

Adaptation of the Timeline Followback: A Self-administered Tool for Identifying Sexual Violence Perpetration



Emily M. Carstens Namie, RaeAnn E. Anderson, Sidney S. Thimm, & Andrew J. Nichols
University of North Dakota



Timeline Followback

Introduction

- Sexual violence (SV) is a serious problem that one in four women around the world experience (Krug, Mercy, Dahlberg, & Zwi, 2002).
- At least 25% of college men perpetrate some sort of sexual violence against women (SVP; Anderson, Cahill, & Delahanty, 2017).
- While much research has focused on preventing college women from being victims of SVP far less fewer studies have concentrated on how to prevent SVP by college men.
- The Timeline Followback (TLFB; Sobell & Sobell, 1992) is a retrospective calendar-based method used to assess various daily behaviors.
- The TLFB has been used to measure alcohol and substance use (Liu, Li, Zimmerman, Walton, Cunningham, & Buu, 2018), as well as and risky sexual behavior (Carey, Carey, Maisto, Gordon, & Weinhardt, 2001).
- To date, the TLFB has not been adapted to assess sexual violence perpetration behavior in any type of administration format.
- We adapted the TLFB for self-administration on Qualtrics to identify risk factors, high risk time periods, and characteristics of college men most likely to offend.

Method

- Participants will be recruited from an ongoing study assessing SV-perpetration and alcohol use on college campus. A total of 800 high-risk participants (those with a history of SV perpetration and binge drinking) will be recruited. Up to 400 healthy controls will also be recruited.
- Participants will complete the SVP-TLFB and other study questionnaires assessing convergent and divergent validity anonymously, online, via Qualtrics. We will also assess one-month test-retest reliability.
- Data collection is ongoing

Enter Partner Information

Now we're going to make a list of the people you had "sex", "sexual contact", or a "sexual near miss" with in the past three months.

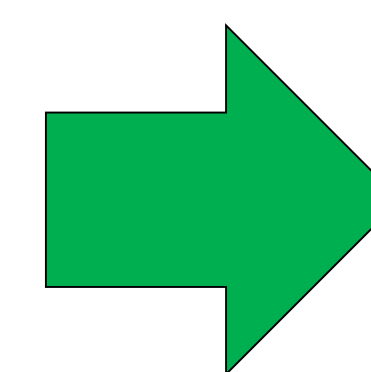
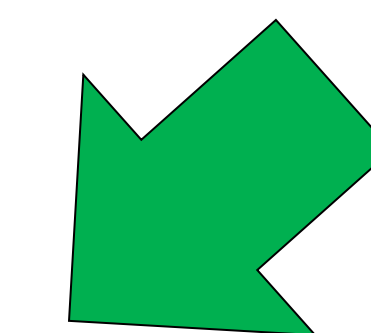
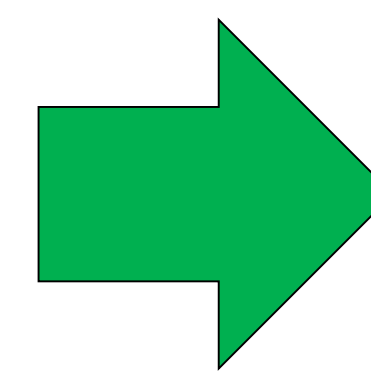
Let's start with the person you had sex with most recently and go back from there.

Here's a list of partners you've already told me about:

- AA

I don't need to know the person's name, but could you list the person's initials or a nickname?

PLEASE DO NOT USE REAL OR FULL NAMES.



Enter Personal Events

Date	Event
Example 07/31/2018	My Birthday
2019-10-01	My birthday
	Friend/family birthday
2019-10-07	Anniversary
2019-10-05	Party
	Other Celebration
	Hospitalizations
	Vacation
	Pay days
	Work days
	Exams - Mid-terms, Finals, etc.
	Travel home to visit parents, family.

Add Event

Enter Sex Days on Calendar

October 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 My birthday Had Sex 1	2 Bonzer's Hawks Hour Had Sex 0	3 Had Sex 0	4 Sigma Nu Formal Had Sex 0	5 UND Homecoming Exhibition Hockey Game Had Sex 1
6 Had Sex 0	7 Greek Week Had Sex 1	8 Greek Week Anniversary Had Sex 0	9 Greek Week Had Sex 0	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Previous Month

Next Month

Add More Events

Done

Answer Sex Partner & Sexual Action Questions

The 1st time you had sex on 10/5/2019, who did you have sex with?

On this day, the following events occurred:

- UND Homecoming
- Exhibition Hockey Game
- Sigma Chi Formal
- Party

Please click the initials or nickname you gave this person in the previous questions.

AA
BB
CC

Did sex this day include any of the following activities?
Remember, these are actions you took or did to other people. Not things someone did to you.

Planned Analysis

- Correlation analysis will be used to validate the responses on the SVP TLFB with the Sexual Experience Survey-Short Form Perpetration (SES-SFP; Koss et al., 2007).

Conclusions

- A tool such as the SVP TLFB will give researchers a new method to investigate SVP and help fill this gap in sexual violence research.

Contact Info

For more information about this project, please contact emily.carstensnamie@und.edu or raeann.Anderson@und.edu

References

- Anderson, R. E., Cahill, S. P., & Delahanty, D. L. (2017). Initial evidence for the reliability and validity of the Sexual Experiences Survey-Short Form Perpetration (SES-SFP) in college men. *Journal of Aggression, Maltreatment & Trauma, 26*(6), 626-643.
- Carey, M. P., Carey, K. B., Maisto, S. A., Gordon, C. M., & Weinhardt, L. S. (2001). Assessing sexual risk behaviour with the Timeline Followback (TLFB) approach: continued development and psychometric evaluation with psychiatric outpatients. *International Journal of STD & AIDS, 12*(6), 365-375. <https://doi.org/10.1258/0956462011923309>
- Koss, M. P., Abbey, A., Campbell, R., Cook, S., Norris, J., Testa, M., ... & White, J. (2007). Revising the SES: A collaborative process to improve assessment of sexual aggression and victimization. *Psychology of Women Quarterly, 31*(4), 357-370.
- Krug, E. G., Mercy, J. A., Dahlberg, L. L., & Zwi, A. B. (2002). The world report on violence and health. *The Lancet, 360*(9339), 1083-1088
- Liu, W., Li, R., Zimmerman, M. A., Walton, M. A., Cunningham, R. M., & Buu, A. (2018). Statistical methods for evaluating the correlation between timeline follow-back data and daily process data with applications to research on alcohol and marijuana use. *Addictive Behaviors, 88*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.addbeh.2018.12.024>
- Sobell, L., & Sobell, M. (1992). Timeline follow-back: A technique for assessing self-reported alcohol consumption. In J. Allen & R. Z. Litten (Eds.), *Measuring Alcohol Consumption Psychosocial and Biochemical Methods* (pp. 41-72). Humana Press. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4612-0357-5_3