CELI INTERGENERATIONAL TRANSMISSION OF VIOLENCE

Testimonials from Prison

Countries surveyed



Data: Survey of convicted prisoners



OVERALL OBJECTIVE

To understand the association between family violence during childhood and certain criminal conduct in adulthood.

UNTREF

1. FAMILY VIOLENCE

WOMEN	Direct family violence	* MEN
	42 % 48 %	
Indirect family violence**		
	35% 32%	

47% HAVE BEEN VICTIMS OF DIRECT VIOLENCE



*Child abuse, where the child is the direct victim.

**Violence between parents in the home; even though the minor may not directly witness the abuse, he or she is immersed in a violent family environment.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

General

To what extent does growing up as the victim of direct or indirect violence at home influence certain criminal patterns of men and women who are incarcerated in Latin America?

Are there gender differences in this influence? In other words, does childhood victimization have a more detrimental effect on the criminal behavior of women and/or men?

THIS STUDY FOCUSES SPECIFICALLY ON TWO TYPES OF CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR:

POSSESSIO

POSSESSION OF FIREARMS





55% OF INCARCERATED PERSONS HAVE POSSESSED FIREARMS

DIRECT VIOLENCE IN CHILDHOOD

GREATER LIKELIHOOD OF FIREARMS POSSESSIONMAINLY AMONG MEN ●

INDIRECT VIOLENCE IN CHILDHOOD ↑ GREATER LIKELIHOOD OF FIREARMS POSSESSION MAINLY AMONG WOMEN ●

CONCLUSION



INDIRECT VIOLENCE

Indirect violence during childhood has a greater effect on the criminal behavior of women (both their likelihood of being recidivists and of possessing firearms).



DIRECT VICTIMIZATION

Direct victimization during childhood affects the likelihood of recidivism for both women and men—but the possession of firearms affects men more.

AREAS OF INTERVENTION

WOMEN

Women appear to be affected by both indirect and direct victimization. Intervention strategies for women should, therefore, be broader and more encompassing to address both types of violence (direct and indirect).

To be more effective, interventions aimed at preventing criminal conduct should take into account gender differences.

MEN

Men are affected primarily by direct violence and are less affected by being immersed in a violent family environment. Accordingly, **interventions to prevent criminal conduct among men should focus on direct family violence**.

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