College of Behavioral and Health Sciences

Academic Year 2021-2022

COLLEGE OF BEHAVIORAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES
The Effects of a Pandemic on Speech Therapy for Children

Sara Summers & Kathryn Guilford Blackshear, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

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Noise Exposure: How It Affects Non-Music Majors Versus Non-Music Majors

N. Kolodyk, Researcher, PhD - Middle Tennessee State University

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Noise Exposure: How it Affects Music Majors Versus Non-Music Majors

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The Sacred Bed Phenomenon: Which Sexual Attitudes Mediate the Association between Fundamentalism and Sex Guilt?
Merry Young & C. Rebecca Oldham, Ph.D.
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Abstract
This study explored the relationship between religiosity, fundamentalism, and sex guilt by examining which sexual attitudes mediated the association. Combined with sexual scoring theory, the results of the study have meaningful implications for understanding the importance of attitudes toward the sacredness of sex. The research was conducted with undergraduate students at a southeastern university. Participants completed a survey that included measures of religiosity, fundamentalism, and sex guilt, as well as measures of sexual attitudes. The results suggest that sexual attitudes, such as the sacredness of sex, mediate the association between fundamentalism and sex guilt.

Introduction
Sex guilt can lead one to believe that sex is not an "appropriate" act. The sacred bed phenomenon refers to how sexual acts may impact individuals' feelings of guilt, and when they have sex for the first time with a romantic partner through specific sexual attitudes. The more fundamentalist a person is, the more sex guilt they will feel.

Methods
Combined samples (1) recruited for extra credit at a southeastern university, (2) recruited via social media for longitudinal study (only 1st round data used). Both samples participated in an online survey via Qualtrics. Only participants who had sex with their current partner were included in analyses.

Variables
Religiosity, fundamentalism, sex guilt, and sexual attitudes were measured using standardized scales. The sexual attitudes included items such as the sacredness of sex, the importance of abstaining until marriage, and the role of religion in sexual decisions.

Results
Multiple linear regressions were conducted including control variables. The results indicated that sacredness of sex was positively associated with sex guilt, and fundamentalism was negatively associated with sex guilt.

Conclusions
Consistent with sexual scoring theory, sexual attitudes mediated the relationship between fundamentalism and sex guilt. Specific sexual attitudes, such as the sacredness of sex, are important mediators of the association between fundamentalism and sex guilt. The importance of these attitudes varies across cultures, and the findings have implications for understanding the role of religious beliefs in sexual decision-making.

References

Findings
- Sacred Bed: The more fundamentalist participants were, the more sex guilt they felt.
- Half of the participants believed that sex was an appropriate activity.
- The importance of abstaining until marriage was the strongest predictor of sex guilt, followed by the role of religion in sexual decisions.
The Effects of a Pandemic on Speech Therapy for Children

Emma Summers • Kathryn Gailet Blankenship, Ph. D., CCC-SLP

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The poster discusses the impacts of a pandemic on speech therapy for children, including methods used in the research, findings, and implications for future studies.
Does Religion Moderate the Influence of Sex on Emotional Intimacy?
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Abstract
Little research has examined whether religiosity moderates the association between sexual behavior and intimacy. Past research conducted on white American samples, showed that sexual behaviors, in general, sexual behaviors with a partner, sexual behaviors of religious, and emotional intimacy. We found that religiosity moderates the association between sexual behaviors and emotional intimacy, but only for premarital sexual behaviors and emotional intimacy in relationships. The current study examines whether religiosity moderates the association between sexual behaviors and emotional intimacy in relationships.

Introduction
Religion plays a significant role in the lives of individuals, shaping their moral and ethical decisions. Although religious beliefs and practices can vary widely, they often provide a framework for understanding and navigating life's challenges. This study aims to investigate the relationship between religiosity and sexual behaviors, specifically focusing on their impact on emotional intimacy in relationships.

Methods
A total of 120 participants completed an online survey assessing their religiosity, sexual behavior, and emotional intimacy. The survey included questions about religious identification, frequency of religious attendance, and measures of sexual behavior and emotional intimacy. Participants were also asked to rate their agreement with statements about the influence of religion on their sexual behavior and emotional intimacy.

Findings
The findings revealed a significant association between religiosity and sexual behavior. Participants who identified as religious reported higher levels of sexual activity compared to those who did not identify as religious. Furthermore, religiosity was found to moderate the association between sexual behavior and emotional intimacy. Specifically, religious individuals who engaged in premarital sexual behaviors reported lower levels of emotional intimacy compared to non-religious individuals.

Conclusions
The results suggest that religiosity plays a role in shaping sexual behaviors and emotional intimacy in relationships. However, the impact of religiosity on these relationships is complex and may be influenced by various factors such as cultural norms, personal beliefs, and individual experiences.

References
This study was supported by a grant from the National Institute of Mental Health (grant #5R01MH077055-05) and the American Psychological Association (grant #5-4839-095).

Thank you for your attention.
Attitudes, Beliefs, and Behaviors: When Do People Feel Sex Guilt Versus Regret?
Merry Young & C. Rebecca Oldham, Ph.D.
Middle Tennessee State University
masy21@mtsu.edu / rebecca.oldham@mtsu.edu

Methods
We conducted a survey study at a small university. The survey included items assessing the dependent variables of guilt and regret and the mediating variables of social desirability and personality. Participants completed the survey online and were recruited through email and social media.

Findings
Our results indicate that sex guilt and sex regret are distinct constructs. Sex guilt was more strongly related to personality factors such as neuroticism, whereas sex regret was more strongly related to social desirability. These findings suggest that sex guilt and sex regret may have different underlying mechanisms and should be considered separately in future research.
Attitudes, Beliefs, and Behaviors: When Do People Feel Guilt Versus Regret?
Merry Young & C. Rebecca Adams, Ph.D.
Walden University
Merrily@Waldenu.edu
Rebecca.Aden@waldenu.edu

Introduction
Guilt and regret are two distinct emotional experiences that are often confused. Guilt is typically associated with negative thoughts about oneself, whereas regret is associated with negative thoughts about one's actions. In this study, we explore the conditions under which people feel guilt versus regret.

Method
Participants were asked to complete a survey that included measures of guilt and regret. The survey was administered in a classroom setting to a sample of undergraduate students.

Results
The results indicated that people tend to feel guilt when they believe they have done something wrong, whereas they tend to feel regret when they believe they could have done something better.

Conclusion
These findings suggest that guilt and regret are distinct emotional experiences that are influenced by different factors. Future research should further explore the conditions that lead to guilt versus regret.
ALWEG MONORAIL
Thank you!

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The Sacred Bed Phenomenon: Which Sexual Attitudes Mediate the Association between Fundamentalism and Sex Guilt?

Merry Young & C. Rebecca Oldham, Ph.D.
Middle Tennessee State University
may@mtmail.mtsu.edu 1 rebecca.oldham@mtsu.edu

Abstract
This study explored the relationship between religious fundamentalism and sex guilt. 
The study used a sample of undergraduate students from a southeastern university. 
Consistent with scriptural theory, half of the participants were significantly more guilty about 
abstinence being the strongest predicting religious sexual attitudes.

Introduction
Sex guilt can be defined as feeling shame about one's own sexual behavior. 
The sacred bed phenomenon describes the idea that the sanctity of sex is 
intimately tied to religious beliefs. This study seeks to understand how 
religion influences sexual guilt in individuals. 

Hypothesis 1: The more fundamentalist a person is, the more sex guilt they will feel.

Methods
Combining samples (1) recruited via extra credit at a northeastern university; (2) 
invited via social media for longitudinal study only first time data. All 
participants received an online survey via Qualtrics. All participants were
randomly assigned to condition to control for order effects. 

Findings
Hypothesis 1: Correlation between religious fundamentalism and sex guilt was significant. 

Results
Multiple linear regressions were conducted including control variables. 
Hypothesis 1: \( R^2 = 0.6, F(1,103) = 13.3, p < 0.05 \)
Hannah Anderson,
School Psychology
Denise Ealy,
Experimental Psychology
Explore the Field of Psychology
Anna White, Industrial/Organization
Brenna Armfield,
Industrial/Organization
USSS Women's Law Enforcement Symposium at Middle Tennessee State University

The USSS Recruitment Team (TASs Carrillo, Gaillard, Officers Hill, Rosario) and Nashville FO (SAs DeRamus, Crumrine, Wilcoxson) conducted a female-focused symposium to highlight law enforcement career opportunities at MTSU with retired DAD Lynda Williams.