

Intimate Partner Violence Perpetration: Family-related Factors and Overlap with Child Abuse



Jay G. Silverman, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Society, Human
Development and Health

Director, Violence Against Women
Prevention Practice, Division of Public
Health Practice



Men's Ecological Systems and Development of Abuse (MESDA)



- Design
 - Cross-sectional survey administered via ACASI in English, Spanish, and Portuguese
 - Conducted January 2005 – December 2006
- Sampling
 - Convenience, community health center-based sample
 - Eligible men: ages 18 – 35 and fluent in English, Spanish, or Portuguese
 - Final sample 2,229; 65% participation rate

Men's Ecological Systems and Development of Abuse (MESDA)



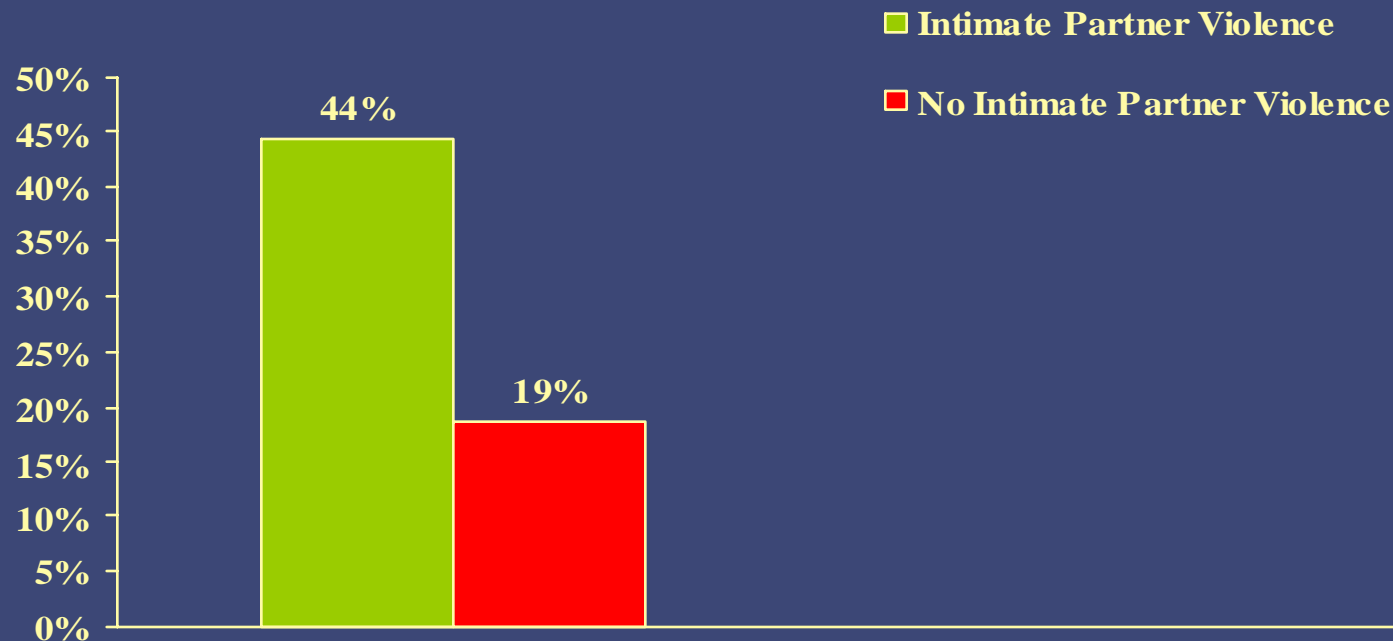
- For retrospective reports of family-related risk and protective factors, selected only 18-25 years
- Examination of relations of individual family-related factors to adult IPV perpetration
- Multivariate examination of risk factors
- Multivariate examination of protective factors
- Multivariate examination of both risk and protective factors within a single model predicting adult IPV perpetration

Sample



	N=884; %
Age	
18 – 21	61
22 – 25	39
Race/ethnicity	
Non-Hispanic White	6
Non-Hispanic Black	45
Hispanic	36
Other	12
Education	
<HS education	32
HS or GED	44
Some college or beyond	25

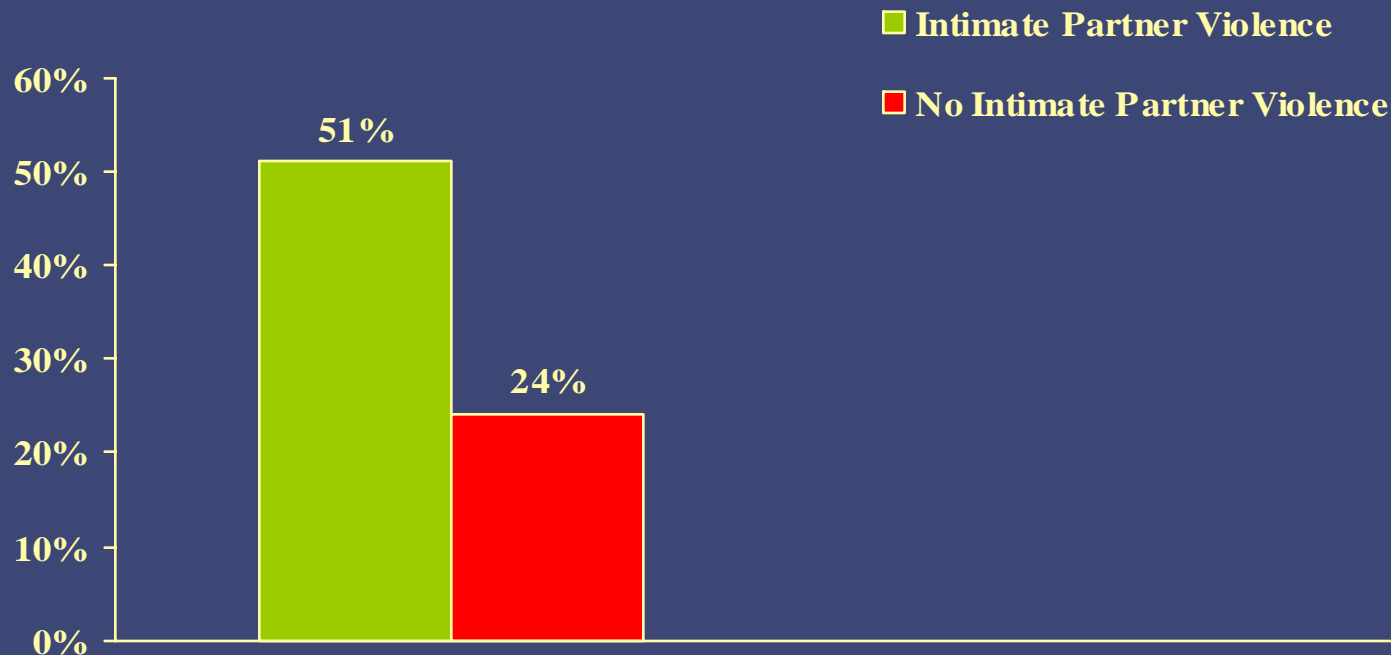
Exposure to Male Partner Violence against Mother and IPV: Males ages 18-25



Exposure to Male IPV against Mother and IPV:
 $OR_{Adj} = 3.66$ (95% CI 2.59-5.17)

(Silverman et al., unpublished)

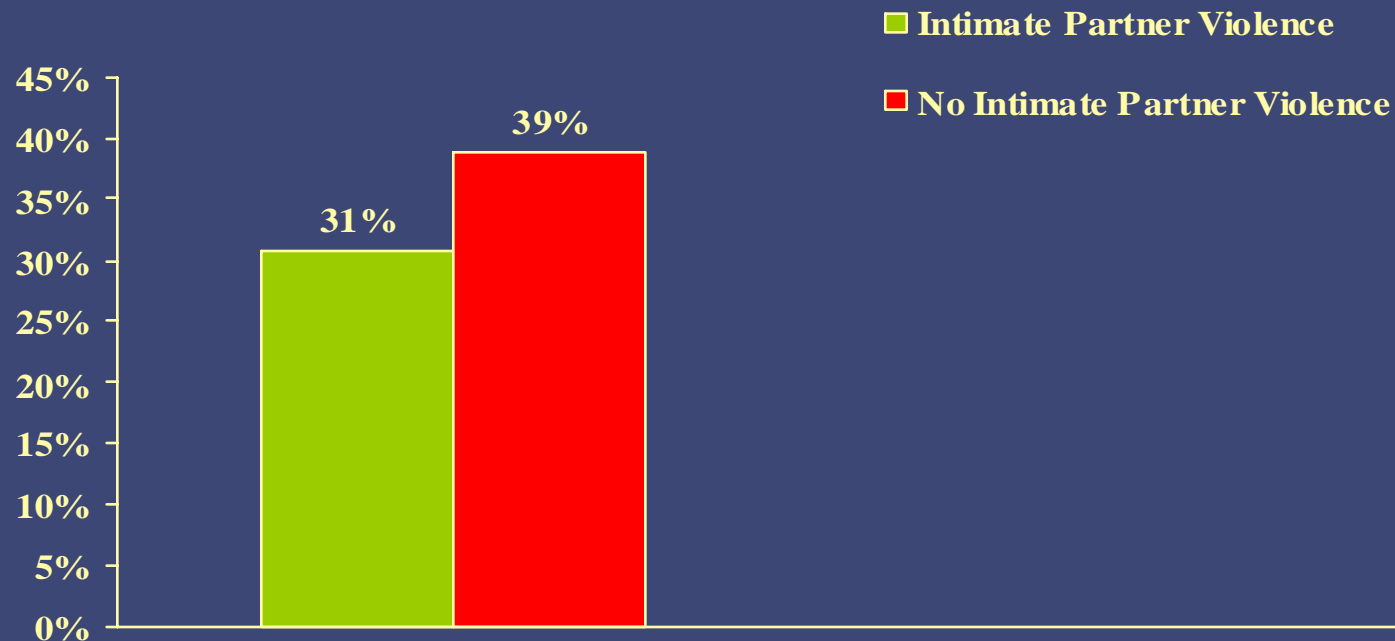
Child Abuse Victimization and IPV: Males ages 18-25



Child Abuse Victimization and IPV:
 $OR_{Adj} = 3.10$ (95% CI 2.23-4.32)

(Silverman et al., unpublished)

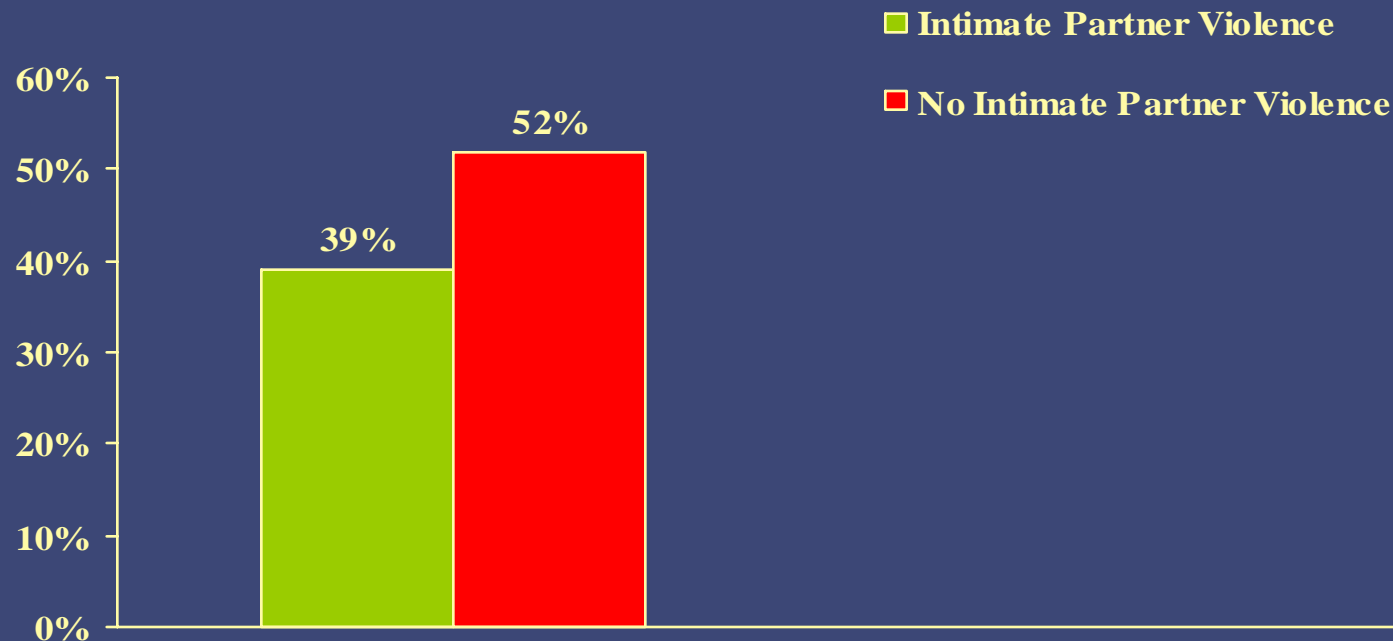
Parental Presence and IPV: Males ages 18-25



Higher Parental Presence during Childhood (median split) and IPV:
 $OR_{Adj} = 0.67$ (95% CI 0.48-0.94)

(Silverman et al., unpublished)

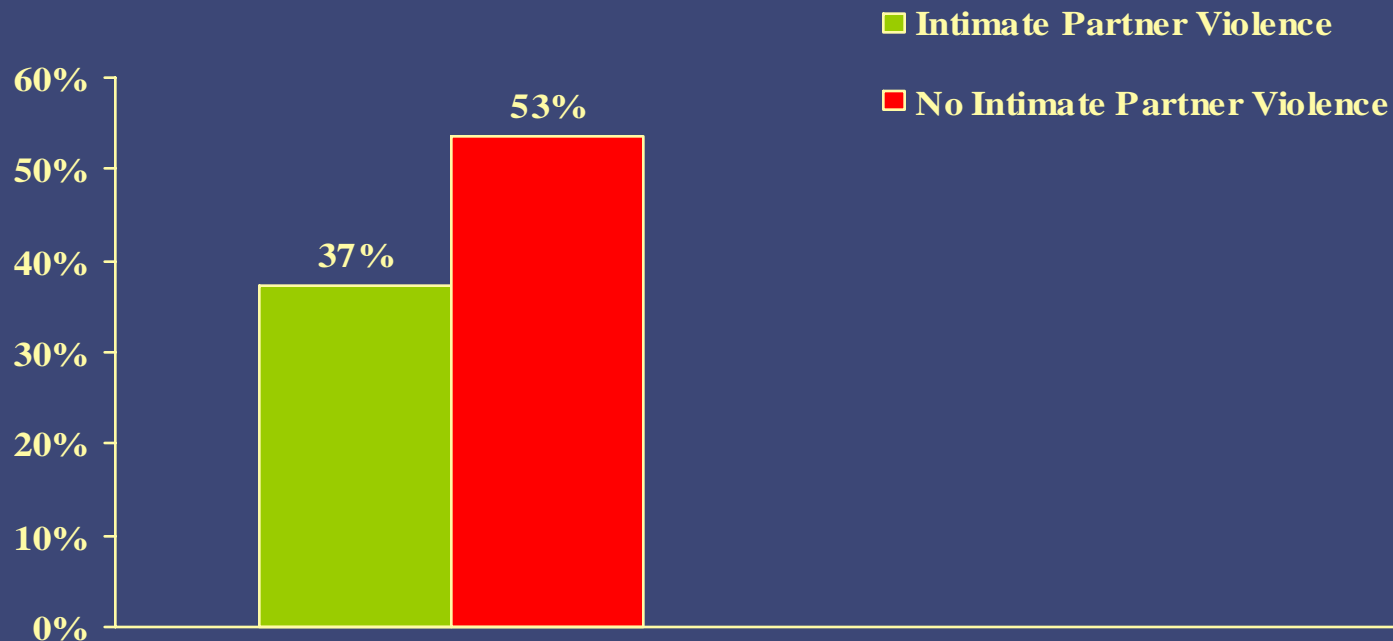
Family Connectedness and IPV: Males ages 18-25



Higher Family Connectedness in Childhood (median split) and IPV:
 $OR_{Adj} = 0.60$ (95% CI 0.44-0.83)

(Silverman et al., unpublished)

Father Supportive/Involved and IPV: Males ages 18-25



Higher Father Support/Involvement (median split) and IPV:
 $OR_{Adj} = 0.50$ (95% CI 0.35-0.70)

(Silverman et al., unpublished)

Risk and Protective Factors: Multivariate Analyses



- **Risk**
 - Child Abuse Victimization ($p < .01$)
 - Exposure to IPV against Mother ($p < .001$)

Risk and Protective Factors: Multivariate Analyses



- **Protective**
 - Family Connectedness ($p < .001$)
 - Father Involvement ($p < .001$)
 - School Connectedness ($p < .01$)

Risk and Protective Factors: Multivariate Analyses



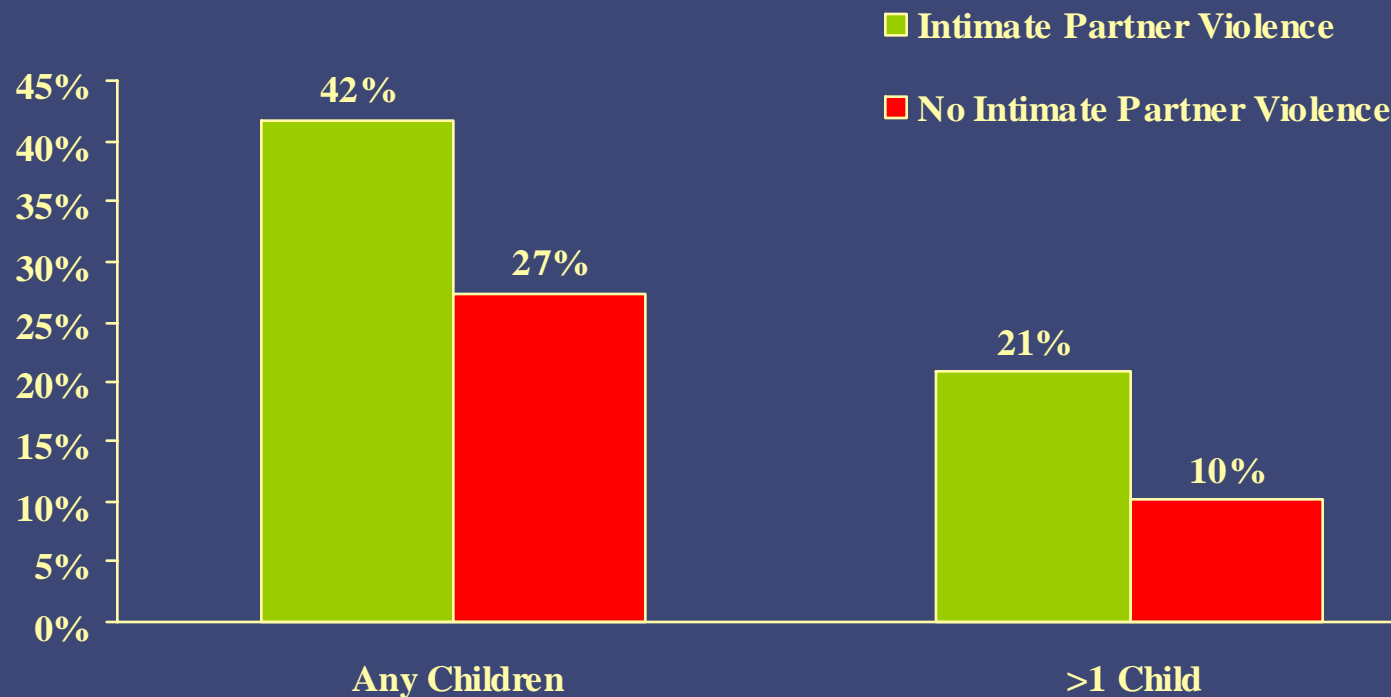
- **Grouped Risk and Protective Factors**
 - Child Abuse Victimization ($p < .05$)
 - Exposure to IPV against Mother ($p < .05$)

Risk and Protective Factors: Multivariate Analyses



- Context Important!!!
 - **Father involvement** no longer predictive when include risk factors such exposure to male IPV against mother and being abused as child
 - Need to carefully examine family factors (who was abusing mother, who was child abuse perpetrator, ages abused, what types of abuse) and effect modifiers

Biological Children and IPV: Males ages 18-25

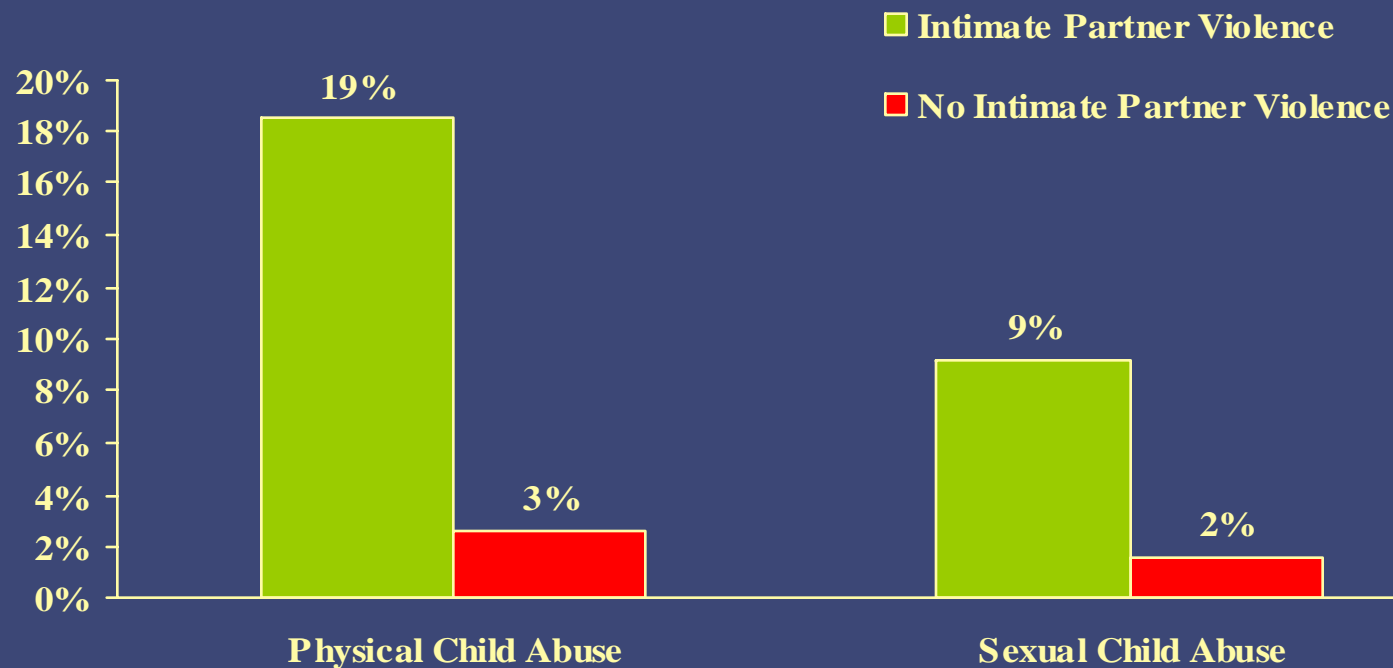


Biological Children and IPV:

Any Children: $OR_{Adj} = 1.67$ (95% CI 1.19-2.33)

>1 Child: $OR_{Adj} = 2.21$ (95% CI 1.43-3.40) (Silverman et al., unpublished)

Child Abuse Perpetration and IPV: Males ages 18-25



Child Abuse Perpetration and IPV:

Physical: $OR_{Adj} = 8.62$ (95% CI 4.17-17.79)

Sexual : $OR_{Adj} = 7.08$ (95% CI 2.82-17.73) (Silverman et al., unpublished)

Child Abuse Perpetration and IPV: Conclusions



- Men who perpetrate IPV against women far more likely to also be abusing children of their partners, including greatly increased risk of sexual abuse
- Judiciary, policymakers, practitioners must consider risks to children in cases of IPV
 - Currently ignored by many courts in custody decisions

Child Abuse Perpetration and IPV: Next Steps



- Differences in risk of abuse based on age and gender of child
- Differences in risk based on relationship status of IPV perpetrator
- Differences in parenting of IPV perpetrators
- Differences in IPV perpetrator behavior in cases of divorce involving children