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Can sexist jokes make men violent towards women

July 8, 2:00 PM

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The study:

According to a new study, yes they can. Laughter isn't always the best medicine if your humor tends to stray towards sexist jokes. These jokes and others of the same type activate mental mechanisms in the brain which then create an urge to be violent or better women. The study; done at the University of Granada, highlights men with macho attitudes.

The study consisted of multiple questionnaires given to male students between the age of 18-26. There were 109 men who were given two sets of jokes; one with sexist connotations specifically towards women and one set with ordinary, common jokes. Then the men were given scenarios of women being battered, minor to severe examples. They were asked what they would do in this situation.

This study proved that men who listened to sexist jokes were more tolerant with the violence towards women than men who did not listen to the sexist jokes.

Discussion:

Are sexist jokes a way for men who feel threatened by women to lash out in a non physical way? Is there a chance that these urges subside as a person gets older and matures? What would the results be if the sample ages were older? Can humor brainwash a person?



You need to do things 21 times to create a habit, speakers use the rule of three (repeat important facts three times) to make sure that that information is more likely to be retained. Could these men have been more tolerant because the sexist jokes they like made them that way?

It is an interesting study into a topic not thought to be harmful. Humor is often referred to natural medicine. What are your thoughts on the matter? Please feel free to comment below. The full results will be published in Journal of Interpersonal Violence.

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