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ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Validation of Dating Violence Questionnaire-R (DVQ-R)

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KEYWORDS

Dating; Violence;
Questionnaire;
Gender;
Instrumental study

Abstract

Background/Objective: Despite the growing interest in the study of dating violence, relatively few psychometrically sound instruments are available to researchers. To provide an instrument to researchers and professionals to assess victimization in dating relationships, with adequate psychometric properties. *Method:* Participants were 6,138 adolescents drawn from the general population, 25% of which were university students. Participants responded to the original Dating Violence Questionnaire (DVQ). *Results:* Confirmatory analyses results provided evidence of a clear factorial structure that was invariant through sex groups. The DVQ-R measures with 20 items five dimensions of abuse in affective interpersonal relationships of adolescents and youth: Detachment, Humiliation, Coercion, Physical and Sexual violence. Internal consistency indexes were adequate for both each one of the five dimensions as well as for the general scale. *Conclusions:* The DVQ-R is an useful assessment to be applied in adolescents and youth. Implications for research and intervention are discussed in light of the results obtained.

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PALABRAS CLAVE

Noviazgo;
violencia;
Cuestionario;
Género;
Estudio instrumental

Validación del Cuestionario de Violencia entre Novios-Revisado (CUVINO-R)

Resumen

Antecedentes/Objetivo: La problemática de las relaciones afectivas entre los jóvenes ofrece como punto débil el no contar con un instrumento específico, válido y fiable. El objetivo es ofrecer un instrumento fácil de administrar a los investigadores y los profesionales para evaluar la victimización en las relaciones afectivas de adolescentes y jóvenes. *Método:* Los participantes son 6.138 adolescentes y jóvenes, con un 25% de universitarios. Se administró la versión original de 42 ítems del Cuestionario de Violencia entre Novios (CUVINO). *Resultados:* Los datos ofrecen unos índices de bondad de ajuste satisfactorios a través del análisis factorial confirmatorio, a la vez que una buena consistencia interna de la prueba, tanto para el total como para cada uno de los factores; a su vez, el análisis de invarianza factorial por multigrupo indica un ajuste adecuado para la variable sexo. La versión breve de 20 ítems evalúa cinco dimensiones: Desapego, Humillación, Coerción, Violencia física y Violencia sexual. *Conclusiones:* El CUVINO-R es un instrumento de evaluación útil para ser aplicado en adolescentes y jóvenes. Se discuten implicaciones para la investigación y la intervención desde los resultados obtenidos.

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The violence that occurs in intimate partner violence (IPV) has attracted an increasing interest along the last decades addressing its profound and widespread health and economic implications at an individual, family, and social level (Cunha & Abrunhosa, 2013; Kubicek, McNeeley, & Collins, 2016; Novo, Fariña, Seijo, & Arce, 2012; García-Cueto et al., 2015). Abuse in intimate relationships has been found across all socioeconomic backgrounds and sexual orientations (Glass et al., 2008; Ruiz-Hernández, García Jiménez, Llor-Esteban & Godoy-Fernández, 2015; Llor-Esteban, García-Jimenez, Ruiz-Hernández, & Godoy-Fernández, 2016). Although it is particularly prevalent among young, cohabitating, and dating couples (e.g., Desmarais, Reeves, Nicholls, Telford, & Fiebert, 2012a, 2012b; López-Cepero, Rodríguez-Franco, Rodríguez-Díaz, & Bringas, 2014; Vega-Gea, Ortega-Ruiz, & Sánchez, 2016) the former represents a minor fraction of the efforts devoted to detect and prevent IPV (Johnson, Parker, Rinehart, Nail, & Rothman, 2015; Lundgren & Amin, 2015).

Approximately one in four women and one in five men reported experiencing physical violence in an intimate relationship, a none in four women and one in five men in developed nations report perpetrating physical abuse against an intimate partner (Farhat, Haynie, Summersett-Ringgold, Brooks-Russell, & Iannotti, 2015; Niolon et al., 2015). Specifically, data obtained by Straus and Ramirez (2003) indicate prevalence rates between 25 and 45% of the students analyzed, and these percentages are even higher than those obtained between married couples (10-15%).

However, some weaknesses have been highlighted among the self-reported measures available in the literature (Thompson, Basile, Hertz, & Sitterle, 2006). Thus, the systematic review of available tools has concluded that a quarter of the validation studies does not provide information about the structure of the instrument, only 15%

make a confirmatory study of the factor structure, and that up to 10% do not provide information about its internal consistency (López-Cepero, Rodríguez-Franco, & Rodríguez-Díaz, 2015). The limited number of studies focused on the violence that occurs in dating relationships, led us to review the specific instruments available to improve the assessment of violence in these relationships.

Although there are over 50 assessment tools with at least one validation study available in literature, two self-administered questionnaires have gathered the main attention in the field: the Conflict Tactics Scales (CTS; Straus, 1979), of which there is a second version (CTS2; Straus, Hamby, McCoy, & Sugarman, 1996), and the Index Spouse Abuse (ISA; Hudson & McIntosh, 1981). Both of them have been widely used in evaluation of adolescents and young adults, although they were originally developed for their administration in adult population. In the other side, there are at least four validated questionnaires that were specifically developed to assess dating victimization: the CADRI-Conflict in Adolescent Dating Relationships Inventory (Wolfe et al., 2001); VADRI-Violence in Adolescent's Dating Relationships Inventory (Aizpitarte et al., 2015); VIFFA-Violence faite aux filles dans le contexte des fréquentations à l'adolescence (Lavoie & Vézina, 2001); and DVQ (Dating Violence Questionnaire -CUVINO-Cuestionario de Violencia de Novios, Rodríguez-Franco et al., 2010). Of these, only two have been already validated in more than a language and country: CADRI (validated in English and Spanish, including Canadian, Spanish and Mexican samples - Benítez-Muñoz, & Muñoz-Bandera, 2014; Fernández-Fuertes, Fuertes, & Pulido, 2006; Hokoda et al., 2006; Wolfe et al., 2001), which gathers information on five fields (threatening behaviors, relational abuse, physical abuse, sexual abuse, and verbal emotional abuse) with 25 items; and DVQ (CUVINO), with Spanish, English and Italian versions and

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