MURDER

Elements of murder:

A voluntary act that caused death, either intentionally or recklessly.

Contemporaneous elements:

In order for a homicide offence to be murder, the actus reus (AR) and mens rea (MR) elements must occur contemporaneously (Fagan). This must be found BRD by a jury.

	(- 1.8.1.1) 1.11.5 11.11.5 0 0 0 0	Junior 2212 of the junior
ACTUS REUS	MENS REA	
A voluntary act	Intention to:	
The act must be willed at the hands	R v Westaway	
of the accused (<i>Ugle</i>)	Kill	Cause GBH
 Must be deemed 'medically fit' to 	The accused had the	The accused had a
have made a conscious decision as	subjective intention	subjective intention
to the action	to kill the victim and	to cause GBH to the
	did so voluntarily.	victim, but it
		resulted death.
Causing death	Recklessness as to:	
• The D's actions were the sole	R v Crabbe	
cause of death, OR the substantial	Kill	Cause GBH
and operating cause of death	The accused was	The accused was
(Royall)	reckless in their	reckless in their
Breaks in the causation chain:	actions and had	action and had
(1) ACT OF GOD (<i>Hallet</i>)	reasonable foresight	reasonable foresight
(2) OWN VICTIM (<i>Blaue</i>)	of death.	of GBH, which
(3) 3 RD PARTY (<i>E&G</i> ; <i>Jordan</i> ;		resulted in death.
Pagett)		
 Causation is a fact for the jury 		

If these elements are not satisfied, test manslaughter.

DEFENCE

• The accused has the evidential onus of raising and proving self-defence (322I)

Self-defence (CA):

322K(2) – (a) belief in necessity; and

- (b) reasonable response to the circumstances before them
- Can be defence for oneself OR another; prevention or termination of unlawful deprivation of liberty; protection of property.
- Only applicable to murder if the person believes it is necessary to defend themselves or another from death or GBH (322K(3)).

322L – self-defence does not apply to lawful conduct

Self-defence in the context of family violence (CA + JDA):

<u>CRIMES ACT</u>	JURY DIRECTIONS ACT
322M(1) – a person can perceive	58: Request for direction – the defence
circumstances as reasonable even if the (a)	may request that the judge directs the jury in
harm is not immediate, and (b) the force is	accordance with s59 +60 on family
in excess of that being used or threatened	violence.

322M(2) – evidence may be relevant in determining whether – (a) self-defence was carried out in necessity, and; (b) the conduct was a reasonable response. → 322J

59: direction on family violence – self-defence or duress is likely to be an issue in family violence and evidence may be required (in line with **322J**).

60: additional matters for direction – family violence is:

- (i) No limited to physical abuse
- (ii) May involve threats
- (iii) May consist of a single act
- (iv) May consist of a pattern in behaviour

Evidence shows that:

- (i) People react differently
- (ii) It is not uncommon for victims to not leave their situation
- (iii) Family violence is influenced by sociocultural and economic factors.

MANSLAUGHTER			
Elements of manslaughter:			
Manslaughter by an unlawful and dangerous act			
OR			
Manslaughter by a negligent act or omission			
Contemporaneous elements:			
In order for a homicide offence to be manslaughter, the actus reus (AR) and mens rea			
(MR) elements do not need to occur contemporaneously (Fagan). This must be found			
BRD by a jury.			
ACTUS REUS	MENS REA		
Unlawful	Intention to the unlawful act:		
The accused must have intended to	The accused had the subjective intention to		
do an unlawful act (<i>Pemble</i>)	do the unlawful act (R v Westaway).		
are there any lawful defences?			
• Self-defence → 322K CA			
• <i>Lamb</i> : the boys were <u>playing a game</u>			
which is not classified as unlawful			
Dangerous	Recklessness as to the unlawful act:		
The unlawful act must also be	The accused was reckless in their actions		
dangerous (<i>Wilson</i>); is there an	and had reasonable foresight as to		
appreciable risk of harm or death?	appreciable harm or death (<i>R v Crabbe</i>).		
If these elements are not satisfied, test ma	Inslaughter by negligent act or omission.		
Test elements of manslaughter:			
Duty of Care + great falling short of standard + high risk = negligence			
ACTUS REUS	MENS REA		
Act	Intention to the unlawful act:		
Apply the <i>Nydam</i> test:	The accused had the subjective intention to		
A's act or omission falls so far short of	do the unlawful act (R v Westaway).		
standard a reasonable person would			
exercise in the same position, where there is			
a high risk or appreciable			
Omission	Recklessness as to the unlawful act:		
Circumstances in which there is a duty to	The accused was reckless in their actions		
act:	and had reasonable foresight as to		
⇒ Legal (<i>Jordan</i> → medical negligence)	appreciable harm or death (<i>R v Crabbe</i>).		
⇒ Assumption of responsibility			
(Instan; S&D Taktak)			
DEFENCE			
• The accused has the evidential onus of raising and proving self-defence (322I)			
Self-defence (CA):			

- 322K(2) (a) belief in necessity; and
 - (b) reasonable response to the circumstances before them
 - Can be defence for oneself OR another; prevention or termination of unlawful deprivation of liberty; protection of property.
 - Only applicable to murder if the person believes it is necessary to defend themselves or another from death or GBH (322K(3)).

322L – self-defence does not apply to lawful conduct

Self-defence in the context of family violence (CA + JDA):

CRIMES ACT

322M(1) – a person can perceive circumstances as reasonable even if the (a) harm is not immediate, and (b) the force is in excess of that being used or threatened 322M(2) – evidence may be relevant in determining whether – (a) self-defence was carried out in necessity, and; (b) the conduct was a reasonable response. → 322J

JURY DIRECTIONS ACT

- **58: Request for direction** the defence may request that the judge directs the jury in accordance with s59 +60 on family violence.
- **59:** direction on family violence self-defence or duress is likely to be an issue in family violence and evidence may be required (in line with **322J**).
- **60:** additional matters for direction family violence is:
 - (v) No limited to physical abuse
 - (vi) May involve threats
 - (vii) May consist of a single act
 - (viii) May consist of a pattern in behaviour

Evidence shows that:

- (iv) People react differently
- (v) It is not uncommon for victims to not leave their situation
- (vi) Family violence is influenced by sociocultural and economic factors.