Intimate Partner Violence, Economic Abuse, Depression, & Anxiety: Impacts on Later Economic Outcomes for Women with Children

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Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) includes physical, psychological and economic forms of abuse, and is found disproportionally among low-income women. The impact of Economic Abuse (EA) on women’s later financial stability is largely untested.

**Background**
- Economic Abuse (EA) is one form of IPV. It includes:
  - Disrupting employment or education
  - Stealing checks or withholding support
  - Destroying credit
  - Preventing economic decision making
  - The extent of EA in non-IPV service seeking populations is unknown.
  - IPV is seven times as prevalent among the poorest Americans compared to the most wealthy.
- Previous studies of the financial realities of IPV survivors have not considered EA separately from other forms of IPV.

**Research Goals**
1. Assess the extent of EA among a nationally representative sample of non-service receiving women.
2. Evaluate the association between EA, psychological abuse and material hardship, but does not mediate the relationship between EA and material hardship.
3. Investigate the role of depression and anxiety in the link between IPV and later economic indicators.

**Data**
- Data are from 3215 women who were interviewed in the five and nine year waves of the Fragile Families and Child Wellbeing Study, a nationally representative cohort study of mothers who gave birth from 1998-2000.

**Measures and Results**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 1. IPV/Mental Health Indicators (Year 5)</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economic Abuse</td>
<td>14.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psychological Abuse</td>
<td>19%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical/Sexual Abuse</td>
<td>8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Depression (CIDI Threshold)</td>
<td>17%</td>
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<td>Anxiety (receiving treatment)</td>
<td>6%</td>
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<tr>
<th>Table 2. Economic Indicator (Year 5) Percentage / Mean (SD)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Material Hardships (0-11)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TANF Recipient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household Income (10,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Account Ownership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Ownership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Assets Owned (0-3)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Results**

**Fig 1. Mean Number of Material Hardships at Year 9, by Year 5 Predictors**

**Fig 2. Ordered Logistic Regression Model for Depression as a Mediator Between Forms of IPV and Later Material Hardship, Reporting Odds Ratios**

**Fig 3. Ordered Logistic Regression Model for Anxiety as a Mediator Between Forms of IPV and Later Material Hardship, Reporting Odds Ratios**

**Discussion & Limitations**
- High rates (14.2%) of EA in a nationally representative sample suggest the need for further investigation.
- When included with other forms of IPV, EA uniquely predicts later poor economic outcomes.
- Depression mediates the relationship between physical and psychological abuse and material hardship, but does not mediate the relationship between EA and material hardship.
- Economically Abusive tactics may be an unique cause of the link between IPV and poverty.
- Limitations:
  - Constructs are measured imprecisely.
  - Sample is limited to only urban new mothers.
  - Future research should include other populations with greater precision in measurement.

**Implications**
- Economic Abuse has distinct consequences for women, and thus requires separate attention from researchers, policy makers, and practitioners.
- Further research should test the potential mediating effects of mental health on the relationship between IPV and economic outcomes.
- Service providers should consider the economic impacts of abuse when supporting survivors of IPV.

**实施方案**

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