

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CHILDHOOD SEXUAL ABUSE AND SEXUAL
DYSFUNCTION IN JAMAICAN ADULTS

A Thesis (Research Paper)

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of
Science in Clinical Psychology

of
The University of the West Indies

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2006

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Abstract

One hundred participants, (30%) male and (70%) female, ages 18-49, were divided equally into a control and experimental group. Data were collected via purposive and accidental sampling from multiple sources including private practitioners and university students. Participants completed a demographic sheet, the Sexual Abuse Subscale of the Traumatic Life Events Questionnaire (TLEQ) and the Derogatis Interview for Sexual Functioning- Self Report (DISF-SR). Findings indicate that being abused impairs Orgasm and Sexual Drive and Relationship. Significant gender differences were found in the areas of Sexual Arousal, Orgasm, Sexual Drive and Relationship and Overall Sexual Functioning. Both Frequency and Age of abuse also impact functioning in the Orgasm domain. Childhood Sexual Abuse is therefore a crucial etiological factor in the development of Sexual Dysfunction in Jamaican Adults.