Investigation of the Role of Childhood Adversity on Adult Antisocial Behavior

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Background

Antisocial Behavior

Unsuccessful adjusting to social norms
Disregard for rules and authority
Manipulative, unstable, and aggressive

Stronger attachment predicts less antisocial behavior
(Sousa et al., 2010)

Avoidant individuals more likely to behave antisocially
(Allen et al., 1998)

ACEs are positively correlated with recidivism rate
(De Vita et al., 2020)

Hypotheses

1. Main

- Childhood Trauma and Parental Attachment will significantly predict variance in Adult Antisocial Behavior
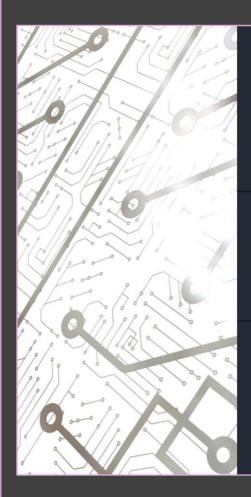
2. Exploratory

- Attachment with the mother versus father will have different impact on antisocial behavior

Methods

Procedure:

- Anonymous Qualtrics survey
- Questionnaires from SNHU PSYCHTests database
- Distributed anonymous link and flyer on Brightspace
- Consent collected as yes/no question

PARTICIPANTS NEEDED!

FOR A SURVEY INVESTIGATING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EVENTS IN CHILDHOOD AND ADULT BEHAVIOR

Ends March 19th!

WHO DO WE NEED:

- Current University Day Campus SNHU students
- Between 18 and 60 years of age

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- 35 minutes long
- Answer as honestly as possible
- Completely anonymous

LINK
https://snhu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cOanmbJksFXv7X8

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Participants

Who was Recruited

- Currently enrolled at SNHU
- 18 years to 60 years old
- Undergrad, day campus students
- No diagnosis of Schizophrenia, Bipolar Disorder, or Conduct Disorder

Who Participated

- 40 students
- Between 18 and 39 years old
  - ($m = 21.15$)

	Demographic	Frequency	Percent
Gender			
	Male	7	17.5
	Female	33	82.5
	Total	40	100
Ethnicity			
	Black	1	2.5
	Asian	1	2.5
	Caucasian	37	92.5
	Other	1	2.5
	Total	40	100
Education Achieved			
	First Year	10	25
	Second Year	4	10
	Third Year	14	35
	Fourth Year	8	20
	Bachelors	4	10
	Total	40	100
Psychology Major			
	Yes	21	52.5
	No	19	47.5
	Total	40	100

Survey

Demographics

- Age*
- Gender
- Education
- Ethnicity
- History of mental health*

Questionnaires

- Psychological Maltreatment Review
- Adverse Childhood Effects Questionnaire
- DSM-IV ADHD Symptom Rating Scale*
- Short Anger Measure*
- Bipolar Prodrome Symptom Scale*
- Antisocial Behavior Measure

Survey

Linear Regressions for Antisocial Behavior

Mother

- Factors of mPMR and ACE Score
- Factors of mPMR Support
- Factors of mPMR abuse and neglect

Father

- Factors of fPMR and ACE Score
- Factors of fPMR Support
- Factors of fPMR abuse and neglect

Result 1

Childhood Trauma and Parental Attachment will Significantly Predict Variance in Adult Antisocial Behavior

Factors of mPMR and ACE Score

- $F_{(4,39)}$
- Adjusted R-square (.012)
- Significance of .362

Factors of fPMR and ACE Score

- $F_{(4,39)}$
- Adjusted R-square (.084)
- Significance of .133

- Antisocial Behavior as dependent variable
- Mother Psychological Maltreatment Review (mPMR) vs. Father Psychological Maltreatment Review (fPMR)
- Psychological Abuse omitted in ACE Score
- Results do not support hypothesis

Result 2

Attachment with the Mother versus Father will have Different Impact on Antisocial Behavior

Dependent ASB Score with factor of fPMR Support Score

Model	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F.	Pearson Correlation	Sig.
Regression	48.735	1	48.735	4.033	-.013	.052
Residual	459.165	38	12.083			
Total	507.900	39				

Dependent ASB Score with factors of fPMR Abuse and Neglect

Model	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F.	Pearson Correlation	Sig.
Regression	83.763	2	41.882	3.654	.060	.036
Residual	424.137	37	11.463			
Total	507.900	39				

- Trending effect on antisocial behavior by father support
  - Negative correlation

- Effect on antisocial behavior by father abuse and neglect
  - Positive correlation

- Findings lost with more data

- Combined fPMR score insignificant

Overall Findings	• Data did not support hypotheses • Alludes to importance of relationship with father figure
Limitations	• Not representative • Healthy sample
Future Direction	• Identifying predictors • Curb offending

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