

Supplementary materials: Codebook (Relevant Categories)

Newspaper

We coded which newspaper published an article

- 1 El Tiempo
- 2 El Espectador
- 3 El Colombiano
- 4 Q'Hubo

Date of publication

We coded the date of publication following this scheme: Day/Month/Year.

Example: 20/08/19 for August 20, 2019.

Frame elements

Subsequently, all categories included in the hierarchical cluster analysis are described. All in all, 34 variables entered cluster analysis. All of them were (re-)coded binary (present (=1)/not present (=0) for each paragraph.

1. Problem Definition

1.1. Central issue

During the coding procedure, up to five topic aspects/fields/occasions can be coded per paragraph. The topic aspects are recorded chronologically according to their occurrence in the paragraph. Several topics can already occur in one sentence. If fewer than five occur, the remaining fields in the code sheet are marked "000". Each topic is coded only once per paragraph – even if less than five topics occur in total, in this case the fields are zeroed out instead of filling them up again with the same topic. 15 issues formed part of the hierarchical cluster analysis. They are subsequently described.

1.2. Law

Law is coded when the paragraph deals with the Colombian legal system, specific areas of law (e.g., criminal law, civil law, ...), specific laws (such as "Ley 1761", the law against feminicides) and their implementation at national, regional or local level.

Actions of judges, public prosecutors and the Legal Medicine Institute (Instituto de Medicina Legal) are also coded here. Evaluations of the law (e.g., its effectiveness) or the actions of judges and public prosecutors (often called "autoridades judiciales") are also recorded here. With regard to femicide, the following aspects of law/legislation should be emphasised:

1. Impunity for feminicides
2. Desire to ensure "more justice" for those affected by violence
3. Typification process of feminicides: Does a murder meet the criterion of "femicide"?

Access problems to the legal system: e.g., complaint that women do not succeed in reporting feminicides (promptly); demand that women's reports be taken seriously/treated promptly; in general: make reports traceable ("hacer seguimiento de denuncias").

1.3. *Politics and Administration*

Politics and administration are coded when the paragraph addresses Colombian politics (executive and legislative), the country's political system, political parties, policy areas (e.g. interior, migration or women's and gender equality policy), policies (e.g. issuing decrees), political speeches, public administration or activities of state/regional/municipal authorities (often referred to as "autoridades" without specific addition).

Politics and administration were coded regardless of the political level the paragraph mentioned: nation, department or municipality.

Legal measures or the involvement of legal actors (e.g., public prosecutor's office) are coded under "law" if the law is already in force. If it is a matter of political plans to enact certain laws or measures, politics and administration is coded. General statements, actions and plans on femicide are recorded under "policy". If politicians react to one or more specific feminicides, this is coded under "Femicide/event" > "Reactions of politicians".

Examples of policies related to feminicides:

1. "Mesa Departamental para Erradicar la Violencia contra las Mujeres" (Departmental Roundtable for the Eradication of Violence against Women).
2. "línea de emergencias" (emergency numbers), "líneas de orientación a mujeres víctimas de violencia" (emergency calls for women affected by violence)
3. "hogares de acogida" (women's shelters)
4. Care for victims ("atención") and accompaniment ("acompañamiento") of women affected by violence and surviving dependents of victims of femicide by state agencies
5. in general: protective measures ("medidas de protección", "rutas de protección")

1.4. *Pandemic*

This code is assigned when discussing the Corona pandemic and the broad spectrum of consequences. This includes consequences for the whole world, for specific regions and for the country of Colombia. Consequences can be: unemployment, increase in violence against women and feminicides, distribution of care work at the expense of women.

No matter what topic/event the text relates to the pandemic, this code is assigned. The code can be combined with other codes if it is about a specific femicide or if it is about an increase in care work for women due to the pandemic.

Basically, it is decisive that without the Corona crisis a certain event (e.g., events such as "Pandemia en América Latina: una emergencia de género" – "The pandemic in Latin America: an emergency of gender") or developments (e.g., women spending more time on household and children) would not have occurred (in this form).

1.5. *Violence*

This code is assigned when the paragraph speaks about violence in Colombia, either with or without a reference to the ongoing armed conflict in Colombia. The descriptions can refer to the country as a whole or to individual regions. Women as a target of violence can be mentioned, but this isn't necessary. The code is valid for either person.

The violence can be directed against individual persons or groups, especially often against social leaders ("líderes/lideresas sociales"). If more

than three people are killed in a joint action, the media speak of "massacres" ("masacres").

Examples: "There is a climate of violence in Colombia". "Another social leader has been killed." "The Golf Clan threatens the people of the Cauca with pamphlets."

If political or politically planned or required measures against violence against certain groups are addressed, "politics and administration" is coded.

1.6. Gender Inequalities

This code is about describing and naming gender-specific inequalities in society as a whole or in parts of society. All statements are recorded that state that there are inequalities among different genders or describe how these are manifested.

This category includes all thematic inequalities between people of different genders in Colombia. It does not matter whether it is about the causes of the inequalities, the consequences of the inequalities or the manifestations of the inequalities. Moreover, it is not necessary to name a specific cause, consequence or manifestation – it is sufficient for the coding that the text speaks of "disadvantages", "neglect" or "blindness" towards women/gender.

Feminicides are also considered as a consequence of gender inequalities. However, due to their centrality for the codebook, they are recorded separately. All other consequences, whether related to violence or classified as a crime or not, are coded here.

1.7. Data, actions and discourses on gender inequalities

This code focuses on data and discourses on gender inequalities in society as a whole or in social sub-sectors, from which feminicides and other gender-based acts of violence (e.g., rape) can result.

Data can refer to femicide cases, other violent crimes against women, or other types of inequalities (without a reference to violence). For example, the code is used for all data that draw attention to gender-related differences (e.g., proportion of girls who become pregnant as minors). Statements such as "there has never been such a cruel act in this year/region/country" are also included here. Who collected the numbers is irrelevant for the coding.

Actions and discourses refer to all statements on actions and discourses of individuals and groups that result from the fact that feminicides occur in Colombia. It is irrelevant whether the actions and discourses describe the current situation or work towards a change (e.g. reduction of the number of feminicides). For example, demonstrations or talks about gender-based violence are coded here.

1.8. Femicide

Femicide is coded when the term "feminicidio" is mentioned. This can be the case when the paragraphs tell that a dead body of a woman has found. Also, it is possible, that different types of femicide are discussed (e.g., "feminicidio íntimo, no-íntimo").

1.9. Identity of murdered woman

This code addresses the question "Who was the victim?" and draws on the following aspects: name, age, appearance/clothing, ethnicity (e.g. "indígena"), sexual orientation, occupation/social background/class (e.g. "estudiante", "mujer trabajadora"), marital status, role in the family (e.g.

"madre", "madre cabeza de hogar", "exmujer", "mujer que amaba trabajar con la familia", "hija única"), hobbies and personal characteristics ("apasionada a aprender inglés a la perfección", "Era muchacha tranquila, callada.", "amaba la vida"), plans for further life ("quería viajar por el mundo"), illness (e.g. "depresión"), alcohol and/or drug use.

The description of the victim can be made immediately after the crime or at a later point in time. The descriptions can refer to a period long before the crime.

If relatives or neighbours comment on the killed woman after the crime and provide information on the identity, this is coded here and not as a re-action of the neighbours or relatives.

1.10. *Crime*

Crime is coded when the scene of the crime, the time of the crime, the weapon, the actions of the perpetrator, the behaviour and injuries of the victim (e.g., refuses sexual intercourse with the perpetrator, has bruises or strangulation marks), observations of witnesses, recordings from surveillance cameras are named or described. Descriptions of how the crime was committed (perpetrator hides and waits until dark/victim leaves the house to go to work) are also included under "course of events". This also includes when the perpetrators try to prevent the victim from getting help by lying or other means. In order to be coded, at least one of these items must be present.

First-aiders, doctors, ambulances or transport of the victim and/or perpetrator to a hospital are also coded here. It is not coded if the paragraph is about emotional reactions or statements by the helpers/witnesses (→ code the corresponding code under "Reaction").

Also the presence of police officers and other members of the authorities is coded here.

If a victim is reported as missing, the code is applied.

1.11. *Reactions to the Crime: the Perpetrator and His Relatives*

This code is used when the perpetrator or his relatives react to the femicide.

1.12. *Reactions to the Crime: Neighbours and Local Community*

This code is used when neighbours or the local community react to the femicide. The focus is on emotional statements or actions made after the femicide in relation to the perpetrator, victim or the crime (expressions of grief, pain, expressions of sympathy, anger). Calls to investigate are also coded here.

1.13. *Prehistory of a Femicide*

Incidents between victim and perpetrator before the femicide are coded here.

Examples:

Separation or non-relationship: This is coded if the killed woman separated or wanted to separate from the perpetrator (and vice versa). This is also recorded if there was no relationship at all (one wanted to, one did not; one had feelings, one did not).

Arguments/discussions/problems between later perpetrator and killed woman

Threats, bullying, bodily harm, sexualised violence by the later perpetrator

Controlling behaviour of the later perpetrator towards the woman (e.g., does not leave her side, constantly calls her or sends messages, gives her instructions, asks her out)

Woman reported the later perpetrator (e.g., because of "violencia intrafamiliar" or "maltrato"; or perpetrator had a prohibition to approach the woman).

Affair of the killed woman and/or the later perpetrator;

Family life, daily life, routines of the killed woman and/or the later perpetrator;

Alcohol and/or drug consumption of the killed woman and/or the later perpetrator.

1.14. Consequences of a Femicide

The spectrum of possible consequences of femicide is covered here. The consequence is to be understood in terms of time – what comes after the femicide.

Examples:

1. Escape / manhunt / arrest of the perpetrator. This is also coded if the perpetrator leaves the scene after the femicide or cannot be found there when the authorities arrive.
2. Demand for clarification/criminal prosecution" ("seguimiento"). This is coded when, after the femicide, people demand/wish/court that a (proper/truthful) investigation be carried out by the authorities and that the crime be solved. The demand to investigate under the assumption of a femicide is also coded here.
3. Doubt/criticism of investigations. Here it is coded that the paragraph addresses the fact that persons (mainly close to the victim) doubt the proper or diligent investigative work of authorities or the accuracy of witness statements.
4. Doubt/criticism of suicide hypothesis. Here it is coded that the paragraph addresses the fact that after finding a woman who had been killed, the authorities assume that it was suicide - which people (mainly people close to the victim) criticise or doubt. These persons, on the other hand, push for the femicide hypothesis.

1.15. Investigations of a Femicide

This includes all actions by members of the authorities to investigate the femicide as well as the related communication.

Examples: Search for or seizure of the weapon, information/press release on the crime/the course of events, the legal designation of the offence of the perpetrator, procedures/strategies of the authorities (expert opinion, interrogation, psychological examination of the (suspected) perpetrator, offering a finder's fee for information on the fugitive perpetrator), autopsy of the body, statements on the prospect of success in the investigation, information on the typification process of a femicide.

1.16. Femicides in Court

This code is used when the trial of a femicide is mentioned, for example, when the paragraph speaks about the proceedings/statements of participants in the trial, the charge, the verdict/sentence/acquittal or reactions to a verdict (e.g., appeal). Appeal proceedings and special orders/conditions of detention for the offender or persons connected with the offence (e.g., custody) are also coded here. This code is also assigned when it comes to impunity for a specific offender.

1.17. Most Important Actor

Actors are coded who are associated in the paragraph with a femicide/with feminicides in general. It does not matter whether the persons themselves speak (in direct or indirect quotations), whether they are described as actors or whether they are spoken about.

Up to five actors are coded who are explicitly named in the paragraph. It is not necessary to mention the name; role, function or gender designations are sufficient. For example, the victim can be referred to as "la mujer" and the perpetrator as "el hombre". The context (see: context unit) must be taken into account when coding, for example, if only "he" or "she" is spoken of in a paragraph.

Each specific actor is coded only once per paragraph, which means that if there are two different relatives of a victim, the corresponding code is used twice.

1.18. Politicians

This code included politicians on a national level (e.g., president, national government, national parliament), on a regional level (department) and on a municipal level (e.g., mayor).

1.19. Authorities

This code included all actors from the judiciary, the control and organisational bodies of Colombia and the armed forces. The actor can perform on a national, regional or municipal level.

1.20. Judges

This code was used when the paragraph mentioned judicial authorities, mainly judges.

1.21. Public prosecutor's office

This code was used when the paragraph mentioned the public prosecutor's office or the state department of forensic medicine.

1.22. Police

Police on national, regional or local level was summarised in this code, just as the special force ESMAD.

1.23. Women as a Social Group

Women or girls are mentioned as a social group, as a part of society.

1.24. Different Types of Professions

If a profession is mentioned, this code is assigned. Examples: lawyers, doctors, scientists.

1.25. Feminist Groups

This code summarises feminist non-governmental organisations, movements, and associations, for example #niunamenos.

1.26. Victims of Femicide

This code is used when a person is mentioned being a victim of femicide, either by name or as "the victim", "a woman", ...

1.27. Relatives or Friends of a Victim of Femicide

This code is used when a friends or relatives of a murdered woman are mentioned.

1.28. Perpetrators of Femicide

This code is used when a perpetrator is mentioned, either by his name, a pseudonym or as “the perpetrator”.

1.29. Relatives or Friends of a Perpetrator of Femicide

This code is used when a friends or relatives of the perpetrator, who murdered a woman, are mentioned.

1.30. Eyewitnesses

Persons are coded who came into contact with a femicide due to their proximity to the scene of the crime. It does not matter whether they happened before, during or after the act or whether they intervened (e.g. by providing first aid).

1.31. Perpetrators of Other Crimes than Femicides

If persons are mentioned that committed not a femicide but another crime, this is coded here.

1.32. Other Societal Groups

This code summarises other social groups, for example men, children, migrants, or simply civilians.

2. Attribution of Causes or Blame

As part of the hierarchical cluster analysis, all mentions were summed up. In more than five per cent of all paragraphs, only “perpetrator as a cause” and “perpetrator is guilty” appeared. Both category definitions are described here.

2.1. Attribution of Causes

Here it is coded whether the cause of femicide(s) is generally attributed to “el agresor”, “el hombre”, “el asesino”, “el victimario”, “el sospechoso” or the name of the person whom the text describes/suspects as the perpetrator. The attribution can be made through different aspects (behaviour, character, illness/disorder/injury, alcohol/drug use).

2.2. Attribution of Blame

Here it is coded whether the contribution attributes sole or partial blame for a femicide/femicides in general to the perpetrator (referred to as “el agresor”, “el hombre”, “el asesino”, “el victimario”, “el sospechoso” or name, among others). Blame can refer to specific aspects of the perpetrator (behaviour, character, illness/disorder/injury, alcohol/drug use).

3. Moral Evaluation

Here it is coded whether one or more femicides or femicides in general (and/or their effects) are evaluated in the paragraph – regardless of whether the evaluation is made through statements by a journalist or quotations. The assessment can be made in one or more sentences, but it can also be made in a single word (e.g., “inafortunadamente”). The

statement that a femicide "moves" ("conmueve") a certain person/group or "triggers reactions" ("ha generado reacciones en diferentes sectores") does not contain an evaluation of the femicide. If, on the other hand, pain ("estamos dolidas"), anger ("estamos indignadas"), indignation ("es indignante"), rejection ("rechazamos") or horror ("es aterrador") is expressed in relation to femicide, or if a femicide is described as "brutal" ("brutal") or as a "tragedy" ("tragedia"), a negative evaluation is to be inferred. Per paragraph, up to five moral evaluations of feminicides can be coded. As part of the cluster analysis, all evaluations were summed up.

4. Treatment Recommendations

Here it is coded whether the paragraph gives recommendations how to treat the problem of feminicides. All measures able to solve, combat, contain or mitigate feminicides are included, for example laws, authorities, shelters, discourse or knowledge transfer. The measure can already exist (and it is argued why it should be strengthened) or it is a new idea.

Per paragraph, up to five treatment recommendations for feminicides can be coded. As part of the cluster analysis, all evaluations were summed up.