VICTIMIZATION OF THE INCARCERATED

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Research assistants

Oregon Department of Corrections—
Research Department & Behavioral Health Services

Pacific University

and the participants
PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- Review relevant legal standards
  - PREA
  - Custodial misconduct
- Review scarce literature on inmates as victims
- Review preliminary findings from the Personality and Adjustment to Prison study
  - Characteristics of women and men entering prison
  - Adjustment of women to prison during 1st year of incarceration
    - Focus on victimization
- Recommendations for reducing violence and victimization in prison
RELEVANT LEGAL STANDARDS
PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT (2003)
STATE LAWS

- Oregon: Custodial Sexual Misconduct in the First Degree
- ORS 163.452
- C felony
LITERATURE REVIEW
ABUSE HISTORY AND FEMALE INMATES

- 6 out of 10 female inmates have reported sexual or physical abuse at some time in their life (Harrison & Beck, 2003)
- Higher rates of childhood sexual abuse in female (26%) versus male (5%) inmates (McClellan, Farabee & Crouch, 1997)
- Childhood abuse and neglect predictive of Antisocial Personality, alcohol problems, hostility and other externalizing problems (White & Widom, 2003)
VICTIMIZATION IN PRISON: PREVALENCE

- Wolff and Shi study
- 1 state, 6964 male and 564 female inmates took part
- Computerized survey assessing experience in last 6 months
  - Physical victimization
  - Sexual victimization
  - Reporting of victimization
  - Feelings of safety

Study benefits:
- Enormous sample size
- Detailed types of victimization

Study cons:
- Few other data points
- No ability to predict who is at risk
VICTIMIZATION IN PRISON: PREVALENCE

- Physical victimization in last 6 months (Wolff & Shi, 2009)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical violence by</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>53.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>another inmate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical violence by</td>
<td>36.9%</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>staff</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Proportion of victimized inmates feeling unsafe was higher than non-victimized inmates, especially among males
- Victimized men felt more unsafe in most areas (yard, cell, dining area, shower) than non-victimized. Victimized women felt more unsafe in dining area
VICTIMIZATION IN PRISON: PREVALENCE

- Sexual victimization in last 6 months (Wolff & Shi, 2011)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sexual violence by another inmate</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>22.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual violence by staff</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Abusive sexual contact much more common than forced sex acts.
- Co-occurring physical and sexual violence was more common than only sexual violence.
PERSONALITY AND ADJUSTMENT TO PRISON (PAP) STUDY
PAP PURPOSE AND GOALS

Purpose of the study

- Examine first year adjustment of newly admitted female inmates
- Broaden construct of adjustment
- Describe relationships between abuse history, psychopathology, and adjustment
MEASURES

Psychopathology

- Personality Assessment Inventory (PAI; Morey, 2003)
  - Schizophrenia (SCZ)
  - Paranoia (PAR)
  - Mania (MAN)
  - Depression (DEP)
  - Anxiety (ANX)
  - Borderline Features (BOR)
  - Antisocial Features (ANT)

- DSM-IV-TR diagnoses of Antisocial and Borderline Personality Disorders
  - Diagnosis
  - # of criteria

Abuse history

- Initial Trauma Review-Revised (Briere, 2004; ITR-R)
MEASURES

Adjustment
- **Prison Violence Inventory** (PVI; Warren, Hurt, Loper, Bale, Friend, & Chauhan, 2002)
  - Physical (10 items) & Relational (7 items)
  - Violence perpetration
  - Violence victimization
- **Number of disciplinary infractions in 1 year period**
- **Women Adjusting to Prison Study Survey** (WAPS; our own instrument)
- **Prison Adjustment Questionnaire** (PAQ; Wright, 1991)
STUDY PROCEDURE

- IRB review and approval
- Random selection of participants
  - First time in prison, 13/18 mos sentence
  - First 1-3 weeks into incarceration
- Baseline 1
- Baseline 2
- Follow-ups
  - 3-6-9-12 months
  - Correctional officers*
### PAP Participant Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Females</th>
<th>Males</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number</strong></td>
<td>152</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mean age (SD)</strong></td>
<td>34.45 (10.67)</td>
<td>31.69 (12.25)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Race</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caucasian</td>
<td>80.3</td>
<td>72.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African-American</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>8.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latino/a</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>9.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian-American</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native-American</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bi/multi-racial</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>3.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Highest grade completed (SD)</strong></td>
<td>11 (2.06)</td>
<td>11 (1.75)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marital status</td>
<td>Females</td>
<td>Males</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single, never married</td>
<td>45.4</td>
<td>60.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
<td>18.4</td>
<td>14.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Separated</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>11.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divorced</td>
<td>23.0</td>
<td>10.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Widowed</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Children</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1+ children</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>76.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avg number (range)</td>
<td>2.13 (0-12)</td>
<td>1.4 (0-11)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### PAP Participant Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Females</th>
<th>Males</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Type of crime</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug, minor violations</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>22.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Person</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>60.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Previously on probation</strong></td>
<td>74.3%</td>
<td>60.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Avg sentence length (SD)</strong></td>
<td>34 mo (34)</td>
<td>78 (79)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Employed at time of offense</strong></td>
<td>36.2%</td>
<td>44.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Substance use at time of offense</strong></td>
<td>69.7%</td>
<td>60.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ADJUSTMENT TO PRISON

- Adjustment has narrow definition of disciplinary infractions
  - Infractions capture only serious (unlucky) incidents
  - Low base rate
- New female inmates have fewer coping strategies than females incarcerated longer

Gallagher, 2001; Soderstrom, Castellano, & Figaro, 2001
ADJUSTMENT TO PRISON

- Tongeren & Klebe (2010)
  - Defined adjustment in female offenders as
    - Ability to get basic provisions
    - Assimilate into prison culture, with eye towards release
    - Reduce criminal thinking and rehabilitate
  - Identified 6 types of offenders based on a series of measures
  - Did not examine time sequence, change
  - No behavioral anchors, dependent variables
MENTAL HEALTH AND PERSONALITY PATHOLOGY
PAI: MENTAL HEALTH SYMPTOMS

- **T-score 70+ on clinical scales**
  - 6.7%  Schizophrenia
  - 10.7% Paranoia
  - 2.3%  Mania
  - 18.7% Depression
  - 18.7% Anxiety
- **39.5%** Any 1 elevated Axis I scale
- **12%** Any 2+ elevated Axis I scales
PERSONALITY PATHOLOGY: DSM DIAGNOSIS

- Met DSM-IV-TR criteria
  - 13.2% Borderline PD
  - 31.6% Antisocial PD
- # of symptoms
  - Borderline PD 1.85 (SD = 2.12)
  - Antisocial PD 3.89 (SD = 2.76)
- Overlap
  - 55.9% no diagnosis
  - 34.9% either diagnosis
  - 4.7% both
PERSONALITY PATHOLOGY: PSYCHOPATHY RATINGS

- Mean scores
  - Interpersonal, affective chars 5.15 (SD = 3.50)
  - Behavioral, lifestyle chars 2 8.94 (SD = 4.71)
  - Total score 15.58 (SD = 7.77)

- Cutoffs
  - 30—6%
  - 25—12%

- Levels
  - Low—0-14 (47%)
  - Medium—15-24 (41%)
  - High—25+ (12%)
# Abuse Experience Before Age 18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Females</th>
<th>Males</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sexual abuse by someone 5+ years older</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Involved penetration</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual abuse by someone &lt;5 years older</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Involved penetration</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical abuse</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual and/or child abuse</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Witnessed interpersonal traumatic event(s)</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
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</table>
## ABUSE EXPERIENCE AFTER AGE 18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Females</th>
<th>Males</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sexual assault</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penetration</td>
<td>91</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date or romantic partner</td>
<td>63</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partner physical abuse</td>
<td>71</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Involved severe, life-threatening battery</td>
<td>42</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Witness to trauma</td>
<td>45</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BPD</td>
<td>nonBPD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical abuse</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual abuse by adult</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>40%*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual abuse by peer</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*p < .05
# BPD AND ADULT ABUSE EXPERIENCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>BPD</th>
<th>nonBPD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sexual abuse</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>26%*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partner physical abuse</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>65%*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*p < .05
RATES OF ABUSE BY PD DIAGNOSIS--FEMALES
RATES OF ABUSE BY PD DIAGNOSIS--MALES

- ASPD
- BPD
- high PP
- No PD

**Graph Details:**
- X-axis: Types of Abuse (Child physical, Child sexual, Child witness, Adult sexual, Adult physical)
- Y-axis: Frequency (%)
PAI SCORES BY ABUSE EXPERIENCE--FEMALES

- Women with child PA and/or SA (n = 87)
  - Significantly higher scores on SCZ, MAN, PAR & DEP
- Women with child PA (n = 67)
  - Significantly higher scores on ANX, ANT, & BOR
- Women with child SA (n = 69)
  - Significantly higher on ANX, ANT, & BOR
PAI SCORES BY ABUSE EXPERIENCE--MALES

- Men with child PA and/or SA (n = )
- Men with child PA (n = )
- Men with child SA (n = )
ADJUSTMENT TO PRISON: THE FIRST YEAR
ADJUSTMENT ACROSS THE FIRST YEAR

- Indicators of adjustment
  - Positive
  - Negative

- 83 women completed all 4 follow-up periods
WHAT IS THE PATTERN OF VICTIMIZATION AND PERPETRATION ACROSS FIRST YEAR OF INCARCERATION?

Maladjustment defined as presence of violence (perpetration & victimization)

Hypothesis: Greater violence expected at beginning that tapers over time
MEAN PVI SCORES FOR VICTIMIZATION AND PERPETRATION

- **Victimization**
- **Perpetration**

Baseline, 3 months, 6 months, 9 months, 12 months

- Variation in mean scores over time.
VIOLENCE VICTIMIZATION BY CHILDHOOD PHYSICAL ABUSE HISTORY
VIOLENCE PERPETRATION BY CHILDHOOD PHYSICAL ABUSE HISTORY

- **no PA**
- **PA**

Baseline: 0 3 months*: 0.2 6 months*: 0.4 9 months 1.2 12 months

* Asterisk indicates significant change from baseline.
VIOLENCE VICTIMIZATION BY SEXUAL ABUSE HISTORY

The graph illustrates the trend of violence victimization over time by sexual abuse history. The x-axis represents time points: baseline, 3 months, 6 months, 9 months, and 12 months. The y-axis represents the frequency or severity of victimization. Two lines are shown: one for those with no sexual abuse history (no SA) and another for those with a sexual abuse history (SA). The graph shows an increase in victimization for those with a sexual abuse history compared to those without, particularly noticeable at 9 months.
VIOLENCE PERPETRATION BY SEXUAL ABUSE HISTORY

- **Baseline**
- **3 months**
- **6 months**
- **9 months**
- **12 months**

- **no SA**
- **SA**
SUMMARY: SELF-REPORTED VIOLENCE EXPERIENCE

- Women show slower acceleration of violence experience, peak at 9 months
- Women with abuse histories show higher rates of violence experience
- Overall differences between abuse groups not statistically significant
  - Reduced power due to follow-up attrition
PERSONALITY DISORDER DIAGNOSIS AND VICTIMIZATION

- Nonsignificant trends for ASPD and BPD to have higher rates of victimization

- Significant differences for presence of PD and perpetration \([F(8, 64) = 2.51, p = .03]\)
  - Having both dx did not increase perpetration
  - Differences not significant for each diagnosis alone
VIOLENCE PERPETRATION BY PERSONALITY DISORDER

- no PD
- 1 PD
- 2 PDs

Baseline | 3 months | 6 months | 9 months | 12 months
-----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------
*No line for baseline*
VIOLENCE EXPERIENCE BY PSYCHOPATHY

- No differences among lo-med-hi levels of psychopathy and victimization
  - Increased victimization for higher PCL-R scorers
  - Low and medium groups nearly identical
- Significant differences between low and high PCL-R scorers in perpetration ($F(8, 65) = 2.91, p = .005$)
VIOLENCE PERPETRATION BY PSYCHOPATHY GROUP

- baseline
- 3 months
- 6 months*
- 9 months*
- 12 months

- hi PP
- med PP
- low PP
VIOLENCE PERPETRATION BY PAI SCALE ELEVATIONS

Differences not significant
VICTIMIZATION BY PAI SCALE ELEVATIONS

Differences not significant
VIOLENCE AND PERSONALITY DISORDER

- No real differences for victimization
  - Correlates of victimization?
- Perpetration rates are higher for women with personality dx, higher PCL-R scores
  - Differences in perpetration only emerge at 6 and 9 months
ADJUSTMENT: SELF-HARM

Baseline
3m
6m
9m
12m

SH thoughts
SH attempts
ADJUSTMENT: SELF-HARM

- Separated women slightly higher on ideation than single women (not significant)
- African-American women significantly higher than Caucasian and Hispanic women to consider and attempt self-harm
- Only among Af-Am women, CSA history increased likelihood of attempt
SUMMARY POINTS

- Women adjusting to prison
  - Low levels of perpetration and victimization
    - These levels rise over the 1st year
    - Women with abuse histories, personality disorder dx, mental health sx may be at more risk
SUMMARY POINTS

- High levels of abuse experience in child and adulthood
FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Analyze data for other adjustment measures
- Disciplinary reports
- Consider population
  - First-timers vs. GP
- Consider points of intervention
  - Increase in violence at 6-9 months
  - What management/intervention strategies could reduce this
REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS
RISK FACTORS FOR VIOLENCE

- Person variables

- Institutional variables
REDUCING PRISON VIOLENCE

- From the person to the organization