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Presentation title: Does having delinquent peers influence levels of IPV morality in adolescence?

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Intimate partner violence (IPV) in adolescence and young adulthood is an issue of global proportions with research showing rates with up to 50% of young people being exposed to this kind of violence. To be able to prevent IPV in adolescence it is important to understand why young people chose to commit acts of IPV. In the present study, Situational Action Theory (SAT) will be used as point of departure. SAT claims that moral values are key in explaining why people commit crime, increased knowledge on attitudes and moral values related to IPV is an important aspect of understanding IPV-perpetration in adolescence. Moral values are gained through moral education and socialization, with parents and teachers being the primary moral educators. However, during adolescence young people tend to emancipate themselves from adult figures and spend more time with peers making them central actors in their socialization process influencing the individual's values and attitudes. The present study aims to investigate if IPV morality is associated with the general morality curated by parents and teachers through moral education or if delinquent peers influence the association. In addition, the study aims to explore if there are differences in these patterns between boys and girls. The study is cross-sectional and based on self-reported data collected through the Malmö Individual Neighborhood Development Study (MINDS). A longitudinal study conducted at the department of criminology at Malmö University. The sample consists of 525 individuals born 1995 and living in Malmö at the start of the study in 2007. The data used for the present study were collected when the participants were 18-19 years old. Keywords: Delinquent peers, Gender differences, Intimate partner violence, IPV morality, Moral education, Morality.