



Where am I? > [Home](#) > [News](#) > [Health](#)

Tags: [aggressor](#), [crime](#), [media](#), [victim](#), [violence](#), [women](#)

A study proves that media can subtly induce society to justify violence against women

Science Centric | 19 March 2009 15:12 GMT

Videos & Pictures

Relax and Watch a Video! 100% Free
4dh.com/Video

Medical & Lab instrument

Specialize in production & design medical and lab instrument.
www.healforce.com

Free Video

Watch & Share Millions of Videos about child support
Peeplo.com/Video

Ads by Google

The media can induce some people to justify, without noticing it, cases of violence against women which appear in press, as they often look for the assumed 'reasons or causes' which provoked the crime, 'which leads people to look for a reason for a fact that should be unjustifiable in any case.' This is one of the main conclusions of a study carried out in the department of Social Psychology and Behavioural Science Methodology of the University of Granada by researchers Carmen Herrera y Francisca Exposito, who state that the treatment given by certain media to these crimes 'is extremely dangerous, and gives rise to erroneous conceptions of one of the most serious problems of present world.'

In the study, the researchers intended to confirm the influence of the news related violence against women on the social perception of this blot. They worked with a sample of 300 students of different faculties of the University of Granada, with an average age of 28 years old. The researchers presented several news published in national newspapers related to violence against women to the participants, dividing the sample into three groups according to the degree of manipulation of the news: in the first case, the aggressor's violence was justified ('he was drunk,' 'he was a violent person'); in the second case, they provided information related to the victim ('the aggressor had asked her to marry him and she refused') and, finally, they presented the same news in a completely objective way.

Possible reasons?

In the light of the results, the Professors of the UGR insist that, in the treatment of news related to violence against women, they have found frequently 'justifications or reasons' (alcohol, jealousy, arguments, situations of prolonged unemployment, etc) 'presented by the media to the audience as possible causes of the described situation.'

One of the most interesting results of the work is that the participants tend some how to justify the aggression when they are told the news exploring the assumed reasons which provoked the crime, 'trying to find a reason for a fact that should be unjustifiable in any case.'

The study also reveals that readers tend to explain the described fact in a different way according to the type of information included in the news, this is, if the journalist provides details related to the victim or, to the contrary, if he provides information related to the aggressor. 'Paradoxically - insist the Professors of the UGR- this difference redounds to the trend to maintain the situation of inequality between men and women to explain a fact provoked but such reason.'

The researchers say that, with this work, 'they do not intend to point to the media as responsible for the increase of cases of violence against women,' but they think that, after the results obtained, 'the media should be more rigorous when it comes to tell the news related to this kind of violence.'

The results of this work will be published in the next issue of the journal Anuario de Psicología Jurídica.

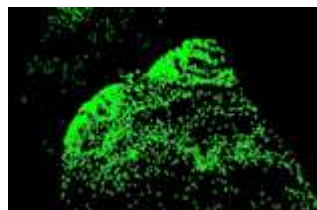
Source: [Universidad de Granada](#)



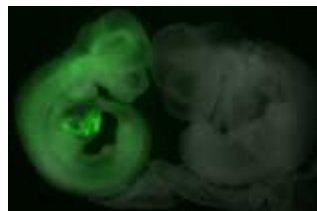
DON'T MISS —



[Researchers clone key sperm-binding proteins](#) — [19 Mar] — New treatments for infertility could be closer to reality, thanks to a discovery from scientists at the Université de Montreal...



[Scientists identify compound that could prevent HIV transmission](#) — [4 Mar] — Scientists at the University of Minnesota have identified a compound that, applied vaginally, can prevent transmission of...



[Breakthrough makes lab-produced stem cells safer for humans](#) — [1 Mar] — Scientists have paved the way for stem cells made from skin cells to be safely transplanted into humans - by overcoming one...



[Magnetic device studied as treatment for heartburn and acid reflux](#) — [24 Feb] — More than 20 million Americans suffer from gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD), experienced by many as chronic heartburn....

More [Health](#)...

AGENCY SCIENCE



— [Advertise here](#)

LATEST | MOST E-MAILED | ARCHIVE

Ticking of body's 24-hour clock turns gears of metabolism and ageing
Gladstone scientists reveal key enzyme in fat absorption
Mood player creates the right atmosphere
Carnegie Mellon researchers apply new statistical test
Affordable medical tests for the developing world
New super-bouyant material: Life preserver might float a horse
Acitretin therapy may help reduce nail psoriasis
Sea level rise due to global warming poses threat to New York City
The brain 'joins the dots' when drawing a cartoon face from memory
Researchers develop a structural approach to exploring DNA

[More](#) recent stories...

Cumulative radiation exposure shows increased cancer risk for emergency department patients
Dye-coated glass to channel energy into solar cells
Intestinal bacteria promote - and prevent! - inflammatory bowel disease
Scientists discover how rheumatoid arthritis causes bone loss
The upside to allergies: Cancer prevention
Protein on 'speed' linked to ADHD
Study links seismic slip and tremor, with implications for subduction zone
Native lizards evolve to escape attacks by fire ants
Fish scales show ocean fate of Atlantic salmon
Common bronchodilator linked to increased deaths

2007
— [I](#) [II](#) [III](#) [IV](#) [V](#) [VI](#) [VII](#) [VIII](#) [IX](#) [X](#) [XI](#) [XII](#)

2008
— [I](#) [II](#) [III](#) [IV](#) [V](#) [VI](#) [VII](#) [VIII](#) [IX](#) [X](#) [XI](#) [XII](#)

2009
— [I](#) [II](#) [III](#)