuals, as it plays a crucial role in defining and reinforcing moral limits of conduct. However, there is ongoing debate regarding the extent and nature of crime that a society can accommodate before it starts to exhibit dysfunction. Examining seemingly minor infractions—like a shopper not returning a few cents when a cashier miscounts change, a policyholder exaggerating an insurance claim, or a retailer offering inferior food products—may appear trivial to many conventional criminologists, particularly those who specialize in white-collar crime. Ultimately, how can such minor issues be considered within the same analytical framework as serious offenses such as murder or assault, massive financial fraud by investment banks,

or other illegal activities. (Michael, Steven and Review, 2021:880) & عبد العظیم، ٢٠٢٣، ٦٢)

In this context, many researchers in the fields of sociology, criminology, and psychology have focused on studying this crime, attempting to understand the various circumstances and causes that influence some individuals and drive them to commit this heinous act. However, some of these studies have neglected an important aspect: the perpetrator, as a man or woman. This may be attributed to our specialized social view that always considers the criminal as a person. The reasons and motives are of various types, and in doing so, we focus on understanding what drives the criminal to kill, taking into account the sanctity of human life. The crime is sometimes committed as a result of social reasons (family problems, family weakness, violence, the breakdown of religious values, weak social control mechanisms, and improper upbringing). Other reasons include psychological factors such as mental illnesses, psychological disorders, and behavioral problems. Economic factors, and even (poverty, unemployment), are among the causes that were and still are, and others. (غندور و داود، ٢٠٢١، ١٨٥)

Crime in Islamic Law: It is the legal prohibitions that God has prescribed as punishment or discretionary punishment. Prohibitions in Islamic law are committing a forbidden act or neglecting a commanded act. The procedural definition of crime: It is any act committed by any adult that explicitly violates legal rules, values, social standards, and prevailing customs in Kurdish society and is severely punished by law.

The criminal: It is the person who has premeditatedly violated the rules of criminal law, or anyone who commits an antisocial act, whether or not with the intent to commit a crime.

(Hama, W. 2022:372) .

Researchers and specialists in crime have differed on the usefulness of establishing a general legal definition of the concept of crime. Some believe that such a definition is unnecessary, given that the law already provides specific provisions for each crime, defining its elements and components. They argue that no matter how much effort is invested in formulating this definition, it will never encompass all the necessary meanings. There is no objection to including meanings that may be outside the legislator's intent (such as the definitions offered by criminal law scholars for crime), such as: an act or omission that violates a criminal rule for which the law prescribes a criminal penalty; an unlawful



act committed with criminal intent for which the law prescribes a punishment or discretionary measure.(Author and Ibrahim, 2025:667)

In all of criminology, the correlation between age and crime is among the strongest. According to this relationship, crime rises at the age of 14, peaks in the early to mid 20s, and then starts to fall. Scholars do not challenge this conventional form, which has been dubbed the "age_crime curve." Nonetheless, there are still unanswered concerns about how much the age_crime curve varies by type of crime, socioeconomic group, and historical era. Furthermore, it's unclear what the curve's shape means. (Rocque, Posick and Hoyle, 2015:1)

“Honor” is a multifaceted notation among Kurdish societies that includes social prestige, patriotism, and respect for family. It is based on how a person’s sense of self-worth interacts with the value that their peer group also known as their “honor group” assigns to them. Since honor is given in social setting, it is transient and subject to withdrawal at any moment by the community. Losing honor exposes the person and his or her family to shame, mockery, and disgrace. By defining what is normal and abnormal, what is generally regarded as evil (i.e., shameful), and what is good (i.e., honorable), shame serves as a normative discourse. Gender specific expressions are used to convey these ideas and ideals. Therefore, socio cultural ideas of appropriate gender specific relationship and behaviors prescribed by patriarchal value and norms are ultimately the basis for the murder of two men in the name of honor. While many behaviors are deemed humiliating, none are more so than those that are seen to jeopardize female chastity, which is regarded as a symbol of a family’s symbol capital. Thus, romance and even instances of public flirtation can threaten the symbolic value of a family. (Gill, Begikhani and Hague, 2012:76)

1. Research Methodology

A thorough summary of the scientific research technique is given in this section. It comprises the following sections that describe the methodology’s form and the studies conducted process.

1-1 Research problem

One of the things that our society is dealing with in the modern world is the rise in killings in Erbil and the Kurdistan Region. People in society have been negatively impacted by it, including dread, anxiety, and mental decline.

1-2 Research Objectives

1.The objective of this study is to assist the public and parents in general, as well as to highlight the issues that members of the community face, namely the reason for a person's mental decline and the start of a murderous crime.

2.Determine the detrimental effects on people that have contributed to the rise in the killing phenomena and how society should deal with this issue.

1-3 The importance of the study

Amnesty and social reconciliation should not be allowed to take precedence over the law (although amnesty does not close murder cases, it is a reason for it). Serious work should be done in the areas of education, media filtering, strengthening the judicial institutions, and the role of organizations, professionals, and researchers. And as a result, the law can punish the killer fairly and serve as a deterrent for future crimes.

2.Theoretical segment

2.1 What is Cronbach alpha?

In order to quantify the inner stability of a test or scale, Lee Cronbach created alpha in 1951. Alpha is a number between zero and one. The degree to which every item in a test measures the same notion or construct is known as internal consistency, and it is related to how related the items are to one another. Before a test is used for study or evaluation, its internal consistency should be assessed to guarantee validity. Reliability estimates also display the degree of measurement inaccuracy in a test.(Tavakol and Dennick, 2011:53)

According to the widely accepted technique, the classification is as follows:(Kilic, 2016:48)

Table (1)

Reliability Coefficient (Cronbach alpha)	comment
≥ 0.9	Perfect
$0.7 \leq \alpha < 0.9$	Good
$0.6 \leq \alpha < 0.7$	Acceptable
$0.5 \leq \alpha < 0.6$	Weak
$\alpha < 0.5$	Unacceptable

2.2 Chi-square

Karl Pearson established the chi-square statistic in 1900. It is the most useful statistic and occurs in virtually every scientific subject. It is regarded as one of the top 20 discoveries that have altered the course of human history since 1900. According to hacking, "Karl Person's Chi-square test ushered in a new kind of decision .(Sapra and Saluja, 2021:34)

2.2.1 Test of independence

utilized when there are multiple independent samples or two independent samples. The test statistic, represented by χ^2 , is derived from a comparison between observed and predicted frequencies. (11)(253) دراسة مع بعض الاختبارات للعينات ذات الحجوم الصغيرة مع تطبيق chi square مقارنة لاختبار (عملي، ٢٠٠٥)، When the data for the independent and dependent variables are nominal, it can be used to compare the answers of multiple independent samples. The two samples must be independent for this test to be used. (Blbas *et al.*, 2024:156)&(Chamidah *et al.*, 2023:1292)

The following formula is used to calculate the computed χ^2 value:

$$\chi^2 = \frac{\sum (O_i - E_i)^2}{E_i}$$

where; O_i = Value as observed (actual value).

E_i = Expected value (value anticipated).

The null and alternative hypothesis are:

H_0 : Each variable is independent.

H_1 : The two variables are dependent rather than independent.

3. Analysis of the Research Questions

The study's practical component is discussed in this section. This is accomplished by analyzing the questionnaire's questions using statistical measurements and techniques with the aid of the computer programs STATGRAPHIC (19) and SPSS version (25). The survey's questions are broken down into two categories: demographic inquiries and particular inquiries regarding factors contributing to higher homicide rates. With the names of the variables and the questions used later, they are separated into two sections, as Table 2 illustrates. Locate them by going through the questions. It is important to note that they completed 300 survey questionnaires in Erbil as part of a statistical survey.



Demographic questions		Specific questions	
variable Names	questions	variable Names	questions
X ₁	Gender	Y ₁	Social awareness level and its effect on increasing murder cases.
X ₂	Occupation	Y ₂	The impact of illegal weapons availability on increasing murder cases.
X ₃	Age	Y ₃	The effect of carrying weapons by government employees outside duty on murder cases.
X ₄	Social status	Y ₄	Lack of trust in laws and courts as a factor in increasing murder cases.
X ₅	Economic status	Y ₅	Considering murder as a solution to personal problems.
X ₆	Educational level	Y ₆	The increase of murder cases beyond normal limits and the need for control measures.
		Y ₇	The role of poor communication and problem-solving skills in increasing murder cases.
		Y ₈	The impact of political differences between authorities and citizens on murder cases.
		Y ₉	The effect of poor economic conditions on the increase of murder cases.
		Y ₁₀	The influence of family conflicts and parental separation on murder cases.
		Y ₁₁	The impact of parents' absence and lack of child supervision on this phenomenon
		Y ₁₂	The influence of media coverage of murder cases on increasing this phenomenon.
		Y ₁₃	Revenge and honor-related issues as causes of murder.
		Y ₁₄	The role of government measures in reducing murder cases.



Y ₁₅	The effect of psychological pressure caused by poor living conditions on murder cases.
Y ₁₆	Lack of religious awareness as a factor in increasing murder cases.
Y ₁₇	The impact of electronic games on the increase of murder cases among youth.
Y ₁₈	The influence of social media platforms on increasing murder cases.

Table (2) variable Names Related to Factors increasing Homicide Rates

3.1 Reliability Test

Table (3)

Category	Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items	Decision
Respondents' Opinions Regarding Factors increasing Homicide Rates	.686	18	Reliable

According to the reliability analysis presented in Table (3), the obtained reliability coefficient (Cronbach's Alpha) was 0.686, indicating an acceptable and relatively high level of internal consistency. Therefore, the questionnaire can be considered a reliable instrument for collecting and analyzing the required data at a significance level of 5% ($\alpha = 0.05$).

3.2 Analysis of Demographic survey Questions:

Table(4)

Variable	Item	Frequency	Percent
Gender	Male	179	59.7
	Female	121	40.3
Age	<=18	2	0.7
	19-28	98	32.7
	29-37	110	36.7
	38-47	63	21
	48-56	19	6.3
	57+	8	2.7

	<i>Mean ± S.D</i>	22.71~23 ± 6.55	
Profession	Student	70	23.3
	Teacher	56	18.7
	Employee	43	14.3
	Doctor	46	15.3
	Self-employed	85	28.3
Social status	Married	128	42.7
	Single	117	39
	Divorced	37	12.3
	Widowed	18	6.0
Economic status	Very good	16	5.3
	Good	144	48.0
	Medium	134	44.7
	Poor	4	1.3
	Very poor	2	0.7
Educational level	Illiterate	59	19.7
	Primary	13	4.3
	Secondary	10	3.3
	High school	5	1.7
	Bachelor's degree	87	29
	Higher education	86	28.7

The demographic characteristics of the respondents are summarized in this table, covering gender, age, profession, social status, economic status, and educational level. The study included a total of 300 participants. The gender distribution shows that male respondents formed the larger proportion of the sample, with 179 participants (59.7%), while females represented 121 participants (40.3%). This indicates that the number of male participants was higher than females in the study sample. Regarding age, most respondents were from the 29–37 years group,



accounting for 110 participants (36.7%). The second largest group was those aged 19–28 years, with 98 participants (32.7%). Participants aged 38–47 years represented 21% of the sample, while respondents from the older age groups (48–56 and 57+) formed smaller percentages. Overall, the sample mainly consisted of adult participants. In terms of occupation, self-employed individuals represented the largest group, with 85 respondents (28.3%), followed by students with 70 respondents (23.3%). Teachers accounted for 18.7%, doctors 15.3%, and employees 14.3%. This variation indicates that the participants came from different occupational backgrounds. The results related to social status show that married respondents represented the highest percentage, with 128 participants (42.7%), followed by single respondents with 117 participants (39%). Divorced and widowed participants represented 12.3% and 6%, respectively. These results show a relatively close distribution between married and single participants. Regarding economic status, most respondents reported having good economic conditions (48%), followed by medium economic status (44.7%). Only a small number of participants reported poor (1.3%) or very poor (0.7%) economic conditions. This suggests that the majority of respondents had moderate or stable economic backgrounds. The educational level of participants varied. Respondents with a bachelor's degree represented 29%, while those with higher education accounted for 28.7%. Illiterate participants represented 19.7%, whereas primary, secondary, and high school education levels accounted for smaller percentages. This indicates that the sample included individuals with different educational backgrounds. Overall, the demographic findings show that the sample consisted of participants with diverse characteristics in terms of gender, age, occupation, economic status, and education. These differences may provide various perspectives on the research topic; however, they should be considered when interpreting and generalizing the study results.

3.3 Analysis of questions concerning the increase in murder cases

This section presents an analysis of the respondents' opinions regarding the factors associated with the increase in murder cases. First, descriptive statistics were used to examine the responses to the research questions. Then, inferential statistical analysis was conducted using the **Chi-square test** to identify whether there are statistically significant relationships between demographic characteristics (gender, occupation, social status, age, economic status, and educational level) and respondents' opinions. Table (5) Relationship between Gender and Opinions

Variable	Responds	Gender		Chi-square	P-Value
		Male	Female		
Y ₁	Yes	38.3%	22.3%	13.235	0.001
	No	6.7%	6.7%		
	Partially	18.7%	14.0%		
Y ₅	Yes	12.7%	1.3%	28.173	0.000
	No	40.7%	1.7%		
	Partially	10.3%	33.3%		
Y ₆	Yes	30.7%	20%	8.039	0.018
	No	5.7%	16.0%		
	Partially	27.3%	16%		
Y ₁₃	Yes	15.7%	1.0%	27.148	0.000
	No	35.3%	29.3%		
	Partially	12.7%	6.0%		

The association between socio-demographic traits and respondents' perceptions about the causes of the rise in murder cases was investigated using Chi-square analysis.

The findings showed a statistically significant correlation between gender and a number of variables associated with murder cases. There was a strong correlation ($\chi^2 = 13.235$, $p = 0.001$) between gender and the impact of low social awareness on rising murder instances (Y₁). This result suggests that respondents who were male and female held differing opinions on how social awareness affects murder cases. Additionally, beliefs regarding whether murder cases have surpassed normal boundaries and necessitate control measures (Y₆) ($\chi^2 = 8.039$, $p = 0.018$) and considering murder as a solution to personal problems (Y₅) ($\chi^2 = 28.173$, $p = 0.000$) were substantially correlated with gender. These findings imply that people's understanding and assessment of the behavioral and social reasons of murder may be impacted by gender differences.

Table (6) Relationship between Occupation and Opinions

Variable	Responds	Occupation					Chi-square	P-Value
		Student	Teacher	Employee	Doctor	Self-employed		
Y ₁₉	Yes	5.3%	4.0%	1.7%	0.3%	5.3%	18.358	0.019
	No	14.7%	10.0%	10.0%	13.3%	16.7%		
	Partially	3.3%	4.7%	2.7%	1.7%	6.3%		
Y ₂₂	Yes	13.0%	7.3%	8%	8.3%	10.7%	21.163	0.007
	No	3.0%	5%	2%	1.3%	10%		
	Partially	7.3%	6.3%	4.3%	5.7%	7.7%		
Y ₂₃	Yes	13.0%	7.7%	6.7%	5.7%	14.3%	17.787	0.023
	No	2.3%	5%	3.3%	1.7%	7.0%		
	Partially	8%	6%	4.3%	8%	7.0%		

In terms of occupation, the results revealed notable variations between occupational categories with respect to some variables linked to homicide incidents. The idea that honor-related killing is a solution (Y₁₉) was shown to be significantly correlated with occupation ($\chi^2 = 18.358$, $p = 0.019$). This suggests that people with varying professional backgrounds might view this problem differently. Furthermore, beliefs on the role of religious awareness (Y₂₂) and the impact of electronic games on murder cases among young people (Y₂₃) were substantially correlated with occupation. These results suggest that people's comprehension of social issues and their potential causes may be influenced by their professional background.

Table (7) Relationship between Social Status and Opinions

Variable	Responds	Social status				Chi-square	P-Value
		Married	Single	Divorced	Widowed		
Y ₈	Yes	35.3%	32.0%	11.7%	3%	29.036	0.000
	No	0.7%	1.3%	0%	1.3%		
	Partially	6.7%	5.7%	0%	1.7%		
Y ₁₁	Yes	6.7%	4.7%	0%	2.7%	24.860	0.000
	No	30.3%	29.7%	11.7%	2.3%		

Y ₁₇		%					
	Partially	5.7%	4.7%	0.7%	1.0%		
	Yes	20.0%	13.7	2%	2.3%	14.371	0.026
		%					
	No	4.7%	5.7%	1.7%	1.3%		
	Partially	18.0%	19.7	8.7%	2.3%		
		%					

For social status, the analysis showed significant relationships between marital status and several factors related to murder cases. The relationship between social status and the influence of unlicensed weapons on increasing murder cases (Y8) was statistically significant ($\chi^2 = 29.036$, $p = 0.000$). This suggests that married, single, divorced, and widowed respondents may have different perceptions regarding the role of weapons in increasing violence. Social status was also significantly associated with considering murder as a solution to problems (Y11) and the influence of parents' behavior and family conditions on this phenomenon (Y17). This highlights the importance of family and social environments in shaping individuals' opinions about murder-related issues.

Table (8) Relationship between Age and Opinions

Variable	Respond	Ages						Chi-square	P-Value
		<=18	19-28	29-37	38-47	48-56	57+		
Y ₁₆	Yes	0%	17%	17%	11.3%	4%	1.3%	18.823	0.043
	No	0%	2.3%	1%	1.3%	1.3%	0%		
	Partially	0.7%	13.3%	18.7%	8.3%	1%	1.3%		
	Yes	0%	17.7%	18.3%	8%	3%	0.3%		
Y ₂₃	No	0.7%	4.3%	6.3%	5.7%	1.3%	1.0%	18.807	0.043
	Partially	0%	10.7%	12%	7.3%	2%	1.3%		

Age groups were found to differ significantly in regard to certain factors. Opinions regarding how family issues and separation affect children's behavior (Y16) were substantially correlated with age ($\chi^2 = 18.823$, $p =$

0.043). This suggests that various age groups may have distinct perspectives on social and familial factors. Similarly, perceptions concerning the impact of electronic games on the rise in murder cases (Y23) were strongly correlated with age ($\chi^2 = 18.807$, $p = 0.043$), indicating that respondents from different age groups may have different perspectives on the effects of contemporary media and technology.

Table (9) Relationship between Economic status and Opinions

Variable	Responses	Economic status					Chi-square	P-Value
		Very good	Good	Medium	Poor	Very poor		
Y ₈	Yes	4.3%	41.3%	35.7%	0.7%	0%	36.197	0.000
	No	0%	1.3%	1.3%	0.7%	0%		
	Partially	1.3%	5.7%	7.3%	0%	0.3%		
Y ₁₄	Yes	1.3%	12.7%	12.7%	1.3%	0%	27.991	0.000
	No	3.7%	10.7%	11%	0%	0%		
	Partially	0.7%	25%	20.7%	0%	0.3%		
Y ₁₅	Yes	2.7%	20.7%	19.3%	0.7%	0%	20.340	0.009
	No	3%	13.3%	7.7%	0%	0%		
	Partially	0%	14.3%	17.3%	0.7%	0.3%		

In terms of economic status, the findings demonstrated a strong correlation between respondents' perceptions of characteristics associated with murder cases and economic situations. The influence of unlicensed firearms (Y8) was substantially correlated with economic position ($\chi^2 = 36.197$, $p = 0.000$). This implies that the causes of murder may be seen differently by people from diverse economic backgrounds, particularly when it comes to living conditions, societal pressure, and financial hardships.

Table (10) Relationship between Educational level and Opinions

Variable	Respond	Educational level							Chi-square	P-Value
		Illiterate	Primary	Secondary	High school	Diploma	Bachelor's degree	Higher education		
Y ₁₁	Yes	3.3%	0%	1.7%	1%	2%	3.7%	2.3%	32.463	0.001
	No	13.3%	3.3%	1.3%	0.7%	8.7%	22.3%	24.3%		
	Partially	3%	1%	0.3%	0%	2.7%	3%	2%		
Y ₂₁	Yes	11.7%	2.3%	2.7%	0.3%	7%	15.3%	16%	27.492	0.007
	No	1.7%	0.35	0.7%	1%	0.7%	2%	1.7%		
	Partially	6.3%	1.7%	0%	0.3%	5.7%	11.7%	11%		

Finally, educational level was significantly related to some opinions regarding murder cases. The results showed a significant relationship between education level and considering murder as a solution to problems (Y₁₁) ($\chi^2 = 32.463$, $p = 0.001$), as well as psychological pressure caused by poor living conditions (Y₂₁) ($\chi^2 = 27.492$, $p = 0.007$). This indicates that education may influence individuals' awareness and understanding of social problems.

Overall, the results show that respondents' perceptions of the variables behind the rise in murder cases are significantly correlated with socio-demographic parameters, such as gender, employment, social standing, age, economic position, and educational level. These traits have an impact on how people view social, economic, familial, and cultural aspects of murder, as the Chi-square results show. Developing more successful tactics to lessen violent tendencies in society can be aided by an understanding of these distinctions.

4. Conclusions

Using survey analysis and Chi-square testing, this study looked at the connection between socio-demographic traits and causes causing the rise in murder cases. The results show that people's thoughts and perceptions



about the reasons behind murder are significantly influenced by demographic factors. The findings verified statistically significant correlations between a number of variables linked to murder cases and gender, occupation, social position, age, financial standing, and academic achievement. Cronbach's Alpha score, the reliability analysis demonstrated that the questionnaire had an adequate degree of consistency, indicating that the tool was appropriate for gathering the necessary data. Variations among respondents were linked to a number of social and personal traits, according to the Chi-square study. For instance, perceptions of cultural, religious, and psychological aspects were influenced by occupation and education, whereas ideas regarding societal awareness and murder as a solution to personal problems were influenced by gender differences. The results also show that a variety of social, economic and cultural factors contribute to murder cases rather than any one of them. Weak social awareness, the accessibility of illicit firearms, family disputes, financial hardships, and a lack of faith in the legal system are some of the problems that might lead to an upsurge in violent conduct. Therefore, comprehensive solutions including education, awareness campaigns, increased legal enforcement, family assistance programs, and collaboration between social and governmental groups are needed to reduce murder cases. To gain a better knowledge of the reasons behind violent crime, future study may increase the sample size and incorporate more social and psychological factors.

References

Author, C. and Ibrahim, H.K. (2025) ‘Murders and their impact on the value system in Iraqi society A field study in the correctional institution’, Wasit Journal for Human Sciences Available, 21. Available at: <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.31185/wjfh.Vol21.Iss2.907>.

Blbas, H.T.A. et al. (2024) ‘Factors contributing to vitamin D deficiency in Erbil, Iraq: A statistical investigation’, Clinical Nutrition Open Science, 54, pp. 151–162. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nutos.2024.02.004>.

Chamidah, N. et al. (2023) ‘CATEGORICAL ANALYSIS OF PERCEPTIONS OF

GOVERNMENT POLICY IN ELECTRICITY FUEL MANAGEMENT AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO SUBSTITUTE OIL FUEL USING THE CHI-SQUARE TEST’, *Journal of Mathematics and Applications*, 17(3), pp. 1287–1300.

Gill, A.K., Begikhani, N. and Hague, G. (2012) ‘‘Honour’-based violence in Kurdish communities’, *Women’s Studies International Forum*, 35(2), pp. 75–85. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.wsif.2012.02.001>.

Hama, W. (2022) ‘Journal of Tikrit University for Humanities Types of Murder Crimes and their Causes (a field study in the Sulaymaniyah city)’, *Journal of Tikrit University for Humanities*, 29, pp. 369–400.

Kilic, S. (2016) ‘Cronbach’s alpha reliability coefficient’, *Journal of Mood Disorders*, 6(1), p. 47. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.5455/jmood.20160307122823>.

Michael, L., Steven, F. and Review, S. (2021) “‘Review symposium: respectable citizens—shady practices: the economic morality of the middle classes’”, *British Journal of Criminology*, 63, pp. 872–885.

Rocque, M., Posick, C. and Hoyle, J. (2015) ‘Age and Crime’, *The Encyclopedia of Crime and Punishment*, pp. 1–8. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118519639.wbecpx275>.

Sapra, R.L. and Saluja, S. (2021) ‘Understanding statistical association and correlation’, *Current Medicine Research and Practice*, 11(1), pp. 31–38. Available at: https://doi.org/10.4103/cmrrp.cmrp_62_20.

Tavakol, M. and Dennick, R. (2011) ‘Making sense of Cronbach’s alpha’, *International journal of medical education*, 2, pp. 53–55. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.5116/ijme.4dfb.8dfd>.

غندور، هاجر وداود، معمر (٢٠٢١) "عوامل ارتكاب جريمة القتل وأبرز السمات الشخصية للمجرم القاتل"، مجلة الآداب والعلوم الاجتماعية، المجلد ١٨، العدد ٢، ص ص ١٨٧–١٩٣.

عبد العظيم، أميرة (٢٠٢٣). "الإنتاج البحثي المعاصر في علم اجتماع الجريمة: دراسة تحليلية". *المجلة المصرية للعلوم الاجتماعية والسلوكية*، العدد ٢١، ص ص ٦٤–٧٩.

حسن، صباح حسيب & الشكرجي، أنوار ضياء & ارهيف، نرجس هادي (٢٠٠٥) "دراسة مقارنة لاختبار chi square مع بعض الاختبارات للعينات ذات الحجوم الصغيرة مع تطبيق عملي"، *مجلة*





“Investigating the Relationship between Socio-Demographic Characteristics and Public Opinion Regarding Factors Contributing to Increased Murder Cases in Erbil”

جامعة تكريت للعلوم الإنسانية، العدد (٨) ص ص ٢٥٢-٢٦٢



Journal of Babylon Center for Humanities Studies: 2026, Volume: 16, Issue: 8



Journal of Babylon Center for Humanities Studies :2026 Volume: 16 Issue :8
(ISSN): 2227-2895 (Print) (E-ISSN):2313-0059 (Online)