

SHAPING THE FUTURE

2019 ATSA Conference | Wednesday November 6 | 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM

A-19

Laboratory-Based Research on Sexual Violence and Bystander Intervention: A Critical Review of Best Practices

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Researchers have developed a range of laboratory-based assessments of sexual violence perpetration and, more recently, bystander intervention to prevent sexual violence. These methods afford the benefits of experimental methods (e.g., control, causal inference). However, they also present unique challenges and have faced, at times unwarranted, criticism. This workshop will (1) review established laboratory-based methods that assess sexual violence perpetration and bystander intervention and address common questions about their development, validity, and utility; and (2) provide a “behind the scenes” look at the iterative process of developing these laboratory-based methods.

Learning Goals:

- Upon completion of this seminar, learners will be able to describe the historical development of laboratory aggression paradigms.
- Upon completion of this seminar, learners will be able to identify valid laboratory-based methods to assess sexual violence perpetration.
- Upon completion of this seminar, learners will be able to identify valid laboratory-based methods to assess bystander intervention to prevent sexual violence perpetration.
- Upon completion of this seminar, learners will be able to explain common misconceptions regarding the validity of laboratory-based research.
- Upon completion of this seminar, learners will be able to discuss relevant ethical considerations in designing and implementing laboratory-based research on sexual violence.
- Upon completion of this seminar, learners will be familiarized with the relative advantages and disadvantages of various procedures to model sexual violence in the laboratory.

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Dominic Parrott, PhD is a Professor of Psychology (Clinical) and Director of the Center for Research on Interpersonal Violence at Georgia State University in Atlanta, GA. His research program aims to reduce interpersonal violence by (1) identifying risk and protective factors for perpetrating aggressive behavior and (2) informing intervention programming. This work uses different methodologies (e.g., laboratory, survey) to study different forms of aggression (e.g., physical, sexual) toward various targets (e.g., sexual minorities, women) – with a particular focus on the effects of alcohol. He is a nationally recognized expert on the intersection between alcohol and violence as well as the use of laboratory-based methods to study aggressive behavior. Dr. Parrott’s research has resulted in over 100 scientific articles and been funded continuously by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism since 2006.

Kevin Swartout, PhD is an Associate Professor of Psychology and Public Health at Georgia State University in Atlanta, GA. His research addresses trajectories and social correlates of violence and victimization, with the goal promoting safer campuses and communities. He has made significant contributions to the understanding those who perpetrate violence and the social contexts in which violence is likely to occur. Dr. Swartout currently chairs the Administrator-Researcher Campus Climate Collaborative (ARC3), which curated and released a campus climate survey regarding sexual misconduct that has been implemented at over 200 U.S. colleges and universities, in addition to universities in Asia, Europe, and the Middle East. Dr. Swartout has received early-career awards from the International Society for Research on Aggression, the Southeastern Psychological Association, and Georgia State University.