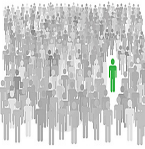


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Likelihood to Rape Predicts Subsequent Sexually Aggressive Behavior

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+ Introduction

- Sexual aggression against adults is a pervasive problem
- **Prevention** requires us to identify **predictors** of sexual aggression
- Major barrier is **measurement**:
 - Official records
 - Self-report
 - Analogue measures of sexual aggression
 - Self-report proclivity/likelihood measures

+ Introduction

- **Self-report proclivity measures**: self-reported willingness to engage in sexually aggressive behavior
- Limited research on whether **self-reported likelihood to rape** predicts future sexually aggressive behavior

+ Introduction

- **Gidycz and colleagues (2011)**:
 - Developed *Likelihood to Perpetrate Sexual Aggression Scale*
 - Self-reported likelihood of sex play or sexual intercourse using coercive or aggressive tactics
 - Male undergraduate students ($N = 414$)
 - Longitudinal design with 3 month follow-up period
 - **Self-reported likelihood of sexual aggression** was **positively associated** with subsequent sexual aggression

+ Purpose

- Does **self-reported likelihood** to engage in sexual aggression **predict** subsequent sexually aggressive **behavior**?



■ Hypothesis:

- Self-reported likelihood **predicts** subsequent sexually aggressive behavior

+ Participants

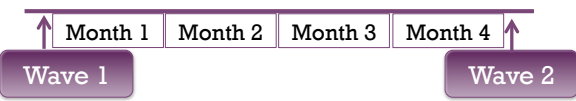
Community Sample (N = 248): FINDING THE PARTICIPANTS

- 75.4% were 40 years old or older
- 86.3% White
- 62.8% in a relationship
- 46.4% had full time employment
- 60.9% completed college or university



+ Research Design

- Longitudinal research design
- Two waves of data collection
 - 4 months apart
- Data collected as part of a larger study



+ Sexually Aggressive Behavior

Sexual Experience Survey–Tactics First Revised

(modified Abbey et al., 2005)

- 6 tactics: verbal coercion to physical force
- 6 behaviors: kissing to oral/vaginal/anal
- Frequency: (0) *None* to (9) *Nine times or more*
- 36 items; weighted total score (Davis et al., 2014)

How many times SINCE THE AGE OF 16 YEARS OLD...
How many times in the PAST FOUR MONTHS...

Have you given a woman drugs or alcohol without her permission in order to...

(c) Make her have oral sex with you

+ Self-Reported Likelihood for Sexual Aggression
Likelihood SES-TFR
(modified Abbey et al., 2005)

- 6 tactics: verbal coercion to physical force
- 6 behaviors: kissing to oral/vaginal/anal
- Likelihood: (0) *Very unlikely* to (6) *Very likely*
- 36 items; average score for 36 items

How **LIKELY** would you be to do the behavior below?

Give a woman drugs or alcohol without her permission in order to...

(c) Make her have oral sex with you

+ Self-Reported Likelihood to Rape

Likelihood to Rape Question 1
(modified Malamuth, 1981)

How likely is it that you would commit rape?

(1) *Not at all likely* to (5) *Very likely*

+ Self-Reported Likelihood to Rape

Likelihood to Rape Question 2
(Malamuth, 1981)

How likely is it that you would commit rape if you would not get caught and/or punished?

(1) *Not at all likely* to (5) *Very likely*

+ Procedure

- Online Survey¹
- Same procedure for Wave 1 and Wave 2:
 - Past/subsequent sexually aggressive behavior
 - Self-reported likelihood to engage in sexual aggression
 - Self-reported likelihood to commit rape
 - Quality control questions

¹Data are from a larger study examining implicit and explicit evaluations of sexual coercion and aggression (for more details see Hermann, 2015; Hermann & Nunes, 2016).

Table 1
Frequencies of Self-Reported Likelihood to Engage in Sexual Aggression in a Sample of Community Men

Measure	N Total ^a	No Likelihood % (n)	Any Likelihood % (n)
Likelihood SES-TFR – Verbal Coercion	245	68.2% (167)	31.8% (78)
Likelihood SES-TFR – Physical Aggression	246	83.3% (205)	16.7% (41)
Likelihood SES-TFR	244	64.8% (158)	35.2% (86)
Likelihood to Rape Q1	248	95.2% (236)	4.8% (12)
Likelihood to Rape Q2	247	91.1% (225)	8.9% (22)

Note. ^a Sample size fluctuates based on missing data

Table 2
Group Differences Between Non-Aggressors and Current Aggressors on Self-Reported Likelihood measures

Measure	Non-Aggressors M (SD), n	Current Aggressors M (SD), n	Cohen's d (95% CI)
Likelihood SES-TFR – Verbal Coercion	0.05 (0.16), 116	0.61 (1.04), 37	1.06* (0.67, 1.45)
Likelihood SES-TFR – Physical Aggression	0.03 (0.13), 116	0.19 (0.44), 38	0.65* (0.28, 1.03)
Likelihood SES-TFR	0.04 (0.16), 116	0.43 (0.78), 37	0.96* (0.58, 1.35)
Likelihood to Rape Q1	1.01 (0.09), 116	1.24 (0.54), 38	0.83* (0.45, 1.21)
Likelihood to Rape Q2	1.04 (0.21), 115	1.34 (0.63), 38	0.83* (0.45, 1.21)

* $p < .05$

Table 3
Group Differences Between Past Aggressors and Current Aggressors on Self-Reported Likelihood Measures

Measure	Past Aggressors M (SD), n	Current Aggressors M (SD), n	Cohen's d (95% CI)
Likelihood SES-TFR – Verbal Coercion	0.31 (0.49), 81	0.61 (1.04), 37	0.42* (0.03, 0.91)
Likelihood SES-TFR – Physical Aggression	0.05 (0.13), 82	0.19 (0.44), 38	0.52* (0.13, 0.91)
Likelihood SES-TFR	0.19 (0.31), 81	0.43 (0.78), 37	0.48* (0.08, 0.87)
Likelihood to Rape Q1	1.04 (0.19), 82	1.24 (0.54), 38	0.59* (0.19, 0.98)
Likelihood to Rape Q2	1.09 (0.32), 82	1.34 (0.63), 38	0.57* (0.18, 0.96)

* $p < .05$

Table 4
Spearman Rho Correlations Between Self-Reported Likelihood to Engage in Sexual Aggression and Sexually Aggressive Behavior

Measure	Behavior SES-TFR Wave 2	Likelihood SES-TFR Verbal Coercion	Likelihood SES-TFR Physical Aggression	Likelihood SES-TFR	Likelihood to Rape Q1
Likelihood SES-TFR – Verbal Coercion	.28*	-			
Likelihood SES-TFR – Physical Aggression	.24*	.50*	-		
Likelihood SES-TFR	.29*	.95*	.65*	-	
Likelihood to Rape Q1	.29*	.33*	.29*	.32*	-
Likelihood to Rape Q2	.28*	.37*	.31*	.35*	.73*

* $p < .001$

Table 5
Measures of Self-Reported Likelihood to Engage in Sexual Aggression Independently Predict Subsequent Sexually Aggressive Behavior

	χ^2 (df), p	χ^2 (df), p Change	R ²	Odds ratio	95% CI
Step 1	17.72 (1), p < .001		.12		
Likelihood SES-TFR				5.15*	2.15, 12.32
Step 2	22.08 (2), p < .001	4.36 (1), p = .037	.15		
Likelihood SES-TFR				3.47*	1.29, 9.34
Likelihood to Rape Q1				4.18*	1.05, 16.64

N = 244. * p < .05

Table 6
Measures of Self-Reported Likelihood to Engage in Sexual Aggression Independently Predict Subsequent Sexually Aggressive Behavior

	χ^2 (df), p	χ^2 (df), p Change	R ²	Odds ratio	95% CI
Step 1	17.63 (1), p < .001		.12		
Likelihood SES-TFR				5.12*	2.14, 12.25
Step 2	21.28 (2), p < .001	3.66 (1), p = .056	.15		
Likelihood SES-TFR				3.41*	1.28, 9.07
Likelihood to Rape Q2				2.62 ⁺	0.99, 6.90

N = 243. * p < .05, ⁺ p < .10

+ Summary of Findings

- Moderate to large group differences between **non-aggressors** and **current aggressors**
- Moderate group differences between **past aggressors** and **current aggressors**
- Moderate positive relationships between **self-reported likelihood measures** and **subsequent sexually aggressive behavior**
- Measures of self-reported likelihood to engage in sexual aggression and likelihood to commit rape **independently predict** subsequent sexually aggressive behavior

+ Discussion

- Self-reported likelihood to engage in sexual aggression **predicts** subsequent sexually aggressive behavior
 - Results are consistent with this hypothesis
- Results are consistent with findings from **Gidycz and colleagues (2011)**
- **Likelihood SES-TFR** and **Likelihood to Rape Questions 1 & 2** independently predicted subsequent sexual aggression
 - **Both measures provide unique information**

+ Limitations

- Self-report measures used to assess sexual aggression
- Small sample ($N = 248$) of older community men (majority 40-60+ years old)
 - Complements Gidycz et al. (2011) student sample ($N = 414$)
- Short follow-up period (4 months)

+ Conclusion and Future Directions

- **Future research** replicate and expand:
 - Use large samples of participants from various sources (e.g., incarcerated participants)
 - Use official records
 - Longer follow-up periods (e.g., 2 years)
- **Conclusion:** Measures of **self-reported proclivity to commit sexual aggression** can be valid proxies for engaging in sexually aggressive behavior

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Hermann, C. A., Pham, A. T., & Nunes, K. L. (2016, November). Likelihood to rape predicts subsequent sexually coercive and aggressive behavior. In C. A. Hermann (Chair) *Proclivity to Rape, Cognitions about Rape, and Aggressive Sexual Fantasies*. Symposium conducted at the 35th Annual Research and Treatment Convention of the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers, Orlando, Florida.