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## Spring/Summer 2022 Table of Contents

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# Table of Contents

*Journal of Counseling Sexology & Sexual Wellness: Research, Practice, and Education*  
Spring-Summer 2022, Vol. 4 No. 1, 1–53

## **“When a Tornado Hits Your Life:” Exploring Cyber Sexual Abuse Survivors’ Perspectives on Recovery** Rachel A. Adler & Spring Chenoa Cooper

**1-8. Introduction:** Forty-eight US states and 11 countries have enacted legislation criminalizing the act of revenge porn, or cyber sexual abuse. This represents a shift in recognition of the effects of cyber sexual abuse, as survivors continue to face societal norms of victim-blaming. By capturing stories of individuals who consider having overcome their experience of cyber sexual abuse, we aim to understand the process of recovery. **Methods:** We conducted qualitative interviews with 15 adults who indicated, through a digital eligibility form, that they had “overcome” their incident of cyber sexual abuse. Utilizing a grounded theory approach, the authors coded the data, met to determine consistency, and arrived at consensus on the themes. **Results:** Analysis identified six themes, with the fourth theme characterizing the temporal relationship between the first three and the last two: (1) Survivors exhibited externalized and internalized stigma; (2) Survivors experienced varying levels of professionalism and support from law enforcement and legal professionals; (3) A substantial burden on the survivor to educate and explain about cyber sexual abuse; (4) The “Fuck it!” point: The point where there is a noticeable shift in survivors’ attitudes and behaviors in their stories; (5) All survivors were forced to become their own advocate, many an advocate for others; (6) Survivors embraced an acceptance of a “new normal.” **Discussion:** Future research needs to focus on how changing structured protocols and trainings can contribute to shifting the burden of blame in cases of cyber sexual abuse from the survivor to the abuser.

## **Practicalities and Possibilities: PAR Research in Counseling with Sex Workers** Theodore R. Burnes

**9-18.** Scholars have increasingly documented that a participatory action research (PAR) paradigm can strengthen learning about sex workers’ experiences. Many counseling researchers, however, may not be prepared for various contextual factors and experiences that can occur when doing PAR with sex workers. In addition, sex workers’ experiences of oppression and marginalization necessitate that counselors adapt their research methods to engage with this community. The author of this article discusses important process elements of PAR research with sex workers to iden-

tify methodological practices for counseling researchers engaging in PAR with sex workers. Implications for training with counseling researchers across the professional lifespan are discussed.

## **Sexual Violence Survivors in the Indian Diaspora: The Impact of Acculturation on Support-Seeking Behavior** Bagmi Das

**19-30.** Survivors of sexual violence in the United States are provided many more resources than those in Asia. For survivors in the Indian diaspora, this provides a unique perspective when understanding their experience and seeking support. This mixed methods study was an effort to understand the relationship between acculturation and support seeking for these survivors, both from informal and formal supports. This survey research recruited 77 survivors of sexual violence who self-identified as women and within the Indian diaspora in the United States. The participants ranged from 18 to 43 years in age. The Stephenson Multigroup Acculturation Scale, support seeking checklist, and open-ended questions were used to understand the relationship between the variables of acculturation and support seeking within this population of survivors. Analysis showed that differences in support seeking were impacted by immersion in either dominant or ethnic societies, and that more attention might be paid to those with marginalized acculturation identities. Results of hypothesis testing and descriptive statistics are delivered. Implications include particular concern for populations marginalized by their ethnic and dominant societies. Further discussion focuses on understanding cultural norms as opposed to acculturation and integrating informal supports in treatment for survivors.

## **Disordered Eating and Risky Sexual Behaviors in College Women** Kassie R. Terrel, Bridget R. Satanton, & Hanadi Y. Hamadi

**31-41.** Disordered eating (DE) can negatively impact college students’ psychological and physical health; it is crucial to understand DE and its connection to other disruptive and co-occurring disorders. This study investigated if DE behaviors increase the probability of one such issue, risky sexual behaviors (RSB). Participants included 240 single female college students. Multivariable logistic regression analysis indicated a positive correlation between DE and RSB, wherein 44.65% engaged in both DE and RSB ( $p \leq 0.001$ ).

Compared to students who did not engage in DE, those who did had 3.42 times higher odds of engaging in RSB. Implications are provided for college campuses.

**Counselor Self-Reported Competence for Working with  
Kink Clients: Clinical Experience Matters**  
Emily Y. Meyer Stewart & James M. Hepburn

**42-53.** The experience of counselor stereotyping, bias, and misunderstanding is often very real for those who participate in adult, consensual, non-diagnosable paraphilic sexuality, commonly referred to as kink. A created Counselor Self-Reported Competency Scale, drawn from American Counseling Association competencies, and the Attitudes about Sadoomasochism Scale were used to assess counselor knowledge and attitude for working with kink clients. This research suggests competence with kink clients increases as clinical experience working with kink clients increases. The ability to maintain a nonjudgmental attitude and open therapeutic environment seems linked to increased clinical experience with this sexual subculture.

**Submissions**

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