A study of ten sadist women for signs of specific patterns throughout the school years

Orlando Bru
Rowan University

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A STUDY OF TEN SADIST WOMEN FOR SIGNS OF SPECIFIC PATTERNS THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL YEARS

By
Orlando Bru

A Thesis

Submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements of the Master of Art Degree Of The Graduate School At Rowan University April 22, 2003

Approved by

Date Approved 5-19-03

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ABSTRACT

Orlando Bru
A STUDY OF TEN SADIST WOMEN FOR SIGNS OF SPECIFIC PATTERNS THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL YEARS
2003/04
Dr. John Klanderman and Dr. Roberta Dihoff
Masters of Arts in School Psychology

The purpose of this study was to discover whether there was a specific pattern apparent in the school years of lifestyle sadist women that caused them to become sadists. The results showed no specific pattern that would lead one to believe there was a cause but some irregular percentages did appear, such as in high percentages of abuse and not fitting in with fellow students in school. Eighty percent of the participants involved reported their sadist interest being inborn however, of which more than half were abused after they already knew they were sadists. These results are discussed along with possibilities and implications for future research.
Sincere gratitude is extended
to my family and friends for
supporting me throughout this study
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHAPTER 1</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Need</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purpose</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypothesis</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theory</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Definitions</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assumptions</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limitations</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overview</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHAPTER 2</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review of Literature</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summary</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHAPTER 3</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sample</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operational Measures</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Testable Hypothesis</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analysis</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summary</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 4

Findings Related to the Hypothesis 25
Summary 35

CHAPTER 5

Summary of Study 36
Conclusions 36

REFERENCE

Journals 41
Books 42

APPENDICES

Appendix I: Informed Consent Form 44
Appendix II: General Interview Data Transcribed 46
GRAPHS

Graph 4.1 26
Graph 4.2 26
Graph 4.3 28
Graph 4.4 28
Graph 4.5 30
Graph 4.6 30
Graph 4.7 32
Graph 4.8 32
Graph 4.9 34
Graph 4.10 34
CHAPTER 1

Need

It cannot be said for sure that there are more Sadists these days than there have been in the past. However, it can be said that Sadism is becoming more and more common place a phenomenon in American culture. In light of this it seems strange that there is not more information on the subject. It would appear that explaining Sadism would be a palpable interest of psychology; and yet the information provided is rather sparse. In many ways, psychology does not seem so far from the days of labeling Sadism as an act of evil.

Psychology has commonly studied Sadism from the point of view of those who have a problem with it. This presented the idea that most Sadists were unhappy with the way they were and wanted to change. But beyond the Sadists looking to change there are many more who are at ease with their Sadism and who have made it a part of their lifestyle. Psychology has not classically been that successful at exploring this side of Sadism due to the protective nature of content Sadists. Many feel as if psychology is trying to judge them and therefore turn away from those who would study them.

Understanding Sadism is part of the question of sexuality that psychologists continue to study as society changes. Not long ago Homosexuality was considered a disorder, it has since been removed. Within the realm of Sadism, women have been the most difficult to study. Men have commonly been the subject of most studies, for various reasons, leaving women off to the side of speculation. Therefore the need to study
sadism, especially in women, is apparent and to ignore it would be unwise with the progression of society.

Purpose

The purpose of this study is to delve deeply into the histories of ten Sadistic women who are content with themselves; exploring the events of their lives throughout their school years to show that they have no patterned stereotypical events to Sadism outside the “normal” range. Within this study there is also the purpose of showing what a content Sadist is like. There really is so little on the subject that principle incites on the lifestyle is of great importance. Also, this study will show the progression of an individual from an ordinary person to a Sadistic one.

Hypothesis

The hypothesis behind this study is that within the ten case studies on these Sadistic women there will be no common events outside the normal range during the school years that can be attributed to causing them to become Sadist.

Theory

The word Sadism first surfaced between 1740 and 1814, generally thought coined by Richard Krafft-Ebing, in reference to the Marquis de Sade. The Marquis stories were banned for the better part of the twentieth century because of their content. People had been Sadists before the Marquis; he just had the nerve to involve such sex acts in his
stories, an act that left him to die in a sanitarium. Krafft-Ebing used the term Sadism to
describe those that were aroused by inflicting pain on others or even themselves.

All through history Sadism has surfaced here and there, always shunned, always
looked on as deviant behavior. The reason for this being that at some point Sadism
became coupled with crime, a relationship that is still prevalent to this day in the mind of
the masses. Krafft-Ebing’s research showed that though Sadism could be involved in
criminal activity it was not exclusive to crime. Sadistic behavior that brought about death
Krafft-Ebing termed, Lustmuder. But Lustmuder did not account for all Sadists by any
means.

“There is a sexual transformation of anger and power so that aggression itself
becomes eroticized. The offender finds the intentional maltreatment of his victim
intensely gratifying and takes pleasure in her torment, anguish, distress,
helplessness, and suffering.” (Groth-1979)

Notice the language in the above quote depicting the victim as a woman and the
sadist as a man. As mentioned earlier, the bulk of information on Sadism is in reference
to men. Society for many years could not handle the idea of a Sadistic woman, which is
why those that were, were very secretive.

Sigmund Freud later took up work on Sadism and attached the term to
masochism, creating a kind of super category for the both of them, Sado-masochism.
Like crime, the term Sado-masochism is still thought to be synonymous with Sadism and
in fact many do not realize that Sadism exist as a separate act from masochism. Though
Freud did great work on the subject, his effort actually only aided in burying the
intricacies of Sadism and Masochism alike in the end.
There are many facets to Sadism. The term is actually a very blunt tool for one who has true knowledge in the field of Sadism. In fact, once one begins to truly delve into the subject a new sort of language becomes clear and a mind set elucidates itself. Sadists have a keen eye for power structures and understand how force works more than anyone. One sadist was quoted so far as to say, “sometimes it’s like I have super powers and I can see things that other people can’t, or maybe don’t want to.” In women, far beyond men, Sadism runs through the entirety of their lives and begins to effect how they act in all respects.

Under the umbrella of Sadism there are those who are just plain brutal and those that are more subtle. A Sadist can be a man who likes to beat people up but he or she can also be a person who simply enjoys some playful whipping. Like all things in life there are excesses; it is just a shame that most people see Sadism for its excesses. There is a lot more going on than that.

The question of what is normal comes up a lot when one begins to study Sadism. In the Oxford dictionary when one looks up, normal, as a noun the first definition is, “anything normal.” The second definition is, “the usual state.” As an adjective, normal is broken up by references. The general definition is, “conforming with or constituting an accepted standard, model, or pattern; especially, corresponding to the median or average of a large group in type, appearance, achievement, function, development, etc.” In reference to psychology, normal is defined as, “to be average in intelligence or emotional stability.” The point, several studies have made, is that normal is a fluid thing. The Marquis de Sade’s books aren’t too shocking in this day and age.
In this day and age it has been found that one in ten experiments with Sadism. Of those that are Sadist, the majority are well educated, middle and upper class men and women.

Definitions

Sadism: the getting of sexual pleasure from dominating, mistreating, or hurting one’s partner, physically or otherwise. To be classified by the DSM-VI one must act on his or her sadistic impulse for a period of six months or more. Also, they must feel some discourse with the behavior. For this paper we will go by the first two parameters but not the third, since we are showing a different side of Sadism that the DSM-IV is not privy to. Raising the question, is it a disorder when it is not considered a problem?

Masochism: the getting of sexual pleasure from being dominated, mistreated, or hurt physically or otherwise by one’s partner. Person must act on desires for a period of time six months or longer.

Assumptions

In this study it is assumed that the interviewees are being honest. The core of this study is the ten case studies being examined, put together from the interviews given. It can only be presumed that the interviewees are telling the truth and not hiding events that may be important to proving or disproving the hypothesis.
Limitations

This study is limited of course by its location and sample size. All interviewees were gathered from the New York area, showing a limitation in the information’s applications. Also, there were only ten subjects. Though they were each interviewed for an hour’s time, the small sample size is still a weakness that must be taken into account.

Overview

In the chapter that follows the focus will be on all the studies that have been done on Sadism. A valiant attempt will be made to include as much data as possible on the subject, giving an over all view of the experiments and studies that have been run. Following this, in chapter three, the method by which the information for this study was collected will be explained at length. Such information as to what questions were asked and the conditions in which interviewees were met will be provided. In chapter four data will be analyzed and results will be interpreted, delving into the case studies put together by the interviews. Lastly, in chapter five, the results will be summarized and their implications will be discussed.
CHAPTER 2

Introduction

The following section is an attempt to bring the reader up to speed on what research has been done on the topic of Sadism. Surprisingly, the research is sparse and generally negative, though there are several investigations that proved to be more neutral to the subject. While all the research will be looked into and discussed, these negative studies will be used more in a way to show what some people have thought. It is the opinion of the researcher that only in knowing both sides of the theory can one begin to see the misunderstandings that lie in Sadism; and the misunderstandings are part of the problem in attaining the truth.

Review of Literature

*Demographics, sexual behavior, family background and abuse experiences of practitioners of sadomasochistic sex: a review of recent research*

Of all the studies that were found this study proved to be of the most supportive to the hypothesis of the researcher. Though there are still many limitations in this study’s generalizability to the sample the researcher is working with, the data is useful none-the-less.

This study, first off, declared that from research it had gone over, that Sadist were generally well-adjusted people. This of course goes against many of the popular ideas many have of sadism and its deviance. Furthermore, this study went on to argue that
though many studies have declared that childhood abuse show a path to sadism, this study feel that there is no path. The supportive argument being that there is a lack of systematic empirical support for childhood abuse and all the current research is based on people who have sought psychological assistance. Where is the data on the healthy sadist who never seek help? However, the study did not cancel out any possible effect of childhood abuse on the practice of sadism. An effect was acknowledged, but in much the same way childhood abuse would have an effect on anyone.

The beginning stances of this study brought the researcher to feel that the study was approaching sadism from the neutral point of view of a sexual preference. By way of this point-of-view, the study sought to understand and document those who had chosen this form of sexual expression without judging them in the way many studies invariably do.

One of the great limitations of this study is that it is based off a mostly male population of sadists (162 men and 22 women). The researcher is focusing on women in his own study, yet the data provided still has some importance. The 184 participants were given a 237 question questionnaire on 18 pages which covered such topics as: demographics, sexual behavior, subculture integration, attitudes towards sadomasochism, mental health, family background and abuse. What the questionnaires discovered was very interesting.

Of the participants, 47% reported themselves to be strictly heterosexual while 5.4% declared bi-sexuality and 51.6% expressed homosexuality. 27% were strictly sadist while 22.7% found pleasure in both sadism and masochism. It was found that most heterosexuals leaned toward sadism while many homosexuals leaned towards
masochism. The average age of sadistic self-discovery was between 18 to 20; while the actual act did not kick in for most until 21-25. More than 88% of the participants had practiced ordinary sex. 4.9% of the participants had stopped having ordinary sex altogether for sadistic activity while 27% felt that only a sadistic act could satisfy them truly. The study theorized that perhaps the development of sadomasochism began with ordinary sexual behavior and the discovery of sexual orientation.

The data on the sexual characteristics of the participants shows a varied group of people all blanketed under the term Sadism. This only proves the point that sadism is a varied thing and needs to be approached from a multi-faceted point of view. One would not say that all heterosexuals are the same, nor would they make the same bullish statement of homosexuals. Sadism is no different. The preference is complex and the participants are different in their approach to it.

In the demographics, most notably, a small group of sexual abused participants were found. These participants earned less money than those who had not been abused, and, within the abused group was a greater population of women than men. Yet, outside this abused group, the rest of the participants proved to be intelligent, well-employed people with a strong interest in long-term relationships. Some 37% of the non-abused participants were single and looking for companionships while more than 60% of the abused participants were single. Thus sexual abuse was connected to poorer social adjustments and not a direct path to being a sadist.

For two of the participants childhood abuse had occurred only once while for another 10 participants there was a range of two to ten times. Five participants experiences childhood abuse more than ten times. Sadly, in more than 60% of the case,
the abuser was a family member. Of these sexual abused participants nearly 40% had attempted suicide and 33% of the abused participants had been in psychiatric hospitals. Also, in the abused group, there were a high percentage of participants visiting doctors for injuries received during sadomasochistic experiences. The study suggested that this showed a lack of control in abused sadomasochists to limit themselves or others.

In conclusion, this study felt that the sadists participating were by majority not impaired by their sadism and in fact were healthy members of society. There were some that were impaired but, by comparison, there are some heterosexuals that are not proper members of society and that has nothing to do with their sexual preference. This study over all showed a very different sadist than the one most popularly shown in psychological studies. The sadists presented in this study were very normal in their everyday life and were only different in their sexual preferences. And, for some, their sexual preferences were affected deeply by childhood abuse. Much the same way anyone’s sexual preferences would be affected by childhood abuse.

Sadomasochism: a review and attempted synthesis of much theory and little fact

This study focused mainly on establishing strong theory and banishing fanciful speculation. It is no secret that there is plenty of conjecture on sadism and some of it is just terrible. Such theories as sadists hurt others because they want to kill themselves and sadism is the representation of “infantile omnipotence”, dot the meager field of sadist research like little false islands of hope in a sea of questions.

This study felt that psychoanalysis was one of the few areas where there was less speculation on Sadism, possibly due to Freud. Freud did his best to establish a strong
theory in sadism. However, the cause of such little speculation could also be interpreted as psychoanalysis’s emphasis on masochism as the more common of the two conditions. After all, it was Freud who brought forth the umbrella term of sadomasochism, forever making the two seem like inseparable parts. And yet, in Freud’s views on sadism the study explains that he saw it as a “monstrous practice” similar to that of a female bug devouring her mate in copulation.

Freud did more for overlooking sadism as a part of masochism then actually exploring it and understanding it. The study finds that Freud really wasn’t sure about sadism and admitted it. He felt that sadomasochism was “incomprehensible” when held up against his pleasure principle. One of his final dictums on the subject was that people who tended toward physical aggression would be more generally apt to bring it into the bedroom. Of course a broad theory like that leaves a lot out. Even Freud, one of the great minds of psychology, did not know what to make of sadism in the end.

Henry Haverlock Ellis had a lot of interest in sadism, he was not only a researcher on the subject but he was also a practitioner; which gave him a certain attunement to the subject most did not have. The study goes over his theories on sadism and shows a great understanding of its actions and desires, but still not very much on its conception. Ellis believed that sadism worked by the means of arousal theory, where states of arousal such as anger, anxiety and sex were physiologically indistinguishable. He felt that sadism was a game of balance and if the balance went over, the sadistic acts would be no good. Moderation is key. Ellis emphasized that sadist were not malignant people; they want their partners’ to feel good, it just comes at a different style from others.
The study covers several other ideas in sadism but these two figures, Ellis and Freud, stand at the forefront of understanding it for what it was. Freud showed his understanding that he didn't understand and Ellis, as one who traveled the country as well as studied it, showed his comprehension of being a sadist. The weakness of this study is that there are no attempts at origin. The study merely pulls at past data, sighting the practical to the unbelievable. In this nature, the study's conclusion is a statement of the general data that seems to be agreed on, organized in ten points.

1- Sadomasochism is a complex phenomenon, perhaps not even unitary.
2- Sadomasochism consists of two dimensions: dominance-submission and pain-humiliation.
3- Sadomasochistic behavior may involve either or both of the two dimensions.
4- Masochistic inclination is relatively common; Sadism in a pure form is relatively rare.
5- Sadistic inclinations are found most commonly in men, female sadists are very rare as to be unique.
6- A substantial number of women manifest a mild form of masochism
7- Various other forms of sexual behavior may play a role in sadomasochism
8- The rump plays a significant role in mush sadomasochistic behavior.
9- Most sadomasochists do not seek casual pain or humiliation. These feelings must occur within a definite framework.
10- The etiology of sadomasochism is uncertain.

These ten points seem to be all that can be truly certified in the study of sadomasochism and, in fact, in sadism as a singular thing. It isn't much but that is the whole point, the study of sadism is not one with a strong base to build on. What is known is vague and it's very easy for many researchers to get sent off track by speculation based of singular points. It is important to consider the number one point presented in this
study, sadomasochism is a complex phenomenon and it will not lend itself to being
simply explained. That must not be forgotten.

*An Exploratory-Descriptive Study of a Sadomasochisticly orientated sample*

This study would have proved to be another neutral study on men if it had not
included a side study on women. Though the group was small; recall that female sadists
are few and far between, so any data is good.

Several studies in the 70’s, that could not find females sadist to participate,
concluded that there were no female sadists. To encourage this further, in the early 80’s
lesbian spokeswomen stated that sadomasochism was a male perversion and that, at the
least, there were no lesbians into sadomasochism. In the face of such statements, 47
women, admitted sadomasochists, came forward to take part in a side study to the larger
one being done here with men. Furthermore, this study uncovered a sadomasochism
society, started in the early 80’s, made up entirely by 200 women. This study therefore
brings the possibility to the researcher’s attention that perhaps there are more sadist
women out there then is know about because they do not come forward as often as men.
The researcher finds it amusing how some psychologists make broad statement with so
little data; thinking if this is what I have then this is what it must be. Sadism is not a field
where this mentality can prosper.

This study found in its small group of sadomasochistic women that most of them
were inclined toward bisexuality and were more experimental in their activities then men
were. Most of the women came to the realization of their preferences around the same
time as most men; however, 9% of the women admitted that they did not need
sadomasochistic behavior for a satisfactory sexual behavior experience, differing from the men who were at 30%. Beyond that, the women matched up pretty evenly with the men on the true or false questionnaire that was given out:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Questions</th>
<th>% Endorsing question</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I wish I were not into S/M</td>
<td>5.8% of female group and male group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I have been a patient in a psychiatric hospital</td>
<td>5.6% of female group and male group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/M may best be defines as mental illness</td>
<td>5.1% of female group and male group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There have been times when I felt as though I was going to have a nervous breakdown</td>
<td>60% female group, 32.2% male group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I have sought help from a therapist regarding my S/M desires</td>
<td>16.1% of female group and male group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/M sex is more satisfying than straight sex</td>
<td>58.5% of female group and male group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/M sex is as satisfying as straight sex</td>
<td>36.8% of female group and male group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I need to be involved in an S/M scene to have satisfying sexual response</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is a reasonable danger that S/M play will escalate to a truly dangerous extent</td>
<td>8.9% female group, 30.2% male group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From my day to day interactions, no one could guess my S/M orientation</td>
<td>29.9% of female group and male group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As a child, I remember getting erotic enjoyment out of being punished</td>
<td>85.6% of female group and male group</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Those running this study were smart to point out that because of negative stereotypes that are often painted by the media on sadomasochists, it is hard sometimes to tell whether response are being falsified. To counterbalance this, the assurance was given that several of the researchers running the study had been involved in the Sadomasochistic world and were well known for their honest interest in the proper investigation in the subject.

Outside of the questionnaires, interviews were done on several male and female sadomasochists. The information collected only supports the idea that Sadomasochism is
a complex phenomenon. No single behavior was found to stimulate all sadomasochist, and in fact, the variation was vast. Also, of the near 30% who showed fear that a sadist act could escalate to something dangerous, went on to explain that that was part of the draw. The study theorized on top of this that perhaps the fear and the draw only lead to better precautions that no sadist act could get that far. Perhaps having the fear, even if it is a fantasy, is enough to make the act more intense?

The final findings of this study support the ten concrete ideas declared in the previous article, thus showing how those ten ideas really are all that is known for sure. For one doing research on the subject is it is both thrilling and daunting to know one treads in territory so unexplored and hidden with so little concrete data to be guided by. It even makes the impression that perhaps Sadism is a thing made up by so many different characteristics and dimensions that possibly it births from various origins. That would make it hard to plot a single theory defining it.

Sadism Revisited

One reason for why there may be so little progress in the field of Sadism is because no one seems to be doing research. The bulk of the studies on the market today are reviews of past data, psychologists going over old theories and studies and trying to find a point that someone else may have missed that could possibly elucidate a great truth to the field of sadism. The reality seems to be a continuous summarization of everything that has been done with no sight of anything new, a recycling of old theories for the sake of publishing and creative speculation. This study reviews past data of the subject of sadism and attempts to mark out different types of sadists.
The study begins by going over Freud. This time it’s Freud’s “death instinct” that is the focus, how sadism may be a modification of it, unto others instead of the self. Following this is Karen Horney’s belief that sadism is “living aggressively and for the most part destructively through other persons.” The sexual acts are merely an expression of the person’s identity which is that of a sadist. Erich Fromm supported this idea, but added that there was a sexual, physical and mental type of sadism that together made up “the passion to have absolute and unrestricted control over a living being”. Wandering from the common path of the revisal study, this study makes the statement that all these theories are simply generalized theories that overlook the major complexities and differences within sadism. A man who likes to spank his wife can hardly be the same as a man who ritually rapes and murders women just to see their pain.

What interests me about this study is how it makes the following statement about complexity, tearing down the great psychologists, and then making the same mistake. This study moves on to use collected literature in an attempt to break sadism up in to labeled parts. The major idea that this study is trying drive forward is that sexual acts of sadism are merely a pantomime of aggression, a, “pseudosadism.” This study believes that sadism in its truest form is not related to sex. “It is simply a way of relating to others. It emanates from a need for power and control and expresses itself with feelings and acts of hostility, malice, and vengefulness.” And that does have some merit, but there is no research to support the speculation beyond past reviewed literature. Yes, Sadism is more than just sex but sex is a very big part of what people are and if Sadism has no relation to sex then there is a loophole there that this theory doesn’t work.
In the summary of this study, the researchers go on to establish the different types of sadism they feel exist. “Characterological” Sadism, associated with a need to control others. “Neurotic” Sadism, involving the behaviors of “pseudosadism” such as spanking and acts of symbolic pain used to derive pleasure. There is sadism associated with altered states of consciousness. Sadism associated with psychosis. And Sadism Proper, “a rather elusive entity,” which is much like “Characterological” sadism but more sexual.

Perhaps if there had been some research into actual people with this study it may have held some weight. Since this was merely a review of literature, it may as well be a fiction based on fact. There is nothing to say that these sadism types are correct in any way. In the end, these are more generalizations that don’t seem to accommodate the fact that sadism is varied and complex and not primarily a negative thing. This study proves to be the first of many negative articles directed toward Sadism. People who are healthy and happy don’t get therapy, they do not complain about what they are. There is no real understanding of content sadists in this study, and just because no content sadists show up in the very limited past data collected, doesn’t mean they do not exist. This is a major limitation that needs to be considered.

*The Intrinsic Appeal of Evil: Sadism, Sensational Thrills and Threatened Egotism*

This study proves to be the close minded view in psychology that Sadism is only a negative thing that must be healed. By now, one can see that there various definition of what sadism is and that everyone is arguing for their definition and their take of how it all works. This study presents one of the more interesting speculations on the origin of sadism, even though the theory has no real support whatsoever. The researcher went over
literature and developed something that seemed to fit, only to be thwarted later on in his
study by his own realization.

This study, and only a section of this study pertains to Sadism; the rest of the
study pertains to evil and its appeal. The section of the study that involves Sadism
proposes an Opponent-Process Theory. Explanation: Each response that takes the body
from its normal stable state must be followed by an internal process that returns the body
to its normal state. The clever example given to clarify this theory is that of a man
running up stairs. When he first runs up the stairs he will be breathing hard and his heart
will pound, causing his body to find a way to ease his body or else he would never relax.
After a while, running up those stairs, his body will get better and better at calming his
body until he will be able to sprint up those stairs without a heavy breath. Now apply this
to sadism.

The first time one hurts another, they fear it, so there mind brings the mind back
to its normal state by countering fear with a pleasing thought. Over time, hurting people,
the mind could get trained to a point where the pleasing thought would come with the act
of hurting another. The researcher realizes his flaw right away, that if this was the theory
of sadism then everyone would end up a sadist. Thus the researcher established that guilt
must hold some back while others go on. However, another flaw in this theory is that this
would make the process of becoming a sadist a gradual thing and most of the actual
research done with sadists shows that they come to the realization with a moderate
amount of abruptness, most realizing at the end of their teens and then acting on it not
long after. Who does one listen to then? The psychologist’s speculations or the Sadists’
answers?
The researcher goes on to declare that, “Sadism is undoubtedly the prototype of intrinsic enjoyment of evil”. Right there, there is a bias. How can one properly study a thing when they feel it is evil? Good and evil are ideas of philosophy and they should not be brought into the field of psychology, they only misdirect it.

Antisocial Personality Disorder, Sexual Sadism, Malignant Narcissism, and Serial Murder

This study focused mainly on the psychology of serial killers, and actually mentioned Sadism almost not at all till the very end of the study. Because the 68 criminals in this study were all sexual sadists, the researcher somehow feels that the sadism must be a part of it. At the end of the study he goes so far as to make the statement that sexual sadism is a criteria of a criminal and could be used to categorize. It is this kind of negative image that keeps most sadists from ever speaking to a psychologist.

There is only one question to be asked. 68 criminal who were all sexual sadist; and what about the other thousand that were heterosexual? Could heterosexuality be used as criteria for a criminal? This study did not even define sexual sadism beyond the crimes committed. This is one of those dangerous studies that used the little known information in a way that seems hopeful but is ultimately hurtful to the overall research into sadism.

Relational Patterns Associated with Sexual Sadism: A study of 20 Wives and Girlfriends

This study suggest that sadism is a form of adult intimacy related to early experiences of physical, sexual, and incestuous abuse, which seems to leave women
vulnerable to intrusive and demeaning sexuality. It is important to know the sample a
theory is based off of. The 20 women in this study were all the wives and girlfriends of
criminals who demonstrated sadistic activities. All of these women had been abused in
their youth in one form or another, and thought they did manage a normal life before
entering into a relationship with a criminal; this does not makes them a representative
sample of anything but abused women. Therefore, the suggestions of this study are blown
far beyond its generalizable limitations. Sadism is far more then just a form of adult
intimacy for women abused as children, open to be demeaned and controlled.

This study describes one possible event in sadism, an important one to remember,
but in the end only a single type. The researcher’s ideas may have been more welcome if
he had not made the blundering mistake of over generalizing and realized the limitations
of his results.

*Archaic Sadism*

This was a truly well written study based off of no actual research, all speculated
off of moderate contemporary data. In fact, the study comes dangerously close to being a
statement against media and violence. There are some good points on sadism but wholly
it gets washed over by the overzealous drawl about all humanity being uniformly capable
of sadism with such events as war comparing up to a sadist super bowl where everyone
gets to be evil. Studies like this put the study of sadism back into the dark ages, or shall it
be said, archaic times. It is a righteous rant and lacks nearly all the professionalism that
makes psychologist the scientists of the mind that they can be.
In this study sadism is tossed back and forth between multiple theories, every thing from Freud's "death instinct," to bad parenting. No points are actually defined beyond Sadism being a bad thing, and the fact that human beings are too violent. The idea that everyone can be sadistic is interesting but has no support to follow it, as does much in this study. This article would be the worst kind of introduction anyone could have into the study of sadism. Outside of communicating the total complexity of sadism and the confusion in trying to pin it down, this study lacks any true worth in the progress of understanding sadism.

Summary

Too many studies attempt to label and preach, standing on poor data, far too limited for the grand conclusions researchers present. Sadism is still a very potent mystery with some concrete ideas, but they get clouded by all the speculation and biases. It is important to see the best studies as well as the worst to see just how bad it gets, and how much people think they know when they don't know at all. And in the end, only sadists really
Sample:

The subjects involved in this study were ten lifestyle sadist women between the ages of eighteen to thirty-two. By lifestyle the meaning is that they are all women who practice sadistic behavior in their personal lives. This definition needed to be made because some of the subjects work as dominatrix. All ten of the subjects were collected through The Eulenspiegal Society and its subsidiary groups. The Eulenspiegal Society is a group that deals with alternate sexual practices and encourages awareness as oppose to aversion to them, attempting to soften prejudice. All ten women come from the New York City area and are employed there in.

Operational Measures:

Data collection for this study was done through structured interviews with open ended questions. In being more open ended it was hoped to make it more difficult to give false answers. Very often in studies dealing with out of the ordinary behavior, subjects can give the answers that are thought to be desired. There is less ability do this with no
kind of cue or slant in the interviews questions. This style of interviewing was thought to improve the reliability of the interviews. Of course when doing interviews reliability is already a big question; data is dependent on the subject’s recollection and honesty.

The study was overall qualitative in nature. Interviews were recorded then transcribed and examined for correlations outside that which would be expected. Especially, elements of abuse and poor peer relationships were examined, considered to be the popular origins of sadist behavior.

Testable Hypothesis:

The hypothesis being tested is that within the ten case studies on these Sadistic women there will be no common events outside the normal range that can be attributed to causing them to become Sadist.

Analysis:

The interviews were first scrutinized as qualitative information and broken down into more basic answers, to be changed into percentages. The results were then examined as percentages, where in the researcher was looking for signs of irregular scores or patterns.

Design:

This is a descriptive study looking for correlations in qualitative data collected.
Summary:

Ten structured interviews of lifestyle sadist women between eighteen and thirty from the New York area were used to put together the qualitative data for this study. The data was examined for correlations to show if there were similarities in the upbringing of sadist women. In chapter 4 the data will be presented in detail along with any parallels that were found.
The hypothesis behind this study is that within the ten case studies on these Sadistic women there will be no common events outside the normal range that can be attributed to causing them to become Sadist. The following chapter will display the results of the study significant to the hypothesis.

Findings Related to the Hypothesis

Where did you grow up, the setting? (refer to 4.1)

Fifty percent of the women involved reported growing up in cities. Thirty percent reported having grown up in a suburban environment. Twenty percent reported having grown up in a rural setting. These results do not show any particular environment aiding in the creation of sadistic interests. The majority did grow up in cities but since the participants were all based in New York, it would not seem out of the ordinary that so many also grew up in cities.

Describe your high school. (refer to 4.2)

Seventy percent of the women involved reported having gone to public schools. Twenty percent reported having attended private schools, and only ten percent went to vocational schools. Of the seventy percent that went to public schools: forty percent felt they went to average public schools, ten percent felt they went to good public schools, and twenty percent felt they went to bad public schools. These results show no significant pattern of any kind in reference to sadism.
Diagram 4.1 - Where did you grow up, the setting?

Diagram 4.2 - Describe your high school.
In high school, what kind of student were you? (refer to 4.3)

Forty percent of the women involved reported themselves to have been good students. Forty percent were average students and only twenty percent described themselves having been poor students in high school. This again shows no pattern that can be followed. The results show an average scattering of students from very good to bad. If anything there should have been more bad students than good students; this is a notable point.

What were your relationships to other students like? (refer to 4.4)

Thirty percent of the women involved felt that they had fit in well with their fellow students in high school. Twenty percent of the women reported having been popular amongst their fellow students. Fifty percent of the women involved reported having never quite fit in; which is a point against the hypothesis. More women should have reported themselves having fit in well rather than not fit in well.

Have you attended college?

Only ten percent of the women involved had not gone through or were currently enrolled in college. Ninety percent of the women were involved in the study had gone through college or were currently enrolled. This does not seem that out of the ordinary considering that the number of people attending college in the United States is at an all time high.
Diagram 4.3 - In high school, what kind of student were you?

- 35% bad student
- 40% good student
- 25% average student

Diagram 4.4 - What were your relationships to other students like?

- 20% popular
- 30% with a few
- 50% with many
What were your parents like growing up? (refer to 4.5)

Of the women involved, fifty percent described their parents as having been very strict. Beyond that, forty percent had parents that were completely different from other peoples’ parents, not being significantly too much of any one characters to be labeled. Ten percent refrained from answering the question. This shows a definite lean in half of the participants towards parents who were more strict.

Did you have a single parent?

Sixty percent of the participants were raised primarily by one parent. Forty percent had both parents. This shows that more than half of the participants involved were the product of a single parent household. However, this may not be out of the ordinary considering that divorce rates are higher than they have ever been. Nearly half of marriages in the United States end up in divorce these days, so being raised by a single parent is not as odd a thing as it may have once been.

What were you parents system of castigation, punishment for home rules? (refer to 4.6)

Fifty percent of the women involved reported having lost privileges and having been grounded when they broke rules. Twenty percent were the target of physical violence when they broke rules, and ten percent were verbally reprimanded. Ten percent actually reported having no rules that could be broken. There is no unique pattern here that can be found. Only the ten percent who had no rules is alarming but then it was only ten percent of the population, so it was not significant enough.
Diagram 4.5 - What were your parents like growing up?

Diagram 4.6 - What were your parents' system of castigation, punishment for home rules?
Did you parents support you full to you standard?

Only twenty percent of the involved women felt that their parents had not supported them. The other eighty percent reported having been very supported, through their life in their endeavors.

Do you have any siblings?

Twenty percent of the participant women have no siblings and eighty percent have one to five siblings. Of these eighty percent: forty percent have one sibling, twenty percent have two siblings, ten percent have three siblings, and ten percent have siblings. The results are too scattered to show any pattern here.

When do you recall the first onset of your sadistic interests? (refer to 4.7)

Forty percent of the women could not remember exactly when they first felt a sadistic draw. However, forty percent reported having been between the ages of three and seven years old. Ten percent were seventeen when they first felt a sadist urge, and ten percent simply did not answer the question.

When did you become sexually active? (refer to 4.8)

The results here were all across the board. Twenty percent became sexually active at eighteen, while another ten percent became active at seventeen. Twenty percent became active at sixteen; twenty percent became active at fifteen, twenty percent became active at fourteen and ten percent became active at thirteen. There is clearly no pattern here that can be followed.
Diagram 4.7 - When do you recall the first onset of your sadistic interests?

Diagram 4.8 - When did you become sexually active?
Have you ever been the victim of abuse, physical or mental? (refer to 4.9)

Eighty percent of the participants reported having been the victims of abuse at some point in their lives growing up. Thirty percent of those women claimed it was physical and mental abuse. Forty percent expressed mental abuse only and ten percent reported having been only physically abused. There is a clear pattern here showing a strong tendency toward abuse of some kind while growing up.

Did this abuse come before or after the onset of sadistic interests?

Fifty percent of the women reported having been abused after they had already felt the onset of their sadistic interests. Thirty percent reported that the abuse came before, and twenty percent did not reply to the questions. This is a confounding factor to the previous questions. There is a clear pattern of abuse, but what can be said of the half that already knew of their interests in sadism?

Where do you think your sadistic interests came from? (refer to 4.10)

Eighty percent of the women involved felt that their sadistic interests were inborn in some way. Ten percent reported that their sadistic interests came from working as a dominatrix, and the last ten percent felt that their sadistic interest came from their need to play tough all the time.
Diagram 4.9 - Have you ever been the victim of abuse, physical or mental?

- 30% to 34%
- 30% both abused
- 10% only emotional
- 10% only physical

Diagram 4.10 - Where do you think your sadistic interests came from?

- 10% to play/tease
- 10% learned to like
- 80% abom
Summary

The results show no specific pattern of upbringing throughout the school years that would lead to an interest in sadism. Certain scores are out of the ordinary and could be linked to other irregular scores to create a vague pattern, but there is not enough information to either support or deny this pattern. The results confound themselves too much. The researcher then feels that the hypothesis is supported by these results, but that there are irregular scores present.
Summary of Study

The purpose of this study was to investigate whether there were specific patterns apparent in the upbringing of sadist women throughout the school years that lead to sadism. There is little research in the field today that covers the subject, and much of the research is stained by social bias. Ten interviews, that ran an average of an hour in length, were conducted with life-style sadist women between the ages of nineteen and thirty-two. The participants' interview replies were broken down into basic elements and the answers were collected where possible into groups to show trends in the upbringing through the school years.

Though irregular results were found in some of the interview questions, there were no specific patterns that could be attributed to cause sadism. Eighty percent of the participants had been abused at some point in their life, but eighty percent of the participating women also felt that their sadistic interests were inborn somehow. The results supported the hypothesis but also impressed the need for more research on the subject.

Conclusions

The following study is the slightest scratch at an otherwise unexplored area of human sexuality. To this day many of the studies on the subject make improper conclusions from too little data, which the researcher hopes to avoid here. The problem being, content sadists often refuse to deal with psychologists, thinking that they will be
treated as if they have a problem, which is most often the case. But only through the study of sadists who accept themselves can sadism truly be understood.

Outside of the results in direct accordance to the hypothesis, there were several questions in the interview that dealt more with the basics of just what a satisfied sadist looked like and how they perceived themselves. All participants in the study reported being very happy with the fact that they were sadists and assured the researcher that this was not just a phase of their life. Of these women in the study, ninety percent considered themselves sadists in that they derived pleasure from causing pain to willing partners. Willing is the key word; only ten percent derived pleasure from causing anyone pain. This suggests that there is a line even in sadism, a point where it is no longer pleasurable. The majority want a willing partner to cause pain to, a masochist perhaps who derives pleasure from being hurt.

All of the participants felt that society had a negative view of sadism, but fifty percent of those there in, went so far as to say that it was because of a misunderstanding. They felt that society was confused with sadism, and that it all sadists together with the criminal element, thinking they were all in the same. Seventy percent of the participants were actually involved in relationships and of that, sixty percent were involved with their partner in sadist play. All of the participants believed that a sadist could quite easily be involved in a healthy relationship.

Now in discussion of the results that dealt with the hypothesis of the study, there were confounding elements. The scores did not lean in any one way to make a perfect stereotype that could be followed. Eighty percent of the students were good to average students and ninety percent of the participants went to college. So these are not
unintelligent women, not to mention that when asked what they had majored in, the ninety percent of the participants that did go to college did not show one similarity in their college majors. Also, fifty percent of the participants had either attended some sort of graduate school or were intending to go. This confers with the results found in some studies, that sadists are most often intelligent people and not the dregs of society that stereotype sometime plays them off to be.

Fifty percent reported not fitting in with their fellow students, and another fifty percent reported that they had had a strict family life. Sixty percent were raised by single parents, and eighty percent reported that they felt they were thoroughly supported by their parents. Eighty percent reported having been the victims of abuse at some point in their life, but of those abused, fifty percent were abused after they had already come to the realization they were sadists. Meaning, the abuse had nothing to do with it. What the researcher is trying to show is that no one picture works for what a sadist is. No one source can be pointed at as the fault, especially when eighty percent of the participants feel that their sadist interests were inborn.

The current literature does not display the idiosyncratic nature of sadism. Sadists come from all walks of life and have very different kinds of interests. They are intelligent people who do what they do because it makes them feel good, the literature does not seem to be able to comprehend that. Too many studies focus on the diseased mind that would find pleasure in the pain of others, but what about the minds that find pleasure in giving pain to the minds of those that find pleasure in pain? What of them? There will be some sadists who are mentally diseased, but then, there are some heterosexuals that are
mentally diseased. Society does not hold their sexual interests as the cause of their diseased mind, and so it should not for sadists either.

The limitation of the research here are important to mention in the same paragraph as the possibilities of future research. The limitations of this study are that there were only ten participants and their results were never compared against the results of a non-sadist group. In the future if a study like this could be carried out with greater numbers and with a control group of non-sadist to compare results against, more profound connections could be established. The researcher believes that comparisons such as these would help to show how similar people with an interest in sadism are to those of any other sexual orientation. It would certainly be interesting to see how different upbringings were through the school years of non-sadist.

Finally, the researcher believes that society is still in fear of studying the details of what sadism is and how it works. For many, sadism is a still taboo subject and ignorance continues to hold sway where research could dispel the misunderstandings and fears society has toward sadism. It must be reminded that not long ago homosexuality was still considered a dysfunction in the DSM and deeply frowned upon. And like homosexuality, sadism is a sexuality that has been quietly present in human society since the Greeks.

It is the researcher’s conclusion that the results of the study do not show any specific pattern that can be considered responsible for sadism as of now. There are irregular scores in the study but without further research the extent of which these scores drift from those of non-sadist cannot be established. Certain elements of an average sadist can be suggested but hardly enough to show a cause, merely elements of the resulting person. Therefore, the hypothesis is supported for the time being.
In future research, sadists must be studied along with non-sadists for comparison of just what is different. The majority of the participants felt that sadism was an inborn preference somehow and it would be wise not to ignore this possibility. Future research should examine just when sadistic interests appear more closely and attempt to decipher if the interest is simply present or if that it grows from a socio-environmental influence. A child who enjoys sado-masochistic play might look for abuse, which is why the percentages of abuse are so high in accordance with sadists. Such questions as this must be explored to decide whether there is an inborn level to sadism.
References

Journals


Books


APPENDIX I
Informed Consent Form
INFORMED CONSENT FORM

Experiment Title: A study of possible patterns in upbringing during the school years, of Lifestyle Sadist Women

Description of Research Study: This study consists of a series of interviews with Lifestyle sadist women on their upbringing throughout their school years. The research's hypothesis is that there are no immediate patterns in the varied upbringing of Sadist women. Whether the hypothesis is validated or not, valuable data will conclude that will assist in establishing the seeds of Sadistic behavior.

In order to participate in this research study, it is necessary that you give your informed consent. By signing this informed consent form you are indicating that you understand the nature of the research study and your role in that research and that you agree to participate in the research. Please consider the following points before signing:

- I understand that I am participating in psychological research;
- I understand that my participation will be anonymous (that is, my name will not be linked with my data) and that all information I provide will remain confidential;
- I understand that I will be provided with an explanation of the research in which I participated and be given the name and telephone number of an individual to contact if I have questions about the research. In addition, I understand that I may contact the Psychology Department Supervisor of this research, 856-256-4500 ext.3783, if I have questions concerning my rights as a participant in psychological research or to report a research-related injury.
- I understand that participation in research is not required, is voluntary, and that, after any individual research project has begun, I may refuse to participate further without penalty.

By signing this form I am stating that I am over 18 years of age, and that I understand the above information and consent to participate in this study being conducted by Orlando Bru of Rowan University.

Name: ____________________________
(print)

Signature: ____________________________ Date: ________________
(of participant)
APPENDIX II
General Interview Data Transcribed
General Interview Data Transcribed

Age:
1. 25
2. 23
3. 23
4. 32
5. 19
6. 21
7. 23
8. 19
9. 23
10. 25

40%-23  20%-25  20%-19  10%-19  10%32

Occupation:
1. Dominatrix / Writer
2. Dominatrix / Writer
3. Dominatrix
4. Dominatrix / Chef
5. Dominatrix / Student
6. Dominatrix / Model / Make-up Artist
7. Dominatrix / Writer
8. Dominatrix / student
9. Dominatrix / Mother
10. Dominatrix

100%-Dominatrix  80% Dominatrix/other occupation  30%-Were also writers

Sexual Preference:
1. Bisexual
2. Bisexual
3. Lesbian
4. Bisexual
5. No answer
6. Bisexual
7. No answer
8. Bisexual
9. No answer
10. Heterosexual
50%-Bisexual 30%-no answer 10%-lesbian 10%-heterosexual

In what way do you consider yourself to be a sadist?:
1. Derives pleasure from inflicting pain on a willing partner
2. Derives pleasure from inflicting pain on a willing partner
3. Derives pleasure from inflicting pain on a willing partner
4. Derives pleasure from giving pain to willing partner
5. Derives pleasure from giving pain to willing partner
6. Derives pleasure from giving pain to willing partners
7. Gets pleasure from giving pain to willing partner
8. Derives pleasure from inflicting pain on a willing partner
9. Derives pleasure from inflicting pain on a willing partner
10. Derives sexual gratification from inflicting pain or emotional abuse on others

90%-derived pleasure from giving pain to willing partner
10%-Giving pain to anyone

Are you content being a sadist?
1. yes
2. Yes
3. Yes
4. Yes
5. Yes
6. Yes
7. Yes
8. Yes
9. Yes
10. Yes

100% Yes

What kind of views do you think Society has on Sadism?
1. immoral, destructive, hypocritical
2. negative views,
3. a novelty, a bit looked down upon, misunderstood
4. Fear it, curious about it
5. see sadist as insane psychokillers
6. deviant,
7. Very negative view, Fearing freakish activity
8. confused as to the nature of sadism, think its abuse and deviant
9. think it is taboo and don’t understand the mechanics of pain and pleasure
10. Sadistic people are crazy and perverted
100% negative views
   50% feel it is out of confusion and misunderstanding though

What do you think of the view people have on Sadism?
1. society is more sado/masochistic than it knows, self denial
2. lack of education
3. lack of education
4. if they find it offensive, I just drop it
5. lack of education
6. lack of education
7. fear of the unknown, ignorance and fear
8. misguided, misunderstood
9. no answer
10. misinformed

70% Lack of understand  10% no reply  10% just drops it  10% feels society is in denial of itself

Do you think this is just a phase, or will it continue?
1. No, continue
2. No, continue
3. No, continue
4. No, continue
5. No, continue
6. No, continue
7. No, continue
8. No, continue
9. No, continue
10. No, continue

100% feel it will continue

Are you currently involved?
   Do you take part in sadist activity with your partner?
   What do they think of your sadist activity?
1. Yes
   Yes
   He approves
2. Yes
   No
   Accepts it
3. no
4. Yes
   Yes
   She takes part in it
5. Yes
   Yes
   They are sadists as well
6. no
7. Yes
   Yes
   Approves and take part
8. No
9. Yes
   Yes
   Both people approve and take part
10. Yes
    Yes
    Approves and take part

70% involved
60% have partners involved
60% approve of it 10% have partner that just accepts it

Where did you grow up, the setting?
1. City
2. Suburbia
3. Suburbia
4. City
5. City
6. Rural
7. Suburbia
8. City
9. City
10. Rural

50% cities
30% suburbia
20% rural

Describe your high school?
1. Average Public school
2. Average Public school
3. Bad public school
4. Private school
5. Public school
6. Public, then private school
7. Bad Public school
8. Good Public school
9. Vocational School
10. Private School

70% public school 20% private school 10% vocational school
40% average public school
20% bad public school
10% good public school

In High school, what kind of Student where you?

1. I was an over-achiever. I graduated as class salutatorian, yearbook editor, spelling bee champion, distance runner, weightlifter, cheerleader, NMSQT semi-finalist, and a member of the NY all state women’s choir…you get the idea. (good student)
2. Straight A honor’s student. School came fairly easily though, all you had to do was do your homework (good student)
3. Indifferent. I got decent grades but they didn’t offer many classes that interested me. Took some college courses in my senior year, which helped. (Average student)
4. I was a great student up until the divorce. (Good student)
5. A good student, honor roll maybe. High test scores. I did track sophomore year and was part of the television production crew for the high school new show senior year. I went on study abroad’s through my school and handed assignments in late, but my teachers generally liked me. (Good student)
6. Had my school and its staff had more zeal to teach I would have loved to learn. I enjoyed art class and science, but felt repressed. I caused a lot of problems with the staff and authority. (Bad Student)
7. B+ or so, very involved in the arts. Professional actress from the age of 11. (Average student)
8. Good enough (Average Student)
9. Average. Good grades, academically strong but I loved to cut classes and I did it very often. (Average student)
10. Smart but I got low grades (C+ average) because of my ADD. (Bad Student)

40% good students
40% average student
20% bad students

Relationship with fellow students?
1. Never really fit in
2. Fit in well, popular
3. afraid of me, never really fit in
4. Never really fit in
5. Fit in well,
6. Fit in well
7. Never really fit in
8. Fit in well
9. Fit in well, Popular
10. never really fit in

30% fit in well
50% never really fit in
20% popular

Have you attended college?
   If so, describe it:
1. Yes
   Conservative, feminist,
2. Yes
   NYU
3. Yes
   3 semesters in U of H
   finished degree at SUNY Purchase
   Was not impressed
4. No
5. Yes
   Don’t talk to other students, kind of artsy,
6. Yes
   It was great
7. Yes
   Vassar College, pretty rigorous
8. Yes
   Sarah Lawrence, academically pretty rigorous
9. Yes
   Not for me,
10. Yes
    2 years at a 4 years women’s college
    2 years at a 4 year liberal arts college

90% have attended college 10% have not

What was your major?
1. Political rights
2. Drama
3. Philosophy
4. -
Have you had any schooling beyond College?
1. not yet
2. no
3. No
4. cooking school
5. Not yet
6. No
7. Yes, MFA in writing
8. not yet
9. No
10. no

20% yes 30% not yet 50% no’s

What were your parents like?
1. very strict, sexist, sadistic, father was dominant figure
2. conservative, father was an alcoholic, mother was dominant figure
3. very strict, could not wear what parents did not approve of
4. over bearing father, mother was classy and eclectic
5. authoritarian
6. father was merely a financial supporter
7. (felt question was too vague)
8. Lenient, tried to be open and honest
9. father was not around much, mother was troubled but giving
10. Mother was primary figure, father was last resort disciplinarian

50% strict family life 10% no answer 40% different kind of relationship with their parents

Did you have single parents?
If so from a divorce, death or other?
1. yes
   no answer
2. Grandmother
   other
3. Parents divorced at 16
   no answer
4. Yes
raised by mother and stepfather, who mother recently divorce
real father is married with kids
6. no
7. parents are divorce in later years
8. no
9. no
10. raised by mother
parents divorce when was 13

60% single parent 40% raised by both parents

What were your parent’s system of castigation, punishment and home rules?
1. father: spanked, kicked, belt buckles, electric cables. Abusive, rules did not really matter
2. 8 to 11 mom used belt, after grounding,
3. spanked in youth, then loss of privileges
4. no rules
5. grounding
6. loss of privileges and grounding
7. Father was violent, but Mother was loose about rules
8. grounding
9. verbally reprimanded
10. Punished only for doing bad in school

50% loss or privileges and or ground 20% physically violent 10% no rules 10% verbally reprimanded

Did you parents support you fully to your standards?
1. Yes, but not supported by father in college,
2. Almost too much, yes
3. Yes
4. Yes, in their own way
5. yes, completely
6. yes
7. mother and stepfather, yes, real father no
8. as much as they could
9. no
10. yes, outside of sexuality

80% felt they were 20% felt no

Do your parents know you are a sadist?
If so, what do they think of that aspect of you?
1. No.
   Too religious to accept it
2. No
3. No
   Too conservative to know
4. No
5. no
6. Mothers knows, father suspects
7. Yes
   amused and disturbed
8. No
9. Yes and no
   Mother understands, father does not know
10. Not sure
    Not sure

60% no  20% mother knows father does not  10% not sure  10% yes

Do you have any siblings?
   Number of:
   Relationships with siblings:
1. yes
   3
   distant but in contact
2. yes
   5
   close
3. yes
   2
   Distant but get along well
4. no
5. yes
   2
   close
6. yes
   1 half sister
   only met her 4 times
7. no
8. Yes
   1
   distant but get along
9. Yes
   1
   Close
10. yes
    1
close and comfortable

80% have siblings
40% have one sibling
20% have two
10% have 3
10% have 5
40% have close relationships

20% have no siblings

When do you recall the first on set of your sadistic interests?
1. use to tie up dolls, age twelve when realized pain father caused her no longer bothered her
2. 7
3. 3, use to spank her stuffed animals
4. no answer
5. can’t remember exactly when
6. 4 or 5, drew people hitting people in her art
7. sometime in high school with a friend
8. 17
9. can’t remember exactly when
10. -

40% cannot remember exact date 10% 17 40% 3 to 7 10% no answer

When did you become sexually active?
1. 18
2. 17
3. 18
4. 16
5. 15
6. 15
7. 13
8. 16
9. 14
10. 14

20% - 18 20% - 14 20% - 15 10% - 13 20% - 16 10% - 17

Have you ever been victim of abuse, psychical or mental?
1. yes, physical
2. yes, physical and mental
3. yes, mental
4. yes, mental
5. no
6. yes, slight mental
7. yes, physical and mental
8. no
9. yes, physical and mental
10. Yes, mentally

80% victims of abuse
20% No
30% physical and mental
10% physical
40% mental

If so, did this abuse come before or after the onset of sadistic interest?
1. before
2. after
3. after
4. before
5. -
6. after
7. before
8. -
9. after
10. after

50% after sadistic interests
30% before

How do you think this affected you?
1. abuse has made more compassionate
2. greater empathy towards people
3. Cannot take verbal humiliation
4. became very defensive
5. -
6. Went to therapy
7. It affected them deeply
8. -
9. Repressed a lot of the past
10. made her an angry person

Do you think there are any connections to your sadistic interests?
If so, did it assist or was it a direct cause of?
1. assisted it
2. somewhat assisted
3. it hinder my sadistic interest
4. No it had nothing to do with
5. -
6. not that I know of
7. No, it had nothing to do with it
8. -
9. I am a loner because of it
10. assisted it

30% assisted it  30% nothing to do with  20% had a negative effect on person

Where do you think your sadistic interests came from?
1. My fascination with my personal control of pain may have easily led me to enjoy its erotic power. There is something delicious about a lover gasping while I run a sharp knife over them and twist their scrotum. Then again, my father was a sadist, it could very well be genetic.
2. I don't know. I think it may be a combination of cultural, environmental, as well as inner factors.
3. It's an outgrowth of my masochism. I know how much I enjoy pain and want to give that gift to others.
4. Learning through my job
5. I don't know. I was always a little feminist growing up and I sort of used it as a way to stick up for my sex, to play tough in a fun creative way.
6. Maybe it's genetic? I can't say. Deviant and shady subjects have always interested me. Maybe if my mom hadn't been so repressed she'd be more of a freak.
7. I started out as a bottom in the scene, and derives so much pleasure from pain that I wanted to give it to other people.
8. I don't know. I think it's a natural thing, may be the result of external factors for some, internal for others, like me I guess.
9. My innermost wants and desires, what I want the most and will never grasp
10. Inborn

80% feel it is inborn in some way  10% learned through job  10% to play tough

Do you feel that a sadist can be involved in a healthy relationship?
1. yes
2. yes
3. yes
4. yes
5. yes
6. yes
7. yes
8. yes
9. yes
10. yes

100% say yes
Is there anything else pertinent to the subject you would like to add?
1. hopes study will inform people that sadism is not so bad
2. grateful for what she is
3. happier for being what she is
4. -
5. -
6. Consensual exploration
7. asks for study to specify between consensual sadism and otherwise
8. -
9. -
10. -