

Nunes, K. L. (2015, June). Contributing to reducing violence through fundamental research. In K. L. Nunes (Chair), *Different career paths to reducing crime: Practice, policy, and research*. Symposium conducted at the 3rd North American Correctional and Criminal Justice Psychology Conference, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

Contributing to Reducing Violence Through Fundamental Research

Kevin L. Nunes

Carleton University
Canada's Capital University

3rd North American Correctional and Criminal Justice Psychology Conference

Research is the foundation for practice and policy, but research lags behind



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Fundamental Research Efforts

- Definition
 - What exactly is the construct?
- Measurement
 - Can we accurately measure the construct?
- Causal role
 - Does the construct play a causal role in violent behaviour?

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Main Activities

- Manuscripts, presentations, grant applications
 - Reading
 - Project planning, preparation, and management (e.g., data collection/access)
 - Data management and analysis
 - Writing
 - Research supervision and training of students

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Research Positions: Faculty

- Requirements: PhD and strong research track record/potential
- Pros: Independence, students, research oriented environment
- Cons: Funding can be scarce; rejection and negative feedback; competing demands and distractions; can be overwhelming; positions are scarce

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Research Positions: Forensic/Correctional Agencies

- Requirements: Usually masters or PhD
- Pros: Funding; access to population and data; input from and impact on practice and policy
- Cons: Less independence, less research oriented environment, competing demands and distractions

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Some of Our Efforts at More Fundamental Research

- Babchishin, K. M., Nunes, K. L., & Hermann, C. A. (2013). The validity of Implicit Association Test (IAT) measures of sexual attraction to children: A meta-analysis. *Archives of Sexual Behavior*, 42, 487-499. doi: 10.1007/s10508-012-0022-8
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- Nunes, K. L., Hermann, C. A., White, K., Pettersen, C., & Bumby, K. (2015). *Attitude may be everything, but is everything an attitude? Cognitive distortions may not be evaluations of rape*. Manuscript in preparation.
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