I also bring attention to a new set of methods and data sources that allow for a different perspective on how violence in the environment becomes salient in individuals' lives. The new forms of data, in combination with administrative data that are rapidly becoming available at a local level, allow for a shift in the study of ETV—instead of focusing only on exposure to incidents of violence, these new data sources bring us closer to the measurement of exposure to both violent environments and violent situations.

Prevalence and Trends in Exposure to Violent Interactions

Homicide victimization. Homicide is the most extreme form of violent victimization and is measured most reliably (Mosher et al. 2010). Levels and trends in the homicide rate are most commonly derived from the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) system, which is an aggregation of data reported by police departments. The UCR system has been in place since 1930 and has become a more accurate source of information on homicide over time (US Dep. Justice 2014). Homicide is also tracked by state offices of vital statistics, which rely on the reports of coroners and medical examiners to tabulate the cause of every death that takes place within the United States. State reports are aggregated by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) (Zahn & McCall 1999).

Although the absolute number of homicides reported by the FBI and the NCHS never align exactly, trends in the murder rate derived from police departments and aggregated by the FBI track closely with trends derived from medical reports gathered by state health departments and the NCHS (e.g., see Donohue & Wolfers 2005). **Figure 1** displays trends in the homicide rate from 1991 through 2015 using both sources of data. Although the two sources of data on homicide mirrored each other almost perfectly in the 1990s, in recent years the homicide rate from the NCHS is slightly higher than that reported by the UCR. In 2015, for instance, there were 17,525 homicides according to the NCHS, for a rate of 5.6 per 100,000 (Natl. Cent. Health Stat. 2017). According to the UCR, there were 15,192 homicides in 2015, for a rate of 4.9 per 100,000 (Fed.

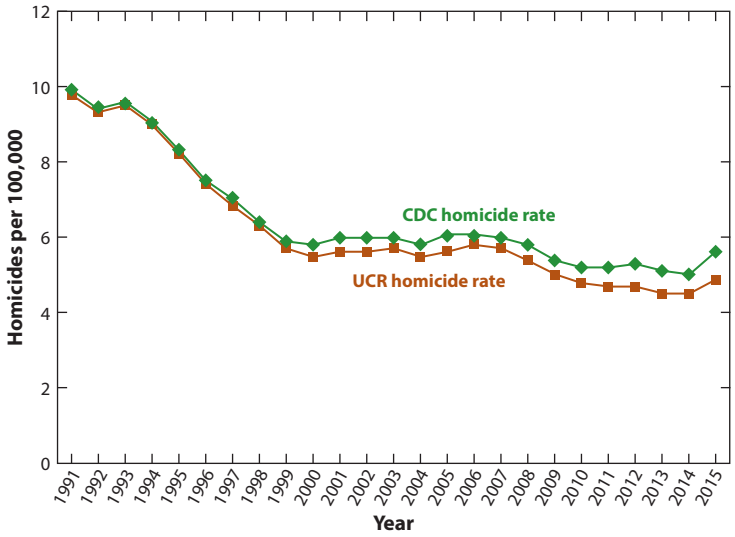

Figure 1

Homicides per 100,000 from 1991 to 2015 from the Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) (Fed. Bur. Investig. 2017) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) (Natl. Cent. Health Stat. 2017).