Oral Defense Announcement
University of Missouri – St. Louis Graduate School

An oral examination in defense of the dissertation for the degree
Doctor of Nursing Practice with an emphasis in Pediatric Nurse Practitioner

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Intimate Partner Violence Education for Pregnant and Postpartum Adolescents and Young Adults

Date: April 21, 2022
Time: 10:00 am to 10:45 am
Place: Remote

Abstract

Problem The commencement of intimate partner violence (IPV) often begins with relationships during adolescence and young adulthood; hence, young age is a risk factor. Young adult females, pregnant and post-partum adolescents are at high risk of experiencing intimate partner violence (IPV).

Methods A prospective, descriptive design evaluating the impact of three IPV education sessions offered over a three-month period at a non-profit shelter specific for young adult, pregnant and post-partum adolescents.

Results Twelve participants attended the sessions (N=12), and seven (n=7, 61.5%) of shelter residents attended at least one IPV education session. A two proportion z-test determined significance of score differences between the three sessions. Scores of session one were higher than session two ($z = 2.52$, $p = .012$, 95% CI = [0.06, 0.49]). Scores of session two was not different from session three ($z = -1.46$, $p = .144$, 95% CI = [-0.44, 0.06]). Finally, there was no difference between the scores between sessions one and three ($z = 0.82$, $p = .411$, 95% CI = [-0.12, 0.30]). Overall participants demonstrated understanding of concepts: Healthy and unhealthy relationship qualities, the definition of IPV and consent, and healthy communication techniques. Participants demonstrated a lack of understanding between abusive and unhealthy relationships, forms of abuse and reproductive coercion.

Implications for Practice While IPV education for adolescents with an interactive component minimally impacted awareness of healthy and unhealthy relationships, education specific for adolescents on IPV is recommended. More study is needed for methods of instruction affecting an adolescent’s understanding of IPV.

Defense of Dissertation Committee
Chairperson, Laura Kuensting, DNP, APRN, PCNS-BC, CPNP, CPEN
Committee Faculty Member, Kimberly Werner, PhD
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