Abstract: Taking gender seriously challenges the assumption that the rate of violent crime is still falling. The summary picture of violent crime changes when gender is taken seriously in its measurement. What are the implications for sociological and criminological theory? How does gender mainstreaming change the theorisation of violent crime? The paper draws empirically on the re-analysis of data from the Crime Survey for England and Wales. It uses the practice of ‘gender mainstreaming’ to challenge the separation of the fields of ‘violence against women’ and ‘serious violent crime’. It sets out a new approach to the analysis of violent crime that mainstreams gender relations.

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