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Abuse and its Connection to History

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Abstract

The research conducted in this paper, determines if there is a correlation between modern day female abuse rates toward minority groups (the groups used in this research paper was African American women and Native American women)within the United States and their historical violence. This data was then compared to a group within the United States that lower rates of female abuse and violence (the comparison group was caucasian women).The research looked at abuse rates toward the focus minority groups mentioned above and the non minority common female population. The research then looked into the history of these groups to determine how much violence occurs within these groups. The data was then analyzed to see if there was a correlation between these two variables that could not be controlled.

Keywords: Abuse, Connection, History

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Introduction

In today's society, abuse rates toward women are very high. The United States is home to many different ethnicities, races, and groups of people. Some of these minority groups are either low in numbers or are seen differently from the majority common population. This research study aims to find connections between abuse rates of females within minority groups of the United States, and the historical violence that occurred within to those minority groups. The minority focus groups in this paper are Native American and African American women within the United States. This data will then be compared to the common Caucasian population in the country.

Literature Review

Abuse can be defined as "any action that intentionally harms or injures another person" (Gulli,2015). All around the world abuse is a major issue. 1 in 3 women have been victims of violence in their lifetime by their partners (NCADV). You can also find that abuse comes in many different types and forms, such as physical, emotional, psychological, sexual, verbal abuse and neglect (Gulli,2015). Physical abuse is the repeated physical harm to a person, such as hitting, punching, kicking, starvation, and choking.

When it comes to physical abuse, there is likely to be a power differential, which results in a larger and stronger person harming someone who is much weaker than them (Gulli,2015). When looking at physical abuse within adults, women are a lot more likely to be abused compared to men. According to Farid Gulli a physician-scientist and researcher in the state of New York, about "35% of all the women will be beaten, coerced into sex, or otherwise abused in their lifetime (Gulli,2015). Sexual abuse is the non-consensual touching or groping of a person's breasts, genitals, and buttock (Gulil,2015). When it comes to sexual abuse, it is found that often times the abuse is committed by a family member such as a father, mother, uncle, stepfather, and brothers or sisters (Gulli,2015). Psychological abuse, out of all the abuse is the hardest to detect. Examples of psychological abuse can be threatening victims with violence or isolating the victims and denying them access to other people. About "95% of men who abuse women also psychologically abuse them" (Gulli,2015).

Abuse can occur in different groups and types of people such as women, men, children, and even elders and can last for any period of time (Gulli,2015). Abuse by an intimate partner can also lead to homicide. According to an article published by Petrosky E, Blair JM, Betz CJ, Fowler KA, Jack SPD, Lyons BH (2017), Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) related homicide was one of the leading largest causes of death for women under the age of forty-four. Within this, Native American women and African American women faced the most homicide by an intimate partner within the United States (Petrosky et.al, 2017).

There are also many factors that can increase the abuse or the risk of abuse for women and other people such as: alcohol use, high-risk sexual behavior, strong interest in weapons, having access to weapons like guns, history of suicide attempts, history of violent behaviors, previous criminal records, having been previously abused themselves, mental conditions and illnesses such as a personality disorder (WebMD). Other factors that can contribute to abuse are poverty, drug use or even growing up in a household where domestic violence was common. As children grow up in an environment where abusing women is very common, they grow up believing that it is normal and even acceptable and go on to abuse women themselves when they are older.

Women are subjected to many different forms of abuse that can be very constant. Constant abuse of women can have a very negative effect on them. According to a study conducted by Prosman Gj (2013),

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women who are unaware of "the negative consequences of IPV, the physical and mental well-being of themselves and their children"... "do not ask for professional support" (Prosman, 2013).Women who do not understand the abuse they receive or believe that it is an acceptable practice do not seek help to leave their abusive situation. One of the side effects that can be caused by abuse is depression. In a study conducted at the Izmir Ataturk Training and Research Hospital, it was found that "64% of women diagnosed with depression were suffering from intimate partner violence" (Karakoc,2015). The study was conducted with 100 women who were diagnosed with depression and 30 healthy women, between the ages of 18-60 (Karakoc, 2015). The results of the study showed that there were higher rates of physical, emotional, economic, and sexual violence in the group with depression (Karakoc,2015). Using this data, the conclusion can be made that a major effect of intimate partner violence is depression. As victims are abused more often or more severely, they tend to become depressed. Also, depressed women who were physically abused were more likely to have double depression (dysthymic disorder and major depressive disorder) compared to depressed women who were not physically abused (Karakoc, 2015). Suicide rates and attempts were also found to be higher in women who were abused. Not only are female victims developing depression, their depressive symptoms seem to be very severe in nature, and the continuation of abuse is likely to worsen the depression. A study conducted by the NCHA, describes a victim who was abused so severely that she permanently lost hearing in her left ear, and then developed depression and alcohol dependence. The emotional and physical abuse she endured had lasting effects on her life both physically and psychologically. When it comes to female abuse, women of color have higher rates of abuse than white women. African American women are four times more likely to be abused than Caucasian women and comprise one-third of all domestic violence homicides (African American Women). It should also be taken into consideration when looking at this data, that for every Black women that reports rape and abuse, fifteen do not, so the statistics are likely to be much higher (African-American Community). Abuse is a serious problem in society, which results in long-term physical, emotional, and psychological impairment in the victims. There is also a significant discrepancy in terms of race/ethnicity of the females who are victimized. Marquart Beverly (2007) wrote about a report conducted by the Community Drug and Alcohol Survey, which showed that dating violence against females was higher in the Southern part of the United States (Marquart Beverly, et al., 2007). When looking at the racial demographics of the south, there is a large percentage of African American Populations (United States, 2000). In the state of Mississippi alone, almost 40% of the population were African Americans (United States, 2000). Does the fact that there is a higher rate of abuse toward females in the south and a higher percentage of colored people bring up new questions on abuse?

Hypothesis

I hypothesize that there will be a positive connection between the abuse rates of minority women within the United States and the amount of historical violence. I believe that if the abuse rates toward these minority groups of women is higher than the common white population of women then, the number of past violent historical events will be greater and more severe.

Method

The research method used in this research paper is a mix between Causal-Comparative Research and a correlational study. Causal-Comparative Research identifies relationships among variables that can not be

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controlled. The specific type of causal-comparative research used in this paper is retrospective causal-comparative research, which includes investing a question when the effects of the question have already taken place and looking for causes. However, the purpose of this research paper is not to look for a cause but rather a correlation. A correlational study collects data and determines the level of correlation between two variables that can be controlled. The reason for the mix of the two methods is because Causal-Comparative Research often looks at causes for the variables. The research I am conducting cannot be concluded as a direct cause. But rather the research paper is only looking to find if there is a correlation between two variables that can not be controlled.

The research is deductive research as it is trying to see if a question or hypothesis posed is actually correct. The research analyzes if the data and numbers are considered to be positivism research. All the data being analyzed in this research method is secondary data in order to aid in creating new connections.

Some advantages of this research type are the lack of surveys and interviews although that could also be seen as a disadvantage. A disadvantage of the research is that this may not be applicable to all groups of people and is limited to only specific ethnic groups. The study is being conducted to see if there is a correlation with modern abuse rates of a group of people and that group's history of violence, which are two variables that can not be controlled.

This research can be characterized as a correlational study and a causal-comparative study rather than other research methods because a correlation study collects data and sees how much correlation can be found between two variables. While the causal-comparative research methods focus on variables that cannot be controlled which differs from normal correlational studies. There are different types of correlation: positive and negative. A positive correlation means there is a connection between the variables while a negative correlation is the opposite.

The research will be conducted through data collection and will include present-day statistics of female abuse in specific groups of people and historical events of major violence or oppression. The data will be collected through databases and historical books and texts, and then analyzed to see if there is a connection between the two variables. If a connection is found, the strength of that connection will then be analyzed.

As the topic and theme of this research paper is a high-risk theme, surveys and interviews are not suitable as they may cause emotional and psychological harm to the participants. This research project will draw new conclusions and new ideas from data that is already present such as, data and graphs of abuse rates toward the minority groups (Native American and African American women) and also the common population (white women) who are not the minority groups. After collecting a considerable amount of statistics on modern days abuse rates, historical events will be researched. These events will be violent or traumatic events that occurred to the minority groups. This information will be found by looking through educational non-fiction books. Violent historical events of the common white population will also be collected through books. After all the data is collected, it will be analyzed to see if there are connections or correlations between the abuse rates and historical violent events. The analysis will see whether there is a positive correlation, as in that the minority groups have a higher amount of modern-day abuse rates and also more violent events throughout their history. To figure out which groups of people to focus on for my project, I found the main nonwhite groups within the United States by looking through the United States Census Bureau. The Bureau listed that the major ethnic groups within the United States were White, Black, American Indian, Asian, Hispanic, and Pacific Islander (US, 2018). With these major

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groups, I decided to focus on two groups that were not white and compare them to the white population. I decided to do this because even though there are many different groups of people within the United States, a majority of the population is still white. Then, I went on to decide which groups of colored people I should use for my paper and I decided to choose the groups that had the highest rates of abuse. I searched government websites such as the Department of Justice and found that the groups of people with the highest rate of abuse was Native Americans and the group with the second highest rate of abuse was African Americans. Since these two groups had the highest rate of abuse, these were the groups I chose to focus on.

Data & Analysis

Both minority groups:

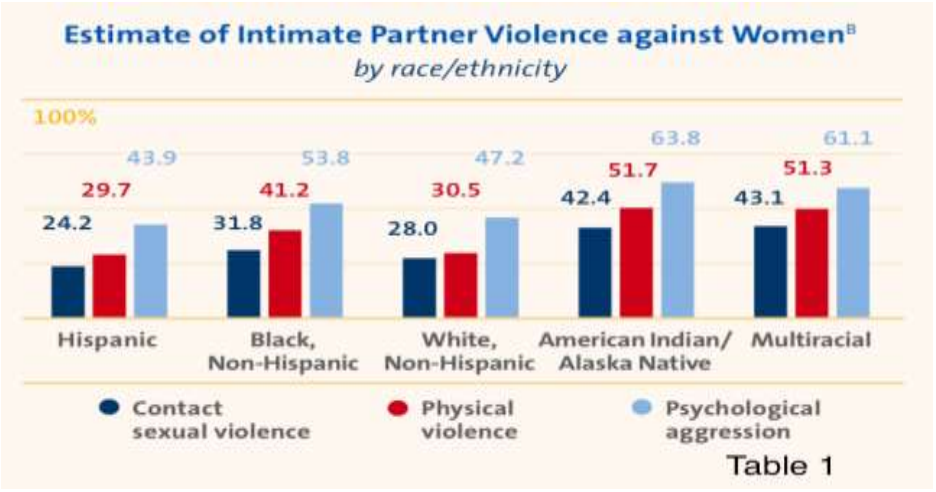


Table 1(Mathew 2014), shows the national percentages of intimate partner violence against women of different ethnic groups. The table goes further to break the data into different types of violence such as physical violence, sexual violence, and psychological abuse and compares all three different abuse groups. Native American women have the highest percentages, with African American women falling in second, and white women only coming in fourth nationwide. This shows that African American women and Native American women, the groups of people this study focuses on, have higher percentages of violence and abuse compared to White Women.

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Table 2

Lifetime Prevalence of Sexual Violence by Race/Ethnicity[1] — U.S. Women, NISVS 2010

		Hispanic	Non-Hispanic				
			Black	White	Asian or Pacific Islander	American Indian or Alaska Native	Multiracial
Rape	Weighted %	14.6	22.0	18.8	*	26.9	33.5
	Estimated Number of Victims[2]	2,202,000	3,186,000	15,225,000		234,000	452,000
Other sexual violence	Weighted %	36.1	41.0	47.6	29.5	49.0	58.0
	Estimated Number of Victims[2]	5,442,000	5,967,000	38,632,000	1,673,000	424,000	786,000

[1]Race/ethnicity was self-identified. The American Indian or Alaska Native designation does not indicate being enrolled or affiliated with a tribe.
[2]Rounded to the nearest thousand.
*Estimate is not reported; relative standard error >30% or cell size ≤ 20.

Table 2 (Rosay, 2016), shows data on abuse statistics for both focus minority groups (Native Americans and African Americans). When it comes to the rape of women by ethnicity, the table shows that both African American women and Native American women have a higher percentage than Caucasian women. However, when looking at other sexual violence, the percentage of Native American women is higher

Race and ethnicity of DV survivors served in the community in 2016 Table 3

Region	*Black/ Afro-Amer*	*Amer Ind/ Alaska Native*	*Haw/ Pac. Isle*	*Hisp/ Latino*	*Asian/ SE Asian*	*Mid-East/ Arab*	*White/ Euro-Amer*	*Other*
1	0.8%	1.6%	0.6%	13.3%	1.0%	0.5%	80.4%	1.8%
2	24.8%	2.9%	1.3%	18.2%	3.1%	0.8%	46.2%	2.8%
3	3.2%	4.0%	1.6%	20.7%	0.9%	0.3%	66.3%	3.1%
4	3.3%	4.7%	0.4%	16.0%	2.0%	0.1%	68.4%	5.2%
5	1.4%	9.0%	0.2%	10.4%	0.6%	0.1%	77.5%	0.8%
6	1.1%	4.1%	0.6%	15.0%	1.0%	0.1%	77.6%	0.5%
7	0.7%	1.4%	1.1%	38.9%	0.3%	0.0%	56.1%	1.5%

than the percentage of white women, but the percentage of African American violence is not.

Table 3: This table shows data that is specific to Oregon and is actually contradictory to the research paper by saying that abuse rates toward white women are actually much higher. But when you refer to table 4 you will notice that the demographics show that the concentration of other groups of people is very low.

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POPULATION BY RACE Table 4

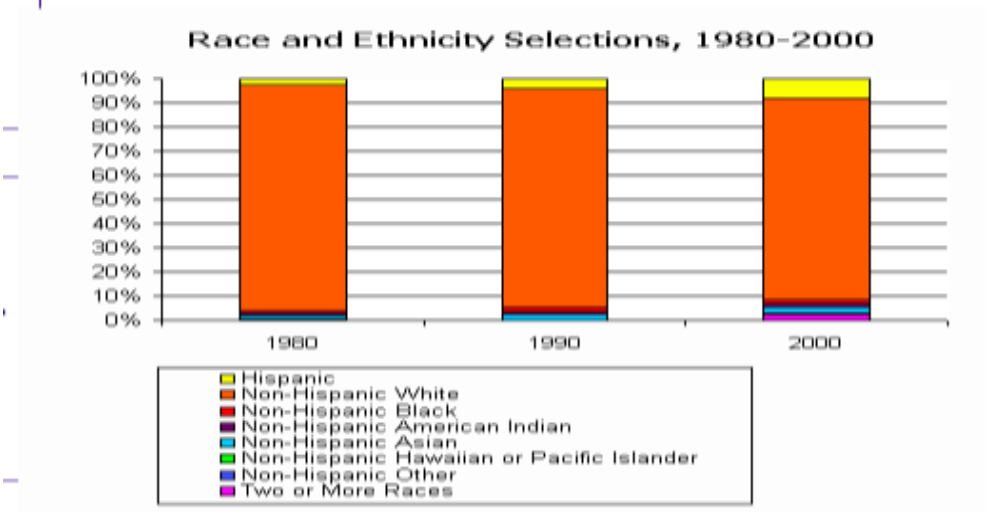
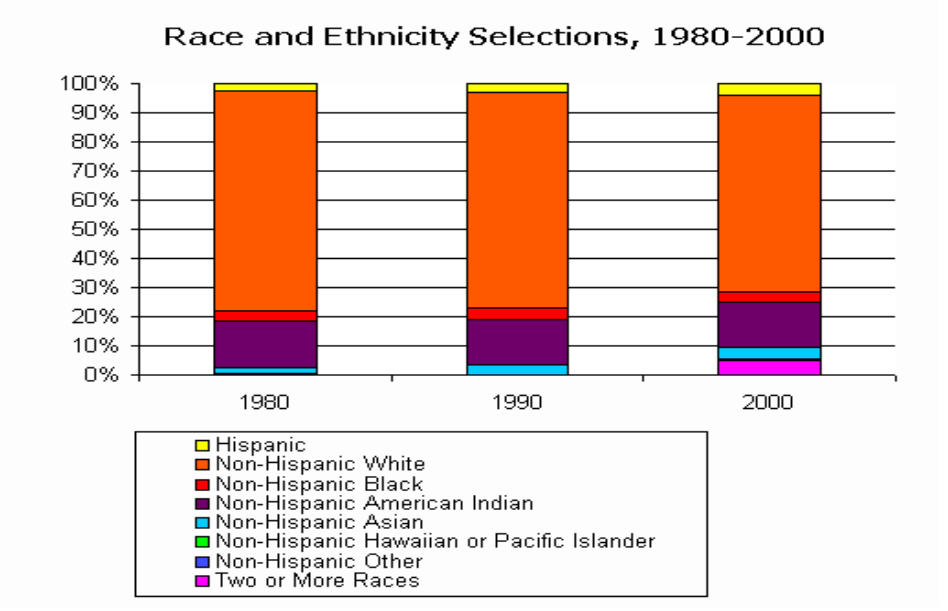


Table 4 (United States: Oregon, 2000): shows the populations of a race in the state of Oregon. In 2000 more than 90% of the population in the state of Oregon was white. The African American and Native American populations were under 10%. This shows that the rates of abuse are a lot lower for these minority groups because there is barely any concentration of the, within that state.

POPULATION BY RACE Table 5



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Table 5 (United States: Alaska,2000): This is the population distribution of the state of Alaska. When compared to the population percentage of Oregon (see table 4) there is a higher percentage of the population that is Native American, which is indicated with the dark purple shade. There is also a higher rate of African American people which is represented by red.

Victim Data Table 6

	Female	Male	Sex Unknown
American Indian/AK Native	588	52	
Asian	27	3	
Black	27	11	
White	305	54	
Race Unknown	85	24	5
Age 0-10	154	60	
Age 11-17	314	36	1
Age 18+	549	45	
Age Unknown	15	3	4

Table 6 (Spears, 2017): This table shows the abuse rates of women in Alaska. When looking at the numbers, it can be seen that the amount of Native American abuse is almost twice as many as the amount of white abuse. When connecting this data with the previous two graphs, it can be seen that the areas with a higher concentration of Native Americans corresponds to higher abuse rates when compared to areas where the concentration of Native Americans is really low. However this is not the same for African Americans, as the abuse rates were lower when the population was higher, but this is only valid when looking at two specific states. When trying to compare this to an area with a higher population of African Americans such as Mississippi it was difficult to come across domestic violence broken down by race.

TABLE 7

—Lifetime Victimization of Women (%), by Type of Victimization and Race

Type of Victimization	Total (n=7850)	White (n=6452)	African American (n=78[illegible]	Asian/Pacific Islander (n=133)	American Indian (n=88)	Mixed Race (n=397)
Rape	18.2	17.7	18.8	6.8	34.1	24.4
Physical assault	51.8	51.3	52.1	49.6	61.4	57.7
Stalking	8.2	8.2	6.5	4.5	17.0	10.6

Source. Adapted from Tjaden and Thoennes.12

Table 7(Lee,2002): This table shows abuse rates between the minority groups which are the Native Americans, African Americans, and also the common white female population. The table shows that Native American Violence percentage is almost twice as much as those of white women. Although the difference in percentages between the African Americans and the white female population is not

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dramatically different, the African American violence percentage is still higher than compared to those of the Caucasian women.

African American data:

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Table 8

Rates of Police-Reported Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) by Demographic Characteristics, Dallas, Texas, 2004

	Police Reported IPV[a] (N=4775)	No Police Reported IPV[b] (N=28050)	
	N (%)	N (%)	Rate/1000 women[c] (95% CI)
Age Group (years)			
18–24	1528 (32.0)	6152 (21.9)***	24.0 (22.8, 25.3)
25–34	1947 (40.8)	10194 (36.3)**	18.7 (17.9, 19.5)
35–49	1300 (27.2)	11704 (41.7)***	11.0 (10.4, 11.6)
Race/Ethnicity			
Non-Hispanic Black	2205 (46.2)	8099 (28.9)**	26.9 (25.7, 28.0)[d]
Hispanic	1798 (37.7)	9796 (34.9)*	17.1 (16.3, 17.9)[d]
Non-Hispanic White	772 (16.2)	10155 (36.2)**	7.9 (7.3, 8.4)[d]

Note. CI=Confidence interval. CIs for age group are calculated as Poisson exact.

[a]Women residents of Dallas with police-reported adult male-to-female IPV
[b]10% stratified sample of 2000 U.S. Census data for Dallas City residents (excluding women reporting family violence)
[c]Rates based on full census for each subgroup
[d]Age-adjusted rate
*p<.05 comparing police-reported IPV group to no police-reported IPV group
**p<.001 comparing police-reported IPV group to no police-reported IPV group
***p<.001 comparing police-reported IPV group to no police-reported IPV group

Table 8 (Lipsky,2009): shows the police reported report of intimate partner violence and no reported incidents of intimate partner violence within different racial groups. For the purpose of this research paper, the row of Hispanic data can be disregarded. The data shows that there is a higher rate of abuse and intimate partner violence toward African American women than compared to white women in Dallas, Texas.

African Americans, Table 9
-arkansas 1886, “set fire to a black settlement and rounded up the inhabitants.” the next morning “24 negro men, women , and children were hanging to trees all around the cabins” (Foner, 2006 p. 53). - “One black women was beaten by her employer for ‘using insolent language’, another for refusing to ‘call him master’, a third for crying because he whipped [her] mother”(Foner 2006 p. 53) - “12 murders, 9 rapes, 14 cases of arson, and over 700 beatings” by the ku klux klan against the black population during the 1870’s (Foner, 2006 p. 186). -many slave owners were okay with willing to “Beat, maim, and kill in order to get work out of men and women who had nothing to gain but absence of pain” (Morgan, 2005 p. 313). -jefferson owned many slaves and often breed female slaves to increase profit “I consider the breeding of women as no object” (Takaki, 2008 p.62).

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- " two elements that that made American slavery the most cruel form of slavery history: the frenzy of limitless profit that comes from capitalist agriculture; the reduction of the slave to less than human status by the use of racial hatred, with that relentless clarit based on color, where white was the master, black was the slave" (Zinn, 1980 p. 28).
- " the marches to the coast, sometimes for 1000 miles with people shackled around the neck, under whip and gun, were death marches, in which 2 of every 5 black died. On the coast they were kept in cages unit they were picked and sold" (Zinn, 1980 p. 28)
- " a slave-deck was 'so covered with blood and mucus that it resembled slaughter house" (Zinn, 1980 p. 29)
- "Africa lost 50 million human beings to death and slavery… at the hands of slave traders and plantation owners" (Zinn, 1980 p.29).
- " I saw pregnant women give birth to babies while chained to corpses which our drunken overseers had not removed...packed spoon-fashion they often gave birth to children in the scaling perspiration from the human cargo… on board the ship was a young negro women chained to the deck who lost her senses" (Zinn, 1980 p, 105),.
-slave women were also very much abused by their owners physically and sexually. "As I entered my fifteenth year- a sad epoch in the life of a slave girl. My master began to whisper fou word in my ear. My master met me at every turn reminding me that I belonged to him, and swearing by heaven and earth that he would compel me to submit to him" (Zinn, 1980 p. 106).
-"Certain black women faced the triple hurdle- of being abolitionists in slave societies, if being blacks among white reformers, and of being a woman in a reform movement dominated by men" (Zinn, 1980 p. 184).
-1886, Tennessee "five negro women were raped, forty-six negros killed" (Zinn, 1980 p. 203).

Table 9: Accounts for specific events in history that were violent toward the African American groups of people. Most of this violence pertains to both men and women while some of these accounts are specific to only women. These accounts how's the the mass violence that was present thought the African American people hundreds of years ago. Multitudes of men and women were slaughtered in cold blood due to slavery and the Ku Klux Klan. African American women faced and even greater challenge. Many African American women were raped by their masters. Evan Thomas Jefferson, a major historical figure in American history stated that he "considered the breeding of women no object" (Takaki, 2008 p. 62). It was known that Jefferson often bred female slaves for profit. Throughout history, the African American population went through large amounts of trauma.

Native American Data:

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Table 10. violence Against Women

Type of Violence	American Indian or Alaska Native, %	Non-Hispanic White Only,* %	Relative Risk
Any Lifetime Violence	84.3	71.0	1.2
Sexual Violence	56.1	49.7	NS
Physical Violence by Intimate Partner	55.5	34.5	1.6
Stalking	48.8	26.8	1.8
Psychological Aggression by Intimate Partner	66.4	52.0	1.3
Any Past-Year Violence	39.8	23.3	1.7
Sexual Violence	14.4	5.4	NS
Physical Violence by Intimate Partner	8.6	4.1	NS
Stalking	11.6	7.0	NS
Psychological Aggression by Intimate Partner	25.5	16.1	1.6

NS = Percentages across racial and ethnic groups are not significantly different ($p >$ .05).

*Non-Hispanic white only represents people who identified themselves as both non-Hispanic and white, with no other race.

Table 10 (Rosay, 2016): this table compares abuse rates and violence toward Native American women and white Non-Hispanic women. The data shows that in every type of violence toward women that studies conducted, it can be seen that Native American women are at a lot higher percentage than compared to white women. These categories include lifetime violence, sexual violence, physical violence, stalking, psychological abuse.

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Table 11 **Average annual percent of assault victimization against *females* by race and perceived racial/ethnicity status of offender(s), NCVS 1992-2005.**

	White Offender(s)	African American Offender(s)	Other* Offender(s)
All races	63%	25%	11%
American Indian and Alaska Native	**55**	**8**	**36**
White	74	14	12
African American	11	84	5
Asian American	45	23	33

Source: Original data analysis.
** Other includes American Indian, Alaska Native and Asian American*

Table 11(Bachman, et.al., 2008): this table deals with violence toward females by the offenders, which are broken down by race/ ethnicity. When looking at the American Indians, it can be seen that over half of the violence the women face is from white offenders. This may mean that white mentality of superiority toward the Native American "savages" may still occur today.

Native Americans, Table 12
-The Cherokees are nearly all prisoners, they had been dragged from their houses… allowed no times to take anything with them expect the clothes they had on." They were forced to march "in the dead of winter (Zinn, 1980 p.13) In Virgina, "the method was to feign peaceful intention, let ehm settle down and plant their corn wherever they chose, and then just before harvest, fall upon them, killing as many as possible and burning the corn.." (Zinn, 1980 p.13). -In 1636, the english landed [on block island] landed and killed sons indians (Zinn, 1980 p. 14). -"Before the revolution, the indians had been subdued by force in Virginia and New England. Now with british out of the way , the americans could begin the inexorable process of pushing the indians off their lands, killing them if they resisted" (Zinn, 1980 p. 86). - "Under orders from the the British General Jeffery Amherst, the commander of Fort Pitts gave the attacking indian chiefs, with whom negotiating blankets from the smallpox hospital. It was a pioneering effort that is now called biological warfare" (Zinn,1980 p. 87). - Hernando de Soto, "Usually upon encountering an indian village, he and his men would sack it, killing whoever resisted, enslaving the rest… one method of executing indian malefactors was simply to throw them to the war dogs" (page,2004 p. 126). - " religious leader were whipped or worse as sorcerers.. 'Secular leaders abuse of indian labor and their blatant profile" (Page,2004 p. 146).

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- " The slave trade, long a tradition among the indians of this area, increased markedly with the arrival of the spanish who provided an excellent market for indian slaves from both the Pueblos and the Plains" (Page,2004 p. 146).

- "in all, by the end of the nineteenth century, fewer than 250,000 indians were still alive in the entire United States Since Columbus's inadvertent landing, indians had been killed by internecine warfare, pandemic diseases, alcoholism" (Page,2004 p. 244).

- " the nineteenth century would bring the forth the most severe obstacles yet. There would be more disease, more battle, and more bloodshed" (Page,2004 p.244).

- trail of tears, "astonishingly, an estimated twenty-five hundred Choctaws died of exposure, starvation, and marauding by whites during the trek of more than 500 miles throughout the 1840's and 1850's (Page,2004 p. 277).

- " in 1860, more than four thousand indians had been killed" (Page ,2004 p. 277).

-"more than 135 Promos were killed. In another typical incident near Humboldt, some vigilantes snuck into an indian camp, short as many men, women, and children as they could, and then cut the throats of those remaining. Next morning, a special government investigator reported ' 60 bodies lay weltering in their blood- the old and the young, male and female… girls and boys lay here and there with their throats cut from ear to ear" (Page, 2004 p. 277).

Table 12: This table is accounts from historical books on specific violent events that occurred in history. A lot of these events affected women and men. Much like with the African American people, the Native Americans have also faced tremendous amount of violence. Accounts of where 135 Native american men, women, and children were killed in cold blood in northern california by the colonials who entered the territories (Page, 2004 p. 277). Many Native American villages were destroyed due to the colonial populations greed for land and power. In 1860 alone, over "four thousand indians had been killed" by the colonial population (Page, 2004 p. 277). A well known event of the Native American people is the Trail of Tears.

Results:

The analysis of the collected data between rates of female violence in modern society and history of those groups of people showed that there was a positive correlation between historical violence and modern-day abuse of women. The data showed that groups of women who had higher rates of abuse today were part of groups of people that have had a dramatic and violent history and that this trend occurred in colored groups and minority groups. Also, when it came to Native Americans, data showed that more than half of the abuse and violence toward the women was committed by the white population (see table 11). When looking at the violence that the Native Americans went through, most of it was committed by the white population such as slavery, killing for land, and events such as the Trail of Tears (see table 12). This is

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also true when it comes to African American women. When comparing the abuse statistics and the historical violence of the African Americans, it can be seen that there was a positive correlation between the two. The group had major violent events in their history such as slavery, which resulted in the death of many African Americans, and the persecution from the Ku Klux Klan, which also involved a great amount of violence. However, there were some specific areas within the United States where the data was skewed. The data in Oregon showed that abuse rates toward White women were actually much higher than the focus minority groups (see table 4). But when looking at the demographics of the population of the state of Oregon, it showed that over 90% of the population was whites and the focus minority groups were under 10% of the population (See figure 5). To see if this factor was really a reason for the skewed data, I found states in the United States that a higher percentage of Native Americans in the population. The state that had a high percentage of American Indians was Alaska. When looking at the concentration of the Alaskan population is at least 20% of the overall population (see table 5). After discovering this information, female violence rates in Alaska were found. The data showed a huge difference between the number of Native American women that were abused compared to the common white population (see table 6). Although this was correct for the Native American people, this did not correlate with the African American population. This shows that abuse rates can differ based on state's population. Just because an area shows that violence toward white women may be higher, that might not disprove the paper as the population of minority groups can be very low. When looking at abuse rates it is important to a take in all the factors that can affect the rates.

Discussion:

On a national level, abuse and violence toward African American women are still much higher than white females. According to a survey conducted by Bureau of Justice, 41% of African American Women are victims of Psychical violence by an intimate partner than white women (see figure 2)(Bureau of Justice). When looking at historical violence in the African American group, it is far more violent and gruesome than the white population. Slavery of the African American people was incredibly brutal and there are many accounts of it throughout history. Slave owners were willing to "Beat, maim, and kill in order to get work out of men and women who had nothing to gain but [the] absence of pain" (Morgan 313,2005). Many slaves were tortured and killed without a sense of remorse from the white population. Slavery in America was considered to be fueled by the frenzy of limitless profit that comes from capitalist agriculture; the reduction of the slave to less than human status by the use of racial hatred, with that relentless clarity based on color, where white was the master, black was the slave" (Zinn 28, 1980). Slavery toward the African Americans was deemed horrible because they were not recognized as people but rather as property. African American women were initially treated worse by their owners. There were specific accounts where a black woman was beaten by her employer for 'using insolent language', another for refusing to 'call him master', a third for crying because he whipped [her] mother" (Foner 53, 2006). Black women in slavery were treated cruelly. Although white women in history did face some hurdles, such as not being regarded as the same status as men, what they faced was not anywhere as horrendous as what black women faced, such as rape and murder.

Data shows that violence towards Native American women is a lot more common than violence toward white women. Although when looking at certain states this may not seem true. For example, when looking at Oregon, studies, and surveys done by Oregon Department of Human Services, it was found

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that the percent of abuse toward white women was much higher than Native American and African American women (see table 3). But when looking the population of the state of Oregon, results showed that less than 10% of the population consisted of Native American and African American people. That brought up the question of whether or not the population percentage plays a role in the data. To test this out, I looked at another state with a higher population percentage of the focus minority groups. The state that had a higher percentage of the focus minority groups, especially Native Americans was Alaska (see table 5). When looking at the abuse rates toward women in the state of Alaska, there was a higher rate of abuse. Referring to table 6, there was a much higher rate of abuse toward Native American women than compared to African American women. Abuse numbers of Native American women were double the amount of violence cases toward white women. Another thing to consider is, that more than half of the violence that Native Americans face is outside of their group (see table 11). The research found that 55% of the violence that Native American women face does come from white offenders outside of their community (Bachman et.al, 2008). This correlates with the historical violence of the Native American people because most of the violence they faced was from the white settlers of the United States. Many of the white people pushed the Native populations of their land and even killed any of those who resisted (Zinn, 1980 p. 86). When comparing the historical violence of the Native American population and the African American population, the Caucasian populations violence does not come up to par. The main events of violence that occur to the Caucasian people is the Civil War and the American Revolution(Zinn, 1980) .Although these was did cause some deaths to the white population, they did not have nearly as any violent events than NAtive Americans or African Americans such as slavery.The American Revolution actually caused even more violence and murder toward the Native Americans. "Before the revolution, the indians had been subdued by force in Virginia and New England. Now with british out of the way , the americans could begin the inexorable process of pushing the indians off their lands, killing them if they resisted" (Zinn, 1980 p. 86). After the American Revolution, the colonies were able to focus their attention on obtaining more land by pushing natives off their land and even going a step further to kill them.

This shows that even as hundreds of years have fast the violence towards the Native Americans at the hand of the whites has not stopped. Women are still the victims of white offenders as they were hundreds of years ago.

The gap in research that this paper addresses was the correlation between modern abuse rates toward women and historical violence. The research conducted found that there was a positive correlation with modern abus rates toward minority women and the amount of historical violence that the group endured.

Limitations:

There are some limitations of this research project. It is unknown whether or not this can be used on all groups of people or even people outside of the United States. The data collected can sometimes be skewed or old. There also really is no sound way to measure that amount of violence in numbers and rates as cleanly as can be done with abuse stats, making the paper seem biased.

Conclusions:

This issue definitely impacts many people. Throughout the United States, many women are being abused. But sadly, actions toward reducing this number are not that efficient. This new research can change the

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field. The research conducted from this project may enable professionals to determine which groups of people may be at a higher risk and they can then go on to monitor these groups of people. But more changes need to be made. The first step to fixing any problem is addressing the fact that something is wrong. When it comes to female abuse and violence, it can be often times disregarded. The first thing that must be done in order to fixing this problem is addressing that this abuse is occuring. This topic needs to be spoken about more. People should be educated about the seriousness of this issue. Also, aid programs to abused women should be improved. It takes a lot of courage for an abuse women to leave her situation. If there are not proper and well established programs for them, they are less likely to leave their abusive partners. To aid the abused women, there needs to be an increase in funding and the creation of organizations to aid these women. There also has to be more serious penalties for abusers. Abusers need to realize that they can not simply get away with hurting women. Prison sentences should be made longer. Also, if the abused women has children, rather than her having to leave her family, the abuser should be forced to leave. The abuser can start abusing the children as and if the children are taken out of the home with their mothers they are likely to suffer as amenities for abused women are underfunded. Abuse and violence toward women is a serious issue that is occuring to so many women within the United States, especially women in minority groups.

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