Workplace Sexual Violence in Female Truck Drivers: A Conceptual Framework to Look at the Problem

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Workplace Sexual Violence in Female Truck Drivers: A Conceptual Model to Look at the Problem

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Purpose
Discuss three types of workplace sexual violence
- Sexual Harassment
- Sexual Assault (rape)
- Intimate Partner Violence
Present new conceptual framework to study workplace sexual violence in this population

Search Method
Key Words
- Female truck drivers, rape, harassment, intimate partner violence
- Databases for literature search
  - PubMed, CINAHL, PsycINFO, MedLine
- English, Peer-reviewed journals between 1980 and 2015
Inclusion criteria
- Adult females over age 18
- Exclusion Criteria
  - Only males and medical personnel
  - Abstracted for review
  - Prevalence rates, risk factors, experiences

Types of Workplace Sexual Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, verbal/physical conduct of sexual nature that affects work performance or creates intimidating environment</th>
<th>Intimate Partner Violence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intentional sexual contact (vaginal, anal, or oral with or without penetration)</td>
<td>Physical, verbal, emotional, economic and/or sexual abuse by a current or former spouse or same/opposite sex cohabitating partner</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Affects 50% of women, worldwide
36,500 reports yearly in workplace
Affects 1.3 million females, yearly 50% of homicides by intimate partners

Women ages 30-39
Women ages 18-34
Single
Caucasian or African American
Women in male-dominated jobs
Low income
Almost 50% are sexual jokes or sexual comments

Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, verbal/physical conduct of sexual nature that affects work performance or creates intimidating environment

Physical Health Outcomes
- Physical symptoms
  - Bruises, lacerations, broken bones
- Somatic symptoms
  - Headaches, physical fatigue, chronic pain

Psychological outcomes
- Anxiety
- Depression
- PTSD
- Sleep disturbances

Social/Work Environment
- Text composition
- Company reporting policy
- Length of drive time
- Cultural views of women within the trucking industry

Work-related outcomes
- Employee
  - Lost job days
  - Decreased productivity
- Employer
  - High labor-over
  - Increased medical/mental health costs

Future Research...
Case study to understand the culture of truck driving
Phenomenological study of the lived experiences of female truck drivers
Prevalence rates of harassment and assault in female truck drivers by the people female drivers come in contact with (other drivers, shippers/receivers) and prevalence rates of intimate partner violence within the truck
How social/work environment and psychosocial variables contribute to/affect workplace sexual violence
The effects of workplace sexual violence on physical health, psychological health, and work-related (both employees and employer) outcomes of female truck drivers

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References
Available Upon Request