

Quality of Men's Relationships with Sisters
and Its Association with Rape Myth Acceptance

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Abstract

Previous research shows that male college students with a sister are more egalitarian in their attitudes toward women than males with no siblings or males with an older brother (Sugawara, Koval, & Cate, 1990). This suggests that men with a close relationship with a sister will be less accepting of rape myths. In the present study, 111 college males, 18 years of age and older, completed the Sibling Relationship Questionnaire (Furman & Buhrmester, 1985), the Adolescent Family Life Satisfaction Index (Henry, Ostrander, & Lovelace, 1992), Burt's (1980) Rape Myth Acceptance Scale, a portion of the Attraction to Sexual Aggression Scale (Malamuth, 1989), and the Sexual Experience Survey (Koss, Gidycz, & Wisniewski, 1987). It was hypothesized that males with a close relationship with a sister would score lower on Rape Myth Acceptance than males with no such relationship. Males with an antagonistic relationship with a sister were predicted to have the greatest acceptance of rape myths. Results did not support these predictions.

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A wealth of studies exists showing that males are significantly more likely than females to believe rape myths and to blame the victim (Barnett & Feild, 1977; Burt, 1980; Lenihan, Rawlins, Eberly, Buckley, & Masters, 1992). Burt (1980, p. 217) defined rape myths as "prejudicial, stereotyped, or false beliefs about rape, rape victims, and rapists." Examples are "women who get raped while hitchhiking get what they deserve" and "when women go around braless or wearing short skirts and tight tops, they are just asking for it" (Burt, 1980, p. 223). Burt found that acceptance of rape myths by subjects could be predicted by sex role stereotyping, acceptance of interpersonal violence, and adversarial sexual beliefs. The present study explored whether the quality of males' relationships with a sister would influence the males' rape myth acceptance.

Attitudes Toward Rape and Male Socialization

Barnett and Feild (1977) surveyed 200 female and 200 male college students and found the males had "traditional, sexist attitudes toward rape" (p. 96).

For example, 59% agreed that "women provoke rape by their appearance or behavior" (p. 94). In contrast, forty percent of the female subjects felt rape is a "male exercise in power over women" (p. 95). In addition, a study of rape myth acceptance among college freshmen found that male students held significantly more rape-callous attitudes than females (Bell, Kuriloff, Lottes, Nathanson, Judge, & Fogelson-Turet, 1992). Finally, in a study of 821 male and female university students' rape-supportive attitudes before and after an educational intervention program, males believed significantly more rape myths and viewed relationships as adversarial (Lenihan, Rawlins, Eberly, Buckley, & Masters, 1992). The males maintained these attitudes even after completing the program while the females became more rejecting of rape myths upon completion. The retention by the males of these attitudes suggests that the attitudes are strongly ingrained in their belief system.

A common element among these studies is the bond between males' traditional values and their acceptance of rape myths. Most men are traditionally socialized

to be aggressive as well as to dominate the women in their lives (Bart & O'Brien, 1985; Duberman, 1975; Sanday, 1990; Schneider & Smith, 1973). This socialization may lead some men to believe that aggression is an acceptable means to get what they want and this may result in their acceptance of rape myths. Scully (1990), in a study of convicted rapists, found them to believe that women needed to be protected by men and "should be more virtuous than men" (p. 79). Moreover, the more traditional the rapists were in their attitudes toward women, the more hostile they were toward women (Scully, 1990). Scully (1990) suggests that "it is men with the most rigid demands for female virtue who are the best candidates for hostility because they cannot accept women as fully human" (p. 81).

Fischer (1986) found that, among students, the second best predictor (after the students' definition of whether it was rape) of the acceptability of a male's behavior in a forcible rape vignette was the students' attitudes toward women. The more traditional their attitudes, the more acceptable they judged the

male's behavior. In contrast, Tieger (1981) found that males who scored higher on the femininity scale of the Bem Sex Role Inventory showed more empathy and belief in the victim in a rape vignette, and judged the rape as violent and serious. In addition, Bell et al. (1992) found that sex-role attitudes were the best predictors of rape callousness. According to Bell et al. (1992), this finding supports the theories that rape myths are culturally ingrained in American society. Bell et al. (1992) also suggested that "attitudes about sexuality learned through parents and peers might be influential in forming the attitudes toward rape that predispose one to sexual misconduct" (p. 459). They suggest studying the socialization processes that affect children's development of these attitudes.

A primary force in the socialization of children's sex roles and the development of their attitudes is the family (Duberman, 1975; Zigler & Seitz, 1982). Sugawara, Koval, and Cate (1990) examined the relationship between sibling constellation and attitudes toward women among male and female college

students. They found that male subjects with no siblings were "significantly less egalitarian in their attitudes toward women than subjects with a younger or an older sibling" (p. 544). Moreover, male subjects with no siblings or with an older brother were "less egalitarian in their attitudes toward women than men with a sister" (p.544). Furthermore, men with a younger brother were significantly less egalitarian than men with an older sister. No differences in attitudes toward women were found when men with an older sister were compared to women in "all female sibling constellation groups" (p. 546). Sugawara, Koval, and Cate (1990) propose that "the presence of a sister broadens the perceptions of men regarding the rights, roles, and privileges of women, thus enhancing their egalitarian attitudes toward women" (p. 546).

Several studies have looked at the influence of relationships on attitudes toward rape and hostility toward women. A tendency among men to disbelieve claims of rape and to accept domestic violence was significantly related to an "absence of significant relationships with members of the opposite sex"

(Briere, Malamuth, & Check, 1985, p. 402). Also, increased social isolation (defined as an inability to get close to women and to maintain relationships) was correlated with hostility toward women (Malamuth, Sockloskie, Koss, & Tanaka, 1991). Thus, it can be proposed that a close relationship with a female may result in more egalitarian attitudes toward women and less rape myth acceptance among males.

Beneke (1982) interviewed men of different ages, marital statuses, and occupations about their views on rape, and noted that many referred to their role as a protector of the women in their lives and expressed a desire to kill anyone who would rape a woman they knew. For example, Ernie, a construction worker in his twenties, revealed his sister was raped and explained "She didn't turn against men in general, but like now she needs a man around constantly to feel safe. I was young at the time and there was a noticeable difference...she still has that need for a protector" (Beneke, 1982, p. 57). Stavros, a psychotherapist in his thirties, explained that "As a child I was taught that you never ever get close to hurting women

physically. It's your duty to be protective toward all women" (p. 95). Alex, a thirty-one-year-old graduate student, described his role as protector of his seven sisters: "...rape was sort of an unnamed theme that ran through our house....Because I was male and the oldest, I was responsible for seeing nothing happened. I was constantly told, 'You've gotta watch your sisters'" (pp. 98-99). Finally, Brownmiller (1975) noted that "injunctions against assaulting one's sister or one's buddy's sister are part of the code of honor among men; furthermore, anonymity between rapist and victim is an important factor in rape since an unknown woman is more easily stripped of her humanity" (p. 89). Thus, a close relationship with a sister could aid males in either (1) viewing the protection of women as their duty or (2) viewing women as equal human beings instead of objects, thereby decreasing the males' rape myth acceptance.

Sibling Status

Siblings often are companions, helpers, and caretakers, and as such may affect the development of one another's "social and cognitive skills that are

central to healthy social development" (Furman & Buhrmester, 1985, p. 448). It is evident that siblings play an important role in the development of social skills and behaviors, and are a "formative influence on personality" (Bank & Kahn, 1982).

It is also evident that the traditional sex-roles that opposite-sex siblings are socialized into are typically those of the male as dominant and aggressive and the female as dependant and passive (Bart & O'Brien, 1985; Duberman, 1975; Sanday, 1990; Schneider & Smith, 1973; Warshaw, 1988). According to Sutton-Smith and Rosenberg (1970), the presence of an opposite-sex sibling will "increase the importance of its own sex-role typical traits in the subject" (p. 23). In other words, the presence of a sister will reinforce feminine traits in a male. States Klagsbrun (1992, p. 111), "Just as siblings of the same sex identify with each other, opposite-sex sibs also identify, gleaning knowledge from one another about the meaning of maleness and femaleness." Thus it is possible to speculate that males with sisters are more empathic and sensitive toward women than males without

sisters. This may especially be the case for males with close relationships with their sisters. Moreover, it must be remembered that men with sisters are frequently assigned the role of protector of their sisters (Beneke, 1982). This may encourage them to view women as needing their protection and thereby to be less accepting of rape myths.

Birth order also plays an important role in how siblings influence one another. Newman's (1991) study of college students found that "later born subjects reported having been more influenced by siblings than did students of earlier ordinal positions" (p. 638). According to Ickes and Turner (1983), people with older, opposite-sex siblings are more likely to have "successful initial interactions with strangers of the opposite sex," and that this was "most clearly evident in the male dyad" (p. 218). In addition, Sutton-Smith and Rosenberg (1970) state that "second born subjects with [an] older opposite-sex sibling should acquire many of the opposite-sex traits of the older sibling through modeling after his or her greater power" (p. 147). Therefore, a second-born male with an older

sister may take on many of her characteristics, becoming "attuned to women's interests and feelings, having been sensitized to these things over the years by his big sister" (Klagsbrun, 1992, p. 124). In contrast, a first-born male with a younger sister may become even more masculine in order to assert his role (Sutton-Smith & Rosenberg, 1970). Therefore, a first-born male with a younger sister would be less likely to take on any of her characteristics. However, he may be even more likely to try to fulfill the protector role. Nevertheless, Billingham, Smith, and Keller (1989) reported that birth order was not a "major factor influencing sexual attitudes or behaviors among college students" (p. 115), and suggested that gender role development in the family was a more important influence.

In addition, the spacing between siblings also affects how influential they are upon one another. Koch (1955) found that siblings separated by four to six years were much less influential on each other than siblings separated by zero to two years (cited in Bank & Kahn, 1982). This may be because siblings that are

closer in age form closer relationships. Bank and Kahn (1982) state that "siblings appear to organize themselves into emotionally significant pairs, which can be either negative or positive" (p. 50). Thus, even though other siblings also are influential, the sibling that is the other member of a significant pair is most influential through "actions and reactions, identification, and lack of identification" (Bank & Kahn, 1982, P. 50).

Childhood aggression between siblings is common (Bart & O'Brien, 1985). Dunn (1988) reported that siblings play a causal role in the development of aggressive and coercive behaviors. Felson and Russo (1988) examined sibling aggression and found that girls were just as likely as boys to be involved in physical aggression, and that older siblings of both sexes and boys who fought with their sisters were more likely to be punished, which led to even more aggression. Furthermore, Bart and O'Brien's (1985) study of differences between raped women and women who avoided being raped showed that "parents of women who were raped were more likely to have intervened and punished

their children for fighting" and they "were less likely to have advised their daughters to fight back" (p. 58). Thus, physical fighting may actually benefit young women in preventing rape. It remains to be seen how physical fighting affects young men. It may influence males' aggression toward women, as Goodwin and Roscoe (1990) state that "behavior used and learned in childhood is often continued in later adult relationships" (p. 465). It may be that boys who aggress against their sisters will be less sensitive to women and more likely to believe rape myths.

The present study investigated the effects of the quality of men's relationships with their sisters on their rape myth acceptance. It was hypothesized that males with close relationships with a sister (indicated by high scores on the Warmth/Closeness factor of the Sibling Relationship Questionnaire (Furman & Buhrmester, 1985)) would have lower levels of rape myth acceptance than males with no such relationships. Men with antagonistic relationships with their sisters (indicated by high scores on the Status/Power, Conflict, and Rivalry factors of the Sibling

Relationship Questionnaire (Furman & Buhrmester, 1985)) were predicted to show greater rape myth acceptance. In addition to the Rape Myth Acceptance Scale (Burt, 1980), two other rape-related measures were included: a portion of the Attraction to Sexual Aggression Scale (Malamuth, 1989), related to rape and forced sex, and The Sexual Experience Survey (Koss, Gidycz, & Wisniewski, 1987), which measures a variety of coercive sexual acts. No specific predictions were made for these measures.

Method

Subjects

Subjects were 111 male Lycoming College students. Subjects included 22 freshmen males who volunteered to participate in the study in exchange for free pizza. An additional 23 subjects, college football players, were obtained through a mailing. The response rate was approximately 25%. Fifty-four biology students agreed to participate in the study at the beginning of their class period ($n=19$) or at the end of their lab period ($n=35$). Twelve subjects volunteered to participate at the end of their criminal justice class. Of these

individuals, several men did not complete all of the scales and were excluded from some of the analyses. The number of subjects excluded from the analyses was different for the different analyses.

Apparatus

Burt's (1980) Rape Myth Acceptance Scale, the Furman and Buhrmester (1985) Sibling Relationship Questionnaire (SRQ), the Henry, Ostrander, and Lovelace (1992) Adolescent Family Life Satisfaction Index, a portion of the Attraction to Sexual Aggression Scale (Malamuth, 1989), and the Sexual Experience Survey (Koss, Gidycz, & Wisniewski, 1987) will be used in this study (see Appendix B, C, D, E & F). The Rape Myth Acceptance Scale consists of 19 items, such as "In the majority of rapes, the victim is promiscuous or has a bad reputation" (Burt, 1980, p. 223). A seven-point Likert scale is used for the first 11 items and a five-point Likert scale is used for the remaining items. Burt (1980) reported a Cronbach's alpha of .875 (p. 223), and Margolin, Miller, & Moran (1989) reported a Cronbach's alpha of .874 (p. 236).

The SRQ consists of 15 subscales of three items each, rated on a five-point Likert scale. Examples of items include: "How much do you and this sibling go places and do things together?" and "How much do you and this sibling disagree and quarrel with each other?" Furman and Buhrmester (1985) performed a principal components analysis on the scales, extracting four factors they labeled "Warmth/Closeness," "Relative Power/Status," "Conflict," and "Rivalry" (p. 452). Warmth and conflict were each calculated by adding the appropriate items. Rivalry was calculated by adding the derivations of the scores of those items. Status was calculated by adding the nurturance and dominance items for the male and subtracting the nurturance and dominance items for the female. Furman and Buhrmester (1985) reported a Cronbach's alpha exceeding .70 for all but one subscale (competition, at .63). Participants were told to respond to the SRQ in regard to their closest (emotionally) sister. If a respondent had no sister, he was instructed to answer in regard to a close female cousin with whom he had frequent childhood contact. If he had no close female cousin,

he was instructed to respond in regard to a close female friend from childhood. If he had no close relationship with a female during childhood, he was instructed not to complete the SRQ.

The Adolescent Family Life Satisfaction Index consists of 13 items, such as "I am satisfied with how much my parent(s) approve of me and the things I do" and "I am satisfied with my over-all relationship(s) with my brothers and/or sisters" (Henry, Ostrander, & Lovelace, 1992, p. 1226). A five-point Likert scale is used. Principal components factoring by Henry, Ostrander, and Lovelace (1992) yielded two subscales, a Parental Subscale and a Sibling Subscale. Henry, Ostrander, and Lovelace (1992) reported a Cronbach's alpha of .88 for the Parental Subscale and .89 for the Sibling Subscale (p. 1227).

The Attraction to Aggression Scale (Malamuth, 1989) consists of 13 items for which subjects rate their likelihood of committing various sexual acts (ex. group sex, rape) if they could be assured they would not be caught. A five-point Likert scale is used. For this study, only "rape" and "forcing a female to do

something sexual she didn't want to do" were considered. The likelihood ratings for the two items were simply added.

The Sexual Experience Survey (Koss, Gidycz, & Wisniewski, 1987) consists of 10 questions such as "Have you had sexual intercourse with a woman when she didn't want to because you gave her alcohol or drugs?" Subjects indicate either "yes" or "no" for each question. The six items which referred to the use of threats, physical force, or alcohol or drugs to coerce sex were the concern of this study.

Additional questions concerned the age difference between subjects and closest sister (or cousin or friend), the birth order of subjects and closest sister, how often subjects acted as the female's protector while growing up, how often subjects pushed, shoved, hit, or kicked the female while growing up, and how often the female pushed, shoved, hit, or kicked the subjects while growing up (see Appendix G). One additional measure was included which is not the focus of the present study.

Procedure

The administration of the questionnaires was not the same for the different volunteers. The freshmen subjects were tested in the basement lounge of their dormitory. The football players who agreed to participate returned the questionnaires anonymously by mail. The biology and criminal justice students were tested in their classrooms. All subjects were asked to read the instruction sheet (see Appendix A) and answer the questions. They were assured of their confidentiality and their right to withdraw from the study at any time. After they finished the questionnaires, they were debriefed, thanked for their participation, and given a fact sheet on rape myths (see Appendix H & I).

Results

Data was analyzed with the BMDP statistical computer package. Mean scores for each questionnaire are shown in Table 1. The six items analyzed from the Sexual Experience Survey (Koss, Gidycz, & Wisniewski, 1987), were each assigned a value of one if answered "yes" and a value of zero if answered "no" to any of the questions about sexual coercion. Results showed

that 6.3% of the men admitted to engaging in a coercive sexual act.

Insert Table 1 about here

Correlations are reported in Table 2.

Correlations indicated that the relationship quality with sisters variables did not significantly correlate with rape myth acceptance as predicted. However, status did significantly correlate with both coercive sex and attraction to aggression.

Insert Table 2 about here

Both the frequency of aggression toward the female in childhood and the young man's age relative to the young woman's age did statistically significantly correlate with rape myth acceptance.

Stepwise regressions were performed on the data. No statistical significance ($p > .10$) was found in a regression with rape myth acceptance as the dependent variable and warmth, status, conflict, and rivalry as

the independent variables. However, a stepwise regression with attraction to aggression as the

Insert Table 3 about here

dependent variable and warmth, status, conflict, and rivalry as the independent variables found status to be a statistically significant ($F(1,78) = 5.13, p < .05$) predictor of attraction to aggression.

Two Multivariate Analyses of Variance (MANOVAs) were also run on the relationship quality factors. In the first, coercive sex was a between-subjects variable and the four relationship quality factors were within-subjects. The MANOVA was non-significant ($F(4,80) = .16, p > .10$), but the ANOVA for relationship status was significant ($F(1,83) = 5.19, p = .03$). Men who were sexually coercive showed a higher level of status ($M = .75$) compared to men who were not sexually coercive ($M = .16$). None of the other three relationship factor ANOVAs were significant. In the MANOVA, relative age (older, the same, younger) was a between-subjects factor and relationship qualities were within-subjects.

This MANOVA was significant ($F(8,158) = 3.54, p < .001$), as were two of the ANOVAs: status ($F(2,82) = 9.06, p < .001$) and conflict ($F(2,82) = 5.22, p < .01$). There was more status ($M = .51$) when she was younger than him than when she was older ($M = -.03$) or the same age ($M = .08$). In addition, there was more conflict when she was younger than him ($M = 2.76$) than when she was older than him ($M = 2.24$) or the same age ($M = 1.72$). However, there were only two subjects in the last group, so it is difficult to know whether this mean is accurate.

A 4 X 3 MANOVA was conducted on which female was rated (sister, cousin, friend, none) and the three rape-related variables (rape myth acceptance, attraction to aggression, and coercive sex). Which female was the between subjects variable and the rape-related variables were within subjects. This analysis yielded no significant MANOVA or any significant ANOVAs.

A final 3 X 3 MANOVA was conducted on relative age (older, the same, younger) and the three rape-related variables (rape myth acceptance, coercive sex, and attraction to aggression). The first variable was between subjects and the rape-related variables were

within subjects. This analysis also yielded no significant MANOVA or any significant ANOVAs.

Discussion

The hypothesis that subjects who scored better on measures of the quality of their childhood relationship with a female would score lower on rape myth acceptance was not supported. The correlations of the four factors (Warmth, Status, Conflict, and Rivalry) of the Sibling Relationship Questionnaire (Furman & Buhrmester, 1985) with rape myth acceptance were not statistically significant. Moreover, warmth and conflict were opposite the predicted direction. This indicates that the quality of the relationship is not the important factor in determining the female's influence on the male.

It is possible that a close relationship might be marked by more conflict and rivalry. Siblings close in age probably spent more time together and would as a result engage in more fights than those separated by more years. This would be indicated by the significant correlation ($r = .2165$) between the relative age of the male to the female and the amount of conflict. The

closer they were in age, the more conflict. Perhaps the age difference and whether the brother or the sister was the older sibling is more important in determining the female's influence on the male than the quality of their relationship. This could be the reason why the older the male was than the female, the more accepting he was of rape myths, which was a statistically significant correlation. Perhaps by being older and of higher status, he spent less time with her and had been less influenced by her.

In contrast, status was significantly related to subjects' attraction to aggression and whether they had coerced someone into having sex. The higher a subject perceived his status in comparison to the female's, the more likely he was to indicate he would commit rape or force a female to do something sexually that she did not want to do if assured of not being caught. Also, the higher a subject perceived his status in comparison to the female's status, the more likely he was to indicate he had coerced a female into having sex. These results suggest that males who had nonegalitarian views of their childhood relationship with a female

continue to hold nonegalitarian views of women and act upon this by forcing women to do things sexually against their will.

Protection was significantly correlated with warmth, conflict, and status: the warmer the relationship, the more protection; the more conflict, the more protection; and the higher his perceived status, the more protection. This is perhaps another indicator that a close relationship is more intense and therefore might be marked by more conflict.

How frequently the male indicated he had pushed, shoved, hit, or kicked the female while growing up was significantly correlated with rape myth acceptance. The more frequently he did so, the more accepting he was of rape myths. This suggests that the physical aggression practiced in childhood is indeed related to a later insensitivity to violence against women, thus resulting in greater acceptance of rape myths.

Although the quality of the males' relationships with their sisters did not have the predicted effect on their rape myth acceptance, it appears that males' early relationships with females do have some bearing

on their later coercive behavior and attitudes.

Results from this study suggest that the influence of the female is better represented by the perceived status of the male relative to the female, the years apart in age, and whether the male or the female is the older of the two. Perhaps the balance of power between the male and his sister is the best predictor of rape myth acceptance. This could explain why relative status/power was the only significant predictor of the four sibling relationship quality factors.

Future studies should gather data on the subjects' entire sibling constellation to see if there are other sisters in the family and look for any patterns of influence. It is also suggested for future studies that a correlation for rape myth acceptance and males who have older sisters should be done separately from a correlation for rape myth acceptance and males who have younger sisters.

Further study might also benefit from a sibling questionnaire that is designed to be retrospective and aimed at college-age or adult subjects. Perhaps the questionnaire used in this study was not a good measure

of subjects' recollections of their relationship while growing up because it does not account for these two factors. The use of a newly designed questionnaire might reveal a relationship between sibling relationship quality and rape myth acceptance.

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Appendix A

Instructions

Please respond to all of the questions in a way that best represents your beliefs and experiences. Some of the questions are personal and of a sexual nature. All of the questions are confidential. Please do not put any identifying marks on your test booklet and do not look at other participants' responses. If for any reason you wish to withdraw from the experiment, please place a check on the line at the bottom of this page. If you are not 18 years of age or older, place a check on the line below and do not complete the questionnaire. You can withdraw from the experiment at any time.

_____ I wish to withdraw my results
from the experiment.

Appendix B

Rape Myth Acceptance Scale

1. A woman who goes to the home or apartment of a man on their first date implies that she is willing to have sex.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
strongly agree	agree	somewhat agree	neutral	somewhat disagree	disagree	strongly disagree

2. Any female can get raped.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
strongly agree	agree	somewhat agree	neutral	somewhat disagree	disagree	strongly disagree

3. One reason that women falsely report a rape is that they frequently have a need to call attention to themselves.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
strongly agree	agree	somewhat agree	neutral	somewhat disagree	disagree	strongly disagree

4. Any healthy woman can successfully resist a rapist if she really wants to.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
strongly agree	agree	somewhat agree	neutral	somewhat disagree	disagree	strongly disagree

5. When women go around braless or wearing short skirts and tight tops, they are just asking for trouble.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
strongly agree	agree	somewhat agree	neutral	somewhat disagree	disagree	strongly disagree

6. In the majority of rapes, the victim is promiscuous or has a bad reputation.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
strongly agree	agree	somewhat agree	neutral	somewhat disagree	disagree	strongly disagree

7. If a girl engages in necking or petting and she lets things get out of hand, it is her own fault if her partner forces sex on her.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
strongly agree	agree	somewhat agree	neutral	somewhat disagree	disagree	strongly disagree

8. Women who get raped while hitchhiking get what they deserve.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
strongly agree	agree	somewhat agree	neutral	somewhat disagree	disagree	strongly disagree

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
strongly agree	agree	somewhat agree	neutral	somewhat disagree	disagree	strongly disagree

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
strongly agree	agree	somewhat agree	neutral	somewhat disagree	disagree	strongly disagree

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
strongly agree	agree	somewhat agree	neutral	somewhat disagree	disagree	strongly disagree

12. What percentage of women who report a rape would you say are lying because they are angry and want to get back at the man they accuse?

1	2	3	4	5
almost all	about 3/4	about half	about 1/4	almost none

13. What percentage of reported rapes would you guess were merely invented by women who discovered they were pregnant and wanted to protect their own reputations?

1	2	3	4	5
almost all	about 3/4	about half	about 1/4	almost none

14. A person comes to you and claims they were raped. How likely would you be to believe their statement if the person were:

your best friend?

1	2	3	4	5
always	frequently	sometimes	rarely	never

an Indian woman?

1	2	3	4	5
always	frequently	sometimes	rarely	never

a neighborhood woman?

1	2	3	4	5
always	frequently	sometimes	rarely	never

a young boy?

1	2	3	4	5
always	frequently	sometimes	rarely	never

a black woman?

1	2	3	4	5
always	frequently	sometimes	rarely	never

a white woman?

1	2	3	4	5
always	frequently	sometimes	rarely	never

Quality of Men's Relationships

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Appendix C

-
1. Some siblings do nice things for each other a lot, while other siblings do nice things for each other a little. How much do both you and this sibling do nice things for each other? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
2. Who usually gets treated better by your mother, you or this sibling? My sibling almost always gets treated better
 My sibling often gets treated better
 We get treated about the same
 I often get treated better
 I almost always get treated better
-
3. How much do you show this sibling how to do things he or she doesn't know how to do? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
4. How much does this sibling show you how to do things you don't know how to do? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
5. How much do you tell this sibling what to do? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
6. How much does this sibling tell you what to do? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-

Quality of Men's Relationships

-
7. Who usually gets treated better by your father, you or this sibling?
- My sibling almost always gets treated better
 - My sibling often gets treated better
 - We get treated about the same
 - I often get treated better
 - I almost always get treated better
-
8. Some siblings care about each other a lot while other siblings don't care about each other that much. How much do you and this sibling care about each other?
- Hardly at all
 - Not too much
 - Somewhat
 - Very much
 - EXTREMELY much
-
9. How much do you and this sibling go places and do things together?
- Hardly at all
 - Not too much
 - Somewhat
 - Very much
 - EXTREMELY much
-
10. How much do you and this sibling insult and call each other names?
- Hardly at all
 - Not too much
 - Somewhat
 - Very much
 - EXTREMELY much
-
11. How much do you and this sibling like the same things?
- Hardly at all
 - Not too much
 - Somewhat
 - Very much
 - EXTREMELY much
-
12. How much do you and this sibling tell each other everything?
- Hardly at all
 - Not too much
 - Somewhat
 - Very much
 - EXTREMELY much
-
13. Some siblings try to out-do or beat each other at things a lot, while other siblings try to out-do or beat each other a little. How much do you and this sibling try to out-do or beat each other at things?
- Hardly at all
 - Not too much
 - Somewhat
 - Very much
 - EXTREMELY much
-

Quality of Men's Relationships

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-
14. How much do you admire and respect this sibling?
- Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
15. How much does this sibling admire and respect you?
- Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
16. How much do you and this sibling disagree and quarrel with each other?
- Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
17. Some siblings cooperate a lot, while other siblings cooperate a little. How much do you and this sibling cooperate with each other?
- Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
18. Who gets more attention from your mother, you or this sibling?
- My sibling almost always gets more attention
 My sibling often gets more attention
 We get about the same amount of attention
 I often get more attention
 I almost always get more attention
-
19. How much do you help this sibling with things he or she can't do by him or herself?
- Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
20. How much does this sibling help you with things you can't do by yourself?
- Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-

-
21. How much do you make this sibling do things? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
22. How much does this sibling make you do things? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
23. Who gets more attention from your father, you or this sibling? My sibling almost always gets more attention
 My sibling often gets more attention
 We get about the same amount of attention
 I often get more attention
 I almost always get more attention
-
24. How much do you and this sibling love each other? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
25. Some siblings play around and have fun with each other a lot, while other siblings play around and have fun with each other a little. How much do you and this sibling play around and have fun with each other? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
26. How much are you and this sibling mean to each other? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
27. How much do you and this sibling have in common? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-

Quality of Men's Relationships

-
28. How much do you and this sibling share secrets and private feelings? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
29. How much do you and this sibling compete with each other? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
30. How much do you look up to and feel proud of this sibling? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
31. How much does this sibling look up to and feel proud of you? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
32. How much do you and this sibling get mad at and get in arguments with each other? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
33. How much do both you and your sibling share with each other? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
34. Who does your mother usually favor, you or this sibling? My sibling almost always is favored
 My sibling often is favored
 Neither of us is favored
 I am often favored
 I almost always am favored
-
35. How much do you teach this sibling things that he or she doesn't know? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-

Quality of Men's Relationships

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-
36. How much does this sibling teach you things that you don't know? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
37. How much do you order this sibling around? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
38. How much does this sibling order you around? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
39. Who does your father usually favor, you or this sibling? My sibling almost always is favored
 My sibling often is favored
 Neither of us is favored
 I often am favored
 I almost always am favored
-
40. How much is there a strong feeling of affection (love) between you and this sibling? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
41. Some kids spend lots of time with their siblings, while others don't spend so much. How much free time do you and this sibling spend together? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
42. How much do you and this sibling bug and pick on each other in mean ways? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
43. How much are you and this sibling alike? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-

Quality of Men's Relationships

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-
44. How much do you and this sibling tell each other things you don't want other people to know? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
45. How much do you and this sibling try to do things better than each other? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
46. How much do you think highly of this sibling? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
47. How much does this sibling think highly of you? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-
48. How much do you and this sibling argue with each other? Hardly at all
 Not too much
 Somewhat
 Very much
 EXTREMELY much
-

Appendix D

I am satisfied with:

how much my parent(s) approve of me and the things I do.

1	2	3	4	5
dissatisfied	somewhat dissatisfied	neutral	somewhat satisfied	very satisfied

the amount of freedom my parent(s) give me to make my own choices.

1	2	3	4	5
dissatisfied	somewhat dissatisfied	neutral	somewhat satisfied	very satisfied

the ways my parent(s) want me to think and act.

1	2	3	4	5
dissatisfied	somewhat dissatisfied	neutral	somewhat satisfied	very satisfied

the amount of influence my parent(s) have over my actions.

1	2	3	4	5
dissatisfied	somewhat dissatisfied	neutral	somewhat satisfied	very satisfied

the ways my parent(s) try to control my actions.

1	2	3	4	5
dissatisfied	somewhat dissatisfied	neutral	somewhat satisfied	very satisfied

my parent(s) relationship with each other.

1	2	3	4	5
dissatisfied	somewhat dissatisfied	neutral	somewhat satisfied	very satisfied

my overall relationship with my parent(s).

1	2	3	4	5
dissatisfied	somewhat dissatisfied	neutral	somewhat satisfied	very satisfied

Quality of Men's Relationships

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how much my brothers and/or sisters approve of my and the things I do.

1	2	3	4	5
dissatisfied	somewhat dissatisfied	neutral	somewhat satisfied	very satisfied

the amount of freedom my brothers and/or sisters give me to make my own choices.

1	2	3	4	5
dissatisfied	somewhat dissatisfied	neutral	somewhat satisfied	very satisfied

the ways my brothers and/or sisters want me to think and act.

1	2	3	4	5
dissatisfied	somewhat dissatisfied	neutral	somewhat satisfied	very satisfied

the amount of influence my brothers and/or sisters have over my actions.

1	2	3	4	5
dissatisfied	somewhat dissatisfied	neutral	somewhat satisfied	very satisfied

the ways my brothers and/or sisters try to control my actions.

1	2	3	4	5
dissatisfied	somewhat dissatisfied	neutral	somewhat satisfied	very satisfied

my overall relationship(s) with my brothers and/or sisters.

1	2	3	4	5
dissatisfied	somewhat dissatisfied	neutral	somewhat satisfied	very satisfied

Appendix E

Attraction to Aggression Scale

1. If you could be assured that no one would know and that you could in no way be punished for engaging in the following acts, how likely, if at all, would you be to commit such acts?

a. necking (deep kissing)

1	2	3	4	5
very likely	somewhat likely	neutral	somewhat unlikely	very unlikely

b. petting

1	2	3	4	5
very likely	somewhat likely	neutral	somewhat unlikely	very unlikely

c. oral sex

1	2	3	4	5
very likely	somewhat likely	neutral	somewhat unlikely	very unlikely

d. heterosexual intercourse

1	2	3	4	5
very likely	somewhat likely	neutral	somewhat unlikely	very unlikely

e. anal intercourse

1	2	3	4	5
very likely	somewhat likely	neutral	somewhat unlikely	very unlikely

f. male homosexual acts

1	2	3	4	5
very likely	somewhat likely	neutral	somewhat unlikely	very unlikely

g. group sex

1	2	3	4	5
very likely	somewhat likely	neutral	somewhat unlikely	very unlikely

Quality of Men's Relationships

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h. bondage (e.g., tying up self or sex partner)

1	2	3	4	5
very likely	somewhat likely	neutral	somewhat unlikely	very unlikely

i. whipping, spanking

1	2	3	4	5
very likely	somewhat likely	neutral	somewhat unlikely	very unlikely

j. rape

1	2	3	4	5
very likely	somewhat likely	neutral	somewhat unlikely	very unlikely

k. forcing a female to do something sexual she didn't want to do

1	2	3	4	5
very likely	somewhat likely	neutral	somewhat unlikely	very unlikely

l. transvestism (wearing clothes of opposite sex)

1	2	3	4	5
very likely	somewhat likely	neutral	somewhat unlikely	very unlikely

m. pedophilia (sex with a child)

1	2	3	4	5
very likely	somewhat likely	neutral	somewhat unlikely	very unlikely

Appendix F

All of the following questions refer to experiences you may have had with women. They refer to anything that may have happened from the age of 14 on. Please answer the questions as honestly as you can. Your answers will remain confidential and be only used for research purposes.

Yes No

1. Has a woman given in to sex play (fondling, kissing, or petting, but not intercourse) when she didn't want to because she was overwhelmed by your continual arguments and pressure?
2. Have you had sex play (fondling, kissing, or petting, but not intercourse) with a woman when you didn't want to because you used your position of authority (boss, teacher, camp counselor, supervisor) to make her?
3. Have you had sex play (fondling, kissing, or petting, but not intercourse) with a woman when she didn't want to because you threatened or used some degree of physical force (twisting her arm, holding her down, etc.) to make her?
4. Have you attempted sexual intercourse (got on top, attempted to insert your penis) when she didn't want to by threatening or using some degree of force (twisting her arm, holding her down, etc.) but intercourse did not occur?
5. Have you attempted sexual intercourse (got on top, attempted to insert your penis) when she didn't want to by giving her alcohol or drugs, but intercourse did not occur?
6. Has a woman given into sexual intercourse* when she didn't want to because she was overwhelmed by your continual arguments and pressure?
7. Have you had sexual intercourse* with a woman when she didn't want to because you used your position of authority (boss, teacher, camp counselor, supervisor) to make her?
8. Have you had sexual intercourse* with a woman when she didn't want to because you gave her alcohol or drugs?
9. Have you had sexual intercourse* with a woman when she didn't want to because you threatened or used some degree of physical force (twisting her arm, holding her down, etc.) to make her?
10. Have you had sexual acts (anal or oral intercourse or penetration by objects other than the penis) with a woman when she didn't want to because you threatened or used some degree of physical force (twisting her arm, holding her down, etc.) to make her?

*Sexual intercourse is defined as penetration of a woman's vagina, no matter how slightly, by a man's penis. Ejaculation is not required.

Appendix G

Please answer the following questions in regard to the sister with whom you had the most regular contact growing up. If you have no sister, please answer in regard to the female cousin with whom you had the most regular contact growing up. If you had no such cousin, please answer in regard to the female friend with whom you had the most regular contact growing up. If you had no such close relationship growing up, please check the appropriate line below and do not fill out this questionnaire.

Check one: I am answering in regard to my _____ sister.
 _____ cousin.
 _____ friend.

I had no close relationship with a female _____.

Check one: She is _____ older than I am.
 She is _____ younger than I am.

Fill in: We are _____ years apart in age.

Fill in: I am # _____ out of _____ children.
 She is # _____ out of _____ children.

Circle one: How often did you act as your sister's (or cousin's or friend's) protector growing up?

1	2	3	4	5
always	frequently	sometimes	rarely	never

Circle one: How often did you push, shove, hit, or kick your sister (or cousin or friend) growing up?

1	2	3	4	5
always	frequently	sometimes	rarely	never

Circle one: How often did she push, shove, hit, or kick you growing up?

1	2	3	4	5
always	frequently	sometimes	rarely	never

Please keep the person you chose above in mind as you answer the following questions. Answer the questions by remembering how it was as you were growing up overall.

Appendix H

I would now like to tell you about the study in which you just participated. I am examining how the quality of males' relationships with sisters affects their acceptance of rape myths. Rape myths are false, stereotypical beliefs about rape.

You anonymously completed Burt's (1980) Rape Myth Acceptance Scale and the Furman and Buhrmester (1985) Sibling Relationship Questionnaire. These scales measure, respectively, your belief in rape myths and your self-rated closeness with your sister. I am hypothesizing that those of you who rated your relationship with your sister as close will be more likely to reject rape myths than those who rated your relationship as distant.

I would like to remind you that the confidentiality of your responses is assured because you filled out the questionnaires anonymously. I would also ask that you refrain from discussing this experiment with anyone as we will be running more subjects. If they know the purpose of the study, they might try to give the answers they think I am expecting. That would defeat the whole purpose of the study. I need to know subjects' honest opinions.

Do you have any questions about the experiment?

I would like to thank you all sincerely for your participation in this study and your cooperation in not discussing it with anyone. I greatly appreciate it! If you have any questions or concerns about the experiment later, please feel free to contact me. My phone number is 433-4577 and my campus box number is 927. Thank you again.

Appendix I

Facts About Rape

MYTH	REALITY
Only women can be raped	Data suggest that at least 10% of rape victims are male.
Rape is committed by crazed strangers	Most women are raped by "normal" acquaintances
A woman who gets raped deserves it, especially if she agreed to go to the man's house or ride in his car	No one, male or female, deserves to be raped. Being in a man's house or car does not mean a woman has agreed to have sex.
Women who don't fight back haven't been raped	You have been raped when you are forced to have sex against your will, whether you fight back or not
If there's no gun or knife, you haven't been raped	It's rape whether the rapist uses a weapon or his fist, verbal threats, alcohol, physical isolation, her own diminished physical or mental state or the weight of his body
It's not really rape if the victim isn't a virgin	Rape is rape, even if the woman isn't a virgin, even if she willingly had sex before
If a woman lets a man buy her dinner or pay for a movie or drinks, she owes him sex	No one owes sex as a payment to anyone else no matter how expensive the date
Agreeing to kiss or neck with a man means that a woman has agreed to have intercourse with him	Everyone has the right to say "no" to sexual activity, regardless of what has preceded it, and to have that "no" respected

MYTH

When men are sexually aroused, they need to sex or they will get "blue balls." Also once they get turned on men can't help themselves from forcing sex on a woman

Women lie about being raped, especially when they accuse they date or other acquaintances

Rape has to do with sex and passion

Women provoke rape by their behavior and dress

REALITY

Men don't physically need to have sex after have becoming aroused any more than women do. Men are still able to control themselves even after becoming sexually excited

Rape really happens-to people you know, by people you know

Rape is not about sexual desire but is a crime of violence expressed through sex

No one asks to be raped. Women have a right to dress any way they wish.

SOME FACTS ABOUT RAPE

- For both men and women, the average age when a rape occurred was 18 1/2 years old.
- About 75% of the men and at least 55% of the women involved in acquaintance rapes had been drinking or taking drugs just before the attack
- Of the 3,187 female college students questioned:
 - 15.3% had been raped
 - 11.8% were victims of attempted rape
 - 11.2% had experienced sexual coercion
 - 14.5% had been touch ed sexually against their will
- 42% of the rape victims told no one about their assaults
 - Only 5% reported their rapes to the police
 - Only 5% sought help at rape crisis centers
- In the year prior to the survey, 2,971 college men reported that they had committed:
 - 187 rapes
 - 157 attempted rapes
 - 327 episodes of attempted rape
 - 854 incidents of unwanted sexual contact

Table 1

Mean Scores and Standard Deviations

<u>Variable Name</u> (range)	<u>M</u>	<u>SD</u>
Rape Myth Acceptance (19-117)	44.413	14.736
Sibling Relationship Questionnaire		
Warmth (1-5)	3.244	0.838
Status (-4-4)	0.190	0.611
Conflict (1-5)	2.468	0.846
Rivalry (-5-5)	4.514	0.643
Adolescent Family Life Satisfaction Index		
Parents (1-5)	4.092	0.712
Siblings (1-5)	4.320	0.725
Attraction to Aggression (2-10)	2.642	0.170

Table 2

Correlations between the Relationship and RapeVariables

	Rape Myth	Coerce	Aggress
SRQ			
Warmth	0.0595	0.0971	0.1116
Status	0.1881	0.2433*	0.2497*
Conflict	0.0973	-0.0129	0.0705
Rivalry	-0.0344	0.1317	-0.0283
Family			
Parents	-0.1128	0.0424	0.0082
Siblings	-0.0940	0.0639	-0.0740
Other Questions			
Protect	0.1579	0.1396	-0.0943
Push: He	0.2260*	0.1739	0.1714
Push: She	0.0817	0.0714	0.0855
Age	0.2344*	0.0665	0.1003

For all variables, a higher number indicates a greater amount of the quality or action.

* $p < .05$

Table 3

The Regression of the SRQ on Attraction to Aggression

<u>Variable</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>R²</u>	<u>F</u>
Status	.25	.06	5.13*
Warmth	.03	.02	1.18

* $p < .05$