
Abstract

Gender differences in intimate partner violence victimization among Japanese young adults: Considering the sense of being controlled by their partners

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This study examined whether or not women are more often victims of severe intimate partner violence (IPV) as compared to men. Even if a woman commits violence against a man, it may be resistance to male violence and control, or it may be insufficiently powerful to control a man. Therefore, in addition to victimization due to violent acts, this study investigated the sense of being controlled by their partners. The results of an internet survey of heterosexual adults aged 25–35 years with partners or spouses indicated that, regardless of marital status, men were more likely to suffer from all acts of violence more than women. Even violent acts that were likely regarded as trivial were associated with increased feelings of being controlled for both men and women. As men were more likely to be subjected to violence and controlled than women, the results clearly implied that men were more victimized than women, at least among heterosexual couples in early adulthood. Thus, the current IPV measures must be revisited.

Keywords: IPV, dating violence, domestic violence, dominant-submissive relationship, intimate terrorism
