Sexual Assault Acknowledgment Among College Women: Situational, Individual, and Social Network Factors and Psychological Adjustment

A thesis presented to

the faculty of

the College of Arts and Sciences of Ohio University

In partial fulfillment

of the requirements for the degree

Master of Science

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June 2011

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This thesis titled
Sexual Assault Acknowledgment Among College Women: Situational, Individual, and
Social Network Factors and Psychological Adjustment

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ABSTRACT

DARDIS, CHRISTINA M., M.S., June 2011, Psychology

Sexual Assault Acknowledgment Among College Women: Situational, Individual, and Social Network Factors and Psychological Adjustment

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Many victims of sexual assault are “unacknowledged,” that is, although they meet definitional criteria for sexual assault, they do not define themselves as victims of sexual assault. The current study examined the relationship between victims’ acknowledgment status and three types of variables: situational, individual, and social network variables. Results suggested that, among women victimized prior to the first study session, acknowledged victims are more likely to know someone who has been sexually assaulted, to have exerted greater physical resistance against their perpetrators at the time of assault, and to have received more positive social reactions to disclosure than unacknowledged victims. Among these assaults, unacknowledged and acknowledged victims did not differ significantly with regard to post-traumatic symptomatology or symptoms of general distress at Time 1 or Time 2. Prospectively, tentative results suggested that women assaulted over the interim were more likely to be acknowledged if they had endorsed prior assault, had disclosed the current assault experience, and had known someone who had been sexually assaulted. These acknowledged victims were more likely to evidence post-traumatic avoidance symptoms.
Approved: ____________________________________________

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would like to thank Dr. Christine Gidycz for not only her superb and careful guidance of this project, but her continued support of my research endeavors. I would also like to thank Dr. Justin Weeks and Dr. Timothy Anderson for serving on my thesis committee and providing invaluable direction and suggestions for this project.
For my parents, Donald and Joanne Dardis, with Love
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LITERATURE REVIEW

In 1985, Mary Koss conducted a seminal study about “hidden rape victims,” finding that although many women endorsed experiences that met legal definitions of rape, 43% of these women did not label the incident “rape.” Since this pioneering work, research on rape acknowledgment has shown quite a large amount of variability in rates of unacknowledgment with ranges of unacknowledgment found to be between 43% (Koss, 1985) to 73% (Layman, Gidycz & Lynn, 1996). Situational variables (e.g., characteristics of the assault), have been mostly widely cited as possible explanations for unacknowledgment, and to a lesser extent, individual variables (e.g., age, personality, prior assault experiences), and social network variables (e.g. social reactions to disclosure) have been studied as well. However, research to date has failed to assess all of these variables concurrently within the same model. Additionally, few studies have found a conclusive answer to what is perhaps the most important question in the rape acknowledgment field: is acknowledgment adaptive or is it psychologically harmful to already victimized individuals? The current study aims to understand these issues utilizing both retrospective and prospective methodologies.

The phenomenon of unacknowledgment has mostly been studied in the context of assault-related factors which may impact a woman’s decision to label her assault “rape.” For example, prior research indicates that unacknowledged victims had closer relationships with the assailants, (Kahn, Jackson, Kully, Badger & Halvorsen, 2003; Koss, 1985; Levine-Maccombe & Koss, 1986), experienced less force or threats of force during the assault (Bondurant, 2001; Fisher, Daigle, Cullen & Turner, 2003; Hammond &
Calhoun, 2007; Layman et al., 1996; Littleton, Axsom, Radecki Breitkopf & Berenson, 2006; Littleton, Axsom & Grills-Taquechel, 2009), sustained lower levels of physical injury, (Bondurant, 2001; Fisher et al., 2003; McMullin & White, 2006), were themselves using substances at the time of the assault (Botta & Pingree, 1997; Hammond & Calhoun, 2007; Layman, et al., 1996; Littleton, et al., 2006; Littleton et al., 2009; Schwartz & Leggett, 1999), had assailants who were using substances at the time of the assault (Kahn et al., 2003; Littleton et al., 2006), and were less clear in their assertions of non-consent to sex (Layman et al., 1996; Kahn et al., 2003). Notable discrepancies in these findings do exist, such that some researchers have failed to find an effect of relationship closeness with the assailant (Bondurant, 2001; Littleton et al., 2006) or overall use of force (Botta & Pingree, 1997; Koss, 1985) on acknowledgment status.

In addition to these situational variables, rape acknowledgement has been found to be related to several individual variables. Some of these variables are characteristics of the victim herself (e.g., age, history of sexual assault), whereas others are individual belief or attitudinal variables (e.g. self-blame, rape myth acceptance), and still others are individual responses to or symptoms resulting from the assault (e.g. disclosure of the event to others, posttraumatic stress symptomatology, depression). Victim characteristics, including older age at the time of assault (Botta & Pingree, 1997; Fisher et al., 2003) and at the time of assessment (Levine-MacCombie & Koss, 1986; Littleton, et al., 2009) have been found to be related to greater rates of rape acknowledgment. Previous studies have additionally found that unacknowledged rape is more likely to have occurred more recently than acknowledged rape (Botta & Pingree, 1997; Hammond & Calhoun, 2007;
Fisher et al., 2003; Littleton et al., 2006, Littleton et al., 2009). It is possible that some unacknowledged victims eventually label their experience as rape after time has passed, and that the studies have captured part of that timeline. One individual variable, a woman’s history of having experienced sexual assault in the past, has shown an inconsistent relationship with acknowledgment. Although Layman et al. (1996) did not find that acknowledged and unacknowledged victims were differentiated by childhood sexual assault experiences, Fisher et al. (2003) found that victims who had a prior forced or threat-of-harm intercourse experience were at increased odds of being acknowledged rape victims. With regard to multiple assault experiences, Littleton et al. (2006) found that acknowledgement was not explained by having experienced multiple victimizations by the same assailant.

Other victim characteristics that have been studied include individual attitudes and beliefs that have been found to impact rape acknowledgment. In our society, many individuals hold beliefs about rape that are untrue and based on false assumptions about the causes and correlates of rape. Such beliefs, called rape myths, are quite prevalent in our society (Edwards, Turchik, Dardis & Gidycz, in press). Historically, over 50% of participants endorse such rape myths as, "A woman who goes to the home or apartment of a man on the first date implies she is willing to have sex" or “In the majority of rapes, the victim was promiscuous or had a bad reputation" (Burt, 1980). Results are mixed with regard to acknowledgment and rape myth acceptance, such that although some research has concluded that unacknowledged victims endorsed higher rates of rape myth acceptance (Bondurant, 2001; Kahn, Mathie & Torgler, 1994), other research has failed
to find an effect of rape myth acceptance on acknowledgment status (Koss, 1985).
Likewise, the relationship between attributions of blame and rape acknowledgment has varied in the literature. Some prior research has found that acknowledged victims engage in less overall self-blame than unacknowledged victims (Botta & Pingree, 1997; Kahn, et al., 2003), whereas other evidence suggests that, although acknowledged victims engaged in more behavioral self-blame (e.g. blaming oneself for actions they did or did not do during the assault), both acknowledged and unacknowledged victims made more blame attributions toward perpetrators of rape than to themselves (Bondurant, 2001).

Further, one's response to the assault experience may impact acknowledgment, such as disclosure of the assault to others, or psychological distress. With regard to disclosure, research suggests that adolescents often turn to friends in order to gain information because they often feel most comfortable talking to peers, and feel that they will be treated more sympathetically (Currie, 1990). Therefore, some researchers have hypothesized that if peers have encountered sexual assault, and if they have discussed these issues, victims may be more likely to acknowledge rape. Prior research indicates that individuals who know an assault victim are more likely to be acknowledged than unacknowledged victims (Botta & Pingree, 1997), but this result was not replicated in other studies (Bondurant, 2001; Fisher et al., 2003). With regard to disclosure of sexual assault, research suggests that acknowledged victims are more likely to disclose the assault to others (Botta & Pingree, 1997; Layman et al., 1996), although directionality is questionable (e.g., did disclosure lead to acknowledgment, or did acknowledgment lead
to disclosure?). Littleton and colleagues (2006) further found that acknowledged victims disclosed to more individuals than unacknowledged victims.

A largely understudied cluster of individual variables within the rape acknowledgment literature are personality variables. Koss’ original 1985 study found no differences between acknowledged and unacknowledged victims with regard to personality variables such as social presence, dominance, and attitudes toward female sexuality. Further, Layman and colleagues (1996) found no differences between acknowledged and unacknowledged victims with regard to defense mechanism use. However, this study had a small sample size, so that further exploration of the roles of defense mechanisms and other personality variables are warranted.

Finally, sexual assault has been long associated with poor psychological outcomes for women (See Jordan, Campbell & Follingstad, 2010, for a review). A question of considerable debate is whether or not acknowledgment is beneficial for victims of rape. One important indicator of the benefit of acknowledgment would be a decrease in symptoms of distress and PTSD. However, some research indicates that acknowledged victims report more PTSD symptoms than unacknowledged victims (Layman et al., 1996; Littleton et al., 2006), as well as increased negative affect, depressive and dissociative symptoms (Kahn et al., 2003). Additionally, even when accounting for assault characteristics such as level of force, acknowledged victims report greater reliance on avoidant coping strategies than unacknowledged victims (Littleton et al., 2006; Layman et al., 1996). However, acknowledging a sexual assault has not been shown to have consistently negative effects on victims. In a longitudinal design, McMullin and White
(2006) found that acknowledged rape victims reported more psychological distress at first assessment, but at the second time point, they did not differ from unacknowledged victims. Likewise, Littleton et al. (2009) found that acknowledged and unacknowledged victims did not differ in levels of general psychological distress, and Littleton and Henderson (2009) found that acknowledgment status did not add to the prediction of PTSD symptoms above and beyond the effects of assault violence. Additionally, acknowledgment could serve as a protective factor against revictimization, as unacknowledged victims were significantly more likely to be victimized over a 6-month follow-up period than acknowledged victims (Littleton & Henderson, 2009). Botta and Pingree (1997) even found that those who acknowledged rape reported that the assault resulted in less emotional interference with work and their social lives, they felt better, and evidenced less alcohol consumption than unacknowledged victims, suggesting that rape acknowledgement could help psychological adjustment following the assault experience.

Many view the victim’s ability to access social support (e.g. disclose assault) as being a critical factor for her recovery (Dunn, Vail-Smith & Knight, 1999; Littleton et al., 2006). However, hearing about rape threatens not only the victim’s, but the confidant’s, belief in the “just world” (i.e., that individuals get what they deserve; Lerner 1980), which may lead confidants to blame the victim for her actions, stigmatize the victim, or attempt to tell her what to do (Ullman, 2000). Prior research has shown that victim blaming responses from confidants leads to unacknowledgment (Pitts & Schwartz, 1993), but other research indicates that many victims do not feel blamed or stigmatized
(Littleton et al., 2006). This could explain why individuals who disclosed are more likely to be acknowledged victims: if a victim discloses and is not blamed or stigmatized for her assault, she may feel more “entitled” to the appropriate legal definition of “rape victim.”

It is clear that studies which have examined correlates of acknowledgment have often found inconsistent results and often studied a limited number of variables. This study seeks to improve upon prior research in this area by studying a wide range of individual, situational, and social network variables over time. One of the largest shortcomings of prior acknowledgment research is that the vast majority of research in this area has been retrospective in nature. A prospective design is critical in order to better understand the temporal order of events, as well as to determine if factors are predictive, or merely consequences, of rape and acknowledgement status. One particularly inconsistent area of the acknowledgment research is whether or not acknowledgment aids or hinders victims’ recovery. Thus, the current study will assess the relationship between acknowledgment and PTSD symptomatology, as well as general distress, utilizing a longitudinal design. Further, the available literature suggests that more recent rape experiences are less likely to be acknowledged (Botta & Pingree, 1997; Fisher et al., 2003; Littleton et al., 2006), and that acknowledged victims are more likely to be older (Botta & Pingree, 1997; Fisher et al., 2003). This lends some support to the idea that perhaps there is a temporal sequence to the recovery from rape, such that it takes time for women to label an assault. By assessing acknowledgment status over time for a victimization that occurred prior to the start of the study, this research will be able to explore possible changes in acknowledgment status over time. Further, by assessing
acknowledgment status for recent victimization experiences, this study will be able to link variables (e.g., past history of victimization) measured prior to this assault to acknowledgment status. Finally, this study will be able to investigate situational and post-assault factors that are measured in close proximity to the assault.

The specific hypotheses are as follows:

Retrospective Hypotheses (regarding sexual assault experiences that occurred from age 14 to the time of the first assessment):

1. Situational variables including greater force or threat of force, greater resistance, less familiar relationship to the offender, less alcohol or drug use, and perceptions of clear communication of non-consent to assault will positively correlate with rape acknowledgment.

2. Individual factors, including a longer period of time since the assault, knowing others who have been sexually assaulted, older age at the time of victimization, older age at the time of the survey, having disclosed the rape to others, lower levels of adherence to societal rape myths, engaging in lower levels of self-blame, use of greater adaptive and fewer maladaptive coping strategies, as well as lower levels of defense mechanism use, will be positively correlated with rape acknowledgment.

3. Social network factors, including having disclosed the rape to a greater number of individuals, disclosing sooner after the assault, experiencing support after disclosure, and positive social reactions to assault (as opposed to negative reactions) will be positively correlated with rape acknowledgment.
Prospective Hypotheses

1. Individuals who were victimized at T1 and who disclosed the rape experience over the interim to confidants who responded more supportively and who evidenced less blame towards the victim will be more likely to be acknowledged victims at T2 than those who either have not disclosed the rape experience, or who have received less supportive reactions to their disclosure.

2. Time one variables including having a history of sexual assault, having friends with a history of sexual assault, lower levels of belief in rape myths, lower levels of defense mechanism use, and lower levels of self-blame will predict acknowledgment at Time 2 for those who endorse sexual assault over the interim period.

3. Positive support to disclosure will moderate the relationship between acknowledgment and PTSD symptoms, such that acknowledged victims at T1 who receive positive support over the interim will report fewer PTSD symptoms at T2, whereas acknowledged victims at T1 who receive negative support between T1 and T2 will report greater PTSD symptoms at T2.

Study Design

The current study will measure the following constructs at Time 1: childhood sexual assault, adolescent/adult sexual assault (from age 14 to Time 1 of the current study), acknowledgment of adolescent/adult sexual assault, assault characteristics, knowledge of others who have been victimized, age at the time of the assault and the study, disclosure of assault, social reactions to disclosure of sexual assault, rape myth
acceptance, general defense mechanism use, use of repression, belief in general victim blame as well as personal self-blame for assault, symptoms of general distress, symptoms of PTSD, and coping strategies.

The current study will assess the following constructs at Time 2: reassessment and recall of adolescent/adult sexual assault which occurred from age 14 to Time 1 of the study, as well as current acknowledgment of that assault, adult sexual assault which has occurred over the 8-week interim period (between Time 1 and Time 2 of the current study), assault characteristics of assaults which have occurred over the 8-week interim, acknowledgment status of assaults which have occurred over the 8-week interim, disclosure of assaults which occurred over the 8-week interim, as well as social reactions to disclosure of the assault which has occurred over the 8-week interim, symptoms of general distress, and symptoms of PTSD.
METHOD

Participants

Participants were 454 undergraduate women at a large Midwestern university. These women were recruited through the psychology research participant pool in introductory psychology courses, and were offered partial course credit for their participation in the study. The majority of participants were White (85.7%), and in their first year of college (72.5%). The mean age was 19.03 (SD = 2.57). Table 1 summarizes the demographics for the sample.

Attrition rates were acceptable during the course of the study, as 73.7% of women (n = 335) returned for the 8-week follow-up. Women who withdrew from the current study over the 8-week interim did not differ significantly from women who participated in terms of history of assault, $\chi^2(1, N = 454) = .66, p > .05$. Further, among women who had a history of sexual assault, women who withdrew from the current study over the 8-week interim did not differ significantly from women who participated with regard to acknowledgment status, $\chi^2(1, N = 112) = .001 p > .05$.

Measures

Reliability data, ranges of scores, and times of administration for all measures are listed in Table 2.

Demographics. Participants were first asked about relevant personal information regarding basic characteristics such as age, ethnicity and race, religious background, and number of previous dating and consensual sexual partners.
History of Sexual Victimization. The Child Sexual Victimization Questionnaire (CSVQ; Finkelhor, 1979) was used to assess a history of childhood sexual victimization. This self-report measure consists of eight behaviorally-specific items to assess childhood sexual victimization experiences, including: unwanted sexual contact, attempted and completed intercourse, as well as a series of follow-up questions including the age of the other person involved and the main reason why the woman participated in the experience in order to determine the victimization status. In order to be categorized as a victim, force or coercion had to have been used or the perpetrator needed to be at least 5 years older than the victim (i.e., age difference between victim and perpetrator, use of force or coercion). Validity of the CSVQ has been demonstrated through 93% agreement with one-to-one interview responses to questions regarding sexual history prior to age 14 (Risin & Koss, 1987). The CSVQ was scored dichotomously (childhood victim or nonvictim).

The Sexual Experiences Survey-Short Form Victimization (SES-SFV; Koss, et al., 2007) was used to assess sexual assault experiences in adolescence (which is defined as experiences that occurred from age 14 to the start of the study) and over the course of the quarter. The SES-SFV is a revised version of the original Sexual Experiences Survey (Koss & Gidycz, 1985). The SES-SFV has four categories of victimization ranging from least to most severe, which include: sexual coercion (e.g., convincing a woman to perform a sexual act by telling lies, threatening to end the relationship), unwanted sexual contact (e.g., rubbing up against a woman’s private areas or forcing her to remove her clothing by doing so when incapacitated, by force or threat of harm), attempted rape (e.g.,
attempting to perform oral, vaginal or anal sex while a woman is incapacitated or by force or threat of harm), and completed rape (e.g., performing oral, vaginal or anal sex while a woman is incapacitated or by force or threat of harm). Women were asked to answer follow-up questions based on the most severe incident that they experienced and only individuals who experienced a completed or attempted rape, or unwanted sexual contact were used in subsequent analyses, as women who reported coercive sexual experiences would not be expected to label their experiences as sexual assault.

Situational and Social Networking Factors. The Sexual Experiences Inventory was used to assess situational and some social networking factors related to the most severe and distressing sexual assault incident endorsed on the SES-SFV. The first 32 items were developed from relevant clinical literature by Koss (1985) and were adapted and used in subsequent research (Layman et al., 1996). These items assess the victim’s relationship with the perpetrator prior to the assault, as well as endorsements of levels of threat of force, force, injury and victim resistance during the assault. A critical item on the survey is the description of the experience as “not victimization,” “serious miscommunication,” “crime other than rape,” “attempted rape” or “rape.” Individuals who answer that they were victims of rape, attempted rape or a “crime other than rape”, who had been victims of attempted or completed rape or forced sexual contact on the SES-SFV, were considered acknowledged victims, whereas those who labeled the incident not victimization or a miscommunication were considered unacknowledged rape victims. Following these 32 items are another six items that assess social networking factors, such as how long after the assault the victim disclosed the assault, to whom,
which sources were most and least helpful, and what made them helpful or not helpful. A scale of resistance was created to measure resistance strategies used.

The Social Reactions Questionnaire (SRQ; Ullman, 2000) was used in the current study to assess the reactions of individuals to whom sexual assault was disclosed. The SRQ was administered at both Time 1 and Time 2. Respondents were asked about how often they received various positive and negative reactions from people whom they told about the assault. The test-retest reliability of the SRQ ranges from .68 to .77 over an 8-week interval, and its construct validity has been supported by factor analyses. Convergent validity has been shown, with expected correlations with other positive and negative social support measures, and its concurrent validity has been supported by correlating the subscales with open-ended answers regarding helpful and unhelpful responses from others (Ullman, 2000). For the purposes of these analyses, total scores were used for both positive (information/aid, emotional support, belief) and negative social reactions (victim blame, taking control, distraction/discourage talking, treat differently and egocentric reactions). Subscales were also used to identify which reactions are most related to acknowledgment.

Self-Blame. The Rape Attribution Questionnaire (RAQ; Frazier, 2003) is a 20-item questionnaire that was administered to women at T1 who reported a history of victimization to assess attributions of blame for prior assaults. The RAQ was also administered at Time 2 in order to assess participants’ attributions of the blame for any assault that occurred over the interim. Subscales on this measure include characterological self-blame, situational self-blame, perpetrator blame, and societal
blame. Frazier (2002) reported reliability data for female victims entering emergency rooms post-assault, and sexual assault survivors identified by a random telephone survey. Subscale alpha coefficients from past research range from .77 to .89, with four-month test-retest reliability coefficients ranging between .68 to .80 (Frazier, 2003).

**Psychological Well-Being and Adjustment.** The Brief Symptom Inventory (BSI; Derogatis & Melisaratos, 1983) was used to assess general distress. The BSI is a 53-item inventory which measures psychological distress that is not trauma-specific. The BSI demonstrated adequate two week test-retest reliability for all nine subscales (ranging from .68 to .91) as well as adequate internal consistency reliabilities (ranging from .71 to .85) in a sample of 719 psychiatric outpatients (Derogatis & Coons, 1993; Kellett, Beail, Newman & Frankish, 2003). Derogatis and Coons (1993) also report that the nine subscales of the BSI demonstrated convergent validity with corresponding MMPI scales. The global severity index, a summed score of the 53-item inventory, was used in the analyses at Time 1 and Time 2.

The Impact of Events Scale-Revised (IES-R; Weiss & Marmar, 1997) is a 22-item scale that assessed symptoms congruent with Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Individuals were asked to respond to items based on their most distressing experience from the SES-SFV. If they did not report such an experience, they were asked to complete the items based on their most stressful experience (and asked to indicate the nature of that experience). The IES has good concurrent validity with other indicators of PTSD and other commonly used measures in trauma research (Borkovec, Castonguay, & Newman, 1997). The IES contains 3 subscales which coincide with the 3 PTSD symptom
clusters: Avoidance (which refers to avoidance of stimuli related to the trauma), Intrusion (re-experiencing of the trauma through intrusive traumatic memories or flashbacks) and Hypervigilance (symptoms of increased arousal). Participants answered this measure at both study sessions, and the three subscales were utilized.

*Rape Myth Acceptance.* Acceptance of rape myths was assessed using the Illinois Rape Myth Acceptance Scale-Short Form (IRMA-SF; Payne, Lonsway & Fitzgerald, 1999). The IRMA-SF is a 20-item questionnaire that assesses the level of acceptance of general rape myths. The IRMA has demonstrated high internal consistency in prior studies (.94), and the researchers have established its convergent validity through significant relationships between both the total and subscale scores and attitudes toward violence and sexist beliefs (Diem, Rabin, Sorenson, & Jacobs, 2002). The IRMA-SF was administered at both Time 1 and Time 2.

*Coping.* The Brief COPE (Carver, 1997) was used to assess coping strategies in the current study, at Time 1 and at Time 2. The Brief COPE has been shown to have adequate internal consistency, averaging above .60 (Carver, 1997) and correlates in expected directions with theoretically-related scales, including self-esteem, trait anxiety, and optimism. Two scales were used for these analyses, adaptive and maladaptive coping, as utilized in previous studies (e.g. Hastings & Brown, 2002).

*Personality Variables.*

*General Defense Mechanism Use.* The Defense Style Questionnaire (DSQ; Andrews, Singh & Bond, 1993) is a 40 item questionnaire used to assess the use of defense mechanisms. It was included at Time 1. The DSQ includes 20 defense
mechanisms, with 2 questions each. However, for the purposes of the current study, only the immature and mature defense styles were used. The DSQ was found to correlate highly with defense styles coded by clinical interviews six to eight years earlier, thus establishing convergent validity (Vaillant, Bond, & Vaillant, 1986). Andrews et al. (1993) reported an average test-retest correlation over a 4-week period of \( r = .66 \) for the 20 scales.

Repression. Because the DSQ does not measure repression, other methods were used to form a repression scale. One method used in previous research involves combining a measure of anxiety with a measure of defensiveness. By using median splits on both measures, four categories of individuals were derived: repressors (low anxiety, high defensiveness), low anxious (low anxiety, low defensiveness), high anxious (high anxiety, low defensiveness), and defensively high anxious (high anxiety, high defensiveness). Many studies use the State-Trait Anxiety Inventory (STAI; Spielberger, Gorsuch, & Lushene, 1970) to assess anxiety, combined with the Marlowe Crowne Social Desirability Scale-Form C (MCSDS; Reynolds, 1982) to create this index of repression. The short version (13 items) of the MCSDS was used to measure participants’ desire for social approval at Time 1 only. Items were answered as being true or false for the respondent, with eight items reverse coded (false items correspond to socially desirable behaviors). Research indicates an internal consistency reliability of .76 and concurrent validity of .93 with the long form of the Marlowe-Crowne Social Desirability Scale (Reynolds, 1982).
The STAI is a 40-item questionnaire with 20 questions each regarding state and trait anxiety. Only the trait anxiety questions were utilized for this study, and they were included at Time 1 only. The manual describes internal consistency of the Trait-anxiety scale ranging from .89 to .91 across male and female samples of working adults, military recruits and high school and college students. Test-retest reliability intervals ranging from over a period of one hour to 104 days have been shown to be adequate (.65 to .86). The STAI has also established convergent validity; high correlations have been found between the Trait-anxiety scale and other measures of trait-anxiety (Spielberger et al., 1970).

Procedure

Participants were recruited from the Research Participant Pool and received course credit for their participation in the Time 1 assessment. In order to avoid selection bias, the description of the study provided to potential participants referred to the study as an examination of Ohio University women. To protect their identity, subjects were identified with only a number.

The format of the two testing sessions was nearly identical. After receiving informed consent, participants were administered a battery of surveys by a female graduate student. These surveys were administered in the Department of Psychology in groups of approximately 10 participants. See Appendix A for the survey.

Although it is very uncommon for women to become distressed while filling out questions about unwanted sexual experiences (Edwards, Kearns, Calhoun & Gidycz, 2009), a list of counseling centers, along with their telephone numbers, was handed out at
the end of each assessment in the debriefing form. Participants were also given the telephone numbers of the faculty supervisor and the principal investigator. Finally, the principal investigator was either on the premises or available by phone during all assessment procedures. After completion of the surveys, which took approximately one hour, participants received a debriefing form and one experimental course credit at the Time 1 assessment. If some women needed over an hour to complete the surveys, they were compensated with appropriate additional credit. All participants were invited back for the Time 2 assessment. The follow-up session took place approximately 2 months after the initial Time 1 assessment (at the end of the quarter) and participants received an additional hour of research credit for their participation. The Time 2 assessment took approximately an hour.
RESULTS

Prevalence of Sexual Victimization and Acknowledgment

Descriptive statistics of continuous and categorical study variables for T1 and T2 are presented in Tables 3 and 4, respectively. Correlations among variables of interest are presented in Table 5. In the current sample, 31.3% \( (N = 142) \) of women were sexually assaulted from the age of 14 to T1 of the current study. Among these women, 14.8% \( (n = 67) \) endorsed an experience consistent with rape, 12.8% \( (n = 58) \) attempted rape, 18.9% \( (n = 86) \) unwanted sexual contact, and 13.9% \( (n = 63) \) coercion (these numbers do not add to 31.3% because some women endorsed multiple victimization). For the purposes of the current study, only those women who had experienced a rape, attempted rape, or unwanted sexual contact were included in the final analyses. Further, 5 women failed to complete the acknowledgment question, leading to a final sample of 112 women. These women were asked to answer subsequent survey questions according to the most severe victimization incident that occurred. Using this criteria, 21.4% \( (n = 24) \) of these women reported unwanted sexual contact as their most severe experience, 22.3% \( (n = 25) \) reported attempted rape and 56.3% \( (n = 63) \) reported rape as their most severe experience. Among these women, 36.6% \( (n = 41) \) were acknowledged victims, and 63.4% \( (n = 71) \) were unacknowledged victims.

At the 8-week follow-up session, 8.4% of the total sample \( (n = 28) \) endorsed a sexual assault over the interim period. Among these women, 1.8% \( (n = 6) \) of the total sample experienced rape, 1.5% \( (n = 5) \) attempted rape, 5.4% \( (n = 18) \) unwanted sexual contact, and 1.5% \( (n = 5) \) coercion. However, as in the retrospective analyses, only
women who had experienced a rape, attempted rape, or unwanted sexual contact were included in the final analyses. Further, 1 woman did not answer the acknowledgment question at T2, leading to a final sample of 23 women who were victimized over the follow-up period. Consistent with T1 procedures, women were asked to answer the subsequent survey questions utilizing the most severe sexual assault. Among these women victimized over the interim, 60.9% \((n = 14)\) reported that their most severe sexual assault was unwanted sexual contact, 13.0% \((n = 3)\) reported that their most severe sexual assault was an attempted rape and 26.1% \((n = 6)\) reported that their most severe sexual assault was a completed rape. Among women victimized over the interim, 26.1% \((n = 6)\) were acknowledged victims, and 73.9% \((n = 17)\) were unacknowledged victims. Among the acknowledged victims, there were 2 rape victims, 2 attempted rape victims and 2 unwanted contact victims.

**Retrospective Hypotheses**

*Hypothesis 1.* Hypothesis 1, which stated that situational variables including greater force or threat of force, greater resistance, higher levels of physical injury sustained, less familiar relationship to the offender, less substance use, and clear communication of non-consent to assault would be positively related to rape acknowledgment, was tested using chi-square analyses, as well as a logistic regression. All hypothesis 1 analyses were adjusted by using a Bonferroni correction (.05/9 predictors = .0056). How clear the individual felt she made her non-consent was significantly related to acknowledgement, \(\chi^2(1, N = 102) = 15.41\ p < .006\), such that individuals who felt they made it very clear that they did not want sex were more likely
to be acknowledged victims than individuals who did not feel as confident in their nonconsent. The perpetrator’s substance use at the time of assault was significantly related to acknowledgement, $\chi^2(1, N = 110) = 12.66, p < .006$, such that individuals whose perpetrators used substances were more likely to be unacknowledged victims than individuals whose perpetrators did not use substances. Further, victims who used substances at the time of the assault were significantly more likely to be unacknowledged victims than victims who did not use substances at the time of the assault, $\chi^2(1, N = 109) = 12.98, p < .006$. With regard to force, threat of force, and injury, the perpetrator’s threat of force was not significantly related to acknowledgment, $\chi^2(1, N = 109) = 6.82, p > .006$, but having experienced force from the perpetrator (e.g., either twisting her arm, holding her down, or using restraint) was significantly related to acknowledgment, $\chi^2(1, N = 110) = 23.84, p < .006$. This relationship was such that individuals who had been physically forced to engage in the assault were significantly more likely to acknowledge assault than individuals who were not physically forced to engage in the assault. Finally, although small cell sizes precluded analysis, all 7 women who endorsed injury (e.g., being beaten, choked or otherwise injured) acknowledged assault. Relationship to the offender was categorized as either non-romantic acquaintance, casual/first date, or steady dating partner (due to the small cell sizes for both the stranger and relative categories). Relationship to the offender was not significantly related to acknowledgement, $\chi^2(2, N = 96) = .62, p > .006$. Finally, acknowledged victims were not found to use more nonverbal resistance, $\chi^2(1, N = 112) = 7.34, p > .006$, or verbal resistance, $\chi^2(1, N = 112) = 6.68, p > .006$, than unacknowledged victims, but acknowledged victims were more likely to
have used physical resistance, $\chi^2(1, N = 112) = 19.92, p < .002$, than unacknowledged victims.

Significant T1 variables related to acknowledgment were included in a logistic regression to predict acknowledgment at T1. These variables included the extent to which one believed she consented, perpetrator and victim’s substance use, physical resistance used by the victim, and force used by the perpetrator. The full model containing all predictors was statistically significant, $\chi^2(5, N = 112) = 47.47, p < .001$, indicating that the model was able to distinguish between respondents who acknowledged rape and those who did not. The model as a whole explained between 38.7% (Cox & Snell R square) and 53.0% (Nagelkerke R square) of the variance in acknowledgment status, and correctly classified 76.3% of all cases. As shown in Table 6, four of the independent variables made a unique statistically significant contribution to the model: physical resistance, clarity of nonconsent, force used during the assault, and perpetrators’ substance use at the time of the assault. The strongest predictor of acknowledgement was the perpetrator’s substance use at the time of the assault, with an odds ratio $0.096$, the inverse of which suggests that women whose perpetrators used substances at the time of the assault were over 10 times more likely to label the assault “rape.” Physical resistance was also a strong predictor of acknowledgment, (OR = 7.72), suggesting that respondents who physically resisted the assault were over 7 times more likely to acknowledge the assault than those with did not physically resist, controlling for all other factors in the model. Further, clarity of nonconsent recorded an odds ratio of 4.59, indicating that respondents who felt they had made their nonconsent to sex very clear were 4½ times more likely to
acknowledge assault than women who were not certain they had been clear about their nonconsent to sex. Further, having experienced force demonstrated an odds ratio of 4.08, indicating that women who experienced force during their assaults were 4 times more likely to acknowledge the assault than women who did not experience force during the assault.

_Hypothesis 2._ Hypothesis 2, that individual factors, including having disclosed the rape to others, having friends who had been sexually assaulted, a longer period of time since the assault, older age, lower levels of adherence to societal rape myths, engaging in lower levels of self-blame, greater use of adaptive and lesser use of maladaptive coping strategies, history of childhood victimization, as well as lower levels of defense mechanism use, would be positively correlated with rape acknowledgment, was tested using chi-square analyses, _t_-tests, and a logistic regression. All hypothesis 1 analyses were adjusted by using a Bonferroni correction (.05/15 predictors = .0033). Having friends who had been sexually assaulted was significantly related to the acknowledgment of rape, \( \chi^2(1, N = 112) = 8.98 \ p < .003 \). Further, acknowledged victims were significantly more likely to evidence rapist blame than unacknowledged victims, \( t(99) = -5.37, \ p < .003 \). However, many individual variables were not correlated with acknowledgment. Women who acknowledged rape did not differ significantly from women who did not acknowledge rape with regard to time since the assault, \( t(109) = -.99, \ p > .003 \), nor were they older at the time of assault, \( t(109) = -2.35, \ p > .003 \), or at the time of the current study \( t(110) = -2.56, \ p > .003 \). Women who acknowledged rape did not significantly differ from women who did not acknowledge rape with regard to rape myth
adherence, $t(107) = .966, p > .003$, having experienced childhood sexual victimization, $\chi^2(1, N = 110) = 5.69, p > .003$, behavioral self-blame, $t(98) = 1.43, p > .003$, or characterological self-blame, $t(98) = -.726, p > .003$. Women who acknowledged assault also did not differ from women who did not acknowledge assault with regard to adaptive coping strategies, $t(104) = -1.38, p > .003$, or maladaptive coping strategies employed, $t(104) = -1.90, p > .003$ or with regard to immature defense mechanism use, $t(109) = -1.32, p > .003$, mature defense mechanism use, $t(110) = -.147, p > .003$, or repression, $\chi^2(1, N = 111) = .527, p > .003$. Finally, having disclosed the assault to others was not significantly related to acknowledgment status, (Fisher’s Exact Test, $p > .05$). In fact, 90.2% of women ($N = 101$) had disclosed the assault to someone, leaving only 11 individuals who did not disclose. Of these 11 women, 2 were acknowledged victims, and 9 were unacknowledged victims.

Significant individual variables above were entered into a logistic regression to predict acknowledgment at T1. The full model containing the predictors of knowing someone who had been sexually assaulted and rapist blame was statistically significant, $\chi^2(2, N = 112) = 30.56, p < .001$, indicating that the model was able to distinguish between respondents who acknowledged rape and those who did not. The model as a whole explained between 26.1% (Cox & Snell R square) and 35.6% (Nagelkerke R square) of the variance in acknowledgment status, and correctly classified 75.2% of all cases. As shown in Table 7, both of the independent variables made a unique statistically significant contribution to the model (knowing someone who was sexually assaulted and rapist blame). The strongest predictor of acknowledgement was knowing someone who
had been raped, recording an odds ratio of 3.70. This indicated that respondents who knew someone who had been sexually assaulted were almost 4 times more likely to acknowledge the assault than those with did not know others who had been sexually assaulted, controlling for all other factors in the model. Further, increases in rapist blame were associated with a greater likelihood of acknowledgment.

**Hypothesis 3.** Hypothesis 3, that disclosing to more people, sooner after the assault, with greater perceived supportiveness and more positive and fewer negative social reactions to the disclosure would be related to greater rape acknowledgment were tested by performing t-tests and chi-square tests. Only women who disclosed the assault were included in these analyses (n = 101). Hypothesis 3 analyses were adjusted for family-wise error using a Bonferroni correction (.05/5 predictors = .01).

With regard to the number of individuals to whom victims disclosed, individuals who disclosed to more than one confidant were not more likely to be acknowledged victims than individuals who disclosed to only one confidant, \( \chi^2(1, N = 101) = .258, p > .005 \). Individuals who disclosed assault immediately (e.g. within the first few weeks post-assault) did not significantly differ from individuals who first disclosed months or years later with regard to acknowledgment, \( \chi^2(1, N = 97) = 4.28, p > .005 \). With regard to social support, individuals who acknowledged rape were not significantly more likely to perceive peers as supportive, \( t(98) = -.69, p > .005 \), than were unacknowledged victims. Further, acknowledged victims and unacknowledged victims did not differ in the amount of negative social reactions received from confidants \( t (92) = -.13, p > .005 \). However, acknowledged victims did receive significantly more positive social reactions than
unacknowledged victims, $t(93) = -3.74, p < .005$. Because only one social network variable significantly differed between acknowledged and unacknowledged victims, a regression analysis was not performed for this hypothesis.

*The Prediction of Time 1 Acknowledgment Status from Significant T1 Situational, Individual, and Social Network Predictors.* As a post hoc test, a model containing all significant T1 individual, situational and social network predictors of acknowledgment were examined in a logistic regression. This regression was significant, $\chi^2 (7, N = 112) = 58.76, p < .001$, indicating that the model was able to distinguish between respondents who acknowledged sexual assault and those who did not. The model as a whole explained between 49.9% (Cox & Snell R square) and 68.3% (Nagelkerke R square) of the variance in acknowledgment status, and correctly classified 87.1% of all cases. As shown in Table 8, significant predictors of acknowledgment in the presence of the other predictors were positive social reactions to disclosure, knowing someone who had been sexually assaulted, and physical resistance at the time of assault. The strongest predictor of acknowledgement was having used physical resistance at the time of assault, recording an odds ratio of 6.08. Further, knowing someone who had been sexually assaulted recorded an odds ratio of 5.35. Finally, higher average positive social reactions resulted in a greater likelihood to acknowledge the assault (OR = 1.12).

**Prospective Hypotheses**

*Hypothesis 4.* The prospective hypothesis that victims who disclosed the rape that was assessed at T1 to supportive others over the interim would be more likely to remain acknowledged victims or (if they were unacknowledged at T1) to acknowledge their
victimization as such at T2 was unsupported. There was quite a bit of stability in acknowledgment status over the 8-week interim. Further, of the 11 women who had not disclosed the assault at T1, none of these women disclosed the assault experience over the 8-week interim. Of the women who were assaulted who provided an acknowledgment status at both time points about their victimization that was assessed at T1 (N = 55), 32 of these women (58.2%) were unacknowledged victims both at T1 and T2, and 18 women (32.7%) were acknowledged victims at both times. Thus, 50 of the 55 women (90.9%) did not change with regard to acknowledgment status over the 8-week interim. Of the 5 remaining women, 1 woman who did not previously acknowledge her assault at T1 did so at T2, and 4 women who had previously acknowledged their assaults at T1 did not acknowledge at T2. Due to the stability of acknowledgment status, a statistical test was not performed to compare the women whose acknowledgment status changed to those women whose acknowledgment status did not change.

**Hypothesis 5.** The prospective hypothesis that variables such as having a history of T1 sexual assault, having friends with a history of sexual assault, having disclosed the assault, evidencing lower rape myth acceptance and lower defense mechanism use, and having lower levels of self-blame would predict acknowledgment at T2 for those sexually assaulted over the 8-week interim was tested, when possible, using t-tests. Descriptive information is also provided.

Of the 23 women who were assaulted over the 8-week interim and who answered the acknowledgment question, 16 (69.6%) had been victimized prior to this most recent assault, and 7 (30.4%) had not been victimized in the past. Only 6 women acknowledged
sexual assault over the 8-week interim, and all of these women had been prior sexual 
assault victims. Thus, all 7 women who experienced their first sexual assault in the past 8 
weeks were unacknowledged victims. Further, among the 23 women who were assaulted 
over the 8-week interim, 19 women (82.6%) knew someone who had been sexually 
assaulted, and 4 (17.4%) did not know someone who had been sexually assaulted. All 6 
women who acknowledged the assault that occurred within the past 8 weeks knew 
someone who had been sexually assaulted. All 4 women who had never known someone 
who had been sexually assaulted were unacknowledged victims at T2. With regard to 
disclosure of the most recent assault, 21 of the 23 women disclosed the assault (which 
occurred within the past 8 weeks) to someone. All 6 acknowledged victims had disclosed 
the assault. The 2 women who had not disclosed were both unacknowledged victims. 
Women who acknowledged the assault which occurred over the 8-week interim did not 
endorse significantly higher T1 rape myth acceptance than women who did not 
acknowledge the assault which occurred over the interim, $t(21) = -1.68, p > .01$. Women 
who acknowledged the interim assault did not differ from women who did not 
acknowledge the assault with regard to T1 endorsement of levels of general belief in 
victim behavioral self blame, $t(21) = -.89, p > .01$, general belief in victim 
characterological self blame, $t(21) = -.89, p > .01$, or general belief in T1 rapist blame, 
$t(21) = 1.57, p > .01$. Finally, women who acknowledged the assault which occurred over 
the interim did not differ from women who did not acknowledge the assault with regard 
to mature defense mechanism use, $t(21) = .16, p > .01$, or immature defense mechanism 
use, $t(21) = -.78, p > .01$. 
Hypothesis 6. Hypothesis 6, that acknowledgment would be related to PTSD symptoms, was unsupported for assaults that occurred prior to the study session at T1, but supported for assaults which occurred over the interim. Results were adjusted with a Bonferroni correction (.05/20 predictors = .003). Among assaults which occurred prior to the beginning of the study, acknowledgment at T1 was unrelated to T1 Avoidance, \( t(106) = -1.31, p > .003 \), T1 Intrusion, \( t(106) = -1.72, p > .003 \), and T1 Hypervigilance, \( t(106) = -1.86, p > .003 \). Further, among assaults which occurred prior to the beginning of the study, acknowledgment at T1 was unrelated to T2 Avoidance, \( t(75) = -2.11, p > .003 \), T2 Intrusion, \( t(74) = -.23, p > .003 \), or T2 Hypervigilance, \( t(75) = -1.18, p > .003 \). Further, women who were sexually victimized prior to T1 (independent of acknowledgment status) did not differ from nonvictims with regard to T1 symptoms of PTSD Avoidance, \( t(444) = -2.46, p > .003 \), T1 symptoms of PTSD Intrusion, \( t(444) = 2.89, p > .003 \), or T1 symptoms of PTSD Hypervigilance, \( t(444) = .54, p > .003 \). Women who were sexually victimized prior to T1 (independent of acknowledgment status) also did not differ from nonvictims with regard to T2 symptoms of PTSD Avoidance, \( t(325) = -1.49, p > .003 \) T2 symptoms of PTSD Intrusion, \( t(325) = -1.49, p > .003 \), or T2 symptoms of PTSD Hypervigilance, \( t(326) = -1.49, p > .003 \). The hypothesis that reactions to disclosure would moderate the relationship between acknowledgment and PTSD symptoms was therefore untested, as there was no significant bivariate relationship between acknowledgment status among assaults which occurred prior to the beginning of the study and PTSD symptomatology.
With regard to symptoms of general distress, among women victimized prior to the start of the study, unacknowledged and acknowledged victims also did not differ with regard to general distress at T1, \( t(107) = -0.42, p > .003 \), or at T2, \( t(75) = -2.31, p > .003 \). However, women who were sexually victimized prior to T1 (independent of acknowledgment status) did differ from nonvictims with regard to general distress at T1, \( t(448) = -4.24, p < .003 \), and at T2, \( t(327) = -4.26, p < .003 \), such that victims of sexual assault reported significantly more general distress at T1 and at T2 than nonvictims. The hypothesis that reactions to disclosure would moderate the relationship between acknowledgment and psychological distress was therefore untested, as there was no significant bivariate relationship between acknowledgment status among assaults which occurred prior to the beginning of the study and symptoms of general distress.

The hypothesis that acknowledged and unacknowledged victims would differ in symptoms of PTSD and general distress was also tested among women who were victimized over the interim (\( n = 23 \)). Among these women who were all victimized within the past 8 weeks, acknowledged victims reported greater PTSD symptoms of Avoidance, \( t(18) = -4.16, p < .003 \), but did not differ from unacknowledged victims with regard to PTSD symptoms of Intrusion, \( t(17) = -2.71, p > .003 \), or Hypervigilance \( t(18) = -2.71, p > .003 \). Acknowledged victims and unacknowledged victims did not differ with regard to symptoms of general distress \( t(21) = -.68, p > .005 \).
DISCUSSION

The purpose of the current study was to examine correlates and predictors of college women’s sexual assault acknowledgment. At the bivariate level, many variables were related to women’s acknowledgment of assault. Significant bivariate results were entered separately into regression equations containing either situational, individual, or social network variables. Significant situational variables found to be related to acknowledgment (as opposed to unacknowledgment) included, (1) having physically resisted one’s perpetrator during the assault, (2) perceptions that one demonstrated clear non-consent to sex, (3) use of force by the perpetrator, and (4) perpetrator substance use at the time of the assault. Further, two individual variables were significantly related to acknowledgment, (1) knowing someone who had been sexually assaulted, and (2) higher levels of blame attributed to the perpetrator of the assault. Finally, among the social network variables, receiving positive social reactions to disclosure was significantly related to a woman acknowledging sexual assault. When these significant cluster-level variables were entered into a final model, the strongest correlates of a woman’s sexual assault acknowledgment, in the presence of other variables, included (1) having physically resisted one’s perpetrator during the assault, (2) knowing someone who was sexually assaulted, and (3) receiving positive social reactions to disclosure of sexual assault.

Further, results from prospective analyses suggested that acknowledgment status is stable over small time increments. Further, although acknowledged and unacknowledged victims assaulted do not appear to differ with regard to PTSD
symptomatology retrospectively or prospectively when the assault occurred months or years prior to the study, women assaulted recently (within the past 8 weeks) who acknowledge assault are more likely to evidence post-traumatic symptoms of avoidance (but not hypervigilance or intrusion) than women who do not acknowledge assault. Although the sample size was too small to do detailed analyses, descriptive analyses of acknowledgment status among women assaulted within the past 8 weeks suggest that acknowledgment appears to be more common among women who: (1) have been assaulted in the past, (2) know someone who has been assaulted, and (3) have disclosed the most recent assault.

Overall, rates of unacknowledgment in this sample (63.4%) were similar to those found in other studies (Bondurant, 2001; Littleton et al., 2006). In addition to demonstrating the overwhelming number of women who do not label their assault as “rape” or even “a crime,” results of the current study found that situational characteristics of the assault play an important role in the labeling of that act. Similar to the limited available research (Koss, 1985; Layman et al., 1996), the current study failed to find an effect of personality characteristics on acknowledgment status. Perhaps personality factors are less influential than assault characteristics, which are strongly related to acknowledgment status. Similar to other studies, such assault characteristics, including force used during the assault, perpetrator substance use, clarity of nonconsent, and the use of physical resistance strategies predicted victims’ acknowledgment (Fisher et al., 2003; Littleton et al., 2006), when situational characteristics of the assault alone were included in the model. However, results of the current study clearly implicate not only situational
variables (which have been frequently studied in the past), but both individual and social network variables as predictors of acknowledgment when included together in a model. Bondurant (2001) included these three clusters of variables, but her study did not find a relationship between acknowledgment status and social network variables. In contrast, in the current study, the final retrospective regression evidenced significant contributions from each of the three classes of variables entered, even in the presence of other variables. However, whereas Bondurant assessed a limited set of variables (e.g. social variables were limited to a measure of friends’ sexual aggression, individual variables were limited to self-blame, rape myths and traditional rape attitudes), the current study assessed a wider range of individual and social factors, including knowing others who have been assaulted as well as disclosure and social reactions to the disclosure of sexual assault, variables which were found to be related to acknowledgment status in the present study.

The current study further sought to include factors related to the disclosure of the sexual assault in light of the finding that negative reactions to disclosure are positively correlated with PTSD symptomatology, self-blame, and avoidance coping (Ullman, 2008). Although prior research has indicated a relationship between disclosure and acknowledgment (Littleton et al., 2006), an effect of disclosure itself on acknowledgment status was not evident in the current study, as all but 11 women endorsed having disclosed the assault to someone. However, results of the current study do implicate the reactions to disclosure as important correlates of acknowledgment. Similar to Littleton and colleagues (2006), acknowledged and unacknowledged victims
did not differ in the receipt of negative social reactions. Instead, results of the current study indicated that positive social reactions to disclosure were predictive of acknowledgment status: women who disclosed the assault and received positive social reactions were more likely to acknowledge the assault than women who did not receive as many positive social reactions. Specifically, in the current study, acknowledged victims received more responses including information and aid for the victim than unacknowledged victims, reported receiving greater emotional support than unacknowledged victims, and endorsed that their chosen confidants believed their accounts of the assault more frequently than did unacknowledged victims.

Further, whereas prior research has found a relationship between coping strategies and acknowledgment status (Littleton et al., 2006), the current study failed to demonstrate such an effect. Notably, the current study utilized a measure of adaptive or maladaptive coping, whereas Littleton and colleagues (2006) utilized measures of engagement and disengagement coping. Similar to McMullin and White (2006), the current study also failed to demonstrate a prospective effect of acknowledgment status on PTSD symptomatology among assaults which occurred prior to the first study session. In the current study, victims and nonvictims did not differ in the expression of PTSD symptoms. Notably, if women had not endorsed sexual victimization, they were asked to respond to the questions about PTSD symptomatology with reference to their “most stressful experience.” Thus, it is possible that other experiences women have had are equally stressful to such women as a sexual assault. Although victims and nonvictims did not differ with regard to PTSD symptomatology, they did differ with regard to symptoms
of general psychological distress (as found by McMullin & White, 2006). However, acknowledged and unacknowledged victims did not differ in the amount of general psychological distress. Thus, although women who have been sexually assaulted may generally evidence greater psychological distress than women who have not been sexually assaulted, acknowledgment status appears to be unrelated to distress and PTSD symptomatology if the assault occurred months or years earlier. This finding is consistent with research using path models by Harned (2004), in which she found that the best fitting model indicated that labeling was irrelevant to the determination of negative psychological and school-related outcomes. Rather, the experience of the sexual assault itself was most related with psychological and school-related distress. However, among women assaulted over the 8-week interim, tentative results suggest that acknowledged victims may be more likely than unacknowledged victims to experience greater PTSD symptomatology, specifically, symptoms of avoidance (e.g., trying not to think about the trauma, avoiding reminders of the trauma). Though these prospective results are extremely tentative due to small sample size, this suggests that recency of assault may play a role in the development of early PTSD symptomatology among acknowledged victims. Further, acknowledged and unacknowledged victims did not differ with regard to symptoms of hypervigilance (e.g., exaggerated startle response, feeling watchful or on-guard) or intrusive symptoms, (e.g., nightmares, flashbacks, frequent intrusive thoughts). Thus, although acknowledged victims may evidence avoidance symptoms soon after assault, it may be the case that with the passage of time, acknowledged victims receive necessary supports and no longer differ from unacknowledged victims with regard to
PTSD avoidance. Additionally, although the current study did not find an overall relationship between acknowledged and unacknowledged victims with regard to PTSD and symptoms of general distress, it is also possible that other factors not included in the current study could be related to acknowledgment status. One such factor, revictimization, has been found in one study to be related to unacknowledgment (Littleton et al., 2009), which bears replication and exploration in further research. Additionally, the current study utilized a global measure of general distress, as well as a global measure of PTSD. Future research should attempt to use more specific and refined measurement of such variables to explore differences in acknowledged and unacknowledged victims at the symptom level (which may be obscured by global measures).

Prospectively, the finding that acknowledgment status remains stable over time is an interesting finding and one that has not previously been explored. It appears that women’s early perceptions about the assault are formative in their conceptualization and remain stable, at least over brief periods of time. Although tentative due to small cell sizes, the preliminary finding that all women who acknowledged an assault that occurred in the past 8 weeks did so in the context of having been victimized in the past, knowing someone who has been assaulted, and who have already disclosed could be important to our understanding of acknowledgment. Overall, the tentative prospective findings would suggest that it is possible that social network variables are related to acknowledgment, and that disclosure could be an important process in acknowledging assault for these women. Although severity of rape has been proposed as an important covariate of
acknowledgment (Littleton et al., 2006), attempted and completed rape victims were represented fairly equally in both the acknowledged and unacknowledged groups: of the 6 acknowledged victims, 4 were victims of either an attempted or completed rape, and of the 17 unacknowledged victims, 5 were victims of either an attempted or completed rape. Future research should examine the temporal sequence of these events with larger samples. Additionally, because knowing someone who has been assaulted appears to be influential in the acknowledgment process, future research should attempt to understand the nature of the label the friend applies to the victim’s experience, as well as whether a closer match between one’s own assault and her friends’ assault leads to a greater likelihood to acknowledge than a mismatch of these variables.

Limitations of the current study include a homogeneous sample, and a limited sample size in the prospective analyses. Further, the current study’s 8-week interim period may have been too short to detect noticeable or reliable change with regard to acknowledgment status or PTSD symptomatology. Despite this short follow-up period, the lack of significant relationship between acknowledgment status and PTSD symptomatology among women who were not recently victimized were similar to those obtained over a 10-month follow-up period (McMullin & White, 2006). Further, the relationship between acknowledgment and social network variables is unclear: do positive social reactions lead to acknowledgment or does acknowledgment cause the victim to speak of her assault in a way that elicits more positive social reactions? Future research should investigate the labeling process over time, perhaps in the form of a diary study or multiwave longitudinal study to better understand the temporal sequence of the
acknowledgment process and its relationship to disclosure and social reactions. Future research should also attempt to include a qualitative design that can better explain women’s labeling of assault without using forced-choice methods to gain a better understanding of the mechanisms underlying labeling in women’s own words.

There are many implications of the current study for clinical practice and social outreach. First, acknowledgment appears to be a stable phenomenon. That is, once an individual acknowledges or fails to acknowledge sexual assault, she is unlikely to shift this status, at least over the short-term. In many cases, this is likely due to the fact that individual and situational factors already in place are significant correlates of the acknowledgment process. Some of these factors, such as use of force by the perpetrator and physical resistance by the victim, low levels of rapist blame and alcohol use by the perpetrator, may point to the difficulty that women have in acknowledging acquaintance and date rape situations (in which force and resistance are less likely to be employed). Such results reaffirm the need for outreach programs on college campuses which clearly indicate the unacceptable nature of assault. These programs should include discussions that center around the prototypical types of assaults on college campuses, emphasizing that although extreme physical force is often not used in acquaintance rape situations, these incidents do qualify as “rape,” and the perpetrator is always to blame for the assault. Further, discussions surrounding the use of alcohol and its relation to sexual assault should also be conducted. Although existing programs have addressed these issues, somehow the message appears to remain unclear. Perhaps part of the issue stems from the fact that it appears that early responses to assault could have an important
impact, and that most of the women assaulted in this sample experienced such assaults prior to entering college (and likely prior to acquaintance rape programming). Thus, programming must occur at the middle and high school levels to reach young girls and women prior to their first assault. However, results from this study confirm that positive social reactions to disclosure, in the form of believing the victim, providing emotional support, and providing information and aid are significantly related to acknowledgment of assault. Thus, intervening at the level of the confidant is vitally important. Because friends are the most likely confidants of sexual assault disclosure (Ullman, 1996), it is important to enact campus outreach programs to educate individuals about how to respond to disclosures of assault in a helpful way, and to ensure that they have information about local resources to aid victims in recovery. Again, such programs and efforts should be concentrated in middle or high school prior to such experiences and disclosures. Clinicians should also make attempts to provide emotional support, information and aid, and endorse their belief in the victim’s account whenever possible. Though we cannot prevent all instances of sexual assault in society, we can empower women by providing encouraging responses to their disclosures. By better understanding the victim’s label for her assault, as well as her feelings about the assault, we can provide more helpful responses as clinicians or as friends.
Table 1  
**Demographic Variables**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Continuous Variables</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>19.03</td>
<td>2.57</td>
<td>18–50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Categorical Variables</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Frequency ((n))</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade</td>
<td>Freshman</td>
<td>327</td>
<td>72.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sophomore</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>17.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race</td>
<td>White/Caucasian</td>
<td>389</td>
<td>85.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Black/African</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>American Asian</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>American Indian/Alaska Native</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hawaiian/Pacific Islander</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Multiracial</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table 2

*Constructs Assessed, Time Frame of Assessment, and Current Study Reliabilities.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Construct</th>
<th>Measurement</th>
<th>Range of score</th>
<th>Administration</th>
<th>Reliability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Force</td>
<td>2 Questions: 1) Did the man twist your arm, hold you down, or use some kind of physical restraint to make you cooperate?</td>
<td>N/A, No, Yes</td>
<td>Time 1 and Time 2</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Threat of Force</td>
<td>Did the man threaten physical force to make you cooperate?</td>
<td>N/A, No, Yes</td>
<td>Time 1 and Time 2</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resistance</td>
<td>1) How much did you resist? And 2) Did you do any of the following to resist his advances (each its own question): Turn cold? Reason, plead or tell him to stop? Cry or sob? Scream for help? Run away? Physically struggle, push him away, hit or scratch?</td>
<td>1) N/A, Not at all or a little, somewhat, quite a bit, very much</td>
<td>Time 1 and Time 2</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Injury</td>
<td>Did the man choke, beat, or otherwise injure you to make you cooperate?</td>
<td>N/A, No, Yes</td>
<td>Time 1 and Time 2</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relationship to Offender</td>
<td>What was your relationship at the time?</td>
<td>N/A, Stranger, Non-romantic acquaintance, casual/first date or romantic acquaintance, boyfriend or spouse, relative</td>
<td>Time 1 and Time 2</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>-----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol/Drug Use</td>
<td>1) Was the man/men using any intoxicants on this occasion</td>
<td>N/A, Alcohol, Drugs, Both, None</td>
<td>Time 1 and Time 2</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2) Were you using any intoxicants on this occasion?</td>
<td>N/A, Not at all or a little, somewhat, quite a bit, very much</td>
<td>Time 1 and Time 2</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consent</td>
<td>How clear did you make it to the man that you did not want sex?</td>
<td>N/A, Not at all or a little, somewhat, quite a bit, very much</td>
<td>Time 1 and Time 2</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number Disclosed to</td>
<td>With approximately how many people have you discussed the incident</td>
<td>0, 1, 2-4, 5-10, 11 or more</td>
<td>Time 1</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table 2: continued</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>How long after they disclosed</strong></td>
<td>Approximately how much time passed between the incident and the time you first told anyone about the incident?</td>
<td>At Time 1, N/A, Immediately after the incident, A few weeks after, 1-3 months after, 3-6 months after, 6-12 months after, More than one year after</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reactions to Disclosure</strong></td>
<td>Social Reactions Questionnaire; 48 items, 8 subscales: Treat Differently, Distraction, Control, Victim Blame, Information/Aid, Belief, Egocentric, Emotional Support</td>
<td>0= Never, 4=Always</td>
<td>Time 1</td>
<td>Time 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Amt. of time since assault</strong></td>
<td>How long ago did this happen to you?</td>
<td>For Time 1, N/A, Less than 6 months, 6 months to 1 year, 1-2 years, 3 years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friends with Assault</strong></td>
<td>Has anyone you know ever been sexually assaulted?</td>
<td>Yes, No</td>
<td>Time 1</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Age</td>
<td>What is your age?</td>
<td>Options from 18-26, and then a line for other (write in)</td>
<td>Time 1</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape Myth Acceptance</td>
<td>Illinois Rape Myth Acceptance Scale; 20 items</td>
<td>0= Not at all Agree, 4=Very Much Agree, Range of scores 0 to 80</td>
<td>Time 1</td>
<td>$\alpha = .88$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blame</td>
<td>Rape Attribution Questionnaire 25 items, with subscales characterological self-blame, behavioral self-blame and perpetrator blame</td>
<td>1=Never to 5=Very Often, range of scores 25 to 125</td>
<td>Time 1</td>
<td>characterological self-blame ($\alpha = .77$), behavioral self-blame ($\alpha = .85$) and perpetrator blame ($\alpha = .80$)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coping</td>
<td>Brief COPE; 28 items, Subscales include adaptive and maladaptive coping</td>
<td>A= I haven't been doing this at all to D= I've been doing this a lot</td>
<td>Time 1</td>
<td>adaptive ($\alpha = .83$) and maladaptive coping ($\alpha = .80$)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personality (General Defense Mechanisms)</td>
<td>Defense Styles Questionnaire, used subscales immature defense mechanisms and mature defense mechanisms</td>
<td>Average of items on 9-point scales corresponding to 3 subscales: mature, immature, and neurotic defense styles</td>
<td>Time 1</td>
<td>immature defense mechanisms ($\alpha = .79$) and mature defense mechanisms ($\alpha = .65$)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 2: continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Personality (Repression)</th>
<th>Marlowe-Crowne Social Desirability Scale (MCSDS)</th>
<th>Sum of 13 T/F items in socially desirable direction</th>
<th>Time 1</th>
<th>$\alpha = .64$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trait Scale of the State-Trait Anxiety Inventory (STAI)</td>
<td>Total score items on a 1 to 4 scale, ranging from 20-80</td>
<td>The Repression scale will utilize median splits of each the trait-scale of the STAI and MCSDS to create 4 categories.</td>
<td>Time 1</td>
<td>$\alpha = .91$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Acknowledgment | Looking back on the experience, how would you describe the situation? Also, open-ended question asking them what factors led to this description | N/A, I don’t feel I was victimized, I believe it was a miscommunication, I believe I was a victim of a crime other than rape, I believe I was a victim of attempted rape, I believe I was a victim of rape. | Time 1 and Time 2 | N/A |
Table 2: Continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assault History</th>
<th>Childhood Sexual Victimization Questionnaire 40 items</th>
<th>Variable options</th>
<th>Time 1</th>
<th>( \alpha = .83 )</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SES-SFV; 7 items with some sub-questions. Highest number endorsed on SES will be used for subsequent assault questionnaires</td>
<td>Checked if it occurred, left blank if it did not occur</td>
<td>Time 1 and Time 2</td>
<td>( \alpha = .86 )</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Psychological Adjustment | Brief Symptom Inventory; 50 questions | BSI: 1= Not at all, 5=Extremely, Global index: mean of the 50 items. | Time 1 and Time 2 | \( \alpha = .96 \) |

| Impact of Events Scale-Revised; 22 Questions | IES: 0= Not at All, 4=Extremely, Range 0 to 88. | Time 1 and Time 2 | \( \alpha = .96 \) |

*The alpha levels in parentheses indicate the internal consistency found in the current sample*
Table 3
*Descriptive Statistics of Relevant Continuous Study Variables Among Victimized Women*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Construct</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>SD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adaptive Coping</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>16-62</td>
<td>33.48</td>
<td>10.76</td>
<td>36.45</td>
<td>10.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape Myth Acceptance</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>17-76</td>
<td>33.60</td>
<td>13.15</td>
<td>30.97</td>
<td>14.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behavioral Self Blame</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>6-25</td>
<td>17.89</td>
<td>4.73</td>
<td>16.34</td>
<td>6.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Characterological Self Blame</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>5-23</td>
<td>10.71</td>
<td>3.89</td>
<td>11.34</td>
<td>4.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rapist Blame</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>5-25</td>
<td>9.10</td>
<td>3.51</td>
<td>13.79</td>
<td>5.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immature Defense Mechanism Use</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>2.04-6.46</td>
<td>3.88</td>
<td>.94</td>
<td>4.12</td>
<td>.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mature Defense Mechanism Use</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>2.50-8.38</td>
<td>5.79</td>
<td>1.14</td>
<td>5.83</td>
<td>1.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time Since Assault (Months)</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>6-36</td>
<td>19.37</td>
<td>11.52</td>
<td>21.66</td>
<td>11.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age at Time of Assault (Months)</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>180-564</td>
<td>203.31</td>
<td>14.28</td>
<td>223.32</td>
<td>68.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Age (Months)</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>216-600</td>
<td>18.61</td>
<td>.85</td>
<td>20.41</td>
<td>5.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Received</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>1-10</td>
<td>7.95</td>
<td>2.40</td>
<td>8.28</td>
<td>2.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative Social Reactions</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>2-74.20</td>
<td>24.84</td>
<td>13.27</td>
<td>25.22</td>
<td>15.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive Social Reactions</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>0-50.67</td>
<td>22.17</td>
<td>10.65</td>
<td>29.78</td>
<td>8.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTSD Symptomatology</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>0-82</td>
<td>20.07</td>
<td>18.36</td>
<td>27.01</td>
<td>21.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Distress</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>1-167</td>
<td>45.00</td>
<td>30.38</td>
<td>47.79</td>
<td>37.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTSD Symptomatology T2</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0-61.24</td>
<td>11.71</td>
<td>12.13</td>
<td>35.54</td>
<td>18.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Distress T2</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>0-145</td>
<td>44.29</td>
<td>40.81</td>
<td>57.17</td>
<td>37.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 4  
*Descriptive Statistics of Relevant T1 Categorical Study Variables Among Victimized Women*  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Percentage answering “yes” of total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unacknowledged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Clarity of Consent</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Clear</td>
<td>13.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than Very Clear</td>
<td>49.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>His Substance Use</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using</td>
<td>54.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Using</td>
<td>9.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Her Substance Use</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using</td>
<td>52.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Using</td>
<td>11.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Threat of Force</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Threats</td>
<td>7.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Threats</td>
<td>57.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Force</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Force Used</td>
<td>15.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Force Used</td>
<td>49.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Injury</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Injured</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uninjured</td>
<td>64.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Relationship to Offender</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-romantic</td>
<td>39.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquaintance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casual</td>
<td>11.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquaintance/First Date</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steady Dating Partner</td>
<td>10.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nonverbal Resistance</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonverbal Resistance Used</td>
<td>31.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Nonverbal Resistance Used</td>
<td>32.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Verbal Resistance</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verbal Resistance Used</td>
<td>35.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Verbal Resistance Used</td>
<td>27.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 4: continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physical Resistance</th>
<th>Used</th>
<th>Not Used</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical Resistance Used</td>
<td>18.8</td>
<td>26.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Physical Resistance Used</td>
<td>44.6</td>
<td>9.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowing Sexual Assault Victims</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Know Victims</td>
<td>34.8</td>
<td>30.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do Not Know Victims</td>
<td>28.6</td>
<td>6.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Childhood Sexual Assault</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CSA Victim</td>
<td>10.9</td>
<td>13.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSA Nonvictim</td>
<td>52.7</td>
<td>22.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Repression</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Repressor</td>
<td>20.5</td>
<td>9.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Repressor</td>
<td>42.9</td>
<td>26.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disclosure</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disclosed</td>
<td>55.4</td>
<td>34.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did not Disclose</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number to whom Disclosed</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>11.9</td>
<td>5.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 or more</td>
<td>49.5</td>
<td>32.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Disclosed</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Within a Few Weeks of Assault</td>
<td>44.3</td>
<td>21.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Months or Years after Assault</td>
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### Table 5
**Correlation of Study Variables among Victimized Women (N = 112)**

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*Significant at $p < .05$ or lower
Table 6
Logistic Regression Predicting Acknowledgment from Situational Variables

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*p<.05
Table 7  
*Logistic Regression Predicting Acknowledgment from Individual Variables*

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Table 8
Logistic Regression Predicting Acknowledgment from Situational, Individual and Social Network Variables

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*p < .05
REFERENCES


Kahn, A. S., Jackson, J., Kully, C., Badger, K., & Halvorsen, J. (2003). Calling it rape: Differences in experiences of women who do and do not label their sexual assault


APPENDIX A: MEASURES USED IN THE CURRENT STUDY

Demographics Questionnaire

1. What is your age?
   A. 18       D. 21       G. 24       J. Other (Please Write in) _______
   B. 19       E. 22       H. 25
   C. 20       F. 23       I. 26

2. What is your current year in school?
   A. First Year   D. Senior
   B. Sophomore    E. Graduate
   C. Junior       F. Other

3. What is your racial identity?
   A. American Indian or Alaska Native   E. White/Caucasian
   B. Asian                               F. Multiracial
   C. Black or African American           G. Middle Eastern
   D. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander H. Other (Please Write in)
       ________________

4. What is your ethnicity?
   A. Hispanic or Latino
   B. Not Hispanic or Latino

5. In what religion were you raised?
   A. Catholic (Christian)   E. None/Atheist
   B. Protestant (Christian) F. Muslim
   C. Jewish                 G. Other
   D. Nondenominational

6. Which one best describes your intimate relationships/sexual orientation?
   A. Exclusively heterosexual experiences
   B. Mostly heterosexual experiences
   C. More heterosexual than homosexual experiences
   D. Equal heterosexual and homosexual experiences
   E. More homosexual than heterosexual experiences
   F. Mostly homosexual experiences
   G. Exclusively homosexual experiences

7. What is your current marital status?
   A. Never married       D. Divorced
   B. Cohabitating        E. Widowed
   C. Married
8. What is your current dating status?
   A. I do not date.
   B. I date casually.
   C. I am involved in a long-term monogamous relationship (more than 6-months).
   D. I am engaged.
   E. I am married.

9. Have you ever been to a therapist or a counselor?
   A. No
   B. Yes Reasons for seeking therapy?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

The next four questions ask about sexual history. The questions about sexual intercourse mean penetration of the vagina, no matter how slight, by a man’s penis. Ejaculation is not required.

10. Have you ever willingly had sexual intercourse?
    A. Yes
    B. No

11. How old were you when you first willingly had sexual intercourse?
    A. I have never willingly had sexual intercourse
    B. 13 years or younger
    C. 14
    D. 15
    E. 16
    F. 17
    G. 18
    H. 19 years or older

12. How many consensual (not forced) sex partners have you had?
    A. 0
    B. 1 or 2
    C. 3 or 4
    D. 5 or 6
    E. 7 or 8
    F. 9 or 10
    G. 11 or more
13. How many consensual partners have you engaged in sexual behavior with (but not sexual intercourse)?
   A. 0
   B. 1 or 2
   C. 3 or 4
   D. 5 or 6
   E. 7 or 8

   Defensive Styles Questionnaire

This questionnaire consists of a number of statements about personal attitudes. There are no right or wrong answers. Using a 9-point scale, please indicate how much you agree or disagree with each statement by circling one of the numbers on the scale beside the statement. For example, a score of 5 would indicate that you neither agree nor disagree with the statement, a score of 3 that you moderately disagree, or a score of 9 that you strongly agree.

   1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
   Strongly disagree       Strongly Agree

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<tr>
<td>1. I get satisfaction from helping others and if this were taken away from me I would get depressed.</td>
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<td>2. I'm able to keep a problem out of my mind until I have time to deal with it.</td>
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<td>3. I work out my anxiety through doing something constructive and creative like painting or woodwork.</td>
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<td>4. I am able to find good reasons for everything I do.</td>
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<td>5. I’m able to laugh at myself pretty easily.</td>
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<td>6. People tend to mistreat me</td>
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<td>7. If someone mugged me and stole my money, I’d rather he be helped than punished.</td>
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<td>8. People say I tend to ignore unpleasant facts as if they didn’t exist</td>
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<td>9. I ignore danger as if I was superman.</td>
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<td>I pride myself on my ability to cut people down to size.</td>
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<td>I often act impulsively when something is bothering me</td>
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<td>I get physically ill when things aren’t going well for me.</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>I’m a very inhibited person.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>I get more satisfaction from my fantasies than from my real life.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>I have special talents that allow me to go through life with no problems.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td>There are always good reasons when things don’t work out for me.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td>I work more things out in my daydreams than in my real life.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.</td>
<td>I fear nothing.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.</td>
<td>Sometimes I think I’m an angel and other times I think I’m a devil.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.</td>
<td>I get openly aggressive when I feel hurt.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21.</td>
<td>I always feel that someone I know is like a guardian angel.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22.</td>
<td>As far as I’m concerned, people are either good or bad.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23.</td>
<td>If my boss bugged me, I might make a mistake in my work or work more slowly so as to get back at him.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24.</td>
<td>There is someone I know who can do anything and who is absolutely fair and just.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>25.</td>
<td>I can keep the lid on my feelings if letting them out would interfere with what I’m doing.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26.</td>
<td>I’m usually able to see the funny side of an otherwise painful predicament.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strongly disagree</td>
<td></td>
<td>Strongly Agree</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>27.</td>
<td>I get a headache when I have to do something I don’t like.</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>28.</td>
<td>I often find myself being very nice to people who by all rights I should be angry at.</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>29.</td>
<td>I am sure I get a raw deal from life.</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>30.</td>
<td>When I have to face a difficult situation I try to imagine what it will be like and plan ways to cope with it.</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>31.</td>
<td>Doctors never really understand what is wrong with me.</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>32.</td>
<td>After I fight for my rights, I tend to apologize for my assertiveness.</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>33.</td>
<td>When I’m depressed or anxious, eating makes me feel better.</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>34.</td>
<td>I’m often told that I don’t show my feelings.</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>35.</td>
<td>If I can predict that I’m going to be sad ahead of time, I can cope better.</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>36.</td>
<td>No matter how much I complain, I never get a satisfactory response.</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>37.</td>
<td>Often I find that I don’t feel anything when the situation would seem to warrant strong emotions.</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>38.</td>
<td>Sticking to the task at hand keeps me from feeling depressed or anxious.</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>39.</td>
<td>If I were in a crisis, I would seek out another person who had the same problem.</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>40.</td>
<td>If I have an aggressive thought, I feel the need to do something to compensate for it.</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
State-Trait Anxiety Inventory

**Directions:** A number of statements which people have used to describe themselves are given below. Read each statement and then circle the appropriate number to the right of the statement to indicate how you **GENERALLY FEEL**.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Almost Never</th>
<th>Sometimes</th>
<th>Often</th>
<th>Almost Always</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. I feel pleasant.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. I feel nervous and restless.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. I feel satisfied with myself.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. I wish I could be as happy as others seem to be.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. I feel like a failure.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. I feel rested.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. I am “calm, cool, and collected.”</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. I feel that difficulties are piling up so that I cannot overcome them.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. I worry too much over something that really doesn’t matter.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. I am happy.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. I have disturbing thoughts.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. I lack self-confidence.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. I feel secure.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. I make decisions early.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. I feel inadequate.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. I am content.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Some unimportant thoughts run through my mind and bothers me.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. I take disappointments so keenly that I can’t put them out of my mind.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. I am a steady person.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. I get in a state of tension or turmoil as I think over my recent concerns and interests.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Brief Symptom Inventory

INSTRUCTIONS: On the next several pages are a list of problems people sometimes have. Please read each one carefully and pick the number that best describes HOW MUCH THAT PROBLEM HAS DISTRESED OR BOTHERED YOU DURING THE PAST 7 DAYS INCLUDING TODAY. Pick only one number for each problem and do not skip any items.

1 – Not at All   2 – A Little Bit   3 – Moderately   4 – Quite a Bit   5 – Extremely

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problem</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Nervousness or shakiness</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Faintness or dizziness</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. The idea that someone else can control your thoughts</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Feeling others are to blame for most of your troubles</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Trouble remembering things</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Feeling easily annoyed or irritated</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Pains in heart or chest</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Feeling afraid in open spaces or on the streets</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. Feeling that most people cannot be trusted</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Poor appetite</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. Suddenly scared for no reason</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Temper outbursts that you could not control</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Feeling lonely even when you are with people</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Feeling blocked in getting things done</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Feeling lonely</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 – Not at All</td>
<td>2 – A Little Bit</td>
<td>3 – Moderately</td>
<td>4 – Quite a Bit</td>
<td>5 – Extremely</td>
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<tr>
<td>16. Feeling blue</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>17. Feeling no interest in things</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>18. Feeling fearful</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>19. Your feelings being easily hurt</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Feeling that people are unfriendly or dislike you</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>21. Feeling inferior to others</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>22. Nausea or upset stomach</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>23. Feeling that you are watched or talked about by others</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>24. Trouble falling asleep</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>25. Having to check and double-check what you do</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>26. Difficulty making decisions</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>27. Feeling afraid to travel on buses, subways, or trains</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>28. Trouble getting your breath</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>29. Hot or cold spells</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>30. Having to avoid certain things, places or activities because they frighten you.</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>31. Your mind going blank</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>32. Numbness or tingling in parts of your body</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33. The idea that you should be punished for your sins</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>34. Feeling hopeless about the future</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>35. Trouble concentrating</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>36. Feeling weak in parts of your body</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1 – Not at All   2 – A Little Bit   3 – Moderately   4 – Quite a Bit   5 – Extremely

37. Feeling tense or keyed up
38. Having urges to break or smash things
39. Feeling very self-conscious with others
40. Feeling uneasy in crowds, such as shopping or at a movie
41. Never feeling close to another person
42. Spells of terror or panic
43. Getting into frequent arguments
44. Feeling nervous when you are left alone
45. Others not giving you proper credit for your achievements
46. Feeling so restless you couldn’t sit still
47. Feelings of worthlessness
48. Feeling that people will take advantage of you if you let them
49. Feelings of guilt
50. The idea that something is wrong with your mind

Childhood Sexual Victimization Questionnaire

Many people have sexual experiences as children, either with friends or with people older than themselves. The following questions ask about any experiences you may have had before you were 14. Answer no or yes to whether or not you have had each of these experiences before age 14. Then answer the questions below each experience referring to the most significant time you had the experience.
1. Another person showed his/her sex organs to you.  
   a) No  b) Yes

2. Who was involved? (Circle one letter) [If more than one person was involved, who was the oldest person?]
   a. I did not have this experience before age 14
   b. stranger
   c. older person you knew (neighbor, teacher, friend of your parents, etc.)
   d. friend of your brother or sister, or person about you age (not boyfriend)
   e. aunt, uncle, or grandparent
   f. brother, step-brother; sister, or step-sister
   g. step-father or step-mother
   h. father or mother
   i. boyfriend

3. Approximately how old were you when it first happened?
   a. I did not have this experience before age 14
   b. 3-6 years
   c. 7-10 years
   d. 11-13 years

4. Approximately how much older than you was the other person? [If more than one person was involved, how much older was the oldest person?]
   a. I did not have this experience before age 14
   b. The person was younger than me or about my same age
   c. The person was 1-4 years older than me
   d. The person was 5-9 years older than me
   e. The person was 10 or more years older than me

5. What is the main reason you participated? (Circle one letter)
   a. I did not have this experience before age 14
   b. Curiosity, it felt good, it made me feel loved or secure
   c. Other person used his/her authority
   d. Other person gave me gifts, money, candy, etc.
   e. Other person threatened to hurt or punish me
   f. Other person used physical force

6. Someone older than you requested you to do something sexual. a) No  b) Yes
7. Who was involved? (Circle one letter) [If more than one person was involved, who
was the oldest person?]
   a. I did not have this experience before age 14
   b. stranger
   c. older person you knew (neighbor, teacher, friend of your parents, etc.)
   d. friend of your brother or sister, or person about you age (not boyfriend)
   e. aunt, uncle, or grandparent
   f. brother, step-brother; sister, or step-sister
   g. step-father or step-mother
   h. father or mother
   i. boyfriend

8. Approximately how old were you when it first happened?
   a. I did not have this experience before age 14
   b. 3-6 years
   c. 7-10 years
   d. 11-13 years

9. Approximately how much older than you was the other person? [If more than one
person was involved, how much older was the oldest person?]
   a. I did not have this experience before age 14
   b. The person was younger than me or about my same age
   c. The person was 1-4 years older than me
   d. The person was 5-9 years older than me
   e. The person was 10 or more years older than me

10. What is the main reason you participated? (Circle one letter)
    a. I did not have this experience before age 14
    b. Curiosity, it felt good, it made me feel loved or secure
    c. Other person used his/her authority
    d. Other person gave me gifts, money, candy, etc.
    e. Other person threatened to hurt or punish me
    f. Other person used physical force

11. You showed your sex organs to another person at his/her request.
    a) No  b) Yes
12. Who was involved? (Circle one letter) [If more than one person was involved, who was the oldest person?]
   a. I did not have this experience before age 14
   b. stranger
   c. older person you knew (neighbor, teacher, friend of your parents, etc.)
   d. friend of your brother or sister, or person about you age (not boyfriend)
   e. aunt, uncle, or grandparent
   f. brother, step-brother; sister, or step-sister
   g. step-father or step-mother
   h. father or mother
   i. boyfriend

13. Approximately how old were you when it first happened?
   a. I did not have this experience before age 14
   b. 3-6 years
   c. 7-10 years
   d. 11-13 years

14. Approximately how much older than you was the other person? [If more than one person was involved, how much older was the oldest person?]
   a. I did not have this experience before age 14
   b. The person was younger than me or about my same age
   c. The person was 1-4 years older than me
   d. The person was 5-9 years older than me
   e. The person was 10 or more years older than me

15. What is the main reason you participated? (Circle one letter)
   a. I did not have this experience before age 14
   b. Curiosity, it felt good, it made me feel loved or secure
   c. Other person used his/her authority
   d. Other person gave me gifts, money, candy, etc.
   e. Other person threatened to hurt or punish me
   f. Other person used physical force

16. Another person fondled you in a sexual way. a) No  b) Yes
17. Who was involved? (Circle one letter) [If more than one person was involved, who was the oldest person?]
   a. I did not have this experience before age 14
   b. stranger
   c. older person you knew (neighbor, teacher, friend of your parents, etc.)
   d. friend of your brother or sister, or person about you age (not boyfriend)
   e. aunt, uncle, or grandparent
   f. brother, step-brother; sister, or step-sister
   g. step-father or step-mother
   h. father or mother
   i. boyfriend

18. Approximately how old were you when it first happened?
   a. I did not have this experience before age 14
   b. 3-6 years
   c. 7-10 years
   d. 11-13 years

19. Approximately how much older than you was the other person? [If more than one person was involved, how much older was the oldest person?]
   a. I did not have this experience before age 14
   b. The person was younger than me or about my same age
   c. The person was 1-4 years older than me
   d. The person was 5-9 years older than me
   e. The person was 10 or more years older than me

20. What is the main reason you participated? (Circle one letter)
   a. I did not have this experience before age 14
   b. Curiosity, it felt good, it made me feel loved or secure
   c. Other person used his/her authority
   d. Other person gave me gifts, money, candy, etc.
   e. Other person threatened to hurt or punish me
   f. Other person used physical force

21. Another person touched or stroked your sex organs. a) No b) Yes
22. Who was involved? (Circle one letter) [If more than one person was involved, who was the oldest person?]

a. I did not have this experience before age 14
b. stranger
c. older person you knew (neighbor, teacher, friend of your parents, etc.)
d. friend of your brother or sister, or person about you age (not boyfriend)
e. aunt, uncle, or grandparent
f. brother, step-brother; sister, or step-sister
g. step-father or step-mother
h. father or mother
i. boyfriend

23. Approximately how old were you when it first happened?

a. I did not have this experience before age 14
b. 3-6 years
c. 7-10 years
d. 11-13 years

24. Approximately how much older than you was the other person? [If more than one person was involved, how much older was the oldest person?]

a. I did not have this experience before age 14
b. The person was younger than me or about my same age
c. The person was 1-4 years older than me
d. The person was 5-9 years older than me
e. The person was 10 or more years older than me

25. What is the main reason you participated? (Circle one letter)

a. I did not have this experience before age 14
b. Curiosity, it felt good, it made me feel loved or secure
c. Other person used his/her authority
d. Other person gave me gifts, money, candy, etc.
e. Other person threatened to hurt or punish me
f. Other person used physical force

26. You touched or stroked another person's sex organs at his/her request. a) No  b) Yes
27. Who was involved? (Circle one letter) [If more than one person was involved, who was the oldest person?]

a. I did not have this experience before age 14  
b. stranger  
c. older person you knew (neighbor, teacher, friend of your parents, etc.)  
d. friend of your brother or sister, or person about you age (not boyfriend)  
e. aunt, uncle, or grandparent  
f. brother, step-brother; sister, or step-sister  
g. step-father or step-mother  
h. father or mother  
i. boyfriend

28. Approximately how old were you when it first happened?

a. I did not have this experience before age 14  
b. 3-6 years  
c. 7-10 years  
d. 11-13 years

29. Approximately how much older than you was the other person? [If more than one person was involved, how much older was the oldest person?]

a. I did not have this experience before age 14  
b. The person was younger than me or about my same age  
c. The person was 1-4 years older than me  
d. The person was 5-9 years older than me  
e. The person was 10 or more years older than me

30. What is the main reason you participated? (Circle one letter)

a. I did not have this experience before age 14  
b. Curiosity, it felt good, it made me feel loved or secure  
c. Other person used his/her authority  
d. Other person gave me gifts, money, candy, etc.  
e. Other person threatened to hurt or punish me  
f. Other person used physical force

31. Another person attempted intercourse (Got on top of you, attempted to insert penis but penetration did not occur).  

a) No  
b) Yes
32. Who was involved? (Circle one letter) [If more than one person was involved, who was the oldest person?]

   a. I did not have this experience before age 14
   b. stranger
   c. older person you knew (neighbor, teacher, friend of your parents, etc.)
   d. friend of your brother or sister, or person about you age (not boyfriend)
   e. aunt, uncle, or grandparent
   f. brother, step-brother; sister, or step-sister
   g. step-father or step-mother
   h. father or mother
   i. boyfriend

33. Approximately how old were you when it first happened?

   a. I did not have this experience before age 14
   b. 3-6 years
   c. 7-10 years
   d. 11-13 years

34. Approximately how much older than you was the other person? [If more than one person was involved, how much older was the oldest person?]

   a. I did not have this experience before age 14
   b. The person was younger than me or about my same age
   c. The person was 1-4 years older than me
   d. The person was 5-9 years older than me
   e. The person was 10 or more years older than me

35. What is the main reason you participated? (Circle one letter)

   a. I did not have this experience before age 14
   b. Curiosity, it felt good, it made me feel loved or secure
   c. Other person used his/her authority
   d. Other person gave me gifts, money, candy, etc.
   e. Other person threatened to hurt or punish me
   f. Other person used physical force

36. Another person had intercourse (oral, anal, or vaginal) with you, (any amount of penetration -- ejaculation not necessary)

   a) No   b) Yes
37. Who was involved? (Circle one letter) [If more than one person was involved, who was the oldest person?]

- a. I did not have this experience before age 14
- b. stranger
- c. older person you knew (neighbor, teacher, friend of your parents, etc.)
- d. friend of your brother or sister, or person about you age (not boyfriend)
- e. aunt, uncle, or grandparent
- f. brother, step-brother; sister, or step-sister
- g. step-father or step-mother
- h. father or mother
- i. boyfriend

38. Approximately how old were you when it first happened?

- a. I did not have this experience before age 14
- b. 3-6 years
- c. 7-10 years
- d. 11-13 years

39. Approximately how much older than you was the other person? [If more than one person was involved, how much older was the oldest person?]

- a. I did not have this experience before age 14
- b. The person was younger than me or about my same age
- c. The person was 1-4 years older than me
- d. The person was 5-9 years older than me
- e. The person was 10 or more years older than me

40. What is the main reason you participated? (Circle one letter)

- a. I did not have this experience before age 14
- b. Curiosity, it felt good, it made me feel loved or secure
- c. Other person used his/her authority
- d. Other person gave me gifts, money, candy, etc.
- e. Other person threatened to hurt or punish me
- f. Other person used physical force

Marlowe-Crowne Social Desirability Scale

**DIRECTIONS:** Listed below are thirteen statements concerning personal attitudes and traits. Read each item and decide whether the statement is true or false as it pertains to you personally.
1. It is sometimes hard for me to go on with my work if I am not encouraged.

2. I sometimes feel resentful when I don't get my way.

3. On a few occasions, I have given up doing something because I thought too little of my ability.

4. There have been times when I felt like rebelling against people in authority even though I knew they were right.

5. No matter who I'm talking to, I'm always a good listener.

6. There have been occasions when I took advantage of someone.

7. I'm always willing to admit it when I make a mistake.

8. I sometimes try to get even rather than forgive and forget.

9. I am always courteous, even to people who are disagreeable.

10. I have never been irked when people expressed ideas very different from my own.

11. There have been times when I was quite jealous of the good fortune of others.

12. I am sometimes irritated by people who ask favors of me.

13. I have never deliberately said something that hurt someone’s feelings.
Sexual Experiences Survey-Short Form Victimization

The following questions concern sexual experiences that you may have had that were unwanted. We know that these are personal questions, so we do not ask your name or other identifying information. Your information is completely confidential. We hope that this helps you to feel comfortable answering each question honestly. Place a check mark in the box (□) showing that this experience has happened to you. If several experiences occurred on the same occasion—for example, if one night someone told you some lies and had sex with you when you were drunk, you would check both boxes a and c. Answer the questions for the time period **“Since age 14 up until today”**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sexual Experiences</th>
<th>1. Someone fondled, kissed, or rubbed up against the private areas of my body (lips, breast/chest, crotch or butt) or removed some of my clothes without my consent (<em>but did not attempt sexual penetration</em>) by:</th>
<th>This has happened to me since age 14</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a. Telling lies, threatening to end the relationship, threatening to spread rumors about me, making promises I knew were untrue, or continually verbally pressuring me after I said I didn't want to.</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b. Showing displeasure, criticizing my sexuality or attractiveness, getting angry but not using physical force, after I said I didn't want to.</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>c. Taking advantage of me when I was too drunk or out of it to stop what was happening.</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>d. Threatening to physically harm me or someone close to me.</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>e. Using force, for example holding me down with their body weight, pinning my arms, or having a weapon.</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td><strong>Someone had oral sex with me or made me have oral sex with them without my consent by:</strong></td>
<td><strong>This has happened to me since age 14</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a. Telling lies, threatening to end the relationship, threatening to spread rumors about me, making promises I knew were untrue, or continually verbally pressuring me after I said I didn't want to.</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b. Showing displeasure, criticizing my sexuality or attractiveness, getting angry but not using physical force, after I said I didn't want to.</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☆</td>
<td>c. Taking advantage of me when I was too drunk or out of it to stop what was happening.</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☆</td>
<td>d. Threatening to physically harm me or someone close to me.</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☆</td>
<td>e. Using force, for example holding me down with their body weight, pinning my arms, or having a weapon.</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3.</th>
<th><strong>A man put his penis into my vagina, or someone inserted fingers or objects without my consent by:</strong></th>
<th><strong>This has happened to me since age 14</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a. Telling lies, threatening to end the relationship, threatening to spread rumors about me, making promises I knew were untrue, or continually verbally pressuring me after I said I didn't want to.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b. Showing displeasure, criticizing my sexuality or attractiveness, getting angry but not using physical force, after I said I didn't want to.</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☆</td>
<td>c. Taking advantage of me when I was too drunk or out of it to stop what was happening.</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☆</td>
<td>d. Threatening to physically harm me or someone close to me.</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☆</td>
<td>e. Using force, for example holding me down with their body weight, pinning my arms, or having a weapon.</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. A man put his penis into my butt, or someone inserted fingers or objects without my consent by: This has happened to me since age 14

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a. Telling lies, threatening to end the relationship, threatening to spread rumors about me, making promises I knew were untrue, or continually verbally pressuring me after I said I didn't want to.</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b. Showing displeasure, criticizing my sexuality or attractiveness, getting angry but not using physical force, after I said I didn't want to.</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*</td>
<td>c. Taking advantage of me when I was too drunk or out of it to stop what was happening.</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*</td>
<td>d. Threatening to physically harm me or someone close to me.</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*</td>
<td>e. Using force, for example holding me down with their body weight, pinning my arms, or having a weapon.</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Even though it did not happen, someone TRIED to have oral sex with me, or make me have oral sex with them without my consent by: This has happened to me since age 14

<p>| | | |</p>
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<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a. Telling lies, threatening to end the relationship, threatening to spread rumors about me, making promises I knew were untrue, or continually verbally pressuring me after I said I didn't want to.</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b. Showing displeasure, criticizing my sexuality or attractiveness, getting angry but not using physical force, after I said I didn't want to.</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>c. Taking advantage of me when I was too drunk or out of it to stop what was happening.</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>d. Threatening to physically harm me or someone close to me.</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>e. Using force, for example holding me down with their body weight, pinning my arms, or having a weapon.</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Even though it did not happen, a man TRIED to put his penis into my vagina, or someone tried to stick in fingers or objects without my consent by:</td>
<td>This has happened to me since age 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>a. Telling lies, threatening to end the relationship, threatening to spread rumors about me, making promises I knew were untrue, or continually verbally pressuring me after I said I didn't want to.</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b. Showing displeasure, criticizing my sexuality or attractiveness, getting angry but not using physical force, after I said I didn't want to.</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>c. Taking advantage of me when I was too drunk or out of it to stop what was happening.</td>
<td>□</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>d. Threatening to physically harm me or someone close to me.</td>
<td>□</td>
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<td></td>
<td>e. Using force, for example holding me down with their body weight, pinning my arms, or having a weapon.</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Even though it did not happen, a man TRIED to put his penis into my butt, or someone tried to stick in objects or fingers without my consent by:</td>
<td>This has happened to me since age 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a. Telling lies, threatening to end the relationship, threatening to spread rumors about me, making promises I knew were untrue, or continually verbally pressuring me after I said I didn't want to.</td>
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<td>□</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Please look back at your answers on the past few pages.

If you have checked any questions with a star, ( ★ ) please indicate which incident was most distressing to you (please write number and letter, for example, 3c or 4e). If you checked more than one question with a star next to it, please choose the most distressing incident.

If you have filled in the blank above, indicating that you have an experience with a star by it, go to page xx and answer questions under the heading SEI . If you have experienced this incident more than once, consider the most distressing occurrence of the incident to answer the questions, so that you are thinking of only ONE specific incident when answering the questions.

If you have checked any questions with an arrow, ( ← ) please indicate which incident was most distressing to you (please write number and letter, for example, 5c or 7e). If you checked more than one question with an arrow next to it, please choose the most distressing item.

If you have filled in the blank above, indicating that you have an experience with an arrow by it, go to page xx and answer questions under the heading SEI. If you have experienced this incident more than once, consider the most distressing occurrence of the incident to answer the questions, so that you are thinking of only ONE specific incident when answering the questions.

If you have checked any questions with a circle, ( ● ) please indicate which incident was most distressing to you (please write number and letter, for example, 1c or 1e). If you checked more than one question with an arrow next to it, please choose the most distressing item.

If you have filled in the blank above, indicating that you have an experience with a circle by it, go to page xx and answer questions under the heading SEI. If you have experienced this incident more than once, consider the most distressing occurrence of the incident to answer the questions, so that you are thinking of only ONE specific incident when answering the questions.

If you have checked any questions with a square, ( □ ) please indicate which incident was most distressing to you (please write number and letter, for example, 2b or 4a). If you checked more than one question with an arrow next to it, please choose the most distressing item.
If you have filled in the blank above, indicating that you have an experience with a square by it, go to page xx and answer questions under the heading SEI. If you have experienced this incident more than once, consider the most distressing occurrence of the incident to answer the questions, so that you are thinking of only ONE specific incident when answering the questions.

IF YOU DID NOT EXPERIENCE ANY OF THE STAR, ARROW, CIRCLE OR SQUARE ITEMS, PLEASE MOVE ON TO PAGE xx.

Sexual Experiences Inventory

Look back to the question number you wrote on the line on either page xx. We’d like to ask you some more questions about that experience. If you have had this experience more than once, think of the experience you remember best.

1. What was your relationship to the man/men at that time? (Choose one) (If more than one man was involved, what was your relationship with the oldest?)
   a) Not applicable
   b) Stranger
   c) Non-romantic acquaintance (friend, neighbor, etc.)
   d) Casual/first date or romantic acquaintance
   e) Boyfriend or Spouse
   f) Relative (father, stepfather, uncle, brother)

2. How well did you know him?
   a) Not applicable
   b) Didn’t know at all
   c) Slightly/moderately acquainted
   d) Very well acquainted
   e) Extremely well acquainted

3. How many times has he done this to you?
   a) Not applicable
   b) 1 time
   c) 2 times
   d) 3 times
   e) 4 or more times
4. How long ago did it happen?
   a) Not applicable
   b) Less than 6 months
   c) 6 months to a year
   d) 1-2 years
   e) Over 3 years

5. Was the man/men using any intoxicants on this occasion?
   a) Not applicable
   b) Alcohol
   c) Drugs
   d) Both
   e) None

6. Were you using any intoxicants on this occasion?
   a) Not applicable
   b) Alcohol
   c) Drugs
   d) Both
   e) None

7. Did the man/men **threaten** physical force to make you cooperate?
   a) Not applicable
   b) No
   c) Yes

8. Did the man/men twist your arm, hold you down, or use some kind of physical restraint to make you cooperate?
   a) Not applicable
   b) No
   c) Yes

9. Did the man/men choke, beat, or otherwise injure you to make you cooperate?
   a) Not applicable
   b) No
   c) Yes

10. Did the man/men **threaten** to use a weapon to make you cooperate?
   a) Not applicable
    b) No
    c) Yes
11. Did the man/men use a weapon to make you cooperate?
   a) Not applicable
   b) No
   c) Yes

12. What is the most sexual intimacy, if any, that you voluntarily had with the man/men before this happened?
   a) Not applicable
   b) Kissing only
   c) Petting above the waist
   d) Petting below the waist
   e) Oral sex
   f) Sexual intercourse

13. Had you ever had intercourse with anyone before this happened?
   a) Not applicable
   b) No
   c) Yes

Did you do any of the following to resist his advances?

14. Turn cold?
   a) Not applicable
   b) No
   c) Yes

15. Reason, plead or tell him to stop?
   a) Not applicable
   b) No
   c) Yes

16. Cry or sob?
   a) Not applicable
   b) No
   c) Yes

17. Scream for help?
   a) Not applicable
   b) No
   c) Yes
18. Run away?
   a) Not applicable
   b) No
   c) Yes

19. Physically struggle, push him away, hit or scratch?
   a) Not applicable
   b) No
   c) Yes

20. Did you discuss the experience with anyone?
   a) Not applicable
   b) No
   c) Yes

21. Did you press charges?
   a) Not applicable
   b) No
   c) Yes

22. Do you think you might press charges at any future time?
   a) Not applicable
   b) No
   c) Yes
   d) I don’t know

PLEASE DESCRIBE THESE ASPECTS OF THE INCIDENT:

23. How aggressive was the man/men?
   a) Not applicable
   b) Not at all or a little
   c) Somewhat
   d) Quite a bit
   e) Very much

24. How clear did you make it to the man/men that you didn’t want sex?
   a) Not applicable
   b) Not at all or a little
   c) Somewhat
   d) Quite a bit
   e) Very much
25. How much do you feel responsible for what happened?
   a) Not applicable
   b) Not at all or a little
   c) Somewhat
   d) Quite a bit
   e) Very much

26. How much did you **physically** resist?
   a) Not applicable
   b) Not at all or a little
   c) Somewhat
   d) Quite a bit
   e) Very much

27. How responsible is he/are they for what happened?
   a) Not applicable
   b) Not at all or a little
   c) Somewhat
   d) Quite a bit
   e) Very much

28. With how many men have you had sexual intercourse **since** this happened?
   a) Not applicable
   b) 0 persons
   c) 1-5 persons
   d) 6-10 persons
   e) Over 10 persons

29. Have you had intercourse with the man/men involved in this experience **since** this happened?
   a) Not applicable
   b) No
   c) Yes

30. Do you expect something like this to probably happen again?
   a) Not applicable
   b) No
   c) Yes

31. Did you continue the relationship/friendship with this person?
   a) Not applicable
   b) No
   c) Yes
32. Looking back on the experience, how would you describe the situation? (Remember this is confidential)
   a) Not applicable
   b) I don’t feel I was victimized.
   c) I believe it was a miscommunication.
   d) I believe I was a victim of a crime other than rape.
   e) I believe I was a victim of attempted rape.
   f) I believe I was a victim of rape.

33. In a few sentences, please explain what factors led to your description of the situation as indicated above (how you would describe the situation).

___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________

34. With approximately how many people have you discussed the incident?
   a. 0
   b. 1
   c. 2-4
   d. 5-10
   e. 11 or more

35. Has anyone you know ever been sexually assaulted?
   a. Yes
   b. No

36. Approximately how much time passed between the incident and the time you first told anyone about the incident?
   a) Not applicable
   b) Immediately after the incident
   c) A few weeks after the incident
   d) 1-3 months after the incident
   e) 3-6 months after the incident
   f) 6-12 months after the incident
   g) More than 1 year after the incident
37. If you did discuss this incident with anyone, how supportive did you find the people you talked to, in general?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
NOT supportive                  VERY supportive

38. For this question, we are interested in who you may or may not have told about the incident. Please indicate if you told that person, and then circle YES or NO if the person was helpful or not.

If you did discuss this incident with anyone, who did you discuss the incident with? (check all that apply)

___ Friend   If yes, was this source helpful? (circle one)   YES   NO
___ Relative   Was this source helpful?   YES   NO
___ Clergy/Priest/Minister   Was this source helpful?   YES   NO
___ Mental Health Professional   Was this source helpful?   YES   NO
___ Police   Was this source helpful?   YES   NO
___ Rape Crisis Center   Was this source helpful?   YES   NO
___ Other   Was this source helpful?   YES   NO

39. In a few sentences please explain: If you told anyone about the incident, which of the sources did you find were MOST HELPFUL and WHAT MADE THEM THE MOST HELPFUL?

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
Rape Attributions Questionnaire

Below are statements describing thoughts women often have about why an unwanted sexual experience occurred.

PLEASE REFER TO THE INCIDENT YOU INDICATED ON PAGE xx or xxEARLIER, and that you used to fill out the questions above. If you did not report any of the experiences, please check below and skip this questionnaire.

I have not had any unwanted sexual experiences.

1 = Never    2 = Rarely    3 = Sometimes    4 = Often    5 = Very Often

When thinking about the unwanted sexual experience you had, how often have you thought: Unwanted sexual experiences occur because . . .

1. Society doesn’t do enough to prevent violence against women. 1  2  3  4  5

2. I used poor judgment. 1  2  3  4  5

3. I am just the victim type. 1  2  3  4  5

4. It was just bad luck. 1  2  3  4  5

5. The person thought he could get away with it. 1  2  3  4  5

6. Men are taught not to respect women. 1  2  3  4  5

7. I should have resisted more. 1  2  3  4  5

8. I am a careless person. 1  2  3  4  5

9. I was in the wrong place at the wrong time. 1  2  3  4  5
10. The person wanted to feel power over someone.  
11. Men are socialized to be violent.  
12. I should have been more cautious.  
13. Things like this happen to people like me.  
14. Things like this happen at random.  
15. The person was sick.  
16. In our society, women are just sex objects.  
17. I just put myself into a vulnerable situation.  
18. I am unlucky.  
19. I was a victim of chance.  
20. The person was angry at women.  
21. The media encourages violence against women.  
22. I didn’t do enough to protect myself.  
23. I am too trusting.  
24. Bad things like this are just a part of life.  
25. The person wanted to hurt someone.
Social Reactions Questionnaire

HOW OTHER PEOPLE RESPONDED...

Look back to the question number you wrote on the line on page 23 or 24 (the same incident you used for the previous sets of questions). Consider that incident. The following is a list of behaviors that other people responding to a person with this experience often show. Please indicate how often you experienced each of the listed responses from other people by placing the appropriate number in the blank next to each item.

0 NEVER 1 RARELY 2 SOMETIMES 3 FREQUENTLY 4 ALWAYS

___ 1. TOLD YOU IT WAS NOT YOUR FAULT
___ 2. PULLED AWAY FROM YOU
___ 3. WANTED TO SEEK REVENGE ON THE PERPETRATOR
___ 4. TOLD OTHERS ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCE WITHOUT YOUR PERMISSION
___ 5. DISTRACTED YOU WITH OTHER THINGS
___ 6. COMFORTED YOU BY TELLING YOU IT WOULD BE ALL RIGHT OR BY HOLDING YOU
___ 7. TOLD YOU HE/SHE FELT SORRY FOR YOU
___ 8. HELPED YOU GET MEDICAL CARE
___ 9. TOLD YOU THAT YOU WERE NOT TO BLAME
___ 10. TREATED YOU DIFFERENTLY IN SOME WAY THAN BEFORE YOU TOLD HIM/HER THAT MADE YOU UNCOMFORTABLE
___ 11. TRIED TO TAKE CONTROL OF WHAT YOU DID/DECISIONS YOU MADE
___ 12. FOCUSED ON HIS/HER OWN NEEDS AND NEGLECTED YOURS
___ 13. TOLD YOU TO GO ON WITH YOUR LIFE
Never 1 Rarely 2 Sometimes 3 Frequently 4 Always

_____ 14. Held you or told you that you are loved
_____ 15. Reassured you that you are a good person
_____ 16. Encouraged you to seek counseling
_____ 17. Told you that you were to blame or shameful because of this experience
_____ 18. Avoided talking to you or spending time with you
_____ 19. Made decisions or did things for you
_____ 20. Said he/she feels personally wronged by your experience
_____ 21. Told you to stop thinking about it
_____ 22. Listened to your feelings
_____ 23. Saw your side of things and did not make judgments
_____ 24. Helped you get information of any kind about coping with the experience
_____ 25. Told you that you could have done more to prevent this experience from occurring
_____ 26. Acted as if you were damaged goods or somehow different now
_____ 27. Treated you as if you were a child or somehow incompetent
_____ 28. Expressed so much anger at the perpetrator that you had to calm him/her down
_____ 29. Told you to stop talking about it
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<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>NEVER</td>
<td>RARELY</td>
<td>TIMES</td>
<td>FREQUENTLY</td>
<td>ALWAYS</td>
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<tr>
<td>30. SHOWED UNDERSTANDING OF YOUR EXPERIENCE</td>
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<tr>
<td>31. REFRAMED THE EXPERIENCE AS A CLEAR CASE OF VICTIMIZATION</td>
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<td>32. TOOK YOU TO THE POLICE</td>
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<td>33. TOLD YOU THAT YOU WERE IRRESPONSIBLE OR NOT CAUTIOUS ENOUGH</td>
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<td>34. MINIMIZED THE IMPORTANCE OR SERIOUSNESS OF YOUR EXPERIENCE</td>
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<td>35. SAID HE/SHE KNEW HOW YOU FELT WHEN HE/SHE REALLY DID NOT</td>
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<td>36. HAS BEEN SO UPSET THAT HE/SHE NEEDED REASSURANCE FROM YOU</td>
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<td>37. TRIED TO DISCOURAGE YOU FROM TALKING ABOUT THE EXPERIENCE</td>
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<td>38. SHARED HIS/HER OWN EXPERIENCE WITH YOU</td>
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<td>39. WAS ABLE TO REALLY ACCEPT YOUR ACCOUNT OF YOUR EXPERIENCE</td>
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<td>40. SPENT TIME WITH YOU</td>
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<td>41. TOLD YOU THAT YOU DID NOT DO ANYTHING WRONG</td>
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<td>42. MADE A JOKE OR SARCASTIC COMMENT ABOUT THIS TYPE OF EXPERIENCE</td>
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<td>43. MADE YOU FEEL LIKE YOU DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF</td>
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<td>44. SAID HE/SHE FEELS YOU'RE TAINTED BY THIS EXPERIENCE</td>
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<td>45. ENCOURAGED YOU TO KEEP THE EXPERIENCE A SECRET</td>
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<td></td>
<td>NEVER</td>
<td>RARELY</td>
<td>SOMETIMES</td>
<td>FREQUENTLY</td>
<td>ALWAYS</td>
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<td>4</td>
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</table>

___ 46. SEEMED TO UNDERSTAND HOW YOU WERE FEELING

___ 47. BELIEVED YOUR ACCOUNT OF WHAT HAPPENED

___ 48. PROVIDED INFORMATION AND DISCUSSED OPTIONS
The next set of questions asks about how you reacted to the unwanted sexual experience that you described SES Section. Please answer with respect to the number you filled in on the line on page xx. We realize that your reactions may have changed over time. Please think about the unwanted sexual experience you described previously, and how you have reacted since the experience occurred. Please try to respond to each item separately in your mind from each other item. There are no "right" or "wrong" answers, so choose the most accurate answer for YOU--not what you think "most people" would say or do. Please circle the one letter that indicates how much you have done each of the following statements says since the unwanted sexual experience occurred using the response choices listed below.

If you did not answer “yes” to any of the questions in the SES-SFV Section (pg. 19), please answer the questions below with regards to the most stressful situation you have been in.

What was this event? (WRITE-IN)________________________

A = I haven't been doing this at all
B = I've been doing this a little bit
C = I've been doing this a medium amount
D = I've been doing this a lot

1. I've been turning to work or other activities to take my mind off things.
   A   B   C   D

2. I've been concentrating my efforts on doing something about the situation I'm in.
   A   B   C   D

3. I've been saying to myself "this isn't real."
   A   B   C   D

4. I've been using alcohol or other drugs to make myself feel better.
   A   B   C   D

5. I've been getting emotional support from others.
   A   B   C   D

6. I've been giving up trying to deal with it.
   A   B   C   D
A = I haven't been doing this at all
B = I've been doing this a little bit
C = I've been doing this a medium amount
D = I've been doing this a lot

7. I've been taking action to try to make the situation better.
   A  B  C  D

8. I've been refusing to believe that it has happened.
   A  B  C  D

9. I've been saying things to let my unpleasant feelings escape.
   A  B  C  D

10. I've been getting help and advice from other people.
    A  B  C  D

11. I've been using alcohol or other drugs to help me get through it.
    A  B  C  D

12. I've been trying to see it in a different light, to make it seem more positive.
    A  B  C  D

13. I've been criticizing myself.
    A  B  C  D

14. I've been trying to come up with a strategy about what to do.
    A  B  C  D

15. I've been getting comfort and understanding from someone.
    A  B  C  D

16. I've been giving up the attempt to cope.
    A  B  C  D

17. I've been looking for something good in what is happening.
    A  B  C  D

18. I've been making jokes about it.
    A  B  C  D
A = I haven't been doing this at all
B = I've been doing this a little bit
C = I've been doing this a medium amount
D = I've been doing this a lot

19. I've been doing something to think about it less, such as going to movies, watching TV, reading, daydreaming, sleeping, or shopping.
   A   B   C   D

20. I've been accepting the reality of the fact that it has happened.
   A   B   C   D

21. I've been expressing my negative feelings.
   A   B   C   D

22. I've been trying to find comfort in my religion or spiritual beliefs.
   A   B   C   D

23. I’ve been trying to get advice or help from other people about what to do.
   A   B   C   D

24. I've been learning to live with it.
   A   B   C   D

25. I've been thinking hard about what steps to take.
   A   B   C   D

26. I’ve been blaming myself for things that happened.
   A   B   C   D

27. I've been praying or meditating.
   A   B   C   D

28. I've been making fun of the situation.
   A   B   C   D
Impact of Events Scale - Revised

Below is a list of difficulties people sometimes have after stressful life events. Please read each item, and then indicate how distressing each difficulty has been for you during the past 7 days with respect to the incident that you recalled as most distressing to you on the line given on page 19. How much were you distressed or bothered by these difficulties?

If you did not encounter any of the experiences that were listed in the SES-SFV, please answer the questions below with regards to the most stressful situation you have been in.

What was this event? (WRITE-IN)_______________________________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Not at all</th>
<th>A little bit</th>
<th>Moderately</th>
<th>Quite a bit</th>
<th>Extremely</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Any reminder brought back feelings about it.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. I had trouble staying asleep.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Other things kept making me think about it.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. I felt irritable and angry.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. I avoided letting myself get upset when I thought about it or was reminded of it.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. I thought about it when I didn’t mean to.</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. I felt as if it hadn’t happened or wasn’t real.</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. I stayed away from reminders about it.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Pictures about it popped into my mind.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. I was jumpy and easily startled.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. I tried not to think about it.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. I was aware that I still had a lot of feelings about it, but I didn’t deal with them.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. My feelings about it were kind of numb.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>14. I found myself acting or feeling like I was back at that time.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
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Illinois Rape Myth Acceptance

**DIRECTIONS:** Please read the following statements and indicate the extent to which you agree with each item using the scale provided. There are no right or wrong answers. Please choose only one option for each item. Please use the scale below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Not at all Agree</th>
<th>Very Much Agree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. If a woman is raped while she is drunk, she is at least somewhat responsible for letting things get out of control.

2. Although most women wouldn't admit it, they generally find being physically forced into sex a real "turn-on".

3. If a woman is willing to "make out" with a guy, then it's no big deal if he goes a little further and has sex.

4. Many women secretly desire to be raped.

5. Most rapists are not caught by the police.

6. If a woman doesn't physically fight back, you can't really say that it was rape.
<p>| | | | | | | | |</p>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7. Men from nice middle class homes almost never rape.</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Rape accusations are often used as a way of getting back at men.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. All women should have access to self-defense classes.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. It is usually only women who dress suggestively that are raped.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. If the rapist doesn't have a weapon, you can't really call it rape.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Rape is unlikely to happen in the woman's own familiar neighborhood.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Women tend to exaggerate how much rape affects them.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. A lot of women lead a man on and then they cry rape.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. It is preferable that a female police officer conduct the questioning when a woman reports rape.</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>16. A woman who &quot;teases&quot; men deserves anything that might happen.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>17. When women are raped, it's often because the way they said &quot;no&quot; was ambiguous.</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>18. Men don't usually intend to force sex on a woman, but sometimes they get too sexually carried away.</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>19. A woman who dresses in skimpy clothes should not be surprised if a man tries to force her to have sex.</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<td>20. Rape happens when a man's sex drive gets out of control.</td>
<td>1</td>
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Below are statements describing thoughts women often have about why an unwanted sexual experience occurred. Please answer the questions below with regards to why you believe unwanted sexual experiences occurred. Without regards to any experiences you have had, How often have you thought: Unwanted sexual experiences occur IN SOCIETY because . . .

1= Never  2 = Rarely  3 = Sometimes  4 = Often  5 = Very Often

1. Society doesn’t do enough to prevent violence against women.  
   1 2 3 4 5

2. The woman used poor judgment.  
   1 2 3 4 5

3. The woman was just the victim type.  
   1 2 3 4 5

4. It was just bad luck.  
   1 2 3 4 5

5. The person thought he could get away with it.  
   1 2 3 4 5

6. Men are taught not to respect women.  
   1 2 3 4 5

7. The woman should have resisted more.  
   1 2 3 4 5

8. She was a careless person.  
   1 2 3 4 5

9. She was in the wrong place at the wrong time.  
   1 2 3 4 5

10. The person wanted to feel power over someone.  
    1 2 3 4 5

11. Men are socialized to be violent.  
    1 2 3 4 5

12. She should have been more cautious.  
    1 2 3 4 5

13. Things like this happen to people like her.  
    1 2 3 4 5

14. Things like this happen at random.  
    1 2 3 4 5

15. The person was sick.  
    1 2 3 4 5

16. In our society, women are just sex objects.  
    1 2 3 4 5
|   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1= Never | 2 = Rarely | 3 = Sometimes | 4 = Often | 5 = Very Often |
| 17. She just put myself into a vulnerable situation. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 18. She is unlucky. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 19. She was a victim of chance. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 20. The person was angry at women. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 21. The media encourages violence against women. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 22. She didn’t do enough to protect herself. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 23. She is too trusting. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 24. Bad things like this are just a part of life. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 25. The person wanted to hurt someone. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |