



Developing and Testing of Dating Violence Behavioral Intention Questionnaire in College students

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Background

Despite research has consistently demonstrated the prevalence and physio-psycho-social consequences of dating violence in college students, attention and resources are not devoted to preventing and ameliorating dating violence in Taiwan.

Objectives

The purpose of this study was to develop and to test an instrument that may be used to assess behavioral intention of dating violence in college students

Methods

A mixed methods design was used. The Dating Violence Behavioral Intention Questionnaire (DVBIQ) was developed using a two-phase qualitative and quantitative study, developing the instrument and testing validity and reliability. In phase one, we developed the questions of interview based on Ajzen (1985) "Theory of Planned Behavior". The initial items were developed through content analysis of interview data from 10 college students who have a conflict or violence with dating partner. Four experts in intimate partner violence assessed the content validity of these items. In phase two, after pilot study, three hundred college students from seven universities in southern Taiwan were invited to complete the DVBIQ. Data obtained in this study were analyzed with regard to content validity, internal consistency, and confirmatory factor analysis.

Results

Table 1 shows the characteristics of the participants. A 37-item questionnaire was developed through the qualitative study. It was added to a 43-item after content validity. The content validity of the initial 43 items was .93, internal consistency reliability was .89. The confirmatory factor analysis determined a model with appropriate fitness for the data after delete 6 items. The questionnaire has four constructs (attitude, subjective norm, perceived behavioral control, and intention of dating violence) containing 37 items (7, 8, 21, and 1 statements, respectively). The Cronbach's alpha coefficients show

excellent internal consistency ($\alpha=0.94$) for the total scale and three subscales (ranged from .81 to .92).

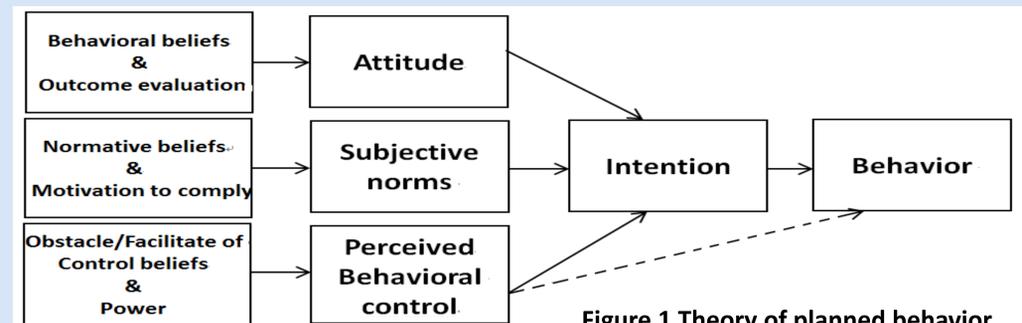


Figure 1 Theory of planned behavior

Table 1. Characteristics of the participants (n= 295)

Variable	n (%)	M	SD
Gender			
Male	133 (45.1)		
Female	162 (54.9)		
Age (Range: 19-24 years)		20.9	1.30
Year in school			
First year	89 (30.2)		
Second year	61 (20.7)		
Third year	62 (21.0)		
Fourth year	83 (28.1)		
Love experience			
No	109 (36.9)		
1 time	67 (22.7)		
2-4 times	107 (36.3)		
More than 5 times	12 (4.1)		
Current dating object			
No	181 (61.4)		
Yes	114 (38.6)		
Dating violence (n=169)			
No	157(53.2)		
Yes	12(4.1)		

Conclusion

The DVBIQ is a reliable and valid theory-based measurement and can be used as a research tool related to dating violence in the future. It can also provide relevant units to assess the status of college students' dating violence intentions, and then to develop and implement programs designed to prevent violent dating behaviors.

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