

Examining Cognitions Related to Sexual and Non-Sexual Aggression: An Overview of Research in the Aggressive Cognitions and Behaviour Research Laboratory

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Aggressive Cognitions and Behaviour Research Lab

- Director
 - Kevin Nunes
- PhD students
 - Kelly Babchishin and Chantal Hermann
- MA students
 - Julia Berliant, Emma Isai, and Cathrine Pettersen
- Honours students
 - Samantha Davis and Mandie Woods

Artwork by Nikolas Milankov



Main Goal

- To advance knowledge about the role of various cognitions in the initiation and persistence of sexual and nonsexual violence



Methodology

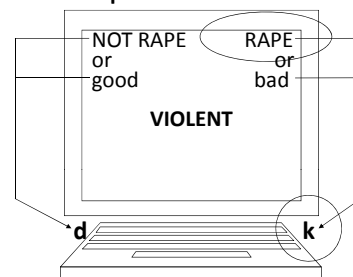
- Participants: Students, offenders, and forensic psychiatric patients
- Settings: Lab, federal prisons, provincial prisons, secure forensic psychiatric hospitals
- Observational and experimental research
- Self-report and implicit measures

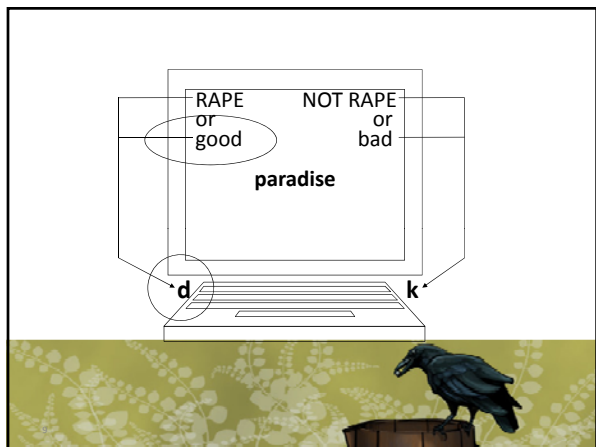
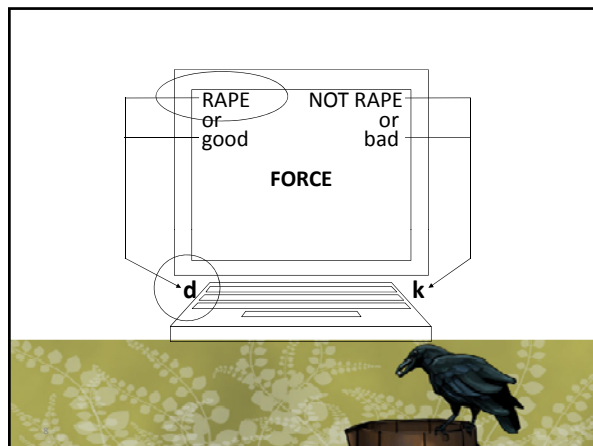
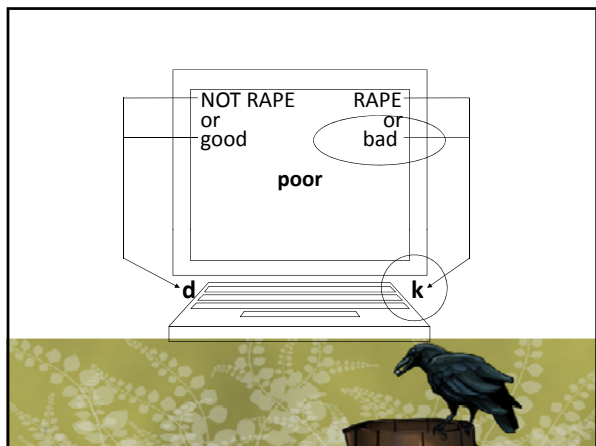


Implicit Association Test (IAT)



Example of RE-IAT Trials





Assessing Sexual Attraction to Children
 Babchishin, K. M., Nunes, K. L., & Kessous, N. (2011). *A multimodal examination of sexual interest in children*. Manuscript submitted for publication.
 Babchishin, K. M., Nunes, K. L., & Hermann, C. A. (2011). *Implicit Association Tests adapted to assess sexual interest can distinguish between child molesters and non-molesters: A meta-analysis*. Manuscript in preparation.

Attitudes Towards Child Molestation
 Kessous, N. (2009). *Under the radar: Assessing attitudes towards child sexual abuse using the Implicit Association Test*. Master's thesis.
 Sewell, R. (2010). *Arousal and attitudes towards child sexual abuse*. Master's thesis.

Attitudes Towards Rape

Nunes, K. L., Hermann, C. A., & Ratcliffe, K. (2011).

Implicit and explicit attitudes towards rape are associated with likelihood to rape. Manuscript submitted for publication.

Nunes, K. L., & Pettersen, C. (accepted). Competitive disadvantage makes attitudes towards rape less negative. *Evolutionary Psychology*.

Hermann, C. A. (2010). *Arousal and attitudes towards rape.* Master's thesis.



Most Recent Focus

- Distinctions between attitude and related constructs
- Cognitive consistency between attitude, identification, and self-esteem



Thank you

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<http://carleton.ca/acbrlab>

