

## What do Men Think Would Happen if They Raped a Woman?

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### Expected Outcomes and Behavior

- Costs and rewards of a behavior have been theoretically linked with the likelihood of participating in that behavior
  - (Bandura, 1973; Gottfredson & Hirschi, 1990)
- Expecting negative outcomes of rape to be less likely was found to be related to sexually aggressive behavior
  - (Bouffard; O'Donohue, McKay, & Schewe, 1996)

### Expected Outcomes and Behavior

- Sexually aggressive men report more positive outcomes of rape
  - (O'Donohue, Yeater, & Fanetti, 2003)
- Though sexually aggressive men are aware of the possibility of legal repercussions, they see them as relatively less likely to occur
  - (Bouffard & Bouffard, 2010)

### Expected Outcomes and Behavior

- Due to its relevance to behavior, asking participants to indicate what important outcomes of rape are may lead to increased insight
  - (Bouffard, 2002)
- Woods, Pettersen, Hermann, & Nunes (2013) examined rape outcomes that were generated by participants

### Purpose of current study

- Woods et al. (2013) arranged the outcomes in various categories
- The purpose of the current study is to expand on this research, explore whether the same themes are present, if new themes arise in the larger sample, and to code the outcomes in a more systematic manner

### Participants

- 13 datasets
  - 11 student samples and 2 community samples
  - 1815 community and university males
    - Number of students vs community
- 5445 total outcomes
  - 5092 valid outcomes
  - Reported anonymously
- Median age:
  - 18-21 in university samples
  - 40-49 in community samples

## Rape Outcomes

- Participant asked to report three outcomes
- “Write one outcome that could happen if you were to force a woman to have sex with you.”

## Outcome Coding

- Content was examined in order to develop categories that were mutually exclusive
- Kept track of invalid, ambiguous, and other outcomes

## Outcome Expectancy Categories

- Legal Repercussions
- Imprisonment
- No Legal Repercussion
- Physical Harm to Victim
- Psychological Harm to Victim
- Guilt/Shame for Rapist
- Physical Harm to Rapist
- Psychological Harm to Rapist
- Damage to Rapist's Reputation
- Damage to Rapist's Relationship with Victim
- Damage to Rapist's Relationship with Family/Friends
- Victim Enjoyment/Consent/Affection towards Rapist
- Sexual/Physical Gratification for Rapist
- Psychological Social Gratification to rapist

## Outcome Coding

- If one response contained two outcomes, they were classified for both their primary and secondary outcome
- E.g., “You could have sex, and she would be fine with it”
  - Coded as “sexual gratification for rapist” and “consent from the victim”

## Inter-Rater Reliability

- Inter-rater coding was good to excellent
  - $\kappa = .86$  ( $n = 78$ ) for primary classification
  - $\kappa = .78$  ( $n = 78$ ) for secondary classification
- These scores indicate a high level of agreement between the two coders

## Results

## Legal Repercussions

- ◉ 46.65% listed some form of legal repercussion
- ◉ Examples
  - “you could be charged with rape”
  - “she could press charges”
  - “criminal conviction”

## Imprisonment

- ◉ 38.82% listed imprisonment as a potential outcome of committing rape
- ◉ Examples
  - “go to jail”
  - “jail for rape”
  - “prison sentence”

## No Legal Repercussion

- ◉ 3.9% listed no legal repercussions as a potential outcome for committing rape
- ◉ Examples
  - “you get away with it”
  - “nothing happens and we both forget it”
  - “nothing bad comes of it”

## Physical Harm to the Victim

- ◉ 27.07% indicated that physical harm to the victim was a potential outcome of committing rape
- ◉ Examples
  - “she gets pregnant”
  - “hurt the girl/woman”
  - “woman ends up in hospital”

## Psychological Harm to Victim

- ◉ 26.22% indicated that psychological harm to the victim was a potential outcome of committing rape
- ◉ Examples
  - “alienate the woman”
  - “traumatized victim”
  - “make a woman distrustful of men”

## Guilt/Shame for Rapist

- ◉ 37.05% indicated that guilt or shame for the rapist was a potential outcome of committing rape
- ◉ Examples
  - “loss of self respect”
  - “remorseful”
  - “feel shame and pain inside”

### Physical Harm to Rapist

- 16.69% indicated that physical harm to the rapist was a potential outcome of committing rape
- Examples
  - “get beaten by a boyfriend”
  - “revenge”
  - “STD”

### Psychological Harm to Rapist

- 10.89% indicated that psychological harm to the rapist was a potential outcome of committing rape
- Examples
  - “hate myself”
  - “question my self image”
  - “feel bad about yourself”

### Damage to Rapist’s Reputation

- 17.15% indicated that damage to the rapist’s reputation was a potential outcome of committing rape
- Example
  - “lose everyone’s respect”
  - “everybody would hate you”
  - “be out casted from society”

### Damage to the Rapist’s Relationship with Victim

- 8.42% indicated that damage to the rapist’s relationship with the victim was a potential outcome of committing rape
- Examples
  - “break up”
  - “she hates me”
  - “she loses trust in me”

### Damage to the Rapist’s Relationship with Friends/Family

- 8.92% indicated that damage to the rapist’s relationship with friends and family was a potential outcome of committing rape
- Examples
  - “friends think of you differently”
  - “ostracized from inner circle”
  - “lose family”

### Victim Enjoyment/Consent/ Affection towards Rapist

- 5.51% indicated that Victim enjoyment, consent, or affection towards the rapist were potential outcome of committing rape
- Examples
  - “both would enjoy it”
  - “she enjoys it”
  - “she might fall in love with you”

### Sexual/Physical Gratification for Rapist

- 13.68% indicated that sexual or physical gratification for the rapist were potential outcomes of committing rape
- Examples
  - “enjoying myself”
  - “man would feel sexually satisfied”
  - “pleasure”
  - “fun”

### Psychological/Social Gratification for Rapist

- 1.54% indicated that psychological or social gratification for the rapist were potential outcomes of committing rape
- Examples
  - “thrill”
  - “get off engaging [in] a personal fantasy in the realest of ways in showing dominance”
  - “brag to my friends”

### Outcomes that do not belong

- 3.81% indicated responses that do not belong in any of the categories suggested in this study
- May indicated that further categories should be included
- Examples
  - “make a habit of it”
  - “other people join in on it”
  - “being pulled into an unwanted relationship”

### Outcome Expectancy Categories

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legal Repercussions</li> <li>Imprisonment</li> <li>No Legal Repercussion</li> <li>Physical Harm to Victim</li> <li>Psychological Harm to Victim</li> <li>Guilt/Shame for Rapist</li> <li>Physical Harm to Rapist</li> <li>Psychological Harm to Rapist</li> <li>Damage to Rapist's Reputation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Damage to Rapist's Relationship with Victim</li> <li>Damage to Rapist's Relationship with Family/Friends</li> <li>Victim Enjoyment/Consent/Affection towards Rapist</li> <li>Sexual/Physical Gratification for Rapist</li> <li>Psychological Social Gratification to rapist</li> </ul>
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### Discussion

- Findings provide a better sense of the outcomes men typically anticipate
- The potential outcomes of perpetrating a rape fit largely in the 14 main categories
- MOST IMPORTANT
- LEAST IMPORTANT

### Limitations

- The sample contains community and university men, and may not represent sexual offenders in the criminal justice system
- Questionnaire format?

## Future Directions

- ◉ Similar studies examine if sex offender populations produce similar outcomes
- ◉ These categories can be used to further investigate rape outcome expectancies using closed ended scales
- ◉ Explore the role that outcome expectancies may play in the perpetration of sexually aggressive behavior

Thank you for listening!