

***Centre for Forensic & Family
Psychology***



Module code: C84FRP

Student no: 4306860

Year 1 Doctorate in Forensic Psychology
MSc Forensic and Criminological Psychology

2018

Examining the understanding of consent within rape by people who hold a
position of power and the effects this has on reporting

Alice Durham

Journal the paper is written for: Journal of Interpersonal Violence

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1. Ethics Proposal and Application

1a. Ethics Proposal:



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE FACULTY OF MEDICINE & HEALTH SCIENCES

STUDENT RESEARCH PROJECT ETHICS REVIEW

APPLICATION FORM

The University of Nottingham's *Code of Research Conduct and Research Ethics* (2016) underpins the University's commitment to maintaining the highest standards of integrity, rigour and excellence in all aspects of its research and for all research to be conducted according to the appropriate ethical, legal and professional standards. This is consistent with the national framework published by Universities UK, *The Concordat to Support Research Integrity* (2012). Ethical review and approval is required for all projects where the research involves human participants.

The Faculty of Medicine & Health Sciences Research Ethics Committee reviews projects for D.Foren.Psy and MSc by Research in Forensic and Criminological Psychology where NHS patients are not involved.

PROJECT TITLE: Examining the understanding of consent within rape by people who hold a position of power and the effects this has on reporting

SECTION 1: THE STUDENT

CO-INVESTIGATOR (STUDENT)

Alice Durham

STUDENT ID NUMBER 4306860

EMAIL ADDRESS msxad12@exmail.nottingham.ac.uk

COURSE/PROGRAMME Masters (by Research) Forensic and Criminological Psychology

DATES OF COURSE/PROGRAMME September 2017-August 2018

PROPOSED RESEARCH PROJECT START 29/01/2018

PROPOSED RESEARCH PROJECT HAND-IN 01/08/2018

DATE OF ETHICS SUBMISSION 29/01/2018

SECTION 2: TYPE OF STUDY

<i>Does your study involve?</i>	Yes	No
National Health Service (NHS), HM Prison and Probation Services (HMPPS) service users, staff, premises, data or records, and Care Homes	☐	☒

Please first contact the University of Nottingham Research Governance team who co-ordinate research done in collaboration with these bodies by students and staff of the University. Please e-mail sponsor@nottingham.ac.uk giving an outline of what and who your study involves. They will then be able to advise you on what you need to do.

You will need to fill in an IRAS form which will be reviewed by the research governance team as your (legal) Sponsor and give Sponsor approval, which is a requirement of both the NHS and HMPPS.

Please tick below the description/s that best fits the proposed study. Multi-method studies may require more than one choice.

1	Literature review or meta-analysis only (no data collection)	☐
2	Secondary analysis of anonymised dataset with existing ethical or organisational approval	☐
3	Secondary analysis of patient identifiable dataset with existing ethical approval	☐

4	Study using data from a study that is underway and has already been granted ethical approval or an application for approval has been submitted to an appropriate Research Ethics Committee (eg. NRES, SRC)	☐
5	Document analyses (eg. of policy documents)	☐

If you have only ticked boxes in numbers 1-5 above (and none in boxes 6-12 below), the study will not require ethical review from the Ethics Committee. Please go to Sections 3 (to outline the study very briefly) and 9 (explain why review is not required).

6	Study to be conducted/data to be collected outside the UK	☐
7	Internet-mediated research	☒
8	Participant contact study in an organisation (other than National Health Service, HMPPS, staff, premises, data or records, and Care Homes) involving questionnaires, interviews, focus groups or observations	☐
9	Participant contact study in an organisation (other than National Health Service or HMPPS service users, staff, premises, data or records, and Care Homes) using methods other than in 8 above (eg. fMRI, EEG)	☐
10	Ecological/observational study in non-private location	☐
11	Health Needs Assessment using routinely collected data	☐
12	Other (give details)	☐

SECTION 3: OUTLINE OF STUDY (No more than 2 sides of A4)

Project Title: Examining the understanding of consent within rape by people who hold a position of power and the effects this has on reporting

Background:

Around 85,000 women and 12,000 men, within England and Wales, are raped every year, including both actual penetration and attempts, however only approximately 15% of these get reported to the police (Rape Crisis, 2017). Rape and sexual assault can have many negative effects, both psychological and physical, including anxiety, depression, self-blame, substance abuse, finding it hard to trust others, suicidal feelings, problems with sleeping, sexually transmitted diseases and sexual dysfunction (Andresia, Breslau, Chilcoat, Davis, Kessler & Schultz; Best, Boudreaux, Kilpatrick, Resnick, & Saunders, 1998; Mechanic, 2004. Kessler, Sonnega, Bromet, Hughes, & Nelson, 1995; Krug, Dahlberg, Mercy, Zwi, & Lozano, 2002. Cited in: Miller and Wilson, 2016) which is why it is extremely important to gain more understanding into the different areas of rape and sexual assault so victims get the support they need.

According to Grubb and Turner (2012) rape is one the most under reported crimes in the UK. There are many reasons someone may not report rape including the victim may feel they will be ignored (Duff and Tostevin, 2015), they may not think it is important enough to warrant police involvement (Grubb and Turner, 2012) or they may not want to accept that the incident was rape (Mahoney and Williams, 1998. Cited in: Duff and Tostevin, 2015). As well as this it appears that there are many inconsistencies surrounding what constitutes as rape so people may not realize that they have been a victim of rape. This could be considered as unacknowledged rape and people often say that these experiences were just bad sex or a miscommunication rather than viewing it

as sexual assault (Axsom, Berenson, Littleton & Radecki Breitkopf, 2006; Berenson, Littleton & Radecki Breitkopf, 2008. Koss, 1989. Cited in: Miller and Wilson, 2016). One example of this could be if people are coerced into engaging in sexual activities (Saguy, 2003. Cited in: McDonald, 2012). According to The Crown Prosecution Service (2017) sexual assault includes when someone is coerced to engage in sexual activity, as well as being forced to engage. However, coercion could be hard to prove as it is unlikely that there would be any physical evidence to prove they were coerced. This is currently a prominent issue due to people such as Harvey Weinstein who use their power and influence to pressure and coerce people into engaging in sexual activities.

One reason people may not understand some forms of sexual violence is due to rape myths. Early studies on rape found that when people were asked about female rape they would generally describe the classic stranger rape scenario (SRS) (Estrich, 1987; Ryan, 1988. Cited in Anderson, 2007) which includes factors such as it happens outdoors and at night time, the victim is alone and then suddenly attacked by a male stranger (Bodenhause, Gorman & Wyer, 1985; Howard, 1984a, 1984b. Gilmartin-Zena, 1983; Johnson & Jackson, 1988; Williams, 1984. Cited in: Anderson, 2007). Wood and Ronnie (1994) found that the majority of rapes do not fit SRS (Cited in: Anderson, 2007). One way the SRS can be criticized is its emphasis on the stranger as it has been found that around 90% of rape is committed by someone the victim knows (Rape Crisis, 2017). Estrich, 1987 found that the majority of 'real rapes' are committed by one defendant who knows the victim and no violence is used. (Cited in: Anderson, 2007).

This research would also like to look at the difference between male and female victims and if people think sexual harassment and rape is more serious if there is a female

victim. Research into the male victims of rape is a hugely under researched area. Rogers (1998) found that the research and support for male victims of rape is around 20 years behind compared to support for female victims (Cited in: Fisher and Pina, 2013). There also appears to be many perceptions of rape with a male victim including men only get raped when they are in prison, most men that get raped are homosexual and men are too strong to be overpowered (Struckman-Johnson and Struckman and Johnson, 1992. Cited in: Anderson, 2007). However, Stermac et al (1996) found that 86% of men were raped by male perpetrators and 50% of the perpetrators were known to the victim, 43% of the sexual assault happened at the victim's home and verbal threats were used in 21% of cases and physical violence is used in 11% of cases. (Cited in: Anderson, 2007). Many studies show that there are similarities in the impact, psychologically and physically, of rape with male and female victims (Fisher and Pina, 2013). Rape is defined as penetration by a penis in the vagina mouth or anus of another person without their consent meaning a female could not be convicted of rape unless they assist a male who rapes someone (The Crown Prosecution Service, 2017). Although the laws on rape have improved it still does not account for women who rape men therefore people may not think it as serious as rape with a female victim or with a male perpetrator (Fisher and Pina, 2013). As well as this men may be less likely to report rape as it has been found they suffer greater stigmatization than females (Graham, 2006).

The research would also use the Intolerant Schema measure (Aosved, Long and Voller, 2009). to see if people intolerance or prejudice towards certain groups on people effects how they view sexual harassment. The scale includes measures on homophobia, religion, economic belief, racism, attitudes towards women, ageism and neosexism however this experiment just use the scales on economic belief, racism, attitudes

towards women and neosexism as these are more relevant to the study (Aosved, Long and Voller, 2009).

Aims: To examine how people perceive and understand rape when the victim has been coerced into engaging in sexual activity, looking at gender differences in male and female victims. Also including a scale to measure intolerance schema's such as sexism and sexual prejudice to see if this affects the participants view on the seriousness.

Methods (participants, materials, procedures etc):

Participants

- Aged 18-65
- Exclusion criteria: people who have been victims of sexual harassment or rape or those who may get upset by the topic.
- A G-power analysis was conducted and showed that a sample size of 108 people is needed (Alpha is 0.05, power is 0.95, medium effect size, 2 groups and a MANOVA analysis).
- Male and female participants, 54 for each scenario with 27 males and 27 females.

Materials

- 2 versions of one vignette, one with a male victim and one with a female victim
- Intolerant Schema Measure- measures on sexism, sexual prejudice, ageism and classism.

Procedure

- Collect data using an online survey with questions based on the same scenario, but one version with a male victim and one with a female victim, then marked using Likert-type scales. Use opportunity sample and a between groups design. All participants will be given a participant information form that says the study is

about interactions between male and female co-workers. This is to avoid leading the participants to certain answers and avoid demand characteristics. However, the true meaning of the research will be provided in the debrief and helplines will be given. The scenarios and questions should not provide harm to the participants.

Measures

- 2 vignettes
- Intolerant Schema Measure- measures on sexism, sexual prejudice, ageism and classism

Measurable endpoints/statistical power of the study

A MANOVA analysis will be used to examine how serious people find the scenarios and a comparison of the differences between a male or female victim. There will also be a comparison of the answers to the questions after the vignettes and the participants score on the Intolerant Schema Measure.

1b. Research Protocol

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Year 1 Doctorate in Forensic Psychology
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2018

Examining the understanding of consent within rape by people
who hold a position of power and the effects this has on
reporting

Alice Durham

Research Protocol

Project title

Examining the understanding of consent within rape by people who hold a position of power and the effects this has on reporting

Overview of the topic

Issue

The lack of knowledge surrounding consent within different types of sexual harassment and rape focusing on the use of coercion to gain sexual favours.

Research

Around 85,000 women and 12,000 men, within England and Wales, are raped every year, including both actual penetration and attempts, however only approximately 15% of these get reported to the police (Rape Crisis, 2017). Rape and sexual assault can have many negative effects, both psychological and physical, including anxiety, depression, self-blame, substance abuse, finding it hard to trust others, suicidal feelings, problems with sleeping, sexually transmitted diseases and sexual dysfunction (Andresia, Breslau, Chilcoat, Davis, Kessler & Schultz; Best, Boudreaux, Kilpatrick, Resnick, & Saunders, 1998; Mechanic, 2004. Kessler, Sonnega, Bromet, Hughes, & Nelson, 1995; Krug, Dahlberg, Mercy, Zwi, & Lozano, 2002. Cited in: Miller and Wilson, 2016) which is why it is extremely important to gain more understanding into the different areas of rape and sexual assault so victims get the support they need.

According to Grubb and Turner (2012) rape is one the most under reported crimes in the UK. There are many reasons someone may not report rape including the victim may feel they will be ignored (Duff and Tostevin, 2015),

they may not think it is important enough to warrant police involvement (Grubb and Turner, 2012) or they may not want to accept that the incident was rape (Mahoney and Williams, 1998. Cited in: Duff and Tostevin, 2015). As well as this it appears that there are many inconsistencies surrounding what constitutes as rape so people may not realize that they have been a victim of rape. This could be considered as unacknowledged rape and people often say that these experiences were just bad sex or a miscommunication rather than viewing it as sexual assault (Axsom, Berenson, Littleton & Radecki Breitkopf, 2006; Berenson, Littleton & Radecki Breitkopf, 2008. Koss, 1989. Cited in: Miller and Wilson, 2016). One example of this could be if people are coerced into engaging in sexual activities (Saguy, 2003. Cited in: McDonald, 2012). According to The Crown Prosecution Service (2017) sexual assault includes when someone is coerced to engage in sexual activity, as well as being forced to engage. However, coercion could be hard to prove as it is unlikely that there would be any physical evidence to prove they were coerced. This is currently a prominent issue due to people such as Harvey Weinstein who use their power and influence to pressure and coerce people into engaging in sexual activities.

One reason people may not understand some forms of sexual violence is due to rape myths. Early studies on rape found that when people were asked about female rape they would generally describe the classic stranger rape scenario (SRS) (Estrich, 1987; Ryan, 1988. Cited in Anderson, 2007) which includes factors such as it happens outdoors and at night time, the victim is alone and then suddenly attacked by a male stranger (Bodenhause, Gorman & Wyer, 1985; Howard, 1984a, 1984b. Gilmartin-Zena, 1983; Johnson & Jackson, 1988; Williams, 1984. Cited in: Anderson, 2007). Wood and Ronnie (1994) found that the majority of rapes do not fit SRS (Cited in: Anderson, 2007). One way the

SRS can be criticized is its emphasis on the stranger as it has been found that around 90% of rape is committed by someone the victim knows (Rape Crisis, 2017). Estrich, 1987 found that the majority of 'real rapes' are committed by one defendant who knows the victim and no violence is used. (Cited in: Anderson, 2007).

This research would also like to look at the difference between male and female victims and if people think sexual harassment and rape is more serious if there is a female victim. Research into the male victims of rape is a hugely under researched area. Rogers (1998) found that the research and support for male victims of rape is around 20 years behind compared to support for female victims (Cited in: Fisher and Pina, 2013). There also appears to be many perceptions of rape with a male victim including men only get raped when they are in prison, most men that get raped are homosexual and men are too strong to be overpowered (Struckman-Johnson and Struckman and Johnson, 1992. Cited in: Anderson, 2007). However, Stermac et al (1996) found that 86% of men were raped by male perpetrators and 50% of the perpetrators were known to the victim, 43% of the sexual assault happened at the victim's home and verbal threats were used in 21% of cases and physical violence is used in 11% of cases. (Cited in: Anderson, 2007). Many studies show that there are similarities in the impact, psychologically and physically, of rape with male and female victims (Fisher and Pina, 2013). Rape is defined as penetration by a penis in the vagina mouth or anus of another person without their consent meaning a female could not be convicted of rape unless they assist a male who rapes someone (The Crown Prosecution Service, 2017). Although the laws on rape have improved it still does not account for women who rape men therefore people may not think it as serious as rape with a female victim or with a male

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The research would also use the Intolerance Schema measure (Aosved, Long and Voller, 2009). to see if people intolerance or prejudice towards certain groups on people effects how they view sexual harassment. The scale includes measures on homophobia, religion, economic belief, racism, attitudes towards women, ageism and neosexism however this experiment just use the scales on economic belief, racism, attitudes towards women and neosexism as these are more relevant to the study (Aosved, Long and Voller, 2009).

What sort of research needs to be done in order to justify your proposed study?

- More research is needed looking at rape committed by a person in a position of power who used coercion to make someone engage in unwanted sexual activity.
- More research is needed looking into male rape victims

Research question

1. Do people think coercion is a form of sexual harassment and would they feel it is serious enough to report to the police?
2. Does social schema contribute to how serious people think sexual harassment is?

Proposed methods

Participants

- Aged 18-65
- Exclusion criteria: people who have been victims of sexual harassment or

rape or those who may get upset by the topic.

- A G-power analysis was conducted and showed that a sample size of 108 people is needed (Alpha is 0.05, power is 0.95, medium effect size, 2 groups and a MANOVA analysis).
- Male and female participants, 54 for each scenario with 27 males and 27 females.

Procedure

- Method:
- Collect data using an online survey with questions based on the same scenario, but one version with a male victim and one with a female victim, then marked using Likert-type scales. Use opportunity sample and a between groups design. All participants will be given a participant information form that says the study is about interactions between male and female co-workers. This is to avoid leading the participants to certain answers and avoid demand characteristics. However, the true meaning of the research will be provided in the debrief and helplines will be given. The scenarios and questions should not provide harm to the participants.

Measures

- 2 vignettes
- Intolerant Schema Measure- measures on sexism, sexual prejudice, ageism and classism

Proposed analytical methods

- MANCOVA

Estimated timescale

- 6 months

1c) Ethics Approval Letter

 <p>University of Nottingham UK CHINA MALAYSIA</p> <p>Email: Ethics-Research@nottingham.ac.uk</p>	<p>Faculty of Medicine & Health Sciences Research Ethics Committee c/o Faculty PVC Office School of Medicine Education Centre 5 Floor, Medical School Queen's Medical Centre Campus Nottingham University Hospitals Nottingham, NG7 2UH</p>														
4 April 2018															
<p>Ms Alice Durham MSc Forensic and Criminological Psychology Student c/o Dr Simon Duff Deputy Director of Forensic Programmes Centre for Forensic and Family Psychology Room B05 YANG Fujia Jubilee Campus Wollaton Road Nottingham NG8 1BB Job Title</p>															
Dear Ms Durham															
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td colspan="2">Ethics Reference No: 245-1902 – please always quote</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Study Title: Examining the understanding of consent within rape by people who hold a position of power and the effects this has on reporting: Examining interactions between male and female co-workers</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Chief Investigator/Supervisors: Dr Simon Duff, Deputy Director of Forensic Programmes, Dr Lydie Bullock, Assistant Professor of Forensic Psychology, Centre for Forensic and Family Psychology, Division of Psychiatry and Applied Psychology, School of Medicine</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Lead Investigator/student: Alice Durham, MSc Forensic and Criminological Psychology</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Type of Study: Internet mediated</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Proposed Start Date: 01/03/2018</td> <td>Proposed End Date: 01/09/2018 4 mths</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No of Subjects: 108</td> <td>Age: 18-65 years</td> </tr> </table>		Ethics Reference No: 245-1902 – please always quote		Study Title: Examining the understanding of consent within rape by people who hold a position of power and the effects this has on reporting: Examining interactions between male and female co-workers		Chief Investigator/Supervisors: Dr Simon Duff, Deputy Director of Forensic Programmes, Dr Lydie Bullock, Assistant Professor of Forensic Psychology, Centre for Forensic and Family Psychology, Division of Psychiatry and Applied Psychology, School of Medicine		Lead Investigator/student: Alice Durham, MSc Forensic and Criminological Psychology		Type of Study: Internet mediated		Proposed Start Date: 01/03/2018	Proposed End Date: 01/09/2018 4 mths	No of Subjects: 108	Age: 18-65 years
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Type of Study: Internet mediated															
Proposed Start Date: 01/03/2018	Proposed End Date: 01/09/2018 4 mths														
No of Subjects: 108	Age: 18-65 years														
<p>Thank you for notifying the Committee of amendment no 1: 26.03.2018 as detailed in your e-mails dated 26.03.2018 and 29.03.2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change in wording of questions and additional questions to the online questionnaire • Changes Participant Information Sheet (revised version attached). <p>These have been reviewed and are satisfactory and the study amendment no 1: 26.03.2018 is noted and approved.</p> <p>Approval is given on the understanding that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The protocol agreed is followed and the Committee is informed of any changes using a notice of amendment form (please request a form). 2. The Chair is informed of any serious or unexpected event. 3. An End of Project Progress Report is completed and returned when the study has finished (Please request a form). 															
<p>Yours sincerely</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin: 10px 0;">  </div> <p>Professor Ravi Mahajan Chair, Faculty of Medicine & Health Sciences Research Ethics Committee</p>															

1d. References 1:

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1e). Appendices 1:

Participant Information Sheet:

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Centre for Forensic & Family Psychology
Division of Psychiatry & Applied Psychology
School of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine & Health Sciences

Project Title: Examining interactions between male and female coworkers

Researcher: Alice Durham (msxad12@exmail.nottingham.ac.uk)

Supervisor: Simon Duff (mczsd@exmail.nottingham.ac.uk)

Ethics Reference Number: ... *[to be inserted following ethical review]*

You are being invited to participate in a research study titled 'Examining interactions between male and female coworkers'. To participate in the study, you must be over the age of 18. This study is being researched by Alice Durham, a master's student in Forensic and Criminological Psychology, from the University of Nottingham. The information we get from this study may help us explore different interactions towards male and female coworkers and how this effects the working enviroment.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us at the above email addresses.

What is the study about?

The purpose of this research study is to examine the interactions between male and female coworkers and how this can effect the workplace environment. There is also a scale to measure social factors to see if this impacts behavior. It will

take you approximately 40 minutes to complete with a total of 29 questions split across 1 vignette and the intolerant schema measure.

If you do participate you will be asked for your consent before you begin. Your participation is voluntary, and you may decline to answer a question, without giving a reason. You are free to withdraw (i.e. pull out) at any point before or during the study by closing the browser window. It will not affect you in anyway. The data will only be uploaded on completion of the questionnaire by clicking the SUBMIT button.

However, because this study uses anonymous questionnaires, once you have finished the questionnaire and submitted your answers, it will not be possible to withdraw the data.

Will the research be of any personal benefit to me?

The information that the researcher gets from this study will give us a better understanding of workplace interactions and relationships and how these can effect peoples

What will happen to the information I provide?

All of the information that you provide during the research will be kept confidential and anonymous on a password protected computer. Only your data from the questionnaires will be used when reporting the research findings. You will not be asked for your name but will be asked your gender and age and other social factors in the intolerant schema , so it will not be possible for you to be linked with the data. The UK Data Protection Act 1998 will apply to all information gathered within the questionnaires.

We believe there are no known risks linked with this research study. We will do everything possible to make sure your answers in this study remain anonymous. We will reduce any risks by keeping all information gathered within the questionnaires on password-locked computer files so that no data can be accessed by anyone other than the researcher and the supervisor. All of the data will be stored for a period of 10 years before being destroyed.

What will you do with the data?

The data will contribute to the researcher's MSc thesis. The results of the study may be published in scientific journals and presented at scientific conferences. The data will be reported anonymously, with any identifying information removed. If you would like a summary of the results then you can contact the researchers using the contact details above.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to ask. We can be contacted before and after your participation at the above address.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION

Participant Consent:

PARTICIPANT CONSENT

Centre for Forensic & Family Psychology
Division of Psychiatry & Applied Psychology
School of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine & Health Sciences

Project Title: Examining the understanding of consent within rape by people who hold a position of power and the effects this has on reporting

Researcher: Alice Durham (msxad12@exmail.nottingham.ac.uk)
Supervisor: Simon Duff (mczsd@exmail.nottingham.ac.uk)

Ethics Reference Number: *[to be inserted following ethical review]*

- I have read and understood the Participant Information.
YES/NO
- I know how to contact the researcher if I have questions about this study?
YES/NO
- I understand that my participation is voluntary I am free to withdraw at any time?
YES/NO
- I understand that for anonymous questionnaire studies, once you have completed the study and submitted your questionnaire, the data cannot be withdrawn?
YES/NO
- I understand the overall anonymised data from this study may be used by other researchers in the future for research and teaching purposes? YES/NO
- I understand that non-identifiable data from this study might be used in academic research reports or publications? YES/NO
- I am 18 or over YES/NO

I indicate my willingness to take part in the study voluntarily YES/NO

Participant Debrief Sheet:

PARTICIPANT DEBRIEF SHEET

Centre for Forensic & Family Psychology
Division of Psychiatry & Applied Psychology
School of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine & Health Sciences

Project Title: Examining the understanding of consent within rape by people who hold a position of power and the effects this has on reporting

Researcher: Alice Durham (msxad12@exmail.nottingham.ac.uk)

Supervisor: Simon Duff (mczsd@exmail.nottingham.ac.uk)

Ethics Reference Number: ... *[to be inserted following ethical review]*

The participant sheet stated the study was examining the interactions between male and female coworkers however it was looking at how serious people think sexual harassment at work is and if they think coercion is a form of sexual harassment. This was done to try and minimize desirability bias or lead participants to a certain answer.

Thank you for participating in the research study titled 'Examining the understanding of consent within rape by people who hold a position of power and the effects this has on reporting'. The information we get from this study may help us explore what people understand about sexual harassment and sexual abuse and how this affects the reporting of these crimes.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us at the above email addresses.

If you have been affected by anything you have read in the research please contact one of the following for support

- Your GP

- **Equality and Human Rights Commission – Sexual Harassment**
 - Helpline England: 0845 604 6610
 - Helpline Scotland: 0845 604 5510
 - Helpline Wales: 0845 604 8810
- Rape Crisis: 0808 802 9999
- Samaritans: 116 123

Your participation is voluntary however because this study uses anonymous questionnaires, once you have finished the questionnaire and submitted your answers, it will not be possible to withdraw the data. All of the information that you provide during the research will be kept confidential and anonymous.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to ask. We can be contacted before and after your participation at the above address.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION

Scenario 1:

This scenario looks at a 21-year-old woman called Rachel. She has a few close friends but isn't very close to her family. She has got her first job at a law firm after finishing university. It's a very good company and will help her with her future career. Rachel's boss is a 40-year-old man, called James, who is the also the director of the company. He is a very respected lawyer and is married with two children.

Part One

When Rachel starts her job, it goes well and her and James get along. He is a good boss and helps her when she needs it. They regularly go out on work lunches and occasionally go out for drinks with colleagues after work. James tends to spend a lot of time with Rachel when they are out with others. He adds her on Facebook and likes pictures of her. He will occasionally message her when she's not in the office asking her how she's getting on at work.

(Questions)

Part 2

James begins to spend more time with Rachel in the office and arranging more one to one supervisions. He gives her more work, so she often has to work overtime meaning they are in the office alone. He begins to touch her on the shoulder or arm when talking to her and stands quite close to her. James also makes comments about how Rachel looks and asks personal questions about her relationship and sexual history.

(Questions)

Part 3

James asks Rachel out to dinner stating it is to discuss a possible promotion. During the dinner James does not discuss work and changes the subject if Rachel tries to ask about the promotion. He talks about her and asks a lot of questions about her life. It is late when they finish dinner and James offers Rachel a lift home. Whilst in the car he touches the top of her thigh. When Rachel asks him to stop James mentions her position within the company.

(Questions)

Part 4

Rachel and James are in the office alone due to overtime. James approaches Rachel to talk to her about the promotion that is coming up. He implies that she would get the promotion if she has sexual intercourse with him. Rachel and James go back to a hotel and have intercourse.

(Questions)

Part 5

A couple of days after having sexual intercourse with James Rachel meets her friend and is very upset. She tells her how she felt she had to have sex with James. She says that James had made threats stating she was going to lose her job and he would make sure she never got another one. James also told her she's not good enough to work there and is only there because of him and it is her fault this happened as she flirts with him so much. She regrets what happened and is scared to go back into work as she does not want to be alone with James. She didn't know who to turn to when James was being inappropriate

as the person who works in human resources is James' sister so she did not feel it would be taken seriously.

(Questions)

Scenario 2:

This scenario looks at a 21-year-old man called James. He has a few close friends but isn't very close to his family. He has got his first job at a law firm after finishing university. It's a very good company and will help him with his future career. James' boss is a 40-year-old woman, called Rachel, who is the also the director of the company. She is a very respected lawyer and is married with two children.

Part One

When James starts his job, it goes well and him and Rachel get along. She is a good boss and helps him when he needs it. They regularly go out on work lunches and occasionally go out for drinks with colleagues after work. Rachel tends to spend a lot of time with James when they are out with others. She adds him on Facebook and likes pictures of him. She will occasionally message him when he's not in the office asking him how he's getting on at work.

(Questions)

Part 2

Rachel begins to spend more time with James in the office and arranging more one to one supervisions. She gives him more work, so he often has to work overtime meaning they are in the office alone. She begins to touch him on the shoulder or arm when talking to him and stands quite close to him. Rachel also makes comments about how James looks and asks personal questions about his relationship and sexual history.

(Questions)

Part 3

Rachel asks James out to dinner stating it is to discuss a possible promotion. During the dinner Rachel does not discuss work and changes the subject if James tries to ask about the promotion. She talks about him and asks a lot of questions about his life. It is late when they finish dinner and Rachel offers James a lift home. Whilst in the car she touches the top of his thigh. When James asks her to stop Rachel mentions his position within the company.

(Questions)

Part 4

James and Rachel are in the office alone due to overtime. Rachel approaches James to talk to him about the promotion that is coming up. She implies that he would get the promotion if he has sexual intercourse with him. James and Rachel go back to a hotel and have intercourse.

(Questions)

Part 5

A couple of days after having sexual intercourse with Rachel James meets his friends and is very upset. He tells them how he felt he had to have sex with Rachel. He says that Rachel had made threats stating he was going to lose his job and she would make sure he never got another one. Rachel also told him he's not good enough to work there and is only there because of her and it is his fault this happened as he flirts with her so much. He regrets what happened and is scared to go back into work as he does not want to be alone with Rachel. He didn't know who to turn to when Rachel was being inappropriate as the person who works in human resources is Rachel's sister so he did not feel it would be taken seriously.

(Questions)

Questions:

1. On what scale do you think this is sexual harassment? (1 being not sexual harassment and 5 being sexual harassment)?

1	2	3	4	5

2. How serious would you rate this on a scale of 1 to 5? (1 being not very serious to 5 being very serious).

1	2	3	4	5

3. How likely are you to tell someone if this happened to you? (1 being not likely and 5 being very likely).

1	2	3	4	5

4. If you were to tell someone who would it be? (Please tick all that apply)

Friends	Family	Partner	Work Colleague	Work Supervisor	Charity/ Advice Helpline	Other (please specify)

5. How likely are you to report this to the police? (1 not likely and 5 very likely)

1	2	3	4	5

For part 4 and 5 also ask:

1. On what scale do you think this is sexual rape? (1 being not rape and 5 being rape)?

1	2	3	4	5

Intolerance Schema Measure:

Intolerant Schema Measure (ISM)

Instructions: Please indicate how descriptive each statement is of your beliefs by circling the number that corresponds to your response. (1 = strongly disagree to 5 = strongly agree)

1. MHSL-7: Marriages between two lesbians should be legal. (R)
2. RIS-1: Christians are intolerant of people with other religious beliefs.
3. MEBS-1: People who stay on welfare have no desire to work.
4. MOFRS-5: I favour laws that permit racial minority persons to rent or purchase houses, even when the person offering the property for sale or rent does not wish to sell or rent to minorities. (R)
5. AWS-5: Women should worry less about their rights and more about becoming good wives and mothers.
6. FSA-5: Complex and interesting conversation cannot be expected from most old people.
7. MHSL-19: I don't mind companies using openly lesbian celebrities to advertise their products. (R)
8. RIS-2: Catholics have a "holier than thou" attitude.
9. MEBS-2: Welfare keeps the nation in debt.
10. MOFRS-4: Racial minorities have more influence on school desegregation plans than they ought to have.
11. AWS-8: It is ridiculous for a woman to run a locomotive and for a man to darn socks.

12. FSA-7: Most old people would be considered to have poor personal hygiene.
13. MHSL-21: I don't think it would negatively affect our relationship if I learned that one of my close relatives was a lesbian. (R)
14. RIS-3: Jewish people are deceitful and money-hungry.
15. MEBS-3: People who don't make much money are generally unmotivated.
16. MOFRS-8: Racial minorities are getting too demanding in their push for equal rights.
17. AWS-9: The intellectual leadership of a community should be largely in the hands of men.
18. FSA-8: Most old people can be irritating because they tell the same stories over and over again.
19. MHSL-23: Lesbians should undergo therapy to change their sexual orientation.
20. RIS-4: Atheists and agnostics are more self-centered than people from other religious groups.
21. MEBS-5: Homeless people should get their acts together and become productive members of society.
22. MOFRS-9: It is a bad idea for racial minorities and Whites to marry one another.
23. AWS-13: In general, the father should have greater authority than the mother in bringing up the children.
24. FSA-13: Old people don't really need to use our community sports facilities.
25. MHSG-3: I welcome new friends who are gay. (R)

26. RIS-5: Muslims are more treacherous than other groups of religious people.
27. MEBS-6: Too many of my tax dollars are spent to take care of those who are unwilling to take care of themselves.
28. MOFRS-10: Racial minorities should not push themselves where they are not wanted.
29. AWS-15: There are many jobs in which men should be given preference over women in being hired or promoted.
30. FSA-15: It is best that old people live where they won't bother anyone.
31. MHSG-4: I would be sure to invite the same-sex partner of my gay male friend to my party. (R)
32. RIS-6: Wiccan and pagan people practice thinly veiled evil.
33. MEBS-7: If every individual would carry his/her own weight, there would be no poverty.
34. MOFRS-11: If a racial minority family with about the same income and education as I have moved in next door, I would mind a great deal.
35. NS-3: Women shouldn't push themselves where they are not wanted.
36. FSA-16: The company of most old people is quite enjoyable. (R)
37. MHSG-9: It's all right with me if I see two men holding hands(R)
38. RIS-7: Many of the social problems in the U.S. today are due to non-Christian religious groups.
39. MEBS-8: There are more poor people than wealthy people in prisons because poor people commit more crimes.

40. MOFRS-12: It was wrong for the United States Supreme Court to outlaw segregation in its 1954 decision.
41. NS-6: Women's requests in terms of equality between the sexes are simply exaggerated.
42. FSA-20: I sometimes avoid eye contact with old people when I see them.
43. MHSG-18: Movies that approve of male homosexuality bother me.
44. RIS-8: The Hindu beliefs about reincarnation results in people not taking responsibility for their actions in this life since there is always the next life.
45. MEBS-9: Poor people are lazy.
46. MOFRS-13: Over the past few years, racial minorities have gotten more economically than they deserve.
47. NS-7: Over the past few years, women have gotten more from government than they deserve.
48. FSA-21: I don't like it when old people try to make conversation with me.
49. MHSG-22: Gay men want too many rights.
50. RIS-9: Despite what Buddhist people may say, Buddhism isn't really a religion, but more of a philosophy.
51. MEBS-13: Most poor people are in debt because they can't manage their money.
52. MOFRS-14: Over the past few years, the government and news media have shown more respect to racial minorities than they deserve.

53. NS-8: Universities are wrong to admit women in costly programs such as medicine, when in fact, a large number will leave their jobs after a few years to raise their children. 54. FSA-27: I personally would not want to spend much time with an old person.

Note. MHSL/G = Modern Homophobia Scale Lesbian/Gay (Raja & Stokes, 1998); RIS = Religious Intolerance Scale (Items 1–5 originally developed by Godfrey et al., 2000, and included in M-GRISMS); MEBS = Modified Economic Beliefs Scale (Items 1–3 and Items 5–8 originally developed by Stevenson & Medler, 1995); MOFRS = Modern and Old-Fashioned Racism Scale (McConahay, 1986); AWS = Attitudes Toward Women Scale (Spence & Helmreich, 1972); FSA = Fraboni Scale of Ageism (Fraboni et al., 1990); NS = Neosexism Scale (Tougas et al., 1995). Subscale scores are calculated by averaging the 9 items (resulting in a range from 1 to 5, with higher scores indicating higher intolerance). A total score is calculated by averaging all 54 items. (R) = reverse-scored item

Research Paper

Abstract

This study is investigating the use of coercion and threats to get people to engage in unwanted sexual activity and whether participants view this as rape, and if they would report it. It specifically looks at gender differences within the seriousness and reporting and if there is a correlation between participants telling anyone and reporting the incident to the police. It also investigates the correlation between likelihood to report and how serious people think the incident is and how much they believe it is rape or sexual harassment. A vignette was used outlining a workplace sexual harassment scenario, that escalates from part 1 to 5 and ends with the victim being coerced into unwanted sexual intercourse. It includes both a condition with a male victim and female perpetrator and a condition with a female victim and a male perpetrator. There were no significant gender differences found within reporting or seriousness. Positive and significant correlations were found for the likelihood of reporting and sexual harassment, rape and seriousness. There was also a correlation found for the likelihood of reporting the incident to the police and the likelihood of telling anyone. The study has highlighted issues surrounding the under-reporting of sexual assault when sexual coercion is used and how the legal definition of sex crimes could impact this, especially for male victims. It has also drawn attention to future research needed to gain a better understanding of sex crimes and levels of reporting.

Introduction

The Crime Survey for England and Wales showed that around 3.4 million women and 631,000 men have been victims of sexual assault since the age of 16 (Flatley, 2018). However, the official statistics for rape, with both male and female victims have been shown to underestimate the real number of sex crimes (Anderson, 2007). Within England and Wales

only around 6%- 18% of rapes are reported to the police (Brown, Hamilton & O'Neill, 2007; Hohl & Stanko, 2015). Some of the most used reasons for not reporting rape include a lack of trust of the police and criminal justice system and fear of not being believed or taken seriously (Hohl & Stanko, 2015).

Legal Definition

Legally rape is defined as an offence if 'person A intentionally penetrates the vagina, anus or mouth of person B with his penis, the other person does not consent and person A does not believe person B gave consent' (Sexual Offences Act 2003 (c. 1. 1a-c)). The legal definition of rape could be viewed as sexist due to the penetration having to be by a penis therefore a woman could not be convicted of rape if she assaults someone alone. There is also assault by penetration which is defined as an offence if 'person A intentionally penetrates the vagina or anus of person B with a part of his body or anything else, the penetration is sexual, person B does not consent and person A does not believe that person B consents' (Sexual Offences Act 2003 (c. 2. 1a-d)). However, the wording of this could be seen as unfair due to the word 'his' which implies only males commit this type of crime. This is important as it may discredit sex crimes committed by women or make male victims feel they cannot report it. People can be charged with 'Causing a person to engage in sexual activity without consent' which outline abuse such as penetration of the anus or vagina with the penis, any other part of the body or anything else and penetration of the victims mouth and penetration of persons mouth with person B's penis (Sexual Offences Act 2003 (c. 4. 4a-d)). There is also sexual assault which includes any touching that is sexual where the victim does not consent (Sexual Offences Act 2003 (c. 3. 1a-b)). Although these legal definitions cover more areas of sexual activity and abuse it does not include incidents where a male may be forced to penetrate a female which could lead men to feel like it's not serious or worth reporting. As well as this if the perpetrator is charged with sexual assault, or causing a person to engage in sexual activity

without consent, then the worse conviction is imprisonment not exceeding 10 years (Sexual Offences Act 2003 (c. 2. 4a-b); Sexual Offences Act 2003 (c. 4. 5a-b)) which is substantially lower than the conviction for both rape and assault by penetration which can lead to life imprisonment (Sexual Offences Act 2003 (c. 1. 4); Sexual Offences Act 2003 (c. 2. 4)). Although the definitions of sex crimes are becoming more inclusive of different types of sexual abuse, and allowing for both male and female victims, there still needs to be more clarity. Research by Miller and Wilson (2015) showed that 60.4% of their participants did not acknowledge their experiences as rape even though it could be defined as rape.

The use of sexual coercion also needs to be considered when looking into rape. This involves people using methods such as begging, manipulation, pressure, threats or deception to gain sexual favours (Basile, 1999; Buddie, Livingston, Testa & VanZile-Tamsen, 2004). Gidycz, Koss and Wisniewski (1987) found that 27% of college women experienced verbal sexual coercion since the age of 14. Studies have found that sexual coercion can cause just as many problems as physical sexual assault and can lead to feelings of depression, anger and anxiety (Crockett, Sayer, Vicary & Zweig, 1999; Buddie et al, 2004). Research regarding why rape and sexual assault is not reported is important as reporting increases access to services such as medical care and psychological services and can increase the likelihood of receiving a medical examination, which is important for developing forensic evidence (Amstadter, Kilpatrick, McCauley, Resnick, Ruggiero & Wolitzsky-Taylor, 2011; Bracken, Goddard, Matheson & Young, 1992).

Effects of Rape

The area of rape is an important to research as it has many negative psychological and physical impacts. Female rape victims are one of the largest number of people within America that suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD; Astin, Marsteller &

Rothbaum, 2005; Best, Dansky, Kilpatrick, Resnick & Saunders, 1993). Research has found that 94% of rape victims meet the criteria for PTSD immediately after the incident and 47% meet the criteria after 3 months (Foa, Riggs & Rothbaum, 1995; Foa, Murdock, Riggs, Rothbaum, & Walsh, 1992. Cited in: Feeny, Foa & Zoellner, 2000). As well as this, studies have found that female rape victims were 3 times more likely to experience lifetime depression (Candib, DeGruy, Dickinson & Dickinson, 1999. Cited in: Figueredo, Koss & Prince, 2002) and to use mental health services (Calhoun & Kimerling, 1994; Golding, 1994; Figueredo, Koss & Prince, 2002). Rape can also have many physical effects on the victim including problems within cardiovascular gynaecological, respiratory, musculoskeletal and dermatological systems (Kimerling and Calhoun, 1994; Clum, Nishith & Resnick, 2007)

Another area to explore is male rape victims. Research suggests that the psychological and physiological effects of rape are similar for male and female victims however men may suffer from more stigmatisation due to the negative attitudes towards male victims (Fisher & Pina, 2013; Graham, 2006.). Orman (1985) conducted a study with 24 victims of female perpetrated sexual assault and found the men suffered from PTSD, impaired sexual functioning and an aversion to sex (Cited in: Fisher & Pina, 2013). Male victims of rape can experience confusion surrounding their sexual orientation, especially if they assaulted by another male. It can also lead some men to feel suicidal as Mezey and King (1989) found 2 out of 22 men in their sample attempted suicide and 5 out of 13 men in Goyer and Eddlemans (1984. Cited in: Coxwell & King, 2010) sample stated they had suicidal thoughts and 2 had attempted suicide.

Rape Myths

There are many myths surrounding rape and sexual assault which could lead people to blame the victim rather the offender for the event (Burt, 1980; Gadalla & Suarez, 2010). When

asked to describe a ‘typical’ or ‘classic’ rape scenario many people will still describe a stranger rape scenario where the incident happens outdoors and at night, the female victim is alone and attacked by a male stranger (Anderson, 2007). This can be damaging as victims themselves can use these stereotypes when trying to understand their own experiences and therefore not understand it as rape (Anderson, 2007). This could mean they don’t report it and therefore are less likely to get access to support. There have been many studies that show that a lot of female rape victims are not raped in stranger rape circumstances but are often raped by people they know, such as boyfriends, husbands or an ex-partners (Anderson, 2007). This is supported by Gavey (1991) who found that 61% of the rapes had been committed by boyfriends, husbands, lovers or dates, 17% were committed by acquaintances and only 9% were committed by strangers (Cited in: Anderson, 2007). As well as this Koss (1988) found that 84% of the rapes he researched were perpetrated by a man the victim knew and did not involve a lot of aggression or cause many injuries to the victim and also did not involve a weapon (Cited in: Anderson, 2007). It has been suggested that the most common rape involves a single defendant who knows the victim and did not use physical aggression or a weapon (Estrich, 1987. Cited in: Anderson, 2007).

Another important issue regarding the reporting of rape is victim blaming. For example, Whatley (1996) found victims who were labelled as ‘less respectable’ and wore revealing clothes were seen as more responsible for the rape. Research has also found that women are taken more seriously when reporting rape if they are respectable (DuMont, Miller & Myhr, 2003; Lee, Masser & McKimmie, 2010), they resist the perpetrator and they have injuries to prove this (Cook et al, 2001. Cited in: Lee, Masser & McKimmie, 2010), they report the rape immediately (Spears & Spohn, 1996; Lee, Masser & McKimmie, 2010) and they are emotionally traumatised (Buddie & Miller, 2001; Lee, Masser & McKimmie, 2010). A study

by Hockett, Klausing, Saucier and Smith (2016) also found that men have more negative attitudes towards rape victims when compared to women.

There are also rape myths surrounding male rape victims. These include men are too big and strong to be forced into sex, men instigate sex and therefore are not targets, men are emotionally strong enough to cope with being raped, male rape only happens in prisons, a man probably enjoyed it anyway (Bull & Sleath, 2009; Fisher & Pina, 2013) and the victim must have been gay or been 'acting gay' (King 1992. Cited in: Coxwell & King, 2010).

Another myth surrounding male rape is that if the male gets an erection or ejaculates then this implies consent however studies have found that an emotional response to a trigger such as fear or anger could cause a sexual response (Sarrell & Masters, 1982. Cited in: Coxwell & King, 2010). There is also the myth that men cannot be raped by women however research by Weiss (2010) found that around 54% of male rape cases involved male perpetrator and 46% were victimised by females. Legally a man cannot be raped by a woman alone due to the penetration having to be done by a penis however a female could be charged with rape if they assist a male raping another male, or charged with assault by penetration which carries the same sentence. A study by Archer, Davies and Pollard (2006) found that male participants had more negative opinions of a male victim when abused by a female perpetrator, but they appeared to be pro-victim when the male was heterosexual and was assaulted by a man.

Struckman-Johnson and Struckman Johnson (1992) found that men were more likely to believe male rape myths than women and both male and female participants were more likely to endorse male rape myths when it was a female perpetrator and male victim (Cited in: Chapleau & Oswald, 2008).

Sexual Harassment

This research also includes sexual harassment which is currently defined within the Equality Act (2010) as ‘person A engages in unwanted conduct of a sexual nature and the conduct that has the purpose or effect of violating person B’s dignity or creating an intimidating, hostile, degrading, humiliating or offensive environment’ (Equality Act 2010 (c. 26.2a-b)). This includes workplace behaviours that are counterproductive and potentially abusive that could be viewed as intimidating and hostile (McDonald, 2012). Sexual harassment can also be physical including kissing, touching, pinching, bra flicking, groping and attempted rape (AHRC, 2008; Hayes, 2004. Cited in: McDonald, 2012). Studies have found that around 42% to 50% of women and 15% of males suffer from sexual harassment at work (DeJucibus & McCabe, 2001).

Research has found that sexual harassment can cause many negative psychological outcomes including irritation, anger, powerlessness, anxiety, depression and PTSD (Bergman, Cortina, Day-Langhout, Fitzgerald & Palmieri, 2002; Crocker and Kalember, 1999; DeNardo, Fitzgerald, Hulin & Magley, 1999; Lee, Steel & Willness, 2007; McDonald, 2012). It can also cause many physical outcomes including headaches, lack of sleep, gastrointestinal disturbances, nausea, loss of appetite and weight loss (Gutek, 1985. Cited in: Korabik & O’Connell, 2000). From an organisational perspective it can cause higher rates of absenteeism, lower job satisfaction, lower rates of productivity and commitment and higher turnover (Chan, Cheung, Chow & Chun, 2008; Drasgow, Fitzgerald & Magley, 1999. Hayes, 2004; HREOC, 2004a. Cited in: McDonald, 2012). This highlights the importance of developing a better understanding of sexual harassment. This also highlights the link between rape and sexual harassment as they have similar negative effects including PTSD, depression and anxiety.

As well as this the reasons people do not report sexual harassment could also be linked to the reason for rape. These include the fear that you might lose your job, self-doubt, they do

not want to be viewed as a victim or as too sensitive, fear that the perpetrator will not receive a penalty, lack of knowledge regarding rights and a lack of support (Aultman, Borgers & Wear, 2007; Davidson, Fielden, Hunt & Woolnough, 2010; McDonald, 2012). This is similar to the results found in rape studies which show people having a lack of support and doubting themselves, or the criminal justice system, could result in people not reporting rape. A study on sexual harassment found that those victims who did respond in an assertive manner to the perpetrator then suffered from increased problems within their work environment, not just including the sexual harassment (Stockdale, 1998. Cited in: Bergman et al, 2002). In a study conducted by O'Donnell and Runtz (2003) only 12% of their participants who had faced sexual harassment had told someone in a position of authority, only 15% had made a formal complaint and none of the participants had reported it to the police.

Current Research

The current research is looking into sexual assault by the use of coercion and threat from someone in a position of power. It aims to examine whether participants think this is serious and if they would report it to the police. This is important as it has been shown that only a small amount of people report sexual assault to the police and due to the definition of rape and sexual assault some people may not know whether they have been a victim of a sex crime. As well as this research has shown there are gender differences in the perception of sexual harassment and sexual assault, so the research aims to examine this when the rape scenario is not a traditional rape scenario and not a stranger rape scenario.

Hypothesis 1 is that male participants will view the scenario given as less serious, especially in the male victim condition. Hypothesis 1 also predicts men will be less likely to report the incident to the police when compared to female participants. Hypothesis 2 is there will be a positive correlation between whether people will tell anyone, including friends, family and

partners, and participants reporting the incident to the police. Hypothesis 3 is that there will be a positive correlation between seriousness, sexual harassment and likelihood to tell the police. These three areas will be examined separately.

Method

Participants

The study included both male and female participants ages 18 and over from the UK. The participants were recruited from online social media websites including Facebook, Twitter and Reddit and it was circulated via email.

A power analysis showed that a sample size of 108 people was needed (Alpha= 0.05, power= 0.95, medium effect size, 2 groups and a MANOVA analysis). A total of 272 participants responded, however, 11 participants were removed due to non-completion. Overall there was a total of 127 participants in the female victim condition with 72 being male, 54 being females and 1 prefer not to say. There was a total of 134 participants for the male victim condition with 69 being male and 65 being female. (Please see table 1 for descriptive statistics). To try and ensure the sample was not biased and representative it was posted to pages with both male and female viewers and was not posted on groups that had a specific agenda.

Table 1

	Condition 1 (FV)	Condition 2 (MV)	Total:
Female	54 (42.5%)	65 (48.5%)	119
Participants			
Male Participants	72 (56.7%)	69 (51.5%)	141

Prefer not to say	1 (0.8%)	0	1
(Gender)			
18-25	45 (35.4%)	46 (34.3%)	91
26-35	55 (43.3%)	60 (44.8%)	115
36-45	16 (12.6%)	12 (9%)	29
46-55	4 (3.1%)	9 (6.7%)	13
56-65	5 (3.9%)	7 (5.2%)	12
65 and over	1 (0.8%)	0	1
Total:	127 (missing one participants age)	134	261

Design

An independent measures and between groups design was used. The study included a vignette which then had closed ended questions that were scored using a Likert- type scale ranging from 1-5. The vignette was split into 5 parts which escalated in seriousness and there were 2 conditions. Condition 1 had a female victim and male perpetrator and condition 2 had a male victim and female perpetrator. The vignette started with giving basic details of the victim, a 21-year-old male or female who has just started at a law firm, and the perpetrator, a 40-year-old male/ female boss and director of the company and a very respected lawyer. Part 1 details the victim starting the job and the perpetrator messaging them on Facebook, they also go out for work lunches and drinks with other colleagues. During part 2 the perpetrator begins to spend more time with the victim in the office, asks personal questions and often touches the victim on the arm or stands too close. The perpetrator also asks questions regarding the victim's relationship and sexual history. Part 3 becomes more serious with the boss asking the victim to go on a work dinner but then not discussing work. The perpetrator

also touches the victim's thigh after giving them a lift home and when asked to stop the perpetrator mentions the victim's position within the company. Part 4 outlines the night where the victim and perpetrator have sexual intercourse, stating they are in the office alone due to overtime and the perpetrator approaches the victim and implies she will get the promotion if she engages in sexual intercourse with him. It then states they go to a hotel and have sex. Part 5 is the victim talking to their friend after having sexual intercourse with the perpetrator stating how the perpetrator had made threats and used emotional abuse and how she is now scared to be alone with the perpetrator at work. It also explains how she didn't go to human resources (HR) as the perpetrator's sister works there and therefore she did not believe it would be taken seriously. Each part was followed up with 6 questions regarding the inappropriateness and seriousness of the behaviour, whether the participants would tell anyone and who this would be, whether they believe it is sexual harassment and whether they would report it to the police. Parts 4 and 5 also had 2 added questions asking if the participants viewed the scenario as rape and if they would report it to the police. (Please see appendices for full vignette and questions).

Materials

The study had two conditions that used a vignette, which was split into 5 parts and two conditions, and then a set of questions regarding each part.

The research also used the Intolerance Schema Measure (ISM) to examine whether people's views on social factors such as feminism affected how serious they found the vignette and whether they would have reported the behaviour. The ISM was developed by Aosved, Long and Voller (2009) and is a 54-item scale that measures sexism and sexual prejudice, racism, homophobia, ageism, classism and religious tolerance. Sexism and sexual prejudice are one construct and each of the six constructs can be measured independently using the nine

specific questions and adding up the scores given, the higher the score the more prejudice the participant has towards a certain group. This study used the measure on sexism, sexual prejudice and classism as these were the most relevant. Therefore an 18-item scale was used in the current study.

Procedure

Participants were invited to partake in the survey via online platforms once reading the participant information they were asked to pick option K or Q to randomise the study. This then took them to one of the two conditions where they were asked to fill out a consent form and asked for their gender and age. They were then presented with the scenario split up into five parts and then six or eight questions following the scenario, 6 questions for parts one, two and three and eight questions for part four and five. A debrief form was given to all participants at the end of the study so the participants understood what the research aims were and to ensure no harm came to the participants.

Results

Hypothesis 1

The first part of hypothesis 1 is that male participants will view the scenarios as less serious. The assumption was made that the data were ordinal and therefore a non-parametric test was used. A Mann-Whitney U test showed that there was no significant difference ($U = 8098$, $p = 0.629$) between male participants ($Mdn = 4.0$) and female participants ($Mdn = 4.2$) regarding the seriousness of the behaviour across the vignettes.

Table 2

	Question 2 (means)
Female Participants	4.03

Male Participants	3.99
Total	4.02

The second part of hypothesis 1 stated male participants would be more likely to view the scenarios as less serious for the male victim condition compared to the female victim condition. A Mann-Whitney U test was used and showed there was no significant difference between the scores for the male victim condition ($U = 1659$, $p = 0.09$, male participants $Mdn = 3.8$, female participants $Mdn = 4.2$) and the female victim condition ($U = 1569$, $p = 0.06$, male participants $Mdn = 4.2$, female participants $Mdn = 4.0$).

Table 3

	Question 2 (means)
Female Participant/ Female Victim	3.98
Female Participants/ Male Victim	4.08
Male Participants/ Female Victim	4.12
Male Participants/ Male Victim	3.86
Total	4.02

Hypothesis 1 also stated that male participants would be less likely to report the behaviour to the police. A Mann Whitney U test showed there was no significant difference ($U = 8184$, $p = 0.732$) between the likelihood of reporting when comparing male participants ($Mdn = 1.80$) and female participants ($Mdn = 2.00$).

Table 4

Question 6

Female Participant	2.03
Male Participant	2.09
Total:	2.06

The study also examined the gender difference between telling anyone about the behaviour. A Mann-Whitney U test showed there was a significant difference ($U = 6681$, $p = 0.005$) with the mean score for male participants being 3.73 and the mean score for females being 4.02 which shows males were less likely to tell someone about the incident.

Table 5

	Question 3
Female Participant	4.02
Male Participant	3.73
Total:	3.87

Hypothesis 2

Hypothesis 2 stated that there would be a positive correlation between the participants telling anyone and the participants reporting the incident to the police. Again, the data were assumed to be ordinal and therefore a non-parametric test was used. A Spearman's rank-order correlation showed there was a moderate positive correlation between the likelihood of telling anyone and the likelihood of reporting to the police, which was statistically significant ($r_s(259) = 0.330$, $p < 0.001$).

Table 6

Mean	Median
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Question 3	3.87	4.00
Question 6	2.06	2.00

Hypothesis 3

Hypothesis 3 stated participants would be a positive correlation between the likeliness to report the incident to the police and the score given for whether the incident is rape. This data was ordinal, so a non-parametric test was used. A Spearman's rank correlation was run which showed there was strong positive correlation between the scores for rape and the likelihood of telling the police, which was statistically significant ($r_s (258) = 0.606, p = <0.001$).

Table 7

	Mean	Median
Question 7	2.61	2.50
Question 8	2.94	3.00

Hypothesis 3 also examined whether there is a correlation between participants reporting to the police and how serious they find the behaviour. A Spearman's rank correlation showed a moderate positive correlation, which was significant ($r_s (259) = 0.350, p = <0.001$).

Table 8

	Mean	Median
Question 2	4.02	4.00
Question 6	2.06	2.00

The last test for Hypothesis 3 also stated there would be a correlation between the likeliness of reporting to the police and to what extent they rate the behaviour as sexual harassment. A Spearman's rank correlation showed a moderate positive correlation, which was statistically significant ($r_s(259) = 0.363$, $p < 0.001$).

Table 9

	Mean	Median
Question 5	3.89	4.00
Question 6	2.06	2.00

Discussion

Overall the aims of the study were to examine the gender differences of reporting and seriousness. It also aimed to explore the correlation between telling anyone about sexual harassment and rape and reporting it to the police. The correlation between reporting to the police and seriousness, sexual harassment and rape was also analysed.

Hypothesis 1 stated that male participants would view the scenario as less serious compared to female participants. The findings in this study were non-significant and therefore did not support this. It also stated male participants would score the scenario as less serious for the male victim condition however this also resulted in non-significant results. This does not support the previous research found, for example research by Hockett, Klausing, Saucier and Smith (2016) found that men have more negative attitudes towards the victims of rape when compared to females. Supporting this Chapleau and Oswald (2008) found that men were more likely to accept male rape myths than females. Due to the scenario being a 'non-traditional' rape scenario, in the sense that no physical force was used, and it was perpetrated by someone the victim knew and in one scenario there was a female offender, it would have

been expected that males would have been more likely to rate the scenario as less serious and blame the victim. This is a positive as it potentially shows gender differences within male and female's perception of rape are reducing and both genders are viewing sexual abuse as serious.

Hypothesis 1 also specified that male participants would be less likely to report the behaviour but again there was no significant difference. It is important to note that the mean scores for reporting are extremely low for both genders showing there is still problems with reporting sex crimes. It has been suggested that this could be due to people not trusting the police, concerns surrounding not being believed and the fear of secondary victimisation (Hohl & Stanko, 2015). Secondary victimisation or 'sanctuary trauma' is when a victim suffers further trauma in environments that should be safe such as from emergency departments, police or if family and friends giving negative responses (Binggeli, Brassard & Hart, 1997; Ellis, 2002). This is important as people may be less inclined to tell the police if they get a negative reaction from family and friends as they would not have sufficient support. As well as this it has been found that people are more likely to report rape if it was a stranger rather than someone they knew (Estrich, 1987. Cited in: Amstadter et al, 2011), they sustained injuries and if the offender used a weapon (Amstadter et al, 2011. Bachman, 1993; 1998). Whereas in the scenario given coercion was used and there was no physical force, and the perpetrator was known to the victim. There have been many things done to reduce the rates of attrition such as the development of Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARCs), specially trained officers, rape suites to provide more privacy and having female officers available to take statements (Hohl & Stanko, 2015). Hohl and Stanko (2015) found Havens, SARCs in London, and having their statement recorded, so they don't have to give live evidence in court, both lowered rates of attrition. However, data published in 2013 from the Ministry of Justice and National Office from Statistics showed that show that attrition is still a problem.

The study also examined the gender difference relating to telling anyone about the behaviour, including friends, family, work colleagues etc and found a significant difference between male and female participants, with males being less likely to tell anyone. This is interesting as there is no significant gender difference in reporting to the police, so it would be interesting to conduct further analysis into why men feel more comfortable going to the police rather than friends or family. This could be due to the shame or stigma associated with rape and therefore not wanting their family or friend to find out through concerns about being judged or viewed as less masculine. Studies support this as it has been found men can suffer a loss of masculinity and confusion regarding their sexual identity after experiencing sexual abuse (Archer, Davies & Walker, 2005; Davies, Gilston, & Rogers, 2012). It is extremely important that the issue of men not telling others, and the general low levels of reporting, is highlighted as rape has many negative symptoms and, in a study, conducted by King and Mezey (1989) 2 out of 22 men in their sample attempted suicide and 1 man committed suicide. This is also shown in Goyer and Eddlemans's (1984) study where 5 out of 13 men stated they had suicidal thoughts and 2 of the participants attempted suicide (Cited in: Coxwell & King, 2010). This shows the vital importance to encouraging people to report rape and get the social and professional support they need.

Hypothesis 2 examined the correlation between the participants telling anyone and the participants reporting the incident to police. The results found a significant and positive correlation however it was only a moderate effect. Although it is only moderate it still shows the importance of having good social support and how it could encourage people to report. Although this does not show causation and therefore it cannot be said that telling others means people will be more likely to tell the police this is something that is important to investigate further. Gadella and Suarez (2010) suggest that non-supportive reactions from others could prevent people from reporting rape and sexual assault. It also shows that it

could be important to raise awareness of how to help people deal with situations where someone tells them they have been raped or sexually assaulted. This could also prevent someone from going to the police so it is important for people to feel safe and to understand they are not to blame and feel more comfortable telling their family and friends.

Hypothesis 3 stated there would be a positive correlation between the likeliness to report the incident and the score given for whether the incident is rape. The results showed a significant positive correlation that had a strong effect. Hypothesis 3 also looked at whether there was a positive correlation between the likeliness to report and how serious they found the behaviour. The results showed a significant and positive correlation which had a moderate effect. This would be expected, as discussed in hypothesis 1, previous studies have found that people do not report to the police due to fears they will not be believed so the more they believe that the incident was rape the more likely they are to report it. This also highlights issues within the use or coercion to force someone to engage in sex as people may not believe this is rape due to the lack of physical force evidence which could therefore prevent people from reporting. The legal definition of rape and consent should be made clearer to ensure people are aware of whether their situation is rape. This is important for the general public and other organisations such as the police, crown prosecution service and other professionals.

The last test for hypothesis 3 examined whether there was a correlation between the likelihood of reporting to the police and the score given for whether the incident is sexual harassment. The results showed a significant and positive correlation which had a moderate effect. Although there is a positive correlation shown this does not show causation but it does show that when the score for sexual harassment rises so do the scores for reporting. However it is important to note that although there is a correlation the mean scores of reporting are quite a bit lower (please see table 9 for details). This could be due to fears surrounding reporting sexual harassment as people may think the harassment will get worse or that they

will be judged for reporting. Conaghan (2004) found that people do not complain about discrimination until it is serious enough that it may threaten their employment (Cited in: McDonald, 2012). Other factors that have been found to effect reporting include the fear of retaliation or losing their job, concerns about being labelled too sensitive and a lack of accessibility to support (Aultman, Borgers & Wear, 2007; Davidson, Fielden, Hunt, & Woolnough, 2010; McDonald, 2012). As well as this research has found that reporting sexual harassment can sometimes make the situation worse for the victim (Bergman et al, 2002; Heilmann, Lee, & Near, 2004; McDonald, 2012). It would also be interesting to look at sexual harassment and levels of reporting to anyone, including friends, family, work colleagues, HR, to see if people were more likely to report to these people other than the police.

One limitation of the study is the questions in part 5. The majority of the participants who did not answer all of the questions stopped at part 5. This brings to light possible problems with the scenario or the questions. It was suggested that some participants did not understand whether the questions in part 5 were asking about the victim talking to their friend or the behaviour in part 4. Attempts were made to make this clearer by adding the line 'please answer based on all the information given'. Also, as the vignette given is not a traditional rape scenario, for example no physical force was used, and the victim choose to go to the hotel, so people may not define it as rape which could explain the low scores. Although the coercion used by the perpetrator is the similar to the techniques used by other perpetrators who use coercion for sex the results may be hard to generalise as it is based on a workplace situation and therefore other situations may be viewed differently. As well as this due to time constraints and word limitations there was only a limited amount of analysis that could be done however the data would allow for greater analysis.

Future research could examine the use of coercion within different situations such as acquaintance rape, within romantic relationships or in different work and home settings to see if this affects the answers and the level of reporting. As well as this the scenarios could be changed to add more details about the offender and perpetrator such as attractiveness, personality traits, offending history or relationship status. It may also be interesting to examine the legal definition of rape and assault by penetration and its use of the word 'he' to see if opinion of different rape scenarios would change if the definition used the word 'she' or had no reference to gender. The current study could also be re-done but with the inclusion of a measure of rape myth acceptance to see if this affects the answers given and examine if there are current gender difference. It would be interesting to examine how much knowledge people have around supporting someone who has been raped and if more education is needed surrounding this area.

Conclusion

Overall the study found that there was no significant gender difference within how serious the participants found the scenario or the likelihood of reporting to the police. This is not what was hypothesis expected. It did highlight the important issue of general low levels of reporting which could benefit from further research and education. The study also found a link between participants telling anyone about the incident and them reporting it to the police. Although this does not show causation it draws attention to the potential importance of social support. A positive significant correlation was also found for likelihood to report to the police and higher score on sexual harassment, rape and seriousness, although again this does not show causation. However, it does show the need for a clearer definition and more education that is required regarding consent as the mean scores for rape and reporting to the police appear to be quite low. There are limitation of the study and if time permitting it would be beneficial to conduct more analysis on the data to gather further information. However, the

study does highlight many important issues that need further investigation. One of the practical implications of this study is that it suggests gender difference regarding how serious males and females view rape and the reporting of rape may have reduced. It also highlights that there is still a huge issue within reporting rape and research is needed to find out why people are still reluctant to report. However, this could just be for this particular scenario and not a general consensus on all types of rape and sexual abuse. The issue of coercion to gain sex is also an issue in many other areas, such as within domestic abuse, within different work industries and within different relationships and it would be beneficial to gain a better understanding of this and the impact it has on victims.

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Appendices 2

Condition 1: Female Victim, Male Perpetrator

Scenario 1

This scenario looks at a 21-year-old woman called Rachel. She has a few close friends but isn't very close to her family. She has got her first job at a law firm after finishing university. It's a very good company and will help her with her future career. Rachel's boss is a 40-year-old man, called James, who is the also the director of the company. He is a very respected lawyer and is married with two children.

Part One

When Rachel starts her job, it goes well and her and James get along. He is a good boss and helps her when she needs it. They regularly go out on work lunches and occasionally go out for drinks with colleagues after work. James tends to spend a lot of time with Rachel when they are out with others. He adds her on Facebook and likes pictures of her. He will occasionally message her when she's not in the office asking her how she's getting on at work.

Questions

Part 2

James begins to spend more time with Rachel in the office and arranging more one to one supervisions. He gives her more work, so she often has to work overtime meaning they are in the office alone. He begins to touch her on the shoulder or arm when talking to her and stands quite close to her. James also makes comments about how Rachel looks and asks personal questions about her relationship and sexual history.

Questions

Part 3

James asks Rachel out to dinner stating it is to discuss a possible promotion. During the dinner James does not discuss work and changes the subject if Rachel tries to ask about the promotion. He talks about her and asks a lot of questions about her life. It is late when they finish dinner and James offers Rachel a lift home. Whilst in the car he touches the top of her thigh. When Rachel asks him to stop James mentions her position within the company.

Questions

Part 4

Rachel and James are in the office alone due to overtime. James approaches Rachel to talk to her about the promotion that is coming up. He implies that she would get the promotion if she has sexual intercourse with him. Rachel and James go back to a hotel and have intercourse.

Questions

Part 5

A couple of days after having sexual intercourse with James Rachel meets her friend and is very upset. She tells her how she felt she had to have sex with James. She says that James had made threats stating she was going to lose her job and he would make sure she never got another one. James also told her she's not good enough to work there and is only there because of him and it is her fault this happened as she flirts with him so much. She regrets what happened and is scared to go back into work as she does not want to be alone with James. She didn't know who to turn to when James was being inappropriate as the person who works in human resources is James' sister so she did not feel it would be taken seriously.

Questions

Condition 2: Male Victim, Female Perpetrator

Scenario 2

This scenario looks at a 21-year-old man called James. He has a few close friends but isn't very close to his family. He has got his first job at a law firm after finishing university. It's a very good company and will help him with his future career. James' boss is a 40-year-old woman, called Rachel, who is also the director of the company. She is a very respected lawyer and is married with two children.

Part One

When James starts his job, it goes well and him and Rachel get along. She is a good boss and helps him when he needs it. They regularly go out on work lunches and occasionally go out for drinks with colleagues after work. Rachel tends to spend a lot of time with James when they are out with others. She adds him on Facebook and likes pictures of him. She will occasionally message him when he's not in the office asking him how he's getting on at work.

Questions

Part 2

Rachel begins to spend more time with James in the office and arranging more one to one supervisions. She gives him more work, so he often has to work overtime meaning they are in the office alone. She begins to touch him on the shoulder or arm when talking to him and stands quite close to him. Rachel also makes comments about how James looks and asks personal questions about his relationship and sexual history.

Questions

Part 3

Rachel asks James out to dinner stating it is to discuss a possible promotion. During the dinner Rachel does not discuss work and changes the subject if James tries to ask about the promotion. She talks about him and asks a lot of questions about his life. It is late when they finish dinner and Rachel offers James a lift home. Whilst in the car she touches the top of his thigh. When James asks her to stop Rachel mentions his position within the company.

Questions

Part 4

James and Rachel are in the office alone due to overtime. Rachel approaches James to talk to him about the promotion that is coming up. She implies that he would get the promotion if he has sexual intercourse with him. James and Rachel go to a hotel and have sexual intercourse.

Questions

Part 5

A couple of days after having sexual intercourse with Rachel James meets his friends and is very upset. He tells him how he felt he had to have sex with Rachel. He says that Rachel had made threats stating he was going to lose his job and she would make sure he never got another one. Rachel also told him he's not good enough to work there and is only there because of her and it is his fault this happened as he is a flirt. He regrets what happened and is scared to go back into work as he does not want to be alone with Rachel. He didn't know who to turn to when Rachel was being inappropriate as the person who works in human resources is Rachel's sister so he did not feel it would be taken seriously.

Questions

Questions

1. On a scale of 1 to 5 do you think this is inappropriate behaviour?

1 Not inappropriate)	2	3	4	5 (Is inappropriate)

2. How serious would you rate this on a scale of 1 to 5?

1 (Not serious)	2	3	4	5 (Very Serious)

3. How likely are you to tell someone if this happened to you?

1 (Not likely)	2	3	4	5 (Very likely)

4. If you were to tell someone who would it be? (Please tick all that apply)

Friends	Family	Partner	Work Colleague	Work Supervisor	Charity/ Advice Helpline	No one	Other (please specify)

5. On a scale of 1 to 5 do you think this is sexual harassment?

1 (Not sexual harassment)	2	3	4	5 (Is sexual harassment)

6. How likely are you to report this to the police? (1 not likely and 5 very likely)

1	2	3	4	5

For part 4 and 5 also ask:

7. On a scale of 1-5 do you think this is rape?

1 (Not rape)	2	3	4	5 (Definitely rape)

8. How likely are you to report this to the police?

1 (Not likely)	2	3	4	5 (Very likely)

Intolerant Schema Measure (ISM)

Instructions: Please indicate how descriptive each statement is of your beliefs by circling the number that corresponds to your response. (1 = strongly disagree to 5 = strongly agree)

1. MEBS-1: People who stay on welfare have no desire to work.
2. AWS-5: Women should worry less about their rights and more about becoming good wives and mothers.
3. MEBS-2: Welfare keeps the nation in debt.
4. AWS-8: It is ridiculous for a woman to run a locomotive and for a man to darn socks.
5. MEBS-3: People who don't make much money are generally unmotivated.
6. AWS-9: The intellectual leadership of a community should be largely in the hands of men.
7. MEBS-5: Homeless people should get their acts together and become productive members of society.
8. AWS-13: In general, the father should have greater authority than the mother in bringing up the children.
9. MEBS-6: Too many of my tax dollars are spent to take care of those who are unwilling to take care of themselves.
10. AWS-15: There are many jobs in which men should be given preference over women in being hired or promoted.
11. MEBS-7: If every individual would carry his/her own weight, there would be no poverty.

12. NS-3: Women shouldn't push themselves where they are not wanted.
13. MEBS-8: There are more poor people than wealthy people in prisons because poor people commit more crimes.
14. NS-6: Women's requests in terms of equality between the sexes are simply exaggerated.
15. MEBS-9: Poor people are lazy.
16. NS-7: Over the past few years, women have gotten more from government than they deserve.
17. MEBS-13: Most poor people are in debt because they can't manage their money.
18. NS-8: Universities are wrong to admit women in costly programs such as medicine, when in fact, a large number will leave their jobs after a few years to raise their children.

Executive Summary

This is a summary for the research 'Examining the understanding of consent within rape by people who hold a position of power and the effects this has on reporting'. This is written for the charity RapeCrisis to provide them with an insight into the current issues surrounding rape and reporting to the police.

Introduction

Statistics from The Crime Survey for England and Wales show that around 3.4 million women and 631, 000 males have been victims of sexual assault (Flatley, 2018). However, it is suggested that within England and Wales only around 6-18% of rapes are reported to the police (Brown, Hamilton & O'Neill, 2007; Hohl & Stanko, 2015).

There are also problems with the legal definition of rape. According to the definition a woman cannot be convicted of rape alone, only if they are assisting a male, as it is defined as penetration of the vagina, anus or mouth with a penis (Sexual Offences Act 2003 (c. 1. 1a-c)). There is assault by penetration, which carries the same sentence as rape, which involves penetration of the mouth, anus or vagina with a part of his body or anything else (Sexual Offences Act 2003 (c. 2. 1a-d)). Although this can be used to convict women the use of the word 'he' still suggests only males commit this type of crime. This causes problems for male victims as both definitions suggest's it's males who commit this crime. Also there are no laws concerning the issue of a female forcing a man to penetrate her.

There is also a concern surrounding the use of coercion, threats, begging and deception in getting someone to engage in unwanted sexual activity (Basile, 1999; Buddie, Livingston, Testa & VanZile-Tamsen, 2004) and people not viewing this as rape. Miller and Watson (2015) found that around 60.4% of the

participants in their study did not recognise their experiences as rape even though they could be defined as such. This shows the importance of a better understanding of all types of sexual abuse and how this affect reporting.

There also many myths surrounding rape which could lead to victim blaming and again a lack of reporting. One rape myth is the idea that the majority of rape is committed by a male who attacks a female whilst she is alone at night (Anderson, 2007). However, it is known that the majority of rape victims are raped by someone they know such as a boyfriend, husband or acquaintance (Gavey, 1991. Cited in: Anderson, 2007). As well as this there are rape myths surrounding male victims, including they are too men are too strong to be raped, men instigate sex so can't be targets and male rape only happens in prisons (Bull & Sleath, 2009; Fisher & Pina, 2013).

The research also looked at sexual harassment and found similar issues, to that of rape, regarding the lack of reporting.

Current Research

The current research aims to examine the use of coercion and threats from someone within a position of power to force someone to engage in unwanted sexual activity. There are 3 hypotheses, which are outline below:

1. Hypothesis 1 states that male participants will take the scenario as less seriously when compared to female victims, especially regarding the male victim condition. Males will also be less likely to report the incident to the police.
2. Hypothesis 2 states there will be a positive correlation between participants telling anyone, such as friends and family, and the participants reporting the incident to the police.

3. Hypothesis 3 states there will be a positive correlation between the likelihood of reporting to the police and sexual harassment, rape and the perceived seriousness.

Method

The study included male and female participants who were over 18. There was a total of 261 participants, 141 males and 119 females and 1 prefer not to say. The study used a vignette which outlined a workplace sexual harassment scenario which lead to the victim being coerced into unwanted sexual activity. The vignette was split into 5 parts which escalated in seriousness. They were then asked 6, or 8, questions, depending on the part, regarding inappropriateness and seriousness, likelihood of telling anyone and reporting to the police and the perception that the behaviour is sexual harassment or rape. The vignette included two conditions with both a male and female victim and perpetrator. The study also included the Intolerance Schema Measure to examine if people prejudices affect participants answers.

Results

The results showed that there were no significant gender differences within the how serious female and male participant rated the scenario and their likelihood to report to the police. There was a significant difference found within participants telling anyone, where male participants were on average less likely to tell someone.

A positive and significant correlation was found between the likelihood of telling anyone and the likelihood of reporting to the police. As well as this a positive and significant correlation was found between sexual harassment, rape and seriousness and the likelihood of reporting to the police.

Discussion

Although the study did not find any gender differences it did highlight the issues surrounding low levels of reporting to the police. This is an area that could benefit from further research. The study did find positive correlations between telling anyone and reporting to the police which suggest social support could be important in encouraging people to report. It also showed a correlation between sexual harassment, rape and seriousness and the likelihood to report, which could suggest that people are more likely to report the incident if they know the incident classifies as rape or sexual harassment, although further research is needed.

The study has highlighted issues such as the under-reporting of rape and possible issues with the definition of rape, especially where coercion is used, and it has drawn attention to the future research that's is needed to increase our understand of rape and reporting.

Word Count: 984 words

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Presentation Slides

Examining the understanding of consent within rape by people who hold a position of power and the effects this has on reporting

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Aims and Rationale

- ▶ The crime survey for England and Wales has shown that around 20% of females and 4% of males have been victims of sexual assault since the age of 16.
- ▶ Sexual harassment, sexual abuse and rape have many negative psychological effects including irritation, anger, anxiety, depression and post traumatic stress disorder (Bergman, Cortina, Day-Langhout, Fitzgerald & Palmieri.; Crocker and Kalembara, 1999; DeHardo, Fitzgerald, Hulin & Magley, 1999; Lee, Steel & Willness, 2007; McDonald, 2012)
- ▶ Research by Miller and Wilson showed that 60% of the participant in their study did not acknowledge their own experiences as rape even though they could be defined as rape.
- ▶ If rape goes unreported it decreases the access victims have to vital services such as medical care and psychological services (Amstadter, Kilpatrick, McCauley, Resnick, Ruggiero & Woltzsky-Taylor, 2011; Bracken, Goddard, Matheson & Young, 1992)
- ▶ There are also many rape myths which could lead to victim blaming (Burt, 1980; Gadalla & Suarez, 2010)
- ▶ This research aims to explore rape by the use of coercion of threats and whether people would report this to the police.

Method

- ▶ Hypothesis:
 - ▶ Hypothesis one states male participants will view the scenario as less serious especially for the male victim condition and would also be less likely to report the incident
 - ▶ The second hypothesis states there will be a positive correlation between participants telling anyone and participants reporting the incident to the police.
 - ▶ The third hypothesis states that the participants will be more likely to report the incident to the police if they rate the incident higher for it being rape.
- ▶ Participants: 262 participant both male and female, aged 18 or over. Recruited from online social media sights
- ▶ Design and materials: Independent measure and between groups design used. The study had a vignette split into 5 parts and there was 2 conditions, one with a male victim and female boss and one with a female victim and male boss. Part 1-3 had 5 questions after the vignette and part 4-5 had 8 questions. The intolerance schema measure was also used (ISM; Aasved, Long & Volter, 2009).
- ▶ Procedure: Participant's were asked to read a participant information sheet and sign a consent form prior to starting the survey. They were then asked to show the 5 parts individually and asked to answer the questions provided. They were then asked to complete the ISM. There was a debrief form at the end to ensure participants understood the study and had any necessary support.

Results

- ▶ All data was viewed as ordinal and therefore non-parametric tests were used.
- ▶ The first hypothesis was measured using a Mann-Whitney U test.
 - ▶ The first part of this hypothesis stated males will view the scenario as less serious however no significant difference ($U = 8098$, $p = 0.629$) was found between male and female participants.
 - ▶ The second part stated male participants would be more likely to view the male victim condition as less serious however no significant difference between the male victim condition ($U = 659$, $p = 0.09$) and female victim condition ($U = 569$, $p = 0.06$) was found.
 - ▶ The last part of this hypothesis was male participants would be less likely to report however there was no significant difference ($U = 8184$, $p = 0.06$).
- ▶ The second hypothesis used a Spearman's rank correlation to examine the correlation between the participants telling anyone and the participants reporting the incident to the police. The test found there was a moderate positive correlation ($r_s(259) = 0.330$, $p < 0.001$).
- ▶ The third hypothesis used a Spearman's rank correlation.
 - ▶ The first part stated participants would be more likely to tell the police if they rated the incident higher for being rape. This results showed a significant strong positive correlation ($r_s(258) = 0.606$, $p < 0.001$).
 - ▶ The correlation between reporting to the police and how serious they find the behaviour was also tested and a significant moderate positive correlation was found ($r_s(259) = 0.350$, $p < 0.001$).
 - ▶ The correlation between reporting to the police and the extent at which participants rate the behaviour as sexual harassment ($r_s(259) = 0.363$, $p < 0.001$).

Discussion

- ▶ Overall no gender differences were found within the questions tested which does not support existing literature which states men are more likely to endorse rape myths, especially with rape that could be viewed as 'non-traditional'.
- ▶ There was a positive and significant correlation found between participant telling anyone and participants reporting to the police, although this does not show causation. It was also only a moderate effect and therefore should be viewed with caution it is still a positive finding as it shows the importance of social support.
- ▶ A positive and significant correlation, with a strong effect, was found for the higher score for rape and telling the police. However the median and mean scores were quite low for both showing people may still have issues understanding rape and reporting rape.
- ▶ Future research could look at different scenarios of rape and sexual harassment, for example outside of the workplace. It would also be interesting to add in extra factors, such as age, emotions, relationship status of victim, attractiveness, criminal history of offender, different types of relationships etc. to see if this would effect the results.
- ▶ Practically, this research highlights the issue of coercion used to force people into sex and also the problems surrounding the definition of rape. It also shows the confusion surrounding the lack of reporting which could potentially be due to victims not being sure if their experiences were rape or being concerned about what people would say.

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Reflective Report

Introduction

This is a reflective report looking at the development of my research dissertation for the Forensic and Criminological Master's degree. The report will explore the process of conceptualisation, preparation, design, data collection, data analysis and write up.

Preparation

The idea for my research was influenced by a BBC programme called 'Is this rape? Sex on trial' which was broadcast in 2015. The show had a group of young people watch clips of a scenario that could be rape and then they were asked to vote for whether they thought it was rape or not. It was interesting to see how people's opinions on the incident developed throughout the scenario when they were provided with new evidence and information. It was also surprising to see how many people were unsure about whether the scenario was rape at times. Especially as these were young people they could potentially find themselves in similar situation as both the victim or a perpetrator and may not fully understand the seriousness of what could happen. I liked the idea of using a scenario that escalates and that people could hopefully relate to and that would help us gain an insight into people's understanding of rape. However, as there are so many different areas surrounding sex crimes it was hard to narrow down what I wanted to research.

I had a supervision on the 19th October to discuss my ideas. I was concerned with the possible ethical issues of using a rape scenario but after speaking to my supervisor it was agreed that it would not be harmful as long as it was worded

correctly and not too graphic. We also explored the different methods that could be used and the advantages and disadvantages of these.

Around the same time as I was coming up with my idea there was a lot of stories in the media surrounding Harvey Weinstein and men within entertainment using their power to coerce and threaten people into engaging in sexual activity. I began to think about how this could potentially be happening in everyday scenarios and in different types of relationships including romantic, friendship or acquaintance relationships. This was discussed in my supervision and after a literature review it was clear there was a gap in the literature regarding the use of power, coercion and threats being used to engage people in unwanted sexual activity.

Preparation

To prepare for the study I first had to come up with my scenario. To do this I looked at research surrounding the areas and common misconceptions surrounding rape and sexual harassment. I also read people's real life experience of sexual harassment and coercion, including the statements from the victims of Harvey Weinstein. After doing the research I had to decide on the scenario I would use and think about different factors such as where it would be set, the relationship between the victim and perpetrator, the gender of the victim and perpetrator and whether to examine other factors such as attractiveness, culture, race and age. It was decided that I would examine the role of coercion within a workplace setting and look at sexual harassment that leads into unwanted sexual activity. I wanted the scenario to escalate so I could see if people's opinion changed the more they read and the more serious it got. I also decided not to give too many details surrounding the characters looks or other

demographics due to the time constraints with preparing and analysing the data as this could have made it quite complicated. My scenario was split into five parts and the last two were where the sexual intercourse happened. I decided it would be interesting to keep part four, where the victim and perpetrator have sex, very minimal and not include too much detail surrounding the emotions and events leading up to the incident. For part 5 I then added in the emotions and context surrounding the threats and emotional abuse the victim had experienced. I did this to see if people were more likely to rate the situation as more serious and be more likely to report it once it included information about the abuse and emotion surrounding the situation. I was happy with how my scenario turned out as I felt as if it was something people could relate to however it was not too detailed or upsetting to cause harm. I also chose to have a condition with a female victim and a male perpetrator and a condition with a male victim and female perpetrator This was because there was also a gap in the literature surrounding how women may coerce men into sexual activity and it would be interesting to examine whether people perceive male and female victims differently.

I also had to develop my questions and decide what I wanted to explore regarding people's opinions on the scenario. I decided to look at the perceived inappropriateness and seriousness of the behaviour, the likelihood of telling anyone and who this would be and the likelihood of reporting the incident to the police. I also examined to what extent the participants thought the scenario was rape and sexual harassment. I choose to use the intolerance schema measure to examine whether people's prejudices impacted their answers. In hindsight I should have done more research surrounding this but due to time constraints I did not. I also

would have liked to research some scales for rape myth acceptance as this would have been interesting to include.

I had another supervision on the 2nd November to finalise my ideas and ensure everything was ethical and then I produced a draft proposal and ethics application. This was looked over and revised and then sent to the ethics committee.

Design

Once the study was approved by ethics I had to begin to finalise my scenario and questions and develop my online survey. Developing my online survey was interesting as I had not done this before and it was interesting to develop new skills. I had another supervision on the 27th March to go through my feedback from ethics and look at what changes I needed to make. I did decide to change the order of some of the questions to ensure it made more sense and some try and reduce desirability bias. I also had to figure out how to make it random as the online survey website we used did not support this. I chose to give the participants a choice of letter K or Q and each one lead to either condition 1 or 2.

Once everything was finished I conducted a pilot study and sent my survey to three people to check it worked okay and made sense. It was reported back that there was confusion surround part five of my scenario as people did not know if they were answering the questions based on part four with the new information or on the behaviour in part 5. A line was added to all scenarios to inform participants to answer questions based on all previous information. The people who conducted the pilot study was then asked if this made it clearer and it did, so the study was posted online.

I did have concerns over whether I would get enough participants as I needed over a hundred and as I had not conducted online research before, so I was concerned about how long it would take to get the required amount. However, I ended up getting over the required number of participants. It was interesting to look at how the data was developing whilst being collected and to see patterns emerging. There were a few comments made regarding the wording and clarity of what behaviour the questions were referring to so this is something I will consider when doing further research.

Data Analysis

The data analysis was the part of the research I was the most worried about as I feel I am not very good at statistics. I read Andy Fields (Fields, 2018) book which helped however as I had so much data I was still confused as to what bits I needed to include. I had a supervision on the 22nd June where we discussed what parts of my data were important for analysis and to ensure I was answering my research questions. This helped me clarify what was important. I had some issues preparing my data but with the use of the book and online resources I managed to prepare the data and do some preliminary analysis to examine if there were any patterns emerging.

I also went to statistics clinic, run by Andrea Venn, on the 17th July to discuss my analysis and get some advice on what tests I needed to use. This was extremely useful in helping me make sense of my data and gain an understanding of the analysis I needed to use. After this I had phone supervision on the 23rd July with my supervisor to confirm these were the right tests.

I then carried out my analysis. Due to the support from supervision and the statistics clinics this went well, and I managed to conduct all the necessary tests.

However, I did run more tests than necessary, so it was then hard to decide what tests to include in my write up. I did this by first ensuring I had tested my hypothesis and then by looking at what could add to the analysis. It was surprising to see how low people scored the scenario regarding whether it was rape and their likelihood to report and this is something I would like to do further analysis on in the future.

Write up

The last part of the research project was writing up the research paper. This was hard as there was a lot of different elements to include. It was interesting to read the research surrounding the topic area, but it was hard to know what was important to include in my introduction and to ensure everything was relevant to the research. I found it challenging to write up my method as I was unsure about how detailed it should be and what to include however feedback from my supervisor helped with this. My results were easy to write up but as previously mentioned it was hard to decide which tests to include. Although not all my results were significant it was still interesting as it highlighted some major issues with the legal definition of rape and the low levels of reporting. It also brought to light many areas that could benefit from further research.

Conclusion

Overall, I enjoyed doing the research project as it was a topic I feel strongly about, and I feel the results have provided an interesting insight into the use of coercion and threats and how people perceive this. Although there were limitations with the study these are things I can learn from and use when I carry out further research.

Word Count: 1,821 words

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