

AGRESIÓN SEXUAL: MALESTAR EN MUJERES INMIGRANTES TRABAJADORAS DEL SEXO

RESUMEN

Las agresiones sexuales se consideran uno de los sucesos traumáticos más violentos y que más consecuencias psicológicas intensas de corta o larga duración producen en las víctimas que los sufren. El objetivo de este estudio es analizar las experiencias de agresión sufridas por mujeres trabajadoras del sexo e inmigrantes, además de comprobar si existe relación con la solicitud de ayuda y características de la violencia sufrida, referidas al tipo y la etapa en la que se vivió.

En cuanto a la metodología, un total de 23 mujeres con una edad media de 23 años ($DT=3.11$) cumplimentaron un cuestionario difundido de forma online que recogía, de manera totalmente anónima y voluntaria, datos demográficos, características de violencia sufrida y algunos ítems de la *Escala de gravedad Revisada de Síntomas del Trastorno de Estrés Postraumático (EGS-R)*. Según los resultados obtenidos, un 43,5% se consideraba culpable de los hechos y un 69,6% presentaba dificultad para recordar los hechos. Se identificaron correlaciones significativas en cuanto a que las mujeres que sufren los episodios en una edad más temprana experimentan más recuerdos ($p= -0.592$) y sufren más sensaciones fisiológicas al revivir comportamientos que les recuerdan el suceso ($p= -0.607$). Se encontró una relación significativa entre la búsqueda de ayuda y reacciones psicológicas intensas ($p=0.038$), malestar psicológico ($p=0.032$) cuando se exponían a recuerdos y comportamientos de riesgo ($p=0.023$). Además, las víctimas que tenían sueños desagradables y recurrentes del evento habían sufrido violencia psicológica añadida a la violencia sexual ($p=0.014$). En conclusión, se ha comprobado que parte de las hipótesis establecidas se cumplen y siguen la dirección de la literatura consultada para el presente estudio, siendo notable la necesidad de intervención a nivel psicológico y jurídico que requieren las víctimas.

Palabras clave: TEPT, violencia sexual, trabajadoras comerciales del sexo, ODS3.

SEXUAL AGGRESSION: DISCOMFORT IN INMIGRANT WOMEN SEX WORKERS

ABSTRACT

Sexual assaults are considered to be one of the most violent traumatic events and one of the most intense psychological consequences of short or long duration for the victims who suffer them. The aim of this study is to analyse the experiences of aggression suffered by female sex workers and immigrants, as well as to check if there is a relationship with the request for help and the characteristics of the violence suffered, referring to the type and the stage in which it was experienced.

In terms of methodology, a total of 23 women with a mean age of 23 years ($SD=3.11$) completed a questionnaire distributed online which collected, anonymously and voluntarily, demographic data, characteristics of the violence suffered and some items of the *Revised Severity Scale of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Symptoms (EGS-R)*. The results obtained were that 43.5% considered themselves guilty of the events and 69.6% had difficulty remembering the events. Significant correlations were identified in that women who experienced the episodes at a younger age experienced more memories ($p= -0.592$) and suffered more physiological sensations when reliving behaviours that reminded them of the event ($p= -0.607$). A significant relationship was found between help-seeking and intense psychological reactions ($p=0.038$), psychological distress ($p=0.032$) when exposed to memories and risk behaviours ($p=0.023$). In addition, victims who had unpleasant and recurrent dreams of the event had experienced psychological violence in addition to sexual violence ($p=0.014$).

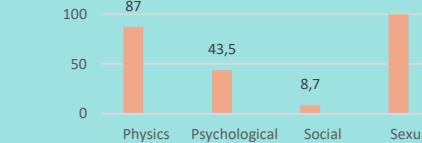
In conclusion, it has been found that part of the hypotheses established are fulfilled and follow the direction of the literature consulted for this study, with a notable need for intervention at the psychological and legal level required by the victims.

Keywords: PTSD, sexual violence, commercial sexual workers; ODS3.

SEXUAL AGGRESSION: DISCOMFORT IN IMMIGRANT WOMEN SEX WORKERS

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PERCENTAGES OF WOMEN BY TYPE OF VIOLENCE



STAGE OF VIOLENCE

Infancy; 4,3

Youth; 65,3

Adolescence; 30,4

Older, less are the unpleasant memories that revive.

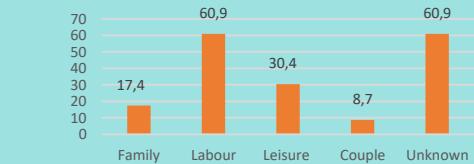
p: -0.592

Older less are the unpleasant sensations when performing behaviors reminiscent of the event.

p: -0.607

Have difficulty to remember important aspects of the event.
69,6%
Believe it was their fault.
43,5%

PERCENTAGE OF WOMEN BY VIOLENT CONTEXT



PERCENTAGE OF WOMEN BY SYMPTOMS



SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES IN SYMPTOMS BY TYPE OF VIOLENCE AND COPING BEHAVIORS

| QUESTION | % Yes | % No | P | V DE CRAMER |
|--|------------------------|-------|-------|-------------|
| Intense physiological reactions when exposed to memories | 42,9% | 18,8% | 0.038 | 0.605 |
| Psychological discomfort when exposed to memories of the event | Ask for help | 71,4% | 31,3% | 0.032 |
| Shows risky behaviors | 85,7% | 14,3% | 0.023 | 0.573 |
| Unpleasant and recurring dreams of the event | Psychological violence | 69,2% | 30,8% | 0.014 |

INTRODUCTION

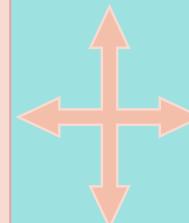
Sexual assaults are described as traumatic events that can produce intense short- and long-term psychological consequences for victims. Sexual victimization is one of the most violent crimes that exists (Sarasua et al., 2012).

It is estimated that in Spain, a number close to 350.000 women, practice prostitution, of which 80% are foreigners in irregular migration from Brazil, Colombia, Nigeria, Romania, Russia and Ukraine. So they suffer a process of double stigmatization because of their status as sex workers and immigrants (Anguita Olmedo, 2007). However, few studies analyze this population.

OBJECTIVE

To analyze the experience of sexual assault suffered by immigrant sex workers.

To analyze if there is a relationship with the request for help, the type of violence and the stage.

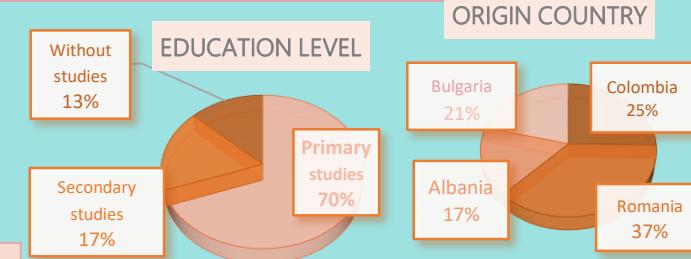


HYPOTHESIS

- The victims will have symptoms of PTSD.
- Victims in childhood will experience more memories of the event.
- Victims in childhood will re-experience more sensations and emotions of the event.
- Women who do not get help will have more symptoms of PTSD.

PARTICIPANTS

23 women who do commercial sex work with an average age of 25.04 (SD= 3.118) confirming violence and having ever experienced a traumatic event in their lives.



CONCLUSION

There are evidences to claim that they are met aspects of the four hypotheses which I had raised at the beginning. All victims have symptoms of PTSD and are more acute in those who do not receive help.

In addition, the victims in childhood experience more memories of the event, and feel sensations or emotions when exposed to events that remind them of the event.

In order to intervene from the field of psychology, intervention at the police and judicial level is needed first. It becomes a work of cooperation between different professionals in main areas of work.

So my proposal is:

- Prevention
- Protection
- Penalty

Limitations: questionnaire and small sample.

PROCEDURE

Literature review and questionnaires.

Permission for deontological commission.

Contact with associations.

Recruitment of participants.

Data analysis.

INSTRUMENT

SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES

CHARACTERISTICS OF VIOLENCE

EGS-R
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Symptom Severity Scale by Echeburúa

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