

INFLUENCES ON INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE PERCEPTION

Intimate Partner Violence: Do Romantic Jealousy and Sexual Prejudices Influence Our Perception of Same-Sex and Opposite-Sex IPV?

Kira Lanze

Bachelor's Thesis

Faculty of Behavioural, Management and Social Sciences

Department of Positive Psychology and Technology

University of Twente

Supervision and Examination Committee

Charlotte van Lotringen

dr. Pelin Gül

July 2021

Abstract

Introduction: Next to being a violation of human rights, intimate partner violence (IPV) is primarily a feature of (thwarted) sexual relationships. It is equally prevalent in opposite- as well as same-sex relationships. Romantic jealousy, as part of romantic beliefs, of those not perpetrating IPV seems to lower perceived seriousness of the violent act. Similarly, the sexuality of a couple seems to do the same, whereby same-sex IPV incidents are usually seen as less severe or deserving of criminal prosecution, due to sexual prejudices still being prevalent, even today. Consequently, it is hypothesised that participants will rate an opposite-sex IPV scenario, induced by a partner's infidelity and resulting jealousy, as worse than a same-sex counterpart. Moreover, these IPV judgements are expected to stand in relationship with participants' romantic jealousy as well as their sexual prejudices.

Methods: The research conducted was an experimental, quantitative survey study with a between-subject design. In the end, 100 responses could be analysed. Used measures were the multidimensional jealousy scale and attitudes towards homosexuality scale (ATHS). Additionally, a self-compiled questionnaire measuring IPV perception was used, consisting of 8-items assessing perpetrator perception, perceived seriousness and whether the perpetrator should be punished.

Results: The results of Pearson's correlation revealed no significant relationships between the variables. However, an independent-samples t-test identified the expected significant differences in IPV perception between a same- and opposite sex IPV scenario that opposite-sex IPV is seen as more serious. Moreover, additional ANOVA and correlational analyses revealed no significant relationships between demographic variables and romantic jealousy scores. However, demographics (except age) and sexual prejudices did correlate.

Discussion: Results revealed that the opposite-sex scenario was seen as significantly more severe than the same-sex scenario. However, this study did not find romantic jealousy or sexual prejudices to influence this effect. It is hypothesised that the non-significant correlations are partly attributable to the homogeneity of the sample. Nevertheless, after implementing the described suggestions, future studies could offer valuable insights into IPV research, which might be transferable to wider contexts such as IPV prevention as well as intervention.

Keywords: Intimate Partner Violence, LGBTQ+, Romantic Jealousy, Sexual Prejudices

Table of Contents

Introduction	4
Same-Sex and Opposite-Sex IPV	4
Romantic Jealousy.....	4
Romantic Jealousy and IPV Perception	5
Sexual Prejudices	6
Sexual Prejudices and Same-Sex IPV	6
The Present Research	7
Methods.....	8
Design.....	8
Participants	8
Materials.....	9
Consent Form and Debriefing.....	9
Scenarios.....	9
Questionnaires.....	10
IPV Judgements.....	10
Dispositional Jealousy.....	10
Sexually Prejudiced Attitudes.....	11
Procedure.....	11
Data Analysis	12
Results	13
Descriptive Statistics	13
Hypothesis 1: Independent-Samples T-Test	15
Hypothesis 2: Pearson’s Correlation	16
Hypothesis 3: Pearson’s Correlation	16
Additional Analyses	16
Romantic Jealousy.....	16
Dispositional Jealousy Subscales	17
Sexual Prejudices.....	17
Discussion	18
Theoretical Reflection	19
Hypothesis 1.....	19
Hypothesis 2.....	19
Hypothesis 3.....	20
Strengths and Limitations.....	21
Implications for Future Research	22
References	24

Appendix A: Introduction Statement Survey Study.....	28
Appendix B: Debriefing Statement.....	29
Appendix C: IPV Scenarios	30
Appendix D: Questionnaire IPV Scenario Perceptions.....	31
Appendix E: Multidimensional Jealousy Scale.....	32
Appendix F: Attitudes Towards Homosexuality Scale (ATHS).....	33
Appendix G: Validity Analysis Questionnaires	34
Appendix H: Additional Analysis– Sexually Prejudiced Attitudes	41

Apart from intimate partner violence (IPV) being a violation of human rights, it is primarily a feature of (thwarted) sexual relationships. Featuring physical, sexual, or emotional abuse, either independently or simultaneously, it is one of the most frequently experienced forms of violence (Jewkes, 2002; Capaldi et al. 2012; Costa et al., 2013; Mazza et al., 2020). Physical IPV might well be the most recognisable form and is generally seen as worse than the other forms (Minto et al., 2021). The expressed aggressions towards a romantic partner are often deployed as a tactic to solve relationship conflict or as an expression of frustration or anger. These are mostly caused by worries regarding a partner's infidelity, also known as romantic jealousy (Jewkes, 2002; Capaldi et al., 2012; Rodriguez et al. 2015). Nevertheless, within IPV research and prevention, the perception of infidelity, as well as romantic jealousy, are largely undertheorized and -utilised (Pichon et al., 2020).

Same-Sex and Opposite-Sex IPV

Despite various causes of IPV, romantic jealousy seems to be the most frequent and is equally prevalent in same- and opposite-sex relationships (Bevan & Lannutti, 2002). Furthermore, studies found that the estimated lifetime prevalence rates of physical violence, rape and stalking in heterosexual relationships are equal to those of same-sex couples (Carvalho et al., 2011; Stanziani et al., 2018). Still, IPV remains an underreported matter, especially for victims belonging to the LGBTQ+ community due to fear of prejudice and rejection (Costa et al., 2013; Stanziani et al., 2018; Mazza et al., 2020). Even today sexual prejudices are very common. Resulting from that, cases of same-sex IPV are oftentimes given less attention or judged as less harmful than heterosexual cases (Calton et al., 2016; Stanziani et al., 2018). As romantic jealousy and sexual prejudices pose to be loaded with strong emotions, this study will examine how individuals rate jealousy-induced physical IPV in same- compared to opposite-sex couples. It is hypothesized that participants' own romantic jealousy and sexual prejudices are a significant influence on how they perceive and base their judgments on IPV occurring in couples with different sexualities. This hypothesis is derived from and will be further augmented by a synthesis of research and theory on intimate partner violence in hetero- as well as homosexual couples, sexual prejudices, and romantic jealousy.

Romantic Jealousy

In the context of this research, romantic jealousy may be defined as a complex psychological system activated by a perceived threat including the fear of a third party taking over one's place in an intimate relationship (Pichon et al., 2020). Hereby, its main function is to maintain a relationship by deterring the rival from mate poaching or the partner from infidelity or leaving the relationship (Kaufman-Parks et al., 2019; Pichon et al., 2020).

Nevertheless, common outcomes of expressed jealousy are usually further distress, conflict, withdrawal, and aggression. More precisely, anxious and possessive forms of jealousy were found to be positively associated with detrimental relationship outcomes, such as abusing the romantic partner (Kaufman-Parks et al., 2019).

Notably, romantic jealousy consists of an array of emotions, that may vary across cultures. These include, but are not limited to, anger, insecurity, shame, and humiliation (Pichon et al., 2020). In addition to that, Rodriguez et al. (2015) point out that romantic jealousy is present only if there is a certain level of emotional commitment in the romantic relationship. Moreover, Bevan and Lannutti (2002) explain that romantic jealousy is usually expressed through communication attempts or violent outbursts. This occurs regardless of the couple's sexuality.

Romantic Jealousy and IPV Perception

Besides being a main trigger of IPV, romantic jealousy also counts as a major force behind legitimising violent acts against a romantic partner. Rodriguez's et al. (2015) found that people conceptualise jealousy in different ways, namely either positive or negative. The traditional, negative, conceptualisation is usually characterised by depressive thoughts, low self-esteem and even spite towards the romantic partner. Positive jealousy on the other hand is associated with a partner's commitment and desire for monogamy. Therefore, emotional distress is caused when a partner is sexually involved with another person (Rodriguez et al., 2015).

Normally when confronted with violence, people tend to label it as bad behaviour, and if occurring within a relationship, as a lack of love. However, keeping Rodriguez et al.'s (2015) findings in mind, resulting violence in the context of jealousy is often seen as more justified, neutralising the meaning of the aggressive act (Puente & Cohen, 2003; Minto et al., 2021). Research participants in a study by Puente and Cohen (2003) judged jealousy in a relationship as immature, yet still rated expressed jealousy as a sign of love. To go even further, in two of the three study conditions, the abusive-jealous partner was seen as more loving than the partner who was merely jealous but not abusive. Interestingly, when directly confronted with the 'jealousy as an expression of love' idea, the same participants tended to reject this construct (Puente & Cohen, 2003). Supporting this, other research findings associated jealousy with being beneficial for a romantic relationship, as IPV is less identified as such, if induced through romantic jealousy (Minto et al., 2021).

Besides, one's own romantic jealousy might be equally indicative of IPV perception. On a more abstract level, Papp et al. (2017) demonstrated a positive indirect association of

women's endorsement of romantic beliefs, which include jealousy, and their experience of IPV. Hereby, those participants with stronger romantic beliefs were generally more likely to romanticise for instance controlling behaviours (Papp et al., 2017). Following this, these findings suggest that endorsing romantic beliefs, and thus also romantic jealousy, might lead to a failure of recognising certain abusive behaviours or normalise and misinterpreting violent acts as romantic.

Sexual Prejudices

Just as romantic jealousy induced IPV incidents are rated as more justified and less severe, so are IPV incidents in same-sex relationships compared to opposite-sex IPV cases. Thereby, public judgements also play a significant role in whether a victim decides to report an IPV incident. Thus, taking a closer look at sexual prejudices might explain outsider's common judgement differences between same-sex and opposite-sex IPV.

Usually held by heterosexuals, sexual prejudices can be defined as the internalisation of cultural stigma, which manifest themselves in form of negative attitudes towards individuals inheriting a membership of a sexual minority group, including same-sex desires and behaviours (Herek & McLemore, 2013). Based on cultural stigma, sexual prejudices are reinforced by power or status differences and set on beliefs, as well as past experiences (Costa et al., 2018). In a study aimed at documenting prevalence rates and development of sexual prejudices among Europeans towards same-gender marriage, considerable variations from country to country were identified. The Netherlands and Sweden hereby posed to be the most supportive and accepting countries, whereas mostly Soviet states showed to be least supportive (Costa et al., 2018). Nevertheless, like any conception, sexual prejudices may occur in any setting, even in progressive and supportive ones.

Sexual Prejudices and Same-Sex IPV

Oftentimes, when brought to the attention of law enforcement, same-sex IPV receives significantly less support in comparison to heterosexual counterpart cases (Calton et al., 2016). In alliance with that, police officers are also less likely to intervene in gay and lesbian abuse cases. Hereby, often arresting both or even the nonviolent partner (Calton et al., 2016). Following from that, it is not surprising that same-sex IPV remains mostly unreported.

Generally, studies suggest that heterosexual IPV cases are evaluated as more severe and deserving of criminal prosecution than homosexual cases (Calton et al., 2016; Stanziani et al., 2018). Research investigating judgments of a jury in an IPV trial implies that men are commonly perceived as more violent. Moreover, violence against women is usually considered as more serious regardless of the women's sexual orientation. It is hypothesised

that these judgements are influenced by the juror's exposure to same- and opposite-sex interactions (Herek & McLemore, 2013; Stanziani et al., 2018). To conclude, prior studies uncovered that oftentimes the perceived severity of an IPV incident or need for legal persecution was influenced or dependent on the couples' sexual orientation and the judges' degree of acceptance of non-hetero relationships.

The Present Research

As can be derived from the information given above, intimate partner violence caused by romantic jealousy is a highly emotional, as well as subjective, matter. Based on Papp et al.'s (2017) findings, an individual's own level of romantic jealousy might be influential in how they judge an IPV incident. Hence, determining the mechanisms behind judgements on IPV can be beneficial in understanding current IPV motives as well as behavioural patterns, also in same-sex relationships. Especially since perceptions of people not involved in IPV acts are strong predictors of whether a person is going to report an incident (Calton et al., 2016), investigating outsiders' judgements will give insight into a generally understudied field. With these starting points, the research question can be formulated as follows: *“What is the relationship between romantic jealousy, sexual prejudices and perceptions of physical IPV and do these relationships differ for same- and opposite sex couples?”*.

Previously, Gül and Schuster (2020) investigated the influence of cultural variables on sexual aggression in a romantic relationship provoked by infidelity. They indicated the influence and interaction between several factors on IPV judgements such as contextual variables and characteristics of the victim. Based on Gül and Schuster's (2020) study design, the research question will be examined with an experimental between-subject design where participants will be confronted with either a same- or opposite-sex IPV scenario. With the use of a survey, the participants' sexual prejudice and romantic jealousy scores will be analysed according to the scenario the participants were assigned to. From the conducted literature search, several hypotheses and predictions can be made.

H1: Participants will generally judge the heterosexual IPV scenario as worse than the homosexual scenario. Hereby, the heterosexual perpetrator is seen as less sympathetic, the incident as more serious and a higher need to punish the heterosexual perpetrator is recorded.

H2: Participants' romantic jealousy (i.e., dispositional jealousy) levels are expected to influence the participants' perception of the severity of the illustrated IPV incident. High levels of romantic jealousy imply generally more justified rated IPV than low levels of romantic jealousy.

H3: Participants' sexual prejudice levels influence their level of perceived severity of an IPV incident between same-sex partners, whereby higher sexual prejudice scores indicate lower severity judgements for the same-sex IPV scenario.

Methods

Design

This study is quantitative and has an experimental between-subject design. Hereby, participants were randomly assigned to a scenario portraying physical IPV of either an opposite- or same-sex couple. Notably, the only manipulations made were the difference between the scenario actors' sexuality and thus the gender of the victim. The relationship between the participants' romantic jealousy- as well as sexual prejudices levels and their judgements regarding the different IPV incidents were examined. Besides, the study further aimed to identify differences between judgments of a same-sex and opposite-sex IPV scenario. Consequently, IPV perception, consisting of perpetrator, seriousness and punishment, functions as the dependent variable (DV). Independent variables (IV) are the sexuality of the actors of the IPV scenario and participant's romantic jealousy (i.e., dispositional jealousy) as well as sexual prejudice levels.

Participants

In total 137 participants were recruited for this study via convenience sampling. Data was collected over 4 weeks. After excluding incomplete cases the sample consisted of 107 respondents. Afterwards, 7 participants had to be excluded as they did not pass the attention check questions. The remaining 100 participants included 73 females (73%) and 25 males (25%), one participant self-described themselves as 'Nonbinary (Transmasculine)' (1%) and another preferred to not state their gender (1%). Participants aged between 18 and 42 ($M = 21,69$; $SD = 3,07$). They originated from Germany (72%), the Netherlands (19%) and other countries (9%). Of these participants 76 (76%) indicated to be heterosexual, 3 (3%) homosexual, 17 (17%) bisexual and 4 (4%) decided to self-describe their sexuality. Named were pansexual (50%), mostly heterosexual with bisexual tendencies (25%) and queer (25%). To be able to participate, moderate to good English skills were required. All participants volunteered and were recruited either from the BMS Psychology faculty's test subject pool or directly contacted by the researcher. Participants recruited via the BMS subject pool were granted .25 SONA credits. This research was reviewed and approved by the BMS Ethics Committee of the University of Twente on the 11th of April 2021.

Materials

In order to execute the study, the following materials, consisting of consent- and debriefing forms, scenarios and three questionnaires, were used. Participants were confronted with the materials in the given order.

Consent Form and Debriefing. Participants were provided with a consent form informing them about the general aim of the study (Appendix A). Moreover, a trigger warning was implemented as IPV, and the discrimination of minorities are sensitive topics which might affect certain participants. The consent form stressed the anonymous nature of this research, as well as the confidential treatment of the participants' answers. In addition to that, they were notified that they could withdraw from the study at any given point. Moreover, in case of any occurring questions they were provided with the researcher's as well as Ethics Committee's email addresses. Finally, participants were asked to give their consent if they wanted to proceed to the study.

After finishing the study, participants were informed about the true nature of the research (Appendix B). The debriefing further included telephone numbers of crisis hotlines, as well as the opportunity for the participants to resign their consent. Since the majority of participants was expected to be Dutch or German, the available crisis hotlines consisted of German and Dutch organisations and services specialised in the help for violence victims, trauma and pastoral care. Beforehand, it was made sure that these hotlines would also offer English speaking advice. Behind the telephone numbers, the available languages were listed in brackets.

Scenarios. The scenarios the participants were confronted with were inspired by a study conducted by Gül and Schuster (2020). The taken scenario deals with an intimate partner violence incident caused by romantic jealousy (Appendix C).

However, for the purposes of this research the original scenario was altered in terms of the actors' sexuality, relationship type and perpetrated violence (see Appendix C). In the original scenario, the IPV act incorporated sexual violence which was not suitable for this study. Hence, that was changed to physical violence perpetration. Moreover, in the original scenario, only one heterosexual couple was displayed. For the current study, another homosexual version was added, so that participants could be either confronted with a hetero- or homosexual scenario. Furthermore, in the original scenario it was stated that the romantic partners were married for a couple of years. Since gay marriage was not legalised until recently or still is illegal in some countries, the marriage status in both scenarios was changed

into a regular romantic relationship to keep it more realistic. Consequently, the only difference between the displayed scenarios in the current study is the actors' sexuality.

In both scenarios, the heterosexual (Tom and Emily), as well as the homosexual (Tom and Paul) version, 'Tom' represented the perpetrator. The storyline is as follows. First, the general situation is described, including the relationship status of 'Tom' and 'Emily'/'Paul'. Furthermore, reasons that led to 'Emily's'/'Paul's' infidelity are specified. Next it is described how 'Tom' finds out about his girlfriend's/boyfriend's affair and eventually confronts them. Finally, the resulting violence act is illustrated.

Questionnaires. Participants had to fill in questionnaires regarding their perception of the given scenario, romantic jealousy (i.e., dispositional jealousy), as well as sexually prejudiced attitudes (Appendix D, E, F). In all questionnaires at least one attention check question was added. An example of such a question is "This is an attention check question. If you are reading this, please select "rarely".". "

IPV Judgements. In order to measure the participants' perception of the IPV scenario, 8 items taken from Gül and Schuster (2020), Capezza and Arriaga (2008) and Vandello and Cohen (2003) were used (Appendix D). Answer possibilities ranged on a 7-point Likert scale from 1 (not at all) to 7 (very). Of the chosen 8 items, 4 aimed at assessing the participants' perception of the perpetrator ("How justified was Tom's behaviour?"). Estimated reliability measures show a Cronbach's alpha of .81 for the opposite-sex condition (OS-IPV) and .79 for the same-sex condition (SS-IPV). Another 2 items measured the incident's severity/seriousness ("How serious was the incident?", $\alpha_{OS-IPV} = .57$; $\alpha_{SS-IPV} = .56$). The remaining 2 items measured whether the perpetrator should be punished ("How strongly do you think should Tom be held criminally liable for the incident?", $\alpha_{OS-IPV} = .63$; $\alpha_{SS-IPV} = .74$).¹

Dispositional Jealousy. The participants' dispositional (i.e., romantic) jealousy was assessed by using items taken from the Multidimensional Jealousy Scale, which can be categorised by emotional, cognitive, and behavioural means (Pfeiffer & Wong, 1989). For this study's purpose, however, only the 16 items of the emotional and cognitive subscales

¹ Total score analysis revealed generally equal distributions for perception of the perpetrator- and seriousness items. However, punishment had rather unequal distributions. Factor analysis suggested a three-factor solution. (Eigenvalues $_{OS-IPV} = 3.12, 1.12$; Eigenvalues $_{SS-IPV} = 3.24, 1.19, 1.05$). Factor loadings $_{OS-IPV}$: perception of perpetrator: .58 – .73; seriousness: .41 – .86; punishment: .34 – .67. Factor loadings $_{SS-IPV}$: perception of perpetrator: .72 – .94; seriousness: .59 – .72; punishment: .52 – .83 (Appendix G).

were used (Appendix E). The participants were asked to respond to the items with their current, or if single, a past or imaginary romantic partner in mind. For the emotional subscale (8 items), respondents were asked to consider their emotional reactions to varying situations. For instance, “X smiles in a very friendly manner to another man/woman.”. On a 7-point Likert scale, responses ranged from 1 (*not upset at all*) to 7 (*extremely upset*). Filling in the cognitive subscale (8 items), participants were asked to indicate how often specific thoughts regarding their partner occurred. An example of a sample item is “I worry that X is secretly seeing another man/woman.”. Again, responses ranged from 1 (*never*) to 7 (*all the time*). Finally, a general jealousy score was attained by averaging the 16 items. Overall, the authors of the scale cite that the scale possesses a Cronbach’s alpha of above 0.82 (Pfeiffer & Wong, 1989, as cited in Tošić-Radev & Hedrih, 2017). In addition to that, validity measures showed to be adequate as well (Tošić-Radev & Hedrih, 2017). Confirming this, similar measures for all 16 items and the subscales were calculated ($\alpha = .88$; $\alpha_{emotional} = .85$, $\alpha_{cognitive} = .90$).²

Sexually Prejudiced Attitudes. To determine the participants’ sexually prejudiced attitudes, the short version of the Attitudes Towards Homosexuality Scale (ATHS) was used (Appendix F). Participants had to indicate their level of agreement for 16 statements, thematising feelings towards either homosexual people or homosexuality in general. An example of an item is “Homosexuality is a natural expression of affection and sexuality.”. Answer possibilities were ranging from 1 (*strongly disagree*) to 7 (*strongly agree*) on a Likert scale. This scale was chosen as previous analysis of the ATHS’ reliability revealed a strong Cronbach’s alpha coefficient ($\alpha = .97$), which indicates a solid internal consistency (Anderson et al., 2018). In addition to that, validity measures showed to be equally good (Anderson et al., 2018). The current study was able to identify similar measures ($\alpha_{SS-IPV} = .84$).³ Notably, a higher score on this scale represents more acceptance of homosexuals, whereas a lower score implies a more negative attitude.

Procedure

To be able to participate in this research, participants were provided with a link leading to the Qualtrics questionnaire. After opening the link, participants were introduced to

² Total scores distribution for dispositional jealousy showed to be roughly equally distributed. After conducting factor analysis, the scree plot suggested a two-factor solution (Eigenvalues = 6.13, 2.90, 1.23). Factor loadings: .52 – .86 & .60 – .77 (Appendix G).

³ For the same sex condition total scores of the ATHS scale showed to be roughly normally distributed. Also, the scree plot of the factor analysis implied 1 factor to explain these items (Eigenvalues = 5.79, 1.77, 1.38, 1.33, 1.02). Factor loadings $_{SS-IPV}$: .53 – .77 (Appendix G). As this questionnaire is only applicable to the same-sex condition data, the opposite-sex condition was not further examined.

the study and warned that its content might be triggering. If they wanted to proceed nonetheless, they had to give their informed consent. Then, participants were randomly assigned to either the hetero- or homosexual scenario and asked to carefully read the presented IPV scenario. 43 participants were assigned to the same-sex scenario⁴, whereas 57 were confronted with the opposite-sex scenario⁵. Afterwards, participants were asked to indicate their impressions of the IPV incident in the 8-item questionnaire measuring their judgements. Following that, they had to fill in the 16 romantic jealousy- and 16 sexual prejudices items. The items in the questionnaires themselves were randomised. After completing all three questionnaires, the respondents had to indicate their demographics, including age, gender, nationality, and sexuality. Finally, in the debriefing, they were informed about the true nature of this research and provided with five Dutch and German help hotlines. Moreover, the participants had to again give their consent for the researcher to use their data. On average, participants needed 27 minutes to complete all questionnaires.

Data Analysis

In order to analyse the obtained data, SPSS was used. First, incomplete answers as well as those cases who did not give their second consent and did not pass the attention check questions were filtered out. Then average scores of dispositional jealousy, sexually prejudiced attitudes as well as IPV perception were aggregated. Thereby, IPV perception was divided into its three sub themes, perception of the perpetrator, seriousness, and punishment. Afterwards by using boxplots, cases were screened to identify extreme or unusual answers. To avoid a distortion of the results, cases with values 1.5 times the standard deviation were subsequently excluded, if they significantly affected the resulting outcome. Additionally, the given variables were correlated with each other to get a general overview of the obtained data. One item measuring perceptions of the perpetrator needed to be recoded (see Appendix D). Moreover, 10 of the ATHS items were reversed before they could be analysed (see Appendix F).

⁴ Consisting of 30 females and 11 males. 1 decided to self-describe and 1 preferred to not state their gender. Respondents aged between 18 and 26 ($M = 21$; $SD = 1.70$), originating from Germany (76.7%), the Netherlands (14 %) and other countries (9.3%). 34 (79.1%) indicated to be heterosexual, 2 (4.7%) homosexual, 6 (14%) bisexual, and 1 (2.3%) self-described themselves.

⁵ This condition consisted of 43 females and 14 males. Respondents aged between 18 and 42 ($M = 22.21$; $SD = 3.72$), originating from Germany (68.4%), the Netherlands (22.8 %) and other countries (8.8%). 42 (73.7%) indicated to be heterosexual, 1 (1.8%) homosexual, 11 (19.3%) bisexual, and 3 (5.3%) self-described themselves.

Hypothesis 1: An independent-samples t-test was used to evaluate differences in the perception of IPV incidences between a hetero- and homosexual couple (IV). Compared were the responses to the perpetrator perception items (DV), as well as perceived seriousness (DV) and in how far the perpetrator should be punished (DV). Effect sizes around .20 were considered small. If the effect size varied around .50 it was seen as medium and from a value of .80 as large (Dunst et al., 2004).

Hypothesis 2: The data set was split to be able to analyse the two conditions separately. Pearson's Correlation was conducted in order to evaluate possible relations between participants romantic jealousy (i.e., dispositional jealousy) scores (IV) and their perception of the assigned IPV incident (DV), including perpetrator perception, seriousness and punishment of the perpetrator.

Hypothesis 3: Finally, for the same-sex condition it was assessed whether correlations between the IPV perception themes (perpetrator, seriousness, punishment; DV) and sexual prejudices (IV) exist. This was done by conducting Pearson's correlation as well.

Results

First, descriptive statistics were conducted, including identifying possible outliers and general correlations among the variables. Next, the hypotheses were tested. Finally, additional analyses were conducted.

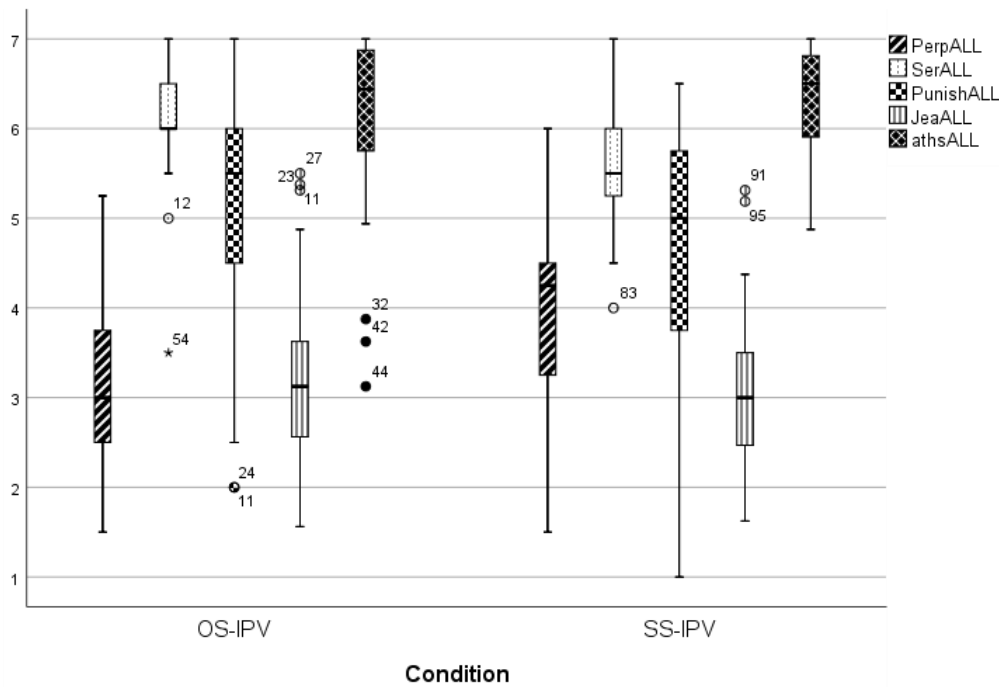
Descriptive Statistics

To screen for possible outliers, boxplots were created and are presented below. Displayed are all considered variables per condition. Namely, the opposite-sex scenario (OS-IPV) and same-sex scenario (SS-IPV). Moreover, the perception of the displayed IPV incident, consisting of the perception of the perpetrator (PerpALL), the seriousness of the scenario (SerALL) and if the perpetrator should be punished (PunishALL) are demonstrated. In addition to that, the participants levels of sexual prejudices (athsALL) as well as romantic jealousy scores (JeaALL) are displayed.

As indicated in Figure 1, participants 11, 12, 23, 24, 27, 32, 42, 44, 54, 83, 91 and 95 are outliers, $SD > 1.5$. Participants 32, 42 and 44 are outliers for sexual prejudices towards homosexuals in the opposite-sex scenario condition. Since prejudices were not analysed in that condition and they are only outliers for the ATHS scale, they will be kept in the analysis. Regarding the remaining outliers, analysis has shown that excluding them only had negligible effects. Hence, the remaining outliers were included in the analysis as well.

Figure 1

Boxplots of PerpALL, SerALL, PunishALL, athsALL and JeaALL per condition



Note. Circles = values 1.5x IQR; Stars = values 3x IQR. $N_{OS-IPV} = 57$, $N_{SS-IPV} = 43$.

Following that, the correlations of the demographic variable age, the three IPV perception variables and romantic jealousy items were investigated. These included age as well as perception of the perpetrator (PerpALL), seriousness (SerALL) and punishment (PunishALL) and the overall generated jealousy score. As can be taken from Table 1, in the opposite-sex condition (OS-IPV) there were significant correlations between general perpetrator perception and the seriousness of the incident, $r = -.39$, p (two-tailed) = .003, as well as whether the perpetrator should be punished, $r = -.56$, p (two-tailed) = .00. Moreover, perceived seriousness was strongly correlated with punishment, $r = .41$, p (two-tailed) = .002. Yet, neither of the other variables seemed to correlate with the given variables, p (two-tailed) > .05.

Table 1

Means (M), Standard Deviations (SD), and Correlation between the Variables; OS-IPV

Variables	M	SD	1	2	3	4	5
PerpALL	3.13	.96	1				
SerALL	6.16	.63	-.39**	1			

PunishALL	5.18	1.17	-.56**	.00	1		
Age	22.21	3.72	.02	.26	.11	1	
JeaALL	3.18	.90	.07	.17	-.03	.21	1

Note. ** $p < .01$; * $p < .05$. $N = 57$.

Table 2 portrays the variables' correlations among the participants in the second, same-sex, condition (SS-IPV). Here the variable of sexually prejudiced attitudes of the participants (athsALL) was added. Again, perpetrator perception appeared to negatively correlate with perception of IPV seriousness, $r = -.42$, $p = .006$ and punishment, $r = -.43$, $p = .004$. Moreover, punishment positively correlated with seriousness, $r = .61$, $p = .00$. Age and sexually prejudiced attitudes do not correlate significantly with any of the other variables.

Table 2

Means (M), Standard Deviations (SD), and Correlation between the Variables; SS-IPV

Variables	M	SD	1	2	3	4	5	6
PerpALL	3.97	.97	1					
SerALL	5.67	.71	-.39**	1				
PunishALL	4.55	1.35	-.56**	.61**	1			
Age	21	1.70	.02	.26	.11	1		
JeaALL	1.81	.59	.01	-.01	-.08	-.01	1	
athsALL	1.40	.82	-.07	.09	.04	-.12	-.19	1

Note. ** $p < .01$; * $p < .05$. $N = 43$.

Hypothesis 1: Independent-Samples T-Test

To identify differences in judgement on same- and opposite-sex IPV, an independent samples t-test was performed. As can be taken from Table 1 and 2, all judgement measures, except for perception of the perpetrator, have higher means for the opposite-sex IPV scenario. On average, participants perceived the perpetrator of the same-sex condition as more positive ($M = 4.17$, $SE = .13$) than the heterosexual perpetrator ($M = 3.49$, $SE = .13$). This difference was significant $t(98) = -4.33$, $p = .00$ with a negative large-sized effect of $d = -.81$. The incident's seriousness was judged as stronger in the opposite-sex condition ($M = 6.16$, $SE = .63$) in comparison to the same-sex condition ($M = 5.67$, $SE = .11$). This difference was significant as well $t(98) = 3.59$, $p = .001$ and had a medium effect size of $d = .69$. Finally, the participants on average saw a greater need to punish the heterosexual perpetrator ($M = 5.18$,

$SE = .16$) than the homosexual perpetrator ($M = 4.55, SE = .21$). This difference was significant $t(98) = 2.48, p = .015$. In addition to that, it represented a medium sized effect of $d = .49$. Significant mean differences indicate that there are indeed judgement differences between same-sex and opposite-sex IPV cases, which confirms the first hypothesis.

Hypothesis 2: Pearson's Correlation

As can be seen in Table 1 and 2, no significant correlations between perpetrator perception (PerpALL) and overall dispositional (i.e., romantic) jealousy could be identified, $r_{OS-IPV} = .07, p = .625; r_{SS-IPV} = .01, p = .968$. The same also counts for seriousness/severity perception (SerALL), $r_{OS-IPV} = .17, p = .204; r_{SS-IPV} = -.01, p = .931$, and whether the perpetrator should be punished (PunishALL), $r_{OS-IPV} = -.03, p = .841; r_{SS-IPV} = -.08, p = .599$, and the overall dispositional jealousy score. To conclude, the second hypothesis can be rejected as no correlations between jealousy and IPV perception were found.

Hypothesis 3: Pearson's Correlation

Similarly, as indicated by Table 2, there were no significant correlations between perpetrator perception (PerpALL) as well as sexually prejudiced attitudes (athsALL) in the same-sex IPV condition, $r = -.07, p = .675$. Between perception of seriousness/severity (SerALL) and sexually prejudiced attitudes no significant correlations could be identified as well, $r = .09, p = .583$. Furthermore, there were no significant correlations between participants' perception of perpetrator punishment (PunishALL) and sexually prejudiced attitudes, $r = .04, p = .784$. Therefore, as no correlations between sexually prejudiced attitudes and IPV perception items could be found, the third hypothesis can be rejected as well.

Additional Analyses

If the examined variables had significant correlations, it would have been valuable to conduct regression analysis and further assess whether a moderation effect between romantic jealousy and sexual prejudices can be identified. However, as none of the previous analyses had significant effects, participants were examined further in order to check for possible irregularities that might be accountable for the non-significant results.

Romantic Jealousy. Hence, it was calculated whether romantic jealousy (i.e., dispositional jealousy) levels generally vary among the participants in relation to their indicated demographics by using an UNIANOVA. Results revealed that the four sexuality groups did not significantly differ in their levels of general romantic jealousy, $F(3,96) = .96, p = .415$. When comparing romantic jealousy scores among the named genders, no significant difference could be identified, $F(1,96) = 1.28, p = .285$. Hence, gender did not have a

significant effect on romantic jealousy measures. Next, romantic jealousy scores among the different nationalities were assessed. Nevertheless, none of the differences were significant, $F(2,97) = .62, p = .539$. Consequently, romantic jealousy is not affected by the recorded nationalities. Finally, the participants' mean scores of romantic jealousy among the named age groups were examined. However, none of the differences were significant, $F(2,95) = 1.61, p = .184$. Hence, the participants' age also does not account for their romantic jealousy scores.

Dispositional Jealousy Subscales. Next to that, by conducting Pearson's correlation, it was examined whether the two jealousy subscales independently influenced IPV judgements (Table 3). However, neither for the cognitive (CogALL) nor for the emotional subscale (EmoALL), significant correlations could be identified, $p > .05$. Consequently, emotional jealousy as well as cognitive jealousy do not influence the participants perception of the IPV incident.

Table 3

Correlations of Dispositional Jealousy Subscales with IPV Perception

Subscale		Condition	R	Sig. (2-tailed)
CogALL	PerpALL	OS-IPV	.04	.786
		SS-IPV	.06	.715
	SerALL	OS-IPV	.12	.390
		SS-IPV	.01	.962
	PunishALL	OS-IPV	.04	.746
		SS-IPV	-.03	.829
EmoALL	PerpALL	OS-IPV	.07	.594
		SS-IPV	.04	.783
	SerALL	OS-IPV	.17	.216
		SS-IPV	-.03	.857
	PunishALL	OS-IPV	-.09	.529
		SS-IPV	-.10	.532

Note. $N_{OS-IPV} = 57, N_{SS-IPV} = 43$.

Sexual Prejudices. After assessing dispositional jealousy differences, participants were examined in regard to their sexually prejudiced attitudes, again using an UNIANOVA. When analysing differences among sexualities, results revealed that the four groups differ

significantly in their levels of sexually prejudiced attitudes, whereby heterosexuals possess the lowest ($M = 6.11$, $SD = .78$) and bisexuals the highest score ($M = 6.75$, $SD = .38$), $F(3,96) = 4.38$, $p = .006$. Resulting from that, sexual prejudice levels seem to be affected by sexuality, whereby in this case heterosexuals possess the lowest sexual prejudice score compared to LGBTQ+ community members, indicating lower acceptance than community members. Moreover, sexual prejudices were compared among the indicated genders. Thereby, significant differences could be identified, $F(1,96) = 12.31$, $p = .00$. Males show the lowest score ($M = 5.58$, $SD = .97$) and the participant who self-described themselves as 'Nonbinary (Transmasculine)' the highest ($M = 6.88$). Consequently, gender did have a significant effect on sexual prejudice measures. Finally, no significant differences between the nationalities, $F(2,97) = 1.97$, $p = .145$, as well as age groups and sexually prejudiced attitudes could be identified, $F(2,95) = .281$, $p = .889$. Thus, nationality and age did not stand in any relationship with sexual prejudices in this study. For a detailed overview see Appendix H.

Discussion

Intimate partner violence is a very relevant and multifaceted topic that might affect anyone, regardless of sexual orientation. Besides being a typical cause, romantic jealousy as part of romantic beliefs, was found to influence a person's IPV experience, in terms of romanticising, and thereby legitimising, the violent act (Papp et al., 2017). Further, experience with LGBTQ+ members in prior research demonstrated that same-sex IPV was viewed as less harmful than opposite-sex IPV (Costa et al., 2018; Stanziani et al., 2018). Since the amount of interaction with LGBTQ+ members also is an indicator for sexual prejudices (Herek & McLemore, 2013), it was hypothesised that sexual prejudices would correlate with same-sex IPV judgements. Thus, the goal of this study was to examine the relationship between IPV perception of same- as well as opposite-sex couples and the variables romantic jealousy and sexual prejudices. Hereby, the influence of romantic jealousy and sexual prejudices on IPV perception was assessed. Overall, a significant difference of IPV perception between the two scenarios (same-sex IPV vs. opposite-sex IPV) could be identified. However, neither romantic jealousy nor sexual prejudices appear to have a significant influence on either of the three IPV perception themes. Moreover, exploratory research also showed no correlations between the demographic variables and romantic jealousy measures. Whereas all demographic variables, except for age, and nationality were correlating with sexual prejudices.

Theoretical Reflection

According to the obtained results, except for the first, neither of the formulated hypotheses could be confirmed. In the following, the results will be further explained and reflected upon with relevant literature.

Hypothesis 1. Beginning with the first hypothesis, stating that the opposite-sex IPV incident would be seen as worse than the same-sex scenario, all three IPV perception themes were filled out in favour of the homosexual perpetrator, which confirms the hypothesis. Hereby, the perpetrator in the opposite-sex condition was rated generally more negative than the one described in the same-sex scenario. Consistent with that, Russel et al. (2015) came to the conclusion that in general rather heterosexual males are labelled as IPV perpetrators than females or men in same-sex relationships. Moreover, respondents viewed the heterosexual scenario as more severe/serious than the same-sex scenario. These findings are in line with earlier cited literature, such as Stanziani et al. (2018) or Herek and McLemore (2013), who found that IPV against women is usually seen as more severe in comparison to men. This finding is unrelated to the in the IPV involved couple's sexuality, which was demonstrated in this study as well. In addition to that, a greater need for punishing the heterosexual perpetrator was recorded. This is congruent with Calton et al. (2016), who reported that, for instance, law enforcement provides significantly less assistance for same-sex IPV victims than heterosexual victims. Moreover, Stanziani et al. (2018) as well as Calton et al. (2016) state that in general same-sex IPV cases are evaluated as less deserving of criminal prosecution.

Although the cited studies had a largely similar research sample to the current study, except for sample size, the context in which these studies were set (USA) was substantially different to the current one. Considerable numbers of US citizens still hold negative attitudes towards LGBTQ+ community, which is not the case for the Netherlands (Herek & McLemore, 2013; Costa et al., 2018). Thus, despite similar participants, prior findings of same-sex IPV perception might be transferrable to accepting European settings as well.

Hypothesis 2. Next it was hypothesised that romantic jealousy would have an influence on the participants' judgements. Thereby, higher romantic jealousy (i.e., dispositional jealousy) scores were expected to indicate more acceptance or positive views on the IPV incident. However, in neither condition a significant correlation between perception and romantic jealousy could be identified. This is not in line with findings of Papp et al. (2017), who demonstrated an indirect relation between IPV experience and the endorsement of romantic beliefs, which jealousy is a part of. A study conducted by Minto et al. (2020) further revealed a significant association between a person's own romantic jealousy and

perceived abusiveness. However, this was only the case for non-physical abuse, which participants judged as less abusive if they themselves endorsed stronger romantic jealousy beliefs. Yet, for physical IPV this association was not found, which is in line with this study's outcome.

Nevertheless, it needs to be considered that in this research participants on average indicated relatively neutral to non-jealous scores, which might explain the non-significant correlations in both conditions. This was quite surprising as mostly young adults, who are more inclined to experience romantic jealousy due to limited relationship experience (Buss, 2013; Kaufman-Parks et al., 2019), participated in this study. However, as additional analysis showed, there were no significant correlations between age and romantic jealousy. Still, the age group was quite homogeneous, which might have made it complicated to identify such differences. For instance, there was only one participant who was significantly older than the majority, which is not a good representation for a whole age group.

Overall, no significant relationships between demographic variables and romantic jealousy could be identified, which is contradictory to prior research. For instance, Valentova et al. (2020) describe influences of gender, sexual orientation, and age on romantic jealousy. Moreover, Lecuona et al. (2021) point out in their discussion that factors, such as education, can bias the results, especially if there is not much variation among the participants. As explained earlier, this study made use of the University of Twente's Test Subject Pool SONA and recruited a considerable number of participants via this platform. Consequently, the respondents' similar and high education levels might have had an influence on the non-significant outcomes. Finally, although the questionnaire measuring romantic jealousy possessed good reliability, participants might have experienced problems imagining themselves in the statements, especially if they were not in a relationship themselves. Moreover, it is always a possibility that participants did not take the study too seriously, despite paying attention, and lied or answered in a socially desirable manner.

Hypothesis 3. The third hypothesis deals with the influence sexual prejudices might have on IPV perception. Based on obtained literature higher sexual prejudices were expected to belittle the presented IPV act of the same-sex condition. However, results of this study showed no significant relationships of attitudes towards homosexuals on IPV perception. To this point, there is no previous study known to have examined the relationship of sexual prejudices and IPV perception in same-sex relationships. Still, research implied that depending on the degree of experience with LGBTQ+ community members same-sex IPV is usually judged as less severe than opposite-sex counterparts (Costa et al., 2018; Stanziani et

al., 2018). Hereby, experience stands in close relation to sexual prejudices (Herek & McLemore, 2013). Thus, more experience with LGBTQ+ members implies lower sexual prejudices, whereas less experience accounts for stronger prejudices. Yet, it must be noted that sexual prejudices in itself is a very specific construct, which is based on cultural stigma and reinforced by power and past experiences (Herek & McLemore, 2013; Costa, 2018). It might be that the judgement differences of the IPV scenarios are generated by a more general construct that sexual prejudices are a part of but not sexual prejudices themselves. Related to that, findings of Hassounh and Glass (2008), for instance, revealed that gender role stereotyping shaped women's experiences of female same-sex IPV, whereby this type of IPV was often not identified as violence.

Still, in this research participants had notably low sexual prejudice scores and thereby very positive attitudes towards homosexuals. After examining possible relationships between sexually prejudiced attitudes and demographics, all, except for age and nationality, showed significant influences. This is consistent with West and Cowell (2015), who found no reliable correlation of age and antigay prejudice as well. Nevertheless, they found higher education to indicate fewer negative attitudes. Since the University of Twente's test subject pool SONA was utilised, a considerable amount of university students was part of the sample. Consequently, the little variation among the participants might account, at least partially, for the obtained non-significant results.

Strengths and Limitations

All in all, the procedure of the study went well, and a considerable number of responses could be collected for both conditions. Moreover, participants were relatively evenly split among the two conditions. In addition to that, the used questionnaires, except the items measuring seriousness, possess acceptable to good reliability as well as validity, thus the obtained results can be accredited (George & Mallery, 2003). Furthermore, the questionnaire was shared online and did not take much time to complete, which made it attractive for the participants to fill in.

Nevertheless, as any research, this current study also contains some noteworthy limitations. First, convenience sampling was used resulting in a very homogeneous sample, consisting of mostly young adults, from a generally very openminded area (Costa et. al, 2018). Due to the location of the university, mostly Dutch or German participants were gathered or respondents that are likely to live in this area despite a different nationality. This might have influenced the obtained results of the questionnaires. Generally, a more varying

sample is desirable as especially romantic jealousy measures are dependent on participants' demographics (Lecuona et al., 2021).

A further limitation was the naming of the actors of the same-sex scenario 'Tom' and 'Paul'. Feedback from participants indicated that the names were too similar and confused easily. Thus, it cannot be guaranteed that participants filled in the perception questionnaire thinking of the perpetrator. Hence, in the future such names should be made easier to differentiate. Also, for the perception questionnaire, more items per theme could imply additional facets or variability for its variables, which might be interesting to analyse.

Implications for Future Research

Despite the mentioned limitations, this research also holds important implications for future research. Firstly, this study was able to identify judgement differences between same-sex and opposite-sex IPV. However, it did not find the two examined variables as possible influences. Hence, advice for future research would be to further investigate underlying mechanisms of these judgements, especially since this study was conducted in such an accepting and openminded area (Costa et al., 2018). This might be done using questionnaires measuring something more subtle or general, that the examined variables are a part of.

For instance, Hassouneh and Glass (2008) showed that gender role stereotypes influence perception of lesbian IPV, so that it is less identified as such. Regarding romantic jealousy, Minto et al. (2020) concluded on their study's findings that especially judgments of people strongly endorsing romantic jealousy are influenced by their individual IPV schemas. These schemas are a person's mental conceptualisation of IPV and are responsible for whether an act is seen as violent or not (Minto et al., 2020). In relation to that, another interesting aspect might be to examine the way participants conceptualise romantic jealousy. As it is sometimes viewed as something positive and victims might not label the action of a violent partner as wrong as they perceive it as justified (Puenta & Cohen, 2003, Rodriguez's et al., 2015; Minto et al., 2020). Besides, it might also be interesting to examine other facets of these general constructs and such insights might be valuable for IPV prevention as well as intervention.

As described, romantic jealousy was found to romanticise non-physical IPV but is largely unconsidered in IPV prevention (Minto et al., 2020; Pichon et al., 2020). Thus, especially further insight into romantic jealousy might help to develop, establish, or advance existing services that inform potential IPV victims. By that, potential victims might be able to identify toxic behaviours or exit such a relationship before escalation. Moreover, as IPV incidents frequently find their way to court, elaborate insight into how judgements regarding

IPV under specific circumstances are formed might offer victims a better opportunity to acquire justice.

Alongside, more awareness for violence in same-sex relationships could be created. Following that, same-sex IPV could be seen as equally severe as opposite-sex IPV in the future. Further, same-sex IPV victims might be more encouraged to turn to authorities or other instances for help and support. Additionally, if the general view of the public changes, help services might also be able to adjust and consequently respond more appropriately if confronted with same-sex IPV. To conclude, this study contributed to a better understanding of IPV perception and shows opportunities for future research as well as practice in this important field.

References

- Bevan, J. L., & Lannutti, P. J. (2002). The experience and expression of romantic jealousy in same-sex and opposite-sex romantic relationships. *Communication Research Reports, 19*(3), 258-268. DOI: 10.1080/08824090209384854
- Buss, D. M. (2013). Sexual jealousy. *Psihologijske teme, 22*(2), 155-182.
- Calton, J. M., Cattaneo, L. B., & Gebhard, K. T. (2016). Barriers to help seeking for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer survivors of intimate partner violence. *Trauma, violence, & abuse, 17*(5), 585-600. DOI: 10.1177/1524838015585318
- Capaldi, D. M., Knoble, N. B., Shortt, J. W., & Kim, H. K. (2012). A systematic review of risk factors for intimate partner violence. *Partner abuse, 3*(2), 231-280. doi: 10.1891/1946-6560.3.2.231
- Capezza, N. M., & Arriaga, X. B. (2008). Factors associated with acceptance of psychological aggression against women. *Violence against women, 14*(6), 612-633. doi: 10.1177/1077801208319004
- Carvalho, A. F., Lewis, R. J., Derlega, V. J., Winstead, B. A., & Viggiano, C. (2011). Internalized sexual minority stressors and same-sex intimate partner violence. *Journal of Family Violence, 26*(7), 501-509. DOI 10.1007/s10896-011-9384-2
- Costa, D., Soares, J. J., Lindert, J., Hatzidimitriadou, E., Karlsson, A., Sundin, Ö., ... & Barros, H. (2013). Intimate partner violence in Europe: design and methods of a multinational study. *Gaceta Sanitaria, 27*, 558-561. DOI 10.1007/s00038-015-0663-1
- Costa, P. A., Carneiro, F. A., Esposito, F., D'Amore, S., & Green, R. J. (2018). Sexual prejudice in Portugal: Results from the first wave European study on heterosexual's attitudes toward same-gender marriage and parenting. *Sexuality Research and Social Policy, 15*(1), 99-110. DOI 10.1007/s13178-017-0292-y
- Dunst, C. J., Hamby, D. W., & Trivette, C. M. (2004). Guidelines for calculating effect sizes for practice-based research syntheses. *Centerscope, 3*(1), 1-10.

- George, D., & Mallery, P. (2003). Reliability analysis. SPSS for Windows, step by step: a simple guide and reference. Boston: Allyn & Bacon, 222, 232.
- Gül, P., & Schuster, I. (2020). Judgments of marital rape as a function of honor culture, masculine reputation threat, and observer gender: A cross-cultural comparison between Turkey, Germany, and the UK. *Aggressive behavior*, 46(4), 341-353. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ab.21893>
- Hassouneh, D., & Glass, N. (2008). The influence of gender role stereotyping on women's experiences of female same-sex intimate partner violence. *Violence Against Women*, 14(3), 310-325. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1077801207313734>
- Herek, G. M., & McLemore, K. A. (2013). Sexual prejudice. *Annual review of psychology*, 64, 309-333. doi: 10.1146/annurev-psych-113011-143826
- Jewkes, R. (2002). Intimate partner violence: causes and prevention. *The lancet*, 359(9315), 1423-1429. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(02\)08357-5](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(02)08357-5)
- Kaufman-Parks, A. M., Longmore, M. A., Giordano, P. C., & Manning, W. D. (2019). Inducing jealousy and intimate partner violence among young adults. *Journal of social and personal relationships*, 36(9), 2802-2823. DOI: 10.1177/0265407518802451
- Lecuona, O., Suero, M., Wingen, T., & de Rivas, S. (2021). Does “open” rhyme with “special”? Comparing personality, sexual satisfaction, dominance and jealousy of monogamous and non-monogamous practitioners. *Archives of Sexual Behavior*, 1-13. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10508-020-01865-x>
- Mazza, M., Marano, G., Lai, C., Janiri, L., & Sani, G. (2020). Danger in danger: Interpersonal violence during COVID-19 quarantine. *Psychiatry research*, 289, 113046. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.psychres.2020.113046>
- Minto, K., Masser, B. M., & Louis, W. R. (2020). Identifying nonphysical intimate partner violence in relationships: the role of beliefs and schemas. *Journal of interpersonal violence*, <https://doi.org/10.1177/0886260520938505>.

- Minto, K., Masser, B. M., & Louis, W. R. (2021). Lay understandings of the structure of intimate partner violence in relationships: an analysis of behavioral clustering patterns. *Journal of interpersonal violence*, DOI: 10.1177/0886260520986276
- Papp, L. J., Liss, M., Erchull, M. J., Godfrey, H., & Waaland-Kreutzer, L. (2017). The dark side of heterosexual romance: Endorsement of romantic beliefs relates to intimate partner violence. *Sex Roles*, 76(1), 99–109. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11199-016-0668-0>
- Pfeiffer, S. M., & Wong, P. T. (1989). Multidimensional jealousy. *Journal of social and personal relationships*, 6(2), 181-196. <https://doi.org/10.1177/026540758900600203>
- Pichon, M., Treves-Kagan, S., Stern, E., Kyegombe, N., Stöckl, H., & Buller, A. M. (2020). A mixed-methods systematic review: infidelity, romantic jealousy and intimate partner violence against women. *International journal of environmental research and public health*, 17(16), 5682. doi:10.3390/ijerph17165682
- Puente, S., & Cohen, D. (2003). Jealousy and the meaning (or nonmeaning) of violence. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 29(4), 449-460. DOI: 10.1177/0146167202250912
- Rodriguez, L. M., DiBello, A. M., & Neighbors, C. (2015). Positive and negative jealousy in the association between problem drinking and IPV perpetration. *Journal of family violence*, 30(8), 987-997. DOI 10.1007/s10896-015-9736-4
- Russell, B., Chapleau, K. M., & Kraus, S. W. (2015). When is it abuse? How assailant gender, sexual orientation, and protection orders influence perceptions of intimate partner abuse. *Partner abuse*, 6(1), 47-64. DOI: 10.1891/1946-6560.6.1.47
- Stanziani, M., Cox, J., & Coffey, C. A. (2018). Adding insult to injury: Sex, sexual orientation, and juror decision-making in a case of intimate partner violence. *Journal of homosexuality*, 65(10), 1325-1350. DOI: 10.1080/00918369.2017.1374066

- Tošić-Radev, M., & Hedrih, V. (2017). Psychometric properties of the Multidimensional Jealousy Scale (MJS) on a Serbian sample. *psihologija, 50*(4), 521-534.
<https://doi.org/10.2298/PSI170121012T>
- Valentova, J. V., de Moraes, A. C., & Varella, M. A. C. (2020). Gender, sexual orientation and type of relationship influence individual differences in jealousy: A large Brazilian sample. *Personality and Individual Differences, 157*, 109805.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.paid.2019.109805>
- Vandello, J. A., & Cohen, D. (2003). Male honor and female fidelity: Implicit cultural scripts that perpetuate domestic violence. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, 84*, 997–010. <https://doi.org/10.1037/0022-3514.84.5.997>
- West, K., & Cowell, N. M. (2015). Predictors of prejudice against lesbians and gay men in Jamaica. *The Journal of Sex Research, 52*(3), 296-305.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/00224499.2013.853725>

Appendix A

Introductory Statement Survey Study

Welcome to this survey!

We are currently working on our bachelor's theses and now starting to collect data for our study. Generally, we are investigating peoples' attitudes towards intimate partner violence or IPV. IPV is any form of violence (physical, sexual or emotional) directed at a romantic partner. In this study, you will be asked to read a violent scenario. If violence triggers you, you might like to withdraw from the study.

Procedure

If you agree to participate, you will fill in 7 different parts. Each part offers a short explanation and introduction of the entailed content. You will begin with reading an IPV scenario, which is followed by a questionnaire about your perceptions regarding the scenario. Afterwards, 4 more questionnaires follow. Next, we will ask you to fill out a short and general demographics questionnaire (age, gender, nationality, sexuality). At the end, a short debriefing will explain what we are investigating. Additionally, help opportunities for intimate partner violence victims and other impacted people will be displayed. The study will take you around 20 minutes to complete and if you are participating via SONA, you will be granted 0.25 credits.

Participants Rights

Your participation in this research is voluntary. You have the right to withdraw at any time during this survey and without any reason, prejudice or consequences.

Risks and Benefits

This study deals with a sensitive topic, intimate partner violence as well as discrimination against minorities, which might be triggering traumatic memories. This study is ethically approved by the Ethical Review Committee of the Behavioural Management Sciences Faculty.

Confidentiality

Please be assured that your answers will be kept completely confidential and anonymous, as no personally identifying information (e.g. names) are asked. The information you provide will be used for scientific research only and not disclosed with any third parties.

Questions

If you would like to contact the Principal Investigators in the study to discuss the research, please e-mail Kira Lanze (k.m.lanze@student.utwente.nl) or Kim Nina Strohmeier (k.n.strohmeier@student.utwente.nl). If you would like to talk with someone other than the researchers, such as questions about the rights of research participants, please contact the Ethical Review Committee of the Behavioural and Management Sciences Faculty, University of Twente, Netherlands, at ethicscommittee-bms@utwente.nl.

By clicking the "I consent" button below, you acknowledge that your participation in the study is voluntary, you are 18 years of age, and that you are aware that you may choose to terminate your participation in the study at any time and for any reason.

Please note that this survey will be best displayed on a laptop or desktop computer. Some features may be less compatible for use on mobile devices.

Appendix B
Debriefing Statement

Thank you for your participation!

Your responses will help us to analyse how different people judge intimate partner violence between homosexual and heterosexual couples. Moreover, we are investigating the influencing factors of judgements regarding intimate partner violence.

If you find yourself in a violent situation and/or feel the need to reach out, you can call the below-listed hotlines:

Student Affairs Coaching & Counselling UT: +3153 489 2035 (English)

Weißer Ring: Victims of Violence 116 006 (German, English)

Veiligthuis: National Domestic Violence, Child Abuse & Elderly Abuse Hotline: 0800 2000 (Dutch, English)

Seelsorge: 0800/111 0 111, 0800/111 0 222 or 116 123 (German)

De Luisterlijn: 088 0767 000 (Dutch)

Appendix C

IPV Scenarios

In the following, the used IPV scenarios are presented. First, the original by Gül and Schuster (2020), which the applied scenarios were based on. Afterwards, the opposite-sex IPV scenario is presented. Lastly, the IPV scenario portraying same-sex IPV is given.

Original IPV Scenario

Tom and Emily (a heterosexual couple) have been happily married for five years. Over the last few months, when Tom is away at work, Emily has been visiting her neighbour (a male) with whom they have been friends since they moved into the apartment. Over time, their meetings have become more regular, and the two have established an intimate relationship which they decided to keep secret from Tom.

One day, Tom becomes suspicious that his wife may be having an affair after accidentally seeing a text message with sexual content on her phone. When Tom comes home from work that evening, he confronts Emily, but Emily keeps silent. He asks her whether she has been sleeping with another man. Feeling uncomfortable and sensing Tom's anger, Emily turns around to leave the house. Tom grabs Emily's arm and repeats his question. Getting annoyed with Tom's persistence, Emily admits to sleeping with their neighbour. She then says "I don't want you, I want to be with him. He is an amazing lover and so much better than you in bed". In his rage upon hearing these words, Tom pushes Emily onto the sofa, swiftly moves on top of her and starts to remove her clothes. She tries to fight him off, but he holds down her arms and pushes her down with his own weight. She struggles and vehemently protests but cannot stop him from sexual intercourse with her.

IPV Scenario – Emily (altered)

Tom and Emily (a heterosexual couple) have been a happy couple for five years. Over the last few months, when Tom is away at work, Emily has been visiting her neighbour (a male) with whom they have been friends since they moved into the apartment. Over time, their meetings have become more regular, and the two have established an intimate relationship which they decided to keep secret from Tom.

One day, Tom becomes suspicious that his girlfriend may be having an affair after accidentally seeing a text message with sexual content on her phone. When Tom comes home

from work that evening, he confronts Emily, but Emily keeps silent. He asks her whether she has been sleeping with another man. Feeling uncomfortable and sensing Tom's anger, Emily turns around to leave the house. Tom grabs Emily's arm and repeats his question. Getting annoyed with Tom's persistence, Emily admits to sleeping with their neighbour. She then says "I don't want you, I want to be with him. He is an amazing lover and so much better than you in bed". In his rage upon hearing these words, Tom pushes Emily against the wall, and slaps her hard across the face.

IPV Scenario – Paul

Tom and Paul (a homosexual couple) have been a happy couple for five years. Over the last few months, when Tom is away at work, Paul has been visiting their neighbour (a male) with whom they have been friends since they moved into the apartment. Over time, their meetings have become more regular, and the two have established an intimate relationship which they decided to keep secret from Tom.

One day, Tom becomes suspicious that his boyfriend may be having an affair after accidentally seeing a text message with sexual content on his phone. When Tom comes home from work that evening, he confronts Paul, but Paul keeps silent. Tom asks Paul whether he has been sleeping with another man. Feeling uncomfortable and sensing Tom's anger, Paul turns around to leave the house. Tom grabs Paul's arm and repeats his question. Getting annoyed with Tom's persistence, Paul admits to sleeping with their neighbour. He then says "I don't want you, I want to be with him. He is an amazing lover and so much better than you in bed". In his rage upon hearing these words, Tom pushes Paul against the wall, and slaps him hard across the face.

Appendix D

Questionnaire IPV Scenario Perceptions

After you read the text above, we would like you to answer the following questions regarding your perception of what just happened:

(Perpetrator Perception)

How justified is Tom's behaviour?

How intentional was Tom's behaviour? (R)

How understandable is Tom's behaviour?

How much do you sympathise with Tom?

(Seriousness/Severity)

How serious was the incident?

Was Tom being aggressive?

(Punishment)

How strongly do you think should Tom held criminally liable for the incident?

Do you think he (Tom) should be punished?

Answer possibilities: 1 (not at all) – 7 (very)

Appendix E

Multidimensional Jealousy Scale

Please think about your current dating or romantic partner when answering the questions below.

If you don't currently have a partner or aren't dating, simply answer these questions as honestly as you can based on your feelings and behaviour about a past romantic partner, or a future romantic partner. This romantic partner will be referred to as X.

(Cognitive Scale)

How often do you have the following worries or concerns about X?

I worry that X is secretly seeing another man/woman.

I worry that some other man/woman may be chasing after X.

I worry that X may be attracted to another man/woman.

I worry that X may be physically intimate with another man/woman behind my back.

I worry that some other man/woman may be romantically interested in X.

I worry that some other man/woman is trying to seduce X.

I worry that X is secretly developing an intimate relationship with another man/woman.

I worry that X is crazy about men/women.

This is an attention check question. If you are reading this, please select "rarely".

Answer possibilities: 1 (never) – 7 (all the time)

(Emotional Scale)

How would you emotionally react to the following situation?

X comments to you on how great looking a particular other man/woman is.

X shows a great deal of interest or excitement in talking to another man/woman.

X smiles in a very friendly manner to another man/woman.

Some other man/woman is trying to get close to X all the time.

X is flirting with another man/woman.

Another man/woman is dating X.

X hugs and kisses another man/woman.

X works very closely with another man/woman (in school or at her/his work).

Answer possibilities: 1 (not upset at all) – 7 (extremely upset)

Appendix F

Attitudes Towards Homosexuality Scale (ATHS)

Now we would like you to indicate to what degree you agree or disagree with the following statements. There are no right or wrong answers.

I prefer not to go to gay bars or nightclubs. (R)

Homosexuality is a natural expression of affection and sexuality.

Gay couples should have the same tax benefits (for example, joint income taxation) as straight couples.

Gay people disgust me. (R)

Homosexuality is incompatible with starting a family. (R)

I feel empathy for gay people.

I would be embarrassed if a gay person made sexual advances towards me. (R)

Gay couples (with or without adopted children) represent an enrichment to the traditional family model.

Gay couples should have the right to a residence permit if the partner is a foreigner.

I am embarrassed by gay people. (R)

I would be happy if my children had a gay or lesbian teacher.

Gay couples should have the right to marry.

Homosexuality is contrary to human nature. (R)

Gay couples should have the right to adopt children.

I am in solidarity with gay people.

It would not bother me at all if my child was gay or lesbian.

(R) These items are negatively worked and were reversed scored before aggregating average scores.

Answer possibilities: 1 = Strongly disagree - 7 = Strongly agree

Appendix G

Validity Analysis Questionnaires

The figures resulting from validity analyses are displayed below. Starting with the IPV perception questionnaire, followed by the dispositional jealousy and ATHS questionnaires. First, the bar charts showing the distribution of total scores are displayed, after that the results of the factor analysis.

Validity Analysis IPV Perception Questionnaire

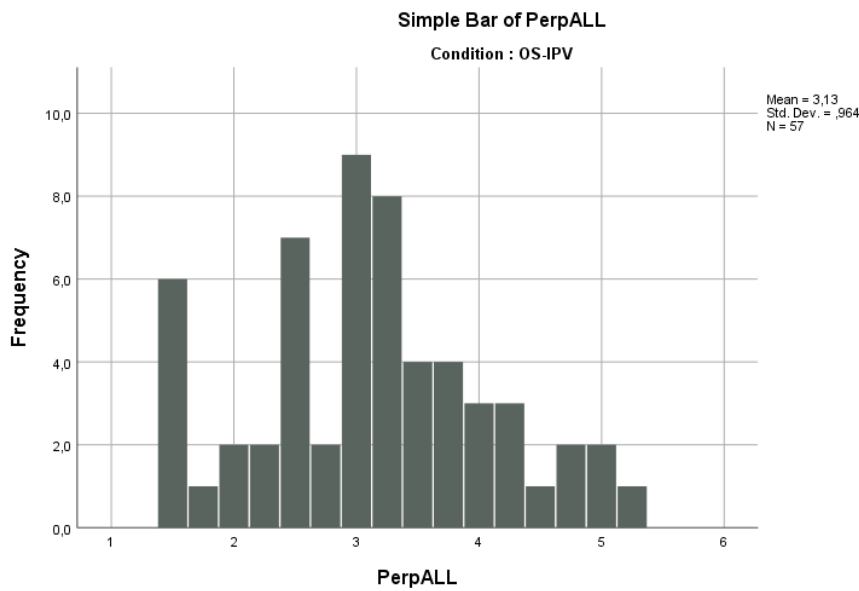


Figure G1: Total Scores Distribution for Perpetrator Perception in the Opposite-Sex Condition

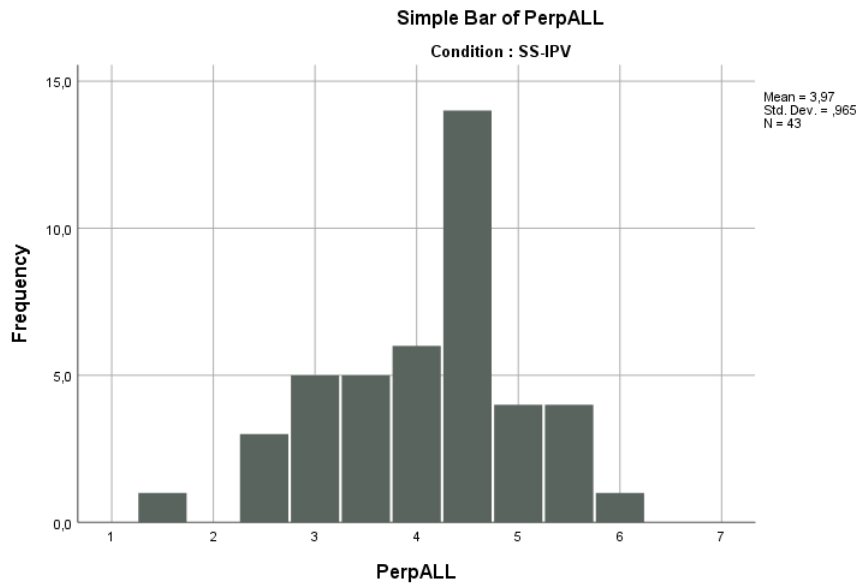


Figure G2: Total Scores Distribution for Perpetrator Perception in the Same-Sex Condition

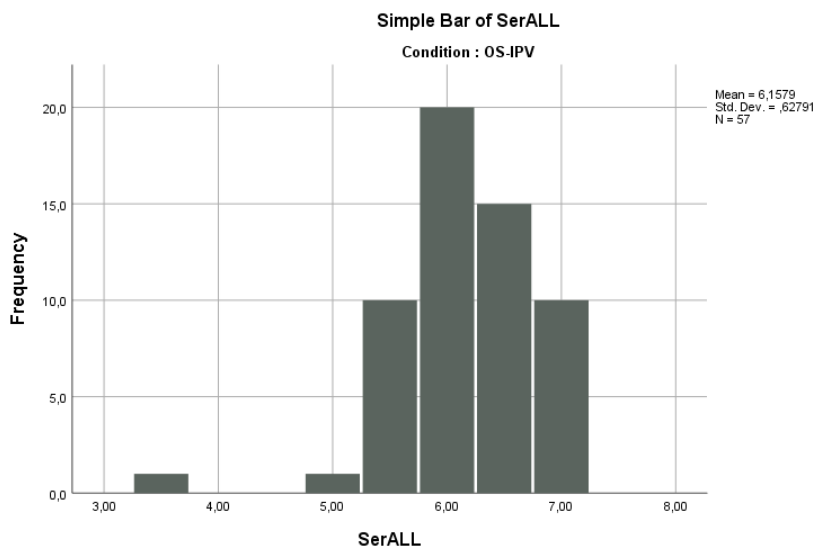


Figure G3: Total Scores Distribution for Seriousness Perception in the Opposite -Sex Condition

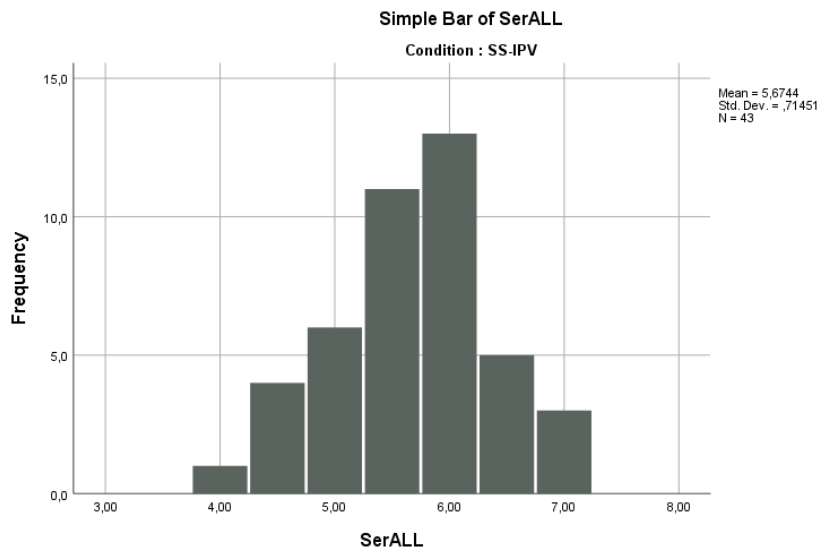


Figure G4: Total Scores Distribution for Seriousness Perception in the Same-Sex Condition

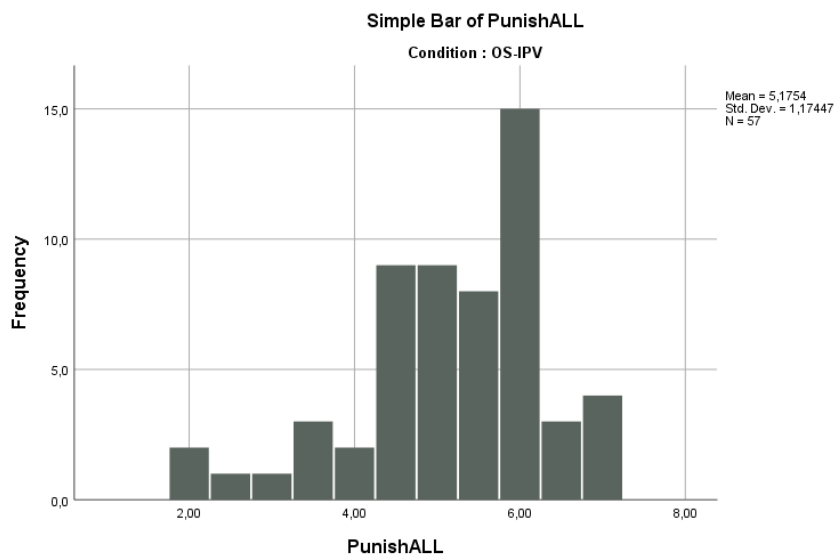


Figure G5: Total Scores Distribution for Punishment Perception in the Opposite-Sex Condition

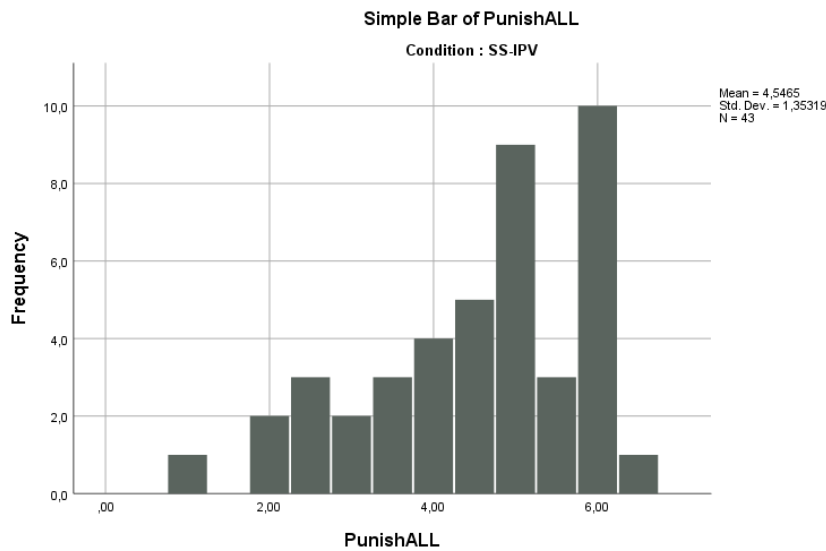


Figure G6: Total Scores Distribution for Punishment Perception in the Same-Sex Condition

Factor Analysis IPV Perception Questionnaire

Pattern Matrix Factor Analysis IPV Perception Questionnaire

Items loaded on more than one factor were allocated to the factor with the highest item loading.

Table G1

Factor Matrix IPV Judgements – OS-IPV condition

	Factor 1	Factor 2	Factor 3
How justified is Tom's behaviour?	.73		.34
How intentional was Tom's behaviour?	.58	.26	.13
How understandable is Tom's behaviour?	.64		
How much do you sympathise with Tom?	.67		
How serious was the incident?		.53	.47
Was Tom being aggressive?		.86	
How strongly do you think should Tom held criminally liable for the incident?		.41	.83
Do you think he (Tom) should be punished?			.72

Table G2

Factor Matrix IPV Judgements – SS-IPV condition

	Factor 1	Factor 2	Factor 3
--	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------

How justified is Tom's behaviour?	.75	
How intentional was Tom's behaviour?	.86	.52
How understandable is Tom's behaviour?	.94	
How much do you sympathise with Tom?	.63	
How serious was the incident?	.72	
Was Tom being aggressive?	.62	
How strongly do you think should Tom held criminally liable for the incident?	.72	.79
Do you think he (Tom) should be punished?	.59	.83

Validity Analysis Dispositional Jealousy
Total Score Distribution – Dispositional Jealousy

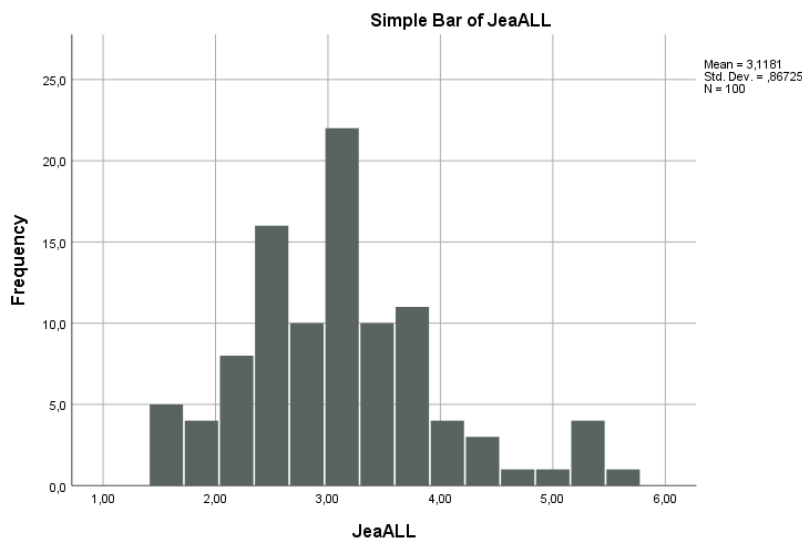


Figure G7: Total Scores Distribution for Dispositional Jealousy

Factor Analysis – Dispositional Jealousy

Pattern Matrix Factor Analysis

Items loaded on more than one factor were allocated to the factor with the highest item loading.

Table G3

Factor Matrix Dispositional Jealousy

	Factor 1	Factor 2	Factor 3
I worry that X is secretly seeing another man/woman.		.85	.32

I worry that some other man/woman may be chasing after X.		.84
I worry that X may be attracted to another man/woman.	.52	
I worry that X may be physically intimate with another man/woman behind my back.	.86	
I worry that some other man/woman may be romantically interested in X.	.82	
I worry that some other man/woman is trying to seduce X.	.71	
I worry that X is secretly developing an intimate relationship with another man/woman.	.78	
I worry that X is crazy about men/women.	.64	
X comments to you on how great looking a particular other man/woman is.	.70	.32
X shows a great deal of interest or excitement in talking to another man/woman.	.77	
X smiles in a very friendly manner to another man/woman.	.72	
Some other man/woman is trying to get close to X all the time.	.71	
X is flirting with another man/woman.	.76	.62
Another man/woman is dating X.	.66	
X hugs and kisses another man/woman.	.62	
X works very closely with another man/woman (in school or at her/his work).	.60	.38

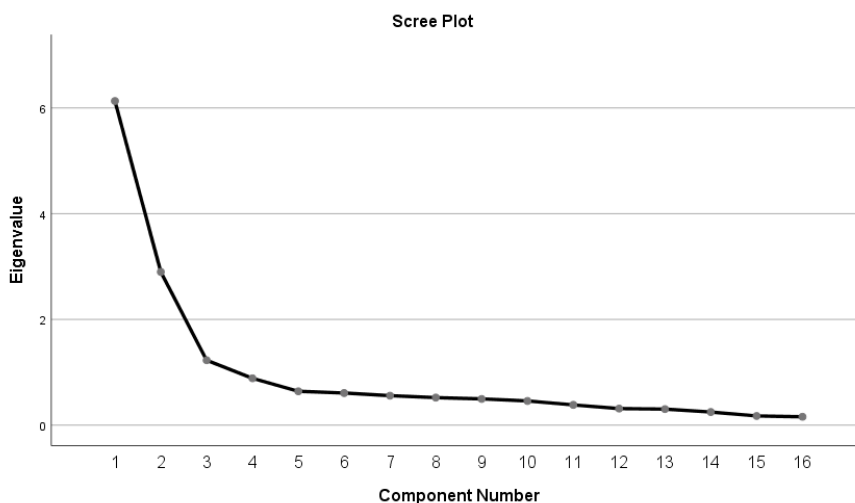


Figure G8: Scree plot of Eigenvalues for Dispositional Jealousy, Same-Sex Condition

Validity Analysis – Sexual Prejudices
Total Score Distribution

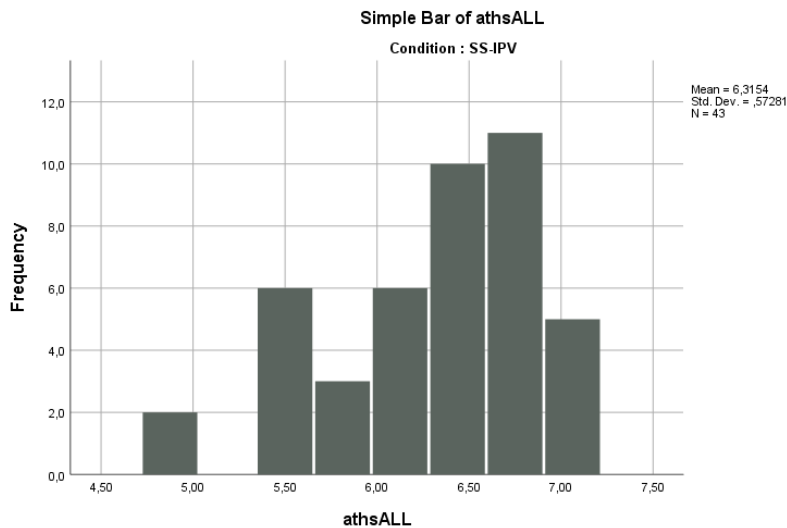


Figure G9: Total Scores Distribution for Aths in the Same-Sex Condition

Factor Analysis – Sexual Prejudices
Pattern Matrix

Items loaded on more than one factor were allocated to the factor with the highest item loading.

Table G4

Factor Matrix Aths – SS-IPV

	Factor 1	Factor 2	Factor 3
I prefer not to go to gay bars or nightclubs.	.69		
Homosexuality is a natural expression of affection and sexuality.	.70	.46	
Gay couples should have the same tax benefits (for example, joint income taxation) as straight couples.	.59		.31
Gay people disgust me.	.53		
Homosexuality is incompatible with starting a family	.52	.32	
I feel empathy for gay people.	.77		

I would be embarrassed if a gay person made sexual advances towards me.	.51	.41
Gay couples (with or without adopted children) represent an enrichment to the traditional family model.	.70	
Gay couples should have the right to a residence permit if the partner is a foreigner.	.53	
I am embarrassed by gay people.	.62	.40
I would be happy if my children had a gay or lesbian teacher.	.56	
Gay couples should have the right to marry.	.57	.49
Homosexuality is contrary to human nature.	.72	
Gay couples should have the right to adopt children.	.57	
I am in solidarity with gay people.	.73	.35
It would not bother me at all if my child was gay/lesbian	.85	

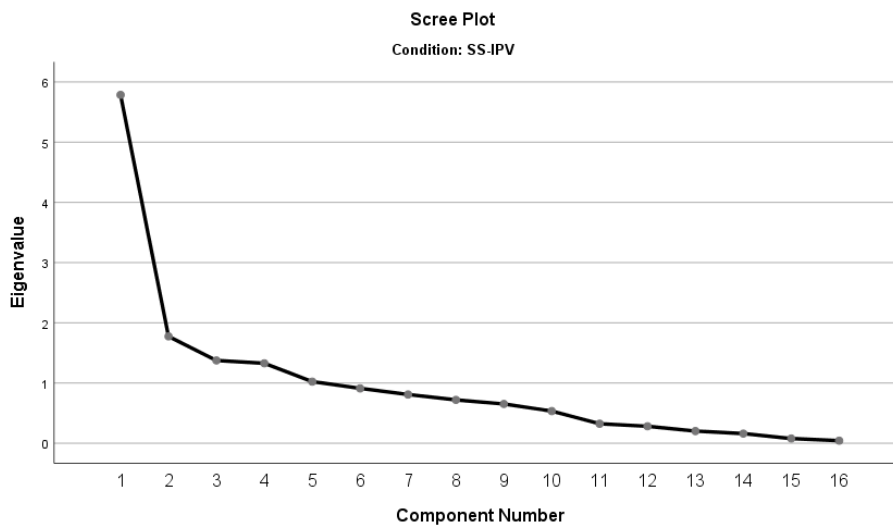


Figure G10: Scree plot of Eigenvalues for ATHS, Same-Sex Condition

Appendix H Additional Analysis – Sexually Prejudiced Attitudes

Table H1

Sexually Prejudiced Attitudes Means Among the Named Sexualities (UNIANOVA)

Sexuality	Mean	Std. Deviation
Heterosexual	6.11	.78

Homosexual	6.69	.27
Bisexual	6,75	.38
Self-Describe	6,58	.43

Note. N = 100.

Table H2

Sexually Prejudiced Attitudes Means Among Genders (UNIANOVA)

Gender	Mean	Std. Deviation
Male	5.58	.966
Female	6.48	.498
Self-Describe	6.88	-
Prefer Not to Say	6.38	-

Note. - = only 1 participant. N = 100.