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## AWARENESS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: A CROSS SECTIONAL STUDY OF UNIVERSITY STUDENTS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Sarita E. Johnson

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AWARENESS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: A CROSS SECTIONAL STUDY OF  
UNIVERSITY STUDENTS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

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A Project  
Presented to the  
Faculty of  
California State University,  
San Bernardino

---

In Partial Fulfillment  
of the Requirements for the Degree  
Master of Social Work

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by  
Sarita E. Johnson

June 2020

AWARENESS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: A CROSS SECTIONAL STUDY OF  
UNIVERSITY STUDENTS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

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Sarita E. Johnson

June 2020

Approved by:

Dr. Rigaud Joseph, Faculty Supervisor

Dr. Armando Barragan, MSW Research Coordinator

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## ABSTRACT

Although a major public health concern in the United States and abroad, domestic violence/intimate partner violence (DV/IPV) remains an unfamiliar topic to many university students. The existing literature is limited in that most studies examined DV/IPV perpetrated by men against women. This study aimed to expand the literature by focusing on violence committed by women against men. Taking a cross-sectional design, this study sought to establish the relationship between gender and awareness of DV/IPV among 200 university students in urban university in Southern California. Multivariate logistic regression results revealed that female university students were twice as likely to be aware of DV/IPV against men than were their male counterparts. The implications of the results for theory, research, and social work education are discussed.

*Keywords:* domestic violence/intimate partner violence, logistic regression, social work

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First and foremost I would like to give the glory to God for guiding my heart into this path of being of service to others. I wish to express my deepest gratitude to my parents Antonio and Blanca Rivas for everything they sacrificed. I want to thank my husband David Johnson Jr. for showing me his love, support and patience all these years of sleepless nights and nose in the books. Thank you for reminding me that we “Refuse to Quit”. I want to dedicate this project to my son DAAJ, as he has been the driving force in my life. Thanks to all the rest of my family and friends for always believing in me and giving me your unconditional love and support. Last but not least, I want to express my deepest gratitude to my research advisor and faculty supervisor, Dr. Joseph Rigaud, for providing invaluable guidance, patience and support every step of the way.

## DEDICATION

I would like to dedicate this research study to my parents, husband, son, family and friends. I specially want to dedicate this study to all the survivors of domestic violence. Know that you are not alone and we encourage you to raise your voice and be heard.

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## CHAPTER ONE

### INTRODUCTION

#### Problem Formulation

Domestic violence/intimate partner violence (DV/IPV) represents a major public health concern not only in the United States but also across the globe. Domestic violence is defined as any type of violence present among current and former partners who are in an intimate relationship (Devaney, 2009). The types of violence discussed can take place in the form of physical, sexual, emotional, and/or financial abuse. Domestic violence transcends, age, gender, race, sexual orientation, social status, and geographic location (Devaney, 2009). According to The National Domestic Violence Hotline (2018), more than 12 million men and women reported experiencing DV/IPV over the course of a year. DV/IPV does not discriminate based on age, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status or religion. The consequences of the abuse on these victims transcend time. The pain does not end when the wounds heal and the bruises fade. Survivors of DV/IPV often deal with lifelong consequences. More often than not, the general perception perceives DV/IPV as abuse perpetrated by men towards women and not the other way around. Carmo et al. (2011) argued that in the patriarchal model of society, the perspective is such that DV/IPV is viewed more as a gender concern where males are increasingly seen as more physically able when compared to women, thus resulting in men appearing to be less vulnerable when compared to women in DV/IPV situations.

Approximately 7 percent of females and 4 percent of males have been recipients of various forms of DV/IPV before reaching the age of 18 (Breiden et al., 2015). High school students, throughout the United States completed surveys regarding physical and dating violence. Survey results indicated that 12 percent of females and 7 percent of males had been victims of physical dating violence, and 16 percent of females and percent of males experienced sexual dating violence (Breiden et al., 2015). Furthermore, research suggests that high levels of teen dating violence is indicative of increased risk factors of IPV in adulthood. It is important to note that most violence perpetrated against men goes underreported or unreported altogether, perhaps due to cultural and societal norms where women are viewed as nurturers rather than aggressors (Sabrina et al., 2011).

### Purpose of Study

The purpose of this study was to determine the relationship between gender and awareness of DV/IPV against men. This study particularly addressed the following question: How do female university students in Southern California compare to their male counterparts with respect to awareness of domestic violence against men?

### Significance of Study for Social Work Practice

Among other things, the findings of this study will have significance for public health and social work practice, especially with respect to raising

awareness on a major issue. According to Thureau et al. (2015), it is estimated that 1.5 million women and 834,700 men in the U.S have been victims of physical assault and/or raped by their intimate partner. Kumar (2012) found that husbands between the ages of 15-49 were at risk of abuse if an incidence of violence had occurred within the first year of marriage. The study also showed an increase in violence based on the longevity of the marriage (particularly if the marriage lasts seven years or longer).

In addition, Kumar (2012) reported that beliefs of men being the aggressor and women being the weaker sex, further strengthens the views guided by societal norms on gender roles, where women are not viewed as being violent, aggressive, and oppressing. According to Ellington et al. (2015), victims of abuse, particularly men, have reported experiencing feelings of powerlessness when confronting their aggressor. Due to the cultural perceptions of masculine dominance, they are reluctant to retaliate or report the incidents to authorities. Their social environment plays an important role in their life, thus resulting in not feeling supported by an actual structure and fear of further abuse. These false assumptions keep them from distancing themselves from the toxic relationships and from seeking support.

This study is a step in the right direction regarding understanding about DV/IPV against men. DP/IPV continues to be an increasing public health issue with significant societal costs. The consequences of the abuse are not only devastating to one's accrual of medical bills, loss of wages due to missed work

as a result of physical injuries or emotional distress, but there are other physical factors to consider (Breiding et al., 2015). Increased awareness of this issue will be beneficial to society as a whole.

## CHAPTER TWO

### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### Introduction

This literature review will take a closer look at factors that contribute the increase of domestic violence against men perpetrated by women. In addition, this chapter will focus on shedding some light on what previous research has found as it pertains to this topic. Furthermore, this chapter will discuss two theories, Power theory and the Cycle of Violence Theory, that have relevance with this study.

#### Contributing Factors to Underreporting of Domestic Violence Against Men

This research will attempt to shed some light about several factors influencing the growth of male directed violence phenomenon. Data pertaining to domestic violence has been substantially focusing on women as the recipients and men solely as perpetrators. However, research indicates violence towards men has been significantly inclined to be insignificant due to the decreased likelihood of men viewing themselves as victims and less likely to report (Barber, 2008). Research suggests that the most underreported or largely ignored piece of statistical data as it relates to domestic violence has been that "a man is battered every 14 seconds" 171 (Schmesser, 2007).

Unfortunately, despite the efforts made in this direction, the reported cases of domestic violence in general only touches on the surface of a much

more serious deeper issue. A large number of cases are unreported as a result of societal pressures from relatives or the increased social stigma of being defamed (Barber, 2008). Domestic violence is a public health issue with far-reaching health consequences that include mental illness and stress disorders Kumar (2012).

### Previous Studies and their Limitations

DV/IPV against men has not been adequately addressed in the literature (Thureau et al., 2015). This is why studies are few and far between. Villafañe-Santiago et al. (2019) discussed findings that men suffer from physical violence at a higher rate when compared to women. Ellington et al. (2015) conducted a study on aboriginal men in Quebec, Canada, and found that men have been overrepresented in the prison system since the 1960s. Ellington et al. (2015) concluded that the mass incarceration prevents this group of people in particular both male and female, from escaping the vicious cycle of domestic violence. McDermott and Lopez (2013) focused on social factors associated with attitudes that are more permissive towards IPV in men. This study specifically focused on 496 heterosexual males of various demographic backgrounds.

Meanwhile, studies that investigated DV/IPV among college students (Banyard & Moynihan, 2011; McDermott & Lopez, 2013; Sabrina, 2013; Sunami et al., 2019; Villafañe-Santiago et al., 2019; Wilkins, 2011; Wobschall, 2014; Wolford-Clevenger et al., 2015) largely focused on women or both genders. In a large-scale study, Sunami et al. (2019) surveyed students from 158 colleges and



universities in the United States including the University of Delaware. While this research explored variables of IPV among college students, it primarily accounted for how exposure to IVP may increase alcohol abuse, which could then lead to an increase of suicidality (Sunami et. al., 2019).

In a multinational research, Sabina (2013) sampled students across 31 countries, including three Latin American countries. The goal of this research were to determine the relationship between economic deprivation such as living in disadvantaged neighborhoods and IPV among college students. There was a statistically significant correlation between these two variables. Elsewhere, Banyard and Moynihan (2011) conducted a research on variations in bystander behaviors related to IPV among college students. A recent study conducted by Wobschall (2014) explored the recognition and attitudes of IPV amongst university students. Wolford-Clevenger et al. (2015) extended the literature by conducting a study on college students' correlation of dating violence, interpersonal needs and suicidal ideations.

Overall, previous research has not adequately captured the awareness of DV/IPV among university students in Southern California. Therefore, this study will contribute to the literature on DV/IPV awareness on university campuses. Additionally, existing awareness campaigns to battle domestic violence in school settings mostly focused on women (Banyard & Moynihan, 2011; Wilkins, 2011). This research largely considers DV/IPV episodes committed against men.

## Theories Guiding Conceptualization

This section covers two theories that offer insights on domestic violence: Cycle of Violence Theory and Power Theory. Lenore Walker developed the Cycle of Violence in 1979 and described it as a three-phase cycle (Lenton 1995). This cycle is best explained as the repeated patterns experienced between victim and perpetrator time and time again before terminating the abusive relationship. This cycle involves various phases beginning with tension building from one or repeated incidents, followed by the actual violent incident, followed by the making-up phase which leads to a more calm, somewhat normalized, honeymoon stage (Walker, 2009). The cycle of violence theory has also been referred to as a vicious cycle of repeated negative behavior. Research suggests that the initial phase is done in a subtle manner with systematic escalation behaviors such as intentional calling of names. The recipient may stay silent to appease the aggressor, but the cycle can exist for many years until the inevitable occurs (Walker, 2017). This theory goes hand in hand with the Psycho-Social Theory of Learned Helplessness that is a contributing factor as to the reasons why men and women stay in abusive relationships (Lenton, 1995).

This theory may explain how the cycle of violence does not only apply to one gender but it is applicable to any abusive relationship. Studies suggest that men experience difficulty leaving an abusive relationship at the same rate that women do but choose to stay out of fear for their safety and that of their children (Meyer, 2012). This theory may provide some insight on how the third phase

contributes to the victim not ending the abusive relationship, hoping that the remorse shown by the aggressor is genuine in nature and future incidents will no longer occur. Reference was made to the Duluth Model and the diagram of the Power and Control wheel and it provides a better understating of the patterns of abuse and violence between partners (Pence & Peymar, 1993). A copy of the Power and Control wheel is provided in Appendix D. The longer an individual remains in the relationship, the more exposed to incidences of violence or abuse they will be thus perpetrating the learned helplessness aspect, where they lose hope that their situation will change (Walker, 2009).

Meanwhile, the Power Theory developed by French and Raven in 1959 focuses on power dynamics (Northouse, 2013). There are five types of power: referent, expert, legitimate, reward and coercive (Northouse, 2013). Referent power is elicited in a passive manner according to literature, the person might not be aware of the influence they have on the other person as well as the person does not realize they are being influenced. This example would apply in a situation where there is an unequal level of reverence toward the person in power. If the individual being influenced has an inferior level of education or social status, they would be more inclined to have more tolerance toward the abusive behavior. This can also be due for the purposes of saving face and avoiding shame of others knowing that someone in a respectable position in the community is capable of such behavior. This is the same case for expert and legitimate power, as it relates to someone in a position of power over the

recipient of the abuse. Legitimate power is related to an individual in public office or a religious leader or even in law enforcement. The person can be reluctant to report any abuse from such person out of fear of not being taken seriously or fear of retaliation. Reward power works in the manner that the person will offer verbal, physical and even financial gifts thus making the person on the receiving end as someone who will otherwise be at a financial disadvantage and this relates to financial abuse. Any of these constructs can be applied in various ways and situations including a DV/IPV situation for the purposes of gaining power, compliance and obedience from the victim.

### Summary

This chapter overviewed local and international studies on DV/IPV among both men and women in school settings. This chapter also highlighted gaps in the existing literature and proposed this study as a concrete step toward filling these gaps. Finally, this chapter dissected the Cycle of Violence Theory as well as Power Theory, two theoretical perspectives with relevance to the current research.

## CHAPTER THREE

### METHODS

#### Introduction

This chapter will provide an overall synopsis behind the application of a quantitative method used in this research study. In addition, this chapter will provide a brief explanation of the benefits and limitations of using this method design. Furthermore, this chapter will provide an overview of the sampling methods used in this study as well as the reasoning. Additional information pertaining to the instruments and procedures used to collect data as well as protection of human subjects will be provided. This section will conclude with the methods of data analysis.

#### Study Design

This quantitative study embraced a cross-sectional design to determine the relationship between gender and awareness of domestic violence at one point in time. The researcher assessed undergraduate and graduate students' awareness level during the 2019-2020 academic year. This study was also descriptive in nature, as the researcher did not seek to establish causal inferences.

## Sampling Methods

The researcher used a purposive sampling method to recruit participants for this study. The sample consisted of 200 undergraduate and graduate students from a large urban university in Southern California. The researchers oversampled students from social behavioral science majors, particularly those enrolled in social work programs. This was a way to measure the extent to which social work students are different from their non-social work peers with regard to DV/IPV. Demographic characteristics of the sample are presented in the Results sections.

## Instruments

This study drew on two instruments: the Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale (IPVAS) (Thompson et al., 2005) and the Intimate Partner Violence Recognition and Attitude Survey (IPVRAS) (Larsen & Wobschall, 2016). These scales, have been used by many researchers to investigate the perceptions of domestic violence among college students (Fincham et al., 2008; Larsen & Wobschall, 2016; Smith et al., 2005; Wobschall, 2014). The IPVAS is a 17-item questionnaire divided into three main sections: abuse, control, and violence (Fincham et al., 2008; Thompson et al., 2005). Built upon the IPVAS, the IPVRAS is a 25-item scale that contains questions and scenarios related to IPV/DV (Larsen & Wobschall, 2016). Because this study focused only on perceptions of DV/IPV perpetrated against males only, the researcher adjusted some questions to fit the target population. The researcher also collected

demographic variables. Please see Appendix C for more details on the study questionnaire.

### Procedures

The Institutional Review Board (IRB) at California State University San Bernardino approved this research on 05/01/2019. Upon approval, the researcher created flyers to recruit participants. The researcher administered the survey in various classrooms of various departments to a sample of students who had agreed to participate. Access to the classrooms was obtained through collaboration with professors before surveying their classes. Participants signed an informed consent form before taking the survey. The consent form is attached as Appendix A. The researcher ensured that all returned surveys had an X marked in lieu of signature and all completed surveys were collected and placed in a manila folder. As a token of appreciation, a student was randomly selected from each classroom for a \$10 gift card to a local coffee shop. At the conclusion of the survey, participants were provided with a copy of the debriefing statement (See Appendix B).

### Protection of Human Subjects/Ethics

As mentioned earlier, the researcher sought and received formal approval to conduct this study. The researcher took reasonable steps to ensure the confidentiality of all participants in this study. First, the researcher did not collect any personal identifiable information from the participants. Second, the

researcher collected the completed surveys and placed them in sealed envelopes. These surveys were then stored in a safe and secured location. The collected information was accessible only to the researcher and her research supervisor. Finally, the researcher will destroy all completed surveys one year after the completion of the study.

### Study Variables

This study contained one dependent variable, one independent variable, and seven control variables. The dependent variable, DV/IPV awareness, was coded as 1 for high awareness and 0 for low awareness. Gender was the independent variable coded as 1 for female and 2 for male. All of the control variables were binary with age coded 1 = under 25 and 2 = 25 and over. Race received 1 for Hispanic and coded 2 for Non-Hispanic. Marital status had the following values: 1 = married/living with a partner and 2 = not married/living with a partner. Income was coded as 1 for less than \$35,000 per year and 2 was \$35,000 annually. Education level received was coded 1 for undergraduate level and 2 was graduate level. Finally, work status had 1 for employed and 2 for unemployed.

### Data Analysis

Given the categorical nature of the data, the researcher performed multivariate binary logistic regression, using the 26.0 version of IBM SPSS Statistical Software. This regression procedure allowed the researcher to test



the following hypothesis: After controlling for all of the other predictors, female university students will have higher level of domestic violence awareness than will their male counterparts.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### RESULTS

#### Descriptive Statistics

This research study surveyed 200 participants from various backgrounds. Participants' demographic characteristics are presented Table 1 below. Of the 200 surveyed participants, about half of them were under the age of 25. Participants in the other half of the sample were 25 years old and over. The sample was also divided almost equally with respect to income, with half of the respondents earning less than \$35,000 a year and the other half earning \$35,000 or more on an annual basis.

From a racial perspective, two thirds of the surveyed participants were of Hispanic or Latino descent. The remaining third was classified as being of Non-Hispanic descent. In terms of gender, approximately two-thirds of the respondents reported being female. The majority of the participants were undergraduate students who were employed and living without partners. Meanwhile, a significant proportion of the respondents reported social work as their undergraduate major.

Table 1. Participant Demographic Characteristics (N = 200)

<b>Variable</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
<b><i>Age</i></b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100</b>
25 and Under	106	53.0
25 and Over	94	47.0
<b><i>Race/Ethnicity</i></b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100</b>
Hispanic/Latino	132	66.0
Non-Hispanic	68	34.0
<b><i>Gender</i></b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100</b>
Female	139	69.5
Male	61	30.5
<b><i>Marital Status</i></b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100</b>
Married/Living with Partners	52	26.0
Not married/Living with partners	148	74.0
<b><i>Undergraduate Major</i></b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100</b>
Social work	78	39.0
Not social work	122	61.0
<b><i>Work</i></b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100</b>
Employed	141	70.5
Unemployed	59	29.5
<b><i>Household Income</i></b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100</b>
Less than 35K	105	52.5
35K or more	95	47.5
<b><i>Education</i></b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100</b>
Undergraduate	128	64.0
Graduate	72	36.0

## Logistic Regression Results

The researcher ran multivariate binary logistic regression to test the following hypothesis: Female college students will have higher level of domestic violence/intimate partner violence awareness than do their male counterparts. Results of the logistic regression analysis are shown in Table 2 below. It is important to look at the odds ratios (OR). According to Bonett and Price (2015), any OR value calculated in a binary study resulting in a score of 1 implies no relationship. Meanwhile, Osteen and Bright (2010) created a standardized criterion for data interpretation to assess for significance OR. Any score resulting in anything greater than 1 can be calculated in the following manner: small = 1.44, medium = 2.47 and large = 4.25 (Osteen & Bright, 2015). Buchholz et al. (2016) also created guidelines for when the OR value is less than 1. When this is the case, the following guidelines are applied: small = 0.69, medium = 0.40, and large = 0.24 (Buchholz et. al. 2016).

Table 2. Multivariate Binary Logistic Regression Results for Awareness of Domestic Violence

Variables	B	S.E.	Wald	df	Sig.	Exp(B)	95% C.I. for EXP(B)	
							Lower	Upper
Gender	.727	.341	4.533	1	.033	2.069	1.059	4.039
Age	.228	.417	.299	1	.585	1.256	.554	2.846
Race	.170	.320	.284	1	.594	1.186	.634	2.219
Marital status	.324	.372	.756	1	.384	1.382	.666	2.868
Work	.275	.322	.732	1	.392	1.317	.701	2.475
Income	.123	.305	.162	1	.687	1.131	.621	2.057
Education	.045	.698	.004	1	.949	1.046	.266	4.109
Social work degree	-.094	.673	.020	1	.888	.910	.244	3.401
Constant	-1.262	.798	2.499	1	.114	.283		

Results in Table 2 showed that, after controlling for all other predictors in the model, gender generated an odds ratio of 2.069 at the statistical significance level ( $p = .033$ ). That is, female university students were twice as likely to have high awareness of DV/IPV as their male counterparts. Based on Osteen and Bright's (2010) standardized criteria for odds ratio, this was a small to moderate effect. Therefore, the study hypothesis was supported. Table 2 also demonstrated no statistically significant relationship between the control variables (age, race, marital status, income level, social work background, work status, and education) and the dependent variable (awareness of DV/IPV).

## CHAPTER FIVE

### DISCUSSION

This study sought to explore the relationship between gender and university students' awareness of DV/IPV. The need for increasing DV/IPV awareness is imperative in order to determine how to prevent and address this social phenomenon. More specifically, this study hypothesized that female students will have higher DV/IPV awareness level than their male counterparts will. Multivariate binary logistic regression results provided support for the study hypothesis.

#### Implications of the Findings for Theory, Research, and Social Work Education

##### Implications for Theory

This study has implications for theory, especially Power Theory (Northhouse, 2013). In fact, the discrepancies in awareness of DV/IPV between women and men can be linked to how power is perceived by them. Male respondents may have believed that men are physically more powerful than women and thus cannot be abused by them. Female respondents, however, may have believed that the time of male dominance is over and thus women can abuse men the same way men can abuse women. It is all about who is more powerful (Northhouse, 2013).

### Implications for Research

This study also holds implications for research. In fact, the findings indicated that women were twice as likely to be more aware of DV/IPV when compared to males. This finding is consistent with previous studies pertaining to awareness of DV/IPV among university students (Banyard & Moynihan, 2011; McDermott & Lopez, 2012; Sabina, 2013; Sunami et. al., 2019; Sylaska & Walters, 2014; Villafañe et. al., 2019; Wobschall, 2014; Wolford-Clevenger et. al., 2016). However, this finding expands the literature by assessing awareness of DV/IPV primarily regarding the male population. In fact, most studies in the literature focus primarily on DV/IPV among women.

Although women can be perpetrators of DV/IPV (Kumar, 2012), there is a tendency for society to believe otherwise. Indeed, male victims of DV/IPV sometimes do not report the abuse because of shame associated with the report itself (Sylaska & Walter, 2014). After all, society perceives women as caretakers, not aggressors (Sabrina et al., 2011). Therefore, this research contributes to the literature.

### Implications for Social Work

In addition to its implications for theory and research, this study has relevance for social work education. As society tries to make sense of the full impact of DV/IPV on both women and men, social work educators can play a significant role in helping students understand the many facets of the issue. The

finding in this study can be used to make a compelling argument for the inclusion of DV/IPV contents in the social work curriculum.

Many universities have programs aimed at raising awareness of domestic violence on campus. However, the focus should not be only on abused perpetrated by men against women. This study showed that male university students have a lower level of DV/IPV awareness regarding abuse committed by women against men. Hence, social work educators can help decrease stigma associated with reporting DV/IPV abuse against men through classrooms discussions. Increased knowledge on this topic may help male students gain more awareness about the issue.

#### Limitations and Recommendations

As any other research, this study had limitations. The first one is related to geography. Because the study was conducted in a large university in California, its findings may not be applicable beyond this state. In addition, this cross-sectional research did not include of the possible predictors of DV/IPV awareness among college students (dependent variable). That is, a significant portion of the variance in the dependent variable that was not explained in this study. The researcher had to deal only with the variables of the logistic regression model: age, race, marital status, work status, income level, and education level. None of these predicted awareness of DV/IPV.

Future research should attempt to determine other variables that may be associated with awareness of domestic violence. Future research would also



benefit from a mixed-methods research design where researchers can understand the full picture university students' perceptions on the problem of domestic violence. Researchers are encouraged to recruit eventual participants from many counties and states. This would make new research more generalizable.

APPENDIX A  
INFORMED CONSENT



WE DEFINE THE *Future*

School of Social Work

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**INFORMED CONSENT**

The study in which you are asked to participate is designed to examine California State University, San Bernardino (CSUSB) students' awareness and perception of Domestic Violence Perpetrated Against Men. The study is being conducted by Sarita Johnson, a 2<sup>nd</sup> year MSW graduate student, under the supervision of Dr. Rigaud Joseph, Assistant Professor in the School of Social Work at California State University, San Bernardino (CSUSB). The Institutional Review Board Social Work Sub-committee at CSUSB has approved the study.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of the study is to examine California State University, San Bernardino (CSUSB) students' awareness and perception of Domestic Violence perpetrated against men. In addition this research study will further evaluate students being victims of abuse currently or in the past.

**DESCRIPTION:** Participants will be asked of a few questions on their knowledge of what domestic violence is, their awareness and perception of domestic violence perpetrated against men.

**PARTICIPATION:** Your participation in the study is completely voluntary. You can refuse to participate in the study or discontinue your participation at any time without any consequences.

**CONFIDENTIALITY:** Your responses will remain confidential and data will be reported in group form only.

**DURATION:** It will take 5 to 10 minutes to complete the survey.

**RISKS:** Although not anticipated, there may be some discomfort in answering some of the questions. You are not required to answer and can skip the question or end your participation.

**BENEFITS:** There will not be any direct benefits to the participants.

**CONTACT:** If you have any questions about this study, please feel free to contact Dr. Joseph at (909) 537-3501.

**RESULTS:** Results of the study can be obtained from the Pfau Library ScholarWorks database (<http://scholarworks.lib.csusb.edu/>) at California State University, San Bernardino after July 2020.

\*\*\*\*\*

This is to certify that I read the above and I am 18 years or older.

Place an X mark here \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

California State University, San Bernardino  
Social Work Institutional Review Board Sub-Committee  
APPROVED 5/11/20/VOID AFTER 4/12/20  
IRB# 561948 CHAIR *J. Joseph*

APPENDIX B  
DEBRIEFING STATEMENT

## DEBRIEFING STATEMENT

The research study that you just took part in and completed was designed to assess California State University Students' level of awareness and perception of domestic violence perpetrated against men. This topic is of great importance as it is the goal to increase levels of awareness of men as domestic violence victims. Furthermore, increased research in this topic will promote self-empowerment and aid in the reduction of the stigma of men seeking help when they find themselves in an abusive relationship. This statement is to inform you that no deception was involved as part of this study.

If you feel you need counseling services to process the topic presented in this study, please know there are services available for you to access. You can access those services by contact the Student Health Center here on campus by calling 909-537-5040. Additional resources are available by calling 2-1-1 to be connected to any services within San Bernardino County or you may call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1(800) 799-7233 or the Suicide Prevention Center at 1(800) 573-TALK (8255), <https://suicideprevention@dhcs.ca.gov>

Thank you for your participation in this research project. If you have additional questions about the study, please feel free to contact Dr. Rigaud Joseph at 909-537-5507. If you are interested in obtaining a copy of the group results of the study, they can be obtained from the Pfau Library ScholarWorks database (<http://scholarworks.lib.csusb.edu/>) at California State University, San Bernardino after December 2020.

APPENDIX C

PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHIC QUESTIONNAIRE AND INSTRUMENT

# CSUSB STUDENTS' AWARENESS AND PERCEPTION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST MEN

THIS SURVEY IS CONFIDENTIAL

Please answer the following questions by placing an X on the section that best describes you.

## Demographics

### What is your gender?

1. Female \_\_\_\_
2. Male \_\_\_\_
3. Transgender \_\_\_\_

### Marital Status

1. Single \_\_\_\_
2. Married \_\_\_\_
3. Divorced / Separated \_\_\_\_
4. Widowed \_\_\_\_
5. Living with a partner \_\_\_\_

### Sexual orientation:

1. Heterosexual/Straight \_\_\_\_
2. Gay \_\_\_\_
3. Lesbian \_\_\_\_
4. Bisexual \_\_\_\_
5. Questioning \_\_\_\_
6. Other \_\_\_\_

### Education:

1. Freshmen \_\_\_\_
2. Sophomore \_\_\_\_
3. Junior \_\_\_\_
4. Senior \_\_\_\_
5. Graduate Student \_\_\_\_

### Age Group:

1. Under 18 \_\_\_\_
2. 18-24 \_\_\_\_
3. 25-34 \_\_\_\_
4. 35- 44 \_\_\_\_
5. 45-55 \_\_\_\_
6. 55+ \_\_\_\_

### Employment Status:

1. Employed \_\_\_\_
2. Unemployed \_\_\_\_

### Race/Ethnicity:

1. White \_\_\_\_
2. Black or African American \_\_\_\_
3. Hispanic or Latino \_\_\_\_
4. Asian /Pacific Islander \_\_\_\_
5. Native American \_\_\_\_
6. Mixed race \_\_\_\_
7. Other \_\_\_\_

### Household Income:

1. Less than \$20,000 \_\_\_\_
2. \$20,000-\$35,000 \_\_\_\_
3. \$35,000- \$50,000 \_\_\_\_
4. \$50,000- \$65,000 \_\_\_\_
5. \$65,000- \$85,000 \_\_\_\_
6. \$85,000 - \$100,000 \_\_\_\_
7. Over \$100,000 \_\_\_\_

### What is your major?

\_\_\_\_\_

## Scaling Questions

Please indicate the number that best describes your attitude toward the following statements: Would you say you, Strongly agree, Agree, Neither agree or Disagree, Disagree, Strongly Disagree?

1. Strongly Agree
2. Agree
3. Neither Agree or Disagree
4. Disagree
5. Strongly Disagree

1. \_\_\_\_ I am are aware of what domestic violence is.
2. \_\_\_\_ Domestic violence does not occur to males.
3. \_\_\_\_ Domestic Violence only happens to women.
4. \_\_\_\_ Men are usually the aggressors of abuse.
5. \_\_\_\_ Men are more likely to cause physical harm to women.
6. \_\_\_\_ Women are less likely to cause serious harm to men.
7. \_\_\_\_ Women are caretakers not abusers.
8. \_\_\_\_ Men are not care takers.
9. \_\_\_\_ Men fear leaving an abusive relationship.
10. \_\_\_\_ I have witnessed a male being abused? (pushed, slapped, punched, scratched, called names etc)
11. \_\_\_\_ As a male, I have been abused (Pushed, slapped, punched, scratched, called names etc)
12. \_\_\_\_ Males cannot be stalked, or harassed.
13. \_\_\_\_ Men do not report abuse due to feelings of shame.
14. \_\_\_\_ Men view themselves as victims.
15. \_\_\_\_ Jealousy is flattering not abuse.
16. \_\_\_\_ It is no big deal for my partner to insult me in front of others.
17. \_\_\_\_ I have witnessed a female abusing her partner.
18. \_\_\_\_ As a female, I have abused my partner (Pushed, slapped, punched, scratched, called names etc).



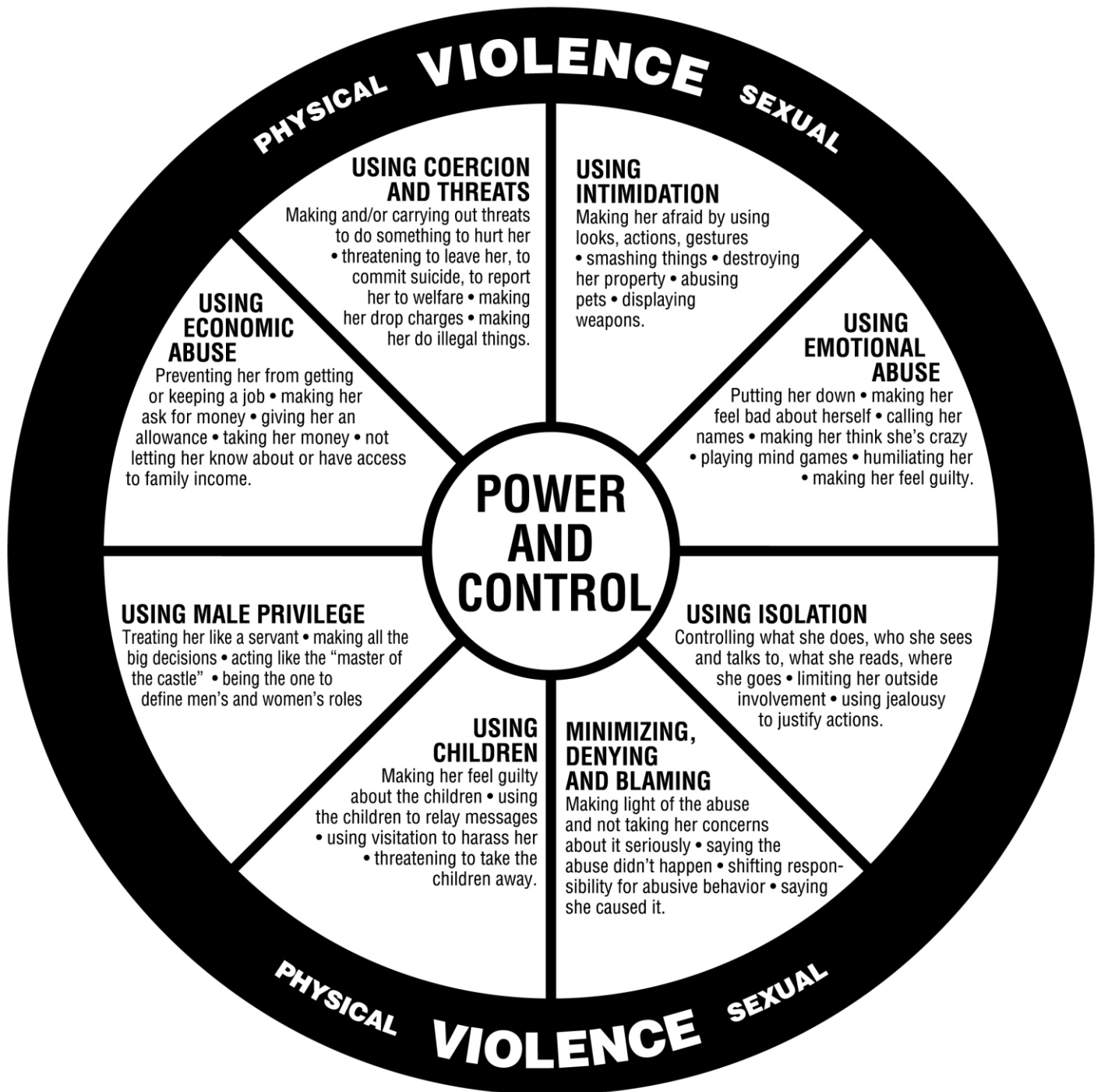
19. \_\_\_\_ As a male, I would report the abuse.
20. \_\_\_\_ Males can feel obligated or coerced to have sex.
21. \_\_\_\_ Males who report abuse are weak.
22. \_\_\_\_ Women do not threaten their partners.
23. \_\_\_\_ Threats are ok as long as they are not carried out.
24. \_\_\_\_ I think it is wrong to ever damage anything that belongs to a partner.
25. \_\_\_\_ I think my partner should give me a detailed account of what he or she did during the day.

**THIS IS THE END OF THE SURVEY**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THIS RESEARCH**

Developed by: Sarita Johnson.

APPENDIX D  
POWER AND CONTROL WHEEL



Pence & Paymar (1993)

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