STUDY OF DATING VIOLENCE IN COLLEGE RELATIONSHIPS
AND THE EFFECT OF QUESTION WORDING ON SURVEY RESPONSES

A Seniors Scholars Thesis

by

LESLIE ALLYSE BALLINGER

Submitted to the Office of Undergraduate Research
Texas A&M University
In partial fulfillment of the requirements for the designation as
UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SCHOLAR

April 2011

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Approved by:

Research Advisor: Jeffrey Ackerman
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ABSTRACT

Study of Dating Violence in College Relationships and the Effect of Question Wording on Survey Responses. (April 2011)

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The prevalence and causes of intimate partner violence have been discussed for years, and conclusions vary greatly often because the findings are contradictory. Through the use of online survey methods, this research studied Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) among college students. More specifically, how the question wording of a survey affects conclusions, and how an examination of the situational context of a reported IPV event might add important information (i.e. whether the incident took place in a joking/humorous context, during an aggressive argument, or in self-defense). The research attempted to answer two distinct questions: 1) How does question wording affect how respondents answer questions? and 2) What percentage of dating violence incidents occur in a situation that is not harmful or aggressive? The survey instrument is a revised Conflict Tactics Scale (developed by Murray Straus) with three versions, each of which differed slightly in the wording of certain questions about the occurrence of violence in the relationship. The survey was administered to 132 college students at Texas A&M University with a relatively random sample of students supplemented by an
oversampling of Greek women. Discussion includes the prevalence of dating violence among these students and analysis of differences found among the three versions of the survey in regards to question wording.
DEDICATION

For Jon and Ana Cooper: *fortiter in re, suaviter in modo; consilio et animis.*
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Any research on domestic violence would be incomplete without an acknowledgement of Murray Straus, whose groundbreaking research laid the vital foundation for all research on family and partner aggression. For this specific research thesis, I would like to acknowledge Dr. Jeffrey Ackerman of the Texas A&M University Department of Sociology, my research advisor and mentor. Words cannot express how grateful I feel for the hours he spent proofreading my writing and helping me develop this project. The support of my family was also instrumental in the process of conducting this research. The encouragement of my parents and grandparents throughout the study was invaluable. I would like to extend special thanks to my brilliant sister Lauren Ballinger, who is an experienced and exceptional researcher. Her advice and counsel, especially in the pretesting stages, were invaluable. I would also like to acknowledge the college students at Texas A&M University who were gracious enough to participate in the research.

A respectful acknowledgement should be made to the thousands of women who have been victims of domestic violence both in the United States and across the world. This research is for any woman who has looked fear in the face and any woman who has stood steadfast amidst tyranny and peril. To the women of the world: you are not alone, and you have not been forgotten. You are not defeated.
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CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

Introduction

Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) is a widespread problem in the United States. One survey found that 24% of all romantic relationships had some violence (Whitaker, Swahn, and Saltzman 2007). Another found that from adolescence until college graduation, about 88% of women will experience either sexual or physical violence and 63.5% will experience both (Smith, White, and Holland 2003). Yet another study reports 32% of women are involved in abusive relationships (Hettrich and O’Leary 2007). The prevalence and causes of intimate partner violence have been debated and discussed for years. Conclusions vary greatly often because the findings are contradictory. Through the use of online survey methods, Dr. Jeffrey Ackerman and I studied IPV among college students, more specifically how conclusions are affected by the question wording of a survey. We administered a survey about dating frequency and IPV to Texas A&M students. Understanding the causes and trends in dating violence is essential in order to make good policy decisions to prevent domestic violence.

Some conclusions about research on IPV have been widely disputed, primarily because IPV is difficult to measure and definite answers are sometimes difficult to obtain. Our research attempted to answer two distinct questions: 1) how does question wording and

This thesis follows the formatting specifications of the American Sociological Review.
question structure of the survey instrument affect how respondents answer questions? And 2) what percentage of dating violence incidents occur in a situation that is not harmful or aggressive?

Sociologists have long debated the effect of survey wording on the collection of data. Survey respondents answer a question differently depending on how they interpret it. Certain differences that previous researchers have found when studying intimate partner violence might be due to small revisions in how the survey items are worded. The Conflict Tactics Scale (CTS) developed by Straus (1979) is an interview instrument designed to measure violence in dating or marital relationships. With each new revision comes new item wordings; with each new item wording comes a difference in answers given.

It is important to take into account the effect of survey phraseology, because every word the respondent reads contributes to the way in which he/she will answer the survey items. What a researcher considers abusive might not be regarded as abusive from a respondent’s point of view; a different phrase might change the respondent’s answer. A study found that 22% of students in violent relationships were not aware that their behaviors were considered abusive (Fass, Benson, and Leggett 2008). Is this because the survey items were worded in such a way that did not incline respondents to think of relational violence, or because the respondents were truly not aware of what constitutes IPV? We modified Straus’ CTS to contain slightly different phrasing in its survey items,
so we could determine how substantially question wording affects the respondents' answers.

In regards to the second question, our modified CTS contained “context questions” in which the respondent identified the type of situation in which an incident occurred. The respondent was able to report whether the situation took place in joking situation where there was no harm intended, in self-defense or the defense of a child, or in an aggressive and harmful situation. Theoretically, many of the differences between men and women’s perpetration are due to context; women are more likely to commit violence in self-defense and men are more likely to perpetrate during an argument.

**Qualitative versus quantitative data**

Gender symmetry in violence perpetration has also been a contradictory research topic throughout the years. The differences found between how much violence is perpetrated by women and how much violence men perpetrate depends largely on the type of data collected. Quantitative data counts number of violent acts and qualitative research records the severity of violent incidents and injuries that occur. Although women engage in more violence quantitatively, qualitative research shows a different picture; women might perpetrate more acts of violence, but their acts are less severe and cause less injury (Hettrich and O’Leary 2007; Melton and Belknap 2003; Allen et. al,. 2009). A major factor in women’s perpetration of partner violence is the context of the violent incident. Self-defense has been found by several studies to be a major contributor to
women’s aggression (Hettrich and O’Leary 2007). One study even found that 50% of women’s perpetration was accounted for by victimization (Cercone 2005). Some research does not even assess which partner perpetrated the violence (Halpern 2001).

**Objectives**

The overall objective of this research project is to explain trends in dating violence among college students. We intend to answer the two questions explained above. Our hypotheses are as follows:

1) Slight differences in the phrasing of questions on a survey instrument will affect the answers given by respondents.

2) A significant percentage of dating violence incidents occur in a situation that is not harmful or aggressive.
CHAPTER II

METHODS

Survey instrument

Created by Murray Straus in 1979, the Conflict Tactics Scale (CTS) has been the most widely used survey instrument in studies concerning Intimate Partner Violence (IPV). The CTS asks specific questions about individual violent incidents that take place between partners, such as hitting, yelling, slapping, and throwing objects. For our study, we created an internet-based self-administered survey instrument containing questions about each participant’s demographic characteristics, dating experiences, and romantic relationship history since their high school graduation. We created three survey versions in order to examine the effect of question wording. All versions included several questions adopted from the CTS. Our CTS section contained mostly all the items found in the original CTS, except for sexual assault/rape. The last CTS question asked if any other incident had occurred and the answer categories included being beaten up and sexual assault/rape. Participants were also allowed to leave comments describing any other past incidents that the survey had not covered. Before the CTS questions, we added an introduction screen in which we asked the participants to think about their last significant romantic relationship since high school graduation when answering the questions. Therefore, each participant was answering questions dealing with one specific romantic partner. All three versions also included a series of demographic questions about age, sex, university classification, and race; half were asked at the beginning of the survey, and half at the end.
In the first survey version, each participant answered the CTS items with the number of times the incident occurred (see Appendix A). Separate questions were written asking whether the participant or his/her partner initiated the incident. Following each CTS item, we added a “context” question in which the participant was asked to specify the type of situation in which the incident occurred. The answer categories included harmful situations, joking/playful/humorous situations, and self-defense (or defense of someone else, e.g. a child) situations. The context questions enabled us to determine whether the participant considered any of the aggressive behavior that was reported to be in a joking or accidental context or whether their reports were about violence that had a meaningfully negative effect. To determine the seriousness of each incident reported, we also added “effects” questions after each CTS item. In these questions the participants were able to specify if any injuries occurred as a result of the incident, and if medical attention was ever needed and/or sought. Another follow-up question asked how each incident affected the relationship satisfaction of the participant and his/her partner.

In the second version, we asked if the violent event had ever occurred, and only asked about the number of times if he/she responded positively. Other questions asked about the outcome of each violent event in terms of physical injury. As previously mentioned, although men are known to cause more physical injury (quantitatively speaking), a woman might cause a particularly serious injury (qualitatively) to her male partner because she uses a weapon to compensate for the difference in physical strength. The
second version also included the same context and effects questions contained in the first version following each CTS item.

The third version was a duplicate of the first version, with all the perpetration questions removed; we only asked questions about victimization of the respondent (see Appendix C). The third version still contained the same context and effects questions from the previous two versions.

**Limitations of our study**

Since our intent was to focus on minute wording differences, and there is greater variation in questions about physical abuse (e.g. hit versus hit with a fist), we excluded the Psychological Aggression Scale of the CTS2.

We asked no questions about stalking, because most stalking occurs outside of a steady relationship, and most of our respondents were completing the survey with reference to their current romantic relationship. Our study focused mainly on heterosexual relationships, because the data contained no same-sex couples.
CHAPTER III

DATA

Sample

In order to obtain a sample of Texas A&M University students that was as near to a random sample as possible, Dr. Ackerman and I recruited students enrolled in required kinesiology courses during the Spring semester of 2011. This strategy provided an approximate random sample of Texas A&M students because all students are required to take one of the several available kinesiology courses, but they can do so at any time during their undergraduate career. For this reason, we obtained our participants from a large range of classes, and assigned students to our different survey versions by randomizing the students within each class to different surveys rather than randomizing each class into the different versions. We emailed instructors of five different kinesiology classes, and described our study. We requested permission to speak to their students for about five minutes at the beginning of class. All the instructors we contacted agreed. At each class, we gave a summary of our research and explained to the students the risks and benefits of the study. We highlighted the incentive for participating; every student who completed the survey was entered into a drawing for one of two $100 Visa gift cards. Dr. Ackerman and I emphasized in our presentation that this survey would not ask questions about “feelings” or “emotions,” but rather about dating problems; we said that we would ask men the types of problems they had with women, and ask women about the types of dating problems they had with men. The presence of a university professor ensured the legitimacy of our study, and the presence
of an undergraduate student aided the empathy factor, possibly causing more people to participate for the sake of “helping out” one of their peers. During the presentation we handed out recruitment information forms that contained standard items required by our Human Subjects Board, such as the purposes, risks, incentive, and potential benefits of the study (see Appendix D). To ensure privacy, we asked every student to return the form by marking “no” or “yes” for whether each student wished to participate; this method also guaranteed us the ability to calculate exact response rates. Students who were willing to participate wrote down their first name and email address. From these kinesiology courses, we received an initial response rate of 87% (129 students out of the 148 we addressed) who agreed to participate and provided their name and email address. The respondents who completed the survey showed classification distributions of: 14.3% freshmen, 19.6% sophomores, 21.2% juniors, and 43.1% seniors, and 1.8% graduate students. This differs from distribution in the actual student population, which is about 20-25% for each group. The age distribution was: 8.8% age 18, 20.9% age 19, 16.1% age 20, 29% age 21, 20.1% age 22, and 5.1% age 23 and older. In our sample, 119 students (90.1%) were single/never married, 7 (5.3%) were married, and 6 (4.6%) were engaged. There were no widowed or divorced students in our sample. Of the students who completed at least a usable portion of the survey, 13% were male and 87% were female.
Greek sample

We supplemented this random sample with a “Greek” sample of 29 students who were members of a social sorority affiliated with the University. We did this because the Greek organizations are known for a higher dating frequency among college students due to the prolific social activities in which these societies participate. Greek organizations provide ample opportunities for socializing; most sororities hold between four and five “date parties” per semester, with two formal dances a year. We emailed the president of a random Collegiate Panhellenic Council (CPC) sorority to ask for permission to address their members during an upcoming chapter meeting. We were given permission, and presented the same recruitment speech and mention of incentives that we used when speaking to the kinesiology students, taking a few minutes at the chapter meeting (all of which each chapter member is required to attend) to speak to all the members. Our initial response rate from this Greek sorority was 99%.

At Texas A&M University, there are twelve CPC sororities and about twenty-two recognized IFC fraternities (the status of many fraternities are unclear due to some organizations being on probation from the university, being unrecognized by the university, or in a transition phase due to turmoil in their national or local governing councils.) According to reports from Spring 2010, each sorority has an average of 165 active members, and each fraternity has an average membership of 48. Out of the approximately 3,000 Panhellenic or Interfraternity Greek students at Texas A&M, about 65% are women and about 35% are men. Members of social (that is, Panhellenic or
Interfraternity Council) Greek organizations comprised 22% of our sample, and of the Greek sample, 96% were women. Therefore, our Greek sample was not directly representative of distributions in the Texas A&M University student population.

There are two additional Greek councils at Texas A&M, the Multicultural Greek Council (MGC) and the National Panhellenic Council (NPC). However, both these councils represent nontraditional, specialized fraternal organizations that are not representative of the rest of the student population; that is, every organization recruits members from specific parts of the population depending on race, ethnicity, religious beliefs, and/or special interests and hobbies. Since these Greek organizations from MGC and NPC could potentially bias our sample in race and religion, we excluded them from analysis of Greek members in our study. There were 7 members of non-Panhellenic or non-Interfraternity Council Greek organizations, but they are excluded from our analyses on Greek students. The members CPC and IFC organizations are likely to have different values about dating and academics, so our study intended to analyze whether there are differences between Greek students and non-Greek students.

**Dating seminar sample**

In addition to the Greek supplement, we also supplemented our sample with participants recruited from a Dating Abuse Seminar, held on the Texas A&M University (TAMU) campus. Many of the students attended the seminar to gain extra credit for a class, but there were also student volunteers from the TAMU Women’s Resource Center present. Out of the 77 students to whom we spoke at the Dating Seminar, 66 (85%) expressed a
willingness to participate in our study. While this group (like the Greek supplemental sample) might not be specifically high-risk, it is definitely a high-interest group for the subject of this research. The overall initial response rate for our high-interest samples was 91.6%.

**Participation**

Within three weeks of our recruitment speeches, each student who was indicated as willing to participate received an email from us explaining how to take our online survey. Our survey software was configured to restrict participation only to those students who received our email invitations. This was accomplished by the survey technology that customized each of the emails by providing a unique user name and password embedded within the webpage link directing each participant to our survey instrument. Participants could stop and restart their participation by following the link a second time, but the software also restricted each participant to a single survey completion and prevented other who we did not recruit from accessing the survey instrument.
CHAPTER IV
RESULTS

Analyses

To calculate perpetration prevalence, I determined how many events each participant reported perpetrating at least once. I did the same with each participant’s report of victimization. It is important to recognize that this procedure provides perpetration and victimization prevalence rates rather than incident rates. For my purposes, each person who perpetrated at least once is equally counted, regardless of the number of individual incidents. For example, participants who reported having yelled at their partners once are counted equally with participants who reported having yelled at their partners two or more times. The prevalence rates discussed below deal specifically with how many participants perpetrated and/or were victimized at least once.

I grouped the CTS items into categories of “minor”, “moderate”, and “severe” incidents to address the differing levels of severity. Minor incidents included: yelling/shouting, calling the partner fat/ugly/stupid, insulting or swearing, and threatening to hit and/throw something. Moderate incidents included: throwing something at the partner, slapping, pushing or shoving, and punching or hitting. Severe incidents were the rest of the CTS items, namely using a gun or knife and any of the incidents in my “other” category, which listed sexual assault/rape, beating up, harassment/following/stalking, and hitting with a vehicle. Because the survey instrument did not ask about injuries in great detail, I grouped three items into Received/Caused Injury categories. Respondents who
answered that they needed a medical doctor, went to a medical doctor, or received a 
bruise, sprain, or small cut were categorized as having received an injury. Respondents 
who reported that their partners needed a medical doctor, went to a medical doctor, or 
received a bruise, sprain, or small cut were categorized as having caused an injury.

**Survey version 1**

Forty-three participants (7 men and 36 women) responded to the first survey version; 
however, not all of these participants answered every question in the survey. Ninety-
seven percent (all but one) of the participants have never been married, and the 
remaining participant was engaged. The participants ranged in age from 18 to 23. 
Twenty-nine percent of the participants in this survey were 21 years old, 24% were 19 
years old. These were the largest age categories. No Greek men and 11 Greek women 
completed the survey.

Only participants who had dated or had at least one serious relationship since high 
school were counted in my statistical analyses of victimization and perpetration. In this 
survey version, 6 men and 28 women (total of 34) fit this characteristic. Out of the men 
who were in or had a serious relationship since high school graduation, 2 (33%) 
perpetrated some form of violence or aggression. Out of the women who had dated 
since high school, 24 (85% of the women who have dated) reported having perpetrated 
at least one aggressive incident. However, these percentages should be analyzed 
carefully because of the small, relatively disproportionate number of men and women
who completed the CTS portion of the survey. Three (50%) of the men reported having been victimized at least once. Out of these 28 women, 18 (64%) reported being victimized at least once. Three men reported having perpetrated at least one minor incident; the largest number of incidents reported was 4. Twenty-four (85%) of the women reported having perpetrated at least one minor incident. None of the 6 men reported having perpetrated a moderate incident. Thirteen (46%) of the women perpetrated at least one moderate level incident. One male and one female reported having perpetrated a severe incident.

None of the six men reported having caused an injury to their partner. Two women reported having caused an injury to their partner. No males reported having received an injury from their partner, but three women reported having received an injury. In this survey version, 11 respondents reported having been called fat by their partner. Five of these took place in a harmful context, one took place in a situation where there was no harm intended, one was reported as being an accident, and three were reported as being in a joking situation. The last respondent marked the incident as having taken place in none of these contexts. Fifty-four percent of the respondents (who had dated since high school) reported having yelled or screamed at their partner. Seventy percent of these incidents took place in a harmful situation, 4% were reported as being an accident. The remaining instances of yelling took place in a situation the respondent defined as having no intended harm. Four respondents reported having slapped their partner, and only one of these was in a humorous or joking context (one was in an abusive situation, and one
more was reported as “no harm intended”). Ten respondents reported having pushed or shoved their partner. Six of these (60%) took place in a harmful situation, two were in a joking or playful situation, and one was reported as being in self-defense. Two cases of punching were reported; one was abusive, one was in a joking context. Five respondents reported having threatened to hit their partner. None of these took place in an abusive situation. Two respondents reported having thrown something at their partner. One of these was identified as a joking context and one was indicated as “other”. The incident most often reported was yelling.

Out of the Greek members who have dated since high school, six (55% of the 11 Greek women) reported having perpetrated at least once violent incident and 3 (27%) reported having been victimized at least once. None of these perpetrations were in the “severe” category. The Greek women in this survey version reported having perpetrated three “moderate” level incidents and six “minor” level incidents. In this survey version, the Greeks had an overall victimization rate of 55% and the non-Greeks had an overall victimization rate of 45%. The overall perpetration rates were 55% for Greeks and 57% for non-Greeks. Neither of the participants who reported having perpetrated a severe level incident were Greek.

**Survey version 2**

Forty-six participants (5 men and 41 women) completed the second survey version. The largest number or respondents in this survey version were 21 years of age. In this survey
version, 87% have never been married, 4.3% were engaged, and 8.7% were married.
The age distributions were: 7.3% age 18, 19.5% age 19, 22% age 20, 26.8% age 21, 17.1% age 22, 2.4% age 23, and 4.9% over the age of 23. There were no Greek men and 8 Greek women in this survey version.

Four of the men and 34 of the women (total of 38) reported having dated since high school. Out of the 28 respondents who reported having perpetrated an incident at least once, 3 were males and 25 were females. That is, the rates of perpetration were 75% for men and 73% for women. Out of 24 respondents who reported having been victimized by some form of aggression at least once, 3 were males and 21 were females. The overall victimization rates for men were 75% and 62% for women. One woman reported having been victimized 11 times. Out of the 27 respondents who reported having perpetrated at least one minor incident, three were male and 24 were female. That is, 75% of males perpetrated minor incidents and 63% of females perpetrated minor incidents. In this survey version, 70% of the respondents reported having perpetrated at least one minor incident. The rate of minor perpetration for men was 60% and 58% for women. Twelve respondents (1 man and 11 women) reported having perpetrated at least once moderate level incident; the highest number reported was 4. There was no severe perpetration reported in this survey version.

Three women and one man reported having received an injury. No males and 3 females reported having caused an injury. Five respondents reported having slapped their
partner. All of these reportedly took place in a hurtful situation. Out of the 6 cases in which the respondent reported having called his/her partner fat, five took place in a harmful context. Out of the 23 cases in which yelling was reported, 18 took place in a harmful context, 2 were reported as accidents, and 3 were reported as being in a situation where no harm was intended. Self-defense accounted for 10% of perpetration by pushing or shoving; 50% took place in a non-serious situation (i.e. either joking or there was no harm intended). All cases in which the respondent reported having threatened to hit his/her partner took place in an abusive context. Ten respondents reported having pushed or shoved their partner; out of these cases, 2 were taking place in a joking situation, 4 took place in a harmful situation, and 1 took place in self-defense. Three respondents reported having punched their partner, but 1 reported this as being an accident. Once again, yelling was the most commonly reported incident. In this survey version, 11 out of the 60 minor or moderate incidents (18.3%) took place in either a joking/humorous or non-serious situation.

**Survey version 3**

The third survey was the version that did not ask about perpetration, only about victimization. Forty-three participants (5 men and 38 women) completed the third survey version. Out of these respondents, 37 (86%) have never been married, 3 (7%) were engaged, and another 3 (7%) were married. The age distributions for this survey were: 7.1% age 18, 19% age 19, 16.7% age 20, 31.0% age 21, 21.4% age 22, and 4.8% age 23. There were 9 Greek women and 1 Greek man in this survey version.
Three men and 29 women (total of 32) reported having dated since high school. Two (66%) of the males reported having been victimized at least once; the male with the highest prevalence of victimization reported four incidents. Eighteen (62%) of the women reported being victimized at least once. The majority of these respondents were only victimized once, but one woman reported having been victimized six times. This is almost the same percentage of victimized women as the first and second survey versions but half the percentage of men who were victimized from the second survey version. None of the respondents in this survey version reported having received an injury.

Seven respondents reported having been called fat by their partner. Out of these, 3 took place in a hurtful situation, and 4 were in a joking context. Fourteen respondents reported having been yelled at by their partners. The context distributions were: 1 accident, 9 abusive situations, 4 non-serious situations, and one marked as “other.” Yelling was again the most commonly reported incident. Only three cases of victimization by slapping were reported – one harmful, one non-serious, and one joking context. Of the two reports of having been pushed by their partners, one was in a serious context and one was in a non-serious context. There were no reports of victimization by punching or throwing something in this survey version. The one case of a partner threatening to hit the respondent took place in a harmful context.

**Context results**

Out of all the minor and moderate level violent incidents reported in the three survey versions, 54% were identified by the respondents as having taken place in a dangerous or
harmful way; the incidents most commonly reported as having taken place in this type of situation were yelling, pushing, and punching. Sixteen, or 12.2% of incidents were identified as in a “joking or playful” situation. Self-defense accounted for 2% of all the minor and moderate level incidents. Situations that no one took seriously, or there were no harmful intentions, accounted for 22.9% of the minor/moderate incidents. Survey Version 3 contained the largest percentage of incidents due to a joking/humorous/playful situation. Accidents accounted for 4% of incidents in Survey Version 1, 6% in Survey Version 2, and 3% in Survey Version 3. The types of incidents most commonly acknowledged as accidents were calling a partner fat or ugly and yelling. Non-serious situations in which there was no harm intended accounted for 31% of incidents in Survey Version 1, 15% in Survey Version 2, and 22% in Survey Version 3. The least commonly reported types of minor and moderate behavior in all three survey versions besides were punching, throwing, and threatening to hit.
CHAPTER V

SUMMARY

Discussion of results

The average rates of perpetration were 54% for males and 79% for females. The average rates of victimization were 64% for males and 63% for females. The rates of female perpetration between the two surveys that measured perpetration ranged from 73% to 85%. All three survey versions produced very close percentages of women who reported having been victimized. There were not significant differences between Greek and non-Greek students in regards to rates of perpetration and victimization. Survey Version 1 produced the highest rates of perpetration, but Survey 2 reported the highest rate of victimization. In this study, directly asking the respondent “how many times did this incident occur?” and giving the answer categories starting at zero led to a higher reporting of perpetrating incidents from respondents, as opposed to first asking “did this incident ever occur?” and then asking about the frequency (as we did in Survey Version 2). In Survey Version 2, the respondents did not see the numerical answer categories for frequency until after they had already responded positively to whether the incident had occurred. In Survey Version 1, the respondent saw the numerical answer categories immediately. Therefore, seeing numerical answer categories ranging from “0” to “more than 20 times” caused the respondents to report perpetrating slightly more incidents. A dichotomous answer category seems more serious and absolute to a respondent (i.e. it happens or it does not happen), but if a respondent sees an answer category of “over 20,”
he/she might be more likely report more trivial incidents that would be more likely to happen close to twenty times.

The most vital part of conducting research on IPV is controlling for the context of the situation. The incidents that took place in a joking, non-serious, or accidental situation do not fit into a typical textbook definition of domestic violence – situations in which someone could get seriously hurt during a vicious argument. Without the identification of context for a violent occurrence, the researcher cannot distinguish between harmful, serious incidents and humorous accidents or play. These incidents certainly have a significant effect on results, because accidents accounted, on average, for about 4.3% of the minor and moderate incidents reported. Non-serious situations accounted for (on average) another 22.6% of “violent” incidents. Most researchers examining data about domestic violence would not consider a playful punch on the arm as “abusive.” Therefore, context identification is essential to distinguishing whether actions are truly abusive.

**Implications for further research**

There are certainly many more minor variations possible in question wording and the structure of the answer categories, especially in such a complex subject like domestic violence. Small changes are possible within the questions themselves; participants might respond differently to questions that ask, “Has your partner ever thrown something at you?” versus “Has your partner ever thrown something at you that could
hurt?” or even “Has your partner ever thrown something hard at you?” Different survey versions can be created with minor changes to question wording, answer categories, and introductory or transition statements (i.e. statements before CTS items that talk about how couples fight, how partners resolve conflict, et cetera). Question order (i.e. asking about perpetration before victimization versus asking about victimization before perpetration) should also be studied. Further experiments could employ the use of identical surveys with different titles. For my purposes, I told the respondents all the same neutral title of the survey, regardless of which survey version they completed. I labeled all survey versions as “College Relationship Study” online.

Dating prevalence and its relationship with IPV can be assessed by comparing high-risk groups, like Greek students, with a random sample of a low- or medium-risk population. Following this assumption that the more a person dates, the bigger chance he/she has of experiencing partner violence, college students are more likely to experience partner violence as compared to non-student adults, because college students are somewhat isolated in a group of their peers on campus and social norms of the college culture stimulate a high dating frequency. College students are a better group for studying dating partner violence rather than domestic violence among married couples. Ideally, I would have liked to control for dating frequency in this research so I could better examine how dating prevalence affects the presence or absence of violence in a relationship, but unfortunately was unable to due to time constraints, a small sample size, and other anticipated difficulties.
The quantification of domestic violence requires minute detail in variable questions, labels, and definitions. Every individual has his/her own ideas about what defines a violent incident. This is the never-ending plight of the social scientist – to control for error due to human interpretation. In the physical sciences, research subjects are material substances that react similarly every time they are mixed. Water and acid will react exactly the same way in every experiment. On the other hand, a human subject might answer the same survey question in different ways depending on how he/she is feeling that day, how he/she interprets the question and answer categories, or any number of intervening, unpredictable intermediate variables. Researchers should strive to develop and use the survey instruments that generate the most accurate results from human subjects. Strong conclusions and data analyses about complex and important issues such as IPV can never be fully understood and dealt with until the research process becomes more controllable and accurate.
REFERENCES


Supplemental Sources Consulted


APPENDIX A

SURVEY INSTRUMENT VERSION 1

NB: This survey contains certain “skip patterns,” which determine which question the respondent answers next according to previous answers given. Participants answered differently worded questions regarding his/her relationship status based on whether he/she is/was married, single, engaged, etc.

Question Text: What is your UNIVERSITY CLASSIFICATION?

1 - U1 - freshman
2 - U2 - sophomore
3 - U3 - junior
4 - U4 - senior
5 - Graduate Student

Question Text: Are you MALE or FEMALE?

1 - Male
2 - Female

Question Text: Are you a MEMBER OF A FRATERNITY OR SORORITY at the University?

1 - No - I'm not a fraternity or sorority member
2 - Yes - I'm a member of a SOCIAL fraternity or sorority
3 - Yes - I'm a member of an ACADEMIC or honors fraternity or sorority
4 - Yes - I'm a member of some OTHER type of fraternity or sorority

Intro: DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
Question Text: No matter who I'm talking to, I'M ALWAYS A GOOD LISTENER.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

More Info: There is no right and wrong answer. Please choose the answer nearest to your opinion.

Intro: DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
Question Text: I'M ALWAYS WILLING TO ADMIT when I make a mistake.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

Question Text: Which of the following best describes your RELATIONSHIP/MARITAL STATUS?

1 - Single/Never Married (or dating, or living together)
2 - Engaged
3 - Married
4 - Divorced (even if now single)
5 - Widowed

Question Text: HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN DATING the partner you intend to marry?

1 - Less than a month
2 - 1-2 months
3 - 3-4 months
4 - 5-6 months
5 - 7-8 months
6 - 9-10 months
7 - 11-12 months
8 - Between 1 and 2 years
9 - More than 2 years

Question Text: Which best describes your DATING HISTORY FROM HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION to now?

1 - I have had AT LEAST ONE serious relationship
2 - I have had NO serious relationships, but I HAVE DATED
3 - I have NOT DATED at all since high school graduation

Intro: During the CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR (from the beginning of Fall semester until now)

Question Text: About HOW MANY TIMES PER WEEK did you GO OUT WITH SOMEONE you considered to be a current or potential dating/romantic partner (when the two of you were alone)?

1 - Less than 1 time per week
2 - 1 time per week
3 - 2 times per week
4 - 3 times per week
5 - 4 times per week
6 - 5 times per week
7 - More than 5 times per week

Intro: About how many DIFFERENT PEOPLE did you DATE: Question Text: During the CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR? (In other words, from the beginning of Fall semester until now?)

1 - None
2 - 1 person
3 - 2 people
4 - 3-4 people
5 - 5-6 people
6 - More than 6 people

Intro: About how many DIFFERENT PEOPLE did you DATE: Question Text: During the CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR? (In other words, from the beginning of Fall semester until now?)

1 - None
2 - 1 person
3 - 2 people
4 - 3-4 people
5 - 5-6 people
6 - More than 6 people

Intro: About how many DIFFERENT PEOPLE did you DATE: Question Text: Your SENIOR year of college and the summer afterward?

1 - None
2 - 1 person
3 - 2 people
4 - 3-4 people
5 - 5-6 people
6 - More than 6 people

Intro: About how many DIFFERENT PEOPLE did you DATE: Question Text: Your JUNIOR year of college and the summer afterward?

1 - None
2 - 1 person
3 - 2 people
4 - 3-4 people
5 - 5-6 people
6 - More than 6 people

Intro: About how many DIFFERENT PEOPLE did you DATE:
Question Text: Your SOPHOMORE year of college and the summer afterward?

1 - None
2 - 1 person
3 - 2 people
4 - 3-4 people
5 - 5-6 people
6 - More than 6 people

Intro: About how many DIFFERENT PEOPLE did you DATE:
Question Text: Your FRESHMAN year of college and the summer afterward?

1 - None
2 - 1 person
3 - 2 people
4 - 3-4 people
5 - 5-6 people
6 - More than 6 people

Intro: When answering the rest of our questions, THINK ABOUT THE MOST IMPORTANT romantic relationship or date since your high school graduation, regardless of whether or not the relationship ended on good or bad terms. If you've never had a relationship you consider important, think about the date or potential romantic partner you spent the most time with, dated most often, or would like to have dated more.

Question Text: Are you CURRENTLY IN YOUR MOST IMPORTANT RELATIONSHIP, or was this in the past?

1 - I AM currently in my most important relationship
2 - I AM NOT currently in this relationship - it was in the past

Question Text: When did you START DATING this person you consider the most important of your romantic relationships?

1 - Less than a month ago
2 - 1-2 months ago
3 - 3-4 months ago
4 - 5-6 months ago
5 - 7-8 months ago
6 - 9-10 months ago
7 - 11-12 months ago
8 - Between 1 and 2 years ago
9 - More than 2 years ago

Question Text: HOW LONG did this relationship last?

1 - Less than 1 month
2 - 1-3 months
3 - 4-6 months
4 - 7-12 months
5 - 1-2 years
6 - 3-5 years
7 - More than 5 years

Question Text: Which of these BEST DESCRIBES YOUR RELATIONSHIP with this partner?

1 - Dating but not living together
2 - Living together / Cohabitating
3 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: Which of these BEST DESCRIBES YOUR RELATIONSHIP with this partner AT THE TIME YOUR RELATIONSHIP ENDED?

1 - Dating but not living together
2 - Living together / Cohabitating
3 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: Do you LIVE WITH YOUR PARTNER?

1 - Not living together
2 - Living together some of the time
3 - Living together all of the time
4 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: About HOW MANY TIMES PER WEEK do you GO OUT with this most important romantic partner?

1 - Less than one time per week
2 - 1 time per week
3 - 2 times per week
4 - 3 times per week
5 - 4 times per week
6 - 5 times per week
7 - More than 5 times per week

Intro: At the time you were dating this important romantic partner.
Question Text: About HOW MANY TIMES PER WEEK did you GO OUT?

1 - Less than one time per week
2 - 1 time per week
3 - 2 times per week
4 - 3 times per week
5 - 4 times per week
6 - 5 times per week
7 - More than 5 times per week

Question Text: What GENDER is this ROMANTIC PARTNER?

1 - Male
2 - Female

Question Text: WHEN did you get MARRIED?

1 - Less than 1 month ago
2 - 1-3 months ago
3 - 4-6 months ago
4 - 7-12 months ago
5 - 1-2 years ago
6 - 3-5 years ago
7 - More than 5 years ago

Question Text: HOW LONG did your marriage last?

1 - Less than 1 month
2 - 1-3 months
3 - 4-6 months
4 - 7-12 months
5 - 1-2 years
6 - 3-5 years
7 - More than 5 years

Intro: Do you AGREE OR DISAGREE?
Question Text: We ENJOY doing ordinary, day-to-day things together.

1 - Strongly Agree
2 - Agree
3 - Neither Agree nor Disagree
4 - Disagree
5 - Strongly Disagree
6 - Don't Know

Intro: Do you AGREE OR DISAGREE?
Question Text: I AM SATISFIED with the way we handle our problems and disagreements.

1 - Strongly Agree
2 - Agree
3 - Neither Agree nor Disagree
4 - Disagree
5 - Strongly Disagree
6 - Don't Know

Intro: Do you AGREE OR DISAGREE?
Question Text: My PARTNER LISTENS to me when I need someone to talk to.

1 - Strongly Agree
2 - Agree
3 - Neither Agree nor Disagree
4 - Disagree
5 - Strongly Disagree
6 - Don't Know

Question Text: In general, HOW HAPPY are you with the relationship?

1 - Very Happy
2 - Fairly Happy
3 - Not Too Happy
4 - Very Unhappy
5 - Don't Know

Question Text: In general, HOW HAPPY are you with your marriage?

1 - Very Happy
2 - Fairly Happy
3 - Not Too Happy
4 - Very Unhappy
5 - Don't Know

Question Text: Will you still be DATING THIS PARTNER one year from now?
1 - Definitely
2 - Almost Certainly
3 - Probably
4 - Not Likely
5 - Definitely Not
6 - Don't Know

Question Text: Will you STILL BE MARRIED to your partner one year from now?

1 - Definitely
2 - Almost Certainly
3 - Probably
4 - Not Likely
5 - Definitely Not
6 - Don't Know

Intro: Do you AGREE OR DISAGREE with this statement about your relationship before it ended?

Question Text: We ENJOYED doing ordinary, day-to-day things together.

1 - Strongly Agree
2 - Agree
3 - Neither Agree nor Disagree
4 - Disagree
5 - Strongly Disagree
6 - Don't Know

Intro: Do you AGREE OR DISAGREE?

Question Text: I WAS SATISFIED with the way we handled our problems and disagreements.

1 - Strongly Agree
2 - Agree
3 - Neither Agree nor Disagree
4 - Disagree
5 - Strongly Disagree
6 - Don't Know

Intro: Do you AGREE OR DISAGREE?

Question Text: My PARTNER LISTENED to me when I needed someone to talk to.

1 - Strongly Agree
2 - Agree
3 - Neither Agree nor Disagree
4 - Disagree
5 - Strongly Disagree
6 - Don't Know

Question Text: In general, HOW HAPPY were you with the relationship right before it ended?

1 - Very Happy
2 - Fairly Happy
3 - Not Too Happy
4 - Very Unhappy
5 - Don't Know

No matter how well a couple gets along, there are times when they disagree, get annoyed with the other person, want different things from each other, or just have spats or fights because they're in a bad mood, are tired, or for some other reason.

Couples also have many different ways of trying to settle their differences. In our next set of questions, we will ask HOW OFTEN and WHAT HAPPENED during the problems, disagreements, arguments, or fights that occurred in your most important relationship.

We will ask separate questions about what YOU DID and what your PARTNER DID during these events. We want you to consider events during the ENTIRE TIME YOU WERE INVOLVED in your most important relationship.

Intro: During problems, disagreements, arguments, or fights, HOW OFTEN DID YOU:

Question Text: COMPROMISE with your partner even though you disagreed?

1 - All of the time
2 - Most of the time
3 - Occasionally
4 - Seldom
5 - Never

Intro: During problems, disagreements, arguments, or fights, HOW OFTEN DID YOUR PARTNER:

Question Text: COMPROMISE with you even though you disagreed?

1 - All of the time
2 - Most of the time
3 - Occasionally
4 - Seldom
5 - Never

Intro: How many times did YOU:
Question Text: Purposely INSULT or SWEAR at your partner?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Question Text: In general, did the insults HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: How many times did your PARTNER:
Question Text: Purposely INSULT or SWEAR at you?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Question Text: In general, did the insults HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: How many times have YOU:
Question Text: THROWN SOMETHING at your partner that could hurt?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Intro: When people mention something being thrown, they usually mean a situation
where someone might get hurt.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions
apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR
RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: How many times has your PARTNER:
Question Text: THROWN SOMETHING at you that could hurt?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 – Never

Intro: When people mention something being thrown, they usually mean a situation where someone might get hurt.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: How many times have YOU:
Question Text: SLAPPED your partner?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Intro: When people mention someone being slapped, they usually mean a situation that hurts.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: How many times has your PARTNER:
Question Text: SLAPPED you?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Intro: When people mention someone being slapped, they usually mean a situation that hurts.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: I HAD A:
Question Text: SPRAIN, BRUISE, OR SMALL CUT because of a fight with my partner.

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Intro: When people mention sprains, bruises, and cuts, they usually mean a situation where someone was physically harmed.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: Your PARTNER HAD A:
Question Text: SPRAIN, BRUISE, OR SMALL CUT because of a fight with you.
Intro: When people mention sprains, bruises, and cuts, they usually mean a situation where someone was physically harmed.

Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: How many times have YOU:

Question Text: PUSHED OR SHOVED your partner?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Intro: When people mention pushing or shoving, they usually mean a situation where someone might get hurt.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: How many times has your PARTNER:
Question Text: PUSHED OR SHOVED you?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Intro: When people mention pushing or shoving, they usually mean a situation where someone might get hurt.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)
Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: How many times have YOU:
Question Text: USED A GUN OR KNIFE on your partner?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Intro: When people mention using a gun or knife, they usually mean a situation where someone was or might get hurt.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)
Intro: How many times did your PARTNER:
Question Text: USE A GUN OR KNIFE on you?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Intro: When people mention using a gun or knife, they usually mean a situation where someone was or might get hurt.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: Do YOU agree with this statement?
Question Text: I sometimes feel resentful when I don't get my way.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

Intro: Do YOU THINK YOUR PARTNER
Question Text: Sometimes feels resentful when he or she doesn't get their own way?
1 - Yes - he or she would feel resentful
2 - No - he or she would not feel resentful

Intro: How many times have YOU:
Question Text: Called your partner FAT, UGLY, STUPID, or a similar insult?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Intro: When people mention being called fat or ugly, they usually mean a situation where someone could be INSULTED OR UPSET.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) where someone could be insulted or upset
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: How many times has your PARTNER:
Question Text: Called you FAT, UGLY, STUPID, or a similar insult?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Intro: When people mention being called fat or ugly, they usually mean a situation where someone could be INSULTED OR UPSET.

Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) where someone could be insulted or upset
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: How many times have YOU:

Question Text: PUNCHED or HIT your partner with something that could hurt?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Intro: When people mention punching or hitting, they usually mean a situation where someone might get hurt.

Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)  
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)  
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)  

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?  

1 - Helped the relationship  
2 - Did not change the relationship  
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship  
4 - Harmed the relationship a little  
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot  
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this  
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)  

Intro: How many times has your PARTNER:  
Question Text: PUNCHED or HIT you with something that could hurt?  

1 - Once  
2 - Twice  
3 - 3-5 times  
4 - 6-10 times  
5 - 11-20 times  
6 - More than 20 times  
7 - Never  

Intro: When people mention punching or hitting, they usually mean a situation where someone might get hurt.  
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?  

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt  
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Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?  

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt  
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended  
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)  
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)  
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)  
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)  

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?  

1 - Helped the relationship  
2 - Did not change the relationship  
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
Intro: How many times did YOU:
Question Text: GO TO A MEDICAL DOCTOR because of a fight with your partner?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Intro: When people mention going to a doctor after a fight, they usually mean a situation that could be serious or might hurt.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did the fight that caused this problem HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: How many times did YOUR PARTNER:
Question Text: GO TO A MEDICAL DOCTOR because of a fight with you?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
Intro: When people mention going to a doctor after a fight, they usually mean a situation that could be serious or might hurt.

Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did the fight that caused this problem HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: How many times did YOU:

Question Text: SHOUT OR YELL at your partner?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Intro: When people mention shouting or yelling, they usually mean a situation where someone could be INSULTED OR UPSET.

Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?
1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) where someone could be insulted or upset
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Section: Relationship Problems
Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: How many times did your PARTNER:
Question Text: SHOUT OR YELL at you?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Intro: When people mention shouting or yelling, they usually mean a situation where someone could be INSULTED OR UPSET.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) where someone could be insulted or upset
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?
1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: How many times did YOU:
Question Text: TELL your partner something similar to - "WE CAN WORK IT OUT"

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Intro: How many times did your PARTNER:
Question Text: TELL you something similar to - "WE CAN WORK IT OUT"

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Intro: How many times did YOU:
Question Text: NEED TO SEE A MEDICAL DOCTOR because of a fight with your partner BUT DIDN'T GO?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Intro: When people mention needing a doctor because of a fight, they usually mean a situation that could be serious or might hurt.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did the fight that caused this problem HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: How many times did your PARTNER:
Question Text: NEED TO SEE A MEDICAL DOCTOR because of a fight with you BUT DIDN'T GO?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Intro: When people mention needing a doctor because of a fight, they usually mean a situation that could be serious or might hurt.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)
Question Text: In general, did the fight that caused this problem HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: How many times did YOU:

Question Text: THREATEN TO HIT OR THROW SOMETHING at your partner?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Intro: When people mention threatening to hit or throw something, they usually mean a situation where someone might get hurt.

Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: How many times did your PARTNER:
Question Text: THREATEN TO HIT OR THROW SOMETHING at you?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Intro: When people mention threatening to hit or throw something, they usually mean a situation where someone might get hurt.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: Feel PHYSICAL PAIN that still HURT THE NEXT DAY because of a fight with your partner?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
Intro: When people mention having physical pain after a fight, they usually mean a situation that could be serious or might hurt.

Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1. I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2. No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3. I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4. I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5. I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6. Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: How many times did your PARTNER:

Question Text: Feel PHYSICAL PAIN that still HURT THE NEXT DAY because of a fight with you?

1. Once
2. Twice
3. 3-5 times
4. 6-10 times
5. 11-20 times
6. More than 20 times
7. Never

Intro: When people mention having physical pain after a fight, they usually mean a situation that could be serious or might hurt.

Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1. I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did the fight that caused this problem HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: How many times did YOU:
Question Text: Do ANYTHING ELSE we haven't asked about TO YOUR PARTNER that caused physical injury, another type of harm, or was relatively serious in another way?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Intro: Which of these best describes what YOU DID to YOUR PARTNER?
Question Text: If more than one occurred, choose the one that impacted your relationship the most.

1 - Beat Up
2 - Harassed, Followed, Stalked
3 - Hit With Vehicle
4 - Sexual Assault / Rape
5 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: How many times did YOUR PARTNER:
Question Text: Do ANYTHING ELSE we haven't asked about TO YOU that caused physical injury, another type of harm, or was relatively serious in another way?
1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Intro: Which of these best describes what YOUR PARTNER did to you?
Question Text: If more than one occurred, choose the one that impacted your relationship the most.

1 - Beat Up
2 - Harassed, Followed, Stalked
3 - Hit With Vehicle
4 - Sexual Assault / Rape
5 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: How many times did YOU:
Question Text: AGREE TO A SOLUTION your partner suggested?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Intro: How many times did your PARTNER:
Question Text: AGREE TO A SOLUTION you suggested?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 – Never

Intro: How many times did your PARTNER:
Question Text: AGREE TO A SOLUTION you suggested?

1 - Once
2 - Twice  
3 - 3-5 times  
4 - 6-10 times  
5 - 11-20 times  
6 - More than 20 times  
7 - Never  

Question Text: What is your age?  

1 - under 17  
2 - 17  
3 - 18  
4 - 19  
5 - 20  
6 - 21  
7 - 22  
8 - 23  
9 - Older than 23  
10 - I Prefer Not To Answer  

Intro: DO YOU AGREE with this statement?  
Question Text: I have sometimes given up doing something because I doubted my ability.  

1 - Agree  
2 - Disagree  

Intro: DO YOU AGREE with this statement?  
Question Text: There have been occasions when I took advantage of someone.  

1 - Agree  
2 - Disagree  

Intro: DO YOU AGREE with this statement?  
Question Text: There have been times when I was quite jealous of the good fortune of others.  

1 - Agree  
2 - Disagree  

Question Text: Which best describes you?  

1 - White  
2 - Black or African-American
3 - Hispanic/Latino/Chicano
4 - Asian or Pacific Islander
5 - Other
6 - I Prefer Not To Answer

Question Text: Which best describes you?

1 - Native Born / Born in the United States
2 - Foreign Born
3 - Other
4 - I Prefer Not To Answer

Intro: DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
Question Text: I have never deliberately said something that hurt someone's feelings.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

Intro: DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
Question Text: It is sometimes hard for me to finish a task if I am not encouraged.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

Intro: DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
Question Text: There have been times where I have tried to get even rather than forgive and forget.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

Intro: DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
Question Text: There have been times I felt like rebelling against people in authority although I knew they were right.

1 - Agree
2 – Disagree

Intro: DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
Question Text: I am always courteous, even to people who are disagreeable.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

Question Text: Which best describes you?
1 - Protestant
2 - Catholic
3 - Other Christian
4 - Jewish
5 - Muslim/Islam
6 - Hindu
7 - Buddhist
8 - Unitarian
9 - Spiritual
10 - Agnostic
11 - Atheist
12 - Other
13 - I Prefer Not To Answer

Intro: DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
Question Text: I never argue with anyone.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

Intro: DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
Question Text: I never get sad.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

Intro: DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
Question Text: I never criticize other people.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

Intro: DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
Question Text: I have carefully and seriously answered the questions in this survey.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

OPTIONAL:
Question Text: What contributes to a good romantic relationship?
APPENDIX B

SURVEY INSTRUMENT VERSION 2

NB: This survey contains certain “skip patterns,” which determine which question the respondent answers next according to previous answers given. Participants answered differently worded questions regarding his/her relationship status based on whether he/she is/was married, single, engaged, etc. For the CTS items, if the participant gave a positive reply, only then was he/she asked about the frequency of the event. If the participant responded negatively to a CTS item, he/she skipped the following frequency question.

Question Text: What is your UNIVERSITY CLASSIFICATION?

1 - U1 - freshman
2 - U2 - sophomore
3 - U3 - junior
4 - U4 - senior
5 - Graduate Student

Question Text: Are you MALE or FEMALE?

1 - Male
2 - Female

Question Text: Are you a MEMBER OF A FRATERNITY OR SORORITY at the University?

1 - No - I'm not a fraternity or sorority member
2 - Yes - I'm a member of a SOCIAL fraternity or sorority
3 - Yes - I'm a member of an ACADEMIC or honors fraternity or sorority
4 - Yes - I'm a member of some OTHER type of fraternity or sorority

Intro: DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
Question Text: No matter who I'm talking to, I'M ALWAYS A GOOD LISTENER.
1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

Intro: DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
Question Text: I'M ALWAYS WILLING TO ADMIT when I make a mistake.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

Question Text: Which of the following best describes your RELATIONSHIP/MARITAL STATUS?

1 - Single/Never Married (or dating, or living together)
2 - Engaged
3 - Married
4 - Divorced (even if now single)
5 - Widowed

Question Text: HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN DATING the partner you intend to marry?

1 - Less than a month
2 - 1-2 months
3 - 3-4 months
4 - 5-6 months
5 - 7-8 months
6 - 9-10 months
7 - 11-12 months
8 - Between 1 and 2 years
9 - More than 2 years

Question Text: Which best describes your DATING HISTORY FROM HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION to now?

1 - I have had AT LEAST ONE serious relationship
2 - I have had NO serious relationships, but I HAVE DATED
3 - I have NOT DATED at all since high school graduation

Intro: During the CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR (from the beginning of Fall semester until now)
Question Text: About HOW MANY TIMES PER WEEK did you GO OUT WITH SOMEONE you considered to be a current or potential dating/romantic partner (when the two of you were alone)?
1 - Less than 1 time per week
2 - 1 time per week
3 - 2 times per week
4 - 3 times per week
5 - 4 times per week
6 - 5 times per week
7 - More than 5 times per week

Intro: About how many DIFFERENT PEOPLE did you DATE:
Question Text: During the CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR?
(In other words, from the beginning of Fall semester until now?)
1 - None
2 - 1 person
3 - 2 people
4 - 3-4 people
5 - 5-6 people
6 - More than 6 people

Intro: About how many DIFFERENT PEOPLE did you DATE:
Question Text: During the CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR?
(In other words, from the beginning of Fall semester until now?)
1 - None
2 - 1 person
3 - 2 people
4 - 3-4 people
5 - 5-6 people
6 - More than 6 people

Intro: About how many DIFFERENT PEOPLE did you DATE:
Question Text: Your SENIOR year of college and the summer afterward?
1 - None
2 - 1 person
3 - 2 people
4 - 3-4 people
5 - 5-6 people
6 - More than 6 people

Intro: About how many DIFFERENT PEOPLE did you DATE:
Question Text: Your JUNIOR year of college and the summer afterward?
1 - None
2 - 1 person
3 - 2 people
4 - 3-4 people
5 - 5-6 people
6 - More than 6 people

Intro: About how many DIFFERENT PEOPLE did you DATE:
Question Text: Your SOPHOMORE year of college and the summer afterward?
1 - None
2 - 1 person
3 - 2 people
4 - 3-4 people
5 - 5-6 people
6 - More than 6 people

Intro: About how many DIFFERENT PEOPLE did you DATE:
Question Text: Your FRESHMAN year of college and the summer afterward?
1 - None
2 - 1 person
3 - 2 people
4 - 3-4 people
5 - 5-6 people
6 - More than 6 people

Intro: When answering the rest of our questions, THINK ABOUT THE MOST IMPORTANT romantic relationship or date since your high school graduation, regardless of whether or not the relationship ended on good or bad terms. If you've never had a relationship you consider important, think about the date or potential romantic partner you spent the most time with, dated most often, or would like to have dated more.

Question Text: Are you CURRENTLY IN YOUR MOST IMPORTANT RELATIONSHIP, or was this in the past?
1 - I AM currently in my most important relationship
2 - I AM NOT currently in this relationship - it was in the past

Question Text: When did you START DATING this person you consider the most important of your romantic relationships?
1 - Less than a month ago
2 - 1-2 months ago
3 - 3-4 months ago
4 - 5-6 months ago
5 - 7-8 months ago
6 - 9-10 months ago
7 - 11-12 months ago
8 - Between 1 and 2 years ago
9 - More than 2 years ago

Question Text: HOW LONG did this relationship last?

1 - Less than 1 month
2 - 1-3 months
3 - 4-6 months
4 - 7-12 months
5 - 1-2 years
6 - 3-5 years
7 - More than 5 years

Question Text: Which of these BEST DESCRIBES YOUR RELATIONSHIP with this partner?

1 - Dating but not living together
2 - Living together / Cohabitating
3 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: Which of these BEST DESCRIBES YOUR RELATIONSHIP with this partner AT THE TIME YOUR RELATIONSHIP ENDED?

1 - Dating but not living together
2 - Living together / Cohabitating
3 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: Do you LIVE WITH YOUR PARTNER?

1 - Not living together
2 - Living together some of the time
3 - Living together all of the time
4 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: About HOW MANY TIMES PER WEEK do you GO OUT with this most important romantic partner?

1 - Less than one time per week
2 - 1 time per week
3 - 2 times per week
4 - 3 times per week
5 - 4 times per week
6 - 5 times per week
7 - More than 5 times per week

Intro: At the time you were dating this important romantic partner.
Question Text: About HOW MANY TIMES PER WEEK did you GO OUT?

1 - Less than one time per week
2 - 1 time per week
3 - 2 times per week
4 - 3 times per week
5 - 4 times per week
6 - 5 times per week
7 - More than 5 times per week

Question Text: What GENDER is this ROMANTIC PARTNER?

1 - Male
2 – Female

Question Text: WHEN did you get MARRIED?

1 - Less than 1 month ago
2 - 1-3 months ago
3 - 4-6 months ago
4 - 7-12 months ago
5 - 1-2 years ago
6 - 3-5 years ago
7 - More than 5 years ago

Question Text: HOW LONG did your marriage last?

1 - Less than 1 month
2 - 1-3 months
3 - 4-6 months
4 - 7-12 months
5 - 1-2 years
6 - 3-5 years
7 - More than 5 years

Intro: Do you AGREE OR DISAGREE?
Question Text: We ENJOY doing ordinary, day-to-day things together.
1 - Strongly Agree
2 - Agree
3 - Neither Agree nor Disagree
4 - Disagree
5 - Strongly Disagree
6 - Don't Know

Intro: Do you AGREE OR DISAGREE?
Question Text: I AM SATISFIED with the way we handle our problems and disagreements.

1 - Strongly Agree
2 - Agree
3 - Neither Agree nor Disagree
4 - Disagree
5 - Strongly Disagree
6 - Don't Know

Intro: Do you AGREE OR DISAGREE?
Question Text: My PARTNER LISTENS to me when I need someone to talk to.

1 - Strongly Agree
2 - Agree
3 - Neither Agree nor Disagree
4 - Disagree
5 - Strongly Disagree
6 - Don't Know

Question Text: In general, HOW HAPPY are you with the relationship?

1 - Very Happy
2 - Fairly Happy
3 - Not Too Happy
4 - Very Unhappy
5 - Don't Know

Question Text: In general, HOW HAPPY are you with your marriage?

1 - Very Happy
2 - Fairly Happy
3 - Not Too Happy
4 - Very Unhappy
5 - Don't Know
Question Text: Will you still be DATING THIS PARTNER one year from now?

1 - Definitely
2 - Almost Certainly
3 - Probably
4 - Not Likely
5 - Definitely Not
6 - Don't Know

Question Text: Will you STILL BE MARRIED to your partner one year from now?

1 - Definitely
2 - Almost Certainly
3 - Probably
4 - Not Likely
5 - Definitely Not
6 - Don't Know

Intro: Do you AGREE OR DISAGREE with this statement about your relationship before it ended?

Question Text: We ENJOYED doing ordinary, day-to-day things together.

1 - Strongly Agree
2 - Agree
3 - Neither Agree nor Disagree
4 - Disagree
5 - Strongly Disagree
6 - Don't Know

Intro: Do you AGREE OR DISAGREE?

Question Text: I WAS SATISFIED with the way we handled our problems and disagreements.

1 - Strongly Agree
2 - Agree
3 - Neither Agree nor Disagree
4 - Disagree
5 - Strongly Disagree
6 - Don't Know

Intro: Do you AGREE OR DISAGREE?

Question Text: My PARTNER LISTENED to me when I needed someone to talk to.
1 - Strongly Agree  
2 - Agree  
3 - Neither Agree nor Disagree  
4 - Disagree  
5 - Strongly Disagree  
6 - Don't Know

Question Text: In general, HOW HAPPY were you with the relationship right before it ended?

1 - Very Happy  
2 - Fairly Happy  
3 - Not Too Happy  
4 - Very Unhappy  
5 - Don't Know

No matter how well a couple gets along, there are times when they disagree, get annoyed with the other person, want different things from each other, or just have spats or fights because they're in a bad mood, are tired, or for some other reason.

Couples also have many different ways of trying to settle their differences. In our next set of questions, we will ask HOW OFTEN and WHAT HAPPENED during the problems, disagreements, arguments, or fights that occurred in your most important relationship.

We will ask separate questions about what YOU DID and what your PARTNER DID during these events.

We want you to consider events during the ENTIRE TIME YOU WERE INVOLVED in your most important relationship.

During problems, disagreements, arguments, or fights, HOW OFTEN DID YOU:

Question Text: COMPROMISE with your partner even though you disagreed?

1 - All of the time  
2 - Most of the time  
3 - Occasionally  
4 - Seldom  
5 - Never

Intro: During problems, disagreements, arguments, or fights, HOW OFTEN DID YOUR PARTNER:

Question Text: COMPROMISE with you even though you disagreed?

1 - All of the time
2 - Most of the time
3 - Occasionally
4 - Seldom
5 - Never

Intro: Did YOU ever:
Question Text: Purposely INSULT or SWEAR at your partner?
1 - No
2 - Yes

Intro: How many times did YOU:
Question Text: Purposely INSULT or SWEAR at your partner?
1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times

Question Text: In general, did the insults HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?
1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: Did your PARTNER ever:
Question Text: Purposely INSULT or SWEAR at you?
1 - No
2 - Yes

Intro: How many times did your PARTNER:
Question Text: Purposely INSULT or SWEAR at you?
1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
Question Text: In general, did the insults HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: Did YOU ever:
Question Text: THROW SOMETHING at your partner that could hurt?

1 - No
2 - Yes

Intro: How many times have YOU:
Question Text: THROWN SOMETHING at your partner that could hurt?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times

Intro: When people mention something being thrown, they usually mean a situation where someone might get hurt.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)
Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: Did your PARTNER ever:
Question Text: THROW SOMETHING at you that could hurt?

1 - No
2 - Yes

Intro: How many times has your PARTNER:
Question Text: THROWN SOMETHING at you that could hurt?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times

Intro: When people mention something being thrown, they usually mean a situation where someone might get hurt.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: Did YOU ever:
Question Text: SLAP your partner?

1 - No
2 - Yes

Intro: How many times have YOU:
Question Text: SLAPPED your partner?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times

Intro: When people mention someone being slapped, they usually mean a situation that hurts.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)
Intro: Did your PARTNER ever:
Question Text: SLAP you?

1 - No
2 - Yes

Intro: How many times has your PARTNER:
Question Text: SLAPPED you?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times

Intro: When people mention someone being slapped, they usually mean a situation that hurts.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: Did YOU ever have a:
Question Text: SPRAIN, BRUISE, OR SMALL CUT because of a fight with your partner?
Intro: How many times did YOU have a:
Question Text: SPRAIN, BRUISE, OR SMALL CUT because of a fight with your partner.

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times

Intro: When people mention sprains, bruises, and cuts, they usually mean a situation where someone was physically harmed.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: Did your PARTNER ever have a:
Question Text: SPRAIN, BRUISE, OR SMALL CUT because of a fight with you?

1 - No
2 - Yes

Intro: How many times did your PARTNER have a:
Question Text: SPRAIN, BRUISE, OR SMALL CUT because of a fight with you.

1 - Once  
2 - Twice  
3 - 3-5 times  
4 - 6-10 times  
5 - 11-20 times  
6 - More than 20 times

Intro: When people mention sprains, bruises, and cuts, they usually mean a situation where someone was physically harmed.

Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt  
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended  
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)  
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)  
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)  
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship  
2 - Did not change the relationship  
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship  
4 - Harmed the relationship a little  
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot  
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this  
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: Did YOU ever:
Question Text: PUSH OR SHOVE your partner?

1 - No  
2 - Yes

Intro: How many times have YOU:
Question Text: PUSHED OR SHOVED your partner?

1 - Once  
2 - Twice  
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times

Intro: When people mention pushing or shoving, they usually mean a situation where someone might get hurt.

Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: Did your PARTNER ever:

Question Text: PUSH OR SHOVE you?

1 - No
2 - Yes

Intro: How many times has your PARTNER:

Question Text: PUSHED OR SHOVED you?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
Intro: When people mention pushing or shoving, they usually mean a situation where someone might get hurt.

Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: Did YOU ever:
Question Text: USE A GUN OR KNIFE on your partner?

1 - No
2 - Yes

Intro: How many times have YOU:
Question Text: USED A GUN OR KNIFE on your partner?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times

Intro: When people mention using a gun or knife, they usually mean a situation where someone was or might get hurt.

Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?
1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: Did your PARTNER ever:
Question Text: USE A GUN OR KNIFE on you?

1 - No
2 - Yes

Intro: How many times did your PARTNER:
Question Text: USE A GUN OR KNIFE on you?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times

Intro: When people mention using a gun or knife, they usually mean a situation where someone was or might get hurt.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: Do YOU agree with this statement?
Question Text: I sometimes feel resentful when I don't get my way.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

Intro: Do YOU THINK YOUR PARTNER
Question Text: Sometimes feels resentful when he or she doesn't get their own way?

1 - Yes - he or she would feel resentful
2 - No - he or she would not feel resentful

Intro: Did YOU ever:
Question Text: Call your partner FAT, UGLY, STUPID, or a similiar insult?

1 - No
2 - Yes

Intro: How many times have YOU:
Question Text: Called your partner FAT, UGLY, STUPID, or a similiar insult?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times

Intro: When people mention being called fat or ugly, they usually mean a situation where someone could be INSULTED OR UPSET.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) where someone could be insulted or upset
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: Did your PARTNER ever:
Question Text: Call you FAT, UGLY, STUPID, or a similar insult?

1 - No
2 - Yes

Intro: How many times has your PARTNER:
Question Text: Called you FAT, UGLY, STUPID, or a similar insult?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times

Intro: When people mention being called fat or ugly, they usually mean a situation where someone could be INSULTED OR UPSET.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) where someone could be insulted or upset
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: Did YOU ever:
Question Text: PUNCH or HIT your partner with something that could hurt?

1 - No
2 - Yes

Question Text: PUNCHED or HIT your partner with something that could hurt?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times

Intro: When people mention punching or hitting, they usually mean a situation where someone might get hurt. 
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?
Intro: Did your PARTNER ever:
Question Text: PUNCH or HIT you with something that could hurt?

1 - No
2 - Yes

Intro: How many times has your PARTNER:
Question Text: PUNCHED or HIT you with something that could hurt?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times

Intro: When people mention punching or hitting, they usually mean a situation where someone might get hurt.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little

5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: Did YOU ever:
Question Text: GO TO A MEDICAL DOCTOR because of a fight with your partner?

1 - No
2 - Yes

Intro: How many times did YOU:
Question Text: GO TO A MEDICAL DOCTOR because of a fight with your partner?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times

Intro: When people mention going to a doctor after a fight, they usually mean a situation that could be serious or might hurt.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did the fight that caused this problem HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: Did your PARTNER ever:
Question Text: GO TO A MEDICAL DOCTOR because of a fight with you?

1 - No
2 - Yes

Intro: How many times has YOUR PARTNER had to:
Question Text: GO TO A MEDICAL DOCTOR because of a fight with you?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times

Intro: When people mention going to a doctor after a fight, they usually mean a situation that could be serious or might hurt.

Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did the fight that caused this problem HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: Did YOU ever:

Question Text: SHOUT OR YELL at your partner?

1 - No
2 - Yes
Intro: How many times did YOU:
Question Text: SHOUT OR YELL at your partner?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times

Intro: When people mention shouting or yelling, they usually mean a situation where someone could be INSULTED OR UPSET.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) where someone could be insulted or upset
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: Did your PARTNER ever:
Question Text: SHOUT OR YELL at you?

1 - No
2 - Yes

Intro: How many times did your PARTNER:
Question Text: SHOUT OR YELL at you?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
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Intro: When people mention shouting or yelling, they usually mean a situation where someone could be INSULTED OR UPSET.

Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) where someone could be insulted or upset
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: Did YOU ever:
Question Text: TELL your partner something similar to - "WE CAN WORK IT OUT"

1 - No
2 - Yes

Intro: How many times did YOU:
Question Text: TELL your partner something similar to - "WE CAN WORK IT OUT"

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times

Intro: Did your PARTNER ever:
Question Text: TELL you something similar to - "WE CAN WORK IT OUT"
1 - No
2 - Yes

Intro: How many times did your PARTNER:
Question Text: TELL you something similar to - "WE CAN WORK IT OUT"

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times

Intro: Did YOU ever:
Question Text: NEED TO SEE A MEDICAL DOCTOR because of a fight with your partner BUT DIDN'T GO?

1 - No
2 - Yes

Intro: How many times did YOU:
Question Text: NEED TO SEE A MEDICAL DOCTOR because of a fight with your partner BUT DIDN'T GO?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times

Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did the fight that caused this problem HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?
Intro: Did your PARTNER ever:
Question Text: NEED TO SEE A MEDICAL DOCTOR because of a fight with you BUT DIDN'T GO?

1 - No
2 - Yes

Intro: How many times did your PARTNER:
Question Text: NEED TO SEE A MEDICAL DOCTOR because of a fight with you BUT DIDN'T GO?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times

Intro: When people mention needing a doctor because of a fight, they usually mean a situation that could be serious or might hurt.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did the fight that caused this problem HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: Did YOU ever:
Question Text: THREATEN TO HIT OR THROW SOMETHING at your partner?

1 - No
2 - Yes

Intro: How many times did YOU:
Question Text: THREATEN TO HIT OR THROW SOMETHING at your partner?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times

Intro: When people mention threatening to hit or throw something, they usually mean a situation where someone might get hurt.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)
Intro: Did your PARTNER ever:
Question Text: THREATEN TO HIT OR THROW SOMETHING at you?

1 - No
2 - Yes

Intro: How many times did your PARTNER:
Question Text: THREATEN TO HIT OR THROW SOMETHING at you?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times

Intro: When people mention threatening to hit or throw something, they usually mean a situation where someone might get hurt.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: Did YOU ever:
Question Text: Feel PHYSICAL PAIN that still HURT THE NEXT DAY because of a fight with your partner?
1 - No
2 - Yes

Intro: How many times did YOU:
Question Text: Feel PHYSICAL PAIN that still HURT THE NEXT DAY because of a fight with your partner?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times

Intro: When people mention having physical pain after a fight, they usually mean a situation that could be serious or might hurt.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did the fight that caused this problem HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this

Intro: Did your PARTNER ever:
Question Text: Feel PHYSICAL PAIN that still HURT THE NEXT DAY because of a fight with you?

1 - No
2 - Yes

Intro: How many times did your PARTNER:
Question Text: Feel PHYSICAL PAIN that still HURT THE NEXT DAY because of a fight with you?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times

Intro: When people mention having physical pain after a fight, they usually mean a situation that could be serious or might hurt.
Question Text: IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Question Text: In general, did the fight that caused this problem HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: Did YOU ever:
Question Text: Do ANYTHING ELSE we haven't asked about TO YOUR PARTNER that caused physical injury, another type of harm, or was relatively serious in another way?

1 - No
2 - Yes

Intro: How many times did YOU:
Question Text: Do ANYTHING ELSE we haven't asked about TO YOUR PARTNER that caused physical injury, another type of harm, or was relatively serious in another way?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times

Intro: Which of these best describes what YOU DID to YOUR PARTNER?
Question Text: If more than one occurred, choose the one that impacted your relationship the most.

1 - Beat Up
2 - Harassed, Followed, Stalked
3 - Hit With Vehicle
4 - Sexual Assault / Rape
5 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: Did your PARTNER ever:
Question Text: Do ANYTHING ELSE we haven't asked about TO YOU that caused physical injury, another type of harm, or was relatively serious in another way?

1 - No
2 - Yes

Intro: How many times did YOUR PARTNER:
Question Text: Do ANYTHING ELSE we haven't asked about TO YOU that caused physical injury, another type of harm, or was relatively serious in another way?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times

Intro: Which of these best describes what YOUR PARTNER did to you?
Question Text: If more than one occurred, choose the one that impacted your relationship the most.

1 - Beat Up
2 - Harassed, Followed, Stalked
3 - Hit With Vehicle
4 - Sexual Assault / Rape
5 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Intro: How many times did YOU:
Question Text: AGREE TO A SOLUTION your partner suggested?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Intro: How many times did YOUR PARTNER:
Question Text: AGREE TO A SOLUTION you suggested?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Intro: How many times did your PARTNER:
Question Text: AGREE TO A SOLUTION you suggested?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Question Text: What is your age?

1 - under 17
2 - 17
3 - 18
4 - 19
Intro: DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
Question Text: I have sometimes given up doing something because I doubted my ability.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

Intro: DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
Question Text: There have been occasions when I took advantage of someone.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

Intro: DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
Question Text: There have been times when I was quite jealous of the good fortune of others.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

Question Text: Which best describes you?

1 - White
2 - Black or African-American
3 - Hispanic/Latino/Chicano
4 - Asian or Pacific Islander
5 - Other
6 - I Prefer Not To Answer

Question Text: Which best describes you?

1 - Native Born / Born in the United States
2 - Foreign Born
3 - Other
4 - I Prefer Not To Answer

Intro: DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
Question Text: I have never deliberately said something that hurt someone's feelings.
1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

Intro: DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
Question Text: It is sometimes hard for me to finish a task if I am not encouraged.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

Intro: DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
Question Text: There have been times where I have tried to get even rather than forgive and forget.

1 - Agree
2 – Disagree

Intro: DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
Question Text: There have been times I felt like rebelling against people in authority although I knew they were right.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

Intro: DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
Question Text: I am always courteous, even to people who are disagreeable.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

Question Text: Which best describes you?

1 - Protestant
2 - Catholic
3 - Other Christian
4 - Jewish
5 - Muslim/Islam
6 - Hindu
7 - Buddhist
8 - Unitarian
9 - Spiritual
10 - Agnostic
11 - Atheist
12 - Other
13 - I Prefer Not To Answer

Intro: DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
Question Text: I never argue with anyone.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

Intro: DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
Question Text: I never get sad.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

Intro: DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
Question Text: I never criticize other people.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

Intro: DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
Question Text: I have carefully and seriously answered the questions in this survey.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

OPTIONAL:
Question Text: What contributes to a good romantic relationship?
APPENDIX C

SURVEY VERSION 3

What is your UNIVERSITY CLASSIFICATION?

1 - U1 - freshman
2 - U2 - sophomore
3 - U3 - junior
4 - U4 - senior
5 - Graduate Student

Are you MALE or FEMALE?

1 - Male
2 - Female

Are you a MEMBER OF A FRATERNITY OR SORORITY at the University?

1 - No - I'm not a fraternity or sorority member
2 - Yes - I'm a member of a SOCIAL fraternity or sorority
3 - Yes - I'm a member of an ACADEMIC or honors fraternity or sorority
4 - Yes - I'm a member of some OTHER type of fraternity or sorority

DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
No matter who I'm talking to, I'M ALWAYS A GOOD LISTENER.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
I'M ALWAYS WILLING TO ADMIT when I make a mistake.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

Which of the following best describes your RELATIONSHIP/MARITAL STATUS?

1 - Single/Never Married (or dating, or living together)
2 - Engaged
3 - Married
4 - Divorced (even if now single)
5 – Widowed

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN DATING the partner you intend to marry?

1 - Less than a month
2 - 1-2 months
3 - 3-4 months
4 - 5-6 months
5 - 7-8 months
6 - 9-10 months
7 - 11-12 months
8 - Between 1 and 2 years
9 - More than 2 years

Which best describes your DATING HISTORY FROM HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION to now?

1 - I have had AT LEAST ONE serious relationship
2 - I have had NO serious relationships, but I HAVE DATED
3 - I have NOT DATED at all since high school graduation

During the CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR (from the beginning of Fall semester until now)
About HOW MANY TIMES PER WEEK did you GO OUT WITH SOMEONE you considered to be a current or potential dating/romantic partner (when the two of you were alone)?

1 - Less than 1 time per week
2 - 1 time per week
3 - 2 times per week
4 - 3 times per week
5 - 4 times per week
6 - 5 times per week
7 - More than 5 times per week

About how many DIFFERENT PEOPLE did you DATE:
During the CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR?
(In other words, from the beginning of Fall semester until now?)

1 - None
2 - 1 person
3 - 2 people
4 - 3-4 people
5 - 5-6 people
6 - More than 6 people

About how many DIFFERENT PEOPLE did you DATE:
During the CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR?
(In other words, from the beginning of Fall semester until now?)

1 - None
2 - 1 person
3 - 2 people
4 - 3-4 people
5 - 5-6 people
6 - More than 6 people

About how many DIFFERENT PEOPLE did you DATE:
Your SENIOR year of college and the summer afterward?

1 - None
2 - 1 person
3 - 2 people
4 - 3-4 people
5 - 5-6 people
6 - More than 6 people

About how many DIFFERENT PEOPLE did you DATE:
Your JUNIOR year of college and the summer afterward?

1 - None
2 - 1 person
3 - 2 people
4 - 3-4 people
5 - 5-6 people
6 - More than 6 people

About how many DIFFERENT PEOPLE did you DATE:
Your SOPHOMORE year of college and the summer afterward?

1 - None
2 - 1 person
3 - 2 people
4 - 3-4 people
5 - 5-6 people
6 - More than 6 people

About how many DIFFERENT PEOPLE did you DATE:
Your FRESHMAN year of college and the summer afterward?

1 - None
2 - 1 person
3 - 2 people
4 - 3-4 people
5 - 5-6 people
6 - More than 6 people

When answering the rest of our questions, THINK ABOUT THE MOST IMPORTANT romantic relationship or date since your high school graduation, regardless of whether or not the relationship ended on good or bad terms. If you’ve never had a relationship you consider important, think about the date or potential romantic partner you spent the most time with, dated most often, or would like to have dated more.

Are you CURRENTLY IN YOUR MOST IMPORTANT RELATIONSHIP, or was this in the past?

1 - I AM currently in my most important relationship
2 - I AM NOT currently in this relationship - it was in the past

When did you START DATING this person you consider the most important of your romantic relationships?

1 - Less than a month ago
2 - 1-2 months ago
3 - 3-4 months ago
4 - 5-6 months ago
5 - 7-8 months ago
6 - 9-10 months ago
7 - 11-12 months ago
8 - Between 1 and 2 years ago
9 - More than 2 years ago

HOW LONG did this relationship last?

1 - Less than 1 month
2 - 1-3 months
3 - 4-6 months
4 - 7-12 months
5 - 1-2 years
6 - 3-5 years
7 - More than 5 years
Which of these BEST DESCRIBES YOUR RELATIONSHIP with this partner?

1 - Dating but not living together  
2 - Living together / Cohabitating  
3 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Which of these BEST DESCRIBES YOUR RELATIONSHIP with this partner AT THE TIME YOUR RELATIONSHIP ENDED?

1 - Dating but not living together  
2 - Living together / Cohabitating  
3 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Do you LIVE WITH YOUR PARTNER?

1 - Not living together  
2 - Living together some of the time  
3 - Living together all of the time  
4 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

About HOW MANY TIMES PER WEEK do you GO OUT with this most important romantic partner?

1 - Less than one time per week  
2 - 1 time per week  
3 - 2 times per week  
4 - 3 times per week  
5 - 4 times per week  
6 - 5 times per week  
7 - More than 5 times per week

At the time you were dating this important romantic partner. About HOW MANY TIMES PER WEEK did you GO OUT?

1 - Less than one time per week  
2 - 1 time per week  
3 - 2 times per week  
4 - 3 times per week  
5 - 4 times per week  
6 - 5 times per week  
7 - More than 5 times per week

What GENDER is this ROMANTIC PARTNER?
1 - Male
2 - Female

WHEN did you get MARRIED?

1 - Less than 1 month ago
2 - 1-3 months ago
3 - 4-6 months ago
4 - 7-12 months ago
5 - 1-2 years ago
6 - 3-5 years ago
7 - More than 5 years ago

HOW LONG did your marriage last?

1 - Less than 1 month
2 - 1-3 months
3 - 4-6 months
4 - 7-12 months
5 - 1-2 years
6 - 3-5 years
7 - More than 5 years

Do you AGREE OR DISAGREE?
We ENJOY doing ordinary, day-to-day things together.

1 - Strongly Agree
2 - Agree
3 - Neither Agree nor Disagree
4 - Disagree
5 - Strongly Disagree
6 - Don't Know

Do you AGREE OR DISAGREE?
I AM SATISFIED with the way we handle our problems and disagreements.

1 - Strongly Agree
2 - Agree
3 - Neither Agree nor Disagree
4 - Disagree
5 - Strongly Disagree
6 - Don't Know
Do you AGREE OR DISAGREE?
My PARTNER LISTENS to me when I need someone to talk to.

1 - Strongly Agree
2 - Agree
3 - Neither Agree nor Disagree
4 - Disagree
5 - Strongly Disagree
6 - Don't Know

In general, HOW HAPPY are you with the relationship?

1 - Very Happy
2 - Fairly Happy
3 - Not Too Happy
4 - Very Unhappy
5 - Don't Know

In general, HOW HAPPY are you with your marriage?

1 - Very Happy
2 - Fairly Happy
3 - Not Too Happy
4 - Very Unhappy
5 - Don't Know

Will you still be DATING THIS PARTNER one year from now?

1 - Definitely
2 - Almost Certainly
3 - Probably
4 - Not Likely
5 - Definitely Not
6 - Don't Know

Will you STILL BE MARRIED to your partner one year from now?

1 - Definitely
2 - Almost Certainly
3 - Probably
4 - Not Likely
5 - Definitely Not
6 - Don't Know
Do you AGREE OR DISAGREE with this statement about your relationship before it ended?
We ENJOYED doing ordinary, day-to-day things together.

1 - Strongly Agree
2 - Agree
3 - Neither Agree nor Disagree
4 - Disagree
5 - Strongly Disagree
6 - Don't Know

Do you AGREE OR DISAGREE?
I WAS SATISFIED with the way we handled our problems and disagreements.

1 - Strongly Agree
2 - Agree
3 - Neither Agree nor Disagree
4 - Disagree
5 - Strongly Disagree
6 - Don't Know

Do you AGREE OR DISAGREE?
My PARTNER LISTENED to me when I needed someone to talk to.

1 - Strongly Agree
2 - Agree
3 - Neither Agree nor Disagree
4 - Disagree
5 - Strongly Disagree
6 - Don't Know

In general, HOW HAPPY were you with the relationship right before it ended?

1 - Very Happy
2 - Fairly Happy
3 - Not Too Happy
4 - Very Unhappy
5 - Don't Know

No matter how well a couple gets along, there are times when they disagree, get annoyed with the other person, want different things from each other, or just have spats or fights because they're in a bad mood, are tired, or for some other reason.

Couples also have many different ways of trying to settle their differences.
In our next set of questions, we will ask HOW OFTEN and WHAT HAPPENED during the problems, disagreements, arguments, or fights that occurred in your most important relationship.

For the questions we're about to ask, we want you to consider events during the ENTIRE TIME YOU WERE INVOLVED in your most important relationship.

During problems, disagreements, arguments, or fights, HOW OFTEN DID YOUR PARTNER: COMPROMISE with you even though you disagreed?

1 - All of the time
2 - Most of the time
3 - Occasionally
4 - Seldom
5 - Never

How many times did your PARTNER: Purposely INSULT or SWEAR at you?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

In general, did the insults HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

How many times has your PARTNER: THROWN SOMETHING at you that could hurt?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
When people mention something being thrown, they usually mean a situation where someone might get hurt.

IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

How many times has your PARTNER:
SLAPPED you?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

When people mention someone being slapped, they usually mean a situation that hurts.

IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

YOU HAD A:
SPRAIN, BRUISE, OR SMALL CUT because of a fight with your partner.

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

When people mention sprains, bruises, and cuts, they usually mean a situation where someone was physically harmed.

IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

How many times has your PARTNER:
PUSHED OR SHOVED you?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

When people mention pushing or shoving, they usually mean a situation where someone might get hurt.
IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

How many times did your PARTNER:
USE A GUN OR KNIFE on you?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
When people mention using a gun or knife, they usually mean a situation where someone was or might get hurt.

IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Do YOU agree with this statement?
I sometimes feel resentful when I don't get my way.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

How many times has your PARTNER:
Called you FAT, UGLY, STUPID, or a similar insult?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never
When people mention being called fat or ugly, they usually mean a situation where someone could be INSULTED OR UPSET. IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) where someone could be insulted or upset
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

How many times has your PARTNER: PUNCHED or HIT you with something that could hurt?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

When people mention punching or hitting, they usually mean a situation where someone might get hurt. IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)
In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship  
2 - Did not change the relationship  
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship  
4 - Harmed the relationship a little  
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot  
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this  
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

How many times did YOU:  
GO TO A MEDICAL DOCTOR because of a fight with your partner?

1 - Once  
2 - Twice  
3 - 3-5 times  
4 - 6-10 times  
5 - 11-20 times  
6 - More than 20 times  
7 - Never

When people mention going to a doctor after a fight, they usually mean a situation that could be serious or might hurt.  
IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt  
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended  
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)  
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)  
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)  
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

In general, did the fight that caused this problem HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship  
2 - Did not change the relationship  
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship  
4 - Harmed the relationship a little  
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot  
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this  
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)
How many times did your PARTNER:
SHOUT OR YELL at you?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

When people mention shouting or yelling, they usually mean a situation where someone could be INSULTED OR UPSET.
IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) where someone could be insulted or upset
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

How many times did your PARTNER:
TELL you something similar to - "WE CAN WORK IT OUT"

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

How many times did YOU:
NEED TO SEE A MEDICAL DOCTOR because of a fight with your partner BUT DIDN'T GO?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

When people mention needing a doctor because of a fight, they usually mean a situation that could be serious or might hurt.

IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

In general, did the fight that caused this problem HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

How many times did your PARTNER: THREATEN TO HIT OR THROW SOMETHING at you?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never
When people mention threatening to hit or throw something, they usually mean a situation where someone might get hurt.

IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

In general, did this behavior HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

How many times did YOU:

Feel PHYSICAL PAIN that still HURT THE NEXT DAY because of a fight with your partner?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

When people mention having physical pain after a fight, they usually mean a situation that could be serious or might hurt.

IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED? If not, do any of these other descriptions apply?

1 - I'm mentioning situation(s) that could be serious or might hurt
2 - No one took the situation(s) seriously / there was no harm intended
3 - I'm mentioning an accident(s)
4 - I'm mentioning joking, playful, or humorous situation(s)
5 - I'm mentioning self defense or the defense of someone else (e.g. children)
6 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)
In general, did the fight that caused this problem HELP, HARM, or NOT CHANGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

1 - Helped the relationship
2 - Did not change the relationship
3 - Sometimes helped and sometimes harmed the relationship
4 - Harmed the relationship a little
5 - Harmed the relationship a lot
6 - The relationship ended because of this or things like this
7 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

How many times did YOUR PARTNER:
Do ANYTHING ELSE we haven't asked about TO YOU that caused physical injury, another type of harm, or was relatively serious in another way?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

Which of these best describes what YOUR PARTNER did to you?
If more than one occurred, choose the one that impacted your relationship the most.

1 - Beat Up
2 - Harassed, Followed, Stalked
3 - Hit With Vehicle
4 - Sexual Assault / Rape
5 - Other (please explain by leaving a comment)

Which of the following best describes you?

1 - I was born in Texas
2 - I grew up mostly in Texas
3 - I grew up mostly in another state or country

How many times did your PARTNER:
AGREE TO A SOLUTION you suggested?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
How many times did your PARTNER:
AGREE TO A SOLUTION you suggested?

1 - Once
2 - Twice
3 - 3-5 times
4 - 6-10 times
5 - 11-20 times
6 - More than 20 times
7 - Never

What is your age?

1 - under 17
2 - 17
3 - 18
4 - 19
5 - 20
6 - 21
7 - 22
8 - 23
9 - Older than 23
10 - I Prefer Not To Answer

DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
I have sometimes given up doing something because I doubted my ability.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
There have been occasions when I took advantage of someone.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
There have been times when I was quite jealous of the good fortune of others.
1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

Which best describes you?

1 - White
2 - Black or African-American
3 - Hispanic/Latino/Chicano
4 - Asian or Pacific Islander
5 - Other
6 - I Prefer Not To Answer

Which best describes you?

1 - Native Born / Born in the United States
2 - Foreign Born
3 - Other
4 - I Prefer Not To Answer

DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
I have never deliberately said something that hurt someone's feelings.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
It is sometimes hard for me to finish a task if I am not encouraged.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
There have been times where I have tried to get even rather than forgive and forget.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
There have been times I felt like rebelling against people in authority although I knew they were right.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
I am always courteous, even to people who are disagreeable.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

Which best describes you?

1 - Protestant
2 - Catholic
3 - Other Christian
4 - Jewish
5 - Muslim/Islam
6 - Hindu
7 - Buddhist
8 - Unitarian
9 - Spiritual
10 - Agnostic
11 - Atheist
12 - Other
13 - I Prefer Not To Answer

DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
I never argue with anyone.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
I never get sad.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
I never criticize other people.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

DO YOU AGREE with this statement?
I have carefully and seriously answered the questions in this survey.

1 - Agree
2 - Disagree

OPTIONAL:
What contributes to a good romantic relationship?
APPENDIX D

RECRUITMENT FORM

Research Information
College Relationship Survey

Introduction
This form provides prospective research study participants information that will assist in decisions to participate in a study run by faculty and students at the Texas A&M University and supported by the TAMU Undergraduate Research Scholars Program. As a major part of our study we are asking university students to complete an on-line questionnaire.

Our study's purpose is to better understand the types of problems that occur in dating relationships among Texas A&M university students. Many of our questions are about arguments, aggressive behaviors, or even violent actions that may have occurred. In other words, some aspects of our survey are about sensitive issues. We will ask these questions in a way that will assure your privacy. The survey will be confidential. This means that no one other than the people conducting the survey will ever see any individual answers. Information about who participated will not be stored with the answers and will not be kept after we finish survey administration.

Who can participate?
Any TAMU student, age 18 or older, who is enrolled in one of the classes or is a member of a location we visit. You may participate regardless of your dating history – e.g., you do not have to be in a current dating relationship nor did you need to have one in the past.

What will I be asked to do?
We will ask participating students to complete an on-line questionnaire. Participants who have had a romantic relationship since high school will be asked about one of these relationships. Participants who have not had a recent romantic relationship will be asked alternative questions.

What are the risks?
Because our study is confined to completing an on-line questionnaire, the risks associated with this study are minimal and are not greater than risks ordinarily encountered in daily life.

What are the benefits?
If you choose to complete the on-line questionnaire, your name will be entered into a drawing to win one of two $100 Visa gift cards. Although your participation is critical to the success of our study and will provide a way for the romantic relationship issues of college students to be better understood, participants will receive no other direct benefit from us. Information we obtain, however, may potentially benefit Texas college students through improved ways of managing and responding to romantic partner issues.
Do I have to participate?
Your participation is voluntary. You may decide not to participate or to withdraw at any time.

Please Circle:   Yes   or   No

Yes  -   I would like to participate.
(People who list their name/email will receive an email within 2 weeks with information about survey access)

First Name:____________________________________________

Email:_________________________________________________

No   -   I would not like to participate (there is no need to provide a name and email).

Whom do I contact with questions about the research?
Jeffrey M. Ackerman, Ph.D.
Texas A&M Department of Sociology
College Station, TX  77843
Email: surveylab@tamu.edu
Main Office: 979-865-5133
Personal Office: 979-862-3193

Whom do I contact about my rights as a research participant?
This study has been review by the Institutional Review Board at Texas A&M. For research-related problems or questions regarding your rights as a research participant, you can contact these offices at (979)458-4067 or irb@tamu.edu
CONTACT INFORMATION

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