

Partner Abuse
(update) in
Latin America:
Preliminary
findings

ADVIP 5th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

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Aims

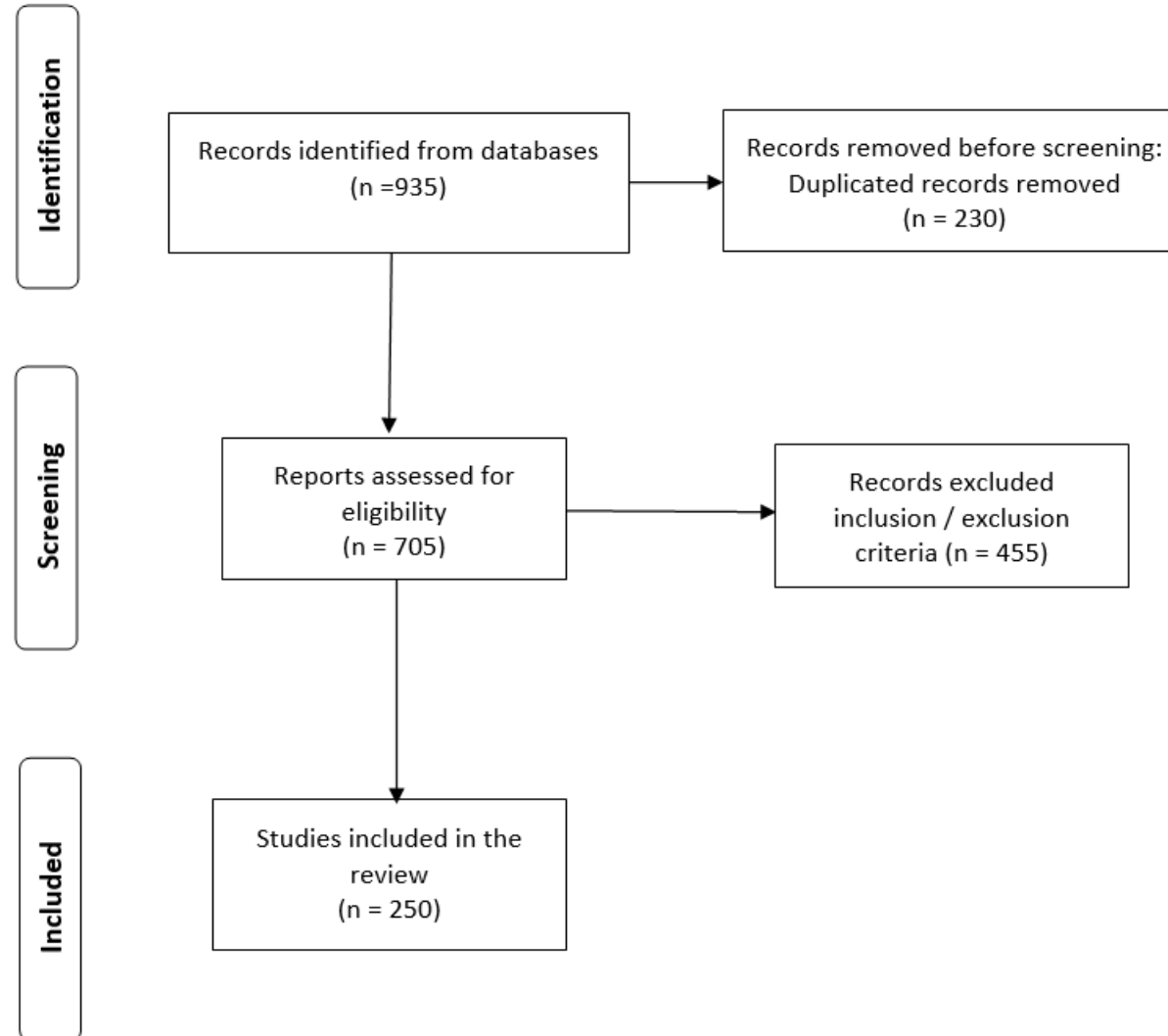
Investigate

- Partner abuse prevalence rates
- Risk factors
- Partner abuse interventions

Methodology (Systematic search)

- Conducted → August to October 2023
- BMC, BMJ, CLACSO, Dialnet, DOAJ, ERIC, Latindex, Redalyc, UNAM learning network
- Inclusion criteria
 - → Empirical studies in Latin America published in either English, Portuguese, Spanish
 - → Information (data) about partner abuse / IPV

Methodology (findings)



Studies that addressed...

- MFIPV or female victimization → 150
- FMIPV or male victimization → 5
- MFIPV & FMIPV or male & female victimization → 95



Studies by population type

- General population / community samples → 45
- High school / University students / youths → 70
- Clinical / selected samples → 135



Partner abuse victimization prevalence rates

12-month / 6-month / pregnancy prevalence

Men %				Women%				
Physical	Psychological	Sexual	Total Male	Physical	Psychological	Sexual	Total Female	Total male & female
8.6 – 23.2	19 – 89.3	4.8 – 39.1	11.9 – 45.5	2.7 – 72.6	4.3 – 92.1	2 – 39.1	1.2 – 76.9	9.9 – 93.2
Lifetime prevalence								
2.7 – 31.9	7.1 – 89.3	1.6 – 48.8	52 - 95	5.7 - 88	14.3 – 96.2	3.1 - 37	5.4 – 89.3	28.6 – 94,2

Partner abuse perpetration (12-month period)

Type of IPV	Men (%)	Women
Physical	5.6 – 31.7	4.6 – 45.4
Psychological	21.5 – 86.2	19.4 – 94.6
Sexual	7.4 – 41.7	6.9 – 19.1
Total	38.3 – 80.9	58.6 – 88.4

Partner abuse female victimization risk factors

Clinical settings /selected samples	Community / general population	Student / teenager samples
Common mental disorders (anxiety, depression, PTSD)	Common mental disorders and Suicidal ideation	Relationship dynamics (behavioral, dyadic)
Victim's younger age	Victim's younger age	Partner abuse perpetration
Victim's lower educational attainment / low or no income	Victim's lower educational attainment	Drug and alcohol abuse
Substance abuse (including alcohol)	Alcohol abuse	Child abuse
Child abuse	Traditional gender role attitudes	Witnessing interparental violence
Witnessing interparental violence	Number of children (in household)	Lower quality of life
Partner's substance abuse (including alcohol)	Sexual initiation at an early age	Sexual initiation at an early age
Partner's unemployment	Children with low quality of life	Lower empathetic concern / awareness
Lower self- esteem	Partner unemployment	Adaptation problems, family functionality

Partner abuse male victimization risk factors

Clinical settings /selected samples	Student / teenager samples
Substance abuse (including alcohol)	Substance abuse
Inadaptability	Witnessing interparental violence
Extramarital relations	Common mental disorders (e.g. anxiety)
STD diagnosis (including fear of discussing it)	Partner abuse perpetration
Partner's substance abuse	Relationship dynamics (dyadic types)
	Low empathetic concern /awareness
	Family (dys)functionality
	Exposure to violence
	Sexist attitudes

Partner abuse male perpetration risk factors

Clinical settings /selected samples	Community / general population	Student / teenager samples
Common mental disorders	Limited emotion regulation strategies	Relationship dynamics (dyadic types)
Substance abuse	Peer victimization	Alcohol abuse
Insecure attachment	Common crimes	Jealousy
Fear of an intimate partner	Unemployment	Child abuse
Alexithymia	Low SES	Benevolent sexism
Difficulty with social cognition	Impulse control	Adaptation problems
		Family (dis) functionality
		Witnessing interparental violence
		Dominance of a partner

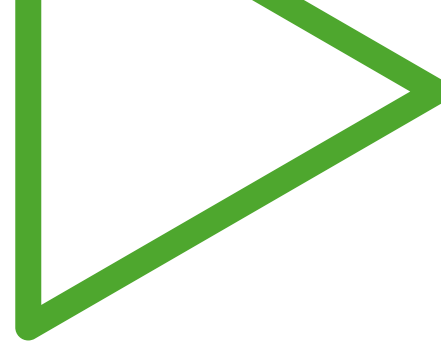
Partner abuse female perpetration risk factors

Clinical settings /selected samples	Community / general population	Student / teenager samples	
Separated / divorced marital status	Younger age	Relationship dynamics (dyadic types)	
Higher educational attainment	Child abuse	Child abuse	
	Rumination, interference in planning (maladaptive emotion regulation strategy)	Jealousy	
	Peer victimization	Oppositionalism	
	Common crimes		Dominance of an intimate partner
			Benevolent sexism
			Witnessing interparental violence
Alcohol abuse			
		Family (dis) functionality	

Reported partner abuse outcomes

All coming from studies with clinical / selected samples

- Oral-maxillo facial trauma
- Intrauterine growth restriction
- Pregnancy termination
- Unspecified physical injuries
- Increased levels of cortisol in victims
- Disruption of children's schooling
- Increased labor costs for companies



Domestic Violence Intervention Programs for Perpetrators in Latin America and the Caribbean

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Partner abuse interventions in Latin America

Country / Author	Type of document / target audience	Length of program	Guiding theoretical perspective	Program outcome
Brazil / Caicedo-Roa et al.(2023)	Quasi-experimental study / Female victims	46 weekly, 2-hour sessions / strengthening groups	Gender / Pedagogical proposal /culture circles	Three-month follow up showed improvement in QOL of clients
Brazil / Litwin et al (2019)	Cross-sectional qualitative and quantitative study	Obtaining a Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT)	Gender	Improves female victims agency (separations) but showed no relationship with intimate partner homicides
Brazil / Habigzan et al (2018)	Quasi-experimental study / female victims	13 individual sessions	CBT	Significant reduction in depression, anxiety and stress symptoms. Improvement in life satisfaction levels
Colombia / Rey-Anacona et al., (2020)	Quasi-experimental study / young unmarried heterosexual couples	10 sessions + 1 follow up	CBT /Psychoeducational	Reduction in all forms of assessed dating violence, in state-anger expression, and in more pro-violent attitudes

Jaramillo-Sierra & Ripoll-Nuñez (2018)	Couples victims of situational couple violence	Six sessions	Solution-focused brief therapy	Reduction of physical and psychological partner abuse. Improved communication, shared time and couple intimacy
Colombia / Rey-Anacona et al., (2014)	Quasi-experimental study / young unmarried heterosexual couples	10 sessions + 1 follow up	CBT / Psychoeducational	Reduction in psychological and economic violence; and in agreement of pro-violent attitudes, improvement in assertive communication
Mexico / Flores-Martínez et al (2024)	Quasi-experimental study / male university students	Eight 90-minutes weekly sessions	Gender, ecological model	Decrease in distorted thoughts and about the use of violence. Increase of attitudes toward machismo
Mexico / Saldívar-Hernandez et al., (2022)	Quasi-experimental study / junior high school students	A total of 20 90-minute sessions	Socioecological model (risk / protective factors) / gender	Improvements only in emotional / family spheres of self-esteem, and reduction in bullying experiences
Mexico / Sosa-Rubí et al (2017)	Quasi-experimental study / high school students	Schoolyard activities +16 one- hour weekly sessions	Psychoeducational / gender	A 58% and 55% reduction in perpetrated and experienced psychological aggression, and in sexism and attitudes

Mexico / Gupta et al. (2017)	Clinic-based randomized control trial / female victims	One 3-day intervention	Gender / healthcare	Three-month follow up showed improvement in the use of community resources, safety planning and QOL
Mexico / Lazarevich et al., (2017)	Quasi- experimental study / University students	One workshop	Educational	Positive changes in perception and attitudes toward dating violence
Peru / Mamani-Benito et al., (2020)	Quasi-experimental study / high school students	14 weekly sessions ranging from 90-120 minutes each	Educational / constructivist	Increased knowledge on partner abuse and rejection attitudes toward partner violence
Perú / Ayala-Albites (2018)	Quasi-experimental / female victims of PA	25 weekly two-hour sessions	Educational / Gender / healthcare	Improvement in self-esteem and change in attitudes supportive of submission and dependence on an intimate partner

Summary of findings

- Most studies on PA in Latin America were conducted on clinical / selected samples focusing on female victimisation
- Most studies focusing on MFPV and FMPV were conducted on student / teenagers
- Greater gender differences in PA prevalence across studies and samples are found in physical violence



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- Most reported perpetration and victimization risk factors are related to individual and microsystem levels
 - All interventions documenting a decrease in partner abuse perpetration / victimization experiences are focused on non-clinical simples

