

# SUMMER RESEARCH 2024/25

## PROJECT ABSTRACT



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**WAIKATO**  
*Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato*

### PROJECT # 6

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| <b>SUPERVISOR/S:</b>     | Dr Apriel Jolliffe Simpson   |
| <b>PROJECT TITLE:</b>    | Identifying forms of harm in police reports for family violence cases  |
| <b>FIELD:</b>            | Forensic Psychology/Crime Science/Psychology                           |
| <b>DIVISION/SCHOOL:</b>  | Te Puna Haumarū   New Zealand Institute for Security and Crime Science |
| <b>PROJECT LOCATION:</b> | Hamilton   |

#### PROJECT ABSTRACT:

In recent years, people have come to view family violence as a problem that includes any form of harm committed between people in any kind of family or whānau relationship. But many forms of harm that are commonly experienced within families—such as controlling behaviour or technological abuse—are often overlooked or under-identified by law enforcement. In this project, we will examine archival records for family violence cases reported to New Zealand Police and record the different types of harm people experienced. We will determine the extent to which different forms of harm are currently being identified in police reports. Our findings will enhance understandings of the harms present in families affected by family violence and provide implications for how police can better identify and respond to prevent ongoing harm.

#### STUDENT SKILLS:

- Experience coding/analysing data
- Background in Forensic Psychology, Crime Science or Psychology
- Experience using Excel and R
- Attention to detail
- Communication skills
- Time management skills

#### PROJECT TASKS:

1. Background reading
2. Data coding
3. Data analysis
4. Create research poster
5. Write executive summary

#### EXPECTED OUTCOMES:

- Student's Research Poster (as per clause 6 of the [Scholarship regulations](#))
- Executive summary

