John Wesley Powell Student Research Conference

2017, 28th Annual JWP Conference

Apr 8th, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Predicting Aggression Using Ego-depletion, Provocation, and Dispositional Aggressiveness

Grace Hanzelin
Illinois Wesleyan University

Marie Nebel-Schwalm, Faculty Advisor
Illinois Wesleyan University

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc

Part of the Psychology Commons

Poster Presentation P8

PREDICTING AGGRESSION USING EGO-DEPLETION, PROVOCATION, AND DISPOSITIONAL AGGRESSIVENESS

Grace Hanzelin and Marie Nebel-Schwalm*
Psychology Department, Illinois Wesleyan University

The I^3 Meta-theory and the Perfect Storm Theory of aggression state that aggressive behavior is caused by an interaction between three elements: Inhibition, Instigation, and Impellance. Inhibition refers to factors that would contribute to a person refraining from a specific behavior, Instigation refers to the effects of exposure to something in a specific context that normally motivates aggressive behavior, and Impellance refers to factors that act with an instigator to enhance the likelihood of a behavior. Aggressive behavior is more likely to occur in situations that foster low inhibition and high instigation and impellance. Using this theory, we have sought out to predict aggressive behavior in college students, utilizing ego-depletion to manipulate inhibition, provocation to manipulate instigation, and dispositional aggressiveness, or trait aggressiveness, to measure our factor of impellance. We predict aggressive behaviors will be highest in situations with high instigation and low inhibition, and additionally that aggressive behavior will be highest within individuals who score highest in dispositional aggressiveness.