

The Effects of an Aggressive-Erotic Stimulus as a
Factor for Aggressive Behavior Against Women

Thesis

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Sheryl Brock

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Header: Erotica and Aggressive Behavior

Abstract

This proposal examined the effects of the victims' behavioral characteristics in an aggressive-erotic situation on subsequent aggressive behavior and negative attitudes towards women. It was hypothesized that subjects' restraints against women would be lowered if a woman is perceived as finding the sexual aggression towards her as pleasurable. Thirty-three males and fifty-nine females from Introductory Psychology at Algoma University participated in the study. Aggression and negative attitudes were measured by Burt's Rape Myth Acceptance Scale (1980) and through a 'mock trial' scenario. It was found that behavioral characteristics of a victim as well as previous attitudes can affect aggressive behavior and negative attitudes towards women; though not at a significant level for this study. The implications of the findings are discussed.

Introduction

Twentieth century changes in sexual attitudes have been characterized as the 'sexual revolution'. These changes include an increased tolerance for sexual content in books, magazines and movies, which in turn has helped contribute to an increase in sexual permissiveness and acceptance in the public of the 'rape myth' (i.e. the belief that women are ultimately enjoy being violated). These changes in attitudes is one of the reasons for the increased concern in the last decade about rape and other forms of aggression against women.

Some writers (Burt, 1980; Donnerstein, 1980) have indicated that mass media and particularly pornography are important contributions to these assaults. Pornography is defined as sexually explicit material that portrays and endorses degrading or abusive behavior (Longins, 1980). Concerns about sexually

explicit materials, especially when violence is the theme, have a long history, with findings often conflicting as to whether some types of pornography have a detrimental effect in society (Commission on Obscenity & Pornography, 1971). The report stated that sexually violent material 'leads to a greater acceptance of the 'rape myth' in its broader sense, that women enjoy being coerced into sexual activity and that they enjoy being physically hurt in a sexual context' (Commission on Obscenity & Pornography, 1971).

Barclay and Harber (1965) conducted an investigation in which male or female students were provoked or not provoked by being rudely treated by the experimenter or insulted by their instructor. Subjects were then asked to write stories in response to pictorial stimuli that were similar to those of the Thematic Appreciation Test (TAT). The stories were analyzed for contents pertaining to sex and aggression, the main measures being sexual and aggressive imagery. Self-reports of anger were also obtained in order to ascertain the effectiveness of the provocation

treatment. According to the self-reports, the provocation treatment increased levels of anger over those in the control condition in females, but not in males. Both males and females exhibited increased aggressive imagery in the provocation condition.

The relationship between sexual and aggressive drive has been further explored in a series of investigations conducted by Feshbach and his associates (c.f. Malamuth, Feshbach & Jaffe, 1977). These experimenters exposed males to sexually arousing erotic literature or to science-fiction readings devoid of sexual and aggressive content. Subjects then had to administer electric shocks to another person in response to errors made by that person on a task. Subjects were allowed to choose the intensity of shock administered, which served as a measure of aggressiveness. The intensity of the shock employed was found to be significantly higher following sexually arousing literature than following the scientific fiction readings.

Feshbach and Malamuth(1978) offered a new account for the presumed connection between sex and aggression. These investigators proposed that society tends to place strong taboos on the behavioral expression of many sexual and aggressive impulses. They suggested that the reduction or the removal of inhibitions concerning the one type of behavior(sexual) will generalize to the other type of behavior(aggression), thereby facilitating the expression of the latter.

According to Feshbach and Malamuth(1978): "sexual arousal is not a stimulus for aggression(pg.114), but increased aggression is expected to follow sexual stimulation" (because) " a reduction in sexual inhibition will generalize to aggressive behavior where there are common taboos affecting sex and aggression (Zillimann,1984).Sex and aggression may overlap and intertwine to a high degree, producing a fusion of the two behaviors. It seems more often than not elements of one behavior will enter into the other type of behavior. The possible fusion of sex and aggression applies to both men and women.

The proposal by Feshbach & Malamuth(1978)that sex and aggression, because of their common taboo status, are mutually inhibitory was severely challenged by a number of experimental investigations in which effects opposite to the expectations have been reported. For example a of number studies (Baron, 1974, Zillmann, Bryan, Comisky and Medoff, 1981) indicate that subjects report unperturbed, pleasant excitement after exposure to erotica. Baron (1977) conducted a series of investigations in which sexually stimulating materials were found to consistently diminish aggressive behavior. Other investigators(Bryant & Zillmann, 1982) have corroborated Baron's findings of diminished aggressiveness after exposure to mild erotica(eg. photographs of heterosexual intercourse).

Donnerstein, Donnerstein & Evans(1975) conducted an investigation in which males were provoked through insult or not provoked though insult, exposed to non-erotic aggressive stimuli, photographs of nude females, or photographs of heterosexual intercourse and then provided the opportunity to behave punitively. Exposure

to the various stimuli had no effect on the punitive behavior of unprovoked males. Exposure to non-sexual aggressive stimuli and photographs of heterosexual intercourse, however, did effect the punitive behavior of the provoked males. It has been suggested (Burt, 1980, Donnerstein, 1981, Malamuth, 1980, & Zillmann, 1984) that it is not the sexual act per se that could facilitate further aggressive acts, but that it is the violent content that increases the willingness of male to aggress against women, increase the acceptance of interpersonal violence and increase their false beliefs about rape.

Evidence of the negative effects of viewing explicit sexual stimuli can be seen in a study conducted by Zillmann & Bryant (1984). These investigators arranged for male and female volunteers to watch a series of films. Subjects watched either erotic films depicting a wide range of heterosexual acts (kissing, hugging, intercourse) or were not exposed to such erotic films. Findings indicate that those who had been exposed to a large dose of 'erotic' material were more lenient in their attitudes towards a

fictitious rapist when asked to recommend a sentence for him(Zillmann & Bryant,1984). This was equally true when women were asked to recommend sentencing. It was not made clear by Zillmann & Bryant, however, if these results were because of increased negative attitudes toward the victim or that attitudes toward the rapist were more lenient.

Donnerstein and Berkowitz(1981), investigated whether behavioral characteristics of the people in the erotic films and the nature of the targets available for the aggression afterwards can affect subsequent aggression. Male subjects were either provoked by a male confederate or a female confederate. Subjects were then exposed to one of the four stimulus films(1 neutral film and 3 erotic films). The erotic films differed in terms of their aggressive content(two were aggressive one was nonaggressive) and the reactions of the female victim in the two aggressive films(positive vs negative). Donnerstein and Berkowitz defined 'positive aggressive erotic' as stimulus material in which the female victim is depicted as enjoying the

insult upon her and in no way resisting the outcome.
'Negative aggressive erotic' was defined by the authors as stimulus material in which the woman was depicted as suffering and one in which she finds the experience humiliating and disgusting.

Results indicate that when the male subjects were allowed to on either a male or a female target, that films had no effect on subject's behavior toward male targets, whereas both types of aggressive erotic films increased aggression toward female targets. The authors hypothesized that the reason for these results is that in the 'positive aggressive erotic' condition, because that women was depicted as enjoying the assault upon them, it could have, at least temporarily, made aggression towards the female confederate seem justifiable. The results obtained for the 'negative aggressive erotic' condition were hypothesized to have occurred because the subjects had already been predisposed to anger by the female confederate and that the victim's distress in the films heightened aggression-facilitating reactions within them to the

extent that the subjects associated the female confederate's behavioral characteristics with those of the female in the film depictions.

Researchers have explored the relationship of attitudes toward women, and sex-role stereotyping to rape attitudes and rape definitions (Burt, 1980), and found that sex-role stereotyping varies directly with rape myth acceptance or restrictive definitions of rape. Burt (1980) identified three additional attitudinal variables; sexual conservatism, adversarial sexual beliefs, and acceptance of interpersonal violence as to have a relationship of the attitudes towards women. Sex-role stereotyping, sexual conservatism, adversarial sexual beliefs, sex-role satisfaction and acceptance of interpersonal violence was hypothesized by Burt (1980) to form a generalized cultural background for attitudes focusing specifically on sexual violence.

Sexual conservatism refers to restrictions on the appropriateness of sexual partners, sexual acts and conditions or circumstances under which sex should

occur. It differs from sex-role stereotyping in that it focuses solely on sexual behavior rather than familial, work or social roles. Adversarial sexual beliefs refers to the expectation that sexual relationships are explorative; that each party to them is manipulative, sly, cheating, opaque to the others understanding, and not to be trusted. Acceptance of interpersonal violence refers to the notion that force and coercion are legitimate ways to gain compliance and specifically that they are legitimate in intimate and sexual relationships(Burt, 1980).

Some critics have questioned the ethics of research that exposes subjects to violent sexual depictions(Sherif, 1989). However, with proper debriefing, the rationale and feasibility for further research directed at reducing the acceptance of rape myths and negative attitudes towards women seems justified. At present, there is some indication that viewing explicit sexual materials can contribute, along with other factors(sexual experience) to the occurrence of sexual aggression and attitudes towards women.

The purpose of this proposal was to examine the effects that aggressive-erotic situation and the behavioral characteristics of the female on subsequent aggression or negative attitudes towards women. The study employs female subjects as well as male subjects. The reason for this is that there have been suggestions in previous writings (Maccoby & Jackson, 1976) on sex differences to the effect that the two sexes may be equally aggressive in the sense of underlying motivation to hurt others, but that the two sexes characteristically show their aggression in different ways. This hypothesis takes two forms:

1. The two sexes are reinforced for different forms of aggression. Women are allowed to show hostility in subtle ("catty") ways, but not physical ways. Physical aggression is thought to be appropriate for men, whereas not for women. Behavioral differentiation follows different socialization pressures for the two sexes in these directions.

2. Aggression is generally less acceptable for women and is more actively discouraged by them by

either direct punishment, withdrawal of affection or simply cognitive training that "that isn't the way females act". Females' then build up greater anxieties about aggression and greater inhibitions against displaying it; the result being that women's aggressive impulses find expression in displaced, attenuated or disguised forms(Maccoby & Jacklin, 1978)

It was hypothesized that exposure to an aggressive-erotic stimulus would facilitate aggression and negative attitudes towards women, particularly if the female victim is depicted as enjoying the assault against her. Previous studies have found this to be true when using male subjects. It was hypothesize that this would also be found among female subjects and that females, because they do not have to display any physical aggression, might actually be more aggressive in their attitudes. The implications of such findings on society and women as well as suggestions as how negative attitudes might be altered is be discussed.

Method

Subjects

Subjects were recruited from Introductory Psychology at Algoma University. Data was collected from 115 subjects, out of which data was retained for 93 of these subjects (33 males and 59 females). Subjects were told that the purpose of the experiment is to assess attitudes on various social issues (eg. abortion, legalization of drugs, laws, violence in television etc.). Subjects were also told that some of the materials used might be offensive and that participation was voluntary. Data collection took approximately 15-20 minutes to complete. Subjects were randomly assigned to one of the treatment conditions.

Design

A 2*2 design, based on two levels of the independent variable; positive aggressive-erotic (PAE), and negative aggressive-erotic (NAE) and gender differences was employed in this study. These two levels of the independent variable were previously employed by Donnersstein (1981), in which results

indicated that male subjects, who had been angered or non-angered, were more aggressive toward a female confederate after viewing a positive-aggressive film. (Table 1).

Insert Table 1 about here.

Apparatus

Stimulus Materials

Stimulus consisted of two passages. Each passage consisted of approximately 150 words, 10 words set the scene, 10 words described the victim/partner, 15 words described the approach and the intention of the narrator, 25 words described the victims/partners responses, approximately 45 words described the sexual content, if any, and the victims/partners response or resistance, and approximately 40 words described continuing contact and response. All partners/victims were described as attractive. The passages are the same as those employed by Quensey, Chaplin, and Upfold(1984) and were found to be effective(see Appendix A)

Attitudinal Correlates

Items used to measure sex-role stereotyping, sex-role beliefs, adversarial sexual beliefs, and acceptance of interpersonal violence were taken from Burt's Interpersonal Violence Scale. Items are measured on a 7-point scale ranging from "strongly agree" to "strongly disagree". A low score would indicate acceptance to stereo type beliefs, adversarial sexual beliefs, sexual conservatism and acceptance to interpersonal violence(see Appendix B).

PROCEDURE

Packages of the materials used were constructed prior to data collection. Each package was constructed so that the materials appeared in the following order: 1) the attitudinal correlates, 2) one of the two passages, 3) seven questions about the nature of the passage, 4) a short questionnaire on various social aspects(eg.law, abortion, drug abuse, etc), and Burt,s Rape Myth Acceptance Scale (Table 2).

Insert Table 2 about here.

With permission from the instructor, packages were randomly distributed to subject during a regularly scheduled class time. Subjects were told that the purpose of the experiment was to evaluate different attitudes concerning various social aspects(i.e. law, abortion, drug abuse, aids etc). Subjects were told that all answers would be completely anonymous and that 2 'bonus' marks towards their final mark could be awarded to them for their participation. Subjects were also told that some of the materials might be quite offensive and that participation was of their choice. Packages were then randomly distributed to the class with the final request that subjects indicate their gender at the top of the package.

Aggression Measures

The dependent variables are the aggressive attitudes displayed by the subjects. This was measured on two levels, one employing a mock sentencing and

Burt's Rape Myth Acceptance Scale. The mock sentencing was one of the questions incorporated into the social aspects questionnaire.

For the 'mock trial' subjects read a short passage on a criminal offense case involving a women who had been charged with embezzling money from the company that she works at. Subjects were asked to express which sentencing they would recommend from a list that was provided for them. Ratings were made on a seven point scale from most lenient sentence a more severe sentencing.

The second measure of the dependent variable used was the Rape Myth Acceptance Scale developed by Burt(1980). This is comprised of 19 items assessing subjects' attitudes toward rape and violence. Ratings are made on a 7-point scale ranging from "strongly agree' to "strongly disagree"(see Appendix C)

After subjects have completed the materials they were thanked for their time and consideration. Subjects were also told that after statistical procedures had been completed that they would be informed of the

results obtained. Subjects were reassured that individual answers on any of the questionnaires was completely anonymous. At the completion of statistical procedures, subjects were informed of the results obtained as well as debriefed as to the purpose of the experiment.

RESULTS

Attitudinal Correlates

Statistical analysis, using Pearson Correlation Coefficients, revealed that there was a correlation between sex-role stereotyping and acceptance to rape myths. Sex-role stereotyping seemed to be a significant indicator to acceptance to rape myths. Ratings on sexual conservatism and acceptance to interpersonal violence also seemed to correlate with ratings on the Rape Myth Acceptance Scale, but not at a significant level (table 3).

Insert table 3 about here.

Passage Ratings

Passage ratings were analyzed for victim treatment on the measures of: a) whether the victim was suffering, b) whether the victim was enjoying the treatment, and c) whether the victim was responsible. For victim suffering, both male and female subjects in the 'negative aggressive erotic' condition viewed the victim as suffering than the victim in the 'positive aggressive erotic condition. Male mean rate for victim suffering in the positive condition was 3.38 with a SD 1.71. Female mean rating for victim suffering in the positive condition was 3.39 with a Sd of 1.86. For victim suffering in the negative condition males scored a mean rating of 1.25 a SD of .68. Females in the negative condition scored a mean rating of 1.06 with a SD of .36.

For victim enjoyment in the positive condition males scored a mean of 2.38 with a SD of 1.03. Female in the positive condition scored a mean of 2.75 with a SD of 1.18. Males in the negative condition yielded a mean of 6.18 with a SD of 1.10. Females in the negative

condition scored a mean of 6.66 with a SD of .75. For the positive condition males scored a mean rating of 2.3 and female scored a mean rating of 2.7.

For victim responsibility analysis yielded a mean of 6.25 and a SD 1.12 for male subjects in the negative condition and 6.66 and a SD .80 for females in this condition. For the positive condition males scored a mean rating of 2.6 and a SD 1.41. Female scored a mean rating of 3.17 and a SD 1.8(see table 4). Figure 1 shows the means for gender and ratings.

Insert fig. 1 about here.

Rape Myth Ratings

Statistical analysis computed for ratings on the Rape Myth Acceptance Scale did not yield significant results according to gender by condition. Males in the negative condition yielded a mean of 5.22 with a SD of .78. Females in the negative condition yielded a mean of 5.76 with a SD of .53. For the positive condition

males yielded a mean of 5.25 with a SD of .70. Female in the positive condition yielded a mean of 5.51 with a SD of .93(fig. 2).

Insert fig. 2 about here.

There were significant results for gender and ratings on the Rape Myth Acceptance Scale. Males scored a mean of 5.24 with a SD of .72 Females ratings yielded a mean score of 5.64 with a SD of .76

Mock Trial Scores

For punishment given to the female in the mock trial scenario there were no significant gender differences found nor did treatment condition appear to have an effect on sentence given. Table 5 gives the degree of sentencing given to the female according to gender and treatment condition.

Insert table 5 about here.

Discussion

Although significant results were not found, the results indicate that behavioral characteristics of the female victim in sexually aggressive materials as well as previous attitudes can have an effect on the acceptance of rape myths. It is possible that the passages used were not vivid enough to yield significant results or that the measures used for aggression were not valid measures in this case. The fact that in the positive aggressive erotic condition there was more acceptance to the rape myths could indicate that sexually aggressive situation in which the women is perceived as enjoying the assault may increase the acceptance of negative attitudes and rape myths. Female subjects in this condition did show more acceptance to the rape myths, but not at a significant level.

This study indicates also that previous attitudes, in particular, sex role stereo typing does correlate with acceptance to rape myths. It appears that the more

a person is acceptive of sex role stereo types the more acceptive of rape myths. However, other factors play a role in the acceptance to rape myths and interpersonal violence.

It appears that it is not the sexual themes per se that facilitates negative attitudes towards women, but that it is the aggressive content combined with the behavioral characteristics of the victim that increases negative attitudes towards women. Because women are often depicted as enjoying the assault against them in sexually aggressive materials, subjects might come to think, at least temporarily, that their own aggressive behavior and negative attitudes is justifiable. It seems possible that this could be true for female subjects as well as male subjects.

If findings are accurate then proper educational procedures should be incorporated into the school systems at an early level. Debunking the myths at an early age might be a plausible way to prevent negative attitudes towards women from developing.

References

Barclay, A., M., & Harber, R. N. (1965). The relation of aggression to sexual motivation. Journal of Personality 33, 462-465.

Male and female subjects were provoked or were not provoked and then asked to write stories in response to pictorial stimuli. The provocation treatment increased aggressive imagery for both male and females, however females were somewhat less expressive sexually than males.

Baron, R., Bell, Paul. (1977). Sexual arousal and aggression by males. Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, 35, 79-87.

Male subjects were first angered or treated in a neutral way by a confederate of the experimenter and then exposed to one of five levels of stimuli. It was hypothesized that exposure to mild erotic stimuli would tend to inhibit subsequent aggression, while exposure

to more arousing stimuli of the type would facilitate aggressive behavior. Results indicated that exposure to mild erotic stimuli inhibited later aggression, while exposure to more arousing sexual materials neither facilitated nor inhibited.

Baron, R., Byrne, D. (1987). Social Psychology, 5th edition Ch. 15, 554-557.

These experimenters found that after male and female subjects had been exposed to large doses of an erotic stimulus that, after when asked to recommend sentencing for an accused rapists, that both male and female subjects were more lenient in their sentencing.

Burt, M.(1980). Cultural Myths and Support for rape. Journal of Personality and Social Psychology.33, 217-230.

This article describes the 'rape myth'and tests hypotheses derived from social psychology that acceptance of rape myths can be predicted from attitudes such as sex-role stereo-typing, adversarial sexual beliefs and acceptance of interpersonal violence.

Donnerstein, E., Berkowitz L.(1981). Victim reactions in aggressive erotic films as a factor in violence against women. Journal of Personality and Social Psychology. 41, 710-724.

This study investigated whether behavioral characteristics of the people in various levels of erotic films and the nature of the targets available for aggression afterward can affect subsequent aggression. Results indicated that films had no effect on male targets, whereas both types of aggressive erotic films(positive vs negative outcome) increased aggression towards female targets.

Donnerstein, E., Donnerstein, M., Evans, R.(1975).

Erotic stimuli and aggression. Facilitation or inhibition. Journal of Personality and Social Psychology. 32, 237-244.

Males were provoked though insult or not provoked, exposed to non-erotic and erotic stimuli, and then provided the opportunity to behave punitively. Exposure to the various stimuli had no effect on the punitive

behavior of unprovoked men. Mild sexual titillation was found to reduce motivated aggressiveness.

Feshbach, S., & Malamuth, N. (1978). Sex and aggression: proving the link. Psychology Today 111-114; 116-117.

According to Feshbach & Malamuth "sexual arousal is not a stimulus for aggression, but increased aggression is expected to follow sexual stimulation because a reduction in sexual inhibition will generalize to aggressive behavior where there are common taboos affecting sex and aggression.

Koss, M., & Oros, C. (1982). Sexual Experiences Survey. Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology. 50, 455-457.

The assumption that age, education, marital status and gender will effect sexual behavior. These authors found that such behavior does effect sexual behavior or attitudes. Such variable were also used in this study.

Linz, D., Donnerstein, E., Perod, S.

(1987). The findings and

recommendations of the Attorney

General's Commission on
pornography. American Psychologist
42, 946-953.

The Attorney General Commission has concluded that while some forms of pornography can have detrimental effects, that there is only a causal relationship between exposure to pornography and antisocial effects, including increased levels of violence against women. While the Commission recommended that stricter laws be imposed that controls the distribution of highly aggressive 'pornographic' material, the authors of this paper suggested a educational approach in which people are made aware of the negative attitudes that such material can created in society.

Maccoby, E.E. & Jackson, C.N.(1974). The Psychology of Sex Differences. 227-237.

These authors stated that it is not that males are more aggressive than females, but that females display their aggression differently than males.

Females tend to express their aggression in disguised and more subtle ways.

Malamuth, N.(1986). Predictors of naturalistic

Sexual Aggression. Journal of Personality and Social Psychology 50, 953-962.

This article intergraded varied predicted factors pertaining to males sexual aggression against women. The selection of predictors was guided by theorizing that sexual aggression is caused by the interaction among multiple factors, including those creating the motivation for the act, those reducing internal and external inhibitions and those providing the opportunity for the act to occur

Malamuth,N., Check,J. & Breire,J.(1986). Sexual

arousal in response to aggression: Ideological, aggressive and sexual correlates. Journal of Personality and Social Psychology 50, 330-340.

This experiment assessed the impact of aggression on non-rapists sexual arousal. subjects reported more sexual arousal in response to non-aggressive than to

aggressive depiction when the portrayals were sexually explicit. The authors found strong differences in ideological factors, including acceptance of violence against women and dominance over women.

Malmuth, N. & Check, J. (1983). Sexual Arousal to

Rape Depictions: Individual Differences.

Journal of Abnormal Psychology 92, 55-67.

Subjects participated in a two part study. The first session of the study assessed personality variable and sexual experience. In the second session of this study subjects were exposed to one of eight audiotape depictions of a sexual interaction between a man and a woman. Results indicated that the victims reactions within the rape scenes are of considerable importance. If the woman is portrayed as being aroused, the subsequent aggression towards women is seen as justifiable.

Malamuth, N. & Check J. (1980). Sexual arousal to

rape and consenting depicts. Journal of

Abnormal Psychology 89, 763-766.

Students were randomly assigned to read one of eight passages. Results indicated that if the women is portrayed as being aroused, irrespective of whether they portrayed rape or consenting, subjects reported being more sexually aroused than those where the women had been portrayed as being disgusted.

Quinsey, V., Chaplin, T., & Upfold, D. (1984) Sexual arousal to nonsexual violence and sadomasochistic themes among rapists and non-sex-offenders. Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology 52, 651-657.

Rapists and non-sex-offenders subjects were presented with audiotape narrations. The categories were female victim/ partner (neutral, consenting sex, rape, non-sexual violence, consenting bondage and nonconsenting bondage). The stories that will be used in this present study.

Zillmann, D. (1984) Connections Between Sex and Aggression. Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, Publishers, London 125-130.

EROTICA

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Zillmann speculated that it was not the sexual act per se that facilitated sexually aggressive attitudes toward women, but that it was the aggression combined with the sexually acts that facilitated aggressive attitudes and behavior toward women.

APPENDIX A

Positive-aggressive-erotic

My girlfriend and I were alone in her room necking. She has soft brown hair and a very appealing figure. She asks me if I will play a little game with her. I say "OK" She hands me some rope and says "Tie me up and spank me. Be mean and hurt me. I really like that. It turns me on" I order to strip. She looks excited and horny as she quickly removes her clothes. I tie her hand behind her back and force her into a kneeling position with her ass high in the air and her face near the floor. I grab a large flat hair brush and begin to spank her really hard. She begins to cry and says, "Please, please hit me some more" Her body begins to tremble with excitement as I continue to spank her. She sobs and moans in ecstasy as she begs me to hit her again and again.

Negative-aggressive-erotic

I am necking with my girlfriend along in my room. Her slender body is tanned a beautiful golden brown. I ask if she will play a little game with me. She says "no". I take some rope and say "I'm going to tie you up and spank you, be mean and hurt you." She says she really doesn't like that, it turns her off. I order her to undress. She looks frightened and unhappy as she disrobes. I tie her hands behind her back and force her into a kneeling position with her ass high in the air and face near the floor. I grab a large flat hair brush and begin to spank her really hard. She begins to cry and says "Please, please stop hitting me." Her trembling body begins twisting to avoid the blows as I continue to spank her. Her flesh reddens with each loud smack of the brush. She sobs and moans in discomfort as she pleads with me to stop hitting her.

Note: Passages were rated on a seven point scale from 'strongly agree' to 'strongly disagree'. The passages were rated on the following criteria:

The passage is interesting:

strongly agree..... moderately agree..... agree.....

neutral..... disagree.....

moderately disagree..... strongly disagree.....

The passage is sexually arousing:

strongly agree..... moderately agree..... agree.....

neutral..... disagree.....

moderately disagree..... strongly disagree.....

The passage is aggressive:

strongly agree..... moderately agree..... agree.....

neutral..... disagree.....

moderately disagree..... strongly disagree.....

The passage has sexual content:

strongly agree..... moderately agree..... agree.....

neutral..... disagree.....

moderately disagree..... strongly disagree.....

Victim treatment:

The victim is suffering:

strongly agree..... moderately agree..... agree.....

neutral..... disagree.....

moderately disagree..... strongly disagree.....

The victim is enjoying the treatment:

strongly agree_____ moderately agree_____ agree_____

neutral_____ disagree_____

moderately disagree_____ strongly disagree_____

The victim is responsible:

strongly agree_____ moderately agree_____ agree_____

neutral_____ disagree_____

moderately disagree_____ strongly disagree_____

Note: Victim treatment criteria were retained for
statistical analysis.

Appendix B

Own sex role satisfaction

How satisfied are you with:

1. Your sympathy and understanding for others
2. Your competence and skilfulness
3. The amount of socializing you do
4. The amount of money you make
5. Your independence and ability to make decisions by yourself.
6. Your participation in sports and athletic activities
7. Your ability to express your emotions
8. Your initiative, or 'get up and go'
9. Your dependability in times of crisis
10. Your attractiveness to the opposite sex

Sex Role Stereotyping

1. A man should fight when the woman he's with is insulted by another man.
2. A woman should be a virgin when she marries.

3. There is something wrong with a woman who doesn't want to marry and raise a family
4. A wife should never contradict her husband in public
5. It is better for a woman to use her feminine charm to get what she wants rather than ask for it outright.
6. It is acceptable for a woman to have a career, but marriage and a family should come first.
7. It looks worse for a woman to be drunk than for a man to be drunk.
8. There is nothing wrong with a woman going to a bar alone

Adversarial Sexual Beliefs

1. A woman will only respect a man who will lay down the law to her.
2. Many woman are so demanding sexually that a man just can't satisfy them.
3. A man's got to show the woman who's boss right from the start or he'll end up henpecked
4. Woman are usually sweet until they've caught a man, but then they let their true self show.

5. A lot of men talk big, but when it comes down to it, they can't perform sexually

6. In dating relationships a woman is largely out to take advantage of a man

7. Men are out for one thing only.

8. Most woman are sly and manipulating when they are out to attract a man.

9. A lot of woman seem to get pleasure in putting men down.

Sexual Conservatism

1. A woman who initiates a sexual encounter will probably have sex with anybody.

2. A woman shouldn't give in sexually to a man too easily or he'll think she is loose.

3. Men have a biologically stronger sex drive than women.

4. A nice woman will be offended or embarrassed by dirty jokes.

5. I would have no respect for a woman who engages in sexual relationships without any emotional involvement.

1. People today should not use "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth" as a rule for living.
 2. Being roughed up is sexually stimulating to many women.
 3. Many times a woman will pretend she doesn't want to have intercourse because she doesn't want to seem loose, but she's really hoping the man will force her.
 4. A wife should move out of the house if her husband hits her.
 5. Sometimes the only way a man can get a cold woman turned on is to use force.
 6. A man is never justified in hitting his wife.
- Note: Responses are recorded on a 7-point scale, ranging from "strongly agree" to "strongly disagree"

Acceptance of Interpersonal Violence

7. Woman have the same sexual needs as men.
8. The primary goal of sexual intercourse should be to have children.
9. Woman have the same sexual needs as men.

Appendix C

RAPE MYTH ACCEPTANCE SCALE ITEMS

1. A women who goes to the home or apartment of a man on their first date implies that she is willing to have sex.
2. Any female can get raped.
3. One reason that women falsely report a rape is that they frequently have a need to call attention to themselves.
4. Any healthy women can successfully resist a rapist if she wants to.
5. When women go around braless or wearing short skirts and tight tops, they are just asking for trouble.
6. In the majority of rapes the victim is promiscuous or has a 'bad' reputation.
7. Women who get rape while hitchhiking get what they deserve
8. Women who engages in necking and petting and she lets things get out of hand, it is her own fault if her partner forces her.

9. A women who is stuck-up and thinks she is too good to talk to guys on the street deserves to be taught a lesson.

10. Many women have an unconscious wish to be raped and may then unconsciously set up a situation in which they are likely to be attacked.

11. If a women gets drunk at a party and has intercourse with a man she's just met there, she should be considered 'fair game' to other males at the party who want to have sex with her too, whether she wants to or not.

Note: Responses to all items are recorded on a 7-point scale, ranging from "strongly agree" to "strongly disagree"

Table Captions

Table 1: This table illustrates the design used in this research proposal. Subjects are sorted according to gender and treatment condition.

Table 2: This table illustrates the sequencing that the stimulus packages were set up.

Table 3: This is an illustration of the Pearson Correlation Coefficients for subjects previous attitudes and acceptance to rape myths. Only sex-role stereotyping indicated a direct relationship to acceptance to rape myths.

Table 4: This table illustrates means and standard deviations for male and female subjects according to ratings on passages according to each measure of victim treatment; victim suffering, victim enjoying treatment, victim responsible for treatment.

Table 5: This table illustrates the degrees of sentencing that female subjects and male subjects recommended for the female in the 'mock trial'

Table 2 PACKAGE STIMULI

Sequencing order of packages:

1. Attitudinal scales
2. one of the two passages
3. rating of passages
4. social aspects questionnaire
5. Burt's Rape Myth Acceptance Scale

Table 3

The Effects of Attitudes on Aggression
Correlation Analysis

	A1	A2	A3	A4
A1	0.0	*** .0001	.1162	*** .017
A2	***.0001	0.0	.047	.036
A3	.1162	.047	.00	.242
A4	***.0173	.03	.242	0.0
RMA	*** .0012	.2925	.617	.506

Note: *** significant at .01 level.

Note: A1 = sex role stereo typing

A2 = adversarial sexual beliefs

A3 = sexual conservatism

A4 = acceptance to interpersonal violence

RMA= Rape Myth Acceptance

Table 4

 MEAN RATINGS AND STANDARD DEVIATIONS FOR PASSAGES

Gender	Group	N	Mean	SD
-----PR1-----				
f	n	30	1.06	.36
f	p	29	3.93	1.86
m	n	16	1.25	.68
m	p	18	3.38	1.71
-----PR2-----				
f	n	30	6.66	.75
f	p	29	2.75	1.18
m	n	16	6.18	1.10
m	p	18	2.38	1.03

PR3

f	n	30	6.66	.80
f	p	29	3.17	1.85
m	n	14	6.25	1.12
m	p	18	2.66	1.41

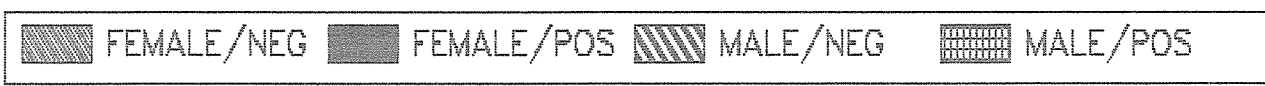
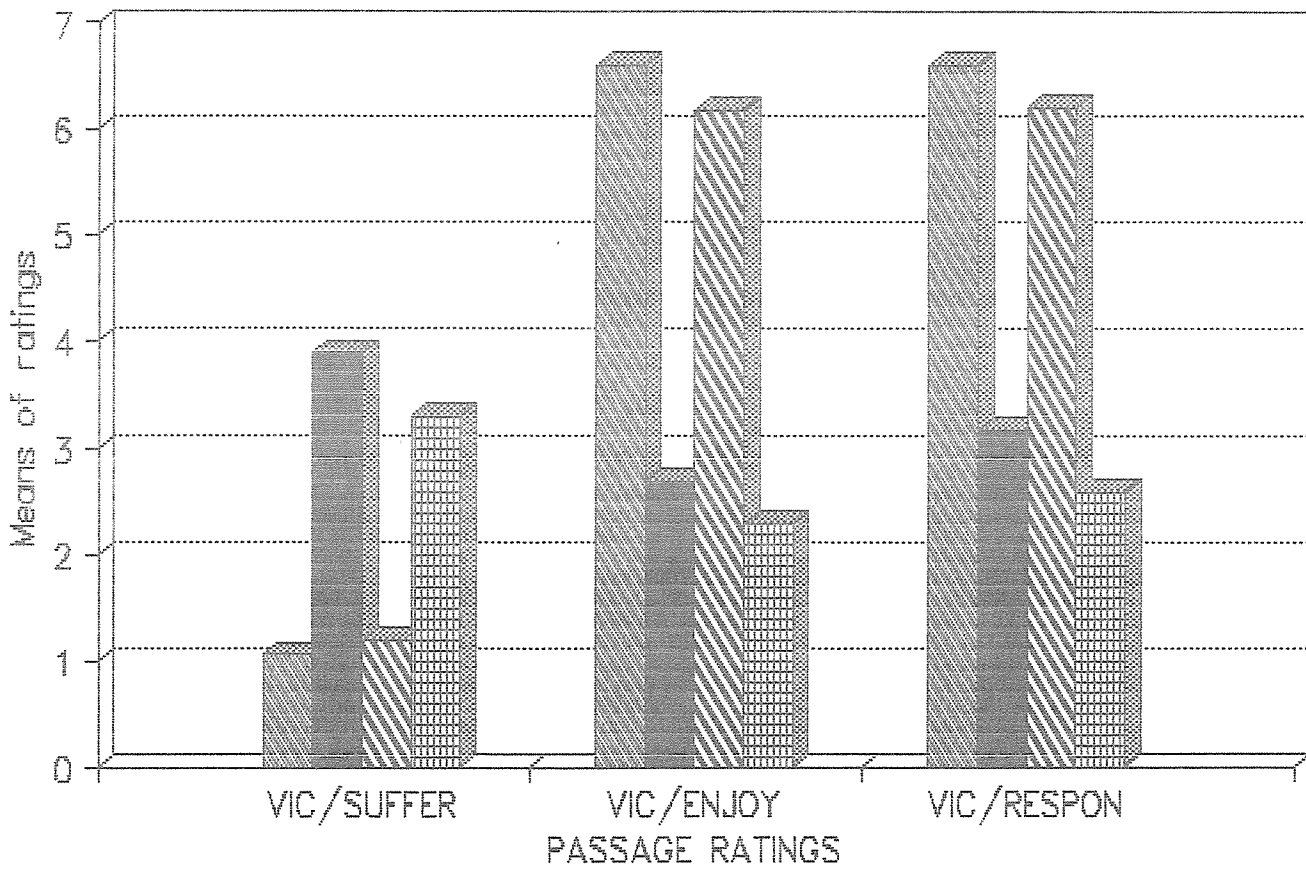
NOTE: PR1 = victim suffering; PR2= victim enjoying
treatment; PR3 = victim responsible; f= female; m=
male; p= positive condition and n=negative condition.

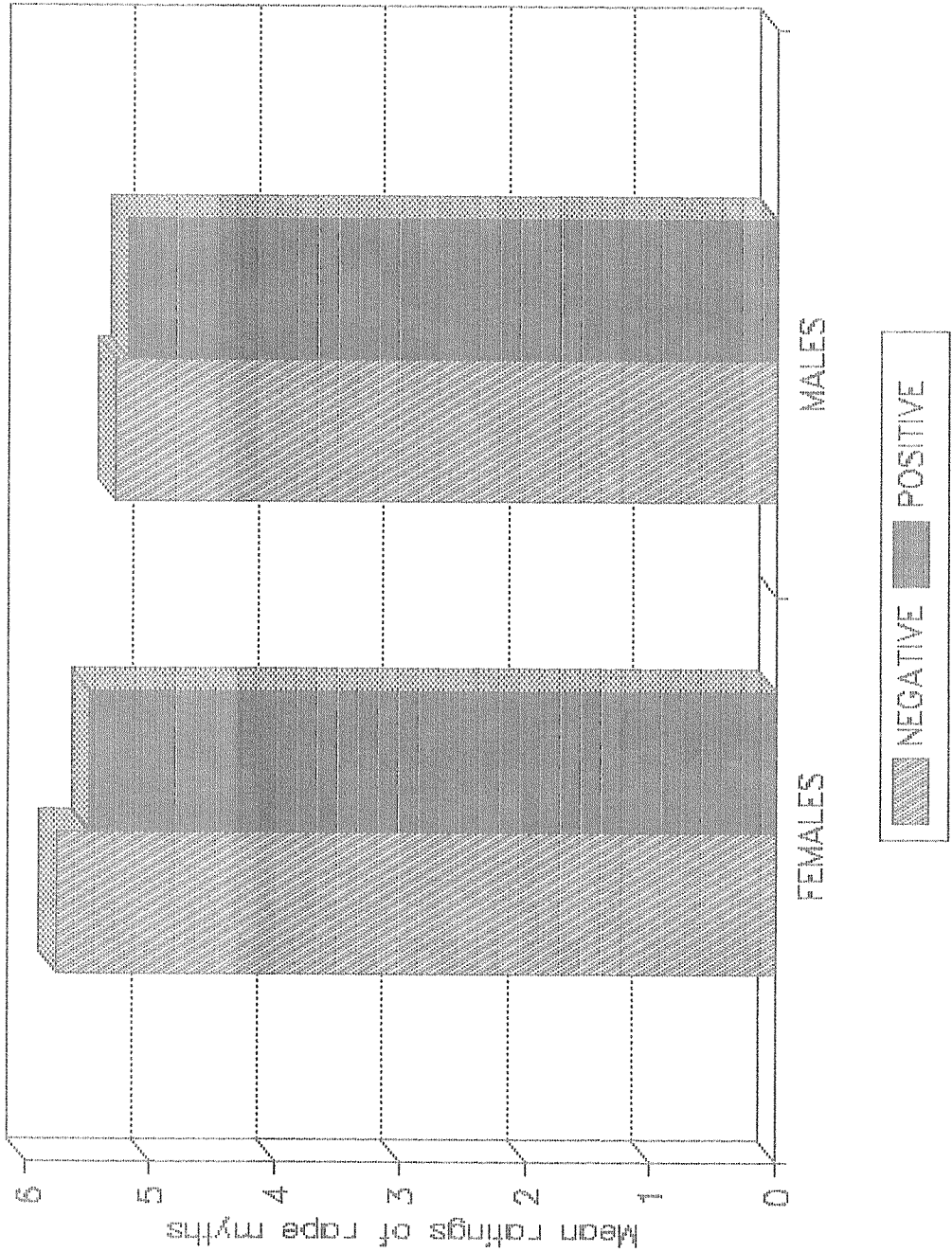
Table 5

 Sentencing given in the 'mock trial' by subjects

	positive condition		negative condition	
	male	female	male	female
	N			
dismissal	0	1	1	0
probation	1	15	1	4
90 days	3	4	2	4
6 months	6	0	2	7
2 yrs <less	4	6	7	11
2-5 years	4	3	4	6

NOTE: The numbers in each cell represent the number of subjects who recommended that sentencing.





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