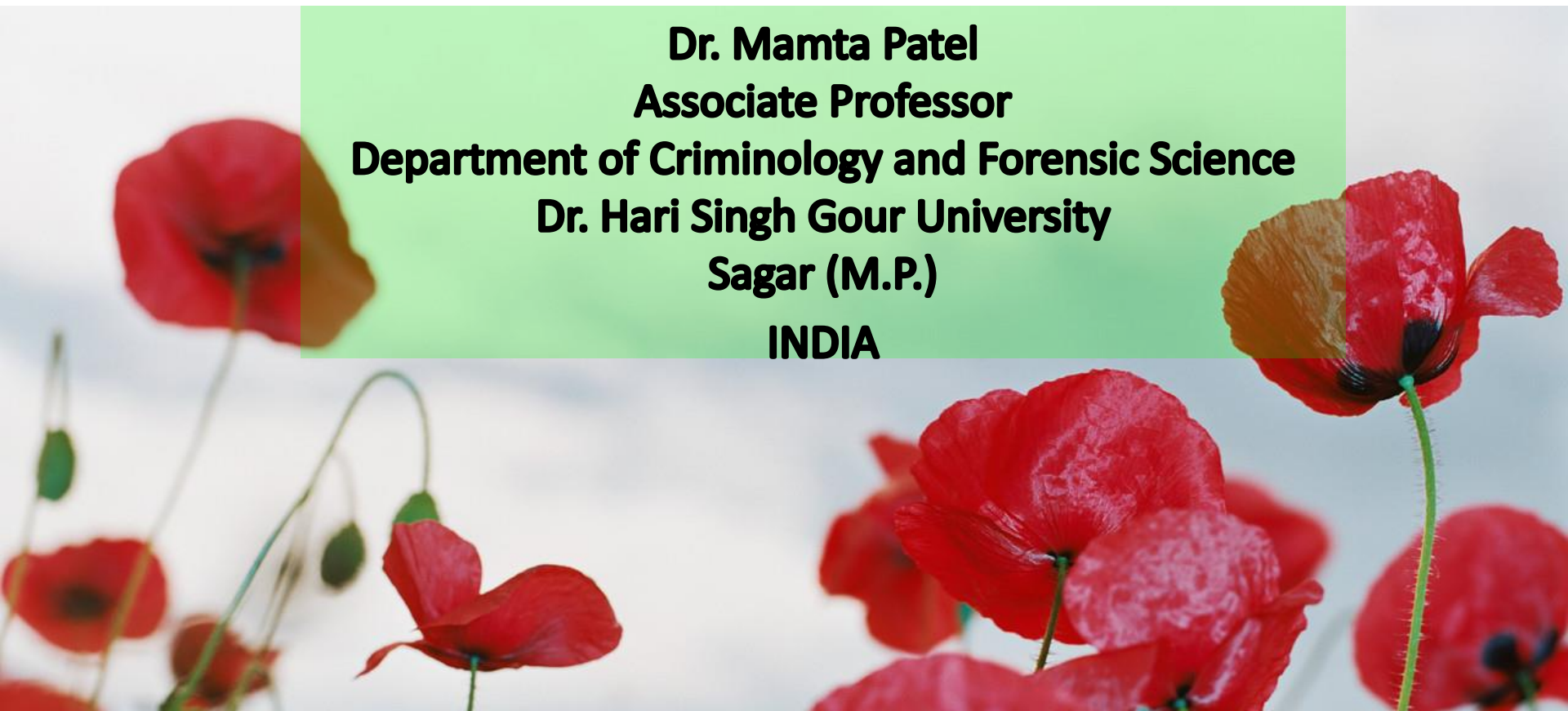


DILEMMA ON PREVENTION OF ELDER ABUSE: SITUATIONAL ABUSE AND ITS CONSEQUENCES

**Dr. Mamta Patel
Associate Professor
Department of Criminology and Forensic Science
Dr. Hari Singh Gour University
Sagar (M.P.)
INDIA**



A serene winter scene featuring a snow-covered field in the foreground. Several large, leafless trees with intricate branch structures are scattered across the landscape, their branches dusted with snow. In the background, a line of trees marks the horizon under a sky transitioning from a soft orange glow near the horizon to a pale blue at the top. A semi-transparent green horizontal band is positioned across the middle of the image, serving as a background for the title text.

INTRODUCTION

ELDER ABUSE

“Elder abuse” was first described in British Scientific Journals in 1975 under the term “granny battering”. (Baker AA. 1975; Burston GR. 1975)

Elder abuse is a single or repeated act, or lack of appropriate action occurring within any relationship where there is an expectation of trust which causes harm or distress to an older person (International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse).



ELDER ABUSE

It is generally agreed that abuse of older people is either an act of commission or of omission and it may be either intentional or unintentional. The abuse may be of a physical nature, it may be psychological involving emotional or verbal aggression, or it may involve financial or other material maltreatment (Hudson M.F. 1991).



VIOLENCE AGAINST ELDERLY

- Violence against elderly includes acts of aggression or abuse that intentionally or unintentionally cause injury to a person. Elder mistreatment is a form of violence against the elderly that usually involves abuse, neglect, or exploitation. Although an intent to cause harm is central to the concept of violence (Ferguson, C., 2010).





OBJECTIVES

OBJECTIVES

- To know the ways of physical abuse to elderly
- To know the reasons behind the physical abuse
- To know the situational abuse and its consequences





METHODOLOGY

METHODOLOGY

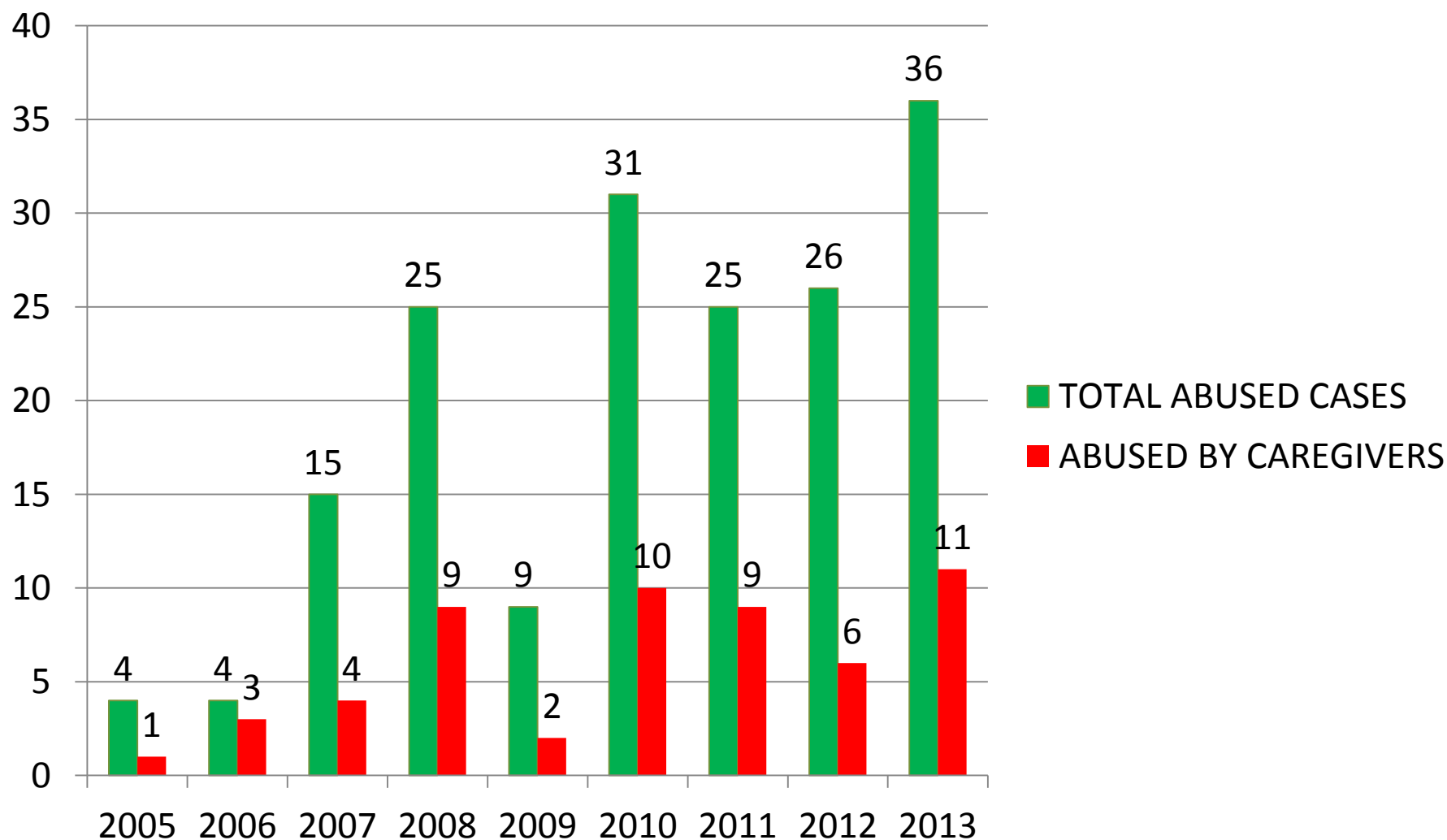
- For the present purposes newspaper reports from January 2005 to December 2013, Hindustan Times, Bhopal edition (M.P.) and The Times of India, Kanpur edition (U.P.) have been the source of data. The news items relating to physical abuse against elderly were systematically collected and their contents were analyzed. Total 175 cases of physically abused elderly have been found reported in print media. Of these 55 cases of elderly abused by caregivers were found and were presented in diagrammatic form . Thus the secondary data was the main source of the research work. The study has been carried on the basis of physical abuse of the elderly.



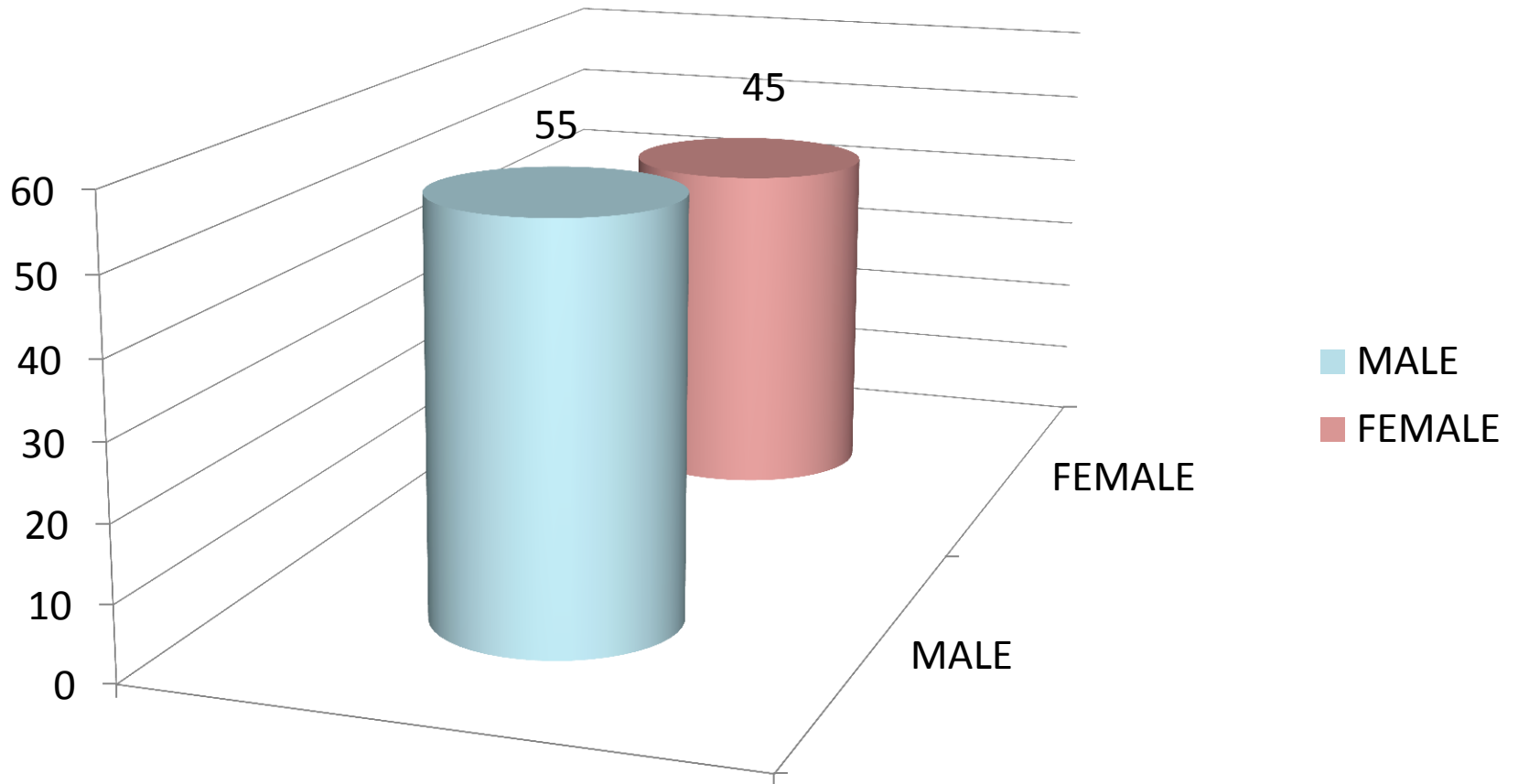


RESULT AND DISCUSSION

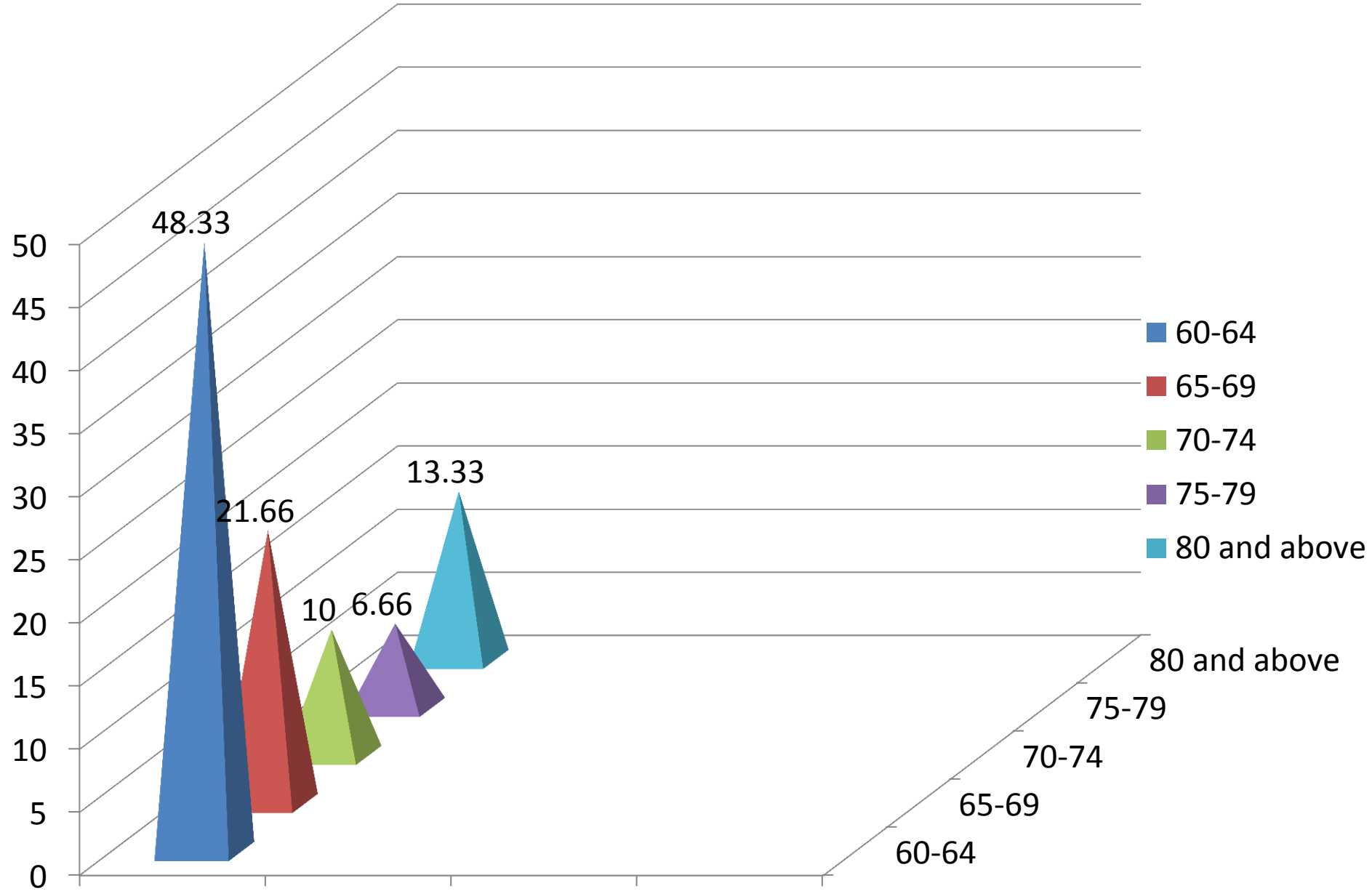
ABUSED ELDERLY (2005-2013)



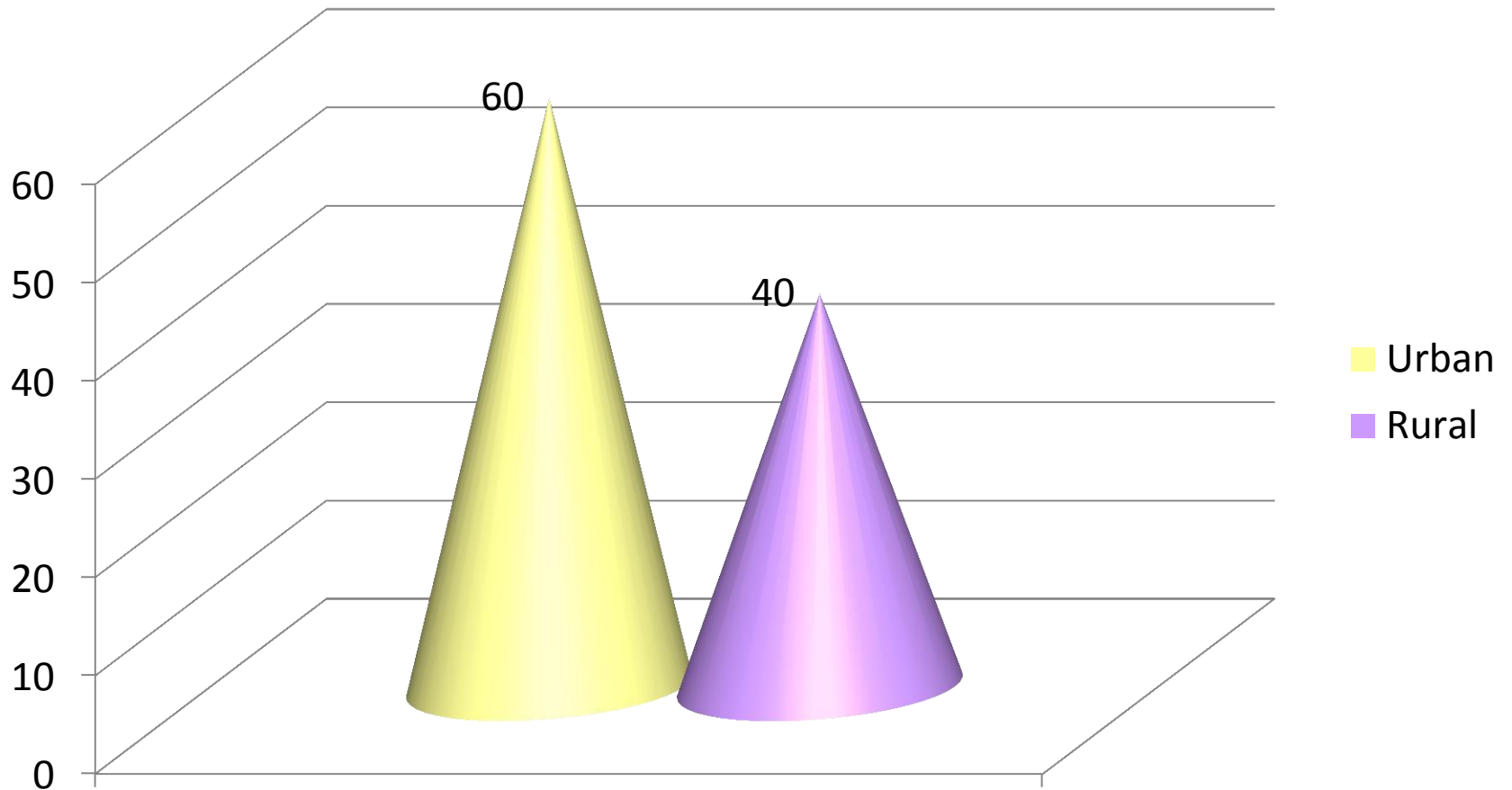
VICTIM'S GENDER



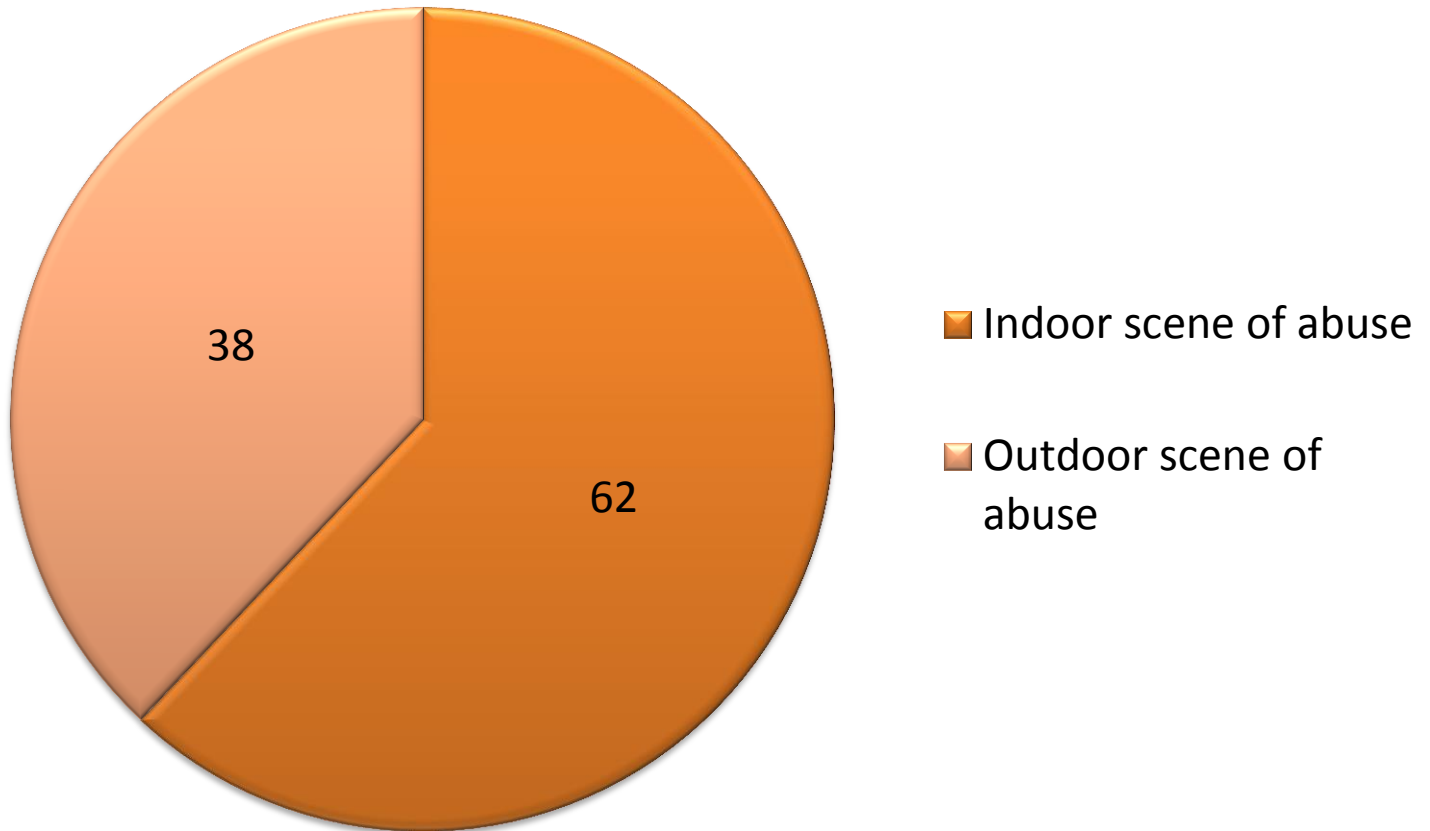
VICTIM'S AGE



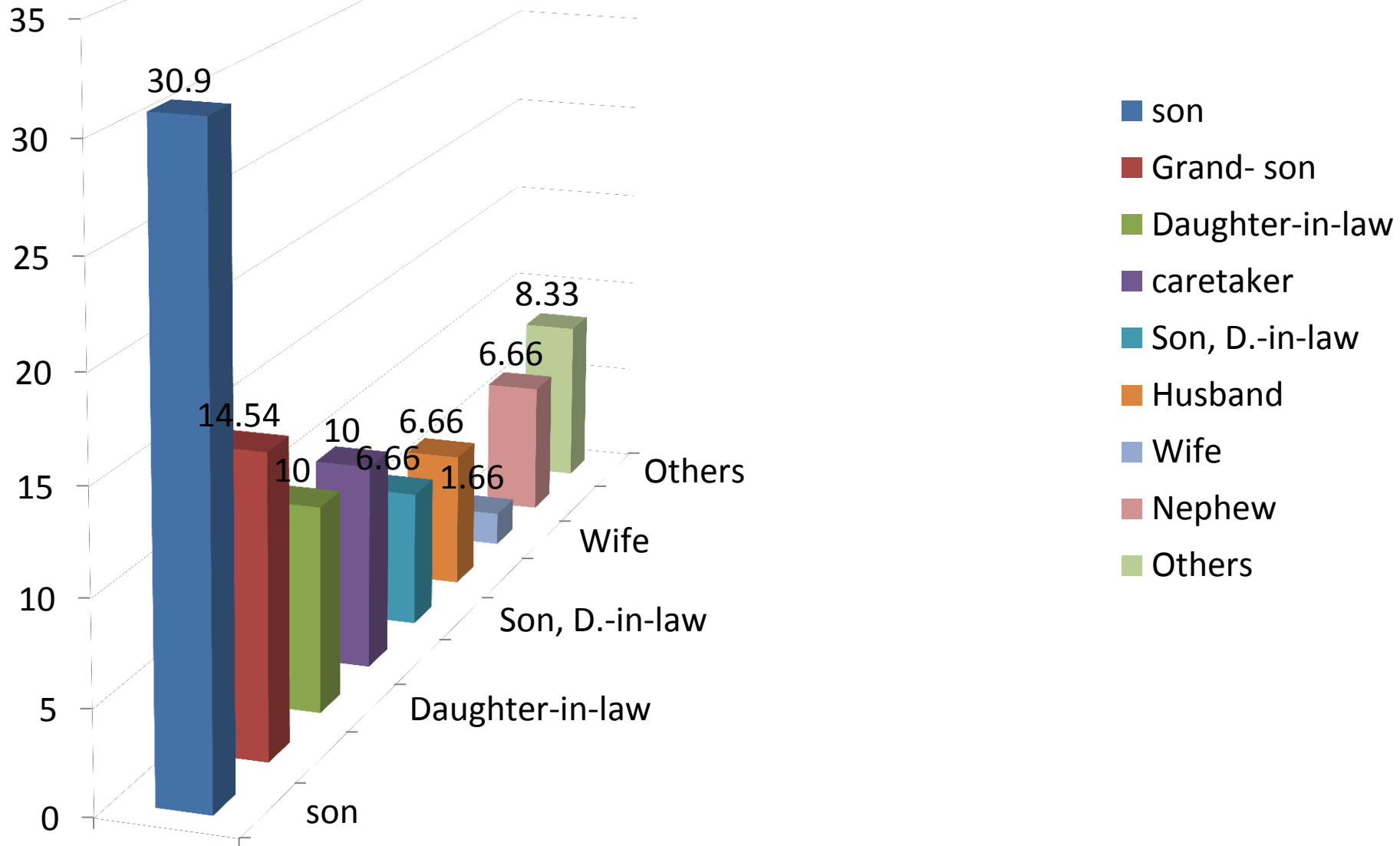
VICTIM'S RESIDENCE



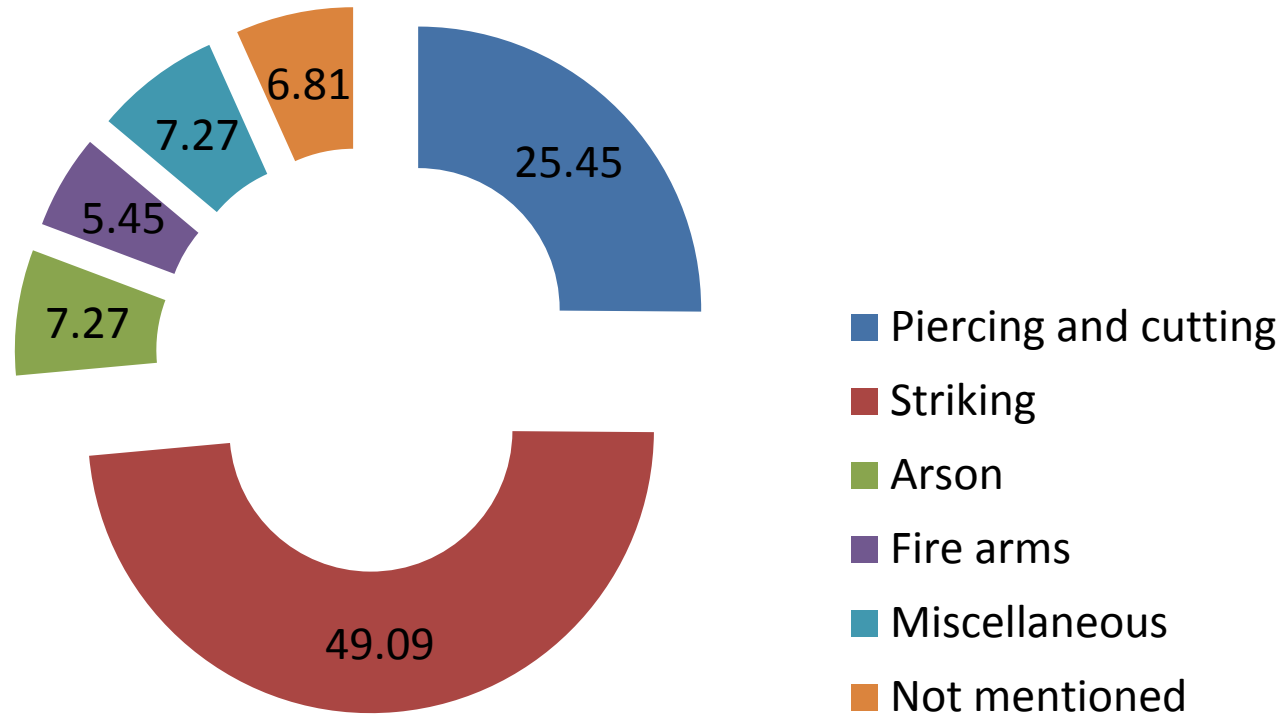
Scene of Abuse



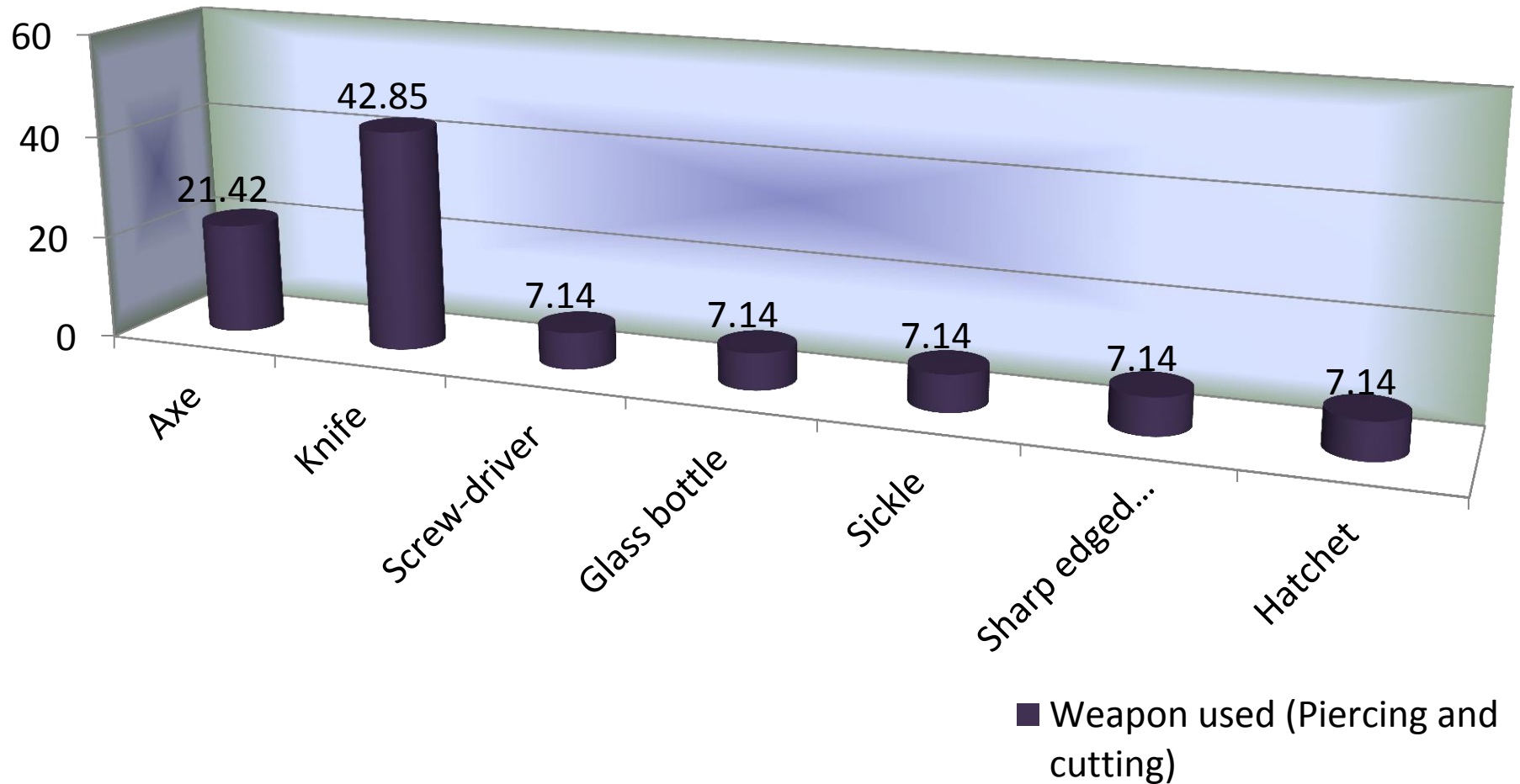
VICTIM CAREGIVER RELATIONSHIP



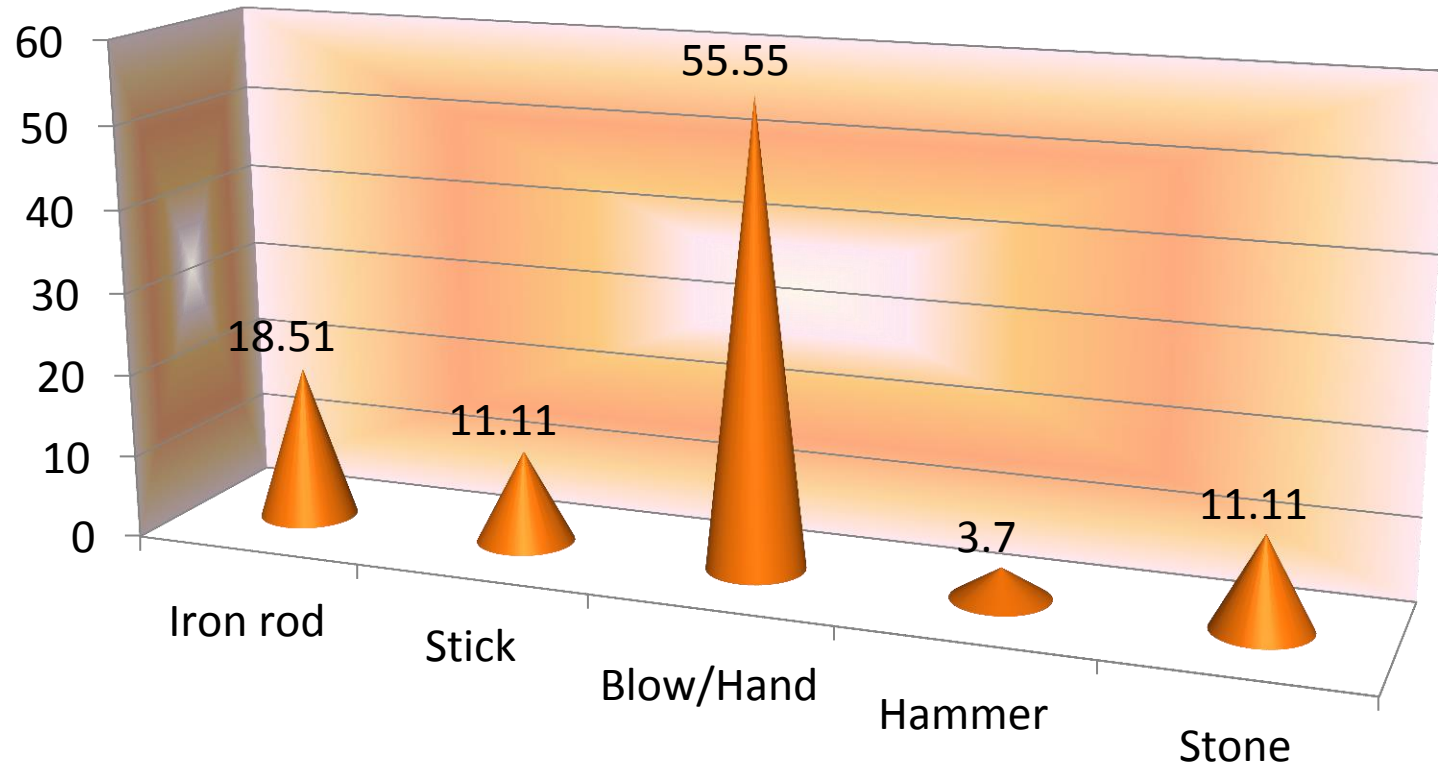
Weapon used



Weapon used (Piercing and cutting)



Weapon used (Striking)



■ Weapon used (Striking)

Ways of abusing

- **Case I** – The elderly man was allegedly killed by his son. The victim, 65 was hit by his son after the victim scolded him. Son attacked his father with a stone. The stone hit the old man on his temple and he fell unconscious (Hindustan Times, 5 August 2013).
- **Case II** – A son hacked his father and mother to death suspecting them to practicing witchcraft and being responsible for the death of his wife. Accused verbally abused then axed his father and mother in West Bengal (The Times of India, 17 May 2012).



Ways of abusing

(Case III) “Denied the daily staple of porn and horror films on grandson personal computer, grandson smashed granny’s head with a stone pastel and confessed that he had murdered his 67 years old grandmother in Kolhapur, Mumbai”(The times of India April 10, 2008).

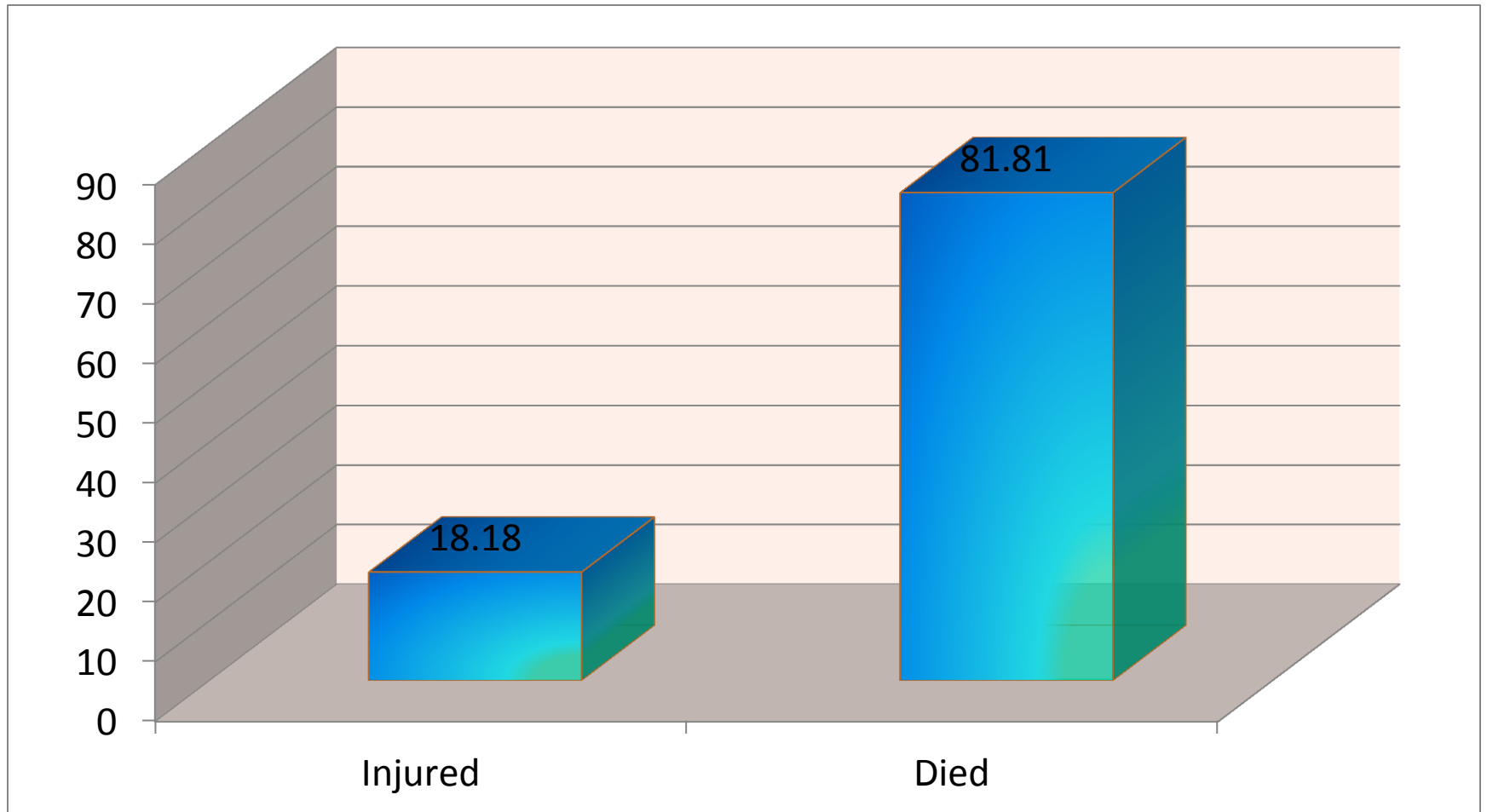
(Case IV) 65 year priest was shot by his brothers and cousins. His family members started a dispute over the temple’s offering and donations and claimed a share in it. They attacked the priest with sticks and he fell on the ground bleeding profusely (The Times of India, 2 August, 2011).



Reasons for abusing

Reasons	No. of cases	Percentage
Altercation over money/land	24	43.63
Domestic quarrel--	15	30.54
(a) Denied porn on computer	1	01.81
(b) Mother asked son for food	1	01.81
(c) Mother coughing continuously	1	01.81
(d) Grand- mother was disturbing by loud talking	1	01.81
(e) Son suspected father had illicit relation with his wife	2	03.63
(f) Mother was not interested, getting son marriage	2	03.63
(g) Witch craft practicing by parents to his wife	1	01.81
(h) Unable to bear cancer afflicted husband	1	01.81
(i) Revenge	1	01.81
(j) Drunken brawl by victim/son	1	01.81
(k) Refused to give pension money to son	1	01.81
(l) Refused to give money for alcohol	1	01.81
Others	13	23.63
Not mentioned	3	05.45
Total	55	100.00

SITUATIONAL ABUSE AND ITS COSEQUENCES



A decorative pattern of red and blue stars of various sizes is located on the left side of the slide.

SITUATIONAL ABUSE IS A RESULT OF SEVERAL FACTORS

1. Relationship factors
2. Community and Societal factors
3. Cultural norms and traditions

Relationship factors

- Stress
- Relationship between the care taker and care recipient
- The existence of disruptive behavior and aggression by the care recipient
- Depression in caregivers
- Dependency increased risk of abuse



Community and Societal factors

- Social isolation emerges as a significant one in elder mistreatment
- Nuclear family system.



Cultural norms and traditions

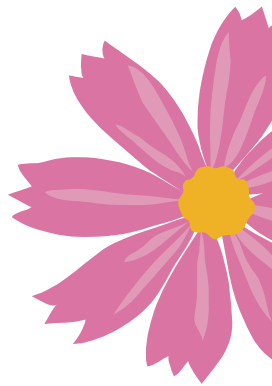
- Ageism
- Culture of violence
- A lack of respect by the younger generation
- Tension between traditional and new family structures.



SUTERLAND'S SOCIAL LEARNING THEORY

Social learning theory holds that a child learns to be violent in the family settings, where a violent parent has been taken as a role model. When frustrated or angry as an adult, the individual relies on this learned behavior and lashes out violently. This theory has led to the concept of a “cycle of violence”, which suggests, for example, that abused children grow up to become child abuser and/or elder abuser.

FRUSTRATION- AGGRESSION THEORY



In Dollard's theory, Frustration is a natural consequence of living and a root cause of crime in this theory, and criminal can be a form of adaptation when it results in stress reduction. Because everyone suffers frustration at times in life, aggression is a natural consequence of living, but that aggression can be manifested in socially acceptable ways (military or law enforcement career, simple verbal attacks) and/or engaged in vicariously by observing others (Dollard, J. et al., 1939).



Psychoanalytic theory

This psychoanalytic approach, developed by psychiatrist Sigmund Freud, emphasizes the role of personality in human behavior and sees deviant behavior as the result of dysfunctional personalities (Schmallegger, F., 2010).



PREVENTION OF ABUSE

Blumer's model(Blumer H. 1971):

- Emergence of a problem
- Legitimization of the problem
- Mobilization of action
- Formulation of official plan
- Implementation of the plan
- Research on every aspects of ageing



SITUATIONAL ABUSE PREVENTION

Situational abuse prevention is a primary prevention measures. This means that it is directed at stopping abuse problems before they occur. Like other primary abuse prevention measures, situational prevention tends to focus on reducing abuse opportunities rather than on the characteristics of abusers or potential abusers.



CONCLUSIONS

The background of the slide is a vibrant tropical sunset. A large, bright yellow sun is positioned in the center, partially obscured by the word 'CONCLUSIONS'. The sky transitions from a deep orange near the horizon to a lighter orange at the top. Silhouettes of palm trees are visible on both the left and right sides. In the foreground, the calm water reflects the sun, creating a series of bright, shimmering spots. A small, dark silhouette of a boat is visible on the water near the horizon.

CONCLUSIONS

For older people, the consequences of abuse can be especially serious. Older people are physically weaker and more vulnerable, their bones are more brittle and convalescence takes longer. Even a relatively minor injury can cause serious and permanent damage. In some cases elderly even die after being subjected to such abuse.

Whether the behavior is termed abusive, neglectful or exploitative will probably depend on how frequently the mistreatment occurs, its duration, severity and consequences.

The most prominent things aggression, arguments and alcohol were found during the situational abuse. In NATIONAL CRIME RECORD BUREAU in INDIA it has been found that most of the crimes were committed unknowingly especially by the family members, only the situation compel to commit any crime and the perpetrator can remorse for his deed for whole life.

CONCLUSIONS

As per great Criminologist, E.W.Sutherland(1934): “making of laws, breaking of laws and reaction towards the breaking of law”.

‘Maintenance & Welfare of Parents & Senior Citizen Act, 2007’ is implemented in India. The criminalization requires law enforcement to intervene in elder abuse and to prevent future incidents so that elderly can live fearlessly.

But the dilemma on prevention of elder abuse is that situational abuse makes hurdle in some stages of prevention.



REFERENCES

REFERENCES

1. Baker A.A. (1975). "Granny battering". *Modern Geriatrics*, 5:20-24.
2. Blumer H. (1971). "Social Problem as Collective Behavior". *Social Problem*, 18: 298-306.
3. Burston G.R.(1975). "Granny battering". *British Medical Journal*, 3:592.
4. . Dollard J. et al. (1939). *Frustration and Aggression*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.
5. Ferguson C.J. (2010). *Violent Crime*. Sage publications, Thousand oaks Ltd.
6. Hindustan Times, (5 August, 2013). Man dies after son attacks with stone.
7. Hudson M.F.(1991). "Elder mistreatment a taxonomy with definitions by Delphi. *Journal of Elder Abuse and Neglect*, 3: 1-20.
8. Schmallegger, F. (2010). *Criminology Today*. Prentice Hall.
9. Sutherland E.H. and D.R. Cressey (1934) *Principles of Criminology*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
10. The Times of India (10 April ,2008). Denied porn on PC, youth kills Granny.
11. The Times of India, (17 May, 2012). Suspecting witchcraft, son hacked parents to death.
12. The Times of India (2 August,2011). 65 year old priest shot by kin.



Thank you ...

