

# PATHOLOGICAL PERSONALITY AND PROBLEMATIC ATTITUDES TOWARDS SEX

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by

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## ABSTRACT

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Sexual assault is a serious problem, and the more the scientific community understands about the individuals who participate in such problematic behaviors, the more effectively interventions and preventative programs can be designed and implemented. To date there has been little research focused on the relationship between personality and sexually aggressive attitudes and behaviors. The small amount of research that has been conducted has focused specifically on the construct of psychopathy and how it relates to sexual aggression, with no known studies addressing personality psychopathology more broadly. The present study sought to examine the relationship between a broad range of pathological personality traits (i.e. Negative Affectivity, Disinhibition, Antagonism, Detachment, and Psychoticism) and problematic sexual attitudes. Participants recruited online completed a series of self-report tests to measure pathological personality traits and problematic attitudes about sex. The results of this study showed pathological traits including antagonism, disinhibition, and negative affectivity were associated with problematic sexual attitudes. These results have implications for the improvement of current intervention and prevention programs for sex offenders and expanding the clinical utility of the Alternative Model of Personality Disorders in DSM-5 Section III.

**KEY WORDS:** Pathological personality, PID-5, Sexual entitlement, Traditional gender roles, Rape related attitudes

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
ABSTRACT.....	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	iv
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	v
LIST OF TABLES.....	vi
CHAPTER	
I    INTRODUCTION .....	1
Factors Related to Sexual Assault.....	1
Personality.....	8
Current Study .....	11
II   METHOD .....	14
Participants.....	14
Measures .....	14
Procedure .....	18
Data Analysis .....	20
III RESULTS .....	24
IV DISCUSSION.....	34
Limitations and Future Directions .....	41
REFERENCES .....	45
APPENDIX A.....	52
APPENDIX B .....	54
VITA.....	55

## LIST OF TABLES

Table	Page
1 Mean, Standard Deviation, and Range for all variables .....	21
2 Correlations between Problematic Attitudes Towards Sex and PID-5 Domains and Facets.....	26
3 PID-5 Domains and Problematic Attitudes towards Sex Regression Analyses ...	29
4 PID-5 Facets and Problematic Attitudes Towards Sex Regression Analyses .....	32

## **CHAPTER I**

### **Introduction**

Sexual violence is a pervasive problem in the United States. According to a study conducted at the Medical University of South Carolina funded by the U.S. Department of Justice, roughly 18%, or nearly 1 in 5, of women in the U.S. have experienced a sexual assault during their life (Kilpatrick, Resnick, Ruggiero, Conoscenti, & McCauley, 2007). Some research suggests that the rate of sexual violence has declined as much as 58% from 1995 to 2005 with little change since then; however, in 2010 there remained a high rate of sexual assault, with females nationwide experiencing approximately 270,000 rape or sexual assault victimizations (Planty, Langton, Krebs, Berzofsky, & Smiley-McDonald, 2013). Considering that this is such a widespread problem in the country, it is important to gain information that will help to understand the factors related to problematic sexual attitudes and behaviors so that we may work towards intervention and prevention. The present research sought to add to the current body of knowledge by exploring the relationship between pathological personality traits and problematic sexual attitudes.

### **Factors Related to Sexual Assault**

There are several important factors relevant to the study of sexual assault and perpetrators of sexual violence. Past research has indicated that high levels of sexual entitlement (Bouffard, 2010; Hill & Fischer, 2001; Widman & McNulty, 2010), adherence to traditional gender roles (Hill & Fischer, 2001; McDermott, Naylor, McKelvey, & Kantra, 2016; Truman, Tokar, & Fischer, 1996), a stronger belief in rape myths (Hill & Fischer, 2001; Mouilso & Calhoun, 2013), and misconceptions about

sexual consent (Boethel, 2015; Humphreys, 2007; Jozkowski & Peterson, 2014; Jozkowski, Peterson, Sanders, Dennis, & Reece, 2014; Jozkowski, Sanders, Peterson, Dennis, & Reece, 2014; Osman, 2003; Osman, 2007) have been linked to problematic attitudes and behaviors regarding sex, sexual consent, and sexually violent behavior.

**Sexual entitlement.** Sexual entitlement is the belief that one has an inherent right to sex, or to have their sexual needs met by others. Previous research has indicated that individuals who have higher levels of sexual entitlement also have higher levels of sexually aggressive attitudes and behaviors (Bouffard, 2010; Hill & Fischer, 2001; Widman & McNulty, 2010). In 2001, Hill and Fischer investigated the link between masculinity and rape-related variables among undergraduate students. The results indicated that multiple facets of masculinity were related to rape-related attitudes and behaviors. In addition, this study showed that as an individual's self-reported level of sexual entitlement increased, an individual's level of self-reported sexually coercive behaviors and likelihood of committing rape (as indicated by responses to date rape vignettes) also increased.

More recently, in 2010, Bouffard conducted a study with heterosexual male undergraduate students investigating the relationship between entitlement, attitudes, and behaviors linked to sexual aggression. Similar to the findings of Hill and Fischer (2001), this study indicated that there was a significant positive relationship between levels of sexual entitlement and self-reported sexually aggressive behaviors (Bouffard, 2010). Finally, Widman & McNulty (2010) investigated the utility of sexual narcissism to predict sexual aggression in undergraduate male students. Widman and McNulty (2010) defined sexual narcissism as a personality trait, which encompasses sexual exploitation,



sexual entitlement, low sexual empathy, and a grandiose sense of sexual skill. Results indicated that higher levels of sexual entitlement were significantly positively correlated with total frequency of self-reported sexual aggression, engagement in unwanted sexual contact, sexually coercive behaviors, attempted or completed rape, and likelihood of sexual aggression.

**Traditional gender roles.** The concept of adherence to traditional gender roles is defined as how strictly an individual adheres to the stereotyped roles and scripts that American men and women are often raised to accept, such as: men should be in charge, women should be submissive, etc. Men who tend to adhere more strictly to such traditional gender roles are often perceived as aggressive or dominant and these beliefs have been linked to sexually aggressive behavior (Hill & Fischer, 2001; McDermott et al., 2016; Truman et al., 1996).

In 1996, Truman, Tokar, and Fischer sought to expand the small body of research on the relationship between masculine gender roles and date rape. Specifically, they examined how masculinity ideology, attitudes towards feminism, and homophobia were linked to date rape-supportive attitudes and beliefs in undergraduate males. Their results indicated that higher overall adherence to traditional masculine gender roles was significantly correlated with adversarial sexual beliefs (belief that heterosexual relationships are adversarial in nature), acceptance of interpersonal violence, date rape myth acceptance (belief in common misconceptions about date rape [e.g., “If she was intoxicated she is partially to blame” or “If she was dressed scantily she was asking for it”]), and acknowledgement of previous violent, coercive, or forceful sexual intercourse. In other words, the more an individual indicated that they adhered to traditional gender

roles, the more likely they were to endorse sexually aggressive attitudes and report a history of sexually aggressive behaviors.

Similarly, Hill and Fischer (2001) also provided some insight on the relationship between traditional gender roles and sexual aggression. Their results revealed that as adherence to traditional gender roles increased, males' rape-related attitudes also increased. Finally, recent research by McDermott, Naylor, McKelvey, and Kantra (2016) investigated the connection between masculine gender role strain, or such strict adherence to traditional gender roles that it causes the individual distress, and attitudes towards dating violence. Similar to previously discussed studies, the results of this research showed that, for male participants, as their gender role strain increased, so did their acceptance of psychological, physical, and sexual dating aggression.

**Rape myths.** Another factor that has been linked to sexual aggression is an individual's belief in rape myths. Rape myths are popular but false beliefs regarding sexual assault that generally deny or justify male sexual aggression towards women (Hill & Fischer, 2001; Mouilso & Calhoun, 2013). Hill & Fischer (2001) evaluated the extent to which individuals view rape as justifiable and claims of rape as reliable in the context of a dating relationship. In regards to rape myth acceptance, the results of the study indicated that there was a significant correlation between date rape myth acceptance and scores indicating likelihood of rape and sexually coercive behaviors.

Congruent with the findings of Hill & Fischer (2001), Mouilso and Calhoun (2013) investigated the relationship between rape myth acceptance, psychopathy, and perpetration of sexual assault. The researchers separated perpetration of sexual assault into three categories: rape (including all instances of unwanted sexual intercourse which

involved force, threat of force, and victim intoxication), sexual assault (including sexual contact by argument, misuse of authority, verbal coercion, fondling by force, threat of force, or victim intoxication), and non-perpetrators. The results of this study showed that perpetrators of rape had a higher acceptance of rape myths than the other two groups; however, perpetrators of sexual assault only had significantly higher scores than non-perpetrators regarding a belief that a female may have lied about the sexual assault.

**Misconceptions about consent.** Another factor that may play a role in the increase of sexually aggressive attitudes and behaviors is misconception about consent. For the purpose of this research, misconception about consent is defined as a misunderstanding between two individuals regarding a sexual relationship/encounter. This construct encompasses two different concepts: perceptions of consent and token resistance to sex.

***Perceptions of consent.*** The concept of perceptions of consent is defined as the verbal or non-verbal communication exhibited by a female that is perceived by a male as giving consent to engage in sexual intercourse. There has been little consensus about what truly communicates consent to sex from one person to another. Some insist that consent is entirely behavioral and as such can be inadvertently given, while some argue that ‘any yes’ regardless of force/coercion/threat is consent, and others go as far as to claim that women do not have the necessary freedom to give consent for sexual activity at all because they are not free subjects in our male dominant society (Beres, 2007). Although some argue that women cannot freely give consent, many deem women to be “gatekeepers” in the sexual consent process, placing the responsibility of communicating their consent, or lack thereof, to potential partners on women (Beres, 2007; Burkett &

Hamilton, 2012; Jozkowski & Peterson, 2014). A universally accepted view of consent has not yet been discovered; however, previous research has shown that views on the consent process often differ based on gender. (Humphreys, 2007; Jozkowski & Peterson, 2014; Jozkowski, Peterson, et al., 2014; Jozkowski, Sanders, et al. 2014).

In 2007, Humphreys conducted a study to investigate how different variables affected an individual's perception of sexual consent using a series of vignettes, each involving ambiguous female consent to sexual intercourse. The study found that men considered explicit sexual consent to be less important and were more likely to assume consent rather than ask first, in comparison to women. This difference in importance of consent and preference for assumption suggested that there could be miscommunications between men and women in terms of negotiating consent for sexual intercourse. Another study by Jozkowski, Peterson, Sanders, Dennis, and Reece (2014) investigated gender differences in how men and women conceptualize and indicate sexual consent. The results indicated that while women reported being most likely to indicate their consent verbally, men were most likely to interpret consent from their female partners by relying on nonverbal cues. This miss-match between female indication and male interpretation once again creates the potential for misconceptions in consent to sexual activity.

***Token resistance to sex.*** Lastly, token resistance to sex is defined as a woman saying 'no' to sex when she really means yes (Osman, 2003). Previous research has indicated that individuals with stronger beliefs in token resistance to sex were less likely to perceive incidents as rape (Osman, 2003) or sexual harassment (Osman, 2007), and were more likely to perceive sexual consent when it was not explicitly verbalized (Boethel, 2015). In 2003, Osman conducted a study to investigate how men's perception

of rape differed with their belief in token resistance to sex. Results showed that the more a male believed that women say ‘no’ to sex when they really mean ‘yes’, the less likely they were to perceive sexual assault scenarios in vignettes as rape.

Similarly, Osman (2007) evaluated the relationship between belief in token resistance to sex and perceptions of sexual harassment. Results of this study indicated that the more a male believed in token resistance to sex, the more resistance it took from the victim for participants to perceive the actions as sexual harassment. Finally, in an unpublished thesis Boethel (2015) investigated the connection between multiple attitudes and beliefs, including but not limited to sexual entitlement, self-esteem, self-control, and belief in token resistance to sex, and perceptions of sexual consent among undergraduate students. In regards to token resistance to sex, the results indicated that, for males, as belief in token resistance to sex increased, so did the likelihood that they would perceive sexual consent from a potential partner when it had not been explicitly given.

Previous research has consistently linked higher levels of sexual entitlement (Bouffard, 2010; Hill & Fischer, 2001; Widman & McNulty, 2010), stronger adherence to the traditional masculine gender roles (Hill & Fischer, 2001; McDermott et al., 2016; Truman et al., 1996), a stronger belief in rape myths (Hill & Fischer, 2001; Mouilso & Calhoun, 2013), perception of consent when it is not explicitly stated (Humphreys, 2007; Jozkowski, Peterson, et al., 2014), and belief in token resistance to sex (Boethel, 2015; Osman, 2003; Osman 2007) to problematic attitudes and behaviors regarding sex, such as self-reported sexual aggression and rape-related behaviors. Although this body of research has contributed to our understanding of the attitudes and beliefs that can potentially lead to sexually assaultive behavior, we still do not have a comprehensive

understanding of the individual characteristics of those who hold those attitudes and beliefs. Considering that this gap in our knowledge exists, it is pertinent an examination of personality characteristics be conducted in relation to those problematic attitudes and behaviors so that we may better understand the risk factors related to perpetration of sexual assault.

### **Personality**

One method by which to study the problematic pattern of sexual aggression is to examine the personality traits of individuals who are more likely to exhibit problematic attitudes or engage in these problematic behaviors. Previous research related to personality traits and their relationship with problematic attitudes towards sex is somewhat limited, and the majority of this research has focused mainly on the relationship between attitudes and psychopathy (Brown & Forth, 1997; O'Connell & Marcus, 2016; Williams, Cooper, Howell, Yuille, & Paulhus, 2009).

**Psychopathy.** The majority of research evaluating personality and sexual assault and maladaptive sexual attitudes has focused on the construct of psychopathy. Psychopathy is broadly defined as a constellation of traits such as guiltlessness, callousness, self-centeredness, impulsivity and aggressiveness (e.g., Cleckley, 1941; Hare & Neumann, 2008). Although it is not officially classified as a personality disorder in the DSM-5, psychopathy is a severe personality condition that has received substantial research attention and previous research has indicated that psychopathy is associated with sexual aggression (Brown & Forth, 1997; O'Connell & Marcus, 2016; Williams et al., 2009).

One such study investigated the type of sexual assault committed by psychopathic and non-psychopathic offenders (Brown & Forth, 1997). The results of this study indicated that psychopathic sexual offenders were more likely to engage in opportunistic or pervasively angry sexual assaults. Opportunistic and pervasively angry rape, in this study, shared the characteristic of being “unpremeditated” or not planned in advance, which suggests a high level of impulsivity in the aggressor. In addition, Williams and colleagues (2009) evaluated the role of personality in moderating the relationship between deviant sexual fantasies and deviant behavior in male undergraduate students. Their results indicated that psychopathy was the only unique predictor of sexually deviant behaviors, specifically bondage, sadism, and sexual assault.

Finally, O’Connell and Marcus (2016) investigated the association between psychopathic personality traits and attitudes towards sexually predatory behavior. Results indicated that psychopathic personality traits predicted positive attitudes towards sexually predatory behavior. Specifically, in both men and women, traits related to impulsivity were predictive of positive attitudes towards sexually predatory behavior. In men, traits related to coldheartedness and boldness were also indicative of positive attitudes towards sexually predatory behavior.

Thus, previous research has indicated that there is a connection between psychopathy and sexually aggressive attitudes and behaviors. Although this research is valuable and adds to our knowledge of how personality is related to sexual aggression, it limits our knowledge to those personality traits subsumed under the construct of psychopathy. Therefore, looking at traits related to sexual aggression in relation to a broad dimensional model of personality, instead of the narrower construct of

psychopathy, will further improve our understanding of the relationship between personality and sexual aggression.

**Dimensional models of personality.** Personality is a continuous construct that is best conceptualized using a dimensional trait model (Krueger & Eaton, 2010; Watson, Ellickson-Larew, Stanton, & Levin-Aspenson, 2016). Dimensional trait models have been widely acknowledged as the primary method of measuring personality, with the most popular and widely used being the Five Factor Model of Personality (FFM). The FFM is a dimensional model of normative personality traits that includes the domains: Openness to Experience, Conscientiousness, Extraversion, Agreeableness, and Neuroticism. Although the FFM is the most popular and well-researched model at this time, it may not be the best fit for the current research as our goal is to better understand the connection between pathological personality and pathological attitudes and behaviors related to sexual assault and consent. In light of this fact, a more fitting model of dimensional personality may be the trait model included in the Alternative Model of Personality Disorders (AMPD) located in Section III of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders- 5<sup>th</sup> Edition* (DSM-5; American Psychiatric Association [APA], 2013). This model specifically focuses on pathological personality traits and facets, and thus was more appropriate for the current study.

The aforementioned AMPD is a hybrid dimensional-categorical model of personality psychopathology that includes five broad trait domains (Negative Affectivity, Disinhibition, Antagonism, Detachment, and Psychoticism) and twenty-five facets that are distributed between the five domains. In regards to the five broad traits, negative affectivity is characterized by experiencing a high level of negative emotions and their



behavioral manifestation; disinhibition is characterized by a lack of ability to delay gratification and impulsivity; antagonism is characterized by a lack of concern for others and a tendency to use others for selfish gains; detachment is characterized by isolating oneself from others and a restricted affectivity; and psychoticism is characterized by odd or unusual thought processes and content (APA, 2013). This model (and its measurement via the Personality Inventory for DSM-5 [PID-5; Krueger, Eaton, Clark, Watson, Markon, Derringer, Skodol, & Livesley, 2012]) has shown growing empirical support in the literature since its development (see Al-Dajani, Galnick, & Bagby, 2016; and Krueger & Markon, 2014 for reviews).

Given that research has indicated that certain general personality traits are associated with various physical and mental health diagnoses, difficulties with interpersonal functioning, and problematic behaviors (see Lengel, Helle, DeShong, Meyer, & Mullins-Sweatt, 2016 for a recent review), this dimensional model of personality will allow us to investigate the possible connections between pathological personality traits and problematic attitudes towards sex. In addition, the AMPD is also highly useful simply because it is part of the DSM-5, which is widely used the mental health community. Therefore, understanding problematic sexual attitudes in the context of DSM-5 personality psychopathology can potentially aid in the identification of, intervention, and prevention of these problems in the future.

### **Current Study**

The current research aimed to better understand the risk factors related to perpetration of sexual assault. Although previous research has provided a better understanding of problematic attitudes and beliefs that are related to sexually aggressive

behaviors, we remain limited in our understanding. For instance, the majority of research has focused on undergraduate students, and thus, may not generalize well to the larger general population (Boethel, 2015; Bouffard, 2010; Hill & Fischer, 200; Humphreys, 2007; Jozkowski, Peterson, et al., 2014; McDermott et al., 2016; Mouilso & Calhoun, 2013; Truman et al., 1996; Widman & McNulty, 2010; Osman, 2003; Osman 2007). In addition, we have very little insight into the personality characteristics of these individuals, beyond the connection to psychopathy (Brown & Forth, 1997; O'Connell & Marcus, 2016; Williams et al., 2009). However, the more we understand the risk factors and characterological features related to sexual assault, the more effectively we can work towards intervention and prevention of this widespread problem. Thus, understanding the personality characteristics associated with factors related to sexual assault will give the scientific community a more well-rounded understanding of the risk factors related to perpetration of sexual aggression and allow us to be better-informed when creating and implementing intervention and prevention programs.

Research has yet to examine the connection between multiple maladaptive facets of personality and problematic attitudes towards sex. Considering research has shown that males are responsible for 95% of all sexual violence against females (Planty, et al., 2013), the current research aimed to understand the empirical association between pathological personality traits (as measured by the PID-5 from Section III of the DSM-5) and problematic sexual attitudes in heterosexual males. In this study, problematic sexual attitudes encompassed the following: perceiving sexual consent when not explicitly stated, feelings of sexual entitlement, adherence to traditional gender roles, belief in token resistance to sex, and belief in common misconceptions about sexual assault. It was

hypothesized that at the domain level, higher levels of antagonism and disinhibition would be associated with higher levels of all problematic sexual attitudes being measured. At a sub-facet level, it was hypothesized that manipulativeness and callousness (facets of antagonism) as well as impulsivity and risk taking (facets of disinhibition) would be most highly associated with problematic sexual attitudes. We did not expect to find any other significant relationships between the remaining domains or facets and the five problematic attitudes towards sex.

## CHAPTER II

### Method

#### Participants

A total of 242 individuals completed the survey. Only individuals who identified as male and heterosexual were invited to participate; therefore, 2 participants were excluded for indicating a sexual orientation other than heterosexual and 10 participants were excluded for being female. In addition, 27 participants were excluded for not passing a protocol validity indicator (described below), leaving a total of 196 participants for analysis. The ages of the participants ranged from 19 to 75 with a mean of 36.86, ( $SD= 11.61$ ). The years of education completed by participants ranged from 11 to 24 with a mean of 15.52 ( $SD= 2.23$ ). Of these participants, 77% were White or Caucasian, 7.7% were Black or African American, 7.1% were Asian or Asian American, 5.1% were Latino or Hispanic American, 1.0% were Native American, 1.0% identified as biracial or multiracial, and 1.0% identified as other. As previously noted, all participants included in the analyses were male and heterosexual.

#### Measures

**Personality psychopathology.** To measure personality characteristics all participants completed the Personality Inventory for DSM-5 (PID-5; Krueger, Eaton, et al., 2012). The PID-5 is a 220-item self-report inventory used to assess the five personality dimensions found in Section III of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorder, Fifth Edition (DSM-5) and their associated facets. Item responses were indicated on a four-point Likert scale. This measure has been widely used in recent research as a well-validated measure of personality psychopathology (e.g., Al-Dajani et

al., 2016)<sup>1</sup>. Reliability coefficients (Coefficient  $\alpha$ ; Cronbach, 1951) indicated good internal consistency for each domain ( $\alpha$ 's = .91 [Disinhibition] to .96 [Detachment]) and facet score ( $\alpha$ 's = .76 [Suspiciousness] to .95 [Eccentricity]).

**Sexual Entitlement.** To measure feelings of sexual entitlement, participants completed the Sexual Entitlement Scale (SES). The SES is a composite scale consisting of questions from two different entitlement inventories. Five items from the Hurlbert Index of Sexual Narcissism (HISN; Hurlbert, Apt, Gasar, Wilson, & Murphy, 1994) and eight items from the Hanson Sex Attitude Questionnaire (Hanson, Gizzarelli, & Scott, 1994) were combined for the purpose of this study to create a combined sexual entitlement scale. The HISN (Hurlbert et al., 1994) is a twenty-five item self-report survey used to measure the extent of an individual's narcissistic beliefs in regards to sexual relationships. The five items chosen from the HISN for this study were targeted specifically at measuring beliefs of entitlement to sex (Bouffard, 2010). Item responses were indicated on a five-point Likert scale. Previous studies have found this scale to have high test- retest reliability, validity, and internal consistency (Bouffard, 2010; Hurlbert et al., 1994). The Hanson Sex Attitude Questionnaire (Hanson et al., 1994) is a forty-seven item self-report inventory used to gather information about an individual's cognitive distortions regarding sex. The eight items taken from the Hanson Sex Attitude Questionnaire for this study were chosen because they were part of the sexual entitlement subscale in the questionnaire. Item responses were indicated on five-point Likert scale.

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<sup>1</sup> Due to an administration error in the online survey, three items (questions 43, 139, and 175) were missing from the PID-5 in this study. In light of this, scoring of the PID-5 domains and facets was modified slightly to account for the missing data. More specifically, these missing items impacted the scoring of attention seeking (questions 43), unusual beliefs and experiences (questions 139), and separation insecurity (question 175). Each of the three missing questions was removed from the syntax equations in which they were originally included. Additionally, the number of questions that each domain and/or facet score, that originally included one of the three missing questions, was divided by was reduced by one.

The study for which the Hanson Sex Attitude Questionnaire was created found that the sexual entitlement scale had high levels of test-retest reliability and internal consistency (Hanson et al., 1994). Reliability coefficients (Coefficient  $\alpha$ ; Cronbach, 1951) indicated adequate internal consistency for the combined scale ( $\alpha = .83$ ).

**Traditional gender roles.** To measure adherence to traditional gender roles, participants completed the Attitudes towards Women Scale (Spence, Helmreich, & Stapp, 1973). This scale is a 25 item self-report survey measuring how an individual views the rights and roles of women. Item responses were indicated on a four-point Likert scale. This scale has been found to be highly correlated with the original 55 item Attitudes Towards Women scale, which has high internal consistency and test-retest reliability (Spence & Hahn, 1997; Spence et al., 1973). Reliability coefficients (Coefficient  $\alpha$ ; Cronbach, 1951) indicated good internal consistency for the scale ( $\alpha = .90$ ).

**Rape myths.** To measure an individual's belief in rape myths, participants completed the Illinois Rape Myth Acceptance Scale-Revised (IMRA-R; McMahon & Farmer, 2011). The IRMA-R is a 22 item self-report inventory used to indicate the extent to which individuals believe common misconceptions about sexual assault. Item responses were indicated on a five-point Likert scale. The IRMA-R has been found to be a reliable measure for adherence to rape myths (McMahon & Farmer, 2011). Reliability coefficients (Coefficient  $\alpha$ ; Cronbach, 1951) indicated good internal consistency for the scale ( $\alpha = .93$ ).

**Perceptions of consent.** In order to measure perceptions of consent, participants completed the Sexual Consent Scale. This scale is a composite scale consisting of items from two different inventories related to sexual consent. Four items from the External

Consent Scale (Jozkowski, Sanders, et al., 2014) and eight items from the Consent to Sex Scale (Jozkowski & Peterson, 2014) were combined for the purpose of this study to create a combined sexual consent scale. The External Consent Scale (Jozkowski, Sanders, et al., 2014) is an eighteen item self-report survey used to gather information about how individuals express their consent to engage in vaginal-penile sexual intercourse. In the original scale item responses were indicated in a dichotomous manner, either yes or no. For the purpose of this study, the wording of all four items were modified slightly to fit the context of this survey, and items were measured on a five-point Likert scale. The original validation study found it to be both a valid and reliable measure for determining behavioral and verbal indicators of consent for sexual activity (Jozkowski, Sanders, et al., 2014). The Consent to Sex Scale (Jozkowski & Peterson, 2014) is a sixty-eight item self-report inventory used to assess verbal and behavioral cues individuals use to express their consent to engage in vaginal-penile sexual intercourse. In the original scale item responses were indicated on a four-point Likert scale. For the purpose of this study, the wording of all eight items were modified slightly to fit the context of this survey, and items were measured on a five-point Likert scale. In 2014, Jozkowski and Peterson exhibited that the Consent to Sex scale is a valid and reliable measurement of how individuals consent to engage in sexual activity. Reliability coefficients (Coefficient  $\alpha$ ; Cronbach, 1951) indicated adequate internal consistency for the combined scale ( $\alpha = .93$ ).

**Token resistance to sex.** In order to measure the extent to which an individual believes in the idea of token resistance to sex, participants completed the Token Resistance to Sex Scale (TRSS; Osman, 1995). The TRSS is an eight item self-report inventory used to indicate the extent to which an individual believes the notion that

women say no during sexual encounters when they truly mean yes. Item responses were indicated on a seven-point Likert scale. Previous research has demonstrated that the TRSS is both a reliable and valid measure of an individual's belief that women say "no" to sex when they really mean "yes" (Osman, 2003; Osman, 2007). Reliability coefficients (Coefficient  $\alpha$ ; Cronbach, 1951) indicated adequate internal consistency for the scale ( $\alpha = .89$ ).

**Validity Indicator.** In order to ensure that participants were paying attention to the item content in each survey (i.e., not randomly responding) six items to which individuals were expected to answer in negative fashion (e.g., false, completely disagree, etc.) were dispersed throughout the survey. These items included phrases such as "I enjoy stealing from graves" and "I am close personal friends with the prime minister of Zanzibar" which most if not all participants would likely answer in a false direction. Participants who answered three or more of these items in a positive manner were excluded from the data analysis.

## **Procedure**

Participants were recruited and completed the survey process through Amazon Mechanical Turk (MTurk). MTurk is a website where individuals complete surveys for financial compensation. Previous research has found that participants collected through MTurk are significantly more demographically diverse than traditional American college samples (Buhrmester, Kwang, & Gosling, 2011). In addition to being more demographically diverse, the data collected through MTurk has also been found to "meet or exceed psychometric standards associated with published research" (Buhrmester et al.,



2011) and to be of a generally high-quality regardless of financial compensation (Litman, Robinson, & Rosenzweig, 2015).

Participants who completed this study to the specifications outlined in the Participant Information Sheet (see Appendix A) received USD\$1.00 of financial compensation for their time spent. The specifications for satisfactory completion included: identifying as male and heterosexual, having an IP address that indicates a U.S. location, and passing the validity checks dispersed throughout the survey.

Due to the online nature of this study, it was not possible to collect written consent from participants. Instead, before beginning the survey, participants were presented with the Participant Information Sheet, which outlines all of the information that would be presented in a traditional consent form including: confidentiality, the purpose of the study, potential benefits and risks, a reminder that they may discontinue the survey at any time with no repercussions, etc. Assent was obtained by participants checking the appropriate affirmative box on the study website (i.e., agreeing to participate in the project). In order to attempt to control for the effect of fatigue on responses, the above listed measures were presented in a randomized order to each participant.

At the end of the survey participants were presented with a Debriefing Statement (see Appendix B). The Debriefing Statement reminded participants of the purpose of the study, and confidentiality/anonymity of responses, and presented them with a national hotline number should they experience psychological distress. They were also provided the contact information for the researchers and the university institutional review board should they have questions or concerns.

## **Data Analysis**

In order to evaluate the relationship between the personality characteristics measured by the PID-5 and the problematic sexual attitudes measured in this study, Pearson correlations were run to analyze the association between the domain and facet scores and the scores obtained on the five sexual attitude measures. Then, multiple regression analyses were conducted to identify the unique contribution that each personality domain added to the prediction of each of the problematic sexual attitudes. In order to do this, each of the scores obtained for the problematic sexual attitudes (i.e. sexual entitlement, adherence to traditional gender roles, belief in rape myths, perceptions of consent, and belief in token resistance to sex) was individually regressed onto the five domain scores of the PID-5.

Once the significant personality domain predictors were identified, additional multiple regression analyses were conducted to identify the unique contribution that each personality facet, within the significant domains, added to the prediction of each of the problematic sexual attitudes. In order to do this, each of the scores for the problematic sexual attitudes was regressed onto the facets subsumed under the significant domains previously identified. In other words, for each PID-5 domain that uniquely predicted a problematic attitude towards sex, further evaluation of this trait domain was conducted by examining the unique contribution of each of the facets included under that domain.

Table 1

*Mean, Standard Deviation, and Range for all variables*

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>Range</b>
AWS	45.57	12.49	26 – 79
SES	35.17	9.64	13 – 59
TRSS	19.35	9.46	6 – 54
IRMA-R	47.47	16.14	22 – 91
Consent	32.69	10.78	13 – 60
Negative Affectivity	1.06	.58	.00 – 2.67
Anxiousness	1.36	.82	.00 – 3.00
Emotional Lability	.91	.71	.00 – 3.00
Hostility	.91	.64	.00 – 2.70
Perseveration	.94	.66	.00 – 2.89
Restricted Affectivity	1.11	.66	.00 – 3.00
Submissiveness	1.21	.71	.00 – 2.75
Depressivity	.70	.71	.00 – 2.86
Suspiciousness	1.10	.61	.00 – 2.86

(continued)

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>Range</b>
Detachment	.89	.60	.00 – 2.44
Anhedonia	1.01	.75	.00 – 3.00
Depressivity	.70	.71	.00 – 2.86
Intimacy Avoidance	.63	.64	.00 – 2.50
Suspiciousness	1.10	.61	.00 – 2.86
Withdrawal	1.04	.75	.00 – 3.00
Antagonism	.87	.53	.00 – 2.63
Attention Seeking	.81	.67	.00 – 2.86
Callousness	.58	.53	.00 – 2.14
Deceitfulness	.78	.62	.00 – 2.70
Grandiosity	.87	.61	.00 – 2.67
Manipulativeness	1.00	.67	.00 – 3.00
Hostility	.91	.64	.00 – 2.70
Disinhibition	.68	.54	.00 – 2.40
Distractibility	.80	.69	.00 – 3.00
Impulsivity	.79	.65	.00 – 2.33

(continued)

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>Range</b>
Irresponsibility	.52	.53	.00 – 2.43
Rigid Perfectionism	1.13	.66	.00 – 2.80
Risk Taking	1.20	.57	.00 – 2.93
Psychoticism	.82	.54	.00 – 2.15
Eccentricity	.95	.80	.00 – 3.00
Perceptual Dysregulation	.65	.54	.00 – 1.92
Unusual Beliefs and Experiences	.64	.57	.00 – 2.29

*Note.* AWS = Attitudes Towards Women Scale; SES = Sexual Entitlement Scale; TRSS = Token Resistance to Sex Scale; IRMA-R = Illinois Rape Myth Acceptance Scale – Revised; Consent = Sexual Consent Scale.

## CHAPTER III

### Results

Prior to analyzing the collected data for hypothesis testing the data were screened to determine if they met the assumptions for parametric testing. Overall, a general trend of positive skewness was detected in the problematic sexual attitude variables, the PID-5 domain variables, and the PID-5 facet variables. This trend indicated that the data collected from this sample of participants were not normally distributed and have restricted range. Although this is a limitation to the data, due to the fact that majority of the data collected reflected qualities that are not highly endorsed in the general public, such as sexual entitlement and pathological personality traits, it was not entirely unexpected. Although restricted range may impact data analyses by obscuring relationships that might be present in an expanded range and impact the statistical power of analyses conducted, the researchers deemed the data fit for analyses. Indeed, numerous previous studies (e.g., Anderson, Sellbom, Bagby, Quilty, Veltri, Markon, & Krueger, 2013; Boethel, 2015; Bouffard, 2010; Fossati, Krueger, Markon, Borroni, & Maffei, 2013; Hill & Fischer, 2001; Humphreys, 2007; Jopp, & South, 2015; Jozkowski, Peterson, et al., 2014; Krueger, Derringer, Markon, Watson, & Skodol, 2012; McDermott et al., 2016; Mouilso & Calhoun, 2013; Osman, 2003; Osman 2007; Truman et al., 1996; Widman & McNulty, 2010) have utilized these measures and conducted similar analyses in range-restricted samples such as undergraduate and community samples. In other words, the use of non-parametric statistical analyses or data transformation is not common practice in this type of research. Furthermore, previous research has shown that the general structure of dimensional constructs (such as the personality constructs used in

the current study) should remain intact across samples despite range restriction (Krueger, Eaton, et al., 2012).

A series of Pearson correlations were conducted in which each problematic sexual attitude scale (the Sexual Entitlement Scale [SES], Token Resistance to Sex Scale [TRSS], Illinois Rape Myth Acceptance Scale-Revised [IRMA-R], Sexual Consent Scale [Consent], and the Attitudes towards Women Scale [AWS]) was correlated with each of the PID-5 domains and facets. Results are shown in Table 2. At the domain level SES, TRSS, IRMA-R, and Consent showed moderate correlations with PID-5 Antagonism ( $r$ 's =  $-.31$  [Consent] -  $.43$  [TRSS]). There were no additional moderate correlations between sexual attitude scales and PID-5 domains ( $r$ 's =  $-.01$  [Negative Affectivity/AWS] -  $.29$  [Psychoticism/IRMA-R]). At the facet level, SES showed moderate correlations with PID-5 Deceitfulness and Grandiosity ( $r$ 's =  $.31$  and  $.31$ ); TRSS showed moderate correlations with PID-5 Unusual Beliefs and Experiences, Callousness, Deceitfulness, Grandiosity, and Manipulativeness ( $r$ 's =  $.30$  [Unusual Beliefs and Experiences] -  $.39$  [Deceitfulness]); IRMA-R showed moderated correlations with PID-5 Rigid Perfectionism, Unusual Beliefs and Experiences, Suspiciousness, Callousness, Deceitfulness, and Grandiosity ( $r$ 's =  $.32$  [Rigid Perfectionism and Unusual Beliefs and Experiences] -  $.38$  [Callousness]); and AWS showed moderate correlations with Perceptual Dysregulation, Irresponsibility, and Callousness ( $r$ 's =  $.30$  [Irresponsibility] -  $.33$  [Perceptual Dysregulation]).

Table 2

*Correlations between Problematic Attitudes Towards Sex and PID-5 Domains and Facets*

PID-5 Domains	PID-5 Facets	AWS	SES	TRSS	IRMA-R	Consent
Negative Affectivity		-.01	.23	.09	.12	-.06
	Anxiousness	-.17	.13	.05	.07	-.14
	Emotional Lability	.08	.18	.08	.11	-.04
	Hostility	.12	.22	.23	.29	-.14
	Perseveration	.12	.12	.15	.22	-.16
	Restricted Affectivity	.04	.00	.18	.26	-.07
	Separation Insecurity	.20	.06	.11	.16	-.08
	Submissiveness	.09	-.09	.01	.08	.00
	Depressivity	.10	.02	.13	.17	-.13
	Suspiciousness	.15	.24	.25	<b>.36</b>	-.27
Detachment		.05	-.00	.15	.23	-.15
	Anhedonia	.10	.06	.17	.23	-.19
	Depressivity	.10	.02	.13	.17	-.13
	Intimacy Avoidance	.11	-.01	.22	.18	-.03

(continued)



PID-5 Domains	PID-5 Facets	AWS	SES	TRSS	IRMA-R	Consent
Antagonism	Suspiciousness	.15	.24	.25	<b>.36</b>	-.27
	Withdrawal	-.01	-.03	.03	.17	-.12
		.26	<b>.36</b>	<b>.43</b>	<b>.38</b>	<b>-.31</b>
	Attention Seeking	.29	.15	.29	.22	-.15
	Callousness	<b>.32</b>	.23	<b>.38</b>	<b>.38</b>	-.21
	Deceitfulness	.23	<b>.31</b>	<b>.39</b>	<b>.37</b>	-.25
	Grandiosity	.29	<b>.31</b>	<b>.39</b>	<b>.36</b>	-.29
	Manipulativeness	.20	.29	<b>.32</b>	.26	-.25
Disinhibition	Hostility	.12	.22	.23	.29	-.14
		.25	.15	.18	.22	-.17
	Distractibility	.20	.07	.15	.20	-.14
	Impulsivity	.25	.23	.19	.23	-.20
	Irresponsibility	<b>.30</b>	.15	.22	.25	-.12
	Rigid Perfectionism	.09	.15	.11	<b>.32</b>	-.14
	Risk Taking	.18	.11	.23	.11	-.15
		.16	.14	.23	.29	-.11
Psychoticism	Eccentricity	.04	.00	.08	.19	-.12

(continued)

PID-5 Domains	PID-5 Facets	AWS	SES	TRSS	IRMA-R	Consent
	Perceptual Dysregulation	<b>.33</b>	.16	.28	.27	-.10
	Unusual Beliefs and Experiences	.29	.21	<b>.30</b>	<b>.32</b>	-.13

*Note.* Moderate correlations are in bold; PID-5 = Personality Inventory for DSM-5; AWS = Attitudes Towards Women Scale; SES = Sexual Entitlement Scale; TRSS = Token Resistance to Sex Scale; IRMA-R = Illinois Rape Myth Acceptance Scale – Revised; Consent = Sexual Consent Scale.

Next, a series of multiple regression analyses were conducted in which each problematic sexual attitude variable was regressed onto the five domain scores of the PID-5 (Negative Affectivity, Detachment, Antagonism, Disinhibition, and Psychoticism). Results are shown in Table 3. Overall, PID-5 domain scores significantly predicted the SES ( $F(5,95) = 4.58, p < .01, R^2 = .194$ ), TRSS ( $F(5,95) = 4.45, p < .01, R^2 = .190$ ), IRAM-R ( $F(5,95) = 4.08, p < .01, R^2 = .177$ ), Consent ( $F(5,95) = 2.34, p < .05, R^2 = .110$ ), and AWS ( $F(5,95) = 2.96, p < .05, R^2 = .135$ ). More specifically, PID-5 Antagonism uniquely positively predicted the SES total score ( $\beta = .41$ ), the TRSS total score ( $\beta = .43$ ), and the IRMA-R total score ( $\beta = .32$ ), and negatively predicted the Consent total score ( $\beta = -.32$ ). Due to the nature in which the Consent scale variables were coded, this negative relationship was expected (the lower the total score on this measure, the less explicitly stated sexual consent needed to be in a potential partner). PID-5 Negative Affectivity uniquely predicted the SES total score ( $\beta = .31$ ) and PID-5 Disinhibition uniquely predicted the AWS total score ( $\beta = .34$ ).

Table 3

*PID-5 Domains and Problematic Attitudes towards Sex Regression Analyses*

PID-5 Scale		R <sup>2</sup>	$\beta$	<i>p</i>
<u>AWS</u>		.14		
	Negative Affectivity		-.25	.059
	Detachment		-.07	.558
	Antagonism		.17	.137
	Disinhibition		<b>.34</b>	<b>.025</b>
	Psychoticism		.03	.863

(continued)

	PID-5 Scale	R <sup>2</sup>	$\beta$	<i>p</i>
<u>SES</u>		.19		
	Negative Affectivity		<b>.31</b>	<b>.014</b>
	Detachment		-.16	.166
	Antagonism		<b>.41</b>	<b>&lt;.001</b>
	Disinhibition		-.08	.584
	Psychoticism		-.11	.445
<u>TRSS</u>		.19		
	Negative Affectivity		-.05	.717
	Detachment		.08	.517
	Antagonism		<b>.43</b>	<b>&lt;.001</b>
	Disinhibition		-.09	.520
	Psychoticism		.07	.633
<u>IRMA-R</u>		.18		
	Negative Affectivity		-.10	.428
	Detachment		.13	.283
	Antagonism		<b>.32</b>	<b>.005</b>
	Disinhibition		-.05	.735
	Psychoticism		.16	.284
<u>Consent</u>		.11		
	Negative Affectivity		.05	.699
	Detachment		-.13	.295
	Antagonism		<b>-.32</b>	<b>.007</b>
	Disinhibition		-.07	.623
	Psychoticism		.14	.371

*Note.* Significant predictors are listed in bold; PID-5 = Personality Inventory for DSM-5; AWS = Attitudes Towards Women Scale; SES = Sexual Entitlement Scale; TRSS = Token Resistance to Sex Scale; IRMA-R = Illinois Rape Myth Acceptance Scale – Revised; Consent = Sexual Consent Scale.

Finally, a series of facet-level regressions were conducted. Results are shown in Table 4. More specifically, each sexual attitude scale was regressed onto the facets of significant PID-5 domain-level predictors in the first set of regression analyses. The facets subsumed within PID-5 Antagonism (i.e. Attention Seeking, Callousness, Deceitfulness, Grandiosity, and Manipulativeness) significantly predicted the SES total score ( $F(5,179) = 5.82, p < .001, R^2 = .140$ ), the TRSS total score ( $F(5,179) = 10.37, p < .001, R^2 = .225$ ), the IRMA-R total score ( $F(5,179) = 9.28, p < .001, R^2 = .206$ ), and the Consent total score ( $F(5,179) = 4.24, p < .01, R^2 = .106$ ). More specifically, PID-5 Grandiosity uniquely positively predicted the SES total score ( $\beta = .24$ ), the TRSS total score ( $\beta = .23$ ), and the IRMA-R total score ( $\beta = .24$ ), and negatively predicted the Consent total score ( $\beta = -.23$ ). The facets within PID-5 Disinhibition (i.e. Distractibility, Impulsivity, Irresponsibility, Rigid Perfectionism, and Risk taking) significantly predicted the AWS total score ( $F(5, 178) = 4.13, p = .001, R^2 = .104$ ); more specifically, PID-5 Irresponsibility uniquely predicted the AWS total score ( $\beta = .27$ ). However, the facets of PID-5 Negative Affectivity (i.e. Anxiousness, Emotional Lability, Hostility, Perseveration, Restricted Affectivity, Separation Insecurity, and Submissiveness) did not significantly predict the SES total score ( $F(7,110) = 1.21, p > .05$ ).

Table 4

*PID-5 Facets and Problematic Attitudes Towards Sex Regression Analyses*

PID-5 Scale	PID-5 Facet	R <sup>2</sup>	β	P
<u>AWS</u>				
Disinhibition		.10		
	Distractibility		-.05	.633
	Impulsivity		.06	.604
	Irresponsibility		<b>.27</b>	<b>.013</b>
	Rigid Perfectionism		.04	.557
	Risk Taking		.09	.262
<u>SES</u>				
Negative Affectivity		.07		
	Anxiousness		.01	.947
	Emotional Lability		.04	.811
	Hostility		.26	.102
	Perseveration		-.02	.889
	Restricted Affectivity		-.08	.478
	Separation Insecurity		-.01	.912
	Submissiveness		-.12	.226
	Depressivity		<b>-.33</b>	<b>.040</b>
	Suspiciousness		<b>.26</b>	<b>.041</b>
Antagonism		.14		
	Attention Seeking		-.09	.318
	Callousness		-.05	.642
	Deceitfulness		<b>.22</b>	<b>.070</b>
	Grandiosity		<b>.24</b>	<b>.011</b>
	Manipulativeness		.07	.478
	Hostility		.01	.904

(continued)

PID-5 Scale	PID-5 Facet	R <sup>2</sup>	$\beta$	P
<u>TRSS</u>				
Antagonism		.23		
	Attention Seeking		.08	.362
	Callousness		.15	.120
	Deceitfulness		.16	.171
	Grandiosity		<b>.23</b>	<b>.012</b>
	Manipulativeness		-.02	.883
	Hostility		-.10	.243
<u>IRMA-R</u>				
Antagonism		.21		
	Attention Seeking		.02	.781
	Callousness		.18	.074
	Deceitfulness		.19	.105
	Grandiosity		<b>.24</b>	<b>.008</b>
	Manipulativeness		-.10	.338
	Hostility		.02	.810
<u>Consent</u>				
Antagonism		.11		
	Attention Seeking		.05	.539
	Callousness		-.01	.945
	Deceitfulness		-.12	.325
	Grandiosity		<b>-.24</b>	<b>.016</b>
	Manipulativeness		-.06	.578
	Hostility		.08	.414

*Note.* Significant predictors are listed in bold; PID-5 = Personality Inventory for DSM-5; AWS = Attitudes Towards Women Scale; SES = Sexual Entitlement Scale; TRSS = Token Resistance to Sex Scale; IRMA-R = Illinois Rape Myth Acceptance Scale – Revised; Consent = Sexual Consent Scale.

## CHAPTER IV

### Discussion

The purpose of this study was to better understand risk factors that may be related to the perpetration of sexual assault. Most of the previous research in this area has focused on problematic attitudes and beliefs related to sexually aggressive behaviors (Boethel, 2015; Bouffard, 2010; Hill & Fischer, 200; Humphreys, 2007; Jozkowski, Peterson, et al., 2014; McDermott et al., 2016; Mouilso & Calhoun, 2013; Osman, 2003; Osman 2007; Truman et al., 1996; Widman & McNulty, 2010), and the limited research involving personality in relation to those characteristics has been heavily focused on its association with psychopathy (Brown & Forth, 1997; O'Connell & Marcus, 2016; Williams et al., 2009) Therefore, this research sought to expand on the scientific community's knowledge by examining the relationship between additional pathological personality traits beyond psychopathy and problematic attitudes towards sex.

It was hypothesized that, at the domain level, higher levels of antagonism and disinhibition would be associated with higher levels of all problematic sexual attitudes; this hypothesis was partially supported. Additionally, the hypotheses that at the facet level manipulateness and callousness (facets of antagonism) as well as impulsivity and risk taking (facets of disinhibition) would be most highly associated with problematic sexual attitudes were also partially supported.

At the domain level, sexual entitlement, belief in token resistance to sex, belief in rape myths, and perceptions of consent were all associated with antagonism at the zero-order level. In addition, in the regression analyses, antagonism scores were uniquely predictive of those four problematic attitudes towards sex. These findings are in line with



past research that has found associations between lack of empathy, social dominance, and sensation seeking (all of which are associated with the PID-5 antagonism domain [APA, 2013]) and positive attitudes towards sexually predatory behavior (O'Connell & Marcus, 2016). Although this is not a direct link to the four problematic attitudes included in the current study, those attitudes have also been linked to positive attitudes towards sexually aggressive behavior (Boethel, 2015; Bouffard, 2010; Hill & Fischer, 2001; Humphreys, 2007; Jozkowski, Peterson, et al., 2014; Mouilso & Calhoun, 2013; Osman, 2003; Osman 2007; Widman & McNulty, 2010). Therefore, it is likely that individuals who possess more antagonistic personality traits are more likely to hold more sexually aggressive attitudes and exhibit more sexually aggressive behavior.

At the facet level, callousness was moderately correlated with belief in token resistance to sex, belief in rape myths, and traditional gender roles, and manipulativeness was moderately correlated with belief in token resistance to sex. These findings are in line with the facet level hypotheses as well as previous research findings that indicate a connection between psychopathic personality traits (e.g. callousness, guiltlessness, glibness, manipulativeness, etc.) and sexually aggressive attitudes and behaviors (Brown & Forth, 1997;; O'Connell & Marcus, 2016; Williams et al., 2009). These problematic attitudes have been linked to sexually aggressive attitudes and behaviors (Boethel, 2015; Hill & Fischer, 2001; McDermott et al., 2016; Mouilso & Calhoun, 2013; Osman, 2003; Osman 2007; Truman et al., 1996); therefore, these findings may suggest that individuals who possess the traits of callousness and manipulativeness are also at higher risk for exhibiting sexually aggressive attitudes and behaviors. Additionally, grandiosity was uniquely predictive of four of the five problematic attitudes towards sex (i.e., sexual

entitlement, belief in token resistance to sex, belief in rape myths, and perceptions of consent). Given that the definition for grandiosity includes “feelings of entitlement” (APA, 2013), it is not surprising grandiosity was predictive of sexual entitlement. Additionally, because individuals who possess the trait of grandiosity often see themselves as “superior to others” and have a tendency to show “condescension toward others” (APA, 2013) it is not difficult to understand its predictive relationship with belief in token resistance to sex, belief in rape myths, and perceptions of consent. If an individual believes that he or she is superior to others and deserves special treatment, he or she may overlook another person’s feelings in order to gain what he or she desires, such as with belief in token resistance to sex and perceptions of consent. Furthermore, if an individual is highly self-centered, he or she may be likely to place the blame for his/her actions, including sexual assault or sexually aggressive behaviors, on the victim, which is primarily what belief in rape myth entails.

At the domain level, disinhibition scores were uniquely predictive of adherence to traditional gender roles. The findings for disinhibition are partially in line with previous research, which indicated that impulsivity (which is included under the disinhibition domain in DSM-5 Section III) is associated with positive attitudes towards sexually predatory behavior (O’Connell & Marcus, 2016). Individuals who adhere more strictly to traditional gender roles have been found in previous research to endorse positive attitudes towards sexually aggressive behaviors (Hill & Fischer, 2001; McDermott et al., 2016; Truman et al., 1996). Therefore, by putting the current results in the context of previous literature, it appears that individuals who possess more disinhibited personality traits may be more likely to hold more sexually aggressive attitudes and exhibit more sexually

aggressive behavior. If an individual desires immediate gratification, is driven by current thoughts and feelings, and does not plan or consider consequences (APA, 2013), he or she may be more likely to act on sexually aggressive thoughts or impulses that a more conscientious person would be able to control.

At the facet level, irresponsibility was uniquely predictive of adherence to traditional gender roles. Adherence to traditional gender roles generally encompasses ideas such as men should be in charge and women belong at home (Spence et al., 1973), and irresponsibility is embodied by qualities such as disregard for commitments and lack of respect for/following through on agreements (APA, 2013). If a man feels like women are inherently beneath him in society, he would feel no obligation to honor promises or commitment made to them. Thus, although the findings for irresponsibility were somewhat unexpected, they are not entirely inexplicable. Future research should examine the relationship between irresponsibility and adherence to traditional gender roles more closely in an attempt to better understand this unanticipated finding.

Given the fact that previous research has shown impulsivity to be associated with sexually aggressive behaviors (Brown & Forth, 1997; O'Connell & Marcus, 2016), it was anticipated that the facet of disinhibition, and specifically its facet of impulsivity, would be more robustly related to the five problematic attitudes towards sex. It is possible that the lack of relationship revealed by this research is due to the fact that this study solely measured attitudes and not behaviors. If a behavioral measure had been used to identify participants who engage in more impulsive sexual acts it is possible that the association with disinhibition, and specifically impulsivity, would have been stronger. Future

research would benefit from utilizing such a behavioral measure in order to further explore the possible relationship between impulsivity and sexual aggression.

Unexpectedly, the scores on the negative affectivity domain were also significantly predictive of sexual entitlement. The facet level regression analysis for negative affectivity was not significant. However, two of the individual facets emerged as significant predictors (depressivity and suspiciousness) and emotional lability and anxiousness were both highly correlated with negative affectivity. Given that this domain encompasses facets such as anxiousness and submissiveness and is associated with behaviors such as self-harm and dependency (APA, 2013), it was somewhat surprising for it to be associated with sexual entitlement, which is defined in this study as the belief that one has an inherent right to sex or to have their sexual needs met by others. This definition more clearly aligns with the domain of antagonism which is associated with an exaggerated sense of self-importance and an expectation of special treatment as well as a “readiness to use others in the service of self-enhancement” (APA, 2013). Nonetheless, there appeared to be a possible negative affect component to this problematic sexual attitude. Considering the domain of negative affectivity encompasses a wide range of negative emotions and their behavioral and interpersonal manifestations (APA, 2013), there are numerous possibilities of personality characteristics that could be driving this relationship. Future research should examine the relationship between negative affectivity, and all of its facets, and sexual entitlement in an attempt to better understand this finding.

The findings from this research provide the scientific community with a more in-depth understanding of how pathological personality traits are associated with certain

problematic attitudes towards sex. These attitudes have been shown by previous research to be connected to acceptance of sexual dating aggression, sexually coercive behaviors, self-reported sexual aggression, and attempted or completed rape (Bouffard, 2010; Hill & Fischer, 2001; McDermott et al., 2016; Widman & McNulty, 2010). Although this research did not directly examine the relationship between pathological personality traits and sexually aggressive behaviors, it provides a solid foundation for future research on the relationship between personality traits and sexually violent behaviors and provides us with insights that may help to improve current assessment tools and treatment programs for sexual offenders. Although there has been some research to suggest a decline of sexual violence in the recent past, there is still a high rate of victimization (Planty et al., 2013); therefore, continued research in this area is important for society as a whole in order to better address the widespread problem of sexual assault.

The more the scientific community understands about the personality variables associated with sexually aggressive individuals, the better equipped we will be to construct and implement effective intervention and prevention programs. Recent research has suggested that roughly 10.1% of sex offenders who receive treatment reoffend, while recidivism rates for sex offenders who go untreated are around 13.7% (Shmucker & Lösel, 2015). While this does suggest that current treatment methods are having some effect on recidivism, recidivism remains a problem, and current treatment methods are not effective for all offenders. Previous research has indicated that an individual's personality traits can be linked to treatment responsivity (Asscher, Deković, Akker, Madners, Prins, van der Laan, & Prinzie, 2016; Newman, Jacobson, Erickson, & Fisher, 2016; Olver, Lewis, & Wong, 2012) and offender recidivism rates (Doren & Yates,

2008). In Texas, part of the standard sex offender treatment program involves individual sessions of cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT; Council on Sex Offender Treatment, 2010); however, a study by Newman and colleagues (2016) suggests that individuals with the personality characteristics of intrusiveness and dominance may respond better to Behavioral Therapy (BT) than to CBT. The characteristic of dominance appears to align well with the trait of antagonism in DSM-5 Section III, which can include “and unawareness of others’ needs” and “self-centeredness” and “lack of concern for the feelings or problems of others” (APA, 2013). Thus, it is possible that individuals who exhibit antagonism may respond better to BT than to CBT as well. Considering we now have reason to believe that individuals who are sexually aggressive may possess the personality trait of antagonism, treatment programs for sex offenders could be modified to utilize BT, instead of CBT, in an attempt to further reduce recidivism rates.

Furthermore, the results of this study imply that perhaps the underlying goals for sex offender treatment programs should be amended. Considering personality traits such as callousness, manipulativeness, grandiosity, and impulsivity have been linked to problematic sexual attitudes, and thus presumably sexually aggressive attitudes and behaviors, perhaps one of the main goals of sex offender treatment programs should be to treat these underlying characterological issues. Thus, if individuals who display certain personality traits are more sexually aggressive, perhaps treating those characterological issues will reduce their sexually aggressive attitudes and behaviors and, therefore, lower their probability of recidivism.

Finally, this research also provides further evidence for the utility of the AMPD found in DSM-5 Section III. Although this model is not the current standard for

personality disorder diagnosis, it is included as an emerging model in the DSM-5, which is widely used throughout the mental health community. This model allows clinicians to create a comprehensive personality profile, for individuals, instead of focusing on a “single diagnostic label” (APA, 2013), which aids in treatment planning and outcome predictions. The utility of this dimensional trait model has become increasingly well-established in the literature (Al-Dajani et al. 2016; Krueger & Markon, 2014) and the results from this study suggest that we now have reason to believe this model can also aid clinicians in risk assessment for sexually aggressive behaviors. If, in the future, this model is adopted as the primary model for personality disorder diagnosis, these results will prove particularly useful, given that they provide direct information about personality-related risk factors that may be regularly assessed in general practice for personality disorder diagnosis in the future.

### **Limitations and Future Directions**

There were a number of notable limitations to the current study. First, there was an input error made during the construction of the online survey that was used, which resulted in three of the PID-5 questions being missing from the questionnaire. Specifically, questions 43, 139, and 175, which load onto the attention seeking, unusual beliefs and experiences, and separation insecurity facets, respectively. Due to this error, the scoring syntax of the measure had to be modified to account for the missing variables. Future replications of this research, which should utilize the entirety of the PID-5, may give a more accurate and reliable look at pathological personality traits associated with sexually aggressive attitudes and behaviors, due to the inclusion of questions that were missing from this study.

Additionally, this study was limited by the utilization of all self-report measures. Although an online format was utilized in an attempt to provide participants with as much anonymity as possible, self-report measures inherently rely on the veracity of the participants. Due to the fact that the information collected by most of the measures used reflects characteristics that are often viewed as negative, such as sexual entitlement and antagonism, it is possible that participants may not have been entirely truthful with their answers, in an attempt to present themselves in a more positive manner. This is a limitation that cannot be avoided when measuring variables such as personality with the PID-5. However, if future research were to utilize more expanded samples, such as convicted sexual offenders, it may be possible to obtain more objective measures of variables such as sexual aggression by reviewing criminal records. In addition to the possible response bias, the utilization of exclusively self-report survey methods also introduces the possibility that the strength of the reported relationships are inflated due to shared method variance. Therefore, future research may benefit from measuring personality psychopathology and sexual attitudes with varied methodology, such as interview-rated measures, record review, or behavioral methods of data collection.

Furthermore, this study was limited by restricted range. The majority of the data collected in this study reflected qualities that are not highly endorsed in the general public. It is possible that this restricted range resulted in reduced statistical power or obscured relationships that may have been present in samples with greater variability. This study is an improvement upon previous research that has predominantly used undergraduate participants (Boethel, 2015; Bouffard, 2010; Hill & Fischer, 2000; Humphreys, 2007; Jozkowski, Peterson, et al., 2014; McDermott et al., 2016; Mouilso &



Calhoun, 2013; Osman, 2003; Osman 2007; Truman et al., 1996; Widman & McNulty, 2010) due to the more demographically diverse sample collected via MTurk (Buhrmester et al., 2011); however, these results may not be generalizable to samples with more extreme levels of personality psychopathology or sexually aggressive attitudes/behaviors due to range restriction. Future research in this area should expand on the current study by including individuals who may be more likely to endorse both pathological personality traits, such as clinical psychiatric populations, and sexually aggressive behaviors, such as convicted sex offenders.

Given that, to our knowledge, psychopathy literature has not measured negative affect in relation to sexual aggression, the findings from this research regarding the relationship between sexual entitlement and negative affectivity may prove to be uniquely important. If this relationship can be replicated in other settings and samples, it could potentially identify a new target area for treatment of sexual aggression. Therefore, future research should further explore this novel relationship in order to better understand the current findings.

Finally, although these results indicated that there is a relationship between certain pathological personality traits and sexually aggressive attitudes and behaviors, due to the nature of this research (i.e., correlational) it is impossible to draw conclusions about the causation of this relationship from the results. As stated previously, this research provides a solid foundation for continued research in this area, which should focus not only on replication of these findings, but also on exploring any causal relationships that may exist, particularly by using longitudinal research methodologies.

Notwithstanding the aforementioned limitations, the present study not only provides a solid foundation for future research in the area of personality and sexual aggression, but also provides reliable and valid information that could be utilized to modify current sexual assault prevention programs and sex offender treatment programs. This study provides evidence that antagonism, disinhibition, and negative affectivity, and more specifically callousness, manipulativeness, grandiosity, and irresponsibility are linked to problematic attitudes towards sex, and thus may be related to sexually aggressive attitudes and behaviors. With nearly 1 in 5 women experiencing sexual victimization during their lifetimes in the U.S. (Kilpatrick et al., 2007) and 10.1% of sexually offenders reoffending even after participating in some kind of sexual offender treatment program (Shmucker & Lösel, 2015), it is clear that the effectiveness of current methods being used for sexual assault prevention and sexual offender treatment programs could be improved. Results from this study should be used to create more effective intervention and prevention programs, and research should continue to further explore the relationships between pathological personality traits and sexual aggression, as these steps may aid in attempting to reduce rates of sexual assault victimization and sex offender recidivism.

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## APPENDIX A

### Participant Information Sheet

**Researcher:**

This study is being conducted by Amanda Boethel, B.A., a graduate student in the Department of Psychology and Philosophy, who is supervised by Dr. Jaime Anderson, an assistant professor in the Department of Psychology and Philosophy, at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas.

**Project Title:**

Personality and Attitudes Towards Sex

**General Outline of the Project:**

The main purpose of this study is to find out how well specific personality traits are related to certain attitudes about sex. The data will be collected using an online survey questionnaire and 200 participants will be recruited via Amazon Mechanical Turk (M-Turk). All data will remain anonymous and will be analyzed using various statistical techniques in group format. Results will be shared through academic journal publications and professional research conferences.

**Participant Involvement:**

Participation in this survey is completely voluntary and participants are able to withdraw from the study at any time during the survey without penalty or having to provide an explanation. Data from participants who withdraw will not be used in this study. It will not be possible to withdraw upon submission of the survey.

In this study, participants are asked to complete a survey questionnaire that takes roughly 40 minutes. Survey questions are related to personality traits and various attitudes about sex. The survey can be completed anywhere the participants have access to a computer and the internet; however, it is open to heterosexual, male, English speaking, United States residents only. Participants will receive USD\$1 for their participation in the study. Individuals who participate in this study will not receive payment if they do not comply with the above specified criteria. Therefore, if you indicate you are female, not heterosexual, your IP address says you are not from the U.S., or you do not complete the entire study you will not receive financial compensation. In addition, this survey includes validity checks, to make sure that participants are paying attention to item content and not randomly responding to this questionnaire. Therefore, if you rush through the survey and do not answer the questions in a thoughtful manner, as indicated by failure to pass the validity checks you will not receive payment. It is important to note that submission of the survey questionnaire will be considered as consent to participant in this research study.

No risk, danger, or harm exists for participating in this study beyond what is expected from everyday life. However, this study will ask you about sensitive topics and some questions could cause discomfort. As previously mentioned, participation is completely voluntary and you can skip questions or exit the survey at any point. Should you experience any emotional distress and would like to speak to someone about this, please

consider seeking out a licensed mental health professional in your area. Also, feel free to call the National Crisis Help Line toll-free at 1-800-784-2433 at any time to speak with a trained professional.

**Exclusion criteria:**

Participants in this study must be residents of the United States (assessed via physical presence based on IP address), male, heterosexual, at least 18 years of age, and have at least 6th grade equivalent English skills. The survey is only in English and is not translated to other languages.

**Confidentiality:**

Your participation in this study will be confidential. Participants are answering these questions online and will have no contact with the researchers involved. Participation will be anonymous and you will not be asked to provide any personally identifiable data. Confidentiality will be protected by the primary investigator to the degree the law allows. Consent would be given by checking the relevant boxes (agree or do not agree to participate in the project) in the next section. In addition, only the above nominated researchers and authorized technical staff will have access to the data, which are stored in password protected computers in secure locations. If you do not wish to participate in this study, you may choose not to participate. If you start the study, you can stop at any time.

**Data Storage:**

Data management procedures will be in compliance with the Sam Houston State University's Code of Research Conduct. Data will be stored on a password-protected computer and locked in secure premises. All data will be kept for at least five years subsequent to the final research dissemination before being destroyed.

**Queries and Concerns:**

If you have questions about the study, please contact Amanda Boethel, B.A., or Dr. Jaime Anderson.

**Ethics Committee Clearance:**

The ethical aspects of this research have been approved by the Sam Houston State University (SHSU) Institutional Review Board. If you have any concerns or complaints about how this research has been conducted, please contact:

Sharla Miles, M.Ed., CIP

Research Compliance Administrator

Research and Sponsored Programs

Sam Houston State University

Thank you for your interest and participation in this study.

Sincerely,

Amanda Boethel, B.A., and Jaime Anderson, Ph.D.

## **APPENDIX B**

### **Debriefing Statement**

Thank you for your participation. The current study aims to better understand the association between personality traits and an individual's attitudes towards sex. Specifically, this study aims to better understand how pathological personality traits are associated with certain problematic attitudes towards sex, such as belief in rape myths, belief in token resistance to sex, adherence to traditional gender roles, sexual entitlement, and perceiving consent in a potential partner when it is not explicitly stated. The information obtained through this study will help to better understand the attitudes of individuals with certain personality traits.

Please remember that all of your responses are completely anonymous, and we will not be able to trace the results of your questionnaires back to you. Your name will not be associated in any way with the results of this study.

If you are feeling distressed or experience any other psychological symptom, please consider seeking out a licensed mental health professional in your area. Also, feel free to call the National Crisis Help Line toll-free at 1-800-784-2433 at any time to speak with a trained professional.

If you have questions about the study, please contact Amanda Boethel, B.A., or Dr. Jaime Anderson.

If you have any concerns or complaints about how this research has been conducted, please contact:

Sharla Miles, M.Ed., CIP  
Research Compliance Administrator  
Research and Sponsored Programs  
Sam Houston State University

Thank you very much for your interest.

Sincerely,

Amanda Boethel, B.A. and Jaime Anderson, Ph.D.

## VITA

Amanda Ellen (Boethel) Kasowski

### **Education**

Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas  
Master of Clinical Psychology  
Expected May 2017  
Current GPA: 4.0/4.0 scale

Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, Texas  
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology; Minor in Criminal Justice  
May 2015, University Scholar with *Summa Cum Laude*  
Final GPA: 4.0/4.0 scale

### **Manuscripts**

Savoy, S., Faries, M., Cortez, M., Lusk, J. & **Boethel, A.** *Mechanisms of stigma and promotion of healthy weight status.* Submitted for publication.

**Boethel, A.** *The effects of personal ringtone distractions on dichotic listening skills.* Unpublished manuscript.

**Boethel, A.** *The Connection Between Male Entitlement and Sexual Consent.* Unpublished manuscript.

**Kasowski, A.** *The Connection Between Pathological Personality and Problematic Attitudes Towards Sex (tentative title).* Unpublished thesis.

### **Conference Presentations**

**Boethel, A.** (November, 2015). *The Connection Between Male Entitlement and Sexual Consent.* Talk was held at the annual convention of the Texas Psychological Association – Annual Forensic Meeting, San Antonio, Texas, 2015.

Simms, B., **Boethel, A.**, Lenert, M., & Eaves, S. (April, 2015). *Was that my phone? The Cocktail Party Phenomenon with personal ringtones.* Poster was presented at the 61<sup>st</sup> annual convention of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Wichita, Kansas, 2015.

Tryals, D., Hance, M., Morgan, N., **Boethel, A.**, & Savoy, S. *Weight as a moderator of appearance-related identity and psychological stress response.* Poster was presented at the 61<sup>st</sup> annual convention of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Wichita, Kansas, 2015.

Savoy, S., Hance, M., **Boethel, A.**, & Cortez, M. (April, 2015). *Descriptive Norms for Disordered Eating: Barriers to Treatment and Peer Help-Seeking Intentions*. Talk was held at the 61<sup>st</sup> annual convention of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Wichita, Kansas, 2015.

**Boethel, A.** (November, 2015). *The Connection Between Male Entitlement and Sexual Consent*. Talk was held at the annual convention of the Texas Psychological Association, San Antonio, Texas, 2015.

### **Honors & Awards**

#### **Mary Alice Conroy Award**

Award from the Texas Psychological Association for the best student paper in Forensic Psychology.  
Fall 2015

#### **President's List**

Fall 2011, Spring 2012, Fall 2012, Spring 2013, Fall 2013, Spring 2014,  
Fall 2014

#### **Athletic Director's Honor Roll**

Fall 2011, Spring 2012, Fall 2012, Spring 2013, Fall 2013, Spring 2014

#### **Murray Shaw Award**

Awarded to the student(s) on each athletic team at Stephen F. Austin State University who holds the highest GPA on their team.  
Spring 2013

#### **Freshman Psychology Major with the Highest GPA**

Spring 2012

#### **Sophomore Psychology Major with the Highest GPA**

Spring 2013

#### **Junior Psychology Major with the Highest GPA**

Spring 2014

#### **Psychology Department GPA Award**

Spring 2015

#### **National Collegiate Bowling Coaches Association Academic All-American Team**

2012-2013 Academic Year

#### **Capital One Academic All-District Women's At-Large Team (College Division of District 7)**

2012-2013 Academic Year

#### **Academic All-National Tenpin Coaches Association Honoree**

Spring 2012

## **Research Experience**

### **Fall 2013 - Present**

#### **Research Assistant**

**Supervisor: Sarah Savoy, Ph. D.**

Duties: Running participants in an experiment examining appearance-related identity threat, stress levels, and eating behavior. Administering surveys and collecting psychophysiological data. Entering data and merging spreadsheets for data analysis using SPSS and Excel. Running participants for a graduate student thesis examining cell phone behaviors and contingencies of self-worth. Serving as a confederate and an observer. Coding video data for a graduate student experiment examining avatar creation and body image.

### **Fall 2014**

#### **Independent Research (Honors Contract)**

**Supervisor: Sharon Eaves, Ph. D.**

Duties: Collaborated in design and execution of an original research experiment involving cell phone distraction and dichotic listening. Conducted literature review, ran participants, entered and analyzed data in SPSS, and wrote a research manuscript.

### **Spring 2015**

#### **Independent Research (Research Seminar Course)**

**Supervisor: Lauren Brewers, Ph. D.**

Duties: Designed and executed an original research experiment involving correlational data on personality traits and opinions related to sexual consent. Conducted literature review, constructed test instruments on Qualtrics, collected data through Qualtrics, entered and analyzed data in SPSS, and wrote a research manuscript.

### **Fall 2016**

#### **Thesis Research**

**Supervisor: Jaime Anderson, Ph.D.**

Duties: Designed, and preparing to execute, original research experiment involving the correlation between dimensional personality facets of the PID-5 and problematic/deviant attitudes towards sex. Conducted literature review, constructed test instruments on Survey Monkey, collected data through Survey Monkey and Amazon's MTurk, entered and analyzed data in SPSS. Wrote IRB proposal, thesis committee proposal, and write thesis manuscript.

## **Clinical Experience**

### **Spring 2015**

#### **Practicum Student at Texas State Penitentiary at Huntsville**

Duties: Shadowed the on-site mental health professional and case manager during classification, intake interviews, individual and group counseling, and sick calls. Also, observed teleconferenced clinic appointments with psychiatrist. Gained experience interacting with an adult clinical forensic population.

**Fall 2016****Practicum Student at Montgomery County Mental Health Treatment Facility**

Duties: Shadowed two of the three on-site treatment team psychologists. Conducted intake interviews, mental status examinations, and counseling sessions with patients opined incompetent to stand trial. Also, lead weekly treatment team meetings with select patients. Wrote Initial Trial Competency reports, Psychological Assessments, Mental Status Evaluation reports, and client progress notes. Gained experience in counseling and assessment with adult clinical forensic population.

**Spring 2017****Practicum Student at Harris County Juvenile Probation Department**

Duties: Conducted psychological screenings for pre-court or placement, which consisted of a clinical interview, a brief intelligence test, and a brief achievement test. Wrote Psychological Evaluation reports based on information from screenings and previous records. Participated in weekly journal hour with doctoral intern staff to keep up to date on current research. Gained experience in interviewing and assessment with a juvenile clinical forensic population.

**Additional Experience****July 2014 – August 2014****Supplemental Instructor for Richard J. Herzog, Ph. D.**

Duties: Supplemental Instructor for Political Science 142 for Pathways Summer Admissions students. Attended all lectures and ran group tutoring session three times a week. Created study sheets and lecture/book material assessments. Also, offered individual tutoring sessions during the week upon request. Reviewed any material students did not fully understand and assisted in organization and study techniques.

**September 2015 – Present****Graduate Assistant for Charles R. Carlson, Ph. D.**

Duties: Teaching Assistant for Contemporary Moral Issues. Monitored and graded online lecture discussion posts, including research and participation posts. Teaching Assistant for Introduction to Philosophy. Monitored and graded online philosophical exercises.

**June 2016 – August 2016****Graduate Assistant for David Nelson, Ph.D.**

Duties: Teaching Assistant for Health Psychology summer session. Kept students on track with weekly updated and reminders, and graded weekly write-ups and assignments.



### **Professional Memberships, Honor Societies, and Leadership Positions**

Psi Chi, International Honor Society in Psychology  
 Member  
 Spring 2014 - Present

Psi Chi, Stephen F. Austin State University chapter

SFASU Psi Chi Newsletter Committee for 2014 - 2015 academic year  
 Wrote articles for the chapter's monthly Psi Chi newsletter. Articles were overviews of lab work and research opportunities available in faculty labs on campus. Each article highlighted a different professor's lab.

SFASU Psi Chi Editor for 2014 - 2015 academic year  
 Responsible for editing printed material for the organization: posters and flyers for events, and the monthly newsletter.

Southwestern Psychological Association  
 Member  
 Fall 2014 - Present

Texas Psychological Association  
 Member  
 Fall 2014 - Present

Stephen F. Austin State University School of Honors  
 Member  
 Spring 2012 – Spring 2015

### **Data Collection/Analytical Skills**

BIOPAC-MP150 – Psychophysiological data acquisition system

Acknowledge Software – Flagging experimental events, recording electrodermal activity

SPSS software

Excel

Qualtrics

SurveyMonkey

### **Testing and Assessment Experience**

Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale – IV

Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children – V

Wechsler Abbreviated Scale of Intelligence – II

Wechsler Individual Achievement Test – III

Kaufman Brief Intelligence Test – 2

Wide Range Achievement Test – 4

Woodcock Johnson Test of Achievement – IV

Woodcock Johnson Test of Cognitive Abilities – IV

Test of Nonverbal Intelligence – 4

Adaptive Behavior Assessment System – Second Edition

Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scales – Second Edition

Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory – 2

Personality Assessment Inventory

Personality Inventory for the DSM-5