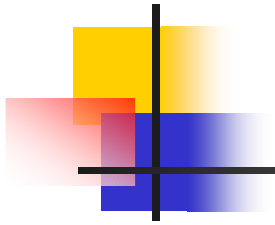


Examining Subtypes of Aggression: A Comparison of the PCL:YV and SAVRY

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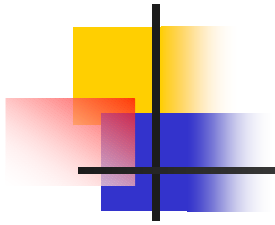
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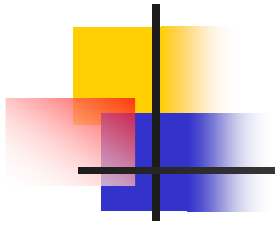
Violence Among Juveniles

- Concerns about increasing violence among adolescents have led to attempts to identify risk factors to assess and target for future violence
- Past research has found psychopathy to be an important construct
 - **Aggression** (Campbell, Porter, & Santor, 2004; Forth, Hart, & Hare, 1990; Forth & Mailloux, 2000)
 - **Violence** (Forth, 1995; Murrie, Cornell, Kaplan, McConville, & Levy-Elkon, 2004)
 - **Recidivism** (Catchpole & Gretton, 2003, Corrado, Vincent, Hart, & Cohen, 2004)



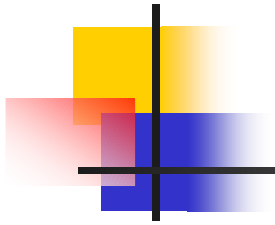
Violence Risk in Juveniles

- However, the nature of violence risk assessment suggests it is important to examine factors other than personality traits
- The SAVRY developed to address the lack of structured measures for assessing violence risk in adolescents
- Preliminary research with SAVRY is promising
 - Institutional aggression (Bartel, Forth, & Borum, 2004)
 - General and violent recidivism (Catchpole & Gretton, 2003; Gretton & Abramowitz, 2002)



The Nature of Aggression

- Predictions about risk for violence tend to focus on overt aggression
- It is less clear whether risk factors associated with overt acts of aggression are also associated with other types of aggression
- Aggression is a multi-dimensional construct
(Little, Jones, Henrich, & Hawley, 2003)
- Expression of aggression is gender specific
(Crick, 1996; Eme & Kavanaugh, 1995; Silverthorn & Frick, 1999)



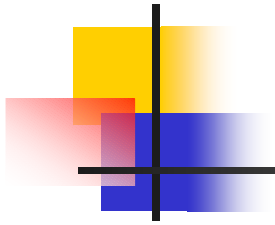
The “Whats” & “Whys” of Aggression

“WHATS”

- **Overt:** Direct behaviors intended to harm others
- **Relational:** Acts intended to damage relationships

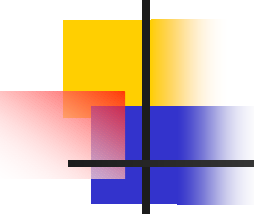
“WHYS”

- **Reactive:** Angry defensive response to provocation
- **Instrumental:** Deliberate behaviors in order to attain a goal



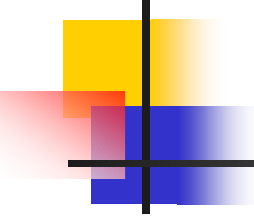
Current Study

- We examined the association between the PCL:YV, SAVRY, and four subtypes of aggression
 - Which risk factors are associated with the various subtypes of aggression?
 - Does the SAVRY provide additional information beyond what is captured by the PCL:YV?
 - What protective factors are associated with the various subtypes of aggression?



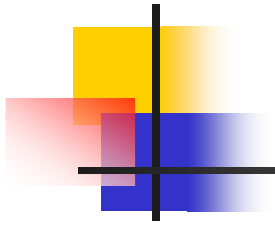
Participants

- 95 adolescents between the ages of 12 and 18 years ($M = 15.44$, $SD = 1.47$)
 - Juvenile custody centers (55%), provincial assessment centers (43%), and probation (2%)
- 42% male and 58% female
- Caucasian (65%), Aboriginal (26%), and Other (10%) ethnicity



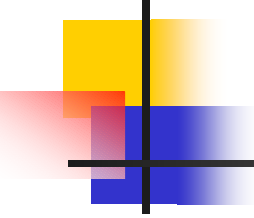
Method

- Psychopathy was assessed using the PCL:YV (Forth, Kosson, & Hare, 2003) on the basis of file information and an interview by 1 of 3 trained raters
- Inter-rater reliability (ICC_2) on a subset ($n = 28$) of participants:
 - .93 for Factor 1, .90 for Factor 2, .84 for Factor 3, and .96 for the Total score
- The mean PCL:YV Total score was 21.07 ($SD = 6.82$) and ranged from 4 to 36
- There was a gender difference in PCL:YV Factor 2 and Total scores (males scored higher) but no ethnicity differences



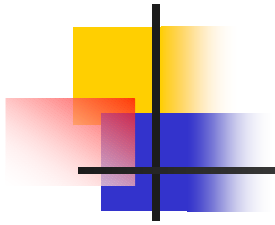
Method

- Risk for violence was assessed using the SAVRY (Borum, Bartel, & Forth, 2002) on the basis of file information and an interview by 1 of 3 trained raters
- Clinical rating scale for assessing and managing risk in adolescents aged 12 to 18 years
 - Historical (e.g., history of violence, self-harm/suicide)
 - Social/Contextual (e.g., peer delinquency, peer rejection)
 - Clinical (e.g., negative attitudes, low empathy/remorse)
 - Protective Factors (e.g., resilient personality)



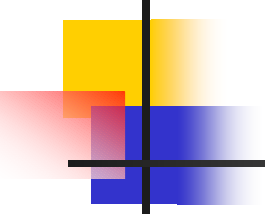
Method

- Inter-rater reliability (ICC_2) on a subset ($n = 15$) of participants:
 - .99 for Historical, .87 for Social/Contextual, .97 for Clinical, .99 for the Total score, and .90 for general risk rating
- 17% low risk, 48% moderate risk, 35% high risk for violence
- There was a gender difference in the SAVRY clinical subscale (males scored higher) but no ethnicity differences



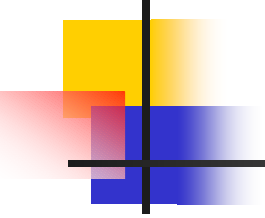
Method

- Participants completed Little's Aggression Inventory (LAI; Little, Jones, Henrich, & Hawley, 2003)
- Self-report measure to assess 4 subtypes of aggression: overt, relational, reactive, and instrumental
- Participants were administered 25 of the items from the original LAI
- Evidence for good internal, external, and criterion validity



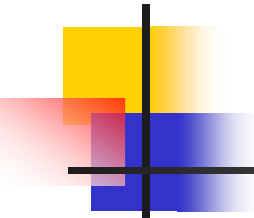
Results – Instrumental Aggression

Variable	β	Sig.
Step 1		
PCL:YV Factor 1	-.025	.816
PCL:YV Factor 2	.349	.008
PCL:YV Factor 3	.072	.557



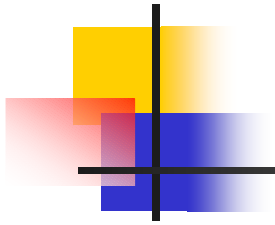
Results – Reactive Aggression

Variable	β	Sig.
Step 1		
PCL:Y V Factor 1	-.090	.376
PCL:Y V Factor 2	.294	.017
PCL:Y V Factor 3	.287	.015
Step 2		
PCL:Y V Factor 1	-.082	.415
PCL:Y V Factor 2	.165	.202
PCL:Y V Factor 3	.174	.202
SA V R Y historical subscale	.295	.006
SA V R Y social/contextual subscale	.012	.903
SA V R Y clinical subscale	.123	.415



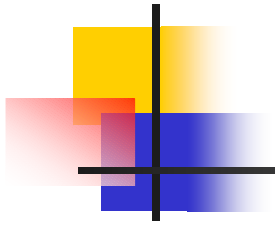
Results – Overt Aggression

Variable	β	Sig.
Step 1		
PCL:Y V Factor 1	-.102	.301
PCL:Y V Factor 2	.374	.002
PCL:Y V Factor 3	.261	.022
Step 2		
PCL:Y V Factor 1	-.127	.197
PCL:Y V Factor 2	.240	.061
PCL:Y V Factor 3	.076	.567
SA V R Y historical subscale	.150	.146
SA V R Y social/contextual subscale	.013	.896
SA V R Y clinical subscale	.299	.045



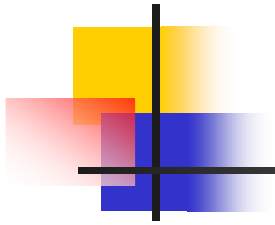
Results – Protective Factors

- Instrumental Aggression
 - None of the protective factors were associated
- Reactive Aggression
 - Strong Commitment to School ($\beta = -.24, p = .029$)
- Overt Aggression
 - Strong Commitment to School ($\beta = -.22, p = .047$)
- Relational Aggression
 - None of the protective factors were associated



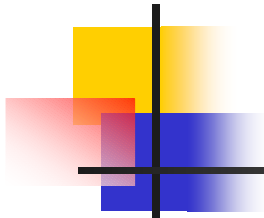
Conclusions

- A deficient affective personality style was associated with various forms of aggression, which is consistent with research on empathy and antisocial behaviors (Jolliffe & Farrington, 2004; Miller & Eisenberg, 1988)
 - However, risk may be due to an interaction between personality traits and context
- The SAVRY adds important information about aggression beyond what is captured by the PCL:YV
- Protective factors may assist in providing information about areas for intervention



Limitations

- Subtypes of aggression assessed through self-report
- Predictor-criterion overlap
- This was not a true predictive study



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