







	<p><b>The Effect of Anger on Implicit and Explicit Evaluation of Rape</b></p> <p><b>Kevin L. Nunes, J. Renée Malcom, &amp; Cathrine Pettersen</b></p> <p><b>Carleton University</b></p>
	<p>In K. L. Nunes (Chair), <i>Experimental and observational research on the role of implicit cognition in rape and child molestation</i>. Symposium conducted at the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Research and Treatment Conference of the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers, Phoenix, Arizona.</p>

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	<p><b>Attitudes, Misogynistic Anger, and Rape</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Link between cognitions and sexual coercion (e.g., Bouffard, 2002; Bumby, 1996; Murnen et al., 2002; Nunes et al., 2008)</li><li>• Link between misogynistic anger and sexual coercion (e.g., Malamuth, 2003; Murnen et al., 2002)</li></ul>
	


	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Link between misogynistic anger and attitudes towards rape (e.g., Anderson et al., 1997)</li><li>• Link between emotions, cognitions, and sex offending (e.g., Ward &amp; Hudson, 1998)</li></ul>
	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cognitions about sex offending and misogynistic anger are addressed in forensic assessment and targeted in treatment programs (e.g., Hanson et al., 2007; McGrath et al., 2010; Olver et al., 2007)</li></ul>
	

	<p><b>Explicit and Implicit Cognition</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Explicit cognition is deliberative and usually assessed with self-report measures</li><li>• Implicit cognition is automatic and usually assessed with response latency (or reaction time) measures</li></ul>
	

**Implicit Association Test (IAT)**


- Greenwald, McGhee, & Schwartz (1998)
- Used initially to measure implicit self-esteem, self-concept, and stereotypes
- Strength of association between concept (e.g., rape) and attribute (e.g., bad) is inferred from relative response latencies



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**Current Study**


- Used IAT and self-report measures designed to assess, respectively, implicit and explicit attitudes towards rape (Nunes et al., 2008)
- Does misogynistic anger make attitudes towards rape more positive?



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**Participants**


- 78 heterosexual male undergraduate students at Carleton University
- Median age = 19 to 21 years old



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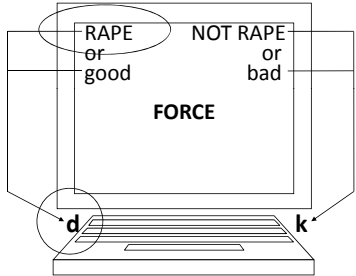
**Rape Evaluation IAT (RE-IAT)**  
**Nunes et al. (2008)**

- Participants categorize words into one of four categories
- Rape: *force, violent, rape, violate, assault*
- Not rape: *consent, mutual, willing, permission, agreement*
- Good: *vacation, sunshine, success, paradise, peace*
- Bad: *pollution, war, disaster, death, poor*


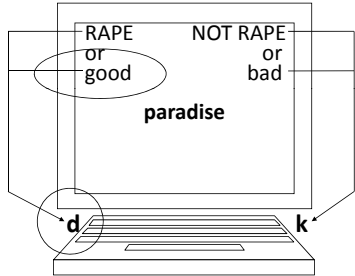


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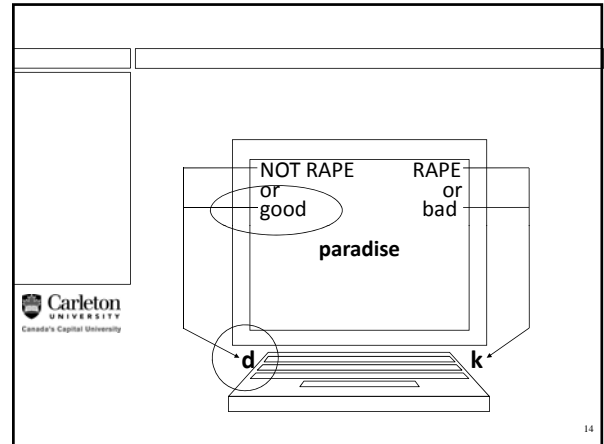
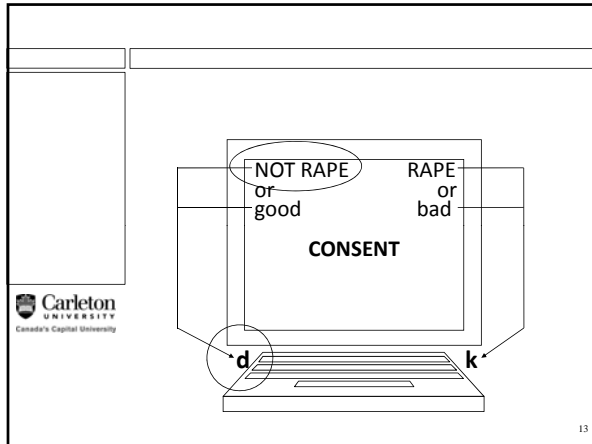
**Example of RE-IAT Trials**



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**RE-IAT D Score**

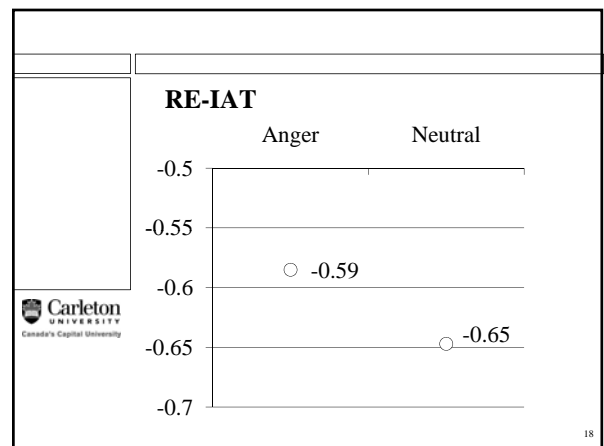
- D score: mean response latency for rape+bad trials minus rape+good trials, taking into account response variance (see Greenwald et al., 2003)
- Higher scores = more positive evaluation of rape

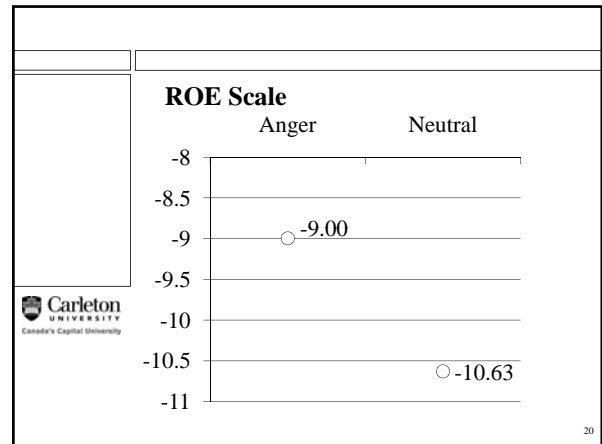
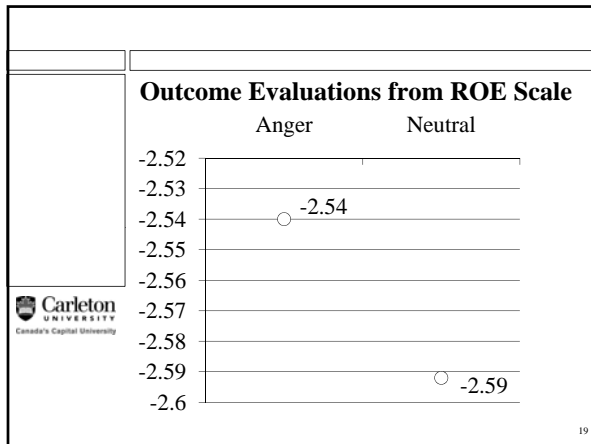
**Rape Outcome Expectancies (ROE) Scale**  
Nunes et al. (2008)

- 3 possible outcomes of rape rated on likelihood (0 [*never happen*] to 6 [*guaranteed to happen*]) and evaluation (-3 [*very negative*] to 3 [*very positive*])
- Total score = average of products of likelihood and evaluation scales
- Scores can range from -18 to +18, with higher scores indicating more positive evaluation of rape

**Manipulation**

- Audio recording of woman reading a story
- Misogynistic anger condition (n = 40)
  - Story about manipulation and humiliation of a man by a woman
- Control condition (n = 38)
  - Story about a man grocery shopping





**Discussion**

- Misogynistic anger made explicit attitudes towards rape less negative, but did not affect implicit attitudes
- Findings are generally consistent with theory and past correlational research (e.g., Anderson et al., 1997; Malamuth, 2003)

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**Limitations**

- University student sample
- Strength of anger manipulation

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**Conclusions**

- This study is one of the first experimental tests of the effects of misogynistic anger on attitudes towards rape
- Because of the greater control possible in experimental studies, they are a valuable complement more externally valid correlational studies

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