

# Millersville University of Pennsylvania IRB Protocol Form

The Human Subjects Review Protocol form for all researchers must be submitted and approved by the IRB before implementing the project. Additional information regarding Informed Consent can be found [HERE](#). All documents must be submitted as a single PDF. Protocols submitted as multiple documents or that are incomplete will be returned without review.

Information on [Federal guidelines regulating human subjects research](#), the [ethical considerations regarding human subjects research](#), [definitions of human subjects research](#), [kinds of IRB review](#) and [other information](#) can be found by following the included links. If you have not completed CITI training, please do so as soon as possible. If you are unsure whether or not your research will require IRB review, please use this [flow chart](#) to help inform your decision. If you have any questions regarding the need for IRB review, this form or the review process, please contact Rene Munoz, Director, Sponsored Programs by phone at 717.871.4457 or by email at [rene.munoz@millersville.edu](mailto:rene.munoz@millersville.edu).

## Principal Investigator Information

Is this a:\*

Please enter the Protocol Number or Unique Identifier

557799044

I am a\*

Principal Investigator Name

XXXXXXXXXXXX

Email (where are most likely to contact you)

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Major

Psychology (BA)

Year

Senior

Field of Study  
MS - Psychology (School)  
Department  
Psychology

## Faculty Mentor/Co-investigator Information

Faculty/Co-investigator Name  
Andrew Bland

Email  
Andrew.Bland@millersville.edu  
Phone  
(717) 871-4749

Department

## Project Information

Project Title  
Attitudes Toward Intimate Partner Violence

Project Starts Date  
Nov 25, 2019  
Project End Date  
Mar 01, 2020  
Project Funding  
None

Specify Funding

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### Nature of Risk

In your judgment, does your research involve more than minimal risk? "Minimal risk" means that the risk of harm anticipated in the proposed research is not more likely than those risks encountered in daily life, or during routine physical or psychological examinations/tests.

No

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### Protected Populations and Sensitive Subjects

Will your research have as its primary focus any protected populations or deal with illegal, potentially illegal or otherwise sensitive subjects?

No

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### Protected Populations and Sensitive Subjects

If any Human Subjects from the following list would be involved in the proposed activity, place an X next to the category.

## Project Purpose and Background

### Purpose of the Study

This is an exploratory study to assess gender differences in attitudes of intimate partner violence (IPV). To collect this data, participants will be asked several questions about a fictitious vignette describing an incident of IPV. In the vignette, the gender of the perpetrator and the victim will be changed in order to measure different perceptions of seriousness and blame. Unlike other studies to date on IPV, this study will collect data on attitudes toward IPV through both quantitative and qualitative data. The Perceived Serious of Violence Measurement, the Excuse-Perpetrator Measure, and the Victim-Blame Attribution Measure (Yamawaki et al., 2009) (see citation in following section) will be the adapted quantitative measures used in this study. Quantitative measures will be used to assess the participants attitudes toward the scenario on the basis of perceived seriousness and blame distribution between perpetrator and victim. To collect qualitative data, participants will be asked to explain his or her rationale for the response. Furthermore, this study will capture information on how the participants would respond to the incident if witnessed and their desired police intervention.

### Background

In previous research on IPV, investigators have found gender differences in perceptions of domestic abuse and IPV. The gender of the IPV perpetrator and the victim both change perceptions of seriousness, distribution of blame, owner of responsibility, and appropriate course of action (Seelau, Seelau, & Poorman, 2003). Using hypothetical vignettes, Dardis et al (2016) found that men perceived IPV (both male-to-female and female-to-male) as less abusive than women. They also found that both men and women rated male-to-female IPV as more abusive than female-to-male IPV. It has also been found that males are more likely to blame the victim for the abuse (Yamawaki, 2012). This study aims to address the issues connected with perception biases by analyzing differences in blame attribution, perceived seriousness, and intervention between male and female participants.

Dardis, C. M., Edwards, K. M., Kelley, E. L., & Gidycz, C. A. (2016). Perceptions of Dating Violence

and Associated Correlates: A Study of College Young Adults. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 32(21), 3245-3271. doi:10.1177/0886260515597439

Seelau, E. P., Seelau, S. M., & Poorman, P. B. (2003). Gender and role-based perceptions of domestic abuse: Does sexual orientation matter? *Behavioral Sciences & the Law*, 21(2), 199-214. doi:10.1002/bsl.524

Yamawaki, N., Ochoa-Shipp, M., Pulsipher, C., Harlos, A., & Swindler, S. (2012). Perceptions of domestic violence: The effects of domestic violence myths, victim's relationship with her abuser, and the decision to return to her abuser. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 27(16), 3195-3212. doi:10.1177/0886260512441253

Yamawaki, Niwako, Ostenson, Joseph, & Brown, C. Ryan. (2009). The functions of gender role traditionality, ambivalent sexism, injury, and frequency of assault on domestic violence perception: A study between Japanese and American college students. *Violence Against Women*, Vol 15(9), 1126-1142. doi: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1177/1077801209340758>

## Characteristics of the Subject Population

**If protected populations will be included, provide justification of the need to use these subjects in research.**

Justification for use of protected populations

What is the estimated no. of participants?

150

List participant inclusion criteria\*

This study includes students currently enrolled at Millersville University who are eighteen or older.

List any participant exclusion criteria\*

This study will exclude individuals of diverse gender and sexual identity. Because the research question is concerned with a gender comparison between males and female, diverse populations need to be the focus of a different study.

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### Will sex or gender be used as an exclusion criteria?

Please remember **sex** usually refers to the biological aspects of maleness or femaleness, whereas **gender** implies the psychological, behavioral, social, and cultural aspects of being male or female

Yes - both sex and gender are exclusions

Please justify exclusions based on sex and/or gender\*

The scope of this study only focuses on cisgender individuals. Individuals of diverse gender identity and sex should be the focus of a future study. (see exclusion criteria).

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## What is the subjects age range and why was it chosen?

From:

18

To:

Please justify age range\*

Participants must be at least 18 to participate in order to prevent complications with consent.

## Risk and Consent

Please list any potential risks. Specify types and levels of risk.\*

This study involves minimal risk. This study should not offer any more distress than a typical classroom setting; however, some of the content described in this study could elicit emotional distress related to interpersonal interactions.

Protection Against Risks - specify the procedures for preventing or minimizing any potential risks.

A debriefing statement will be included at the end of the questionnaire that will provide resources if anyone may encounter distress. Such resources include the Counseling Center in Lyle Hall. Contact information for the Counseling Center will be provided. Information regarding walk-in hours at the Counseling Center will be provided if a participants need immediate services. In addition to the Counseling Center, participants will also be directed to [samhsa.org](http://samhsa.org) in order to find another treatment center. (see additional attachments)

Potential Benefits - Describe any potential non-monetary benefits of the study, both for subjects and in general.

Participants will not receive any financial or material benefits. Participants may find fulfillment through the process of assisting with research and may gain self-awareness by participation. Participation will help the research community gain a deeper understand of interpersonal relationships.

Please attach a copy of your informed consent



# Methods and Procedures

Describe the method(s) for identifying and recruiting prospective subjects.

Participants will be recruited through advertisements via posters, emails, and word of mouth. The PI of the study will ask instructors to announce the study in classes and provide information on how one can participate. Various academic departments will be contacted across campus through email in order to recruit participants in different majors.

Will you publicly advertise to recruit participants?

Yes

Upload copies of any advertisements\*



State the location(s) where the study will be conducted.

The entire study will be complete online via Qualtrics.

Will your research take place outside of Millersville?

No

Describe in detail the study design and all procedures (sequentially) to be applied to subjects.

The study will be completed on Qualtrics and will be distributed through email and posters advertisements containing a QR code as a link to the study. Each participant will be randomly assigned into one of the two conditions through the randomization function on Qualtrics. Each version of the study will be given an identifier. These identifiers are based whether the perpetrator in the vignette is male or female (version M or version F ). Both versions of the study are attached and are shown as they will appear in Qualtrics.

Prior to starting the study, all participants will review an informed consent screen. This screen will introduce the study, provide information about confidentiality, and will provide researcher information. Participants will first review a scenario describing intimate partner violence between a romantically involved couple. After reviewing the scenario, participants will complete a comprehension check to verify understanding of the scenario and rate a series of counterbalanced statements adapted from three different scales.

These scales, the Perceived Serious of Violence Measurement , the Excuse-Perpetrator Measure , and the Victim-Blame Attribution Measure (Yamawaki, Ostenson & Brown, 2009) assess perceived seriousness, perpetrator blame, and victim blame. Qualitatively, the participants will be asked to justify the rating of these statements. Participants will then be asked a set of open-ended questions that address how the participant would respond to the situation. Participants will then complete a demographic questionnaire. At the conclusion of the study, participants will be provided with debriefing information.

Will you use any instruments such as surveys, rating scales, or questionnaires?

Yes

Upload copies any instruments such as surveys, rating scales, or questionnaires?\*



Describe any alternatives to participation in the study which might be advantageous to the subject. If the subjects are to receive academic credit for research participation, describe the alternatives available to earn equivalent academic credit. - Copy  
Individuals who choose not to participate will be offered an intimate partner violence information sheet.

Will the participants receive monetary or other forms of compensation for their participation\*

No

Will any information be withheld from the participants?\*

Yes

Describe any monetary or other forms of compensation which will be provided to subjects, and any conditions which must be fulfilled to receive compensation.

Identify the nature of any information to be purposely withheld from subjects, and provide justification for the nondisclosure.

The purpose of this study and any information that could potentially prime the participants, will be withheld from participants. Participants will be informed that they study explores perceptions toward interpersonal interactions. Participants will not know any information about the manipulation of perpetrator and victim gender variables in this study. At the end of the study, participants will be debriefed.

Describe the procedure for post-study debriefing of of subjects

Once participants have submitted the study, the participants will be provided with a debriefing screen (see under additional attachments). This debriefing screen will release withheld information, explain the purpose of the study, and provide resources.

Describe in detail how confidentiality and privacy will be maintained

The confidentiality of all participants responses will be maintained throughout the study using a password protected database in which only the investigator and advisor have access. All questionnaires will be kept for at least three years to comply with federal law.

**If any information with subject identifiers will be released, specify the recipients. Include a statement that all data will be retained for at least three years in compliance with federal regulations.**

## Checklist and Signatures

CITI Training is required for anyone submitting an IRB protocol.

I have completed CITI training

Upload CITI Completion Certificate



**If you have not yet completed CITI training, please start here:**

[CITI - Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative](#)

Millersville Students, staff or faculty can use the "Single Sign On" (SSO) for CITI access. Click the CITI link below, scroll and select Millersville University. You will be redirected to a Millersville login page.

By signing my name below, I agree to provide whatever surveillance is necessary to ensure that the rights and welfare of the human subjects are properly protected. I understand that I cannot initiate any research with human subjects before I have received approval/or complied with all contingencies made in connection with the approval. I understand that as the principal investigator I am ultimately responsible for the welfare and protection of human subjects and will carry out the project as approved.



If you have any questions regarding this form or the IRB review process, please contact Rene Muñoz, Director, Sponsored Programs at 717.871-4457 or by email at [rene.munoz@millersville.edu](mailto:rene.munoz@millersville.edu)

Protocol Number  
Review type  
Date/Time Assigned

Assigned to:



\*This page is verbatim to what will appear on Qualtrics\*

This screen is provided to inform you about the nature of this study and to gather your consent to participate. This study is being conducted by Miles Iati and is a requirement for the Millersville University Psychology Honors Program and is under the supervision of Dr. Andrew Bland of the Millersville Psychology Faculty. Please read this screen carefully and bring any questions or concerns to the attention of the researcher prior to participation. Once you read this screen completely, please indicate at the bottom of the screen if you understand this information and agree to participate.

### **Purpose & Procedure**

The purpose of this study is to examine perceptions and attitudes regarding interpersonal interactions from approximately 150 individuals. This study will take 15-20 minutes to complete. During this study, you will be asked to read a one-page scenario. After reading the scenario, you will be asked to answer a series of questions that relate to the content of the scenario and to report your thoughts about it.

### **Risk & Benefits**

This study involves minimal risk. This study should not offer any more distress than a typical classroom setting; however, some of the content described in this study could elicit emotional distress. You will not receive any financial or material benefits. You may find fulfillment through the process of assisting with research and may gain self-awareness by participation. Participation will help the research community gain a deeper understand of interpersonal relationships. Significant findings developed during the course of the research which may relate to your willingness to continue participation will be provided to you.

### **Eligibility**

To participate in this study, you must be at least 18 years of age and a currently enrolled student at Millersville University.

### **Compensation**

There is no monetary or material compensation offered for participation.

### **Withdrawal**

Participation in this study is completely voluntary and can be terminated at any time with no consequences. If you choose to withdrawal from the study, your data will not be included in the analysis.

### **Confidentiality**

All data collected in this study is completely confidential. Your data will not be associated with identifying information. Information and data collected in this current study will not be used or distributed for any future studies.

**Contact Information**

If you have and questions, concerns, or comments, feel free to contact Miles Iati or Dr. Bland using the information below.



**Dr. Andrew Bland**, 717-871-4749, Andrew.Bland@millersville.edu

This study has been approved by the Millersville University Institutional Review Board. For more information, please contact Dr. René Muñoz at (717) 871-4457 or at mu-irb@millersville.edu

To continue, click "I agree, continue" and then press the ">" button below.