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**Acquaintance rape: Attribution of blame as a function of
respondent's sex, attitudes toward women and heterosexual
relationships, and acceptance of interpersonal violence**

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The University of Arizona, 1989

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ACQUAINTANCE RAPE: ATTRIBUTION OF BLAME AS A
FUNCTION OF RESPONDENT'S SEX, ATTITUDES TOWARD
WOMEN AND HETEROSEXUAL RELATIONSHIPS, AND
ACCEPTANCE OF INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE

by

Kari Diane Seiverd

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THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

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STATEMENT BY AUTHOR

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ABSTRACT

This study was designed to investigate individual characteristics of college students (i.e., attitudes toward women and heterosexual relationships and acceptance of interpersonal violence) and ascertain the relationship between individual characteristics, gender, and attitudes toward attribution of blame in acquaintance rape. Whereas no instruments had been developed to measure attitudes toward attribution of blame in acquaintance rape, this study sought to create such a measure.

Students from a large Southwestern university were utilized as participants (N = 159). Four dependent measures were employed: the Attitudes Toward Women Scale: Short Form, the Heterosexual Relationships Scale, the Acceptance of Interpersonal Violence Scale, and the contrived Attitudes of Acquaintance Rape Blame Scale (AARBS). Analyses of variance found that gender, sexist attitudes toward male-female relationships, traditional attitudes toward women, and high acceptance of interpersonal violence led to more traditional assignment of blame in cases of acquaintance rape (i.e., blame the woman).

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

It is difficult to believe that such widespread violence is the responsibility of a small lunatic fringe of psychopathic men. That sexual violence is so pervasive supports the view that the locus of violence against women rests squarely in the middle of what our culture defines as "normal" interaction between men and women (Johnson, 1980; cited in Russell, 1984).

Rape is a very serious social problem that affects the lives of thousands each year. Over the last 10 years, public awareness of physical and sexual abuse of women and children has steadily grown. According to Russell (1984), nonsexual child abuse--particularly the physical beating or gross emotional neglect of children--was the first form of physical abuse to be generally acknowledged. Next to receive public attention was rape by strangers or other nonintimates, and finally, the most recent focus of the public eye has been on "rape" by acquaintances.

Incidence and Prevalence of
Acquaintance Rape

Albeit there is no accurate way to ascertain the incidence of acquaintance rape, evidence shows that rape is the fastest growing crime in America (Ward, 1980). According to Russell (1984), interpreting trends in the official rape

statistics is more difficult than interpreting the trends in other crimes. This difficulty in interpretation is a result of what is known as the "unfounding" process which applies only to rape. The FBI states that unfounding means "the police establish that no forcible rape offense or attempt occurred" (FBI, 1973; cited in Russell, 1984). In other words, those cases of rape that the police deem false are dismissed. Legrand (1973) describes what many police departments mean by "unfounded" complaints:

This term is a technical one, meaning only that police, for various reasons, have decided not to advise prosecution. It does not imply that a woman's report of the rape is inaccurate. The unfortunate ambiguity of the term and the high rate of "unfounding" have probably contributed to the myth that women make many false rape complaints (cited in Chappell, 1977).

To begin with, victims are less likely to disclose rapes perpetrated by husbands, lovers, dates, friends and other relatives, and those women who do report such crimes are more often unfounded by the police (Russell, 1984). Examples of reasons given for unfounded complaints other than the victim knew the offender are the following: the victim was intoxicated; victim delayed reporting; there is nothing in the victim's physical condition to support the allegation; victim refuses to submit to a medical examination; and a weapon was used to threaten the victim but there was no actual battery (Wilson, 1981).

Although it is usually customary to provide statistics that reflect the impact of a social problem, this author believes, given the nature of this criminal act, that the statistics available representing women raped (no national statistics for acquaintance rape are available) in the United States are highly inaccurate. Not only do the figures underrepresent the prevalence of this crime against women (reasons to be explained below), but almost completely ignore the incidence of men being raped by other men and women. Even though both men and women can be victimized, for simplicity this study will focus on women victims and male assailants.

As noted above, in addition to the "unfounding" process, statistics available are inaccurate due to the reluctance of the victim to report the crime. Russell's (1984) random sample survey found a report rate for rape of only 9.5 percent. Dukes and Mattley (1976) conducted a study to ascertain the trauma experiences by victims in reporting a rape. Reasons cited for not reporting the crime were the fear of other people knowing and the following embarrassment when people do find out (Dukes & Mattley, 1976; cited in Wood, 1980). Imagine the embarrassment a woman must go through when her friend, date, boyfriend or husband forces her to have sex against her will. It is easy to see why these women do not report the crime (if they even recognize a crime has been committed). First, who would believe them?

Second, what would people think and who would they blame? Finally, what kind of woman is raped by her boyfriend or husband? Surely something must be wrong with her. These researchers concluded that it is fear of social sanctions against the victim which reduces reporting (Dukes & Mattley, 1976; cited in Wood, 1980). Ward (1980) states that if attitudes were different about who receives the blame in cases of rape, victims might be more willing to report this crime.

How likely is it that a woman will be the victim of sexual violence during her lifetime? Johnson (1980) constructed estimates of the above and concluded that "nationally, a conservative estimate is that, under current conditions, 20-30 percent of girls now 12 years old will suffer a violent sexual attack during the remainder of their lives" (1980, p. 145; cited in Russell, 1984). This author concurs that, indeed, this is a conservative estimate. Does this estimate include attacks on women perpetrated by those who they know (i.e., friends, dates, and husbands)?

Theories of Rape

One of the greatest misconceptions regarding rape is that it is a sexual act. Although this crime by definition includes some sexual component, Groth, Burgess and Holmstrom (1977) found no rapes in their study of 133 offenders in which sex was the dominant issue; rather, they found that

sexuality was always in the service of other, nonsexual needs. According to Growth, Burgess and Holmstrom (1977), all cases of forcible rape consist of three components: power, anger, and sexuality. It was found that "either anger or power dominates and that rape, rather than being primarily an expression of sexual desire, is, in fact, the use of sexuality to express issues of power and anger" (p. 1240). This is consistent with the feminist theory which will be explained later. The following are types of rapes and rapists characterized by Groth, Burgess and Holmstrom (1977):

1. Power rape: The offender seeks power and control over his victim through intimidation by means of a weapon, physical force, or threat of bodily harm (p. 1240).
 - a. Power-assertive rapist: Regards rape as an expression of his virility, mastery, and dominance (p. 1240).
 - b. Power-reassurance rapist: Commits the offense in an effort to resolve doubts about his sexual adequacy and masculinity (p. 1241).
2. Anger rape: The offender expresses anger, rage, contempt, and hatred for his victim by beating her, sexually assaulting her, and forcing her to perform or submit to additional degrading acts (p. 1241).

- a. Anger-retaliation rapist: Commits rape as an expression of his hostility and rage towards women (p. 1242).
- b. Anger-excitation rapist: Finds pleasure, thrills, and excitation in the suffering of his victim.

David Finkelhor developed a four-factor model to help explain the occurrence of child sexual abuse (1981). This model also provides an excellent framework for organizing theories of rape. When applied to rape, Finkelhor's model suggests that there are four types of preconditions that allow rape to occur:

Precondition I: Factors creating a predisposition or desire to rape (e.g., low self-esteem).

Precondition II: Factors reducing internal inhibitions against acting out this desire (e.g., alcohol).

Precondition III: Factors reducing social inhibitions against acting out this desire (e.g., sexy clothing, marriage).

Precondition IV: Factors reducing the potential victim's ability to resist or avoid the rape (e.g., isolation, weapon).

Most major theories of rape causation can be fitted quite easily within one of these four preconditions.

Feldman-Summers (1976) states that there are five hypothetical models that categorize the cause of rape. Feldman-Summers attributes the characteristics of the victim, traits of the rapist, social norms, ineffective law enforcement and judicial procedures, and environment as potential causes of rape (1976; cited in Ward, 1980).

Feminists assert that society supports a pervasive ideology that effectively condones and excuses sexual assault. The theory of rape held by Susan Brownmiller and many other feminist theorists is the following:

Man's structural capacity to rape and woman's corresponding structural vulnerability are as basic to the physiology of both our sexes as the primal act of sex itself. Had it not been for this accident of biology, an accommodation requiring the locking together of two separate parts, penis into vagina, there would be neither copulation nor rape as we know it . . . [I]n terms of human anatomy the possibility of forcible intercourse incontrovertibly exists. This single factor may have been sufficient to have caused the creation of a male ideology of rape. When men discovered that they could rape, they proceeded to do it (1975, pp. 13-14).

Brownmiller (1975) further argues that rape is used to keep women in their place: below men. Another theory of rape is that it is a consequence of the power disparity between the sexes (Russell, 1975). This theory is consistent with other theories of violence against women by men. According to Russell (1984),

. . . sexual victimization (child, sexual abuse, sexual harassment, rape) most frequently occurs, after all, in contexts of male power over females, of adults over children, of the economically powerful

over the economically dependent, and of the physically strong over the physically less strong (p. 22).

Continued efforts to explain rape as a psychopathological phenomenon are inappropriate because there exists within the general population many males with a propensity towards sexual violence (Russell, 1984).

In The Politics of Rape, based on interviews with 90 rape victims and some rapists, Russell (1975) concluded that rape is not so much a deviant act as an over-conforming one. Russell further states:

It is an extreme acting out qualities that are regarded as masculine in this and many other societies: aggression, force, power, strength, toughness, dominance, competitiveness. Indeed, sex may be the arena where these notions of masculinity are most intensely played out, particularly by men who feel powerless in the rest of their lives and whose masculinity is threatened by this sense of powerlessness (1975, p. 260).

Russell (1975) continues to suggest that "if one were to see sexual behavior as a continuum with rape at one end and sex liberated from sex-role stereotyping at the other, much of what passes as normal heterosexual intercourse would be seen as close to rape" (p. 261). Along the same line, Clark and Lewis (1977), in Rape: The Price of Coercive Sexuality argue that the unequal power relationship between men and women has resulted in coercive sexuality becoming the norm. This is called their social control theory. They maintain that "all unequal power relationships must in the end, rely on the

threat or reality of violence to maintain themselves" (1977, p. 176).

Sex-role Socialization and Rape

"For many men, it seems, aggression and sex are closely related. The unconscious rationale goes as follows: Being aggressive is masculine; being sexually aggressive is masculine; rape is sexually aggressive behavior; therefore, rape is masculine behavior" (Russell, 1975, p. 261).

It is generally agreed that the foundations for violent behavior come from the home where the most important part of socialization occurs (Wilson, 1981). Wilson (1981) states that "children who either see violence between parents or are victims are more likely to become batterers or victims than those who never see their parents abused or are not subjected to corporal punishment" (p. 41). Sex-role stereotyping, when taught and reinforced at an early age, leads boys to become more aggressive than girls (Wilson, 1981). The notion that men should be strong, independent, superior, and domineering implies that women should be weak, dependent, inferior, and submissive (Russell, 1975). These notions of masculinity and femininity are part of the sexist ideology of this culture (Russell, 1975). Children's stories, television programs (e.g., cartoons) and commercials all reinforce this image of what is "masculine" and what is "feminine." Russell (1975) claims that conformity to traditional notions of

femininity makes women more vulnerable to rape. On the other hand, however, women who reject traditional notions of femininity are probably more likely to actually find themselves in rape situations (i.e., willingness to go to places alone, etc.) (Russell, 1975).

According to Russell (1975), there are many ways in which the sexual socialization of men predisposes them to rape. Males are trained from childhood to separate sexual desire from caring, respecting, liking, or loving (Russell, 1975). One of the consequences of this training is that many men regard women as sexual objects rather than as full human beings (Russell, 1975). This is referred to as the "virility mystique." The virility mystique "attaches status to attaining access to (and keeping score of) many women--the more the better" (Russell, 1975, p. 264). Russell (1975) asserts:

If our culture considered it masculine to be gentle and sensitive, to be responsive to the needs of others, to abhor violence, domination, and exploitation, to want sex only within a meaningful relationship, to be attracted by personality and character rather than by physical appearance, to value lasting rather than casual relationships, then rape would indeed be a deviant act, and, I would think much less frequent (p. 264).

Female sexual socialization encourages a woman to integrate sex, affection and love, and to be sensitive to what her partner wants (Russell, 1975). Russell (1975) believes there are ways in which women contribute to their vulnerability to rape. The most obvious way, according to

Russell (1975), in which women contribute to their vulnerability is that they are ambiguous about being treated as sexual objects. Women feel depersonalized by being treated as sexual objects but women have learned that it is hard to get any benefits from men if they do not play into this aspect of male sexism (Russell, 1975). So, in order to feel good about themselves, women apply makeup and dress in "appropriate" clothing. Russell (1975) believes that by dressing up to excite men, women are contributing to their own objectification. However, Russell (1975) cautions that this statement:

. . . should not be interpreted as agreement with the view that women who do this are provoking rape. I am merely saying that by doing this we cooperate with rather than discourage men's ability to separate sexual desire from desires for affection and friendship, and that it is men's ability to do this that is one of the factors enabling them to rape strangers and acquaintances (p. 273).

According to Russell (1975), women internalize the view that they provoke rape by looking attractive. One of the key myths about rape is that the wearing of seductive clothing causes rape. Therefore, blame of causation is placed on women while men are perceived to have no control over their behavior when a woman is dressed in such a manner.

Rape Myths and Their Consequences

Current myths regarding rape already noted in this study are: rape is an act of sexual need or desire; women

seduce their attackers through "provocative" clothes or gestures. Other myths are: the impossibility of rape; all women secretly want to be raped; rape is a natural behavior; not to rape must be learned; women mean "yes" when they say "no"; rapists act impulsively; rapists are sex-starved; most rapists jump out of bushes on dark streets to attack their victim; rape would decrease if prostitution were legal and controlled; rape cannot occur in marriage; most rapists are poor and black; and, rape by a friend, lover, date, or husband is less traumatic than rape by a stranger (Ward, 1980; Schechter, 1982; Schwendinger, 1983; Brownmiller, 1975; Burt, 1980).

The anti-rape movement first exposed this mythology that helps maintain rape (Schechter, 1982). Popular literature on rape victimology (Russell, 1975, 1984; Brownmiller, 1975) has highlighted the significance of rape myths and the negative implications these misconceptions and misinterpretations have on individuals and social structures (Ward, 1988). Burt (1980) found that rape myth acceptors hold more traditional stereotypes, have stronger beliefs that male-female relations are fundamentally exploitative and are more inclined to tolerate interpersonal violence. Moreover, commonly held rape myths perpetuate the notion that victims are in some way responsible for their assaults (Ward, 1988).

Attribution of Blame in Acquaintance Rape

Victims of sexual abuse, including child victims, have commonly been blamed for their victimization, not just by their families but by clinicians, researchers, and others with whom they shared the information. Victim blaming can result in the internalization by the victim of the notion that she is responsible, and hence, must be provoking the behavior. Guilt therefore replaces anger in her response to sexual abuse, and undermines her capacity to protect herself effectively (Russell, 1984).

The tragedy of the crime of acquaintance rape is that not only is the victim subjected to a horrible, degrading, and often violent experience, but she is also subjected to the horrible and degrading experience of being blamed for what had transpired. In cases of rape by friends, dates and husbands, it is usually assumed that the victim contributes to her own victimization (Russell, 1975). It is when the victim needs the nurturance and support of her family, friends, and local social service agencies most (i.e., medical and legal agencies) that she is often denied that support because individuals often feel she is responsible and therefore got what she "deserved." Attributing blame to a victim can affect her understanding of the crime, increasing her feelings of guilt and preventing the therapeutic expression of anger towards the assailant (Lazarus, 1982).

In the beginning of this chapter some reasons for dismissing a rape complaint were noted. Another reason for dismissing a rape complaint is termed "victim precipitation" (Amir, 1971; cited in Wilson, 1981). This term implies that

"the victim had behaved in a manner to suggest or to signal to the offender that she consented to sexual relations and thus made herself vulnerable (Amir, 1971; cited in Wilson, 1981, p. 43). What victim precipitation does is basically restrict females in their activity (i.e., going to her date's apartment, asking a man out on a date rather than vice versa) because a man might see the behavior as "sexually inviting." According to Wilson (1981), victim precipitation is nothing more than a male view of events preceding the incident.

Particularly problematic is when rape occurs within dating relationships. For example, Russell (1975) notes that a woman is especially likely to be seen as partially or wholly responsible for a rape situation if petting has occurred within that relationship. Russell (1975) cautions that "it does not follow that because a woman engages in sexual foreplay, she has acquiesced to intercourse, although the very notion of 'foreplay' assumes it is preliminary to penetration" (p. 271). In addition, the rape myth that the rape victims must have wanted or enjoyed being raped places the blame on the victim and allows the assailant to go free."

Attribution of blame to the victim has some serious consequences. First, as mentioned earlier, women may never report being raped because they too blame themselves or fear they will be blamed by others (Russell, 1984). Second, Russell (1984) states that blaming the victim results in

prejudicial and hostile treatment toward some of the victims who do report. Finally, when society blames the victim, why would the assailant accept responsibility? If the women are being blamed, why should these men not rape?

Brodsky (1976), after reviewing several rape prevention studies, cites four underlying models for attribution of blame. The Brodsky (1976) models are the following: (1) victim blame, (2) offender blame and prevention, (3) societal blame and prevention, and (4) situational blame and prevention (cited in Ward, 1980). In Brodsky's (1976) victim blame model, seductive or sexual behavior of the victim and the "just world hypothesis" as "she got what she deserved" was examined (cited in Ward, 1980). The offender blame model stated that "sexual assault is a product of individual, deviant assailants, who are driven by lust or power or a combination of the two" (Brodsky, 1976; cited in Ward, 1980, p. 7). Areas of interest under the societal blame model are machismo upbringing of males, the double standard between men and women, and the ineffective criminal justice system (Brodsky, 1976; cited in Ward, 1980). Finally, the situation blame model's areas of interest include hitchhiking, dark streets and the use of alcoholic drugs (Brodsky, 1976; cited in Ward, 1980). Feminist theorists would assert, in this author's opinion, that both the offender blame model and the societal blame model must be considered together in order to

fully understand society's compulsion to attribute blame to the victim.

Mulvihill, Tumin and Curtis (1969) argue that "the kind of personal relationship between victim and offender is probably more important in forcible rape than in any of the other major violent acts" (p. 219; cited in Russell, 1984). According to Russell (1984), Mulvihill et al.'s (1969) basis for their statement was that the more intimate the relationship, the more likely the victim is to be held responsible for the rape. Moreover, Russell (1984) notes that support is provided by the fact that only in the latter half of the 1970s did a few states acknowledge that rape can and does occur in the most intimate of all relationships--marriage.

Rape in Marriage

The consequences of wife rape are often very severe, and that wife rape is not infrequently accompanied by life-threatening violence. In fact, wife rape appears to be the most traumatic form of rape by intimates, and many factors cause wife rape often to be more traumatic than rape by strangers and other non-intimates; for example, the sense of betrayal, the disillusionment, the fact that it frequently contaminates the entire marriage, and the additional fact that wife rape is often repeated, sometimes for years on end (Russell, 1982, p. 359).

Marital rape is one of the newest and least discussed of problems in the field of family violence (Pagelow, 1988). There are only a few studies that have even attempted to assess and research this long-neglected social problem, probably because of the extreme sensitivity and controversy

surrounding the issue. Victims of marital rape are more reluctant to discuss their extremely personal violation than other violent acts they might suffer because "there is the sense of shame and self-blame that persists, even years afterward, not only because society has placed the burden of making marriages successful on wives, but also because psychological abuse precedes and accompanies physical abuse" (Pagelow, 1988, p. 208). Russell (1982) notes, "it seems that honest disclosure of unwanted sexual experiences in marriage [is] more difficult for many women than disclosure of sexual abuse by all other categories of people including victims of incestuous abuse" (p. 39).

Marital rape, like other forms of rape, has more to do with anger, power, pain and suffering than sex (Pagelow, 1988). The closer the prior association of rapist and victim, the more violent the event tends to be (Pagelow, 1988). Further, Pagelow (1988) notes that marital rape is "often accompanied by extreme violence involving bondage, torture and mutilation, and it sometimes culminates in murder" (p. 209).

Most people believe that marital rape either cannot occur (by society's definition of what constitutes marriage), or occurs infrequently and by sick, twisted and perverted husbands. This, however, is not the case. Russell's (1982) study of 930 randomly selected women found that 14% of those

interviewed who had ever been married had been raped by a husband or ex-husband. Therefore, Russell (1982) concludes that "at least one woman out of every seven who has ever been married has been raped by a husband at least once and sometimes many times over many years" (pp. 1-2). Hanneke, Shields, and McCall (1985) found 38% of their sample of 439 ever-married or cohabiting women were wife victims of rape (cited in Pagelow, 1988).

Pagelow (1988) cites various factors that she attributes to the promotion of marital rape. Pagelow asserts:

First, it is necessary to look at the history of marriage, its foundations in the patriarchy, and the ideology according to which a wife's body belongs to her husband. As a consequence, this background leads to the second factor, the establishment of the marital exemption clause into rape laws. The third is the social and economic disadvantaged position of women, which operates to keep them tied to men regardless of the quality of their lives. The fourth factor is the violence of American society and its rape culture, which provided the spawning ground for pornography to fuse violence and sex into a mutation of aggressive masculine sexuality (1988, p. 215).

Consistent with feminist theories of rape, Russell (1982) sees male sexual aggression inside and outside marriage as an issue that stems from two male problems: male violence and predatory male sexuality. According to Russell (1982):

Wife rape is equally a manifestation of a male sexuality which is oriented to conquest and domination, and to providing masculinity; masculinity unfortunately is defined in terms of power, superiority, competitiveness, control, and aggression. A "real man" is supposed to get what he wants, when he wants, particularly with his wife, and even more particularly in his sexual relations with her (p. 357).

Statement of the Problem

Considerable research has been devoted to assessing attitudes toward rape victims. Attitudes toward rape victims have been implicated in the quality of victim care, the institutional processing of rape cases, the formulation of rape laws, the likelihood of criminal conviction, and victims' self-perceptions and psychological well-being (Ward, 1988). Further, studies have examined a variety of rape-related behaviors such as prevalence of rape reporting, trial outcomes, rape proclivity and policy decisions and a relationship between these factors and rape attitudes has been suggested (Ward, 1988).

Research has looked at various rape myths and examined the influence of these myths on the behavior and response of people toward the rape victim and offender (Muehlenhard & Linton, 1987; Russell, 1975). Responsibility of blame in rape cases has been attributed to the victim, the offender, society and situational characteristics (Brodsky, 1976; Feldman-Summers, 1976). Many empirical studies have examined whether rape is caused by the behavior of the victim (Calhoun, Selby, & Warring, 1976; Howard, 1984; Muehlenhard, Friedman, & Thomas, 1985; Acock & Ireland, 1983). In addition, research has been devoted to examining the relationship between familiarity of victim and assailant to one another and attribution of responsibility or blame to the victim

(Calhoun, Selby, & Warring, 1976; Henley, 1985; Check & Malamuth, 1983).

Studies have demonstrated the difference between the sexes in the process of attributing blame. Several studies have found that consistently women tend to hold the female victim less responsible for provoking the rape (Howard, 1984; Calhoun et al., 1976). In addition, individual characteristics of the observer have been implicated in the attribution of blame process. For example, attitudes toward women (Muehlenhard et al., 1985; Russell, 1975; Thorton, Ryckman, & Robbins, 1982), sex role stereotyping (Check & Malamuth, 1983; Krulewitz & Payne, 1978; Acock & Ireland, 1983; Muehlenhard & Linton, 1987), acceptance of interpersonal violence (Muehlenhard & Linton, 1987; Check & Malamuth, 1983) have all been implicated as factors that influence the assigning of responsibility in rape cases.

It may appear to the reader from the above mentioned that a tremendous amount of sound, empirical investigations have examined the facet of attribution of blame in rape cases. Although our body of knowledge regarding the placing of blame process is growing, there are still some large holes in our data. For example, most research focuses on the attribution of blame process in stranger rape situations. Relatively few studies have addressed this problematic process in acquaintance rape situations. In addition, while one

study devised a scale to assess attitudes toward attribution of blame in stranger rape (Ward, 1980), no scale has been designed to ascertain attitudes toward attributing blame in acquaintance rape. Moreover, no studies have examined the assigning of blame in situations of marital rape.

Unfortunately, empirical investigations of types of rape are segmented. Either "stranger," "gang," "date" or "marital" rape is addressed by a researcher at any one time. The effects of such segmentation is that it leads one to believe that each type of rape is individual and distinct. Although it is true that characteristics and circumstances of each type of rape are different, the main principle of each crime is the same. Rape is a form of power and control. Rape, therefore, needs to be viewed on a continuum in order to eliminate this segmentation. The continuum places stranger rape on one end and marital rape on the other. To this date there are no studies that have investigated rape between "acquaintances" and have included rape in marriage.

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this investigation is:

1. To devise a measure to ascertain college students' attitudes toward attribution of blame in rape.
2. To investigate college students' attitudes regarding attribution of blame in acquaintance rape.

3. To investigate the difference between males and females in their attitude towards attribution of blame in acquaintance rape.
4. To investigate the relationship between attitudes toward women and attitudes toward attribution of blame in acquaintance rape.
5. To investigate the relationship between attitudes toward heterosexual relationships and attitudes toward attribution of blame in acquaintance rape.
6. To investigate the relationship between acceptance of interpersonal violence and attitudes toward attribution of blame in acquaintance rape.
7. To investigate which factor, attitudes toward women, attitudes toward heterosexual relationships, or acceptance of interpersonal violence is the best predictor of attitudes toward attribution of blame in acquaintance rape.

Research Questions

The purpose of this study was to examine individual characteristics (i.e. attitudes toward women and heterosexual relationships, and acceptance of interpersonal violence) of college students and ascertain the relationship between these individual characteristics and attitudes toward attribution of blame in acquaintance rape. Therefore the research questions were the following:

1. Do men and women differ in their attitudes toward attribution of blame in acquaintance rape?
2. Is there a relationship between attitudes toward women (traditional vs. nontraditional) and attitudes toward attribution of blame in acquaintance rape?
3. Is there a relationship between attitudes toward heterosexual relationships (sexist vs. nonsexist) and attitudes toward attribution of blame in acquaintance rape?
4. Is there a relationship between degree of acceptance of interpersonal violence and attitudes toward attribution of blame in acquaintance rape?
5. Which factor, attitudes toward women, attitudes toward heterosexual relationships, or acceptance of interpersonal violence best predicts attitudes toward attribution of blame in acquaintance rape?
6. Do subjects acknowledge that rape exists in marriage? Do men and women differ in their acknowledgment of the crime?

Definition of Terms

There are many different definitions of rape each encompassing different beliefs of what constitutes the crime. For example, a popular definition of rape refers to forced sexual penetration of a woman by a man accomplished under actual or implied threat of severe bodily harm (Sutherland &

Scherl, 1970). A feminist definition of rape is the following: "If a woman chooses not to have intercourse with a specific man and the man chooses to proceed against her will, that is a criminal act of rape" (Brownmiller, 1975, p. 18). Definitions of terms applicable to this study are the following:

Rape: Forced intercourse (i.e., penile-vaginal penetration), or intercourse obtained by threat of force, or intercourse completed when the woman was drugged, unconscious, asleep, or otherwise totally helpless and hence unable to consent (Russell, 1975).

Acquaintance rape: See above definition and add that the victim and assailant knew one another prior to the rape incident. For this study, acquaintance rape therefore includes the occurrence of rape in relationships in which the victim and assailant are married.

Assumptions and Limitations of the Present Study

It was assumed that subjects would answer the questions candidly on the survey submitted to them. It was assumed that all participants had a clear understanding of all the vocabulary in question.

One limitation of this study was that it had a sampling bias. Only those enrolled in a Southwestern university

were asked to participate. Substantial differences may be found in other populations this study was unable to utilize. The most obvious limitation of this study was that no measure had been previously designed to investigate attitudes regarding attribution of blame in acquaintance rape. In addition, "acquaintance rape" had never included rape among married couples. Therefore, a scale was devised based on past research to attempt to assess such attitudes.

Summary

In this chapter, this author set out to present the theoretical basis for her questions of consideration. Topics included: incidence and prevalence of rape; theories of rape; sex role socialization and acquaintance rape; rape myths and their consequences; attribution of blame in acquaintance rape; and, finally, rape in marriage. The purpose of the study, research questions, definition of relevant terms, and assumptions and limitations of this study were given.

In the following chapter, a review of the current literature will be presented. A review of the literature will include prior empirical investigations of attribution of blame, attitudes toward women, attitudes toward heterosexual relationships, and attitudes toward acceptance of interpersonal violence. Next, the third chapter will report this study's research design and methodology, instruments, and

participants. Chapter 4 will follow with the presentation of the results of the current investigation. Finally, the fifth chapter will contain a discussion of the implications of these findings and will offer suggestions for further research.

CHAPTER 2

REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

Chapter 1 set out to establish background and the theoretical premise for this current research project. The previous chapter discussed the following topics: incidence and prevalence of acquaintance rape; theories of rape; sex-role socialization and acquaintance rape; rape myths and their consequences; attribution of blame in acquaintance rape; and rape in marriage. In addition, a statement of the problem and purpose of the study were discussed, followed by questions for consideration, definition of terms, and assumptions and limitations of the present study.

In this chapter, relevant past empirical investigations will be reviewed. The chapter is organized into three sections. First, a review of the literature will be presented on attitudes toward women and heterosexual relationships, and their relationship to attitudes toward rape. Next, a review of the studies that examined the acceptance of interpersonal violence (acceptance of violence towards women) and its relation to rape attitudes. In addition, this section will have an overview of some global gender differences regarding rape attitudes. Finally, past literature will be reviewed regarding attribution of responsibility in cases of rape.

Literature Review on Attitudes Toward Women
and Heterosexual Relationships

Many studies have asserted that rape attitudes commonly relate to more general attitudes toward women (Burt, 1980; Ward, 1988; Field, 1978). Overall, many investigations have found that females are more supportive and favorably inclined toward victims of rape (Barnett & Field, 1977) and that women show a more negative view of rape than men (Field, 1978). Sex role stereotyping (the holding of more traditional, conservative attitudes vs. the holding of contemporary, profeminist attitudes toward women) has been implicated as one of the causes of peoples' acceptance of dangerous rape myths (e.g., it is the victim's fault).

Field (1978) conducted a comparative analysis of police, rapists, crisis counselors, and citizens' attitudes toward rape. Regarding these groups' attitudes toward women, Field (1978) noted that he found correlations that "support the contention that people who view women in traditional roles are likely to see rape as being a woman's 'fault,' motivated by a need for sex, where punishment for rape should be harsh since the 'property is now used,' and because of the act, a raped woman is a less attractive individual" (p. 174). Further, Field (1978) found that within the above-mentioned citizen sample, correlations between sex of respondent and attitudes toward rape tended to support the thesis of gender differences. More specifically, significant differences were

found on seven of the eight measures of attitudes toward rape, with women showing a more negative view of rape than men.

Similarly, Acock and Ireland (1983) found those participants with a traditional sex role attitude view the victim as less respectable, blame her more, and blame the assailant less. Moreover, Bunting and Reeves (1982) asserted that a male "macho" sex role orientation was related to the maintenance of inaccurate, stereotypic rape beliefs.

Check and Malamuth (1983) examined the hypothesis that situational contexts in which rape occurs and individual differences in sex role stereotyping affect reactions to rape. Two hundred eight-nine male and female students were used as participants and were tested and categorized as either high or low in sex role stereotyping. Subjects were asked to read one of three sexual depictions (mutually consenting intercourse vs. stranger rape vs. acquaintance rape) (Check & Malamuth, 1983). Results indicated that differences in reactions to the stranger versus acquaintance rape situations were influenced by subjects' sex role stereotyping (Check & Malamuth, 1983).

Check and Malamuth (1983) found the following:

1. High sex role stereotyping promoted sexual arousal to rape (especially acquaintance rape) but did not influence arousal to the consenting intercourse depiction.

2. Both high and low sex role stereotyping individuals perceive the acquaintance rape victim as reacting more favorably to the assault than the stranger rape victim.
3. Men with more stereotyped sex role beliefs were more likely to indicate that they might commit rape.
4. No sex differences emerged with respect to the influence of sex role stereotyping on reactions to rape.

In addition to general sex role stereotyping, sexist attitudes toward relationships, particularly toward male-female relationships, have been implicated in affecting attitudes toward rape. Hall, Howard, and Boezio (1986) found that for both male and female university students, tolerance of rape was associated with sexist attitudes toward heterosexual relationships. This study also compared men convicted of rape with a control group and showed that the sexual assault group scored significantly higher on the Heterosexual Relationships Scale (a measure of sexist attitudes toward male-female relationships) (Hall et al., 1986). According to Hall et al. (1986), "males with sexist attitudes towards male-female relationships, and therefore with more tolerant attitudes towards rape, may reinforce sexually coercive behavior in others, even if they do not actually commit rape" (p. 115). This statement was based on Ageton's (1983) research with

adolescents, which found that for the sexually assaultive adolescents, the reaction of the male peer group was tremendously approving (cited in Hall et al., 1986).

Krulewitz and Payne (1978) examined subjects' perceptions of a hypothetical rape situation as a function of the amount of force used in the rape, sex of subject, and subject's attitudes toward feminism. Krulewitz and Payne (1978) reported the following:

1. Subjects expressed greater certainty that a rape had actually occurred with increased force on part of the offender.
2. Increasing force on part of the offender led to stronger attributions of rape on the part of traditional women, whereas liberal women tended to see the incident as rape at all force levels (men did not show a similar relationship).
3. Profeminist subjects implicated societal factors as casual in rape to a greater extent than did nonfeminists.
4. Pro- and nonfeminists were not found to differ from each other in the degree of blame attributed to either the victim or the assailant (p. 291).

Koss, Leonard, Beezley, and Oros (1981) classified male students into the following four categories: (1) highly sexually aggressive, (2) moderately sexually aggressive,

(3) somewhat sexually aggressive, and (4) nonsexually aggressive. Koss et al. (1981) found that "higher levels of sexual aggression were associated with views of sexual aggression as normal, heterosexual relationships as gameplay, traditional attitudes toward female sexuality, and the acceptance of rape myths" (p. 16). Moreover, Koss et al. (1981) used the 25-item Spence-Helmreich Attitudes Toward Women Scale and found that male subjects with a higher level of sexual aggression tended to hold more traditional attitudes toward females than those with lower levels of sexual aggression. Sexual aggression has also been examined in light of participants' acceptance of violence towards women.

Literature Review on Attitudes Toward Acceptance of Interpersonal Violence

According to Burt (1980), acceptance of interpersonal violence (acceptance of violence against women) "refers to the notion that force and coercion are legitimate ways to gain compliance and specifically that they are legitimate in intimate and sexual relationships" (p. 218). Burt (1980) found that the person who accepts rape myths holds more traditional stereotypes, has a stronger belief that male-female relations are fundamentally exploitive, and is more inclined to tolerate interpersonal violence. Burt (1980) further noted that "acceptance of interpersonal violence may be the attitudinal releaser of assaultive action" (p. 229).

Muehlenhard and Linton (1987) assessed the incidence of and risk factors for rape and other forms of male against female sexual aggression in dating situations. Of the 341 women surveyed, those who had experienced sexual aggression were higher than other women in the measure of acceptance of violence against women. Muehlenhard and Linton (1987) speculated that "perhaps these women did not feel entitled to stop unwanted sexual advances, or perhaps experiencing sexual aggression fostered the idea that female-male relationships are adversarial and that violence is to be expected" (p. 195).

Check and Malamuth (1981) utilized Burt's (1980) scales to measure acceptance of interpersonal violence, rape myth acceptance, and adversarial beliefs about sexual relationships of 126 college students. They conducted an experiment to determine which attitudes would be predictive of reactions to the following: a pornographic depiction of rape; a real rape; and males' actual predictions about their own likelihood or raping (Check & Malamuth, 1981).

Check and Malamuth (1981) reported the following:

1. Male students who perceived the rape victim's experience in the pornographic depiction as positive were more likely to accept rape myths, violence against women, and adversarial sex beliefs.
2. Male students with high acceptance of violence against women with high adversarial sex beliefs were less

likely to think that the rapist should be charged of his crime.

3. Male students who were high on all three scales were more inclined to believe that women secretly desire to be raped, and that natural masculine tendencies as well as women's behavior in general are important in causing rape.
4. Finally, all three scales were predictive of male students' self-reported likelihood of raping women (p. 13, cited in Russell, 1975).

Literature Review on Attitudes Toward Attribution of Blame

As already mentioned, Burt's (1980) study found that the higher the respondent's sex role stereotyping, adversarial sexual beliefs, and acceptance of interpersonal violence, the greater their acceptance of rape myths. According to Burt (1980), the effect of rape myth acceptance is to deny or reduce perceived injury to blame the victims for their own victimization. Many researchers have found differences between males and females in their perceptions of the rape victim and their attributions of fault to that victim and the assailant.

Thornton, Ryckman, and Robbins (1982) found that males were more inclined to perceive the victim as more responsible than females, which is consistent with other literature (Field,

1978; Muelenhard, Friedman, & Thomas, 1985). Thornton et al. (1982) found that individuals with a more conservative, traditionally oriented attitudes toward women consider the victim more at fault than those with a more liberal or pro-feminist attitude.

Regarding the placement of blame in cases of rape, the behavior of the victim seems to be the focal point of much of the research. Howard (1984) demonstrated the influence of sex on the placement of blame in rape cases. More blame was attributed to the character of female victims more than of male victims, and to the behavior of male victims than of female victims (Howard, 1984). Howard (1984) notes that the obtained attributions suggested that participants believed that men are more able than women to avoid such incidents. Further, Howard (1984) asserts that women, in tending to make attributions to long-term stable characteristics of the victim, adopt a blame stance similar to that of an observer, while men tend to attribute blame to immediate behaviors of the victim and adopt a blame stance more like that of an actor.

The findings of Field (1978) and Calhoun et al. (1976) argued that male subjects assign greater responsibility to the victim. Acock and Ireland (1983) found that subjects perceive women victims as deserving less respect and being partly to blame for the rape if they behave contrary to the conventionally accepted sex role behavior of a woman. Cann, Calhoun,

and Selby (1979) lent support for Acock and Ireland's (1983) findings when they found that participants attributed more responsibility to female victims for the rape if the victim is perceived to be sexually active.

Further, Acock and Ireland (1983) found that not only do subjects blame norm-violating victims more, but they blame the offender less than victims who acted in a more socially accepted manner (i.e., traditional norms). Contrary to the findings of Field (1978) and Calhoun et al. (1976), Acock and Ireland (1983) noted that the above perception is not contingent on whether the subject is male or female, nor whether the subject has a liberal or traditional sex role attitude.

What increases the justification of rape? Muehlenhard, Friedman, and Thomas (1985) surveyed 268 male undergraduates and asked participants to rate the justifiability of date rape under various circumstances. Over half the men surveyed thought it was somewhat justifiable to force kissing with tongue contact; over a fifth thought it was somewhat justifiable to touch the woman's genitals against her wishes (Muehlenhard et al., 1985). Moreover, Muehlenhard et al. (1985) found that rape was rated as significantly more justifiable (1) if the couple went to the man's apartment rather than to a religious function, (2) if the woman asked the man out rather than vice versa, and (3) if the man paid all the dating expenses rather than splitting them with the

woman. Provocative behaviors (e.g., dressing seductively) are also seen as increasing the victim's blameworthiness (Ward, 1988) and therefore make rape more justifiable.

While most past empirical investigations have examined attribution of fault in rape cases regarding the behavior or personality characteristics of the victim, certain studies have examined certain situational information, which can potentially influence subjects' judgments of responsibility. For example, Richardson and Campbell (1982) examined the effects of victim and offender intoxication on attributions of blame in a rape incident. After reading vignettes of a rape incident in which victim, offender, neither, or both were intoxicated, participants attributed less responsibility to the male offender and more responsibility to the situation when the offender was drunk than when he was sober (Richardson & Campbell, 1981). Also, participants assigned the female victim more responsibility and derogated her character when she was intoxicated than when she was sober (Richardson & Campbell, 1982).

One of the most pervasive and prevalent rape myths is that rape is precipitated by the victim. In addition, there is a widely held assumption that people deserve what they get because of a belief in a "just world" (Jones & Aronson, 1973). The "just world" hypothesis (good things happen to good people and bad things happen to bad people) can account for part of

peoples' attributions of responsibility to victims. Jones and Aronson (1973) examined the hypothesis that a socially respectable person is blamed more in a crime in which the female is the victim. These researchers found that indeed their hypothesis was supported. They found that a rape victim who was married or a virgin was blamed more for her assault than was a less respectable victim (e.g. divorcee).

Similarly, Smitter, Keating, Hester, and Mitchell (1976) investigated the extent to which social role and "just world" beliefs would affect participant's perceptions and attribution of blame to a rape victim. The different vignettes described the victim as either a topless-bottomless dancer, a social worker or a catholic nun, and the victim was either acquainted or unacquainted with the offender. The dancer was attributed the greatest responsibility while the nun was attributed the least, which, according to the investigators, "indicated that social role factors can govern the range of attributional judgments which might be made in any given instance" (Smith et al., 1976, p. 346). However, victims who were not acquainted with their assailant were assigned more responsibility for the rape (significant for the nun condition) (Smith et al., 1976).

Smith et al. (1976) found victim and offender responsibility to be unrelated in the unacquainted condition, while a negative relationship between these two factors were

found in the acquainted condition. Finally, males rated the victim "as more careless and as more likely to have encouraged the rape than did females, while females identified more strongly with the victim and prescribed more severe punishment for the assailant" (Smith et al., 1976).

Summary

In this chapter, relevant past empirical investigations were reviewed. More specifically, a review of the literature on attitudes toward women and heterosexual relationships have implicated sex role stereotyping as being a major factor that affects overall rape attitudes (the acceptance of rape myths), attitudes toward the victim and the assailant, and the placement of responsibility for a rape incident.

Similarly, a review of the literature regarding attitudes toward the acceptance of interpersonal violence indicated that high acceptance of interpersonal violence was related to high acceptance of rape myths, high adversarial sex beliefs, and greater likelihood of blaming the victim and excusing the offender. Finally, a literature search regarding attitudes toward attribution of blame supported the above-mentioned findings.

The following chapter will present this investigation's findings, and in Chapter 5 a discussion of the results,

limitations of the present study and implications for further research will be presented.

CHAPTER 3

RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

This study was designed to investigate differences between males and females in their attitudes toward attribution of blame in acquaintance rape. In addition, three individual factors--attitudes toward women, attitudes toward heterosexual relationships, and acceptance of interpersonal violence--were examined for relationships to attitudes toward attribution of blame in acquaintance rape. Whereas no instruments had been developed to ascertain attitudes toward attribution of blame in acquaintance rape, it was necessary to devise such a measure based on past empirical investigations.

Chapter 1 established background and a theoretical premise for this current investigation. The second chapter reviewed relevant empirical literature regarding acquaintance rape. The research design and methodology employed in this study will be presented in this chapter. The sample, procedures, and instrumentation will each be described.

Description of the Sample

Originally, 300 subjects were sought to participate in this empirical investigation. However, the sample

consisted of 159 participants (63 males and 96 females). All subjects were enrolled in a large southwestern university.

Sample Selection

Participants for the study were recruited through an introductory psychology class, various graduate counseling and educational psychology classes, a fraternity, a dormitory hall government meeting, and a resident advisors meeting.

Procedures

Professors at the university were approached by the principal investigator and asked if they would allow a brief introduction of this study to their students at the beginning of the class period. After the introduction, questionnaires with a cover letter explaining more fully clients' rights (see Appendix A) were distributed to willing participants. Subjects were asked to complete the questionnaire at home and bring the completed questionnaire to the next class period. Professors were provided with an envelope for returned questionnaires and were instructed to place the envelope on a chair or desk so participants could place their completed questionnaire inside. After professors collected all questionnaires, they were told to seal the envelope. The principal investigator collected the envelope at that time.

In addition to the selection of participants through various classes, subjects were recruited in a fraternal organization, a dormitory hall government meeting, and a resident advisors' meeting. In these situations, the principal investigator approached the person responsible for the group: a fraternity president, dormitory president, or head resident advisor. Leaders were asked if they would allow a brief introduction of this investigation to their members in order to elicit subjects for participation. After the introduction, willing participants were asked to complete the questionnaire after the meeting and to place the completed questionnaire in an envelope provided by the investigator. The principal investigator collected the envelope from the leader of the group at a later time.

Instrumentation

Demographic data were obtained from all participants. The following information was requested: sex, age, ethnicity, student status, marital or relationship status, religious preference, and fraternity or sorority involvement. In addition, data were sought to assess prior experience with rape, whether or not participants saw date rape as a serious problem on the university campus, and whether or not participants were interested in more rape prevention classes or activities on the university campus.

At this point, an important point must be made regarding questions pertaining to subjects' prior experience with rape. Not one of the prior experience questions asked if the subject had been "raped" or had "raped" someone. Rather, the questions asked if the subject had someone force or attempt to force sex on them against their will, or if they had forced or attempted to force anyone into having sex against their will. The reason for elimination of the word "rape" in these questions was due to this investigator's belief that participants would more likely acknowledge that they had been "forced to have sex against their will," or had "forced someone to have sex against their will" rather than to have been "raped" or had "raped" someone.

Attitudes Toward Women
Scale: Short Form

A shortened version of the original 55-item scale, Attitudes Toward Women Scale (Spence & Helmreich, 1972) was used to measure traditional or nontraditional attitudes toward women and sex roles (Muehlenhard, Friedman, & Thomas, 1985). The 25-item version of the original scale covered the educational, vocational, and intellectual roles of women, as well as dating and courtship patterns, etiquette, freedom and independence, sexual behavior, and marital relationships and obligations (Spence, Helmreich, & Stapp, 1973) (see Appendix B, Scale A).

The Likert-type scale had four response alternatives, ranging from Disagree Strongly to Agree Strongly. Each item was given a score 1 to 4, with 1 indicative of the most traditional and 4 the most contemporary, profeminist response (Spence, Helmreich, & Stapp, 1973). Total scores for the scale were computed by summing the item-responses. Subjects were divided into Conservative and Liberal groups based on their score on the assessment measure.

Correlations between scores on the short, 25-item scale and the full (55-item) scale were computed by Spence, Helmreich, and Stapp (1973) for groups of male and female students and groups of their parents at the University of Texas of Austin during the 1971-72 school year. Results found r 's for all groups to be .95 or above. In addition, the investigators found the results of a factor analysis and part-whole correlations also indicated the similarity of the two forms (Spence, Helmreich, & Stapp, 1973).

Heterosexual Relationships Scale

Hall, Howard, and Boezio (1986) developed a scale that measured the single domain of attitudes toward male-female relationships. The Heterosexual Relationships Scale was a device that ascertained the degree of sexism in attitudes toward heterosexual relationships, that is, beliefs that men should dominate women, perceptions of the opposite sex as sex objects, and views that sex involves conquest (Hall, Howard,

& Boezio, 1986). Items on the scale covered issues such as important characteristics in deciding whom to date and who takes the initiative and controls a dating relationship (see Appendix B, Scale B).

As a test of face validity, the items used in the Heterosexual Relationship Scale were given to 20 students in a University of Wisconsin--Milwaukee class on sex roles (Hall, Howard, & Boezio, 1986). Hall, Howard, and Boezio (1986) asked students to judge whether the item was relevant to attitudes toward male-female relationships. Further, evidence of validity came from Howard (1984), who found that those who gave liberal responses on the Heterosexual Relationships Scale attributed more blame to an assailant in hypothetical sexual assaults than did those who gave a sexist response on the scale.

Responses to the heterosexual relationship items were scored on a 6-point Likert scale. Possible scored responses ranged from 1 = Strongly Disagree to 6 = Strongly Agree. Items numbered 3, 4 and 11 were scored opposite, that is, 1 = Strongly Agree and 6 = Strongly Disagree because those were the contemporary, or nonsexist statements. There was a total of 12 items on the scale of attitudes toward heterosexual relationships, and Hall, Howard, and Boezio (1986) found a Cronbach's alpha of .65 for this scale.

Acceptance of Interpersonal
Violence Scale

Burt (1980) devised a scale in which participants indicated their level of agreement with six items, five of which involved violence against women (e.g., "Being roughed up is sexually stimulating to many women") (see Appendix B, Scale C). Acceptance of interpersonal violence refers to the notion that "force and coercion are legitimate ways to gain compliance and specifically that they are legitimate in intimate and sexual relationships" (Burt, 1980, p. 218).

The Acceptance of Interpersonal Violence Scale demonstrated face validity. Pretests using large item pools were conducted to select promising items for the scale (Burt, 1980). Burt (1980) reported that responses to all items measuring acceptance of interpersonal violence were subjected to item analysis, then the best items were selected for the final scale. Evidence of content validity was demonstrated by the fact that this scale related positively to acceptance of rape myths (Burt, 1980) and to sexual aggression in men (Rapport & Burkhart, 1984: cited in Muehlenhard & Lincoln, 1987).

Responses to the acceptance of interpersonal violence items were scored on a 6-point Likert scale. Possible scored responses for items numbered 2, 3, and 5 ranged from 1 = Strongly Agree to 6 = Strongly Disagree. Range of scores for items numbered 1, 4, and 6 were from 1 = Strongly Disagree to

6 = Strongly Agree. Therefore, scores on this measure would range from 6 (most violent) to 36 (least violent). Burt (1980) found a Cronbach's alpha of .59 for this assessment measure.

Attitudes of Acquaintance
Rape Blame Scale

Since there were no previously developed measures available to assess the hypothesized attitudes of attribution of blame in cases of acquaintance rape, the Attitudes of Acquaintance Rape Blame Scale (AARBS) was developed for use in this study (see Appendix B, Scale D). During the development of this scale, this investigator kept in mind the consideration that the content should be indicative of statements cited in the relevant literature as reflective of people's attitudes toward the placement of blame in cases of rape between nonstrangers.

The contrived measure of attitudes of attribution of blame in acquaintance rape (AARBS) clearly demonstrated face validity. Moreover, this investigator was particularly concerned with the construct validity of the AARBS. It was anticipated that the new measure predicted accurately the many hypotheses that can be derived from a theory of attribution of blame in acquaintance rape. It was believed that this instrument was correlated with the concepts and propositions that comprised that theory.

Items on the AARBS were designed based on three constructs, two of which were cited as factors that influenced the attribution of blame process in cases of rape in past studies. One construct represented the "victim blame" model and the other the "offender blame" model. Eight items were selected for each of the above-mentioned constructs. Next, the third construct represented the author's contrived model, the "victim-offender relationship" model. Six items were selected for this construct. Three items on general attitudes toward acquaintance rape completed the scale.

Past empirical literature revealed various models which seem to encompass peoples' attitudes toward the placement of blame in rape. In the present investigation, it was hypothesized that the following three factors account for people's attitudes toward the attribution of blame in acquaintance rape: (1) the character of the woman (victim blame), (2) the character of the man (offender blame), and (3) the nature of the victim-offender relationship (married vs. not married).

Eight items represented the first hypothesized model of attitudes toward the placement of blame in acquaintance rape. The eight items in this victim blame model (as well as the other two models) were indicative of very popular and widely held rape myths. Statements representing this model focused primarily on the behavior of the victim. Examples of

scale items of this model are: "A woman who goes to the home or apartment of a man on a first date implies she is willing to have sex"; "If a woman wears seductive clothing on a date it means she wants to have sex"; and "It is acceptable for a man to force sex on his date if she is stoned or drunk."

The second hypothesized model (offender blame) also contained eight items. These statements focused primarily on what was perceived as male entitlement (the offender "deserves" sex in exchange for something he has done, e.g., drive or pay all dating expenses). In addition, statements represented situations that "excuse" the behavior of the offender (e.g., in a lengthy relationship, or under the influence of substances). Examples of scale items representative of this model are: "If a man drives on a date, he is entitled to sexual intercourse with his date," and "If a man has not had sex in a long time he is not responsible for forcing his date to have sex."

Six items represented the third hypothesized model (marital status of the victim and offender). The six items were based on the mythological premise that rape does and cannot occur in marriage. Examples of scale items are: "If a husband forces his wife to have sex, it should not be considered a crime," and "When a woman agrees to marry a man, she is agreeing to have sex with him anytime he desires."

Finally, three questions regarding general attitudes toward the attribution of blame in acquaintance rape were utilized. Questions represented popular opinions toward the crime of rape between non-strangers. Examples are the following: "It is less traumatic for a woman to be forced to have sex by a man she knows than to be forced by a stranger" and "Date 'rape' is not truly 'real' rape."

A factor analysis was conducted to determine the existence of the three inferred models.

Similar to the previous scales, responses to the AARBS were scored on a 6-point Likert scale. All statements were phrased such that a score of one indicated strong disagreement, and a score of six, strong agreement. An even number of choice alternatives was selected to avoid neutral responses.

Summary

The research design and methodology employed in this study were presented in this chapter. The sample, procedures, and instrumentation were each described. Whereas no instrument could adequately ascertain attitudes toward the attribution of blame in acquaintance rape, the Attitudes of Acquaintance Rape Blame Scale (AARBS) was developed for use in this study. In the next chapter, results of this empirical investigation will be presented. The last chapter discusses

the implications of this study, limitations of this study, and recommendations for further research.

CHAPTER 4

RESULTS

The purpose of this study was to examine individual characteristics (i.e., attitudes toward women and heterosexual relationships, and acceptance of interpersonal violence) of college students and ascertain the relationship between individual characteristics and attitudes toward attribution of blame in acquaintance rape. One of the main objectives of the present study was to devise a measure to determine college students' attitudes toward attribution of blame in acquaintance rape. Findings which emerged in the present investigation are presented in this chapter. This chapter begins with a demographic description of the sample obtained for the study, followed by a description of the results of a factor analysis conducted on the author's contrived scale, the Attitude of Attribution of Blame in Acquaintance Rape Scale. Then, the results of this investigation are presented.

Demographic Description of the Sample

One hundred fifty-nine people completed and returned this study's questionnaire. Males accounted for 39.6% (N = 63) of the subjects, while females accounted for 60.4%

(N = 96). Age ranges for the subjects were the following: 35.2% 18-20 year olds (N = 55); 24.5% 21-23 year olds (N = 39); 6.9% 24-26 year olds (N = 11); 3.8% 27-29 year olds (N = 6); 9.4% 30-35 year olds (N = 15); 8.2% 36-40 year olds (N = 13); and 11.9% 40 years and older (N = 19). One person declined to state their age.

Caucasians comprised the majority of the subjects, 88.7% (N = 141). Three Black (1.9%), seven Hispanic (4.4%), three Native American (1.9%), and three "other" ethnicities completed the sample. Two participants declined to state their ethnicity. Subjects recognized three religious affiliations (Protestant, Catholic, and Jewish), "no" religious affiliation, and "other" religious affiliation. Catholics comprised the largest portion of the sample with 30.2% (N = 48). The next largest religious group was the Protestants, 23.9% (N = 38), and Jews followed with 8.2% (N = 13) of the sample. Other religious affiliations accounted for 13.2% (N = 21), while individuals recognizing no religious preference accounted for 23.9% (N = 38). One participant declined recognizing any choice noted above.

A wide variety of academic years was found among the participants. Thirty-three freshmen (20.8%), 21 sophomores (13.2%), 18 juniors (11.3%), 30 seniors (18.9%), 55 graduate students (34.6%), and 2 "others" (1.3%) completed the sample.

Of those just mentioned, 25 (16.4%) acknowledged being actively involved in a fraternity or sorority.

Married students account for 28.3% (N = 45) of the sample, and single students completed the sample with 71.7% (N = 114). Of those who were not married, 66 (41.5%) acknowledged that they were in no steady dating relationship, 44 (27.7%) acknowledged that they were in a steady relationship, and 4 (2.5%) said they were engaged to be married.

Results of a Factor Analysis on
Attitudes of Attribution of
Blame in Acquaintance Rape Scale

A factor score analysis was conducted to assess the dynamics of the author's scale. The purpose of conducting such an analysis was to try and assess the underlying factor structure of the scale. Although three factors (victim blame, offender blame, and marital exemption) were hypothesized, the factor analysis delineated five factors.

Table 1 presents the varimax rotated factor readings from the Attitudes of Attribution of Blame in Acquaintance Rape Scale, together with means and standard deviations for the entire sample (N = 159). Underlined variables indicated those factors which are salient for each item. The higher the factor loading variable, the greater salience that factor had for that particular item. Factor loading variables less than .25 were replaced by zero.

Table 1. Varimax rotated factor loadings from Attitudes of Acquaintance Rape Blame Scale for the sample (N = 159).

Item	Factor 1	Factor 2	Factor 3	Factor 4	Factor 5	X ^a	SD
3. If a man drives on a date he is entitled to sexual intercourse with his date	<u>0.63</u>	0.00	0.32	0.00	0.30	1.16	0.59
6. If a man pays all the dating expenses, it is justifiable for him to have sex with her against her will	<u>0.60</u>	0.48	0.43	0.00	0.28	1.14	0.47
7. It is acceptable for a man to force sex on a woman if they have dated a long time	<u>0.64</u>	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	1.14	0.49
9. If a man has not had sex in a long time he is not responsible for forcing his date to have sex	<u>0.78</u>	0.00	0.00	0.29	0.00	1.20	0.74
19. A man is not responsible for forcing his date to have sex against her will if he is drunk or stoned	<u>0.62</u>	0.28	0.35	0.34	0.00	1.21	0.71

Table 1--Continued

Item	Factor 1	Factor 2	Factor 3	Factor 4	Factor 5	χ^a	SD
20. Once a woman consents to sexual intercourse, a man is correct in assuming he has the right to expect sexual intercourse on every date thereafter	<u>0.60</u>	0.00	0.28	0.47	0.00	1.36	0.80
21. It is acceptable for a man to force sex on a woman if he spends a lot of money on her	<u>0.63</u>	0.25	0.57	0.00	0.00	1.14	0.55
4. Men who force sex on someone they have a relationship with should not be punished as severely as those men who force sex upon women they do not know	0.00	<u>0.59</u>	0.00	0.36	0.00	1.58	1.06
5. If a husband forces his wife to have sex, it should not be considered a crime	0.00	<u>0.52</u>	0.31	0.35	0.33	1.73	1.16
12. If a woman engages in kissing or petting and she lets things get out of hand, it is her own fault if her partner forces sex on her	0.00	<u>0.56</u>	0.00	0.46	0.00	2.00	1.21

Table 1--Continued

Item	Factor 1	Factor 2	Factor 3	Factor 4	Factor 5	\bar{x}^a	SD
13. It is <u>less</u> traumatic for a woman to be forced to have sex by a man she knows than to be forced by a stranger	0.00	<u>0.68</u>	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.77	1.18
15. If a woman asks a man out she is asking for sex	0.40	<u>0.68</u>	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.23	0.68
16. If a woman asks a man out it is more acceptable for him to have sex with her against her will than if he asked her out	0.43	<u>0.51</u>	0.45	0.00	0.00	1.23	0.68
17. The longer a man and woman date, the more acceptable it is for him to force her to have sex	0.34	<u>0.67</u>	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.26	0.72
18. When a woman agrees to marry a man, she is agreeing to have sex with him any time he desires	0.36	<u>0.58</u>	0.00	0.47	0.00	1.53	1.02

Table 1--Continued

Item	Factor 1	Factor 2	Factor 3	Factor 4	Factor 5	χ^a	SD
22. Wives often withhold sex from their husbands as punishment; therefore, it is acceptable for husbands to force their wives to have sex against their will	0.46	<u>0.52</u>	0.34	0.26	0.00	1.42	0.94
10. Date "rape" is not "real" rape	0.00	0.00	<u>0.72</u>	0.00	0.00	1.25	0.69
11. It is acceptable for a man to force sex on his date if she is stoned or drunk	0.35	0.00	<u>0.72</u>	0.00	0.00	1.16	0.60
23. Date rape is not a serious crime	0.00	0.00	<u>0.88</u>	0.00	0.00	1.31	0.93
8. If a husband forces his wife to have sex it can be considered rape	0.00	0.00	0.00	<u>-0.70</u>	0.00	5.12	1.37
14. Rape cannot occur between two people who are married	0.00	0.36	0.00	<u>0.70</u>	0.00	1.52	0.94
1. A woman who goes to the home or apartment of a man on a first date implies she is willing to have sex	0.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	<u>0.78</u>	1.99	1.29

Table 1--Continued

Item	Factor 1	Factor 2	Factor 3	Factor 4	Factor 5	X ^a	SD
2. If a woman wears seductive clothing on a date, it means she wants to have sex	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.34	<u>0.72</u>	2.16	1.25
24. If a woman "fools around" with her date she is automatically consenting to have sexual intercourse	0.46	0.43	0.00	0.40	0.00	1.75	1.19
25. A wife does not have the right to refuse sexual advances from her husband	0.27	0.32	0.43	0.30	0.00	1.54	1.10

Factor 1 consisted of items numbered 3, 6, 7, 9, 19, 20, and 21. Items on this factor represented circumstances that either entitled the male to sexual intercourse with his date, or excused his behavior in cases of rape. Factor one is by far the most salient factor in that Factor 1 explained 11.15% of the total variance.

Factor 2 consisted of items numbered 4, 5, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 22. Items on this factor focused on punishment of the offender, perceived trauma of rape, and the crime of rape in marriage. In addition, five of the above-mentioned items focused on the behavior of the woman that "provoked" the offender's behavior and therefore justified his actions. The variance explained by Factor 2 was considerable less than Factor 1, 2.06% and 11.15%, respectively.

Factors 3, 4, 5 comprised seven of the last remaining nine items. Factor 3 consisted of items numbered 10, 11, and 23. Two of the three questions examined the idea that date rape is not truly rape and therefore is not a serious crime. The other question of Factor 3 again pertained to the behavior of the victim. The variance explained by Factor 3 was 1.19%.

Factor 4 consisted of items numbered 8 and 14. Both these questions examined attitudes toward rape in marriage. Factor 4 explained 1.11% of the variance. Factor 5 consisted of items numbered 1 and 2. Both these items also focused on

the behavior of the woman (e.g., dressing seductively on a date, and going to a man's house or apartment). Factor 5 seemed to be the least salient factor, accounting for 1.02% of the total variance. Items numbered 24 and 25 were not placed in any particular factor as they did not have a factor loading variable large enough.

Results of a Multiple Regression Analysis

A multiple regression analysis was performed to assess the contribution of the individual characteristics (i.e. Attitudes Toward Women Scale: Short Form (Scale A), Heterosexual Relationships Scale (Scale B), and Acceptance of Interpersonal Violence Scale (Scale C) on the measure of attribution of blame in acquaintance rape (AARBS). Total correlation between Scales A, B, C and the AARBS found a multiple $r = .69$, and a multiple $r^2 = .48$. This was a profoundly significant result [$F(3, 155) = 48.08, p < .001$]. The finding of the multiple regression indicated that 48% of the variance of participants' responses on the AARBS could be directly attributed to what is being measured by Scales A, B, and C.

Independent Contributions of Scales A, B, and C

The Attitudes Toward Women Scale: Short Form was the most powerful contributor of the variance found in the AARBS [$T = -5.84, p < .01$]. The next significant contributor was

the Heterosexual Relationship Scale [$T = 2.89, p < .01$]. Finally, the least powerful contributor (although still quite significant) of the variance found on the AARBS was the Acceptance of Interpersonal Violence Scale [$T = -1.94, p < .05$].

Results of the Present Study

To begin, a Pearson's product--moment correlation was conducted to investigate the relationship between the Attitudes Toward Women Scale Short Form and the AARBS. A negative correlation was found between these variables ($r = -.65$). Next, all subjects were classified as either high sex role stereotype (Conservative) or low sex role stereotype (Liberal), based on their score on the Attitudes Toward Women Scale: Short Form. A median score of 88 was the dividing mark between the two above categories.

After the classification, there were 20 Conservative males, 70 Conservative females, 43 liberal males and 26 Liberal females. A 2(Conservative vs. Liberal) x 2(male vs. female) between-groups analysis of variance was conducted for each dependent variable. Because a factor analysis revealed five factors for one of the dependent variables (AARBS), it was analyzed appropriately by considering each factor a separate dependent variable. The other dependant variables that were analyzed consisted of the following: Heterosexual Relationships Scale (Scale B); Acceptance of Interpersonal

Violence Scale (Scale C); percentage of blame attributed to a woman in an acquaintance rape situation (P1); percentage of blame to a man in the above-mentioned situation (P2); five prior rape experience questions (E1 - E5); and, two general attitude questions (A1, A2). One of these questions assessed participants' perceived seriousness of date rape on the college campus and the other asked participants if they would be interested in more rape prevention classes and activities. The mean scores and standard deviations for all dependent variables are presented in Table 2.

Heterosexual Relationships Scale

The Heterosexual Relationships Scale (Scale B) was a device that measured degree of participants' sexist attitudes toward the male-female relationship. A Pearson's product-moment correlation was conducted to investigate the relationship between the Heterosexual Relationships Scale and the AARBS. A positive correlation was found between these variables ($r = .58$).

A 2 x 2 analysis of variance for this scale revealed a main effect for sex role stereotype [$F(1,155) = 33.28, p < .001$] as well as a main effect for sex [$F(1,155) = 10.89, p < .001$]. In terms of sex role stereotype, Conservative subjects were more sexist in their attitudes toward heterosexual relationships than were Liberal subjects (\bar{X} 's 31.39 and 23.69, respectively). Regarding the difference

Table 2. Means and standard deviations for gender and sex role stereotype for all dependent variables.

	Male				Female			
	Conservative (N = 20)		Liberal (N = 43)		Conservative (N = 70)		Liberal (N = 26)	
	\bar{X}	SD	\bar{X}	SD	\bar{X}	SD	\bar{X}	SD
Scale B	33.37	6.37	25.35	5.44	28.11	7.08	23.21	6.20
Scale C	28.70	3.07	31.65	4.07	30.54	3.90	31.94	3.24
Scale DF ₁	11.12	5.61	7.35	0.75	7.50	1.42	7.29	1.21
Scale DF ₂	19.51	8.53	12.40	3.38	13.46	4.48	10.72	2.70
Scale DF ₃	4.70	2.89	3.35	0.93	3.23	0.71	3.39	1.44
Scale DF ₄	4.74	2.44	3.40	2.06	3.15	1.35	2.66	1.39
Scale DF ₅	5.51	2.14	4.20	1.70	4.50	2.47	3.17	1.69
P ₁	29.70%	1.87	19.00%	1.83	23.08%	1.46	17.57%	1.79
P ₂	70.93%	1.87	81.50%	1.87	77.13%	1.48	83.57%	1.58
E ₁	1.88	0.39	1.70	0.57	1.81	0.41	1.66	0.48
E ₂	1.81	0.45	1.65	0.59	1.35	0.56	1.40	0.49
E ₃	1.95	0.31	1.75	0.55	1.85	0.36	1.76	0.43
E ₄	1.91	0.37	1.85	0.49	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.00
E ₅	1.84	0.43	1.90	0.45	2.00	0.00	1.96	0.20
A ₁	1.42	0.59	1.15	0.59	1.08	0.69	1.01	0.52
A ₂	1.42	0.66	1.10	0.55	1.00	0.40	1.11	0.40

Table 2 --Continued

Note: Scale B is the Heterosexual Relations Scale.

* High score indicates more sexist attitudes.

Scale C is the Acceptance of Interpersonal Violence Scale.

* Low score indicates more acceptance of violence.

Scale D is the Attitudes of Attribution of Blame in Acquaintance Rape Scale.

* High score indicates a more traditional attitude.

P₁ is the percentage of blame that is attributed to a woman in an acquaintance rape situation.

P₂ is the percentage of blame that is attributed to a man in an acquaintance rape situation.

For all responses below, 1 = "yes" and 2 = "no"

E₁ = "Have you had anyone force sex on you against your will?"

E₂ = "Have you had anyone attempt to force sex on you against your will?"

E₃ = "Have you ever had sex with someone only because you were afraid physical force would be used against you if you didn't go along?"

E₄ = "Have you ever forced sex on anyone against their will?"

E₅ = "Have you ever attempted to force anyone into having sex against their will?"

A₁ = "Do you think date rape is a serious problem on this college campus?"

A₂ = "Would you be interested in more rape prevention classes/activities, etc. on this campus?"

between gender, males were more sexist in their attitudes ($\bar{X} = 30.82$) than were females ($\bar{X} = 24.54$).

Acceptance of Interpersonal Violence Scale

The Acceptance of Interpersonal Violence Scale (Scale C) was a device that ascertained participants' acceptance of interpersonal violence and in particular, the acceptance of violence against women. A Pearson's product-moment correlation was conducted to investigate the relationship between the Acceptance of Interpersonal Violence Scale and the AARBS. A negative correlation was found between these variables ($r = -.43$).

A 2 x 2 analysis of variance revealed a main effect for sex role stereotype [$F(1,155) = 10.67, p < .001$]. In terms of sex role stereotype, Conservative subjects were more accepting of interpersonal violence than were Liberal subjects (\bar{X} 's 29.39 and 31.88, respectively). Although there was no significant difference between gender, data suggested that males were more accepting of violence ($\bar{X} = 29.63$) than were females ($\bar{X} = 31.56$).

Factor 1 of the Attitudes of Attribution of Blame in Acquaintance Rape Scale (AARBS)

Factor 1 items of the AARBS focused primarily on circumstances that some people might perceive entitled the man to sexual intercourse with his date, or circumstances

that somehow excused his behavior of assault. A 2 x 2 analysis of variance revealed a main effect for sex role stereotype [$F(1,155) = 13.15, p < .001$] as well as a main effect for sex [$F(1,155) = 11.25, p < .001$]. In addition, a significant sex role stereotype by gender interaction was found [$F(1,155) = 10.47, p < .002$]. In terms of sex role stereotype, Conservative subjects were more apt to perceive male entitlement and to support circumstances that excused the offender's behavior than were Liberal subjects (\bar{X} 's 9.75 and 7.30, respectively). Regarding the gender difference found, male ($\bar{X} = 9.92$) were more likely to perceive male entitlement and support circumstances that excused the offender's behavior than did the females ($\bar{X} = 7.34$).

Factor 2 of the Attitudes of
Attribution of Blame in
Acquaintance Rape Scale (AARBS)

Factor 2 items of the AARBS focused primarily on the behavior of the woman that participants' might deem as provocation for an assault. In addition, items focused on punishment of the offender, the perceived trauma of rape, and the issue of labeling rape in marriage as a crime. A 2 x 2 analysis of variance revealed a main effect for sex role stereotype [$F(1,155) = 27.86, p < .001$] as well as a main effect for sex [$F(1,155) = 17.14, p < .001$]. In addition, a significant sex role stereotype by gender interaction was found [$F(1,155) = 5.51, p < .020$]. In terms of sex role

stereotype, Conservative subjects were more likely to view the behavior of the woman as provoking her attack, less likely to view acquaintance rape as being as traumatic as "real" rape, and less likely to view rape in marriage as a crime than were Liberal subjects (\bar{X} 's 17.23 and 11.10, respectively). Regarding difference between genders, males were more likely to view the behavior of the woman as blameworthy, etc. ($\bar{X} = 17.25$) than were females ($\bar{X} = 11.47$).

Factor 3 of the Attitudes of
Attribution of Blame in
Acquaintance Rape Scale (AARBS)

Two of Factor 3 items represented the myth that date rape is not really rape and therefore is not a crime. The third item stated that "It is acceptable for a man to force sex on his date if she is stoned or drunk." A 2 x 2 analysis of variance revealed a main effect for sex [$F(1,155) = 4.82$, $p < .030$]. In addition, a significant sex role stereotype by sex interaction was found [$F(1,155) = 5.31$, $p < .023$]. Although it was not significant, data suggested that Conservative more than Liberal subjects supported the belief that date rape is not "real" rape and that it is acceptable for a man to force sex on his date if she is under the influence of substances (\bar{X} 's 4.14 and 3.38, respectively). Regarding gender differences, males were more traditional in their response ($\bar{X} = 4.26$) than were females ($\bar{X} = 3.34$).

Factor 4 of the Attitudes of
Attribution of Blame in
Acquaintance Rape Scale (AARBS)

Factor 4 represented two items that concerned rape in marriage. A 2 x 2 analysis of variance revealed a main effect for sex role stereotype [$F(1,155) = 8.17, p < .005$] as well as a main effect for sex [$F(1,155) = 13.13, p < .001$]. In terms of sex role stereotype, Conservative subjects were more likely to believe that rape cannot occur in marriage than were Liberal subjects (\bar{X} 's 4.14 and 2.82, respectively). Regarding the gender difference found, males were more likely to agree that rape cannot occur in marriage ($\bar{X} = 4.32$) than did females ($\bar{X} = 2.79$).

Factor 5 of the Attitudes of
Attribution of Blame in
Acquaintance Rape Scale (AARBS)

The final factor of the AARBS again focused on the behavior of the woman (e.g., willing to go to a home or apartment of her date; willing to wear seductive clothing). A 2 x 2 analysis of variance revealed a main effect for sex role stereotype [$F(1,155) = 14.33, p < .001$] as well as a main effect for sex [$F(1,155) = 8.56, p < .004$]. In terms of sex role stereotype, Conservative subjects were more likely than Liberal subjects to find the woman at fault if she is willing to wear seductive clothing and go to the home of her date (\bar{X} 's 5.13 and 3.40, respectively). Likewise, male subjects

blamed the woman's behavior ($\bar{X} = 5.10$) more than the female subjects ($\bar{X} = 3.53$).

Percentage of Blame to a Woman in an Acquaintance Rape Situation

A 2 x 2 analysis of variance revealed a main effect for sex role stereotype [$F(1,155) = 6.14, p < .014$]. Conservative subjects attributed more blame to a woman in an acquaintance rape situation ($\bar{X} = 26.81\%$) than did Liberal subjects ($\bar{X} = 17.89\%$).

Percentage of Blame to a Man in an Acquaintance Rape Situation

A 2 x 2 analysis of variance revealed a main effect for sex role stereotype [$F(1,155) = 7.90, p < .006$]. Conservative subjects attributed less blame to a man in an acquaintance rape situation ($\bar{X} = 73.33\%$) than did the Liberal subjects ($\bar{X} = 83.11\%$).

Prior Experience with Rape ($E_1 - E_5$)

A 2 x 2 analysis of variance revealed a main effect for sex role stereotype [$F(1,155) = 4.24, p < .041$] on the first prior experience question (E_1). Conservative subjects were not as likely to report that they had anyone force sex on them against their will ($\bar{X} = 1.86$, whereas 1 = "yes" and 2 = "no") than the Liberal subjects ($\bar{X} = 1.67$).

A 2 x 2 analysis of variance showed a main effect for sex [$F(1,155) = 15.95, p < .001$] on the second prior experi-

ence question (E₂). Female subjects reported that they have had someone attempt to force sex on them against their will ($\bar{X} = 1.39$) more than the male subjects ($\bar{X} = 1.76$).

The third prior experience question (E₃) asked participants if they ever had sex with someone because they were afraid of physical repercussions if they did not have sex with the offender. A 2 x 2 analysis of variance revealed a main effect for sex role stereotype [$F(1,155) = 4.06, p < .046$]. Liberal subjects reported a greater frequency ($\bar{X} = 1.76$) of this situation than did the conservative subjects ($\bar{X} = 1.91$).

Regarding the fourth prior experience question (E₄), which asked if participants had ever forced anyone into having sex against their will, a 2 x 2 analysis of variance showed a main effect for sex [$F(1,155) = 7.14, p < .008$]. Whereas some males indicated that they had forced someone into having sex ($\bar{X} = 1.86$), there were no females that indicated such an experience ($\bar{X} = 2.00$).

Similarly, the fifth prior experience question (E₅) which asked if participants had ever attempted to force anyone into having sex, showed a main effect for sex [$F(1,155) = 4.09, p < .045$] by a 2 x 2 analysis of variance. However, both males ($\bar{X} = 1.86$) and females ($\bar{X} = 1.97$) indicated that they had attempted to force someone into having sex.

General Attitudes Toward
Acquaintance Rape

The first general attitude question (A_1) asked if participants believed that date rape is a serious problem on their college campus. A 2 x 2 analysis of variance revealed a main effect for sex [$F(1,155) = 5.41, p < .021$]. Although it did not reach significance, data suggested that Liberal subjects were more likely to believe that date rape is a problem on their campus ($\bar{X} = 1.04$) than Conservative subjects ($\bar{X} = 1.29$). Regarding the gender difference found, females ($\bar{X} = 1.03$) were more likely to acknowledge a problem than were the males ($\bar{X} = 1.33$).

The second general attitude question asked if participants would be interested in more rape prevention classes/activities, etc. on their college campus. A 2 x 2 analysis of variance showed a main effect for sex [$F(1,155) = 5.11, p < .025$] and a significant interaction between sex role stereotype and gender [$F(1,155) = 5.86, p < .017$]. Females reported to be more interested in rape prevention classes/activities ($\bar{X} = 1.08$) than were the males ($\bar{X} = 1.32$).

Summary

The results obtained in this investigation of the effects of individual characteristics and gender on the attribution of fault in acquaintance rape were presented in this chapter. Attitudes toward women (high versus low sex

role stereotype) and heterosexual relationships, and acceptance of interpersonal violence were all investigated. In addition, examinations of subjects' prior experience with rape were conducted. A factor analysis revealed five rather than the three hypothesized factors of the Attitudes of Acquaintance Rape Blame Scale.

The next chapter discusses the implications of the findings presented here in Chapter 4. Then a discussion of the limitations of this study will be offered. Finally, recommendations for future research will be presented.

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This final chapter is a discussion of the conclusions of research findings which were obtained in this study. First, implications of the results of the factor analysis conducted on the Attitudes of Acquaintance Rape Blame Scale (AARBS) will be explained. Next, a discussion of conclusions drawn from the analyses of variance and multiple regression analysis will be presented. Then, the limitations of this investigation will be described. Finally, recommendations for future research will be offered.

Conclusions of the AARBS Factor Analysis

In the present study, it was hypothesized that the following three factors would account for participants' attitudes toward the attribution of blame in acquaintance rape: (1) the character of the woman (victim blame), (2) the character of the man (offender blame), and (3) the nature of the victim-offender relationship (married vs. not married). The results of a factor analysis, which was conducted to determine the existence of the three inferred models, were presented in the previous chapter. Results implicated five separate factors for the AARBS rather than the three

hypothesized. Future research needs to carefully examine each of these five factors, particularly Factor 1, which accounted for the largest percent of the variance among participants. It is necessary to determine what aspect of each item attributed to it being grouped with other items.

Factor 1 items of the AARBS focused primarily on circumstances that some people might perceive entitled the man to sexual intercourse with his date, or circumstances that somehow excused his assault. These findings indicated that Conservative and male subjects were more apt to perceive male entitlement to sexual intercourse and were more supportive of situations that excused the man's behavior (i.e., the man had not had sex in a long time). Moreover, Conservative subjects attributed less responsibility to the man in an acquaintance rape situation.

Factor 2 items of the AARBS focused primarily on the behavior of the female victim that might be viewed as provocation of her attack. In addition, items focused on the punishment of the offender, the perceived trauma of rape, and the issue of labeling rape in marriage as a crime. An analysis of variance revealed results that are consistent with past empirical literature (Smith et al., 1976). Conservative subjects and male subjects were more likely to view the behavior of the woman as provoking her attack, less likely to view acquaintance rape as being as traumatic as "real" rape,

and less likely to view rape in marriage as a crime. Moreover, when asked to assign percentage of blame to a victim and an assailant in an acquaintance rape situation, Conservative subjects attributed more blame to the woman.

Two of Factor 3 items of the AARBS represented the myth that date rape is not really rape and therefore is not a crime. The third item stated that "It is acceptable for a man to force sex on his date if she is stoned or drunk." Results again are consistent with past literature. Conservative and male subjects supported the myth that date rape is not "real" rape and that it is acceptable for a man to force sex on his date if she is under the influence of substances. These results are consistent with the findings of Richardson and Campbell (1982), which stated that participants attributed less responsibility to the male offender when he was drunk, and assigned the female victim more responsibility and derogated her character when she was intoxicated.

Factor 4 of the AARBS represented the issue of rape in marriage. Results of an analysis of variance showed that Conservative subjects and male subjects were more likely to believe that rape cannot occur in marriage.

The final factor of the AARBS again focused on the behavior of the woman (e.g., willing to go to a home or apartment of her date; willing to wear seductive clothing). An analysis of variance revealed that Conservative and male

subjects were more likely to find the woman at fault if she is willing to wear seductive clothing and go to the home of her date.

Heterosexual Relationships Scale

In addition to general sex role stereotyping, sexist attitudes toward relationships, particularly toward male-female relationships, have been implicated in affecting attitudes toward rape (Hall, Howard, & Boezio, 1986). The Heterosexual Relationships Scale was a device that measured degree of participants' sexist attitudes toward the male-female relationship. The results of a Pearson product-moment correlation between the AARBS and the Heterosexual Relationships Scale revealed that the more sexist one is in their attitudes toward the male-female relationship, the more one is apt to blame the victim in cases of acquaintance rape. In this study, Conservative subjects and male subjects were more sexist in their attitudes toward heterosexual relationships. It is reasonable to conclude, based on past research and this study's correlational finding, that sexist attitudes affect the process of assigning blame to a victim and an assailant in an acquaintance rape situation.

Acceptance of Interpersonal Violence Scale

According to Burt (1980), acceptance of interpersonal violence "refers to the notion that force and coercion are

legitimate ways to gain compliance and specifically that they are legitimate in intimate and sexual relationships" (p. 218). The results of a Pearson product--moment correlation between the AARBS and the Acceptance of Interpersonal Violence Scale revealed that the more one accepts interpersonal violence, the more one is apt to blame the victim in cases of acquaintance rape. It is understandable that this study found Conservative subjects and male subjects to be more accepting of violence in male-female relationships. This was consistent with the feminist theories reported in Chapter 2. Based on this study's findings, it is reasonable to conclude that the more one accepts violence in relationships, the more accepting or tolerant one will be of rape between non-strangers and the more willing one will be to assign responsibility to a victim in an acquaintance rape situation.

Implications of the Multiple Regression Analysis

A multiple regression analysis was performed to assess the contributions of three scales of individual characteristics (i.e., Attitudes Toward Women Scale: Short Form, Heterosexual Relationships Scale, and Acceptance of Interpersonal Violence Scale) on the measure of attribution of blame in acquaintance rape (AARBS). Results revealed that 48% of whatever the Attitudes of Acquaintance Rape Blame Scale measured was being measured collectively by the three

individual characteristics scales. This indicates that 52% of the variance of what the AARBS measured is still not accounted for. Some unique property of the AARBS may likely account for a large portion of that 52% unexplained variance. Clearly, there is room for speculation, and future research on this topic is justifiably warranted.

Prior Experience with Rape

Several implications of the findings regarding subjects' prior experience with rape can be made. It was found that Conservative subjects were not as likely to report that they had anyone force sex on them against their will than Liberal subjects. This can be interpreted in two ways. First, it is conceivable that Liberal subjects may place themselves in situations (i.e., norm-violating) that may be misinterpreted by others as signs of invitations to sexual assault. Second, keeping in mind society's definition of masculinity and femininity, traditional males and females would likely not acknowledge what had transpired as forced assault; rather, they would probably pass the event off as a normal interaction between males and females.

It is reasonable, given the size and power difference between men and women, that more females reported a greater frequency of having someone force and attempt to force sex on them against their will. Interestingly, however, both Liberal males and females reported a greater frequency of

succumbing to sex out of fear of physical repercussions than did Conservative males or females. It may be again that the behavior of Liberal subjects, male and female, may be misinterpreted by others as inviting sexual advances. Given this finding, it appears that males also fear physical harm if they do not submit to the sexual advances of others.

The final two prior experience questions asked participants if they had ever forced or attempted to force anyone into having sex against their will. Liberal males indicated the highest frequency of forcing someone to have sex against their will. Whereas some males indicated that they had forced someone into having sex, there were no females who indicated such an experience. One interpretation of this finding is perhaps Liberal males were more aware of their behavior and were more willing to acknowledge what they had done.

Regarding the question of whether or not participants ever attempted to force anyone into having sex against their will, Conservative males now indicated the highest frequency among the three groups. Whereas no females had reported forcing anyone into having sex, some Liberal females indicated that they had attempted to force sex on someone. Given the very small number of women who noted the above, it is curious that men did report, quite more than expected, that they have had someone force or attempt to force sex on them

against their will, or that they felt they had to submit to sexual demands out of fear for their safety. Were some women just not being truthful, or were they just not aware of their behavior?

General Attitudes Toward Acquaintance Rape

It is reasonable that results found that Liberal subjects and female subjects were more likely to believe that date rape is a problem on their college campus. Again, Conservative males differed considerably from the other three groups. In regard to interest in more rape prevention classes and activities, Liberal males and females, and Conservative females were very interested in rape prevention. In fact, every Conservative female indicated an interest, whereas considerably fewer Conservative males were interested in rape prevention classes and activities.

Overall Implications

Several studies have found differences between males and females in their perceptions of the rape victim and their attributions of fault to that victim and assailant. This investigation found similar results in that males were inclined to perceive the victim as more responsible and the assailant as less responsible than were females. Males were also found, not surprisingly, to disagree more than females that rape can occur in marriage. In addition, individuals

with a more conservative, traditionally oriented attitudes toward women consider the victim more at fault than those with a more liberal or pro-feminist attitude. Moreover, traditionally oriented attitudes toward women can be implicated in the greater acceptance of rape between persons who are married. Society seems to support a pervasive ideology that effectively condones and excuses sexual assault, particularly between persons who are non-strangers. The greatest implication of the above leads to a necessary examination of society's teachings of what is acceptable male and female behavior.

Russell (1975) asserts that males are trained from childhood to separate sexual desire from caring, respecting, liking, or loving, and that one of the consequences of this training is that many men regard women as sexual objects rather than full human beings. Sex-role stereotyping, when taught and reinforced at an early age, leads boys to become more aggressive than girls (Wilson, 1981). According to Russell (1975), "for many men, it seems, aggression and sex are closely related. The unconscious rationale goes as follows: Being aggressive is masculine; being sexually aggressive is masculine; rape is sexually aggressive behavior; therefore, rape is masculine behavior" (p. 261).

The notion that men should be strong, independent, superior, and domineering implies that women should be weak,

dependent, inferior, and submissive (Russell, 1975). It makes sense that conformity to traditional ideas of femininity makes more women vulnerable to rape.

Several studies have found that conformity to traditional sex role stereotypes leads to a greater acceptance of rape myths and acceptance of violence between males and females. One of the effects of believing devastating rape myths is that it perpetuates the notion that victims are in some way responsible for their assaults. Particularly in cases of rape by friends, dates, and husbands, it is usually assumed that the woman contributed to her own victimization (Russell, 1975). It is when the woman needs the nurturance and support of her family, friends, and local social service agencies most that she is often denied that support because individuals often feel she is responsible and therefore got what she "deserved."

What is needed at this point is a more appropriate and healthy definition of what is acceptable male and female behavior. Men and women need to be educated on the subject of rape, particularly rape between acquaintances because it is so common and so misunderstood. Some of the myths that need to be disbanded are the following: All women secretly want to be raped; rape is a natural behavior; not to rape must be learned; women mean "yes" when they say "no"; rape cannot occur in marriage; and rape by a friend is less

traumatic than rape by a stranger (Ward, 1980; Schechter, 1982; Schwendinger, 1983; Brownmiller, 1975; Burt, 1980). Moreover, men need to be taught, beginning at an early age, that sex is not a conquest, and that a woman, regardless of her marital status, maintains the right to say "no" under any circumstances. Males also deserve the same respect.

Limitations of the Present Study

The most obvious limitation of this study is that no prior device had been previously designed to investigate attitudes regarding the attribution of blame in acquaintance rape. In addition, "acquaintance rape" had never before included rape among married couples. The scale is new and needs to be examined further.

Regarding the questionnaire distributed to participants, it may have been quite obvious to the subject what the researcher was trying to find. Perhaps that is the reason many males did not complete and return the survey. It is recommended that for future studies, scales be distributed at different times, or at least introjected with items concerning other issues.

Another limitation of this study is that it has a sampling bias. Only those enrolled in a Southwestern university were asked to participate. Research has indicated that college students as a group are fairly liberal or

nontraditional in their attitudes toward social issues. Investigations of attitudes toward attribution of blame in acquaintance rape among different groups might be quite revealing.

Suggestions for Future Research

Several suggestions for future research have been implicated throughout this study. First, future studies may examine more closely the relationship between other individual characteristics and the process of attributing blame in cases of acquaintance rape. Second, future research is clearly warranted on the Attitudes of Acquaintance Rape Blame Scale. More specifically, the five salient factors found that contributed to the variance among participants in their attitudes of attribution of fault in cases of rape among non-strangers is needed. Finally, a comparative analysis of different ethnicities, religious affiliations, and age groups in their attitudes toward assigning responsibility in acquaintance rape is needed.

Summary

The purpose of this study was to examine individual characteristics (i.e., attitudes toward women and heterosexual relationships, and acceptance of interpersonal violence) of college students and ascertain the relationship between these individual characteristics, gender, and attitudes

toward attribution of blame in acquaintance rape. Moreover, one of the goals of this research was to devise a measure to ascertain attitudes of attribution of blame in acquaintance rape situations.

Conclusions and implications of this investigation's findings, limitations of the present study, and suggestions for future research were presented in this chapter. Research questions presented in Chapter 1 were the following:

1. Do men and women differ in their attitudes toward attribution of blame in acquaintance rape?
2. Is there a relationship between attitudes toward women (traditional vs. nontraditional) and attitudes toward attribution of blame in acquaintance rape?
3. Is there a relationship between attitudes toward heterosexual relationships (sexist vs. nonsexist) and attitudes toward attribution of blame in acquaintance rape?
4. Is there a relationship between degree of acceptance of interpersonal violence and attitudes toward attribution of blame in acquaintance rape?
5. Which factor, attitudes toward women, attitudes toward heterosexual relationships, or acceptance of interpersonal violence best predicts attitudes toward attribution of blame in acquaintance rape?

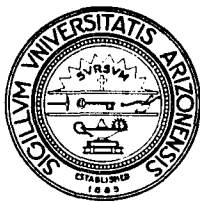
6. Do subjects acknowledge that rape exists in marriage?
Do men and women differ in their acknowledgment of the crime?

Men and women do differ in their attitudes toward attribution of blame in acquaintance rape. This study found that men consistently hold a women victim more responsible than a male assailant in cases of acquaintance rape. In addition, males were less likely to acknowledge that rape exists in marriage. Moreover, strong relationships were found between traditional attitudes toward women, sexist attitudes in male-female relationships, and acceptance of interpersonal and attribution of blame in acquaintance rape.

Attitudes toward women was found to be the strongest predictor of attitudes of attribution of blame in cases of acquaintance rape. The second most influential predictor of attitudes of attribution of blame were attitudes toward heterosexual relationships and, finally, attitudes toward acceptance of interpersonal violence.

APPENDIX A

COVER LETTER TO PARTICIPANTS



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

TUCSON, ARIZONA 85721

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

SCHOOL OF FAMILY AND CONSUMER RESOURCES
DIVISION OF COUNSELING AND GUIDANCE

February 24, 1989

This is a questionnaire devised to ascertain college students' attitudes toward a sensitive social subject. There are no right or wrong answers on the statements within, only opinions. Please do not discuss your answers with those around you. Please do not put your name or other identifying marks on these pages. All questionnaires will be held strictly confidential. You will be asked to place your completed questionnaire in an envelope which will be sealed. Only the principal investigator will have access to your questionnaire. Due to the sensitive subject of this study, some questions may make you feel uncomfortable. You have a right not to answer these questions and to withdraw your participation at any time. If the questionnaire is completed, it is assumed consent has been given to utilize the data. Time required to complete the questionnaire is approximately 30 minutes. If you have any questions or concerns, please direct them to Kari Seiverd, at Family Counseling Agency (327-4583) Your time and consideration is greatly appreciated.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kari D. Seiverd

Masters Candidate
Counseling and Guidance
University of Arizona

APPENDIX B
QUESTIONNAIRE

SCALE A

The statements listed below describe attitudes toward the role of women in society which different people have. You are asked to express your feeling about each statement by indicating whether you (A) Agree strongly, (b) Agree mildly, (c) Disagree mildly, or (d) Disagree strongly. Please indicate your opinion by circling either A, B, C, or D below each item.

1. Swearing and obscenity are more repulsive in the speech of a woman than a man.

A	B	C	D
Agree Strongly	Agree Mildly	Disagree Mildly	Disagree Strongly
2. Women should take increasing responsibility for leadership in solving the intellectual and social problems of the day.

A	B	C	D
Agree Strongly	Agree Mildly	Disagree Mildly	Disagree Strongly
3. Both husband and wife should be allowed the same grounds for divorce.

A	B	C	D
Agree Strongly	Agree Mildly	Disagree Mildly	Disagree Strongly
4. Telling dirty jokes should be mostly a masculine prerogative.

A	B	C	D
Agree Strongly	Agree Mildly	Disagree Mildly	Disagree Strongly
5. Intoxication among women is worse than intoxication among men.

A	B	C	D
Agree Strongly	Agree Mildly	Disagree Mildly	Disagree Strongly
6. Under modern economic conditions with women being active outside the home, men should share in household tasks such as washing dishes and doing the laundry.

A	B	C	D
Agree Strongly	Agree Mildly	Disagree Mildly	Disagree Strongly
7. It is insulting to women to have the "obey" clause remain in the marriage service.

A	B	C	D
Agree Strongly	Agree Mildly	Disagree Mildly	Disagree Strongly
8. There should be a strict merit system in job appointment and promotion without regard to sex.

A	B	C	D
Agree Strongly	Agree Mildly	Disagree Mildly	Disagree Strongly

9. A woman should be as free as a man to propose marriage.
- | | | | |
|----------|--------|----------|----------|
| A | B | C | D |
| Agree | Agree | Disagree | Disagree |
| Strongly | Mildly | Mildly | Strongly |
10. Women should worry less about their rights and more about becoming good wives and mothers.
- | | | | |
|----------|--------|----------|----------|
| A | B | C | D |
| Agree | Agree | Disagree | Disagree |
| Strongly | Mildly | Mildly | Strongly |
11. Women earning as much as their dates should bear equally the expense when they go out together.
- | | | | |
|----------|--------|----------|----------|
| A | B | C | D |
| Agree | Agree | Disagree | Disagree |
| Strongly | Mildly | Mildly | Strongly |
12. Women should assume their rightful place in business and all the professions along with men.
- | | | | |
|----------|--------|----------|----------|
| A | B | C | D |
| Agree | Agree | Disagree | Disagree |
| Strongly | Mildly | Mildly | Strongly |
13. A woman should not expect to go to exactly the same places or to have quite the same freedom of action as a man.
- | | | | |
|----------|--------|----------|----------|
| A | B | C | D |
| Agree | Agree | Disagree | Disagree |
| Strongly | Mildly | Mildly | Strongly |
14. Sons in a family should be given more encouragement to go to college than daughters.
- | | | | |
|----------|--------|----------|----------|
| A | B | C | D |
| Agree | Agree | Disagree | Disagree |
| Strongly | Mildly | Mildly | Strongly |
15. It is ridiculous for a woman to run a locomotive and for a man to darn socks.
- | | | | |
|----------|--------|----------|----------|
| A | B | C | D |
| Agree | Agree | Disagree | Disagree |
| Strongly | Mildly | Mildly | Strongly |
16. In general, the father should have greater authority than the mother in the bringing up of children.
- | | | | |
|----------|--------|----------|----------|
| A | B | C | D |
| Agree | Agree | Disagree | Disagree |
| Strongly | Mildly | Mildly | Strongly |
17. Women should be encouraged not to become sexually intimate with anyone before marriage, even their fiances.
- | | | | |
|----------|--------|----------|----------|
| A | B | C | D |
| Agree | Agree | Disagree | Disagree |
| Strongly | Mildly | Mildly | Strongly |

18. The husband should not be favored by law over the wife in the disposal of family property or income.

A	B	C	D
Agree	Agree	Disagree	Disagree
Strongly	Mildly	Mildly	Strongly

19. Women should be concerned with their duties of childbearing and housetending, rather than with desires for professional and business careers.

A	B	C	D
Agree	Agree	Disagree	Disagree
Strongly	Mildly	Mildly	Strongly

20. The intellectual leadership of a community should be largely in the hands of men.

A	B	C	D
Agree	Agree	Disagree	Disagree
Strongly	Mildly	Mildly	Strongly

21. Economic and social freedom is worth far more to women than acceptance of the ideal of femininity which has been set up by men.

A	B	C	D
Agree	Agree	Disagree	Disagree
Strongly	Mildly	Mildly	Strongly

22. On the average, women should be regarded as less capable of contributing to economic production than are men.

A	B	C	D
Agree	Agree	Disagree	Disagree
Strongly	Mildly	Mildly	Strongly

23. There are many jobs in which men should be given preference over women in being hired or promoted.

A	B	C	D
Agree	Agree	Disagree	Disagree
Strongly	Mildly	Mildly	Strongly

24. Women should be given equal opportunity with men for apprenticeship in the various trades.

A	B	C	D
Agree	Agree	Disagree	Disagree
Strongly	Mildly	Mildly	Strongly

25. The modern girl is entitled to the same freedom from regulation and control that is given to the modern boy.

A	B	C	D
Agree	Agree	Disagree	Disagree
Strongly	Mildly	Mildly	Strongly

Instructions for the Following Scales

Please indicate your agreement or disagreement with these statements on the accompanying six-point scale with each item. Place an X over the blank that corresponds with your degree of agreement or disagreement. For example:

Most tooth decay is caused by lack of careful brushing.
 Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 X 6 Strongly agree

An X above the 5 would indicate a strong amount of agreement. Please answer the following questions based on your opinion only. There are no right or wrong answers.

SCALE B

1. I like to get someone I'm going with to do what I want rather than what he or she wants.
 Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
2. It's OK for a man to punch a stranger who makes a pass at his girlfriend.
 Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
3. It's more important for me to date someone I can really relate to than someone who has a great body.
 Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
4. Most women like kind, considerate men better than tough ones.
 Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
5. It is all right for a woman to ask a man out, even if he has never asked her out.
 Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
6. When a woman goes out with a man, he should mainly decide where they will go and what they will do.
 Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
7. When I go out with someone, I usually try to see how far I can get the other person to go sexually.
 Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
8. In choosing who to go out with, looks are more important than brains.
 Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree

9. A man has got to show a woman who's boss or she'll end up bossing him.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
10. I like going out with someone who others want to go out with but can't.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
11. When going out together, it's OK for a man and a woman to each pay their own way.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
12. Most women like to go out with a man who is boss.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree

SCALE C

1. People today should not use "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth" as a rule for living.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
2. Being roughed up is sexually stimulating to many women.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
3. Many times a woman will pretend she doesn't want to have intercourse because she doesn't want to seem loose, but she's really hoping the man will force her.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
4. A wife should move out of the house if her husband hits her.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
5. Sometimes the only way a man can get a cold woman turned on is to use force.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
6. A man is never justified in hitting his wife.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree

SCALE D

1. A woman who goes to the home or apartment of a man on a first date implies she is willing to have sex.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
2. If a woman wears seductive clothing on a date it means she wants to have sex.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
3. If a man drives on a date he is entitled to sexual intercourse with his date.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
4. Men who force sex on someone they have a relationship with should not be punished as severely as those men who force sex upon women they do not know.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
5. If a husband forces his wife to have sex, it should not be considered a crime.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
6. If a man pays all the dating expenses, it is justifiable for him to have sex with her against her will.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
7. It is acceptable for a man to force sex on a woman if they have dated a long time.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
8. If a husband forces his wife to have sex it can be considered rape.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
9. If a man has not had sex in a long time he is not responsible for forcing his date to have sex.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
10. Date "rape" is not really "real" rape.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
11. It is acceptable for a man to force sex on his date if she is stoned or drunk.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree

12. If a woman engages in kissing or petting and she lets things get out of hand, it is her own fault if her partner forces sex on her.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
13. It is less traumatic for a woman to be forced to have sex by a man she knows than to be forced by a stranger.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
14. Rape cannot occur between two people who are married.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
15. If a woman asks a man out she is asking for sex.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
16. If a woman asks a man out it is more acceptable for him to have sex with her against her will than if he asked her out.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
17. The longer a man and woman date, the more acceptable it is for him to force her to have sex.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
18. When a woman agrees to marry a man, she is agreeing to have sex with him any time he desires.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
19. A man is not responsible for forcing his date to have sex against her will if he is drunk or stoned.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
20. Once a woman consents to sexual intercourse, a man is correct in assuming he has the right to expect sexual intercourse on every date thereafter.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
21. It is acceptable for a man to force sex on a woman if he spends a lot of money on her.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
22. Wives often withhold sex from their husbands as punishment; therefore, it is acceptable for husbands to force their wives to have sex against their will.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree

23. Date rape is not a serious crime.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
24. If a woman "fools around" with her date she is automatically consenting to have sexual intercourse.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree
25. A wife does not have the right to refuse sexual advances from her husband.
Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 Strongly agree

(Please have 26a and 26b add up to 100%)

When a woman claims she has been forced to have sex by someone she knows,

- 26a. What percentage of the time would you generally say **she is responsible?**
100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 %
- 26b. What percentage of the time do you believe the man is generally responsible?
100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 %

Background Information

- A. Sex:
1 _____ male 2 _____ female
- B. Age:
1 _____ 18-20 4 _____ 27-29
2 _____ 21-23 5 _____ 30-35 7 _____ over 40
3 _____ 24-26 6 _____ 36-40
- C. Student status:
1 _____ freshman 4 _____ senior
2 _____ sophomore 5 _____ graduate
3 _____ junior 6 _____ other
- D. Marital status:
1 _____ single 2 _____ married
- If you are single, are you currently:
1 _____ in no steady dating relationship
2 _____ in a steady dating relationship
3 _____ engaged to be married
- E. Religious preference:
1 _____ Protestant 4 _____ other religious preference
2 _____ Catholic 5 _____ no religious preference
3 _____ Jewish

- F. Fraternity/Sorority involvement (answer "yes" if you are an "active" or a "pledge")
1_____ yes 2_____ no
- G. a. Have you had anyone force sex on you against your will?
1_____ yes 2_____ no
- b. Have you had anyone attempt to force sex on you against your will?
1_____ yes 2_____ no
- c. Have you ever had sex with someone only because you were afraid physical force would be used against you if you didn't go along?
1_____ yes 2_____ no
- d. Have you ever forced sex on anyone against their will?
1_____ yes 2_____ no
- e. Have you ever attempted to force anyone into having sex against their will?
1_____ yes 2_____ no
- f. Do you think date rape is a serious problem on this college campus?
1_____ yes 2_____ no
- g. Would you be interested in more rape prevention classes/activities etc. on this campus?
1_____ yes 2_____ no

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