

Relative Effects of Sexual Assault and Other Traumatic Life Events on Suicidality

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INTRO

- Sexual assault is associated with a number of mental health problems.
- One of the most serious of these problems is suicidality.
- Suicidality is common among survivors of many different traumas.
- It is unknown how much sexual assault is linked to suicidality relative to other traumas.

METHODS

- Participants: 390 adults recruited from Amazon’s Mechanical Turk.
- Measures: *Sexual Experiences Survey*, *Life Events Checklist for DSM-5*, and Self Harm scale of the *Computerized Adaptive Test of Personality Disorder*.
- We tested our hypothesis using a Bayesian approach to multiple regression.
- We estimated the regression model using 3 chains of 20,000 iterations of Hamiltonian MCMC.

RESULTS

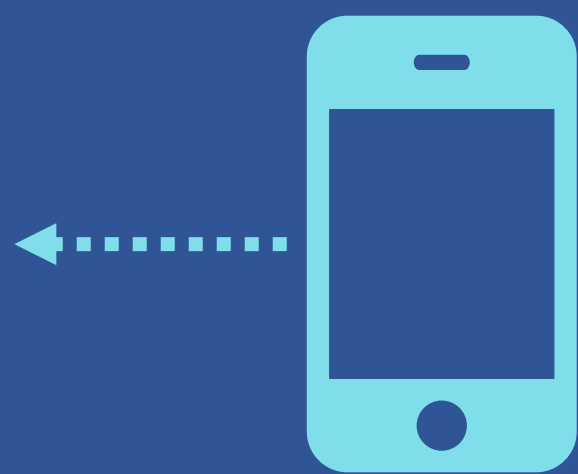
	ρ	β	95% HDI	R^2
Sexual Assault	.61	.80*	(.74, .86)	.62*
Other Traumas	-.02	.05	(-.01, .11)	

Note: *indicates that 0 did not fall within 95% of Highest Density Interval (HDI).

DISCUSSION

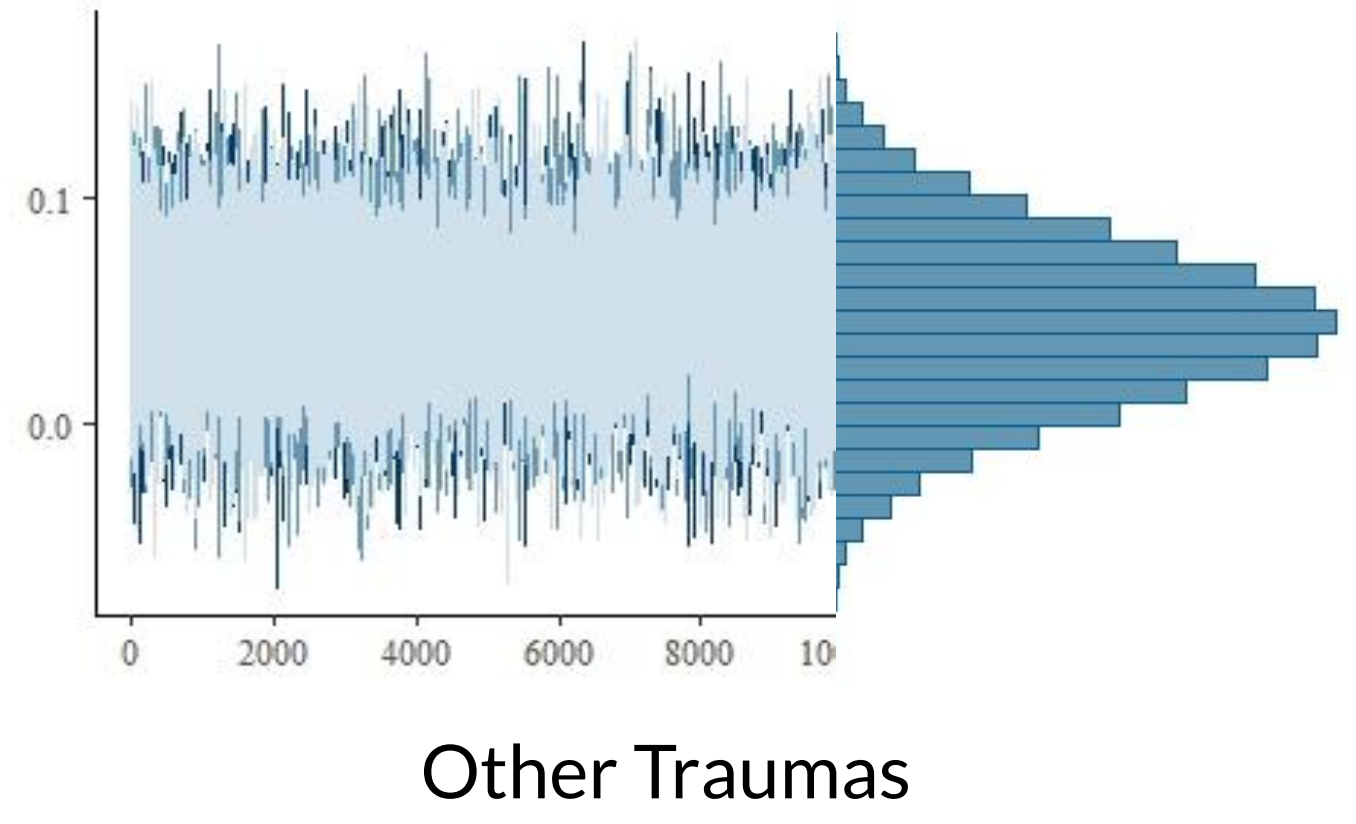
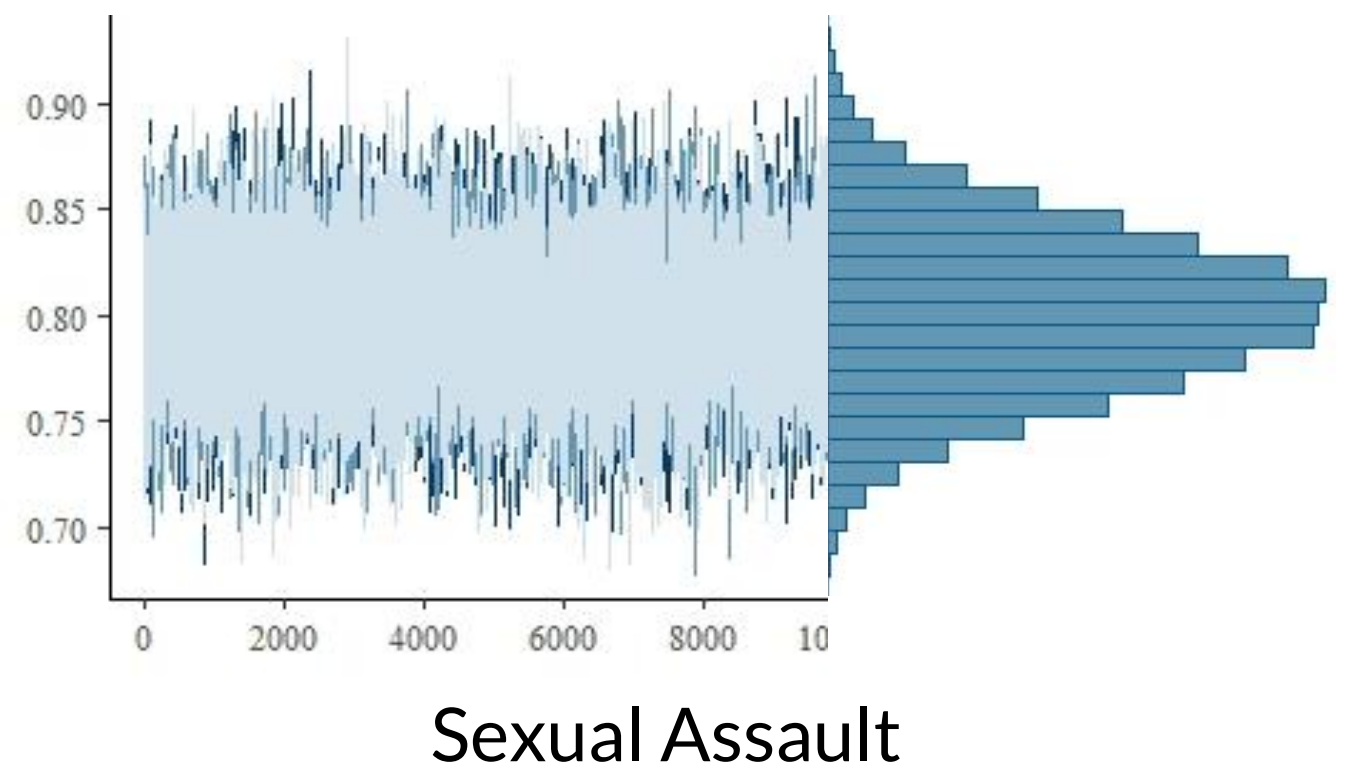
- These results highlight the influence of sexual assault on suicidality.
- This suggests the need for assessment of suicide risk with sexual assault survivors.
- Intervention with survivors should also take suicidality into consideration.
- Future research could clarify these results by assessing other traumas with more specificity.

Large incremental effect of sexual assault on suicidality.



Take a picture to download the poster

Trace and Density Plots of MCMC Chains for Regression Predictors



Sample Demographics

	n (%)
<u>Sex</u>	
Male	207 (53%)
Female	183 (47%)
<u>Race</u>	
White	270 (69%)
Black	61 (16%)
Asian	22 (6%)
Native American	12 (3%)
Multiracial or Other	24 (6%)

