Relation To Crime by University Students In 15 Nations Of Corporal Punishment By Father-Only, Mother-Only, And Both Parents*

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ABSTRACT

The criminogenic nature of spanking and other corporal punishment (CP) has been established in general by many cross-sectional studies and by 16 longitudinal studies. Many aspects of CP, however, can affect this relationship. This study investigated one of those: what difference it makes for the child if only the mother spans, only the father, or both. Results for these “Dyadic Types” are presented for a sample 11,408 university students in 15, with controls for nine variables. Among those who reported CP at age 10 (33%), the most prevalent dyadic type was Both (66%), followed by Mother-Only (21%) and Father-Only (13%). Eight indicators of criminality were examined. Both parents using CP was most strongly associated with most of the criminality measures. Mother-Only type was next most strongly related, and Father-Only least strongly related. These results suggest that identifying which parent is hitting the child is an important starting point for research and treatment. It also indicates the need for research on the relation of CP to crime. It also indicates a need test hypotheses about what explains why the three dyadic CP types differ in the degree to which they are associated with an increased probability of crime by the child.

Key words: aggression, partner violence, dyadic type, violence, crime, multi-national

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Relation of Dyadic Corporal Punishment Types To Stealing Money Since Age 15 By University Students

Covariates appearing in the model are evaluated at the following values: A02 participant age Br5 = 2.82, A10F25C father's education level z-score by site Br5 Centile = 40.0893, mother's education level z-score by site Br5 Centile = 39.8300, B6T5SC Child Misbehavior Freq. sum of minor and severe Br5 Centile = 40.0149, LDT1M Limited Disclosure Total = 2.7699, IPS nation = 4.90.