

# Criminal Justice Involvement and Intimate Partner Violence in Young Adulthood

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## Background

- Experiencing contact with the criminal justice system (CJS) permeates almost all aspects of an individual's life, including intimate relationships.
- Research on the association between intimate relationship quality and involvement in the CJS is limited.

## Prior Research

- Around 25% of young adults experience IPV as they begin to navigate serious intimate relationships.
- Problems that arise with CJS involvement can bring certain problems to the foreground of a relationship.
  - Financial strain; stigma; lack of support; communication; trust
- Limited prior research shows that incarceration increases likelihood of intimate partner violence (IPV).

## Current Investigation

- Assess the relationship between respondent and partner's CJS involvement and IPV.
- To examine whether net of relationship dynamics and partner characteristics if CJS involvement for a respondent or their partner continues to be associated with increasing levels of IPV.

## Data and Sample

Toledo Adolescent Relationships Study (TARS)

- Five waves of data collected (2001 – 2012)
- Respondents were 22-29 years old during most recent wave

Sample:

- Waves 1, 3, 4, 5, & parent questionnaire at wave 1
- N=928

## Analyses

- Ordinary Least Squared Regression

## Key Measures

Dependent Variable:

- IPV: 24-items based on Conflict Tactics Scale 2

Focal Independent Variables:

- Respondent CJS Involvement
- Partner CJS Involvement
- Respondent and Partner's Delinquency

Controls:

- Relationship Dynamics
- Relationship Characteristics
- Partner Sociodemographic Characteristics
- Family of Origin Factors
- Respondent Sociodemographic Characteristics

## Results

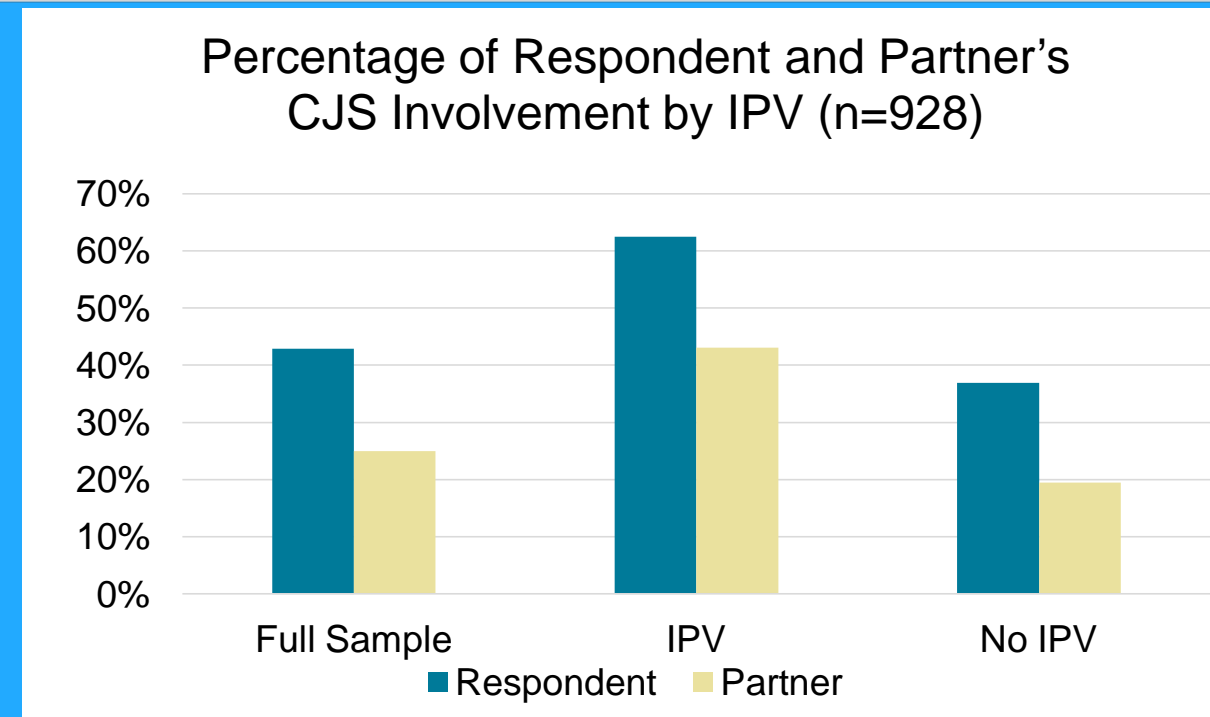


Table 1. Coefficients and Standard Errors for the OLS Regression of Crime Correlates, Relationship Dynamics, Relationship Characteristics, Partner Sociodemographic Characteristics, Respondent's Family of Origin and Sociodemographic Characteristics on Frequency of Intimate Partner Violence (n=928)

	Zero Order b (SE)	Model 1 b (SE)	Model 2 b (SE)	Model 3 b (SE)	Model 4 b (SE)	Model 5 b (SE)
<b>Crime Correlates</b>						
Respondent CJS Involvement	0.37*** (0.05)	0.29*** (0.05)	0.16** (0.05)	0.14** (0.23)	0.12* (0.05)	0.10* (0.05)
Respondent Delinquency	0.52*** (0.10)	0.05 (0.10)	0.11 (0.10)	0.16 (0.40)	0.13 (0.10)	0.15 (0.10)
Partner CJS Involvement	0.51*** (0.06)	0.33*** (0.06)	0.21*** (0.06)	0.19** (0.24)	0.17** (0.06)	0.08 (0.06)
Partner Delinquency	0.89*** (0.09)	0.69*** (0.10)	0.66*** (0.10)	0.60*** (0.36)	0.58*** (0.10)	0.39*** (0.09)
<b>Relationship Dynamics</b>						
Jalousy	0.07*** (0.01)					0.02*** (0.01)
Partner Cheating	0.09*** (0.01)					0.03** (0.01)
Respondent Cheating	0.07*** (0.01)					-0.02* (0.01)
Financial Conflict	0.29*** (0.02)					0.12*** (0.02)
Communication	-0.33*** (0.03)					-0.10*** (0.03)
Partner Mistrust	0.28*** (0.02)					0.08** (0.03)
Relationship Alternatives	0.11*** (0.02)					-0.02 (0.02)
<b>Relationship Characteristics</b>						
Union Status (Dating)						
Cohabiting	0.19** (0.06)				0.15* (0.06)	0.11† (0.06)
Married	-0.04 (0.06)				0.14† (0.08)	0.12 (0.08)
Currently Partnered	-0.07 (0.07)				0.01 (0.06)	0.17** (0.06)
Duration	0.03** (0.01)				0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)
Churning	0.51*** (0.05)				0.27*** (0.05)	0.17*** (0.05)
<b>Partner Sociodemographic Characteristics</b>						
Partner Education (High School)						
Less than High School	0.72*** (0.10)			0.42*** (0.10)	0.40** (0.09)	0.26** (0.09)
Some College	0.04 (0.06)			0.09 (0.07)	0.10 (0.07)	0.11† (0.06)
College or more	-0.34*** (0.06)			0.02 (0.07)	0.01 (0.07)	0.04 (0.06)
Partner Employment Status (Full-Time)						
Part-Time	-0.01 (0.07)			0.02 (0.06)	0.03 (0.06)	0.01 (0.06)
Unemployed	0.45*** (0.07)			0.12† (0.07)	0.14* (0.07)	0.03 (0.05)
<b>Family of Origin</b>						
Witnessing Parental Violence						
Coercive Parenting	0.51*** (0.06)		0.30*** (0.06)	0.29*** (0.06)	0.27*** (0.05)	0.21*** (0.05)
Family of Origin Household Structure (Two Biological)	0.12* (0.06)		0.04 (0.05)	0.03 (0.05)	0.05 (0.05)	0.03 (0.05)
Single Parents						
Step Parent	0.31*** (0.07)		0.13† (0.07)	0.13 (0.07)	0.11† (0.06)	0.10† (0.06)
Other	0.02 (0.08)		-0.04 (0.08)	-0.05 (0.07)	-0.09 (0.07)	-0.07 (0.07)
Other	0.26** (0.08)		0.12 (0.08)	0.10 (0.08)	0.09 (0.08)	0.12 (0.08)
<b>Respondent Sociodemographic Characteristics</b>						
Female						
Age	0.03 (0.06)		-0.02 (0.05)	-0.02 (0.06)	-0.02 (0.05)	-0.01 (0.05)
Presence of Child	-0.01 (0.01)		0.00 (0.01)	0.01 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)	-0.00 (0.01)
Race/Ethnicity (White)	0.32*** (0.05)		0.13* (0.06)	0.11* (0.06)	0.02 (0.06)	-0.03 (0.06)
Black	0.30*** (0.07)		0.09 (0.07)	0.07 (0.07)	0.07 (0.07)	0.03 (0.06)
Hispanic	0.26** (0.09)		0.14† (0.08)	0.13† (0.08)	0.10 (0.08)	0.12† (0.07)
<b>Respondent Education (High School)</b>						
Less than High School	0.30** (0.10)		-0.01 (0.10)	-0.01 (0.10)	0.01 (0.10)	0.05 (0.09)
Some College	0.10† (0.06)		-0.02 (0.07)	0.00 (0.07)	0.02 (0.07)	0.01 (0.06)
College or more	-0.35*** (0.06)		-0.04 (0.08)	0.01 (0.08)	0.02 (0.08)	0.02 (0.08)
<b>Respondent Employment Status (Full-Time)</b>						
Part-Time	0.03 (0.07)		0.05 (0.07)	0.04 (0.07)	0.07 (0.30)	0.01 (0.06)
Unemployed	0.35*** (0.06)		0.25*** (0.06)	0.24*** (0.06)	0.25*** (0.26)	0.20*** (0.06)
R <sup>2</sup>		0.17	0.25	0.27	0.31	0.41

Source: Toledo Adolescent Relationships Study 2011/2012  
†p<0.10 \*p<0.05. \*\*p<0.01. \*\*\*p<0.001.

## Results

- Respondent's involvement in the CJS and partner's criminality are consistently related to increases in IPV.
- Partner's CJS involvement continued to be significantly related to IPV, but after taking into consideration relationship dynamics, the association drops out.

## Limitations

- Combines arrest and incarceration
- Local sample/not nationally representative

## Conclusion/Future Research

- Individual's involvement with the criminal justice system is positively associated with IPV, net of risk factors such as relationship dynamics and partner's characteristics.
- Future work should examine other individual and relationship quality outcomes, as well as the potential role of gender and race/ethnicity.

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