

Discussion Questions Oct 5: Music, Music Videos, and Movies

Group 1: Barongan & Hall methodology

- (a) The outcome measure used by Barongan & Hall (which videotape the participation showed to a female confederate) was criticized by several people. What are the strengths and weaknesses of this particular measure (be as concrete as possible)? What are some ideas for alternative measures that might be an improvement?
- (b) None of the men in the misogynistic condition chose the sexual-violent video. Those who chose a violent video chose the physically aggressive video. Does this support or contradict B&H's hypothesis? How can you explain this finding?

Group 2: Pornography

Student questions included the following:

- Is there pornography or erotica that is empowering for women?
- Does watching porn lead to committing rape, even if the person has no violent tendencies to begin with?
- Is there a difference in watching porn that is violent vs. porn that is not violent?
- Are there situational factors that intensify the effects of porn usage on sexual aggression toward women?

- (a) Design a study that would help to answer one or more of these questions.

Group 3: Moderators of Media Effects

Student questions included the following:

- Do people really believe what they see in the media, and doesn't that affect whether they are influenced by what they read/watch/listen to?
- What is the effect of misogynistic lyrics on girls? (i.e., does gender make a difference to the effects of the media?)
- Does having your own set of values and views protect you from negative media? Is it only people who are "susceptible to suggestion" that are at risk from exposure?
- Does the level of desensitization make a difference?

- (a) Design a study that would help to answer one or more of these questions

All: What are some positive or alternative portrayals that you would like to see in the media?

- if rape is shown, acquaintance rape should be more prevalent, to correspond with reality
- educational programming
- songs like Tupac's "Keep Your Head Up"