



# The Effect of Marriage and Gender in Regard to Honestly Reporting Stress

2LT Jacob Doyle *OMSIII*, 2LT Sunjin Oh *OMSIII*, ENS Mackenzie Berry *OMSIII*, ENS Amanda Sniadach *OMSIII*, 2LT Raul Betancourt-Perez *OMSIII*, Isain Zapata *PhD*, Anthony LaPorta *MD*

## OBJECTIVE

*The purpose of this study was to assess the likelihood of providing false answers to questions asking about the level of stress while measuring different demographics.*



## METHODS

- 103 students (78 male, 25 female; 85 Caucasian, 11 Asian, 6 Mixed; 66 single, 37 married) attending Rocky Vista University from three sessions (2017, N=30; 2018, N=32; 2019, N=41).
- hyper-realistic mass-trauma simulation to induce stress and the data was collected using the Veracity TouchScreener® tablet
- Contingency tables were analyzed for Marital status and Gender using a Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel test for Nonzero Correlation.

## RESULTS

- Single people more likely to truthfully admit being stressed
- Neither group is more likely to be dishonest
- Gender showed a significant effect for stress data, but no specific trends
- Non-significant trend could be observed with females being more likely to admit stress
- Non-significant trend of males being more likely to lie than females

Table 1. Effect of marital status on stress questionnaire

| Marital Status: Stress questionnaire |                  |        |        |        |       |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| Marital Status P=0.0015              |                  |        |        |        |       |
|                                      |                  | Answer |        |        |       |
|                                      |                  | SPR    | No     | Admit  | Total |
| Marital Status                       | Single Observed  | 48     | 330    | 216    | 594   |
|                                      | Single Expected  | 47.42  | 358.19 | 188.39 |       |
|                                      | Married Observed | 26     | 229    | 78     | 333   |
|                                      | Married Expected | 26.58  | 200.81 | 105.61 |       |
|                                      | Total            | 74     | 559    | 294    | 927   |

Table 2. Effect of gender on stress questionnaire

| Gender: Stress questionnaire |                 |        |        |        |       |
|------------------------------|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| Gender P=0.0204              |                 |        |        |        |       |
|                              |                 | Answer |        |        |       |
|                              |                 | SPR    | No     | Admit  | Total |
| Gender                       | Male Observed   | 62     | 409    | 231    | 702   |
|                              | Male Expected   | 56.04  | 402.87 | 243.09 |       |
|                              | Female Observed | 12     | 123    | 90     | 225   |
|                              | Female Expected | 17.96  | 129.13 | 77.91  |       |
|                              | Total           | 74     | 532    | 321    | 927   |

## CONCLUSION

❑ **Single participants were more likely to admit being stressed when compared to married participants.**

This data will enable us to identify populations that are more susceptible to stress in order to provide them with resources and training to further improve their mental health and readiness. Future studies will include data from another session in 2020; this may solidify the trend shown in Gender demographic by increasing the sample size.



## REFERENCES

- Pizitz TD. Detecting Alcohol and Drug Use with the Touch of a Finger. American Journal of Applied Psychology. 2015;4(4):90.
- Bruce McDonald, Madhura Kulkarni, Mustafa Andkhoie, Jeffrey Kendall, Spencer Gall, Shankar Chelladurai, Mohsen Yaghoubi, Stephanie McClean, Michael Szafron & Marwa Farag (2017) Determinants of self-reported mental health and utilization of mental health services in Canada, International Journal of Mental Health, 46:4, 299-311,