

HETEROGENEITY WITHIN MULTIPLE PERPETRATOR RAPES:

A NATIONAL COMPARISON OF SINGLE, DUO AND 3+ PERPETRATOR RAPES

Teresa da Silva

Dr Leigh Harkins & Dr Jessica Woodhams

UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

MULTIPLE PERPETRATOR RAPE

- Horvath and Kelly (2009) defined MPR as any sexual assault which involves two or more perpetrators.

Multiple Perpetrators vs Lone Offenders

- ◉ Amir, 1971 (USA);
- ◉ Bijleveld & Hendriks, 2003 (Netherlands);
- ◉ Gidycz & Koss, 1990 (USA);
- ◉ Hauffe & Porter, 2009 (UK);
- ◉ Ullman, 2007 (USA);
- ◉ Wright & West, 1981 (UK).

ASPECTS OF MULTIPLE PERPETRATOR RAPE

- Bijleveld et al., 2007 (Netherlands);
- Chambers, Horvath & Kelly, 2010 (UK);
- De Wree, 2004 (Belgium);
- Etgar & Pragar, 2009, (Israel)
- Horvath & Kelly, 2009 (UK);
- Porter & Alison, 2001, 2004, 2006 (UK);
- Vetten, L. & Haffejee, S., 2005 (South Africa).
- Woodhams, 2004, 2008; (UK)
- Woodhams, Gillett & Grant, 2007 (UK).

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. Is it possible to differentiate between multiple (duos and 3+ groups) and lone offending for female rape based on offence characteristics and victim and offender socio-demographic characteristics?
2. Are there differences in socio-demographic and offence characteristics between duos and groups of three or more offenders?

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

- A research proposal was submitted to the Serious Crime Analysis Section (SCAS) for the consideration by the Specialist Operational Support section of the National Policing Improvement Agency's (NPIA) Research Approval Panel.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

- It addressed the following research questions published in the NPIA Specialist Operational Support Call for research 2010-2011:

Multiple offending:

- Comparison between multiple and single offending in both male and female rape.
- Are those involved in multiple offender offences likely to commit single offending?

SAMPLE

- 336 sexual offence allegations (completed and attempted rapes):
 - 112 sexual offences committed by lone perpetrators,
 - 112 sexual offences committed by duo perpetrators,
 - 112 sexual offences committed by 3+ perpetrators.
- 702 offenders:
 - 112 lone,
 - 210 duos,
 - 380 3+ groups.

SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS

- All the victims were female;
- Only one victim in each crime;
- Majority of the offenders were strangers to the victims:
 - 99% of the lone offenders
 - 73% of the duo offenders
 - 81% of the 3+ groups offenders

SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS:

- ⦿ The majority of the offences were rapes:
 - 88% of the lone offences
 - 99% of the duo offences
 - 98% of the 3+ groups offences

SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS:

- ⦿ Composition of the 3+ groups:
 - Groups of 3 → 78 offences
 - Groups of 4 → 22 offences
 - Groups of 5 → 11 offences
 - Group of 6 → 1 offence

VARIABLES

- ⦿ socio-demographic information of offenders and victims (age, gender and ethnicity);
- ⦿ group size of the multiple offences;
- ⦿ the offence behaviours of the offenders and victims covering the approach, maintenance and closure phases.

RESULTS

Differences between lone and multiple offences:

Variable	Lone offences (n = 112)	Multiple offences (n = 224)	Mann-Whitney U test	p	r
Victim age	25.48	21.97	10121	.015	-.130
Estimated age of offender	29.48	25.26	13782.5	.000	-.205
Rape duration	02:29 hrs	04:49 hrs	6515.5	.000	.281

RESULTS

Differences between lone and multiple offences:

Variable	Lone offences (n = 112)	Multiple offences (n = 224)	χ^2	p	Phi
Ethnicity of offender - White European	59.5%	25.8%	49.327	.000	-.265
Vehicle use	22.7%	40.8%	10.608	.001	.178
Initial approach Con	50%	79%	27.353	.000	.296
Initial approach Surprise	52%	19%	35.546	.000	-.338

RESULTS

Differences between lone and multiple offences:

Variable Scene	Lone offences (n = 112)	Multiple offences (n = 224)	χ^2	p	Phi
Initial contact indoors	20.6%	37.9%	9.897	.002	.174
Initial contact outdoors	79.4%	62.6%	9.430	.002	-.170
Assault indoors	32.4%	56%	16.315	.000	.223
Assault outdoors	72.1%	49.5%	15.246	.000	-.215
Victim release indoors	26.6%	46.3%	11.734	.001	-.190
Victim release outdoors	73.1%	55.6%	9.404	.002	-.170

RESULTS

Differences between lone and multiple offences:

Variable Precautions	Lone offences (n = 112)	Multiple offences (n = 224)	χ^2	p	Phi
Covered mouth	29.5%	14.7%	10.267	.001	-.175
Blocked entry / exit	4.5%	19.2%	13.234	.000	.198
Condom used	5.4%	25.9%	20.421	.001	.247
No precaution	39.3%	59.8%	12.640	.001	.194

RESULTS

Differences between lone and multiple offences:

Variable Verbal themes	Lone offences (n = 112)	Multiple offences (n = 224)	χ^2	p	Phi
Victim reporting	23.2%	12.5%	6.355	.012	-.138
Safe departure	17.9%	7.1%	8.960	.003	-.163
Sex acts	38.4%	57.1%	10.503	.001	.177
Verbal threats	50.9%	33%	10.009	.002	-.173

RESULTS

Differences between lone and multiple offences:

Variable Sex acts	Lone offences (n = 112)	Multiple offences (n = 224)	χ^2	p	Phi
Offender kissing	57.8%	43.2%	6.238	.013	-.138
Offender masturbates self or other	17.4%	9.1%	4.852	.028	-.121
Victim performs fellatio	34.9%	48.2%	5.254	.022	.126

RESULTS

Differences between duo and 3+ group offences:

Variable	Duo offences (n = 112)	3+ group offences (n = 112)	Mann – Whitney U Test	p	r
Estimated age of offender	26.85	24.37	18748	.005	-.133
Rape duration	03:31	05:31	3717	.000	.275

RESULTS

Differences between duo and 3+ group offences:

Variable	Duo offences (n = 112)	3+ group offences (n = 224)	χ^2	p	Phi
Ethnicity African Caribbean victims	3.6%	11.6%	5.156	.023	.152
Initial Approach third person lure	23.6%	37.5%	4.797	.029	.151
Scene assault indoors	45.9%	66.1%	9.009	.003	.203
Scene assault outdoors	57.8%	41.3%	5.945	.015	-.164
Scene assault living quarters	41.4%	60.9%	8.380	.004	.195

RESULTS

Differences between duo and 3+ group offences:

Variable	Duo offences (n = 112)	3+ group offences (n = 224)	χ^2	p	Phi
Precaution covered mouth	21.4%	8%	7.996	.005	-.189
Precaution blocked entry exit	13.4%	25%	4.846	.027	.147
Precaution condom	19.6%	32.1%	4.560	.033	.143
Verbal theme safe departure	11.6%	2.7%	6.731	.009	-.173
Verbal theme participate	11.6%	3.6%	5.156	.009	-.152

RESULTS

Differences between duo and 3+ group offences:

Variable	Duo offences (n = 112)	3+ group offences (n = 224)	χ^2	p	Phi
Sex acts - victim performed fellatio	37.6%	58.6%	9.662	.002	.210
Disrobement – vicim naked	14.3%	31.3%	9.165	.002	.202

RESULTS

Differences between lone and duo offences:

Variable	Lone offences (n = 112)	Duo offences (n = 112)	Mann – Whitney U Test	p	r
Estimated offender age	29.478	26.848	5685	.006	-.175
Rape duration	02:29 hrs	03:31 hrs	3913	.008	.186

RESULTS

Differences between lone and duo offences:

Variable	Lone offences (n = 112)	Duo offences (n = 112)	χ^2	p	Phi
Initial Approach third person lure	0%	12.7%	27.343	.000	.363
Scene assault outdoors	72.1%	57.8%	4.925	.034	-.150
Precaution blocked entry exit	4.5%	13.4%	5.490	.033	.157
Precaution condom	5.4%	19.6%	10.449	.002	.216

CONCLUSIONS:

- The results suggest that there are some differences between lone and multiple offences and duo and 3+ group offences in terms of offence characteristics and victim and offender socio-demographic characteristics.

IMPLICATIONS:

- ⦿ The results could have practical implications for:
 - Police investigation (prioritising for intelligence gathering and investigation)
 - Risk assessment
 - Treatment needs

LIMITATIONS:

- ⦿ Reports of victim allegations made to the police:
 - Rape is an under-reported crime, which makes it difficult to generalize the results obtained as the majority of sexual offences are not reported to the police.
 - Due to memory loss and the trauma of a rape, victim accounts may have omissions and distortions.

Thank you for your attention.

Email: TDS097@bham.ac.uk