
The aims of this work are to assess the prevalence of self-injurious behaviors and suicide attempts in an Italian prison setting, to determine whether inmates could be differentiated based on profiles of psychological distress and impulsiveness, and to assess the predictive power of the proposed profiles. Cluster analysis revealed four clusters: dysregulated, impulsive, mildly distressed and well-balanced. Clinical implications are discussed.


This secondary analysis of data describing 3,035 parents, drawn from the National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being II, identified factors fostering the collaborative alliance of parents and caseworkers within the child welfare system. Results showed that parent’s perceived caseworker engagement was associated positively with seven factors: parent’s social support, parent’s mental health, kinship care, out-of-home placement, parent’s African American ethnicity, parent’s Hispanic ethnicity, parent/caseworker shared ethnicity, and family income. Implications for practicing social work within the child welfare system are discussed.


In this study population-based linked administrative data were used to document the full child protective service (CPS) histories of arrested youth and young adults. Findings indicate that youth and young adults booked for a felony offense were more likely to have a history of CPS involvement than those booked for misdemeanors. This study provides further evidence that community concerns of childhood maltreatment were common among criminal justice-involved young adults.


This study examined 123 prisoners from all Flemish correctional facilities detaining female inmates, representing one in four incarcerated women throughout Belgium. Prevalence estimates for lifetime history of suicide ideation and attempts are 57.7% and 36.6%, respectively. Multivariate analysis indicates that women with recent suicidal ideation while incarcerated are significantly more likely than their non-suicidal peers to report a lifetime history of non-suicidal self-injury, in-prison drug use, and severe psychological distress.


The authors conducted a systematic review and meta-analysis to investigate the rates of sexual and gender minority (SGM) youth involved in the criminal justice system and whether aspects of intersectionality influence...
these rates. Both a qualitative analysis of themes and patterns in the studies as well as a quantitative synthesis of the data were conducted. The findings indicated that overall SGM youth are comparably represented in the criminal justice system, with the exception of sexual minority girls, who are overrepresented. Findings for gender minority individuals were inconclusive. Current limitations in the literature are discussed and future directions are outlined.

This study tested the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of interpersonal psychotherapy (IPT) for major depressive disorder (MDD) among prisoners. One hundred eighty-one male ($n = 117$) and female ($n = 64$) prisoners participated. IPT reduced depressive symptoms, hopelessness, and posttraumatic stress disorder symptoms, and increased rates of MDD remission relative to prison TAU alone. IPT is effective and cost-effective and we recommend its use for MDD among prisoners.

This study examined whether other specialized court programs (SCPs) share similar program characteristics with the drug court model using data from the 2012 Census of Problem-Solving Courts consisting of 2,793 problem-solving U.S. court programs. SCPs were similar on several key characteristics to drug courts, such as specialization and services, staff training, and procedures. Where SCPs tended to differ were whether felony offenders were allowed, charges dismissed after program completion, and participants entering the program post-adjudication.

The variable and changing rates of use of involuntary community treatment orders (CTOs) in the treatment of people living with mental illness are not well-documented or well understood. This new study sought to determine contemporary rates of use in Australia, where local jurisdictions were previously shown to have varied and shifting rates of use that were high by world standards. Australian jurisdictions continue to use CTOs at high and varying rates, despite unresolved questions about their role and impact. Further research into how and why CTOs are used may also provide opportunities to respond to factors driving their use and thereby reduce the use of coercion in mental health care.

The authors explored the needs identification and treatment matching for 69,120 incarcerated individuals. Recidivism was measured over three years post-release. Of the eight needs domains measured, six were associated with recidivism: Education, Employment, Marital/Family, Associates, Substance Abuse, and Community Functioning. In assessing treatment effects, matching Community Functioning and Personal/Emotional needs with relevant programming were the domains found to significantly reduce recidivism. Considerations for improved programming and future study are discussed.

Guided by feminist pathways theoretical framework, this study explores gender differences in postrelease supervision on recidivism. Data from a sample of male and female offenders ($n = 141,338$) released in Florida from 1996 to 2004 with a 3-year follow-up was analyzed. While modest effects of post release supervision on recidivism were found, these effects were notably smaller for women compared to men. The greatest
supervision treatment effect on reconviction for women was only 4%. Implications for intervention practices for justice involved women are addressed.


This study utilized a sample of 19 parents of adolescents detained in two juvenile justice institutions in the Netherlands to investigate parental participation during their adolescent’s detention. Parental participation is influenced by a variety of factors that could be categorized based on the following themes: practical facilitating or obstructing factors; parent-related emotional and mental factors; and factors concerning issues of the parent-adolescent relationship.


Prison violence is a complex and multifaceted phenomenon. While a great deal of research has been conducted in male samples, very few studies are dedicated to understanding violence committed by female offenders. Two constructs that have emerged as important predictors of violence are psychopathy and impulsivity. The 3-facet model of psychopathy and 3-factor model of trait impulsivity were used with the goal to statistically explain two types of prison violence: official reports of violent misconducts over a 12-month period, and self-report of deliberately instigating a violent altercation. Results suggest an overlap between psychopathic traits and nonplanning impulsivity when understanding violent misconducts in female offenders, while affective psychopathic explains female prison violence, regardless of impulsivity.


This study examined the prevalence, determinants, and barriers to service use among community-supervised youths (N = 423 dyads). Of the 423 youths, 49% experienced psychiatric symptoms and 36% used psychiatric services in the past 4 months. Results suggested a need for interventions to increase access to and engagement in psychiatric services for community-supervised youths and the importance of caregiver factors in designing such interventions.

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**DELIQUENCY/ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOR**


This study tested the influence of youth rearrests and parents’ attitudes toward police on trajectories of 317 youthful offenders’ attitudes toward police. Mothers with more positive initial attitudes toward the police were more likely to have sons who were part of 1 of the 2 positive attitude trajectory groups than the 2 negative attitude trajectory groups. In contrast, youth rearrests were rarely associated with trajectory group membership.


This study examined risk factors for youth carrying a gun using a community sample of 970 adolescent males assessed annually from ages 14 to 18. Drug dealing, peer delinquency, and aggressive behavior exerted a between-individual and within-individual influence for Black youth. For White youth, drug dealing was significant on both levels, peer delinquency was a significant between-individual predictor, and aggression was a significant within-individual predictor. Neighborhood disadvantage did not significantly predict gun carrying in the model.

Using self-report data from 110 juvenile probationers, the authors explored youth perceptions of the role that probation should play, their actual probation experience, technical violations, and delinquent offenses. The results suggest that compared to their perceptions of the role probation should play, youth reported that it plays more of a law enforcement role. However, youth whose perceptions were congruent with their experience, committed fewer technical violations and delinquent offenses. Recommendations for improving procedural justice through communicating better understanding of probation to justice-involved youth are made.


The current study evaluated the factors contributing to reactive and proactive functions of aggression. A sample of 134 detained youth participated. Regression analyses indicated that perceived containment was more robustly associated with reactive than proactive aggression; however behavioral inhibition moderated associations for both proactive and reactive aggression. Additionally, low levels of perceived containment combined with high levels of behavioral inhibition were associated with the highest levels of proactive aggression.


The authors explored the relationship between student weapon carrying and use and psychological difficulties in a longitudinal sample of adolescents participating in the Rural Substance Abuse and Violence Project (RSVP). Family history of institutionalization/treatment, fear of school crime, and low self-control were all positively related to weapon carrying and use. However, once individual-level variables were controlled, only low self-control remained significant. Social-interpersonal factors such as male gender, delinquent peers, previous crime victims, and weak school attachment were more significantly related to weapon carrying and use. Implications for school programming and policy are detailed.


The current study used an incarcerated sample (N = 184) to compare alternative measures of Machiavellianism, assess associations between Machiavellianism and psychopathy, and evaluate the utility of Machiavellianism in predicting criminal history. Contrary to prior research, Machiavellianism demonstrated the strongest association with the affective component of psychopathy. Finally, Machiavellianism did not significantly augment predictions of arrests over psychopathy.


This study looked at whether anger and its different facets, either independently or when conjoined with depressed mood, affects violent and nonviolent infractions. Male adolescents were administered psychometric measures of anger and depression at baseline, 1 month, and 2 months. There was evidence for the interaction of depression and anger at baseline predicting offending at 1 month only. Results indicate that focused intervention programs could reduce behavior problems during incarceration.
This study explored the risk factors associated with youth firesetting that may lead to sustained antisocial behavior. A national sample of children and adolescent firesetters ($N = 1,790$) was followed up to 10 years following intervention. While 62% of the sample committed an offense during the follow-up period, only 5% committed an arson offense. Victimization, psychosocial/emotional problems, and previous problem behavior were associated with post-intervention offending. Pre-intervention offending had the strongest association with later offending and severity of offending. A discussion of firesetting in the context of developmental antisocial behavior follows.

The authors examined the reliability and validity of two self-report measures of criminal attitudes and associates (the Measures of Criminal Attitudes and Associates [MCAA] and the Pride in Delinquency Scale [PIDS]), in a sample of justice-involved youth ($n = 300$). The MCAA had strong internal consistency and discriminant validity across both sexes, with the exception of the Entitlement subscale. The PIDS also showed good internal consistency as well as discriminant and convergent validity for both male and female youth. Both tools were effective at predicting general recidivism in males, yet comparable between the sexes for predicting violence recidivism. Additional research on gender-based validation of these measures is encouraged.

The authors assessed the temporal relationship between depression symptoms and antisocial behavior, including violence and income-related offenses. Data used from the Pathways to Desistance study, which includes longitudinal information on 1,354 juveniles charged with felonies, were analyzed using a binomial regression framework. Longitudinal analysis suggested that depression and antisocial conduct are related yet depression was not mediated by self-control. Cross-sectionally, however, depression was not found to be related to crime. Implications for policy and theory are discussed.

This study investigated the relationship between self-reported sense of community and social climate scores with incidents of disruptive behavior (i.e., assaults and seclusions) within a UK high security psychiatric hospital. Findings revealed that both social climate and sense of community predict incidents of disruptive behavior, suggesting that both factors should be monitored in high security hospitals.

This study utilized a subsample of 161 adolescent offenders from the Pathways to Desistance Study, which is a longitudinal sample of serious adolescent offenders, to evaluate interindividual and intraindividual differences in relevant risk factors of gun violence. Results suggested that there are a few key proximal individual-level and sociocontextual predictors for gun violence, including witnessing nongun violence, future orientation, and perceived personal rewards to crime.

This study aimed to meta-analyze the psychometric properties of the four ‘second generation’ assessment tools: the MacCAT-CA, MacCAT-FP, ECST-R and CAST*MR. Very few studies have investigated the psychometric properties of the selected tools. Whilst the MacCAT-CA and ECST-R have promising psychometric properties, ongoing construct validation is required.


This study examined the reliability and validity of the YPI-S in two different samples of at-risk adolescents enrolled in a residential program (n=160) and at a detention facility (n=60) in the United States. YPI-S scores displayed adequate internal consistency and were moderately associated with concurrent scales on other self-report psychopathy measures and externalizing behaviors. YPI-S scores were moderately related to interviewer-ratings of the construct using the four-factor model of the PCL:YV.


This archival study investigated the predictive validity and incremental predictive validity of the Historical-Clinical-Risk mangement-20 Version 2 (HCR-20V3). Violence Risk Appraisal guide–Revised (VRAg-R), Violence Risk Scale (VRS) and Psychopathy Checklist–Revised Version (PCL-R), for violent recidivism. Data on these instruments were reviewed for 82 discharged adult forensic psychiatric patients. Dynamic change scores based on the HCR-20V3 and VRS provided incremental predictive validity. All measures significantly predicted violent recidivism as well as general recidivism. Implications for risk assessment practices are described.


This study described the development and evaluation of an inconsistent responding scale for the YPI-S using five archival samples that vary in language (English, German, Italian, Dutch) and other participant characteristics (juvenile offenders, adolescent students). Inconsistency scores resulting from the new scale effectively distinguished genuine participant responses from randomly generated cases and from cases in which 50% of original responses were replaced with random data.


This study aimed to formulate a quantitative measurement model for boldness using a sample of 1,791 participants. Nine unidimensional scales for assessing correlated but thematically distinct facets of boldness were created. Overall scores on this new Boldness Inventory correlated highly with PPI-FD (positively) and dispositional fear (negatively), and negligibly with disinhibitory proclivities, in validation samples of undergraduates (N=767) and male prisoners (N=326).


The current study explored the Personality Assessment Inventory (PAI) within a Risk-Need-Responsivity (RNR) framework and identified relationships between PAI scale scores and recidivism and responsivity-
relevant factors. The data included an archival review of 377 files of adult individuals who received treatment at a forensic psychiatric hospital in Canada. Many PAI scales reflective of criminogenic needs were associated with general recidivism as well as violent reoffending. Scales measuring personality pathology and psychopathology were associated with treatment noncompletion. Additional relationships between PAI scales and age, educational level, and cognitive ability scores were also identified. Implications for the use and limitations of the PAI in forensic assessment and treatment are detailed.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT, CONFESSIONS, & DECEPTION**


A modified cheating program was designed to investigate the efficacy of approach and avoidance rapport building in overcoming resistance during intelligence interviews. Undergraduate students (*n* = 171) participated in a 2 (approach technique [interviewer]: absent vs. present) x 2 (avoid technique [confederate]: absent vs. present) between-subjects design. The approach technique increased feelings of rapport for the interviewer and indirectly influenced intelligence giving. Conversely, the avoid technique was found to decrease admissions of information. Implications for increasing cooperation and information yield during intelligence interviews are discussed.


Ostracism is a ubiquitous experience with adverse effects on well-being. To prevent further exclusion and regain belonging, ostracized individuals are well advised to identify affiliation partners who are sincerely well disposed. Humans’ ability to detect lies, however, is generally not very high. Yet, veracity judgments can become more accurate as people rely less on common stereotypic beliefs about nonverbal behavior of liars and truth-tellers. Experiment 1 shows that ostracized (vs. included) individuals are better at discriminating affiliation-relevant lies from truths. Experiments 2 and 3 further show that ostracized (vs. included) individuals base their veracity judgments less on stereotypical nonverbal cues if messages are of high (but not low) affiliation relevance.


The researchers used vignettes to measure the perceived severity of certain police and civilian actions with varying degrees of force. They found that the perceived severity of actions across all physical but nonlethal categories clustered tightly together, while actions at the extreme levels were relatively spread out. Moreover, less normative officer actions were perceived as especially morally severe. People’s ratings of severity also diverged with police policies. These results may account for differences in police legitimacy.


This study examined whether varying the presentation of information about a youth’s compliance with probation requirements in community provider reports influenced juvenile probation officers’ (JPOs) perceptions and court recommendations. JPOs who read negatively framed information rated compliance and effort significantly lower than those who read positively or neutrally framed information. Overall, findings suggested that JPOs differentially interpret identical behaviors depending on the framing of information.


Adult participants (*N* = 299) watched videotaped interviews of children a 3 (Type of Disclosure: false denial, true denial, true report) x 2 (Instruction Type: putative confession, control instruction) between-subjects design.
When viewing videos including a putative confession instruction, true and false statements were rated as equally credible, suggesting participants perceived the PC instruction as truth-inducing.

The researchers examined memory for details of an overheard (Experiment 1) or witnessed (Experiments 2 and 3) conversation using a timeline technique adapted for the reporting of conversations between multiple speakers. Participants assigned to timeline reporting format reported more verbatim information, made fewer sequencing errors than those using a free recall format, reported more correct speaker attributions, and provided more information about the participants involved, without compromising overall accuracy rates.

Participants (N = 120) either looked at or took a check before being interviewed in either a low or high authority condition. The high authority condition resulted in more details but only for truth tellers. Higher ratings of rapport were associated with more details and higher plausibility for those details.

Students (N = 71) either consistently told the truth, consistently lied, or alternated lying and telling the truth about autobiographical childhood events during two interview sessions in a within-subjects, repeated-measures design. Consistent lying influenced participant’s beliefs about their own childhood experiences.

The current study examined the experiences and perceptions of people with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in relation to their interactions with the police. The majority of respondents viewed their police interactions unfavorably, and many reported experiencing adverse effects. Findings provide insights into the nature of police encounters amongst individuals with ASD, emphasizing how interactions between people with ASD and the police may be improved in the future.

The individual, organizational, and contextual factors involved in police officer’s adherence to the code of silence in China was assessed using 353 responses from attendants at in-service training programs at a national police university. The officers read eleven hypothetical scenarios and answered questions about the seriousness of the behavior described and how likely they would report it. Binary logistic regression regression and mediation analyses suggested that individual and ecological factors have a significant influence on officer’s adherence to the code of silence, yet this was dependent on the type of misbehavior presented. Policy implications are detailed.

LEGAL DECISION-MAKING/JURY RESEARCH

Researchers have found that legal cynicism is a significant predictor of crime. As such, legal cynicism might be a derivative manifestation of other individual-level constructs that bear on criminal propensity. Overall, findings are convergent with the notion that legal cynicism is a consequence or product of antisocial traits and criminal propensity.

Anestis, M. D., Houtsma, C., Daruwala, S. E., & Butterworth, S. E. (2019). **Firearm legislation and statewide suicide rates: The moderating role of household firearm ownership levels.** Behavioral Sciences & the Law, 37, 270–280. [https://doi.org/10.1002/bsl.2408](https://doi.org/10.1002/bsl.2408)

This study examined 2015 U.S. statewide firearm legislation strength scores from Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence and 2016 statewide suicide rates from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Firearm legislation strength was inversely associated with statewide overall and firearm suicide rates, but not with non-firearm suicide rates. Firearm legislation strength was inversely associated with statewide overall suicide rates at mean and high levels of firearm ownership.


To date, empirical research has focused on jurors’ comprehension of instructions. However, it is difficult to know how well jurors actually comprehend these instructions, because the tests currently used by researchers to measure jurors’ comprehension provide different estimates. It is also difficult to know the degree to which jurors apply instructions, because researchers have not directly examined this question. This article reviews the current tests used to measure jurors’ comprehension of instructions, and the current methods used to make inferences about jurors’ application of instructions. Authors then critically analyze these approaches, and recommend ways to improve them in future research so researchers can draw more precise conclusions about the quality of jurors’ decision-making.


These two studies explored the use and application of “alternative” nonprison sentences for eligible drug and property offenders. Using data from the Virginia Criminal Commission for the fiscal year of 2016, the authors revealed that of those eligible, 42.2% of low-risk offenders and 23.4% of high-risk received an alternative sentence; making low-risk offenders 2.4 times more likely to achieve this outcome. The second study explored the disparate differences in alternative sentence rates across judicial Circuits. Four measures of community treatment resources were found to have significant relation to the rates at which alternative sentences for low-risk offenders were applied. Implications for the access of treatment resources on alternative sentencing practices are noted.

Hotzy, F., Marty, S., Moetteli, S., Theodoridou, A., Hoff, P., & Jaeger, M. (2019). **Involuntary admission for psychiatric treatment: Compliance with the law and legal considerations in referring physicians with different professional backgrounds.** International Journal of Law and Psychiatry, 64, 142-149. [https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijlp.2019.03.005](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijlp.2019.03.005)

This study aims to assess whether referring physicians in Zurich, Switzerland can comply with those legal requirements for an involuntary admission (IA). Additionally, this study examined whether legal considerations differed according to the physicians’ professional backgrounds and attitudes towards coercion in general. In about 1/3 of the IAs referring physicians were not able to hear the patients’ views on the IA, to inform the patients about the following steps and about their right of appeal. Interventions should be developed to facilitate a compliance with legal requirements during IA.

Mitchell, G., & Garrett, B. L. (2019). **The impact of proficiency testing information and error aversions on the weight given to fingerprint evidence.** Behavioral Sciences & the Law, 37, 195–210. [https://doi.org/10.1002/bsl.2402](https://doi.org/10.1002/bsl.2402)
This study examined the impact of proficiency testing information on the weight given to the opinions of fingerprint examiners by mock jurors considering a hypothetical criminal case. The fingerprint examiner's level of performance on a proficiency test, but not the type of error committed on the test, affected the weight that jury-eligible adults gave to an examiner's opinion that latent fingerprints recovered from a crime scene matched the defendant's fingerprints.


The authors explored whether Sampson and Laub’s macro-level theory of inequality and social control is demonstrated in the patterns of adjudication of youth in the juvenile justice system. Hierarchical linear modeling (HLM) was used to assess 302,531 delinquent referrals which occurred in a Northeast state during the years 2000-2010. There was limited evidence to support Sampson and Laub’s theory, as minority status and charge type had greater negative impact on outcome than macro-level characteristics such as home structural economic and social conditions. Implications for policy are noted.


In this paper, 6-person juries that included 2 White or 2 Black confederates, White jurors viewed trial evidence including a defendant race manipulation (White, Black) and completed measures of cognitive depletion and case facts recall. The authors find that the presence of Black jurors motivated White jurors to contribute more factual comments during jury deliberation, despite the fact that inter-racial interactions are showed to require more cognitive resources. The authors posit that people in interracial interactions may want to appear racially unbiased.

**RISK ASSESSMENT/COMMUNICATION**


This study assessed differences in juror decision-making across differential risk communication methods, including additive strategies (e.g. base rates, visual aids). 155 community members who had previously served as a juror on a criminal trial listened to recorded expert testimony regarding violence risk evaluation based on an actual case. Six conditions existed in which the type of risk information provided was manipulated. Risk management and categorical representations of risk were associated with higher ratings of risk by jurors. Jurors typically aligned their risk perceptions with the expert opinion and tended to focus on numerical information over other modes. Recommendations for ethical reporting of risk assessment in testimony are made.


This study assessed the reliability and validity of the ICU in a sample of 70 adolescent offenders. With the exception of the Unemotional subscale, ICU scores showed acceptable reliability. ICU total and Callousness scores demonstrated moderate associations with the Antisocial Process Screening Device and the Psychopathy Checklist: Youth Version. The ICU also demonstrated moderate predictive accuracy for violent reoffending over an 18-month follow-up period.

This study validated the Poisoning Severity Score (PSS) using a consecutive series of 673 intentional self-poisoning patients aged 13 to 65 treated at a large university medical center. PSS scores were calculated along with other structured clinical data and analyzed in a series of linear regressions. Higher PSS scores were consistently associated with greater medical morbidity and more intensive acute medical treatments, and nearly all effect sizes were large.


In this study, the Historical, Clinical, Risk Management–20 (HCR-20), Historical, Clinical, Risk Management–20 Version 3 (HCR-20 V3), Female Additional Manual (FAM), Short-Term Assessment of Risk and Treatability (START), Structured Assessment of Protective Factors for violence risk (SAPROF), and Psychopathy Checklist–Revised (PCL-R) were retrospectively compared for predictive accuracy in the records of 78 female forensic psychiatric patients discharged between 1993 and 2012. Predictive validity for all recidivism types was moderate, with the exception of violent recidivism which was low. Dynamic factors provided the greatest predictive accuracy. Recommendations for the use of these tools with adult female forensic psychiatric populations and future directions for gender specific research are made.


In order to extend the literature on sexually violent person (SVP) court decision making beyond that of mock jurors, the author investigated the agreement between Department of Health Services evaluator’s opinions and court outcomes in all 132 SVP trials in Wisconsin from 2012-2016. Wide variability in opinion patterns between evaluators was identified. Courts agreed with evaluator’s opinions in 67% of cases, more often when the opinion endorsed a categorization of SPV. Implications for public policy and clinical practice are detailed.


This study examined the algorithmic outcomes on the COMPAS in terms of predictive parity by gender. Using a large dataset of offenders who were scored on the COMPAS, findings indicated that the COMPAS performs reasonably well at discriminating between recidivists and non-recidivists for men and women. Nonetheless, COMPAS algorithmic outcomes systemically overclassify women in higher risk groupings.


Both the Risk-Needs-Responsivity (RNR) and Structured Professional Judgment (SPJ) risk assessment approaches assume that a strong relationship exists between crime-causing and crime reducing factors. Using a probation sample, the present article examined whether crime-causing and crime-reducing factors correspond. Overall, the relationship between the crime-causing and crime-reducing factors was very weak—even after ruling out potential measurement and methodological artifacts (i.e., internal consistency, item stability, and acquiescent responding).


This study examined current psychological and physiological stress symptoms among 126 forensic inpatients in mandatory drug treatment, hypothesizing that the psychopathy factors Fearless Dominance (FD) and Self-centered Impulsivity (SCI) would be related to separate trajectories of stress response. Inpatients experienced a higher level of stress than general population samples. SCI served as a positive and FD as a negative predictor for psychological stress. Physiological stress was not predicted by psychopathy, but by psychological stress.

The authors compared the predictive power of dynamic items in the Finnish Risk and Needs Assessment Form (Risk-ja tarvear-vio [RITA]), to those of static predictors. Data from 746 reoffenders and 746 non-reoffenders were used in analysis. Elastic net logistic regression and random forest were found to provide better predictions than traditional logistic regression analyses. RITA dynamic items predicted both general and violent recidivism well yet models using static predictors performed better. Including RITA items with static predictors did little to improve discrimination accuracy. Future application of these models is noted.


This study investigated the predictive validity of the Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument (YASI) and the more established Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (YLS/CMI). The convergent validity between the two measures was also explored. To test these properties, a sample of 254 justice-involved youth completed the two measures and were followed for two years. The two tools were comparably effective at predicting recidivism for both males and females and there was strong convergent validity between the two. The YASI provided better results in assessing the protective/strengths domains of both genders, and particularly males. Implications for practice are addressed.


This study examined psychological predictors of future institutional violence in a sample of 171 psychiatrically hospitalized males detained or civilly committed under an SVP laws. Using the MMPI-2–RF, scales assessing thought dysfunction, emotional dysregulation, and externalizing behaviors were associated with future physical violence at the hospital. SVPs producing elevations on these scales were at 1.5–2.5 times greater risk of future physical violence than those without elevations.


This study investigated the role of substance influence at the time of the crime and the substance use prevalence in all intimate partner homicides (IPHs) in Norway from 1990–2012. For IPH committed by a substance-influenced perpetrator, there was an increased risk of the victim being substance-influenced. There was an association between perpetrators’ type of influence at the time of the crime and perpetrators’ substance misuse in general. Blood alcohol or other toxins were present in half of perpetrators and 41% of victims.


This study investigated the predictive accuracy of the Violent Offender Identification Directive (VOID) tool, which was designed to assist police departments in identifying offenders at highest risk for perpetrating gun violence. The process involves assigning risk scores from the VOID instrument and, combined with additional intelligence, identifying the top 10 offenders for enforcement and preventive attention. VOID scores were calculated for 237,232 individuals made aware to authorities in a policing district in 2012, and outcome measures were identified as the 59 shooting incidents which occurred in this district in 2013. The VOID tool proved effective at predicting future violence. Recommendations for implementation are made.
SEX OFFENDERS


Data collected from 613 men convicted of at least one sexual contact offense was analyzed to assess the validity of an etiological model of risk persistence in sexual offenders. Structural equation modeling produced a model containing two pathways. The first pathway details relationships between sexual victimization, early sexual deviance and social rejection/isolation with adult sexual criminality. These factors were predictive of future sexual offending. The second pathway reflects relationships between childhood dysfunction (e.g. externalizing disorders, sexual promiscuity) and antisocial traits predicted the nonsexual offending as well as serious sexual offenses. This latter pathway was predictive of all types of recidivism. Implications for the model are described.


This study explored the assumptions underlying the legislation of geographic restriction of convicted sex offenders. Data from the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) was analyzed for the years 2010 to 2015 for the frequency and descriptive characteristics of sexual assault incidents (n = 2,336) at parks and playgrounds. Full descriptive analysis is provided and differences between youth victims and adult victims are elucidated. Notably, teenagers and young people were most likely to be both the victims and offenders of sexual assault in these locations. Recommendations for public safety practices are made.


This study sought to validate the predictive accuracy of the Child Pornography Offender Risk Tool (CPORT), which was designed for use with child-pornography-specific offenders. The study reviewed both the development sample used for the CPORT (n = 286) and an additional validation sample (n = 86) of child pornography male offenders from geographically different areas. Using recidivism data from a 5-year follow-up, the CPORT was found to significantly predict sexual recidivism and child pornography recidivism with large effect sizes. Recommendations for future research with larger samples are made and implications for treatment and case management are noted.


This study compared child sexual abuse (CSA) offenders on factors of financial/employment lifestyle stability, risk/dangerousness level, abuse opportunity, and victim selection. A sample of offenders who had committed an index offense against at least one child (n = 1,161) were separated into distinct CSA offender categories; those who committed an offense against a biological child (CSA-I), an acquaintance (CSA-E), or a child accessed through their work (CSA-W). CSA-W offenders had significantly different educational background, marriage status, conviction history, and victim age than the CSA-I and CSA-E groups. Implications for future research and prevention are discussed.


Data from a nationally representative sample (n = 14,080) of prison-incarcerated men were analyzed to assess relationships between veteran status and sexual offending as well as differences in offending patterns in this subpopulation. Veterans had 1.35 higher odds ratio to have been incarcerated for a sexual offense. Veterans convicted of a sexual offense had significant demographic and clinical differences than veterans incarcerated for nonsexual violent and nonviolent offenses. Recommendations for improved allocation of resources and mental health treatment by the Department of Veterans Affairs are made.

Child sexual offenders have been found to have a lower average IQ than the general population. The findings of this pilot study indicate that the neuropsychological deficits of pedophilic sexual offenders are unspecific rather than the result of a pedophilia-specific brain dysfunction.


This study details the effects of within-program operational changes in a residential sex offender treatment program (SOTP) on attrition, and whether attrition influenced treatment outcomes. Data from 652 admitted to the residential program were analyzed. Individuals were almost 14 times less likely to drop out after operational changes including rolling groups and emphasis on positive therapist characteristics were made. Individual participant characteristics were poor predictors of program noncompletion. Implications for broader SOTP policy and practice are detailed.


The authors investigated characteristic differences between offenders with mixed aged victims (MASOVs; n = 139) and those who sexually offend against only children (CSOVs, n = 486) or only adults (ASOVs; n = 278). The sample consisted of male sex offenders that had been evaluated for civil commitment over a period of 31 years. MASOVs showed similar traumatic development histories that the other two groups yet tended to have higher cumulative traumatic experiences. MASOVs reported lower self-esteem than the CSOV group, yet comparable levels to the ASOV group. Similarly, the MASOV and ASOV groups demonstrated comparably high levels of psychopathic traits. Implications for identification and treatment planning are noted.


This study examined 1,054 reported incidents of sexual misconduct at institutions of higher education in a Mid-Atlantic state. Results showed that Annual Security Reports undercounted incidents of sexual misconduct. Few incidents reported to Title IX Coordinators resulted in a formal Title IX complaint, and fewer still resulted in a finding of responsibility or suspension/expulsion of the responsible student. The primary outcome of reports were victim services, not perpetrator punishments.


This two-wave longitudinal study explored predictors of sexual aggression perpetration in university students in Chile (N = 1,310) and Turkey (N = 1,593). Factors evaluated at time one were: risky sexual scripts and behavior, sexual self-esteem, sexual assertiveness, and religiosity. These variables were used as predictors of perpetration over twelve months (time two). Risky sexual scripts were associated with higher odds of perpetration in both samples and were indirectly predictive. Conversely, high religiosity indirectly led to reduced odds of perpetration in both samples. Sample specific outcomes are described. The role of cultural factors in sexual aggression perpetration is discussed.


This study estimated the magnitude of the dark figure of sexual recidivism using a probabilistic simulation approach combined with victim self-report survey data, offender self-report data, and different assumptions
about the chances of being convicted of a new sexual offense given that it is reported. Under any configuration of assumptions, the dark figure is substantial, and the disparity between recidivism defined as a new legal charge or conviction for a sex crime and recidivism defined as actually committing a new sexual crime is large.


This study detailed the development and assessment of a computerized statistical-model, the Finnish Investigative Instrument of Child Sexual Abuse (FICSA), which uses background information to calculate the probability that a child is likely to be a victim of sexual abuse. Victimization data from 11,364 middle school respondents were analyzed using Bayesian statistics. The analyses produced distinct profiles for males and females which offered excellent diagnostic utility. The integration of this approach in CSA investigations is discussed.

VICTIMIZATION


The authors analyzed 5,476 incidents of campus sexual assault (CSA) recorded by the National Incident-Based Reporting system to address the gaps in the literature on the understanding and characterization of CSAs. Of these incidents reported to police, 6% involved male victims. 17% of perpetrators of male victims were female. Alcohol use was consistent across perpetrator gender. Incidents involving male victims tended to include older perpetrators, compared to incidents involving female victims. Other distinctions of incidents involving male victims are detailed. Implications for policing policy and practices are addressed.


This study investigated the high rates of violence victimization among women with severe mental illnesses by interviewing 28 staff members in local behavioral health and domestic violence service agencies via focus groups. Results suggested that women with severe mental illnesses who experience intimate partner violence face additional challenges that exacerbate behavioral health and domestic violence issues and put these women at greater risk for continued victimization.


The current study examines the persistence of victimization and poly-victimization across various stages of development and the related impact on adult well-being. Results indicated a linear decline in subjective well-being, mental health, and number of healthy days as victimization becomes more persistent across childhood and more diverse in types. Study findings provide support for models of victimization that take both developmental trajectories and poly-victimization into account.


Data from a national sample of 40,387 university students was analyzed for relationships between specific disability status and interpersonal victimization. Disability was operationalized into four groups; no disability, physical disability, learning disability, and mental disability. Status lifestyle and routine activities were assessed as potential predictors of sexual victimization and stalking. Notably, these variables have greater predictive
power for the non-disability sample. Subgroups demonstrated differential correlates of victimization, which also differed depending on type of victimization. Implications for policy are discussed.

The purpose of the current study was to investigate substantiated child welfare referrals directly related to childhood exposure to domestic violence (CEDV) to better understand the prevalence and patterns of CEDV-related maltreatment and how child welfare workers respond under the “harm or threatened harm” standard. The most common maltreatment types substantiated for these referrals were neglect based rather than abuse based, and just under a quarter (23%) of CEDV-related referrals were formally opened for services. Referrals involving co-occurring substance abuse were most likely to be opened for services based on predicted probabilities derived from multilevel modeling. Implications for policy and practice are considered.

### WITNESS ISSUES

Bar patrons (*N* = 132) participated in a task that was interrupted by an intruder. Recall of the incident was tested in a staged interview, and recognition of the intruder was tested using a 2 (Identification Procedure: Lineup vs. Showup) x 2 (Target Presence: Present vs. Absent) between-participants design. As BAC increased, quantity and quality of information recalled decreased. Neither BAC nor identification procedure affected witness identification accuracy.

This study proposed a Structured Statistical Judgement (SSJ) that allows researchers to report increasingly more reliable and valid observations. This study used SSJ to examine 93 empirical articles published in *Psychology, Public Policy, and Law* and *Law and Human Behavior* in 2015 and resulted in excellent interrater reliability (π=0.83; π=0.95; π=0.97). However, a majority of the articles fail to include the comprehensive and transparent statistical analysis.

Brown and Lamb discuss key discoveries in over 40 years of research on children’s testimony regarding question types, interrogation styles, retrieval of meaningful and emotional memories, contamination and suggestion, individual differences, and variations in characteristics of the to-be-remembered event. Also highlighted are methodological and translational issues and suggestions for future research.

Three studies (*N* = 195; *N* = 340; *N* = 236) examined whether corrections can combat memory distortion for misleading postevent information. A random effects model internal meta-analysis of the misinformation effect magnitude results found that corrections significantly reduced the ME (*d* = 0.362) with no significant variations among effect sizes.

Authors investigated whether pupil size could serve as an independent indicator of target recognition in lineups. Participants saw a simulated crime video, followed by two viewings of either a target-present or target-absent video lineup while pupil size was measured with an eye-tracker. Results show those who made correct identifications showed significantly larger pupil sizes when viewing the target compared with distractors. Some participants were uncertain about their choice of face from the lineup, but nevertheless showed pupillary changes when viewing the target, suggesting covert recognition of the target face.


Undergraduates (N = 210) were randomly assigned to either an immediate or delayed retrieval condition and an intoxication condition (intoxicated, placebo, and sober) during both encoding and retrieval. Intoxication at encoding increased agreement with suggested answers and decreased accuracy when recalling after a delay.


Women (N = 80) were randomly assigned to a 2 (beverage: alcohol vs. tonic water) x 2 (expectancy: told alcohol vs. told tonic) design before engaging in a dating scenario resulting in consensual sexual activity or a hypothetical rape, depending on participant’s choices. One week later, participants were exposed to misleading postevent information. Expectancy of intoxication decreased reporting of correct details but did not increase reports of incorrect or misleading information.


Adults (N = 128) were randomly assigned to a 2 (expectancy: expected alcohol vs. did not expect alcohol) x 2 (alcohol: received alcohol vs. did not receive alcohol) between-subjects balanced placebo design. Intoxication, but not expectancy, decreased free recall of correct details. Expectancy and intoxication interacted during cued recall such that the reverse placebo group performed worst.


A meta-analysis of 10 studies (N = 1,189) found that alcohol intoxication decreased recall of correct details while participants were still intoxicated and once they had sobered up. Level of intoxication moderated the effect such that higher levels of intoxication resulted in higher detriment than moderate levels of intoxication.


Participants (N = 155) consumed juice or a moderate or high amount of alcohol before viewing a videotape of intimate partner violence. When rating actions and reactions of the man and woman depicted in the video, both intoxicated and sober participants rated several behaviors similarly. However, intoxicated participants viewed attacking behaviors and some of the man’s prosocial behaviors differently than sober participants.


Loftus recounts areas of disagreement regarding eyewitness testimony research covering the 30 years since Applied Cognitive Psychology’s inception. Topics include the misinformation debate, eyewitness identification lineups and confidence levels, expert testimony, and the “memory wars”. Recommendations include further
collaborative research and increased communication of results both within the scientific community and to a broader audience.

Participants (N = 116) were randomly assigned to a 2 (transgression: self, other) x 3 (alcohol condition: low-to-moderate intoxication, placebo, sober-control) between-participants design. After beverage consumption, participants were asked to disclose a transgression. Though there was no main effect of alcohol, participants were significantly more likely to report a personal, rather than someone else’s, transgression.

In forensic and security settings, people are often motivated to subvert identification by manipulating their appearance, yet little is known about deliberate disguise and its effectiveness. The authors compared two different techniques: Evasion (trying not to look like oneself) and Impersonation (trying to look like another person). In a series of experiments, the authors found that (i) it was easier to avoid being recognized as oneself than to impersonate someone else, and (ii) disguises were less effective when viewers were familiar with the faces.

Bar tenants in two field studies (N = 86; N = 190) attempted to identify a confederate from an immediate six-person target-absent or target-present followed by a target-absent lineup several days later. Participants with lower BAC showed better discrimination than those with high BAC.

Little is known about how police officers construct, administer, and record eyewitness identification procedures for multiple suspects. An online survey of law enforcement agents in Sweden, Belgium, and the Netherlands (N = 51) was conducted to obtain an initial understanding of police perceptions of prevalence and characteristics of multiple perpetrator crimes, and to examine identification procedures. Practice converged between and within countries when it came to the use of sequential, photographic lineups, but diverged on whether or not suspects of multiple perpetrator crimes should be placed in separate lineups. Results highlight contextual cuing as one critical area for future research in identification for multiple perpetrator crimes.

Bar tenants (N = 86; N = 189) were questioned about an interaction with a confederate. BAC increased acceptance of misinformation and decreased recall of central details (Study 1). Study 2 added a delayed-testing only condition and found intoxicated patrons performed better when tested immediately compared to delayed-only or repeated testing, but sober participants benefitted from repeated testing.

Researchers examined adults’ (N = 295) interpretations of child witnesses’ referentially ambiguous “yes” and “no” responses to “Do You Know/Remember (DYK/R) if/whether” questions in a between subjects design. Participants read transcripts from child sexual abuse cases modified based on question format (DYK/R vs.
Direct) and child response type (Yes, No, I don’t know). Researchers assessed whether adults could recognize children’s ambiguous responses as unclear, and if not, how they were interpreting their responses compared to the control (Direct) conditions. Participants virtually never recognized ambiguous responses as unclear, and their interpretations were influenced by the attorney’s question and child’s response type. Results suggest that DYK/R questions often lead to misinterpretation, resulting in miscommunication.

Wyman, J., Foster, I., Crossman, A., Colwell, K., & Talwar, V. (2019). The efficacy of free-recall, cognitive load, and closed-ended questions when children are asked to falsely testify about a crime. Applied Cognitive Psychology, 33, 544-560. Doi: 10.1002/acp.3494

Children (N = 147; M_age = 8.81 years) witnessed an adult interact with a wallet before being asked to make a true or false accusation or denial regarding the adult’s actions. Older children and children making a truthful accusation provided more detailed, forthcoming free-recall responses. Younger children and lie-tellers mostly discussed the theft during closed-ended questions.


This article presented an expected cost model—a model that estimates the expected cost of an identification procedure— for evaluating and comparing the performance of eyewitness identification procedures to determine whether a certain procedure advances the goal of identifying guilty suspects. By considering the probability that a suspect is the culprit before an identification occurs, the probabilities of eyewitness responses, and the costs of eyewitness responses, the model estimates the ability of an eyewitness identification procedure to help police achieve the investigation goal of identifying and incriminating culprits and is a useful tool for researchers to evaluate eyewitness procedures.

**OTHER**


This study aimed to assess mental capacity for treatment decisions among psychiatry inpatients in Ireland and explore the relationship, if any, between mental capacity and various demographics and clinical variables. Future research could usefully clarify and quantify the role of cognitive and other factors in relation to the unexplained variance in mental capacity identified in this study; and explore which models of supported decision-making are most likely to assist the substantial proportion of psychiatry inpatients who have partial mental capacity for treatment decisions, as well as the minority lacking such mental capacity.


This study was designed to provide more insight into the relationship between social support and externalizing behavior in forensic patients with ADHD. Analyses of variance showed that forensic patients with ADHD had higher levels of externalizing behaviors and insecure attachment, and lower levels of secure attachment compared to both healthy and at risk controls. Multivariate regression analyses showed that social support was not associated with any of the externalizing behaviors, after accounting for attachment. In contrast, insecure attachment was associated with higher levels of all externalizing behaviors examined. Finally, insecure attachment best explained antisociality and hostility, suggesting that attachment is more important than other psychopathological risk factors that distinguish the different groups.

This study sought to identify recommended framing and content of messages about reducing firearm access for suicide prevention. Through qualitative interviews with firearm owners and enthusiasts, these researchers identified key points for use in framing (identity as a gun owner, trust, voluntary and temporary storage, and context and motivation) and specific content (preference for “firearm” over “gun,” and legal issues such as background checks for transfers).


Stone and Jay highlight contributions to the field of collective memory and use an epidemiological approach to review research examining how (collective) memories transmit, converge, and remain stable over time and how social identity plays a bidirectional role. Recommendations for future research include examination of the way cultural artifacts are appraised or perceived by individuals.