Reports of Killing Sites by Province
323 reports from 610 interviews

Offences Punishable by the Death Penalty
715 total reports of charges from 610 interviews
1. Property crimes (theft, damage): 238 reports
2. Violent crimes (murder, rape, assault, arson): 115 reports
3. Political crimes (spying, anti-revolutionary behavior, desertion, crimes related to South Korea): 73 reports
4. Human trafficking (including brokering defection): 69 reports
5. Economic crimes (fraud, corruption): 61 reports
6. Border-crossing-related crimes: 36 reports

Note: It is difficult to know whether the charges announced at an execution actually match the act committed by the accused.

Typical Locations of Public Executions
River banks, open spaces and fields, market places, hills/mountains, sports grounds and school grounds.

Reports of Public Execution Events n=318
Notes: The numbers below are all from reports that are of relatively high information source types, with or without geographical coordinates (318). Two reports included both hanging and shooting at the same event, so they are counted twice.

- 294 reports by firing squad
- 25 reports by hanging
- 1 report by use of hazardous chemicals

Public executions of more than 10 people at one time: 19 reports
Some witnessed public executions up to 10 times, but most witnessed fewer than 5.
Youngest age to witness a public execution: 7 years old

Note: 45 reports have been assessed as being of relatively low information source types at this stage.
Reports of Body Disposal Sites (Continued)

- 20 reports were about burial sites.
- 4 reports were about sites where bodies were burned or cremated.
- 1 report was about a site where a body had been dumped or abandoned.
- 5 reported body disposal sites are believed to contain between two and nine bodies together.
- 2 reported body disposal sites are believed to contain more than 10 bodies together.
- 27% of North Korean escapee survey respondents claim to have immediate family members who were victims of enforced disappearance by the North Korean regime; 83% of those people are still missing (n=235).
- 16% of North Korean escapee survey respondents have had a family member killed or executed by the authorities (n=488).
- 92% of North Korean escapee survey respondents thought exhumations of burial sites would be necessary after a transition in North Korea (n=457).

Why are exhumations of burial sites considered necessary after a transition in North Korea? Multiple responses possible

- To gather evidence to assist in the prosecution of perpetrators: 277
- To help relatives of victims to recover from loss: 271
- To ensure the truth is told about the scale of deaths: 258
- To ensure proper memorials for victims: 194
- To clear the sites for economic infrastructure: 72
- Other: 9

Why are exhumations of burial sites NOT considered necessary after a transition in North Korea? Multiple responses possible

- We should focus on more important priorities like economic development: 18
- It is too painful to be reminded of the deaths of victims: 16
- Uncovering past atrocities doesn't help with reconciliation between victims and perpetrators: 12
- Exhumations are too costly and time-consuming: 10
- Those in the burial sites are criminals, not victims: 7
- It is unnecessary to memorialize the victims: 6
- Other: 3

Province of Primary Residence n=610

Demographic Data on Research Participants n=610

- Male: 120 (19.7%)
- Female: 489 (80.1%)
- Unknown: 1 (0.2%)