Development and Validation of the MIDSA-Sexual Coercion Scales: 
An Investigation of Reliability and Validity using Factor Analysis and IRT

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A lot of interest has been devoted to the study of sexual coercion in recent years. Various scales have been developed, measuring either the use of physical or sexual coercion in couples (Straus, Hamby, Boney-McCoy, & Sugarman, 1996; Shackelford & Goetz, 2004) or sexual coaxing, that is a strategy that uses benign, seductive tactics to obtain sex from a reluctant sexual partner (Camilleri, Quinsey & Tapscott, 2009). The aim of this study was to develop a scale of sexual coaxing and coercion for sexual offenders using items from the Multidimensional Inventory of Development, Sex, and Aggression (MIDSA, 2011). The MIDSA is a computerized, contingency-based, retrospective, self-report inventory that assesses multiple domains relevant to the development and course of coercive sexual behavior. The MIDSA proposes a 20 item pool measuring sexual coaxing and coercion. Participants were selected from three samples of sexual offenders: offenders from the Massachusetts Treatment Center, the Minnesota Correctional Facility-Lino Lakes Sex Offender Treatment Program and the Minnesota Sexual Psychopathic Personality Treatment Center (MSPPTC). Exploratory (EFA) and confirmatory (CFA) factor analyses were used to extract dimensions of coaxing and coercion scales. Psychometric properties of the scales were also investigated using Rasch modeling. Results reveal stable and highly cohesive scales. A series of analyses were performed to test construct validity of the newly derived scales, and were retested on a sample of generic offenders and street gang offenders. Implications both for clinical assessment and for research on sexual coercion will be discussed.

Goals of the Poster Presentation:
1. Discuss research on the measurement of sexual coercion
2. Test the potential uses of a sexual coaxing and coercion scale
3. Explore the factors associated with the uses of sexual coercion in sexual offenders and in generic offenders