

Intimate Partner Violence and Sexism in Students of a Higher Technical School of the National Police of Perú, 2023

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ABSTRACT

The current research sought to determine the relationship between intimate partner violence and sexism in students of the PNP Lima Higher Technical School, 2023. The type of research is correlational, non-experimental, cross-sectional design. The population was made up of 950 students. A simple random probabilistic sample was obtained, made up of 274 participants, to whom the following instruments were applied: the Inventory of Violence in Relationships (CADRI) and the Inventory of Ambivalent Sexism in Adolescents (DSA). The results show that it is observed that no significant differences are found in both partner violence and sexism according to the length of the relationship. On the other hand, positive and significant correlations were found between the variables and the dimensions of the opposite variable. Finally, a direct and significant correlation was found between intimate partner violence and sexism (.249).

Keywords: *violence, hostile sexism, benevolent sexism, police student, correlation.*

Introduction

Violence in relationships is a variable that is latent today, and it does not discriminate against social level, since it is shown in different contexts and covers all countries in the world (Mayor & Salazar, 2019). Therefore, its presence has been reported in developing countries as well as in first world countries, belonging to North America, Central and Western Europe, among others (Ramos et al., 2021; Robles et al., 2020).

Violence can appear at an early age, which can be expressed in different ways. Young people between the ages of 10 and 29 today engage in violence in three forms: physical, emotional, and sexual (World Health Organization [WHO], 2020).

Regarding the prevalence that can be observed, the WHO (2021) in Latin America and the Caribbean, estimated that violence begins in adolescence and young adulthood, approximately 763 million women (between 1 in 3), have suffered some form of violence, both physical or sexual within the context of dating and affective bond with the aggressor. Likewise, in the Latin American context, the results of a study carried out in 24 countries showed that, in Bolivia, the variable is present in 58.5%; likewise, in countries such as Uruguay, Brazil and Panama, rates between 14% and 17% were reported, being worrying approximations and, above all, because they occur in 31.2% between the ages of 15 and 49 years (Bott et al., 2019).

In the national context, it is observed that, out of every 100 women, 66 have suffered violence within an emotional bond, who were aged from 15 to 49 years old (National Institute of Statistics and Informatics [INEI], 2018). The data in question is

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supported by the scope of the ENDES report, which was carried out between 2019 and 2020, where it was reported that 52.8% of intimate partner violence is represented by its psychological and verbal modality, expressed through insults, mockery, intimidation and threats. Similarly, psychological violence occurs more frequently in urban areas, with 53.7% and physical violence in 29.7%, unlike in rural areas (INEI, 2020).

According to (Ramiro et al., 2018), violence is strongly related and grounded with social conceptions of male superiority over women, gender inequality, lack of equity in gender roles, and sexist and sexist manifestations.

Regarding sexism, according to Glick & Fiske (1996) they define sexism as the set of negative attitudes and impulses towards the female sex based on obsolete gender stereotypes, a frequent social practice, which is part of the beliefs of young people and part of the sexist social and cultural structure and perception of weakness and inferiority of women.

90% of the general population has sexist prejudices worldwide, there is still the mistaken idea of granting greater benefits and rights to men, it is estimated that 40% of the population considers that women are inferior to men in politics, education, economics and women who have reached a high level, they are strictly observed and questioned (United Nations [UN] Agency, 2023). Eliminating gender prejudices is vital to achieve equality between men and women, according to the latest UNDP report, the number of people without prejudice has shown a slight increase in 27 countries worldwide, but despite this, it has not been possible to reverse acts of gender violence (United Nations National Programme [UNDP], 2023).

On sexism, 3 countries with high levels of sexist prejudice have been identified, with Ecuador topping the list with 93.34%, followed by Colombia with 91.40% and Brazil with 89.5%, worrying figures (UNDP, 2023). The data show a reality that women have to face every day to be at the same level as men, the creation of feminist movements is not enough, greater awareness is required on the part of governments to make the population eliminate these discriminatory practices (UN, 2023).

On the other hand, the National Plan for Gender Equality (2017) reported, through the application of a survey, that 27.9% of the participants reported that women do not have the need to work if their partner is the provider of the household, while 54.7% said that their only responsibility is to take care of the home. the upbringing of their children, the attention of the husband. In addition, according to a survey carried out in Lima and Callao, it was stated that 74% of those surveyed consider society to be sexist, while 21% say that Peru is a society with equity.

Sexism in our country shows a high rate of prejudice with 87.96%, an extremely worrying figure that women have to deal with daily (UNDP, 2023).

According to the relationship between both variables, it was observed in Spain in a study carried out on 251 participants, a weak relationship between intimate partner violence and benevolent and ambivalent sexism ($r=0.13$ and 0.10) (Arnosó, et al., 2017), in the same country in another study with 1421 people, it was evidenced that there is a relationship between hostile sexism and intimate partner violence (Madrona, et al., 2023). At the national level in Arequipa, 434 participants found no relationship between sexism and intimate partner violence ($r=0.097$), however, it did show that there is a higher level of exposed violence (Fernández, et al., 2019), in Villa El Salvador these variables were investigated in 303 students, finding that there was no relationship between them either (Leandro, 2020), however, in Metropolitan Lima the relationship between intimate partner violence and sexism was also investigated in 127 students, where a relationship was found

between hostile, benevolent sexism and the violence committed, as well as with the violence suffered (Carreño, 2020).

It is important to carry out research to contribute to the understanding and explanation of the aforementioned phenomena. In view of the above research, the question arises: What is the relationship between intimate partner violence and sexism in students of the PNP Lima Higher Technical School, 2023?

From there, the main objective of the research is proposed: To determine the relationship between intimate partner violence and sexism in students of the PNP Higher Technical School Lima, 2023. Likewise, as specific objectives: 1) To determine the difference in means of violence according to relationship time in students of the PNP Higher Technical School Lima, 2023. 2) To determine the difference in mean sexism according to relationship time in students of the PNP Lima Higher Technical School, 2023; 3) To determine the relationship between intimate partner violence and the dimensions of sexism in students of the PNP Lima Higher Technical School, 2023; 4) To determine the relationships between the dimensions of intimate partner violence and sexism in students of the Escuela Técnica Superior PNP Lima, 2023.

The hypotheses are set out below. General hypothesis: There will be a direct and significant relationship between intimate partner violence and sexism in students of the Escuela Técnica Superior PNP Lima, 2023. As specific hypotheses we had: 1) there will be a significant difference in intimate partner violence according to the length of relationship, being greater in those aged 5 or more, in students of the PNP Higher Technical School Lima, 2023; 2) there will be significant differences in sexism according to relationship time, being greater in those aged 5 or more, in students of the PNP Lima Higher Technical School, 2023; 3) there will be direct and significant relationships between intimate partner violence and the dimensions of sexism in students of the PNP Higher Technical School Lima, 2023; 4) there will be direct and significant relationships between the dimensions of intimate partner violence and sexism in students of the PNP Lima Higher Technical School, 2023.

The present research is theoretically justified because it contributed by providing new knowledge on intimate partner violence and sexism, through the description of the differences and relationships demonstrated. Likewise, the social implication of the research will be beneficial because this population represents 23.3% of the country's total (INEI, 2020), allowing the responsible authorities and the community to provide updated and detailed information on the indices of intimate partner violence and sexism identified that impact them (National Plan for Gender Equality, 2017). Regarding the methodological implication, the research is supported by pilot studies of the instruments used, which show adequate levels of validity and reliability.

As previous studies were found at the local level, in Lima Rodríguez et al. (2018) had as a research objective to analyze couple relationships with psychological violence, sexism and jealousy in adolescents. It was a correlational analysis, the sample was composed of 274 students, the following instruments were applied: Psychological violence in conflict resolution; the Adolescent Ambivalent Sexism Inventory (ASD) and the Romantic Jealousy Scale. The results showed that there is a significant correlation between aggression and sexism ($r=.412$); jealousy ($r=.434$) and psychological violence ($r=.433$), in all cases with p less than .01. Psychological violence is directly related to hostile and benevolent sexism with coefficients equal to .325 and .12 respectively. In conclusion, the results demonstrate the close relationship of cyberaggression with sexist attitudes, jealousy demonstrating its strong presence during relationships.

Blas (2020), in a study carried out in Lima, establishes the relationship between sexism and intimate partner violence. A total of 303 students from the fourth and fifth grades of secondary school in two state schools in Villa el Salvador participated. and the

study design used was correlational. They applied two instruments: the Ambivalent Sexism Inventory and the Couple Relationship Inventory. According to the results, it was observed that no correlation was reported between the study variables ($r = -.010$ $p > .05$).

In Lima, Gonzales (2020) focused her study on determining the relationship between sexism and dating violence. The sample consisted of 451 university students, and the General Sexism Scale and the Intimate Partner Violence Scale were applied. Based on the results, direct correlations were observed between hostile sexism and intimate partner violence $r = .396$, physical violence $r = .322$, sexual violence $r = .389$ and partner devaluation $r = .249$. Likewise, it is concluded that there is a direct correlation between benevolent sexism with intimate partner violence $r = .233$, with physical violence $r = .200$, with sexual violence $r = .200$.

In Lima, Manrique & Flores (2021), the objective of this study was to analyze the relationship between dating violence and sexism. A total of 93 adolescents participated, who met the characteristics according to the established criteria, applied the non-experimental, cross-sectional method, used the Adolescent Sexism Detection Scale (DSA) and the CADRI for violence as measurement instruments. The results showed statistically significant correlations between sexism with violence committed $r = .221$ and with violence suffered $r = .177$. It is concluded that the greatest acts of violence occur from men to women in a way that is committed and suffered.

On the other hand, at the international level, the study by Boira et al. (2018) was reviewed, who proposed the purpose of establishing the relationship between sexism, intimate partner violence and distorted thoughts. The sample for the study was 646 university students and the design used was correlational, the Conflict Tactics Scale and the Ambivalent Sexism Inventory, the Distorted Thinking Inventory and the Social Desirability Scale were applied. The results have shown that there is a positive correlation between violence and benevolent sexism $r = .37$. Similarly, there is an association between hostile sexism and violence $r = .53$. It is concluded that the variables are directly related to the extent that sexism could predict the appearance of indicators of violence.

In Mexico, Muñoz et al. (2020) set out to identify the relationship between the acceptance of violence, jealousy and sexism. Quantitative, correlational approach. The sample consisted of 506 participants, university students, and the Violence Acceptance Scale ASI for women, AMI for men and CADRI were applied as an instrument. A significant correlation between jealousy and violence was reported as results, with a correlation of .415 and p less than .01; Violence and benevolent sexism = .555, between jealousy and sexism $r = .295$, between jealousy and acceptance of violence $r = .479$ and between jealousy and dating violence $r = .810$. Similarly, sexism was correlated with acceptance of violence $r = .158$ and sexism with dating violence $r = .171$. It is concluded that males demonstrate a dominant and aggressive attitude. The highest correlation of violence was found in men.

In Argentina, Rodríguez and Soriano (2022), in their article, aimed to determine adolescents' relationships with religion, violence, and sexist behavior. It was descriptive, cross-sectional, 3 scales were applied to 1036 young people, the Satisfaction Scale (SWLS), the Psychological Violence Scale (PVS) and the Sexist Behavior Scale (ECS), whose reliability had a scale of 777 to 859 and an acceptable degree of validity. The results showed high levels of violence exercised by men, on sexist behaviors. The majority participation of men predominated, and religion did not show intervention on violence, the highest correlation was between violence and sexist behaviors with an $r = .520$; and with religion a correlation of .515. It is concluded that all variables are predominant when studied especially in human behavior, so it is important to recognize acts of violence and act passively, protective values must be reinforced.

Finally, we have Madrona et al. (2023) in Spain, whose research aimed to analyze the social circumstances associated with sexism and its relationship with intimate partner violence. The methodology was cross-sectional, the population was made up of 1421 students, the Ambivalent Sexism Inventory (ASD) and the Intimate Partner Violence Scale (VP) were applied. The results conclude that sexism is framed in the adolescent stage and is related to violent behavior in the partner (odds ratio [OR]: 1.07; 95% confidence interval [95%CI]: 1.00-1.14).

METHODOLOGY

Type and design of research

The type of research is descriptive and correlational; non-experimental and cross-sectional design (Campbell & Stanley, 1995).

Sample

The research had a population of 950 students from the Escuela Técnica Superior PNP Lima, 2023 (Nominal Registry of ETS-PNP Puente Piedra). From this, a sample of 274 was determined, using the formula of finite populations (Abad and Servin, 1981), which were selected by simple random sampling. Ages ranged from 18 to 25 years (M: 19.6; DS: .87).

Instruments

- Intimate Partner Violence Inventory (CADRI)

This inventory was compiled by David Wolfe and Christine Wekerle in Canada in 1999. It seeks to evaluate the characteristics of violence in relationships, focused on adolescent and adult couples, and the format is applied collectively and individually. The instrument is made up of 25 double items, indicated thus, for the person who performs the behavior or for the couple who is subject to being a victim, it also has 10 additional items also double, aimed at favorable behaviors to solve problems, thus there is a total of 35 items. 5 dimensions are considered: sexual, relational, verbal, emotional, physical and threats. You have 4 answer options which are Never = This has never happened in our relationship Rarely: Happened only 1 or 2 times Sometimes: Happened 3 to 5 times Frequently: Happened 6 or more times scoring from 0 to 3 respectively.

Psychometric properties of the instrument: according to its construct validity of the original instrument, it was determined by confirmatory factor analysis, giving a 5-factor structure with adjustment indices of $\chi^2=464.66$, RMSEA=.05, GFI=.93 and CFI=.90. In relation to its reliability, it was through the retest test obtaining a .68 $p<.001$, for its dimensions it was carried out by means of the Alpha obtaining a .51 for sexual violence, a .52 for relational violence, a .82 verbal-emotional test, a .83 physical and .66 threats.

Psychometric properties of the pilot: A pilot was conducted with 100 participants from PNP schools. The AFC found that the index had an adequate fit, both for committed violence (χ^2/gf .61, RMSEA .018, SRMR .09, CFI 1.00, TLI 1.134 and GFI, .983) and suffered (χ^2/gf .993, RMSEA .051, SRMR .105, CFI 1.00, TLI 1.01, GFI, .971) (Escobedo et al., 2016). Finally, it was evidenced by means of the coefficients Alpha (.824) and Omega (.927) for violence committed and Alpha (.906) and Omega (.936) for violence suffered, which indicates that it is reliable in internal consistency (Nunnally, 1967).

- Adolescent Sexism Detection Scale (DSA)

The instrument was developed by Patricia Recio, Isabel Cuadrado and Esther Ramos (2007) in Spain and adapted by Diego Cueva in 2017 in Trujillo in the Florencia de

Mora Commune (Cueva, 2017) in order to measure sexism. The instrument has a structure of 26 items. These items measure two dimensions, being 16 items for hostile sexism, made up of item 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 25 and 26, with respect to the ambivalent sexism dimension it is made up of a total of 10 items, being items 1, 3, 6, 8, 11, 13, 15, 17, 21 and 24, it also presents 6 response evaluations that are: 1 = Strongly disagree, 2=Strongly disagree, 3= Somewhat disagree, 4=Somewhat agree, 5=Somewhat agree and 6=Strongly agree, so it can also be applied collectively as well as individually. The sum of the scores of the two dimensions gives the total of the general scale of sexism.

Original psychometric properties: according to the construct validity of the original instrument, correlations were observed between the dimensions for the homogeneity of the test, with values greater than .20, the highest being .88, except for item 1 with .07, as well as the confirmatory factor analysis was carried out with the following adjustment indices: NFI= .90, CFI=.94 and GFI=.92, in addition the relationship between both variables yielded a value of .56, convergent validity was also performed which was performed with the ASI test, having a correlation of .63, for the subscales of hostile sexism of both tests it was .68 and for that of benevolent sexism .54. In relation to reliability, it was given by means of Cronbach's alpha, being for the general scale of .90, while for the dimensions hostile sexism was .92 and for benevolent sexism it was .80.

Psychometric properties of adaptation: The validity review in Peru was carried out by Cueva (2017), its absolute fit indices were GFI = .92, AGFI = .90 and its comparative adjustment indices were NFI = .93 and CFI = .04. concluding that it has a good level of validity. For the sexism scale, a value of $\omega = .919$, being optimal values that represent a good level of reliability. In terms of reliability, the benevolent sexism dimension showed a Cronbach's alpha value of .87, hostile sexism .80 and the general scale a coefficient of .90.

Psychometric Properties of the Pilot: Working with 100 participants from the PNP School. A confirmatory factor analysis was performed to determine internal structural validity and incremental and adequate fit indices were found (χ^2/df .993, RMSEA .051, SRMR .105, CFI 1.00, TLI 1.01, GFI .971) (Escobedo et al., 2016). Finally, adequate reliability can be demonstrated by the Alpha (.901) and Omega (.909) total test coefficients. With respect to dimensions, hostile sexism Alpha (.88) and Omega (.898) and benevolent sexism Alpha (.678) and Omega (.769) indicate that the test is reliable in internal consistency (Nunnally, 1967).

Procedure

Initially, authorization for the use of the instrument was requested from those responsible for the adaptations of the two variables via email, confirmation of the authorizations and the due instructions for their application were received. Later, authorization was requested from the Technical School of the Police to provide the facilities for the application of the instruments, and we were given authorization to enter for three days at certain times. Then, the instruments were applied in the two areas of specialization, the students were given the physical surveys to be filled out, after explaining the reason for the survey and what they wanted to measure. The questionnaires were delivered in physical format, for the manual completion of each one, as well as the respective document corresponding to the informed consent, the duration was approximately 10 minutes.

Finally, the data obtained were processed in the SPSS according to the corresponding statistical procedures to determine the differences and correlations, using Mann-Whitney's U and Spearman's Rho, since the previous normality analysis showed that the data did not present a normal distribution.

RESULTS

Table 1 Differences in Intimate Partner Violence by Length of Relationship

Relationship Time		n	Average Range
Intimate Partner Violence	Less than a year	57	137.82
	Ages 1 to 4	77	135.42
	Ages 5 and over	30	138.97
	It doesn't have	110	138.39
	Total	274	
Chi-square		.079	
Gl		3	
Sig. asintót.		.994	

According to Table 1, no significant differences were found in intimate partner violence in students of the PNP Lima Higher Technical School, 2023 according to the time of relationship

Table 2 Differences in sexism according to length of relationship

Relationship Time		n	Average Range
Sexism	Less than a year	57	126.62
	Ages 1 to 4	77	150.95
	Ages 5 and over	30	127.45
	It doesn't have	110	136.46
	Total	274	
Chi-square		3.798	
Gl		3	
Sig. asintót.		.284	

According to Table 2, no significant differences in sexism were found in students of the PNP Lima Higher Technical School, 2023 according to the time of relationship.

Table 3 Correlations Between Intimate Partner Violence and Dimensions of Sexism

		Hostile Sexism	Benevolent Sexism
Intimate Partner Violence	Rho	.316**	.129*
	R2	.099	.016
	Follow-up (bilateral)	.000	.033

Table 3 shows positive and significant correlations between intimate partner violence and the dimensions of sexism in students at the PNP Lima Technical School, 2023. They have medium and small effect sizes (ET) respectively, Cohen (1988).

Table 4 Correlations Between Sexism and Intimate Partner Violence Dimensions

		Relational violence	Sexual violence	Verbal emotional violence	and Threats	Physical violence
Sexism	Rho	.256**	.236**	.294**	.052	.262**
	r^2	.065	.055	.086	.000	.068
	Gis.	.000	.000	.000	.390	.000
	n	274	274	274	274	274

Table 4 shows positive and significant correlations between sexism and the dimensions of intimate partner violence, with the exception of the dimension threats in students of the Escuela Técnica Superior PNP Lima, 2023. Cohen (1988).

Table 5 Correlation Between Intimate Partner Violence and Sexism

		Intimate Partner Violence
Sexism	Correlation coefficient	.249**
	R2	.062
	Follow-up (bilateral)	.000
	n	274

Table 5 shows a positive and significant correlation between intimate partner violence and sexism in students at the PNP Lima Higher Technical School, 2023. It has a small effect size (ET), Cohen (1988).

DISCUSSION

It has not been possible to demonstrate the existence of significant differences in intimate partner violence according to the length of time of the relationship maintained. No research has been found that carries out similar studies, so this is the beginning in this line. Analytically, we can say that the findings detail that there is no significant difference in intimate partner violence, taking into account the length of relationship of the respondents, which could be from less than one year to more than 5 years. The findings inform us that in a certain way the time of relationship in couples would not be related to intimate partner violence, which would then indicate that both variables would act independently. "The independence of a set of random variables implies that the probability distribution of any one of them is not influenced by the values taken by the others" Newbold, et al. (2008, p. 235).

Likewise, no significant differences were found in the sexism variable according to the time of relationship. No research has been found that conducts similar studies, so this is the beginning of research that considers the length of relationship in couples and its connection with sexism. Analytically, we can say that the findings detail that there are no significant differences in sexism, taking into account the relationship time of the respondents, which could be from less than one year to more than 5 years. The findings inform us that in a certain way the time of relationship in couples would not be related to sexism, which would then indicate that both variables would act independently. Newbold, et al. (2008).

On the other hand, we have found positive and significant correlations between intimate partner violence and the dimensions of sexism, the same with medium and small effect sizes (ET) respectively, Cohen (1988). Similar results were found in Lima by Rodríguez et al. (2018), who found that psychological violence was directly related to hostile and benevolent sexism, with coefficients equal to .325 and .112, respectively. Likewise, among the results converging with the present one is partially that of Gonzales (2020) who in 451 Lima university students finds that there is a direct correlation between intimate partner violence with benevolent sexism with $r_s=.233$ and also with hostile sexism $r_s=.396$. In the same vein, the study by Boira et al. (2018), who working with 646 university students, reported a correlation between violence with benevolent sexism $r=.37$ and hostile sexism with violence $r=.53$.

In the same vein, we have found positive and significant correlations with Cohen (1988) between sexism and the dimensions of intimate partner violence, with the exception of the dimension threats, which does not reach any magnitude of effect. A similar result is the study carried out in Lima by Manrique and Flores (2021), in which, working with 93 adolescents, they observed a statistically significant correlation between sexism and the dimensions of intimate partner violence.

Finally, and with respect to our general hypothesis, a positive and significant correlation between intimate partner violence and sexism is observed in students of the PNP Lima Higher Technical School, 2023. It is .249 and has a small effect size, Cohen (1988). Based on this, we can infer that at least 25% of respondents will have a direct correspondence between intimate partner violence and sexism, which means that, in them, the more violence there will be more sexism and the less intimate partner violence the less sexism. A similar result is found by Boira et al. (2018) who, in a sample of 646 university students, found a direct relationship between both variables. Similarly, in Mexico, Muñoz et al. (2020) working with 506 participants, university students, describe a direct and significant relationship between sexism and dating violence $r_s=.171$. In the same vein, the work carried out in Spain by Madrona et al. (2023), who worked with 1421 students, concluded that sexism is framed in the adolescent stage and is related to violent behavior in the couple. Similarly, in Argentina, Rodríguez and Soriano (2022), working with adolescents, found a correlation between violence and sexist behaviors with an $r=.520$. A different result is that of Blas (2020), developed in Lima, where no correlation was reported between the study variables ($-.010$ $p>.05$). Probably the difference with this study is because it was carried out with high school students from Villa el Salvador and in the present work it is carried out mainly with adults from a Higher Technical School of the PNP in Lima, however, it can be observed that in almost all the research works the direct and significant relationship between partner violence and sexism has been proven as in the present thesis.

Conclusions

- No significant differences were found in intimate partner violence according to the length of relationship.
- No significant differences in sexism were found according to the length of relationship.
- Intimate partner violence correlates significantly and directly with dimensions of sexism.
- Sexism correlates significantly and directly with the dimensions of intimate partner violence, with the exception of the threats dimension.
- Intimate partner violence and sexism correlate significantly and directly with a small ET, which indicates that the covariation of both variables occurs in at least 6.2% of the participant sample.

Recommendations

- It is necessary for the Department of Psychology of the PNP Lima Higher Technical School to proceed to evaluate intimate partner violence, and based on this, implement preventive programs to eradicate intimate partner violence and sexism in the institution.
- Students, professors and researchers at the university are recommended to develop instruments that measure intimate partner violence with a smaller number of items and that include items of veracity, so that the results improve in their consistency and are more realistic.
- To continue conducting research on intimate partner violence with other variables based on antecedents that show the lack of studies with these variables, but which, nevertheless, according to the experience of psychologists, would hypothetically present a strong relationship.
- Convert this thesis into a paper and present it at national and international conferences.

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