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Abstract

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Major: Psychology

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Intimate Partner Violence During a Pandemic

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With intimate partner violence (IPV) being an increasingly common source of psychological stress today, it is especially important to study its prevalence during an ongoing pandemic when most people are forced to stay home. 192 married (n = 146; 76%) and cohabitating (n = 46, 24%) volunteers' survey results were studied to understand how safe persons feel in their romantic relationships during COVID-19. Results showed that men reported significantly higher levels of safety concern (Cohen's $d = 0.35$) than women did. This observation differed from the original hypothesis that women would experience more IPV. Future studies should further investigate differences in experiences with IPV among men and women without an ongoing pandemic.