The Influence of Compensatory Control Strategies on the Relationship Between Perceived Control and Partner Aggression

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Control and Aggression

- “Power and control”
  - Operationalizing “control”
  - How does "control" impact partner aggression?

Control and Aggression

- Perceived control
  - Motivation and preservation

- Compensatory control
  - Interpersonal control
  - Religiosity

Current Research

- Low perceived control $\rightarrow$ Increased partner aggression
  - Prince & Arias, 1994
- Low perceived control $\rightarrow$ Increased interpersonal control
  - Stets, 1995
- Interpersonal control $\rightarrow$ Increased partner aggression
  - Shem & Pinox-Goos, 1988
- Low perceived control $\rightarrow$ Increased religious beliefs
  - Kay et al., 2008
Moderated-Mediation

- Conditional indirect effects
  - (Preacher, Rucker, & Hayes, 2007)
- Addresses both HOW and WHEN effect occurs
  - The STRENGTH of the indirect effect depends on the LEVEL of the moderator

Integrated Model

- Moderated-mediation

Method

- Participants (n=193 heterosexual males in a current relationship)
  - Undergraduates, Mechanical Turk
- Measures
  - Perceived control (NGSE)
  - Interpersonal control (IPCS)
  - God-mediated control (BPCS-RS)
  - Strength of religious faith (SCSRFQ)
  - IPV (CTS2-Physical)
- Procedures
  - Questionnaires in-lab/on-line (order randomized)
Results
- PROCESS macro (Hayes, 2012)
- Mediation
  - Indirect effect of interpersonal control: Supported
    - Bootstrap CI 95% CI: (-.0093; -.0010)
    - Normal theory test (Z = 2.47, p < .05)

Low Perceived Control \[\rightarrow\] Interpersonal Control \[\rightarrow\] Physical IPV

Results
- Moderated-mediation
  - Conditional indirect effect of GMC: Not supported
    - IPC x GMC; Z = .10, p = .92

Low Perceived Control \[\rightarrow\] Interpersonal Control \[\rightarrow\] Physical IPV

Results
- Moderated-mediation
  - Conditional indirect effect of SRF: Supported
    - IPC x SRF; Z = 1.97, p = .05

Low Perceived Control \[\rightarrow\] Interpersonal Control \[\rightarrow\] Physical IPV

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of GMC</th>
<th>Indirect Effect*</th>
<th>Standard Error</th>
<th>95% CI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-1 SD</td>
<td>-.0046</td>
<td>.0021</td>
<td>{-.0092; -.0009}</td>
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<td>Mean</td>
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*Unstandardized regression coefficients
Results

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<tr>
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*Unstandardized regression coefficients

Results

- Why strength of religious faith and not God-mediated control?
  - Faith vs. behavior?
  - Separated:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Faith</th>
<th>Behavior</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Source of inspiration</td>
<td>Daily Prayer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source of meaning/purpose</td>
<td>Active in church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Important for personhood</td>
<td>Interaction with others</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Exploratory Analyses

- Moderated-mediation
  - Conditional indirect effect of religious faith: Not supported
    - IPC x Religious faith; Z=1.79, p=.07

Results

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Exploratory Analyses

- Moderated-mediation
  - Conditional indirect effect of religious behavior: Supported
    - IPC x Religious behavior; Z=2.26, \( p=.02 \)

Discussion

- Low perceived control \( \rightarrow \) Increased IPV
- Compensatory strategies
  - Interpersonal control: Yes
  - God-mediated control: No
- Religious behaviors
- Clinical value
  - Batterer intervention programs

Results

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<th>95% CI</th>
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<tbody>
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*Unstandardized regression coefficients

Limitations and Future Research

- Causality
  - Longitudinal research needed
- Exploratory nature of religiosity
  - Replication needed
Questions? Comments? Suggestions?