

**Sub-Category D-v: Drug and Alcohol Use,
and Criminal Histories**

COMPENDIUM OF RESEARCH ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

1993-2016

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Category D: SOCIAL AND CULTURAL CONTEXT

v. Drug and Alcohol Use, and Criminal Histories

1996-WT-NX-0005:	Alcohol Problems and Violence Against Women
Amount:	\$179,316
PI:	William Downs
Program Officer:	Katherine Darke
Status:	Completed

The purposes of this 24 month study are to: (1) describe the association of alcohol abuse and domestic violence among two at-risk populations, women in alcohol treatment programs and women receiving services for victimization by domestic violence; (2) determine if other problems (e.g., mental health issues) are greater for women with both problems as opposed to women with a single problem; (3) examine the current level of integration between the substance abuse and domestic violence service delivery systems as well as factors that impede or enhance this integration; and (4) determine the feasibility of developing and evaluating an innovative treatment program which addresses alcohol dependence and domestic violence within standard treatment settings for either problem. Standardized screening and assessment instruments and protocol will be utilized to generate the sample of 400 women, which will consist of 100 women victimized by domestic violence, 100 alcohol dependent women, and 200 women experiencing both problems. In-depth intergroup comparisons will be made using analysis of covariance.

Product: NCJ# 188266/188267

Alcohol Problems and Violence Against Women (2001) – W. Downs

The study examined the experience of partner violence in two groups of women—residents of a shelter for battered women and those from a substance abuse treatment facility. Sixty-six percent of the women in the substance abuse treatment group experienced at least one instance of abuse by a parent during childhood compared with 59% of those in the battered women’s shelter. Eighty-seven percent of the women in the shelter and 63% of the women in the substance abuse treatment facility experienced physical violence from a partner within the past six months, and virtually all experienced psychological violence. The association between partner abuse and drug problems is stronger than that between partner abuse and alcohol problems. Severe physical abuse was attributed to mothers more than fathers. Women’s use of violence against their partner was stronger on the shelter group among women who had a 12 month or lifetime diagnosis of alcohol dependence. Childhood abuse was associated with alcohol problems and partner abuse, and more strongly with violence toward a partner.

Additional Publication: Downs, W.R., Capshew, T., & Rindels, B. (2004). Relationships between adult women’s alcohol problems and their childhood experiences of parental violence and psychological aggression. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol*, 65, 336-344.

1997-IJ-CX-0009:	Linkage of Domestic Violence and Substance Abuse Services
Amount:	\$209,301
PI:	John Rintoul, Naomi Dean
Program Officer:	James Trudeau
Status:	Completed

The Visiting Fellowship project will conduct a study of the domestic violence/substance abuse service linkage using: (1) a survey of a national sample of 500 domestic violence and 700 substance abuse programs and (2) case studies of four programs that link the two kinds of services. The survey will collect information from program directors regarding the prevalence of domestic violence/substance abuse service linkages, the reasons for the linkage or lack thereof, barriers to the linkage, and the modes of linkage that are used. The case studies will focus on programs that link domestic violence and substance abuse services using different approaches. The two study components will identify barriers to service linkage, identify successful linkage models, and provide a foundation to promote the delivery of integrated services for domestic violence victims and offenders.

Product: NCJ# 194122/ 194123

Linkage of Domestic Violence and Substance Abuse Services (1999) – J. Collins, D. Spencer, J. Snodgrass, S. Wheelless

The study examined linkages between substance abuse and domestic violence programs for victims and offenders. The study involved a telephone survey of 9,685 substance abuse programs, and 1,970 domestic violence programs. Substance abuse programs operated with 2.5 times as much staff as the DV programs, which had smaller budgets but served more people. The majority of DV program clients were female (85%), whereas two thirds of the substance abuse programs were male. Fifty eight percent of substance abuse program clients were voluntary, while 75% of DV offender program clients were court mandated. The majority of both programs screened for complementary problems. DV program directors estimated that 36% of their victim clients had substance abuse problems, and substance abuse program directors estimated that 33% of their clients were victims of DV. In DV offender programs, 61% were estimated to have substance use problems, whereas 26% of substance use clients were estimated to be DV offenders. Although DV programs were more likely to have a relationship with complementary services, they were less likely to provide complementary services to both victims and offenders.

Additional NCJ Citation: 202564

1997-IJ-CX-0047:	Influence of Alcohol and Drugs on Women’s Utilization of the Police for Domestic Violence
Amount:	\$39,994
PI:	Ira Hutchinson
Program Officer:	Angela Moore Parmley
Status:	Completed

The purpose of this 12-month study is to investigate the influence of substance use and abuse on women’s utilization of the police for incidents of domestic violence. Specifically, the study will examine the relationships between both chronic and acute patterns of substance use, and women’s utilization of the police. Substance use of both male perpetrators and female victims will also be explored. These issues will be addressed through secondary data analyses of existing victim interview data and corollary police data derived from the Charlotte Spouse Assault Replication Project, for 419 female victims of misdemeanor-level domestic violence. Project products will include a final report, an executive summary, and semi-annual progress reports. The results of the project will be of interest and value to criminal justice personnel, victim service and substance abuse service providers. If the analyses reveal that substance use or abuse by perpetrators and/or victims inhibits police utilization, then additional efforts can be taken by law enforcement and social service providers to counter this effect in order to provide greater safety to abused women. Project results will also be of value to criminal justice researchers, stimulating additional needed research regarding the connections between alcohol, other drugs, and domestic violence.

Product: NCJ# 179277

Influence of Alcohol and Drugs on Women’s Utilization of the Police for Domestic Violence (1999) – I. Hutchinson

This study examined data from 419 women who were involved in a misdemeanor-level domestic violence incident for which the police received a call from the victim or another person in Charlotte, N.C. Substance use was measured with respect to the general pattern of alcohol consumption, the frequency of drinking, subjective perceptions of the offender's having a problem with alcohol or drugs, and frequency and type of drug abuse. Results revealed that alcohol or drug use by male abusers was related to calls to police; however, substance use by female victims was not related to calls to police. Offender drunkenness, rather than the absolute quantity or frequency of alcohol consumption, escalated police use by abused women; this factor was the most consistent predictor of a call to the police. The frequency of calling the police over the length of the relationship was significantly associated with offender drunkenness, marijuana use, the frequency of threats to the victim and hitting the victim, and race. A majority of women reported that their partners were either drinking or drunk at the time of the presenting incident.

Additional NCJ Citations: 202564

1998-IJ-CX-0031:	Drugs and Alcohol and Their Connection to Domestic Violence
Amount:	\$41,358
PI:	Paul Geurin
Program Officer:	Christine Crossland
Status:	Completed

This 15-month project will collect urine sample, police, and interview data on 400 domestic violence arrestees in Bernalillo County (Albuquerque), New Mexico, to examine the nexus between substance abuse and domestic violence. The project is expected to build on the DUF/ADAM platform, but can stand alone if necessary. A particular focus of the analysis will be on the relationship between race/ethnicity and substance abuse/domestic violence, as the study site's population is 37% Hispanic, including both Hispanic individuals who are recent immigrants and those who are long-term residents.

Product: NCJ# 196667

Understanding the Nexus: Domestic Violence and Substance Abuse Among the Arrestee Population in Albuquerque (2002) – S. Woerle, P. Guerin, M. Smith

This study collected domestic violence information from 609 ADAM arrestees (446 men and 163 women) in Bernalillo County, New Mexico, to examine the nexus between substance abuse and domestic violence. Fifteen percent of the women and 24% of the men had never experienced IPV as measured by the conflict tactics scale (CTS). Women reported perpetrating more severe intimate partner violence than men. For example, eight percent of women, and half a percent of men claimed to have stabbed or shot a partner. However, the context of the IPV was not examined, that is, whether or not it was if self-defense. Thirty three percent of the men and 45% of the women had abused a partner in the past 12 months. Forty eight percent of men and 49% of women claimed to have been abused by a partner in the past 12 months. Women were more likely to be seriously injured than men. Fifty nine percent of men and 76% of women sustained at least one injury. For all males in the sample, 42% gave an injury, while for all females, 57% gave an injury. Alcohol and drug use in the past 12 months did not predict the likelihood of experiencing IPV.

1998-WT-VX-0007:	Developmental Theory and Battering Incidents: Examining the Relationship Between Discrete Offender Groups and Intimate Partner Violence
Amount:	\$97,142
PI:	Paul Mazerolle
Program Officer:	Leora Rosen
Status:	Completed

The goal of the project is to examine the developmental antecedents of violent against women. In particular, this study seeks to focus on changes in patterns of violence against Caucasian, Hispanic, and African-American women. In particular, this study will analyze risk factors associated with the stress of work, economic status, relationship transitions, and cultural attitudes about family structure, as well as personality factors such as self-esteem and hostility. The analysis will use the National Survey of Family and Households (NSFH), Waves 1 and 2, to examine both situational and individual characteristics associated with moving in and out of violent relationships.

Product: NCJ# 198827

Developmental Theory and Battering Incidents: Examining the Relationship Between Discrete Offender Groups and Intimate Partner Violence (2002) – P. Mazerolle, J. Maahs

This study's conceptual model, which links Moffitt's life-course-persistent offending typology with intimate partner violence, identifies how the combination of violence in the offender's childhood home, coupled with exposure to negative life events, increases the probability of early delinquency. In testing this model, the study used existing data from a sample of parolees and their spouses ($n = 194$) in Buffalo, NY, in 1987 to examine relationships between discrete offender groups consistent with Moffitt's theory and subsequent intimate partner violence. The research also examined a range of factors that were expected to be associated with IPV, including alcohol and substance abuse history, early exposure and experiences with violence, and a range of psychological and social factors. The study found that life-course-persistent offenders experienced higher levels of social adversity while growing up, including higher levels of exposure to violence in their childhood home. They also experienced more negative life outcomes than other offender groups, including greater lifetime alcohol problems, more illicit drug use, higher levels of violent crime, and higher levels of intimate partner violence in adulthood. Early exposure to violence during childhood was associated with a range of negative outcomes, such as early delinquency onset, alcohol problems, and violence.

1999-WT-VX-0006:	Understanding the Links Between Violence Against Women and Women's Participation in Illegal Activity
Amount:	\$186,011
PI:	Beth Richie
Program Officer:	Katherine Darke
Status:	Completed

The goal of this study is to explore the relationship between violence against women and women's involvement in illegal activities leading to incarceration. The objectives are to: 1) measure the rate of prior domestic, sexual, and other acts of violence against women in the Dwight Correctional Facility (DCF); 2) analyze the types and differences in victim-perpetrator relationships, the consequences of violence, and the relationship between multiple forms of abuse; and 3) determine the relationship of violence to women's involvement in illegal activities. Three sources of data will be used for this study. Existing State agency data regarding the rate of violence against and the rate of incarceration of women will be collected and compared with information from the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority about the rates and profiles of domestic violence victims and women who have been sexually assaulted. Information about violence experiences will be collected on a sample of 300 women incarcerated during a one year period in the DCF using the Conflict Tactic Scale (CTS). Violence initiated by three types of perpetrators will be measured: (1) intimate partners; (2) crime partners; and (3) authority figures in the system. Thirty of the CTS respondents will be randomly selected for in-depth life history interviews.

Product: NCJ# 199369/199370

Understanding the Links Between Violence Against Women and Women's Participation in Illegal Activity (2002) – B. Richie

A total of 298 women detained in the Cook County Jail (Chicago, IL) were administered a survey to determine the extent of prior abuse in the population, to identify the nature of the abuse, and to identify women to participate in in-depth, life-history interviews. A significant number had been violently abused by multiple perpetrators, with serious consequences, and was directly linked to the women's involvement in illegal activity, in some cases. Thirty-three women were recruited to participate in the interviews. Analysis of the qualitative results showed a clear pattern of the impact of conditions in low-income communities on the violence experienced by the women as they grew up, as well as the link between such abuse and their later criminality. The underprivileged urban neighborhoods in which the women lived, characterized by a series of structural shifts, resulted in deteriorating economic conditions and neighborhood instability (i.e. social disorganization). As young adults, they witnessed the effect of high unemployment. The women were at higher risk of exploitation when they were involved in illegal drug activity, and they were vulnerable to arrest as a result of their addiction and their abuse. In addition to community conditions, victimization was shaped by racial and gender identity as well as social position.

2000-WT-VX-0001:	Examining the Nature and Correlates of Domestic Violence Among Female Arrestees in San Diego
Amount:	\$46,048
PI:	Susan Pennell
Program Officer:	Leora Rosen
Status:	Completed

The proposed 24 month study will examine the incidence and prevalence of domestic violence among female arrestees in the ADAM program, using an instrument developed by the domestic violence community in San Diego. The study will also explore the relationship between alcohol and other drug use and violent victimization and the service and treatment needs of female offenders. The analysis will begin by comparing the sample to all arrestees in terms of such demographic characteristics as ethnicity, age, sex, and offense characteristics to determine how representative the sample is, then providing the ADAM program with a descriptive analysis of the data, including the frequency of different types of abuse and the use of different types of services by those interviewed. This baseline of information will also be enhanced by bivariate analyses (for example, chi-square and *t*-tests) of how the variables on the addendum are related to one another and to the information on the ADAM interview and the urinalysis results. Finally, multivariate data analysis (for example, logit regression) will be used, based on theoretical premises identified through a comprehensive literature review, to determine how the study's variables are related.

Product: NCJ# 202900**Incidence and Prevalence of Domestic Violence Victimization Among Female Arrestees in San Diego County (2003) – S. Pennell, C. Burke**

This study was designed to explore the incidence and prevalence of domestic violence among female arrestees, determine if the types and severity of abuse were related to victim substance use, and compare these victims with those in another study of shelter clients. A total of 181 female arrestees participated in the study. Participants were interviewed as part of the ADAM study in San Diego County between August 2000 and May 2001. Of the 181 subjects, 80% had been abused in their lifetime, and two thirds had been abused in the past year. Analyses of these three groups indicated that those who had never been abused were less likely to have ever had mental health treatment, and those with recent abuse were most likely to be arrested for a violent offense. Substance abuse was significantly related to type of abuse and victim injury as well as getting medical treatment. Arrestees differed from shelter clients on a number of demographic variables as well as substance use and arrest history.

2000-WT-VX-0010:	Research on Incarcerated Women
Amount:	\$359,183
PI:	Dana D. DeHart
Program Officer:	Bernard Auchter
Status:	Completed

This study will sample from three women's prison in South Carolina in order to identify risk factors for criminal involvement, possible points of intervention, strengths for what may help women make positive life choices, and ways to enhance programming for the ultimate well-being of women, families, and communities. The objectives are to enhance understanding of the: (1) scope and depth of the impact of violence within the life histories and daily experiences of incarcerated women; (2) women's points of vulnerability to violence and protective buffers against its impact; (3) support structures in the women's lives and ways to strengthen these supports; (4) turning points and prospective opportunities for intervention; and (5) ways to refine and enhance justice perceptions of the effectiveness of early interventions in their lives and corrections-based interventions. This includes effectiveness not only for addressing criminal behavior, but also for addressing victimization, poverty and addictions.

Product: NCJ# 208383**Pathways to Prison: Impact of Victimization in the Lives of Incarcerated Women (2004) – D. DeHart**

Some theorists have contended that women's involvement in criminal activities can be attributed to social problems that often result in the physical, sexual, and psychological victimization of these women. As the female incarceration rate continues to swell in the United States, researchers have been called upon to study the gender-specific motivations and needs of female offenders. The current study examines the link between female victimization and women's involvement in crime. Researchers interviewed 60 women incarcerated in a maximum-security correctional facility for various offenses including drug offenses, property offenses, child abuse and neglect, and violent offenses. The interviews focused on the offender's perspective of the victimization experienced in her life, as well as her history of family and peer relationships, substance use, and criminal involvement. A grounded-theory approach guided the qualitative analysis of the interview transcripts, which were analyzed with the assistance of the ATLAS/ti software program. The findings revealed several major ways in which victimization impacted the female offenders, including the victimization's effects on health and psychosocial functioning. In some cases, the victimization led directly to the commission of the offense in that the women were coerced into the criminal activity. The cumulative impact of multiple victimizations as a contributing factor in women's criminal involvement is discussed and case studies are provided to illustrate main findings.

For an index of all grants, go to <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/223572/223572-grants-index.pdf>.