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Gender-specific expressions of psychopathy

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The objective of this research was to explore gender differences in the expression of psychopathy. A literature review revealed an absence of gender behavior norms for psychopathy in previous studies. It was hypothesized that some items in commonly used measures of psychopathy may show gender bias and that existing measures may not contain enough items that are relevant to the manifestation of psychopathy in women. An exploratory investigation was conducted on statistical bias in common measures of psychopathy, and novel, relevant, but previously neglected items and measures were included in a new data collection. The participant pool included a sample of 403 university students and 354 participants recruited using Amazon Mechanical Turk. Analyses indicated only occasional and modest levels of item-level bias, and that some additional female-relevant items merit consideration for inclusion in measures of psychopathy. Further iterations of data collection and analysis are planned for this project.

Biography

Katie Strong will be graduating from the University of British Columbia – Okanagan with a Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Psychology in May of 2018. She has been awarded multiple awards for academic excellence, and currently holds a University of British Columbia Deputy Vice Chancellor's Award. In 2017, she was awarded an Irving K. Barber Undergraduate Research Award to support research exploring gender-specific expressions of psychopathy. She plans to continue this program of research into a clinical psychology graduate program.

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