



## The effects of dating violence, substance use and risky sexual behavior among a diverse sample of Illinois youth

Binta Alleyne<sup>a,\*</sup>, Victoria H. Coleman-Cowger<sup>d,4</sup>, Laurel Crown<sup>b,1</sup>, Maya A. Gibbons<sup>c,2</sup>, Linda Nicole Vines<sup>a,3</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Jane Addams College of Social Work (MC 309) University of Illinois at Chicago, 1040 West Harrison Street, Chicago, Illinois 60607-7134, United States

<sup>b</sup>Institute for Health Research and Policy, 1747 West Roosevelt Road, Room 155, Chicago, IL 60608, United States

<sup>c</sup>School of Social Work University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD, United States

<sup>d</sup>Chestnut Health Systems, 448 Wylie Drive, Normal, IL 61701, United states

### A B S T R A C T

#### Keywords:

Dating violence  
Substance use  
Risky sexual behavior  
Adolescents  
Forced sexual  
Intercourse

This study examines the relationship between dating violence, forced sexual intercourse (FSI), and four measures of sexual risk taking (i.e., age at first sex, number of recent (within the last three months) sex partners, alcohol/drug use at last sex, and condom use at last sex) among a sample of 1124 ethnically diverse sexually active adolescents in Illinois. Given conflicting reports regarding the role of gender in dating violence, and the dearth of research examining the role of gender in relations between dating violence, sexual violence, and sexual risk taking, we also examine whether gender moderates the relation between these constructs. The findings indicate significant relationships among dating violence and FSI and age at first sex, number of sexual partners, and condom use across various ethnic groups. Findings also show that when controlling for gender, dating violence and FSI are related to number of sexual partners and age at first intercourse regardless of ethnic group identification.

© 2010 The Association for Professionals in Services for Adolescents. Published by Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

### Introduction

Adolescent dating violence has received increased attention as a significant health concern within U.S. communities. The aim of this study is to examine the relationship between adolescent dating violence, forced sexual intercourse, and sexual risk taking and to also better understand the role of gender and ethnic group identification as it relates to these constructs. Dating violence has been defined as the perpetration or threat of an act of violence by at least one member of an unmarried couple on the other member within the context of a dating courtship (Saltzman, Fanslow, McMahon, & Shelley, 1999; Sugarman & Hotaling, 1989). Among adolescents, dating violence is said to begin around ages 15 or 16. For younger girls, acts of pushing, verbal threats, and hitting may be seen as signs of affection and love. Younger girls who are dating older boys may especially interpret these violent acts as examples of a deeper commitment to the relationship that will result in long-term positive benefits (Wekerle & Wolfe, 1999). The prevalence rates of dating violence among adolescents have ranged from approximately 9–46% with adolescent males and females involved either as victims or perpetrators (Glass et al., 2003).

\* Corresponding author. Tel.: +1 312 996 2433.

E-mail addresses: [balleyne@uic.edu](mailto:balleyne@uic.edu) (B. Alleyne), [lcrown@uic.edu](mailto:lcrown@uic.edu) (L. Crown), [mgibbons@ssw.umaryland.edu](mailto:mgibbons@ssw.umaryland.edu) (M.A. Gibbons), [nvines2@uic.edu](mailto:nvines2@uic.edu) (L.N. Vines).

<sup>1</sup> Tel.: +1 312 413 1889; fax: +1 312 4131036.

<sup>2</sup> Tel.: +1 609 941 5212.

<sup>3</sup> Tel.: +1 314 605 1900.

<sup>4</sup> Tel.: +1 309 451 7797; fax: +1 309 451 7765.

## Background of the problem

In their study of the 1999 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) Howard and Wang (2003) found that one in ten adolescent females reported a history of dating violence. Similarly, several researchers (e.g., Coker, McKeown, Sanderson, & et al, 2000; Raiford, Wingood, & Diclemente, 2007; Silverman, Raj, Mucci, & Hathaway, 2001; Wingood, DiClemente, & McCree, 2001) have found that between eight and fifty-three percent of adolescents report a history of physical abuse by an intimate partner. Raiford et al. (2007) reported that 28% of adolescents reported a history of dating violence at baseline, and of the adolescents who did not report a history of dating violence at baseline, 12% reported experiencing dating violence during the 1-year follow-up period.

However, rates of dating violence among adolescent males and females have been a source of debate with conflicting findings. A number of researchers have reported similar rates of dating violence perpetration by adolescent males and females (Henton, Cate, Koval, Lloyd, & Christopher, 1983; O'Keefe, Brockopp, & Chew, 1986; Symons, Groer, Kepler-Youngblood, & Slater, 1994). On the other hand, other researchers have argued higher rates of perpetration by either girls or boys.

For instance, 228 11th grade students (122 males and 106 females) from two urban public high schools were asked if they were physically aggressive in their dating relationships. In the total sample, nearly one half of the females and less than 20 percent of the males reported engaging in at least one physically aggressive behavior against a dating partner in the context of a disagreement (Lavoie, Robitaille, & Hebert, 2000). Deborah Capaldi of the Oregon Social Learning Center indicated that results of the Oregon Youth Study concludes that "young women were more likely to initiate physical aggression than young men" and "young men were injured as well as young women" and were sometimes afraid of their partners (Capaldi, 2003). On the other hand, Glass et al. (2003) reported that adolescent girls are more likely than boys to be assaulted within their homes or private dwellings indicating that severe physical and sexual victimization in dating relationships is more prevalent among adolescent girls.

To date, the majority of IPV research has been conducted with school-aged, middle class, white females. However, research has shown that a significant portion of African American adolescent females have been exposed to IPV (Foshee, 1996; Raiford, Wingood & DiClemente; 2009; Rickert, Wiemann, Harrykisson, Berenson, & Kolb, 2002). Watson, Cascardi, Avery-Leaf and O'Leary (2001) examined IPV among a group of ethnically and economically diverse urban adolescents and found that 45.5% ( $N = 217$ ) of adolescents reported a history of IPV, with African American adolescents reporting the highest rates of victimization. A gap in the literature is examination of the relationship between adolescent dating violence, forced sexual intercourse, and sexual risk taking and across various ethnic groups.

Researchers have noted that violence in dating relationships can have long-term psychological and physical outcomes. Among adolescents, a history of dating violence has been associated with increased risky sexual behavior, including inconsistent condom use, pregnancy and a high number of sexual partners (Coker, McKeown, Sanderson, et al., 2000; Howard & Wang, 2003; Raiford et al., 2009; Roberts, Auinger, & Klein, 2005; Silverman et al., 2001; Wingood et al., 2001). Raiford et al. (2009) examined the interactive effects of fear of abuse and knowledge of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) on sexual risk behaviors in a sample of young African-American women and reported that under relatively higher levels of fear, young women with high STI knowledge were more likely than were those with low STI knowledge to exhibit inconsistent condom use.

### *Risk factors and behaviors associated with dating violence and forced sexual intercourse*

The research also identifies various risk factors and behaviors associated with dating violence and forced sexual intercourse among male and female adolescents. Among adolescents, for instance, a clustering of risk related behaviors have been identified among those who experience dating violence. Specifically, adolescents who report sad/hopeless or depressed feelings, substance use, poor self-esteem, multiple sex partners, and unprotected sex are also likely to report being a victim of dating violence (Howard, Wang, & Yan, 2007; Howard, Wang, & Yan, 2008; Silverman et al., 2001).

When examined by gender, the literature outlines some important gender differences in psychosocial factors and risk behaviors associated with dating violence. For adolescent females emotional vulnerability and substance use appear to be correlated with reports of dating violence. Specifically, binge drinking, cocaine and inhalant use, increased incidence of depression and increased thoughts of suicide have been correlated with reports of dating violence victimization (Howard & Wang, 2003; Kreiter et al., 1999; Silverman et al., 2001). The profile of females who report dating violence also suggests a relationship to other forms of violence. Namely, girls who have engaged in fighting behaviors are significantly more likely to report dating violence victimization (Howard et al., 2007). More research is needed to further examine the contextual nature of this relationship.

Among adolescent males, those who report physical dating violence also report associations with other forms of violence (Howard et al., 2008). Males who carry guns, reported increased fighting behaviors, and attempted suicide were more likely to also report dating violence victimization (Howard et al., 2008; Kreiter et al., 1999). It is also noted that males who report dating violence victimization also report emotional distress and feelings of sadness and hopelessness (Howard et al., 2008). Further examination of psychosocial correlates of dating violence among adolescent males is needed to better understand the contextual nature of reactive behaviors among adolescent males who experience dating violence.

## Statement of the problem

A history of physical dating violence has also been shown to be related specifically to sexual risk behavior taking among both male and female adolescents. Among adolescent females, sexual risk behaviors related to dating violence include

متن کامل مقاله

دریافت فوری ←

**ISI**Articles

مرجع مقالات تخصصی ایران

- ✓ امکان دانلود نسخه تمام متن مقالات انگلیسی
- ✓ امکان دانلود نسخه ترجمه شده مقالات
- ✓ پذیرش سفارش ترجمه تخصصی
- ✓ امکان جستجو در آرشیو جامعی از صدها موضوع و هزاران مقاله
- ✓ امکان دانلود رایگان ۲ صفحه اول هر مقاله
- ✓ امکان پرداخت اینترنتی با کلیه کارت های عضو شتاب
- ✓ دانلود فوری مقاله پس از پرداخت آنلاین
- ✓ پشتیبانی کامل خرید با بهره مندی از سیستم هوشمند رهگیری سفارشات