



The Impact of Sexual Assault on Street Harassment and Occupational Well-being

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Introduction

The Effects of Street Harassment:

- Psychological: Increased fear of rape, physical harm, & self-objectification, decreased psychological well-being (Bastian & Haslam, 2010; Cole et al., 2013; Fairchild & Rudman, 2008; Fredrickson & Roberts, 1997; Macmillan et al., 2000 Miles-McLean et al., 2015).
- Behavioral: avoiding/reducing time in public areas.
- Physical: muscle tension, trouble breathing, dizziness, and nausea (Tran, 2015).

Street Harassment and Fear of Rape:

- “Women’s fear of rape is a sense that one must always be on guard, vigilant and alert.” (Gordon, 1989, as cited in Macmillan 2000).
- Research suggests that the sexual content behind street harassment serves as a reminder of [women’s] possible punishment for trespassing a public space that belongs to men: violence and sexual assault. (Starr, 1980, as cited in Kissling 1991).

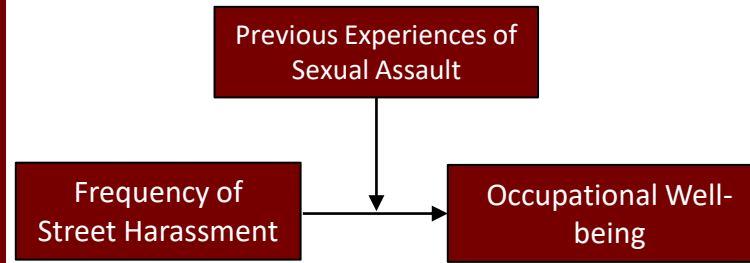
The purpose of this study is to examine the effects that previous experiences of sexual assault has on the relationship between street harassment and occupational well-being.

Hypothesis

Sexual assault history moderates the effect of street harassment on occupational well-being, such that women who have experienced sexual assault will have an increased negative relationship between street harassment and occupational well-being.

Note that the main effect of street harassment negatively influencing occupational well-being was tested by (Jenkins et al., 2020).

Hypothesized model



Method

Participants and Procedures

- 355 women recruited from Amazon Mechanical Turk
- Resided in large urban areas, and commute to work at least 3 times a week
- 55.5% White, 77.5% Heterosexual, 95.2% Cis-women
- Age: $M= 32$, $SD= 7.53$

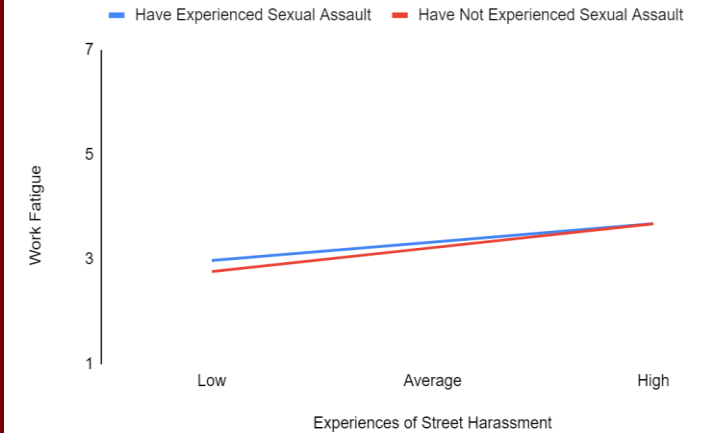


Measures

- Stranger Harassment Experiences (SHE; Fairchild & Rudman, 2008)
- Sexual Experiences Questionnaire (SEQ; adapted from Berdahl & Moore, 2006)
- Job Satisfaction (adapted from Mitchell et al., 2001)
- Work Fatigue Inventory (3D-WFI; adapted from Frone & Tidwell, 2015)

Results

Work Fatigue



Job Satisfaction



Discussion

- These results identify sexual assault experiences as a non-moderator of the relationship between street harassment and occupational-well-being.
- This research project adds on to the limited existing literature on the negative experiences women face both inside and outside the workplace.
- Future research should explore other possibilities of sexual harassment that women may face, such as within the workplace by coworkers or clients alike, and how it impacts their occupational well-being.

