

## Expected Outcomes of Rape

Mandie Woods, Cathrine Pettersen, Chantal A. Hermann, & Kevin L. Nunes

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○ Perceived costs and rewards of behavior have been theoretically linked to likelihood of engaging in that behaviour (Bandura, 1973; Gottfredson & Hirschi, 1990).

○ Individual differences may make some "important" costs and rewards difficult to predict:

- Salience of the outcome (Bouffard, 2002)
- Personality differences
- Emotional intelligence

○ Therefore asking participants to list outcomes associated with rape themselves may lead to increased insight into what "important" outcomes of rape are.

- Bouffard, 2002

○ Viewing outcomes of rape as less likely has been found to be related to sexually aggressive behaviour.

- (Bouffard, 2002; O' Donohue, McKay, & Schewe, 1996)

○ Sexually aggressive men have reported more "positive" outcomes of rape (O'Donohue, Yeater, & Fanetti, 2003).

○ Sexually aggressive men report the possibility of legal consequences, but may not see them as likely to occur (Bouffard & Bouffard, 2010).

○ The purpose of the current study:

- Document specific outcomes of rape that male students spontaneously self-generate.
- Examine whether coercive men view outcomes of rape as less likely and less negative compared to non-coercive men.
- Examine perceived likelihood and evaluation ratings of these outcomes, and its relationship to past sexually aggressive behaviour.

## Participants

- 158 male undergraduates
- Median age 21-22
- 394 statements
- Corresponding perceived likelihood and evaluation score for each outcome.

### ○Likelihood to Rape Question

- “What is the likelihood you would rape someone if you could be assured you would not be caught and punished?”
- “Not at all likely” (1) to “very likely” (5)

### Behavioral Outcome Measure

*Coercive Sexuality Scale (CSS; Rapaport & Burkhart, 1984)*

- 19 items asking about past sexually aggressive behavior. Responses range from 0 “never” to 9 “nine times or more”
- Re-coded to reflect intensity and frequency of past sexually aggressive behavior: items 1 to 5 ( $\times 1$ ), 2 to 6 ( $\times 2$ ), 11 to 19 ( $\times 3$ )
- Item 12 was removed

Current study:  $\alpha = 0.89$

### Rape Outcome Expectancies Scale

(ROE; Nunes, Hermann, & Ratcliffe, 2013)

- Assesses participants’ expected outcomes of sexually aggressive behavior
- List three possible outcomes of rape
- Likelihood and evaluation of each outcome
- Total score (likelihood  $\times$  evaluation) reflects attitudes towards rape, higher score = more positive attitudes

### ROE: Rape Outcome Expectancies

“Write one outcome that could happen if you were to force a woman to have sex with you”

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### ROE: Rape Outcome Expectancies

How likely is it that outcome would happen?

1    2    3    4    5    6    7

If that happened would it be positive or negative?

-3    -2    -1    0    1    2    3

### Hypothesis

- More coercive men would report different outcomes than less coercive men.
- Outcomes of rape will be rated as less likely to occur and less negative by more coercive men.
- Perceived likelihood and evaluation of the specific self-generated outcomes will differ by coerciveness.



1	Jail or prison	23	Negative effect on image or reputation	43	General trauma for victim
3	Accused or charged with a sex offence	24	People would find out/ know	44	It would affect/ alter victims perception of men
4	Arrested	25	People would look at them differently/ stigmatized	45	She would be afraid
5	Lawsuit or would be sued	26	Become homeless	48	She wouldn't feel safe anymore
6	Victim would tell cops/ accuse him of rape.	27	STD's, health issues and aids	49	She would have a hard time living with it
7	General law violation	29	Be killed/ hurt by anyone	52	Victim would agree to it
8	Would be on sex offender registry	31	Causes nightmares/loss of sleep	54	Sexual gratification for offender
9	Guilt	32	Causes offender to lose respect for women	56	Victim would like it
11	Shame or ashamed	33	Moral implications (religious)	64	(A) Embarrassment
12	Loss of self-respect	35	Change in morals and rape again	68	(A) Emotional damage
16	Offender would feel rejected	36	Gain power/ superiority over her	70	(A) Afraid/ nervous
18	"Seen as sex offender"	38	She would hate him/ be angry	73	Harm for both parties
19	Loss of possible mates	39	Affect or loose relationship with victim	74	Pregnancy/ baby
21	Family/ society will be ashamed	40	Physically hurt victim	75	Has no meaning
22	Loss of friends/ family	41	Emotionally damage victim		(A) = Ambiguous

Results			
Measure	Mean of non-coercive men	Mean of Coercive men	Cohens' d [95% CI]
Likelihood to Rape Question	1.28	1.6	0.38* [0.04, 0.73]
ROE: likelihood	5.32	4.68	-0.41* [-0.75, -0.06]
ROE: evaluation	-7.01	-5.87	2.8* [2.34, 3.26]
ROE total	-37.07	-28.02	0.38* [0.04, 0.73]

\* p < .05

Outcomes: Legal								
Outcome	Non-Coercive (n = 111)			Coercive (n = 47)			Cohen's d [95% CI]	
	n	Mean Likelihood	Mean Evaluation	n	Mean Likelihood	Mean Evaluation	Likelihood	Evaluation
Legal Outcomes	77	5.55	-2.65	26	4.81	-2.27	-0.58* [-1.03, -0.13]	0.28 [-0.17, 0.72]
Jail or prison	38	5.5	-2.47	13	4.77	-2.92	-0.57 [-1.21, 0.07]	-0.33 [-0.96, 0.3]
Arrest	17	5.71	-2.94	4	4.5	-3	-0.83 [-1.94, 0.29]	-0.26 [-1.36, 0.83]
Accused or charged with rape	10	5.2	-2.3	5	4.8	-0.8	-0.26 [-1.34, 0.82]	0.65 [-0.45, 1.75]

\* p < .05

Outcomes: "Negative" emotional outcomes for offender								
Outcome	Non-Coercive (n = 111)			Coercive (n = 47)			Cohen's d [95% CI]	
	n	Mean Likelihood	Mean Evaluation	n	Mean Likelihood	Mean Evaluation	Likelihood	Evaluation
Negative outcomes for offender	39	6.33	-2.74	17	6.32	-2.26	-0.01 [-0.58, 0.56]	0.41 [-0.16, 0.99]
Guilt	24	6.46	-2.66	14	6.36	-2.28	-0.08 [-0.74, 0.58]	0.28 [-0.38, 0.94]
Shame	4	6.75	-3	5	6.4	-2	-0.47 [-1.80, 0.87]	-0.16 [-0.93, 0.60]

Outcomes: Hurt the victim								
Outcome	Non-Coercive (n = 111)			Coercive (n = 47)			Cohen's d [95% CI]	
	n	Mean Likelihood	Mean Evaluation	n	Mean Likelihood	Mean Evaluation	Likelihood	Evaluation
Hurt the victim	24	5.938	-2.6	9	5.72	-2.89	-0.16 [-0.93, 0.6]	-0.42 [-1.19, 0.35]
Physically	12	5.91	-2.75	4	6	-3	0.05 [-1.08, 1.19]	-0.62 [-1.78, 0.53]
Emotionally	7	7	-2.71	4	6.25	-2.75	-0.71 [-1.97, 0.56]	-0.08 [-1.31, 1.15]

Outcomes: "Negative" social outcomes for offender								
Outcome	Non-Coercive (n = 111)			Coercive (n = 47)			Cohen's d [95% CI]	
	n	Mean Likelihood	Mean Evaluation	n	Mean Likelihood	Mean Evaluation	Likelihood	Evaluation
Social outcomes for offender	77	5.55	-2.65	26	4.81	-2.27	-0.58 [1.03, -0.13]	0.28 [-0.17, 0.72]
Others would know or find out	38	5.5	-2.47	13	4.77	-2.92	-0.57 [-1.21, 0.07]	-0.33 [-0.96, 0.3]
Effect reputation	17	5.71	-2.94	4	4.5	-3	-0.83 [-1.94, 0.29]	-0.26 [-1.36, 0.83]

### Outcomes: Sexual gratification and effect on relationship with victim

Outcome	Non-Coercive (n = 111)			Coercive (n = 47)			Cohen's d [95% CI]	
	n	Mean Likelihood	Mean Evaluation	n	Mean Likelihood	Mean Evaluation	Likelihood	Evaluation
Positive outcomes for offender	11	5.09	0.27	7	4.86	0	-0.13 [-1.08, 0.82]	-0.12 [-1.07, 0.83]
Sexual gratification	5	4.6	0.6	5	4.75	0	0.07 [-1.25, 1.38]	-0.24 [-1.56, 1.08]
Affect/lose relationship with victim	12	6.1	-2.5	3	3	-2	-2.88* [-4.51, -1.25]	-0.49 [-2.03, 1.03]

\*  $p < .05$

### Summary

- The men reported similar outcomes of committing rape regardless of past sexually aggressive behavior.
- Coercive men reported all outcomes as less likely to occur and less negative than non-coercive men.
- Going to jail and guilt were the most frequently reported outcomes of rape.

### Summary

- Coercive men reported legal consequences of rape as less likely to occur than did the non-coercive men.
- Coercive men said raping a woman was less likely to result in an effect on or loss off his relationship with the victim.
- Trends suggest some additional (non-significant) differences on evaluation and likelihood ratings of the self-generated outcomes between the coercive and non-coercive men.

### Discussion

- Results consistent with previous findings:
  - Sexually aggressive men report outcomes of rape as less likely and less negative.
  - Specifically, sexually aggressive men have reported punishment as less likely to occur (O' Donohue, McKay, & Schewe, 1996).

### Limitations

- Small sample size for group comparisons
- Cross-sectional design means we can not imply causality

### Implications

- Men who view outcomes of committing rape as less likely to occur and less negative may be more inclined to sexually aggressive behavior.
- It is also possible that committing sexually aggressive acts without being caught solidifies these beliefs after the fact (Bouffard, 2007)
- Policy
- Treatment targets

### Future Research

- Could examine treatment targeting expectations of rape, specifically likelihood of outcomes (e.g., legal) and increased awareness of “negative” outcomes of rape.
- Examine “Legal cost/ relationship reward” group of sexually aggressive men?
  - Bouffard & Bouffard, 2010

### Other outcomes reported by students

- “Sense of power”
- “She would actually do it”
- “Get killed by an angry relative”
- “Feel good about it and try to do it again”
- “If they like that then they might offer you to have sex again.”

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Thank you!!

[www5.carleton.ca/acbrlab/](http://www5.carleton.ca/acbrlab/)

[Mandiewoods@mail.carleton.ca](mailto:Mandiewoods@mail.carleton.ca)

