# Demographic Differences in Coping Self-Efficacy, Social Support, and Legal Advocate Satisfaction Sexual Assault Victims

SEATTLE PACIFIC UNIVERSITY

**Desta Gebregiorgis, Stephanie Quan, & Lynette Bikos**

Post-sexual assault interactions with the legal system are an additional source of stress (Bolin, 1982). Legal advocates provide support to help individuals have more positive interactions with the legal system and cope with future stressors, which can decrease psychological symptoms (Benight & Bandura, 2004; Campbell, 2006; Catalano, 2009).

## METHOD
**Participants**: 48 individuals who experienced sexual assault; primarily adult, Caucasian, and sexual majorities

**Sampling Procedure:**
- Complete packet of measures at three different time points
- Available in paper, by SMS text, or a link via an e-mail address (English or Spanish)

**Research Design:**
- Recommended Sample Size: 15 per group
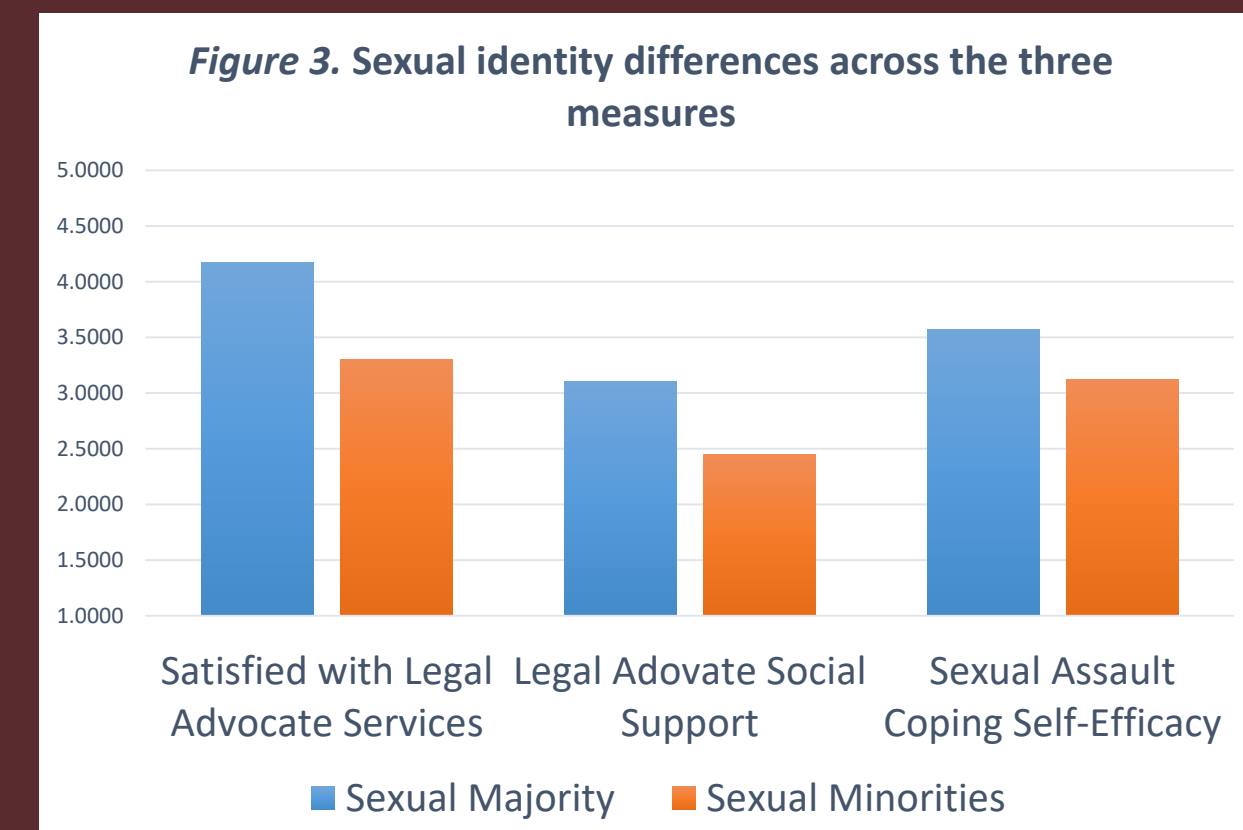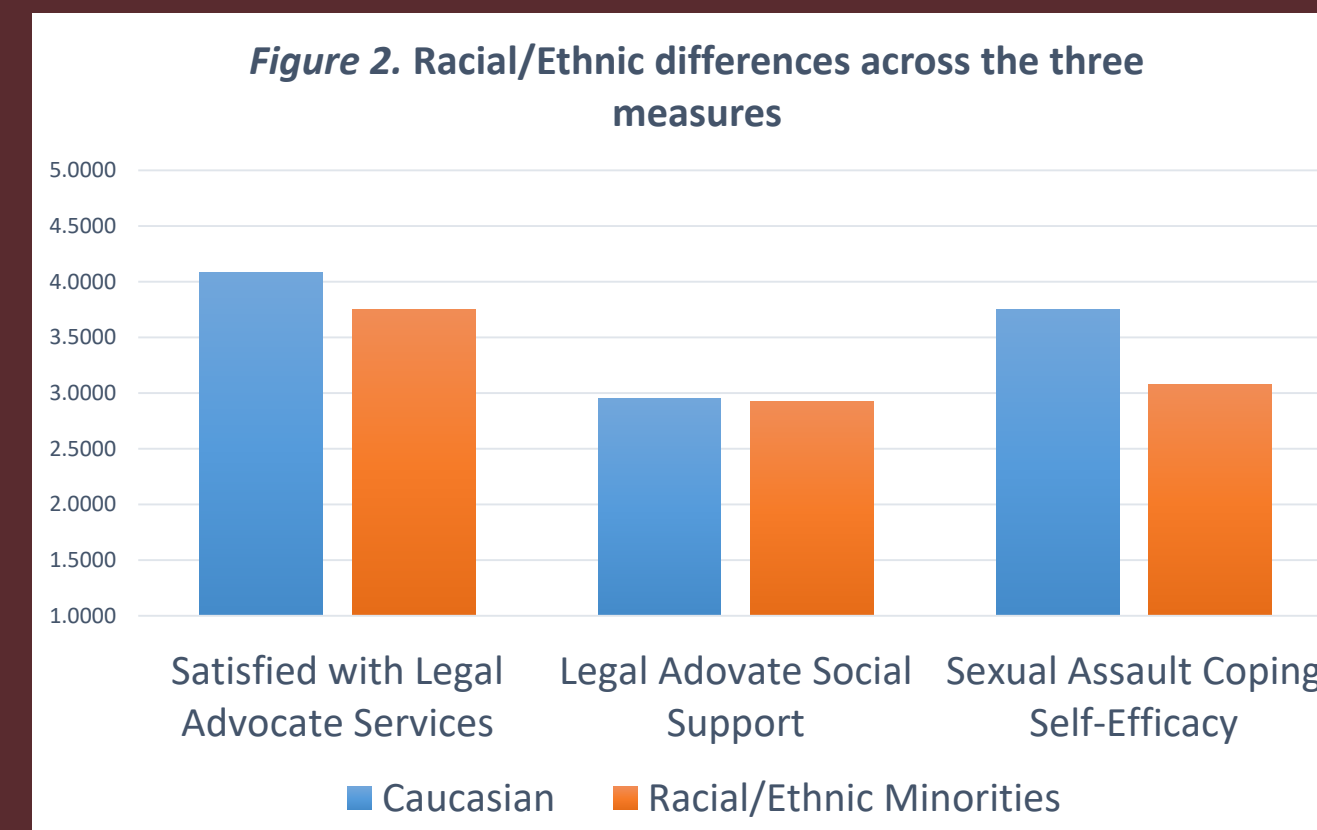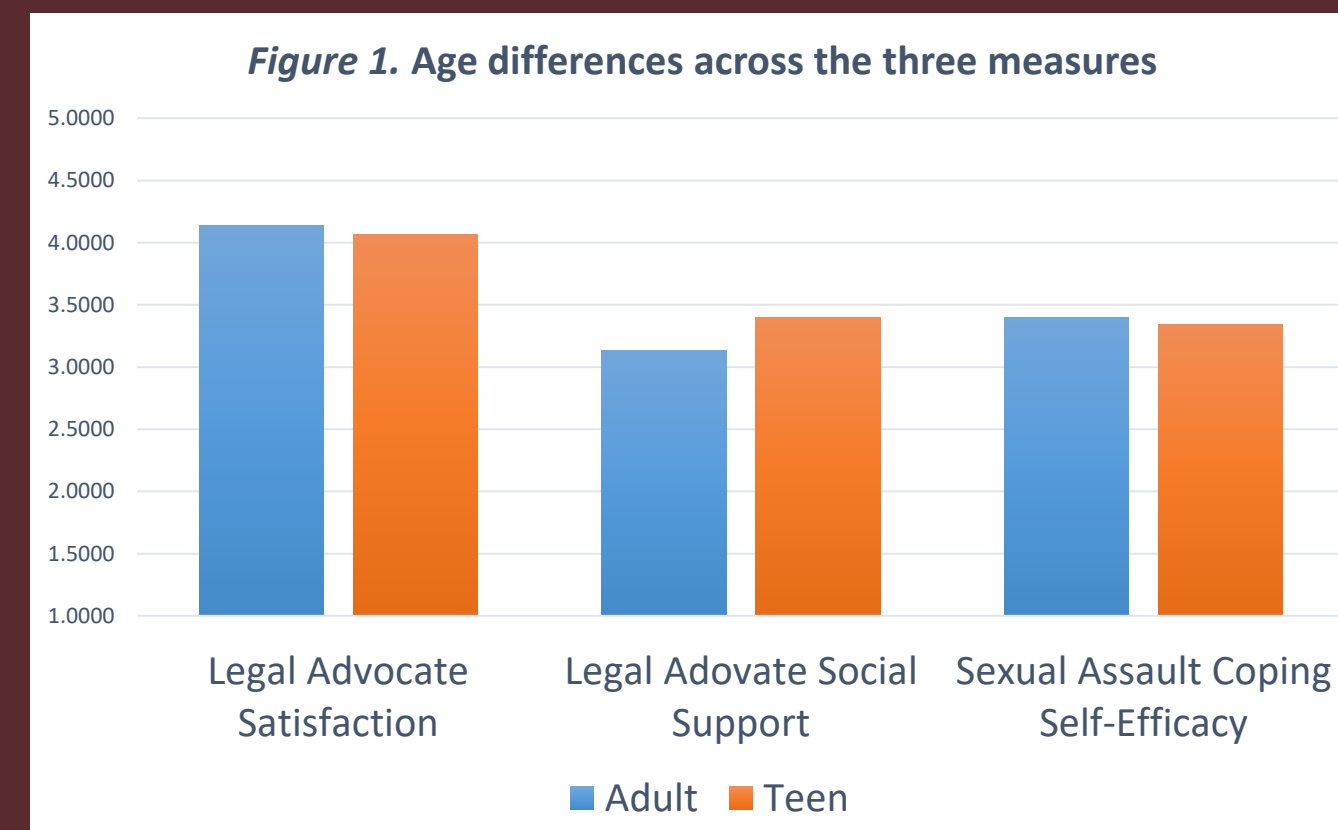- Independent t-tests using SPSS Statistics v26

## MEASURES & COVARIATES
**Legal Advocacy Services Satisfaction Survey** (Gibbs, Agatonovic, & Bikos, 2011): 11-item measure assessing satisfaction with legal advocacy services on a 1 (*Not at all*) to 5 (*To a very great extent*) scale. Alpha = 0.95.

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## Racial/ethnic minority clients had *less coping self-efficacy*; **sexual minority clients** were *less satisfied with legal advocacy services*.

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Table 1. Results of the independent t-tests for LASSS, MISSB, and SACSEM

| | LASSS | | | MISSB | | | SACSEM | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | t(df) | Mean diff (SE diff) | p-value(D) | t(df) | Mean diff (SE diff) | p-value (D) | t(df) | Mean Diff (SE diff) | p-value(D) |
| Age Differences | 0.21 (46) | 0.08 (0.37) | 0.84(0.08) | -0.54 (45) | -0.27 (0.41) | 0.59 (-0.21) | 0.13 (40) | 0.06 (0.41) | 0.89 (0.05) |
| Race/Ethnic Differences | 0.78 (25) | 0.33 (0.43) | 0.44 (0.31) | 0.06 (26) | 0.03 (0.51) | 0.95 (0.02) | 1.81 (26) | 0.68 (0.37) | 0.08 (0.69) |
| Sexual Identity Differences | 1.91 (25) | 0.87 (0.45) | 0.07 (0.84) | 1.15( 26) | 0.66 (0.57) | 0.26 (0.50) | 1.01 (26) | 0.45 (0.47) | 0.32 (0.44) |


*Figure 1.* Age differences across the three measures


*Figure 2.* Racial/Ethnic differences across the three measures


*Figure 3.* Sexual identity differences across the three measures

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## MEASURES & COVARIATES (cont.)
**Sexual Assault Coping Self-Efficacy Measure** (Benight, Harding-Taylor, Midboe, & Durham, 2004): 19-item measure assessing confidence in their ability cope on a 1 (*Completely Incapable*) to 5 (*Completely Capable*) scale. Alpha = 0.98.

**Modified Inventory of Socially Supported Behaviors** (Barrera, Sandler, & Ramsay, 1981): 15-item measure assessing perceived legal advocate social support on a 1 (*Not at all*) to 5 (*About every day*) scale. Alpha = 0.98.

## DISCUSSION
**Implications:** Address treatment disparities/institutional racism and provide culturally sensitive resources
- Learn about the areas of growth and identify training goals to legal advocates

**Limitations:** Uneven group size, small sample size/underpowered, and self-selection bias

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