



UNIVERSITY of NEW HAMPSHIRE

International Family Violence and Child Victimization Research Conference

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Program



FAMILY RESEARCH LABORATORY & CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN RESEARCH CENTER

The Family Research Laboratory (FRL) and the Crimes against Children Research Center (CCRC)
are independent research units devoted to the study of family problems.

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Session H4 Tuesday 7/29/2008 1:00pm-2:15pm
Victimization and Trauma among Direct Care Service Providers

Amphitheater

Jill Theresa Messing ***Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) among Nursing Personnel: Prevalence and Risk Factors in the Safe at Work Study***

Jill Theresa Messing - Johns Hopkins University, Jacquelyn Campbell - Johns Hopkins University, Michelle Kanga - Johns Hopkins University, Joan Kub - Johns Hopkins University, Daniel Sheridan - Johns Hopkins University, RIchelle Bolyard - Johns Hopkins University, Sheila Fitzgerald - Johns Hopkins University, Jacqueline Agnew - Johns Hopkins University

The Safe at Work study is a longitudinal, multi-site research study examining violence at 3 hospitals in the Baltimore, MD area. Participants included 2,170 nurses and nursing personnel. Nearly 25% of participants reported lifetime experiences of physical or sexual abuse by an intimate partner. Within the past 5 years, 7.4% (N=161) of participants had experienced IPV; 32% of these victims (N=52) experienced IPV within the past 12 months. The experience of IPV in the past 5 years is significantly related ($X^2=5.36$, $p<.05$) to the experience of workplace violence, though only a very small number of participants (N=6) reported experiencing IPV at work. Logistic regression was used to examine the risk factors associated with IPV in the past 5 years. Participants who are currently married were significantly less likely to report experiencing IPV, yet participants with children were significantly more likely to experience IPV. Experiences of physical and sexual abuse as a child are significantly related to an increased risk of experiencing IPV as an adult. Witnessing IPV as a child was not significantly related to experiencing IPV as an adult. The prevalence and risk factors of IPV among nursing personnel will be placed within the context of current research on IPV, and IPV and work. Explanations for the relationship between workplace and intimate partner violence will be explored.

David Prichard ***Secondary and Vicarious Trauma among DHHS Child Care Workers***

David Prichard - University of New England, Kerryellen Vroman - University of New Hampshire

This paper will describe on-going research of the presenter examining vicarious and secondary trauma among Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) childcare workers. Qualitative and quantitative data was collected through focus groups and DHHS offices throughout the state of Maine. Initial results indicate a correlation between childcare worker exposed to traumatic stress through their interventions on behalf of children who have experienced physical, emotional and sexual trauma and neglect, and symptoms of traumatic stress. The presenter will discuss professional burnout, countertransference, vicarious trauma and secondary trauma. Participants will be able to differentiate between these concepts and will see them applied to clinical work of the presenter with DHHS childcare workers. Participants will have the opportunity to apply these concepts to their own clinical work.

Session H5 Tuesday 7/29/2008 1:00pm-2:15pm
International Dating Violence

Gardner

Chiara Sabina ***Educational Parity and Intimate Partner Victimization in 31 Nations***

Chiara Sabina - Northeastern University

This study explored how gender parity in education influences the rate of partner violence. Data from the International Dating Violence Study (IDVS) and UNESCO was used to answer the above questions. The subset of the IDVS used for the current study includes 13,726 college students in 31 nations who reported on partner violence within the 12 months prior using the Conflict Tactics Scales. The Gender Parity Index in tertiary level enrolment (GPI) was garnered from UNESCO. HLM was used to examine the effects of gender and national GPI on victimization. The effect of GPI was examined both on the overall rate of victimization and its effect on the slope of gender. The mean level of partner violence victimization reported was 1.66 on a scale of 0 to 8 and GPI did not significantly effect the mean. Gender significantly predicted the level of partner violence ($\beta = .42$, $p < .01$) such that being female was associated with an increase in partner violence reported. Furthermore, the effect of gender on partner violence significantly varied by GPI ($\beta = -.26$, $p = .05$). Those most at risk are women living in nations in which women are underrepresented in education. Conclusions include that for both men and women, educational opportunity decreases the risk for intimate partner victimization. Increasing educational opportunity is an important avenue in decreasing partner violence.