Parent-to-child aggression moderates the relationship between feelings of closeness and couples’ sleep concordance in daily life

Olivia Shin, Afsara Haque, Merai Estafanous, Sohyun C. Han, Adela C. Timmons, & Gayla Margolin

Introduction

- Sleep concordance in couples has been associated with positive relationship functioning and marital adjustment (Hasler & Troxel, 2010).
- Moreover, concordance in sleep is an index of physiological co-regulation, a process during which close others help to regulate our emotional and physiological processes (Sbarra & Hazan, 2008).
- Yet evidence suggests that growing up in a risky family environment can disrupt sleep processes in adulthood (Gregory et al., 2007).
- The present study utilized daily diary methodology to examine the association between hourly self-reports of relationship quality, family aggression, and bedtime sleep concordance among young adult dating couples.

Hypotheses

Hypothesis 1: Partners’ feelings of closeness will be positively associated with bedtime sleep concordance.

Hypothesis 2: A history of family aggression will moderate the association between partners’ feelings of closeness and bedtime sleep concordance.

Methods

Participants

- 75 opposite-sex, young-adult couples recruited from the greater LA community
- Mean age = 22.7, SD = 2.5
- Mean months together = 31.2, SD = 25.8
- 13% Asian, 14% Black/African American, 31% Caucasian, 19% Multiracial, 23% Hispanic/Latino, 1% Other
- 44% of couples were cohabiting

Procedure

- Couples came into the laboratory at 10am and were each given a smartphone.
- They were instructed to go about their daily lives, spend at least five hours together, and fill out brief surveys on the phone every hour.
- Participants came back the following day at 10am to complete a follow-up interview.

Measures/Instruments

- Participants completed short surveys on smartphones assessing their feelings of closeness towards their partners every hour.
- Feelings of closeness to partner were measured on a scale of 0 (not at all) to 100 (extremely).
- Participants also retrospectively reported on their history of physical and psychological parent-to-child aggression using an adapted version of the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) scale.
- Bed times and wake times were self-reported the following day during a follow-up interview.
- Sleep concordance was calculated by taking the difference between partners’ sleep indices, with lower scores indicating greater sleep concordance.

Results

Table 1. Descriptive statistics of main study variables

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Minimum</th>
<th>Maximum</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>SD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Male FOC</td>
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<td>Bedtime sleep concordance</td>
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<td>5.00</td>
<td>0.68</td>
<td>1.08</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 1. Males’ parent-to-child aggression as a moderator of the association between females’ feelings of closeness and bedtime sleep concordance

Discussion

- To our knowledge, this study is the first to examine associations between bedtime sleep concordance, hourly self-reports of relationship quality indices, and parent-to-child aggression.
- These findings suggest that, for females, having a partner with whom they feel close to enhances co-regulation in sleep, but that this is contingent upon their partner’s history of family aggression.
- Particularly among males, experiencing high levels of family conflict during childhood may be associated with long-term effects in young adult romantic relationships.
- Given the well-established link between sleep quality and health outcomes, sleep concordance may be one mechanism by which close relationships are linked to health.
- A limitation of the study is the use of self-report sleep data instead of ambulatory monitors, which provide more accurate and reliable assessments of sleep indices. Future studies should utilize such ambulatory biosensors.

References


Acknowledgements

This material is based on work supported by grants: SC CTSI (NIH/NCATS) 1BUL1TR000130 (Margolin, PI), NIH-NICHD R21HD072170-A1 (Margolin, PI), and NSF GRFP DGE-0937362 (Han, PI, Timmons, PI).
Introduction

- Research indicates that language influences relationship satisfaction among dating couples.
- Specifically, first person pronoun use (FPPU or “I” words) is generally associated with lower relationship satisfaction (Zimmerman et al., 2013).
- However, FPPU is associated with increased relationship satisfaction specifically during times of conflict for couples (Simmons, Gordon, & Chambless, 2005).
- While previous studies have examined this association strictly within laboratory settings, the present study explores it within the context of couples’ daily lives.
- The goal of this study was to examine the relationship between FPPU in couples’ daily lives and relationship distress.
- The study also examined whether overall relationship satisfaction in couples moderates the relationship between FPPU and everyday relationship distress.

Method

Participants:
- Thirty young-adult couples were recruited from the greater LA community (M age = 22.7; SD = 3.3; M months together = 37.6; SD = 26.3)
- 23.3% Asian, 26.7% Black/African American, 40% Caucasian, 46.7% Multiracial, 63.3% Hispanic/Latino

Procedure:
- Couples came into the laboratory at 10 AM and were each given a smartphone
- They were instructed to go about their daily lives, spend at least five hours together, and fill out brief surveys on the phone every hour

Measures and Instruments:
- Smartphones collected 3-minute audio files every 12 minutes from 10 AM until bedtime
- Participants were unaware of when they were being recorded but could mute the microphone at any time

Examples of Low and High FPPU for Two Couples:

Low FPPU:
- Male: “No, it shouldn’t bother you.”
- Female: “Right, it shouldn’t bother me, but with all the [expletive] you’ve done, it does bother me.”

High FPPU:
- Female: “It sucks. It really sucks. It’s like I don’t have a home. I don’t have like any idea what my dad’s doing with his wife or like what’s going on because he like never tells me.
- Male: “I know.”

Results

Table 1. Descriptive statistics of main study variables

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Minimum</th>
<th>Maximum</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>SD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female FPPU</td>
<td>.03</td>
<td>.15</td>
<td>.06</td>
<td>.03</td>
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<tr>
<td>Male FPPU</td>
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<td>.03</td>
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<tr>
<td>Female Annoyance</td>
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<td>25.15</td>
<td>6.39</td>
<td>6.99</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 1: Relationship Satisfaction as a Moderator of the Association Between Annoyance with Partner and FPPU

- Overall, 97% of couples reported feelings of distress or annoyance at least once
- For females, the ratio of FPPU was associated with lower relationship satisfaction (r = -.49, p < .05)
- Multilevel models showed that overall relationship satisfaction moderated the association between FPPU and distress (b = .08, p < .05)
- Females, especially those with high relationship satisfaction, switched to more FPPU during periods of everyday relationship distress (low satisfaction: b = 2.51, p < .05)

Discussion

- This study is the first to our knowledge to examine how FPPU in couples’ everyday lives relates to overall relationship functioning and distress
- FPPU might be adaptive during times of conflict, which may signify better communication between couples
- More “I” usage may suggest that the partner is taking responsibility for his or her actions, while increased “you” usage may suggest that the partner is blaming his or her significant other for the conflict
- Results highlight the importance of language use in couples’ daily lives, which should be considered when developing interventions for couples
- The biggest limitation of this study was that we did not measure the use of other personal pronouns (e.g., “you”)

Acknowledgements

- We would like to thank our other lab collaborators for their work on this project (Kaitlyn Power and Laura Perrone)
- This material is based on work supported by grants: SC CTSI (NIH/NCATS) 8UL1TR000130 (Margolin, PI), NIH-NICHD R21HD072170-A1 (Margolin, PI), and NSF GRFP DGE-0937362 (Timmons, PI)
REJECTION SENSITIVITY AS A MODERATOR OF HEART RATE VARIABILITY AND EVERYDAY RELATIONSHIP DISTRESS

Yehsong Kim, Adela C. Timmons, Sohyun C. Han, Laura Perrone, Afsara Haque, Melissa Ward, & Gayla Margolin
University of Southern California

Introduction
- High heart rate variability (HRV), a measure of the parasympathetic nervous system (PNS, Porges, 1991), has been linked to better emotional regulation (Thayer & Lane, 2000) and relationship quality (Smith et al., 2011).
- Conversely, rejection sensitivity (RS), a tendency to expect and perceive social rejection, has been linked to poorer relationship quality (Downey & Feldman, 1996).
- Prior research has shown that high RS individuals who have low HRV are more hostile during lab-based conflict (Gyurak & Ayduk, 2008).
- No studies to date have examined how HRV in everyday life co-varies with relationship distress in low and high RS individuals.
- In contrast to prior research, which uses in-lab, retrospective measurement, the current study utilizes real-time heart rate measurements in daily life.

Hypotheses
H1: HRV will increase during periods of relationship distress as individuals contend with emotionally salient events.
H2: This association will only occur in individuals with low RS.

Participants
- 40 heterosexual young adult couples
- Age: M = 22.8 years; Range 18-25 years old
- Relationship length: M = 32.9 months; SD = 24.6 months
- Participants also completed an online questionnaire assessing RS (Downey & Feldman, 1996).

Methods
- Couples came into the lab at 10:00 am and were outfitted with mobile physiological equipment. Ambulatory heart rate monitors were used to measure ECG signals continuously until bedtime.
- The following day, couples returned to the lab and reported which hours of the day they experienced any relationship distress—this was reported in 67% of couples.
- HRV for each hour of the day was calculated as the variance of the interbeat intervals. HRV was analyzed only for waking hours.

Results
- Multilevel models were used to assess changes in HRV during periods of relationship distress, controlling for activity level, body temperature, and whether partners were together.

Table 1: Descriptive statistics of main study variables

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Min</th>
<th>Max</th>
<th>Mean</th>
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<tr>
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<td>1.00</td>
<td>18.00</td>
<td>5.97</td>
<td>3.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male Rejection Sensitivity</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>13.00</td>
<td>5.56</td>
<td>3.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female HRV</td>
<td>85.87</td>
<td>944.71</td>
<td>430.30</td>
<td>127.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male HRV</td>
<td>63.79</td>
<td>639.90</td>
<td>411.12</td>
<td>122.37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 2: Heart Rate Variability in Times of Conflict Moderated by Rejection Sensitivity

Note: Simple slopes analyses showed an increase in HRV during times of relationship distress for those with low levels of RS (b = 21.33, p < .05) but no significant increase in HRV during relationship distress for those with high levels of RS (b = 5.44, ns).

Discussion
- These findings suggest that people with low RS are more likely to have a PNS that adaptively changes with their environment compared to those with high RS.
- Having flexible HRV may enable cognitive and emotional regulation (Thayer & Lane, 2000), help reduce distress (Gabes, Eisenberg, & Eisenbud, 1993), and improve social competence (Fabes et al., 1993).
- To our knowledge, this is the first study to examine the effects of RS on real-time HRV during everyday relationship distress.
- Studies of within-person changes in HRV during relationship distress can illuminate how physiology and social sensitivity interact in daily life.
- Further prospective studies could elucidate directional effects of social sensitivity and physiological processes.

Selected References

This material is based on work supported by grants: SCCTS/ (NIH/NCATS) 8UL1TR000130 (Margolin, PI), NIH-NICHD R21HD072170-A1 (Margolin, PI), and NSF GRFP DGE-0937362 (Timmons, PI)
“I” Usage in Couples’ Everyday Lives: How Language Relates to Couple Functioning

Kaitlyn A. Power, Sohyun C. Han, Adela C. Timmons, Laura Perrone, Jamie Nguyen, & Gayla Margolin
University of Southern California

Introduction
- Research indicates that the language we use when speaking to our romantic partners is associated with the quality of our relationships.
- Specifically, overall first person pronoun use (FPPU or "I" words) is associated with decreased relationship satisfaction (Zimmermann et al. 2013) but increased relationship satisfaction during conflict discussions (Simmons, Gordon, & Chambless, 2005).
- However, previous work has primarily been limited to laboratory-based conflict and has not captured FPPU among couples in their daily lives.
- The purpose of the present study is to examine the relationship between FPPU and everyday relationship distress among young adult dating couples at home over one day.
- The study also examined whether overall relationship satisfaction in couples moderates the relationship between FPPU and everyday relationship distress.

Method
Participants
- Thirty couples were recruited from the greater Los Angeles area:
  - M age=22.7; SD=3.3
  - M months together=37.6; SD=26.3
  - 23.3% Asian, 26.7% Black/African American, 40% Caucasian, 46.7% Multiracial, 63.3% Hispanic/Latino

Procedure
- Participants came into the lab at 10am and were each given a smartphone
- Participants were instructed to go about their daily lives, spend a minimum of five hours together, and fill out short surveys on their phone once every hour.
- Participants were given smartphones every hour, assessing their mood and feelings towards their partner.

Measurements and Instruments
- Smartphones sampled 3-minute conversations every 12 minutes, from 10am until bedtime.
- Participants were unaware when they were being recorded but could mute the microphone at anytime.

Data Processing
- Audio recordings were manually transcribed.
- FPPU was assessed by calculating the ratio of "I" words (i.e. "I", "I'm", "I've", "I'll") to the total number of words spoken by each person per hour.
- We also calculated an overall index of the ratio of "I" words to total words over the course of the entire day per person.

Examples of High and Low FPPU for Two Couples
- **Low FPPU**
  - Male: "No, it shouldn't bother you."
  - Female: "Right, it shouldn't bother me, but with all the [expletive] you've done, it does bother me."
- **High FPPU**
  - Female: "It sucks. It really sucks. It's like I don't have a home. I don't have like any idea what my dad's doing with his wife or like what's going on because he like never tells me.
  - Male: "I know."

Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 1. Descriptive statistics of main study variables</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>.14</td>
<td>.04</td>
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<tr>
<td>Female QMI</td>
<td>14.00</td>
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<td>25.00</td>
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<td>Male Annoyance</td>
<td>.00</td>
<td>25.15</td>
<td>4.39</td>
<td>6.99</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 97% of couple's endorsed feelings of annoyance at least once.
- For females, the overall ratio of FPPU throughout the day was associated with less relationship satisfaction ($r = -.49, p < .05$).

Discussion
- To our knowledge, this study is the first to examine the dynamics of FPPU in couples’ everyday lives during relationship distress and to test how these dynamics are linked to overall relationship functioning.
- In a global context, the use of "I" words may be indicative of poor relationship functioning, as "I" words may reflect a self-centeredness and self-focus.
- However, the use of "I" in a time of conflict can be an adaptive relationship process and may signify better problem solving and communication.
- Results from this study could be used to inform interventions for improving couple functioning and also highlight the importance of examining language use in couples' daily lives.
- Future research could look at the use of other pronouns among dating couples daily lives, such as "we" and "you."

References
Results

Table 1. Descriptive Statistics

<table>
<thead>
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<th>SD</th>
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<td>Male Daily SCL</td>
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<td>32.21</td>
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<td>7.56</td>
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<tr>
<td>Female Anxiety Attachment Score</td>
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<td>6.5</td>
<td>3.11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Female Avoidance Attachment Score</td>
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<td>4.44</td>
<td>2.16</td>
<td>.84</td>
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<tr>
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<td>5.28</td>
<td>2.63</td>
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<tr>
<td>Male Avoidance Attachment Score</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4.11</td>
<td>2.22</td>
<td>0.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCL = Skin Conductance Level</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On average, couples spent 81% of the day together.

• Multilevel models showed that, among females, partner presence was associated with decreased SCL, controlling for physical activity, body temperature, and whether the participants were with other people (b = -.30, p < .05).

• Attachment style moderated the association between partner presence and SCL (b = 3.07, p < .05).

Examples of Individual SCL Levels Over Time

Figure 1. Female SCL while Together/Apart with More Avoidant Male.

Figure 2. Avoidant male partner attachment as a moderator of the association between partner presence and SCL among females.

Discussion

• This study is the first, to our knowledge, to examine the effect of partner presence on physiological arousal in daily life.

• Overall, couples show lower SCL levels when together versus apart. This supports existing findings that close relationships buffer stress.

• In couples where the male is high in avoidant attachment, the female partner does not show a decrease in SCL when in his presence.

• The findings reflect a cross-partner effect: one partner’s attachment style is associated with the other partner’s physiology.

• Results highlight that attachment style may have a significant impact on the physiological experience of being in a relationship.

• Females with avoidant partners may not experience their relationship as stress-buffering. One explanation for why these female partners do not show lower SCL in their partner’s presence is that they may be reacting to certain behaviors in their partner that inhibit communication, such as emotional distancing.

• One limitation of this study is that, although we can identify their activities in daily life, it is not yet clear exactly to what participants are responding physiologically.

• Future research should identify specific behaviors associated with avoidant attachment in daily life, and with partner responses to those behaviors, to determine potential points of intervention.

References


Acknowledgements

• Thank you to all of the lab collaborators and research assistants for their work on this project.

• This material is based on work supported by grants: SCCT (NIH/NCTINIH/NCATS/UL1TR000130), NIH/NICHD R21HD072170-A1 (Margolin, PI), and NSF GRFP DGE-0967342 (Timmons, PI).
### INTRODUCTION

- Allostatic load theory states that chronic adversity over time leads to attenuation or blunting of the body’s stress response systems (McEwen, 1998).
- Attenuation of physiology may be adaptive, as it helps protect youth from the deleterious effects of adversity.
- On the other hand, youth who have been exposed to cumulative adversity but continue to show high physiological reactivity in response to stress may indicate sensitization to stress (Saxbe et al., 2012).
- High physiological reactivity to stress may be associated with higher risk for psychopathology (Pynoos, Steinberg, & Piacentini, 1999).
- In contrast to prior research using retrospective, in-lab measures of adversity and physiology, the present study used a prospective measure of adversity and assessed electrodermal activity (EDA) in daily life.

### METHODS

#### PARTICIPANTS
- 17 target participants (53% female) in a longitudinal, multi-wave research study on the effects of family conflict on parent and child outcomes (Margolin, Vickerman, Oliver, & Gordis, 2010).
- Age: Mean age = 22.29 years (Range 18-25 years)
- Ethnicity/Race: 30% Hispanic/Latino; 35% African American; 29% multi-racial; 24% Caucasian, 11% Asian, 11% Pacific Islander

#### PROCEDURE
- Participants completed 3 – 5 lab visits with their parents and filled out measures of adversity. At the most recent wave (Wave 6), they participated in an at-home study with their dating partner. Couples were outfitted with mobile physiological equipment and asked to fill out hourly surveys on smart phones.

#### MEASURES
- **Psychopathology**: DSM-5 Self-Rated Level 1 Cross-Cutting Symptom Measure (Narrow et al., 2013). 23 items of psychopathology measured in the past 2 weeks (0 = None to 4 = Severe, nearly every day). Example item: “Feeling down, depressed or hopeless”.

### RESULTS

#### Table 1. Categories of Cumulative Adversity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>child physical abuse</td>
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<tr>
<td>child emotional abuse</td>
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<td>child neglect</td>
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<tr>
<td>child sexual abuse</td>
<td>16</td>
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<td>parent-to-parent emotional abuse</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>physical abuse</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>financial hardship</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>feeling unloved</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>parental separation/divorce</td>
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<tr>
<td>parent in prison</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>parent's mental illness</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>social isolation</td>
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#### Table 2. Associations Between Cumulative Adversity and Electrodermal Activity During Times of Stress

<table>
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<th>SE</th>
<th>β/SE</th>
<th>p</th>
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<td>0.612</td>
<td>-1.267</td>
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</tr>
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<td>0.126</td>
<td>-5.689</td>
<td>.000**</td>
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<td>Psychopathology</td>
<td>-0.377</td>
<td>0.435</td>
<td>-0.866</td>
<td>.386</td>
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<td>0.822</td>
<td>0.409</td>
<td>2.008</td>
<td>.045*</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### DISCUSSION

- Results provide evidence for allostatics, by which repeated activation of the body’s stress response systems can lead to persistently elevated or down-regulated systems (e.g., attenuation).
- Attenuated reactivity to stress may protect individuals from the negative consequences associated with cumulative adversity in childhood.
- Physiological reactivity to stress following a history of cumulative adversity may lead to a higher risk of psychopathology in young adulthood.
- Limitations include a small sample size.
- Strengths of the study include prospective data on cumulative adversity and physiology measured in daily life.

### SELECT REFERENCES

Victimization and Perpetration in Couples: Associations between Dating Violence and Electrodermal Activity in Daily Life
Laura Perrone, Adela C. Timmons, Sohyun C. Han, Laura Vitale, and Gayla Margolin
University of Southern California

Introduction

- 32.9% of women and 28.2% of men in the United States have been victims of physical intimate partner violence (National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, 2010).
- Physical intimate partner violence victimization is associated with negative outcomes, including poor health, depressive symptoms, and substance use (Coker et al., 2002).
- Past studies have found that aggressive individuals exhibit different physiological patterns, including higher autonomic reactivity to stressors (Patrick, 2008).
- In romantic couples with low relationship quality, relational aggression has been found to be associated with lower resting sympathetic arousal and, for females, to be marginally associated with higher sympathetic reactivity to stressors (Murray-Close, Holland, & Roisman, 2012).
- The present study examines the associations between romantic partners’ physical dating violence and levels of physiological reactivity in daily life.

Hypotheses

- H01: Individuals who experience high physical dating violence will have lower overall levels of electrodermal activity (EDA).
- H02: Perpetrators of physical dating violence will have higher increases in EDA during periods of irritation with their partners.

Participants

- 34 opposite-sex couples
- 18-40 years old (M = 22.71 years)
- In a relationship for at least 2 months (M = 2.96 years)
- Family income: 8% less than $25,000; 18% $25,000 - $50,000; 23% $50,000 - $100,000; 30% over $100,000; 21% didn’t know
- Ethnicity/Race: 41% Hispanic/Latino; 32% Caucasian, 25% multi-racial, 10% African American, 10% Asian, 13% other, 9% did not report
- All analyses controlled for whether partners were together, whether partners were interacting with each other, body temperature, exercise, activity count, and the number of questionnaires previously completed.

Methods

- Prior to home data collection, participants completed a version of the How Friends Treat Each Other scale (HFTEO, Bennett et al., 2011) adapted for dating partners, including 9 items assessing physical violence.
- Physical dating violence was perpetrated by 62% of females and 47% of males.
- Couples participated in at-home monitoring for 24 hours, spending at least 5 waking hours together and eating at least one meal at home together.
- Couples wore ambulatory biosensors, including Q-sensors to measure EDA.

Results

| Associations between Physical Dating Violence and Electrodermal Activity across the 24 Hours |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| β    | SE   | β/SE  | p     |
| Male Perpetrators | -0.20  | 0.08  | -2.48 | 0.01  |
| Male Victims      | -0.18  | 0.07  | -2.79 | 0.01  |
| Female Perpetrators| -0.11  | 0.08  | -1.42 | 0.16  |
| Female Victims    | -0.11  | 0.08  | -1.40 | 0.16  |

| Associations between Physical Dating Violence and Electrodermal Activity in Males during Periods of Irritation towards One’s Partner |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| β    | SE   | β/SE  | p     |
| Intercept                     | 9.60   | 1.21  | 7.95  | < 0.01|
| Physical Violence            | -4.98  | 2.32  | -2.14 | 0.03  |
| Irritation                    | -0.03  | 0.03  | -1.04 | 0.30  |
| Physical Violence x Irritation| 0.14   | 0.06  | 2.36  | 0.02  |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Males’ Electrodermal Activity during Periods of Irritation with Partners Moderated by Physical Violence Perpetration</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Skin Conductance Level</td>
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<td>Irritation with Partner</td>
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Discussion

- Male perpetrators and victims of dating violence displayed lower overall levels of EDA, suggesting that dating violence may be related to dampened overall levels of physiological arousal in daily life.
- Although male perpetrators of physical dating violence displayed lower overall levels of EDA, they showed greater increases in EDA during periods of irritation with their partners.
- Heightened EDA in moments of irritation may indicate difficulties coping with interpersonal stressors among males who perpetrate physical dating violence.
- Given gender differences in this and previous studies, future work should continue to explore whether processes related physiological reactivity and dating violence differ for males and females.
- Future studies should also examine whether physiological reactivity is a mechanism through which irritation with one’s partner leads to dating violence perpetration.
- Future work should replicate these findings with a larger sample size.
- This study builds on previous work by identifying different patterns of physiological responding in daily life in physically violent dating partners.

Selected References


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