

# A Call to Teach Sexual Violence as a Chief Complaint

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## Introduction

- Sexual violence is a pressing public health issue in the U.S., causing varied medical impacts on survivors.
- While agencies have set guidelines for treating these survivors, practice often falls short.<sup>1,3-4</sup>
- Educational efforts are proving useful in enhancing medical students' approach to caring for those affected by sexual violence.<sup>1,4</sup>

## Aims & Objectives

- To establish the link between rape myth acceptance, knowledge of best practices, and medical complications of sexual violence, as well as comfort in screening and treating survivors.
- To assess the need to integrate sexual violence education into standard medical school curricula.

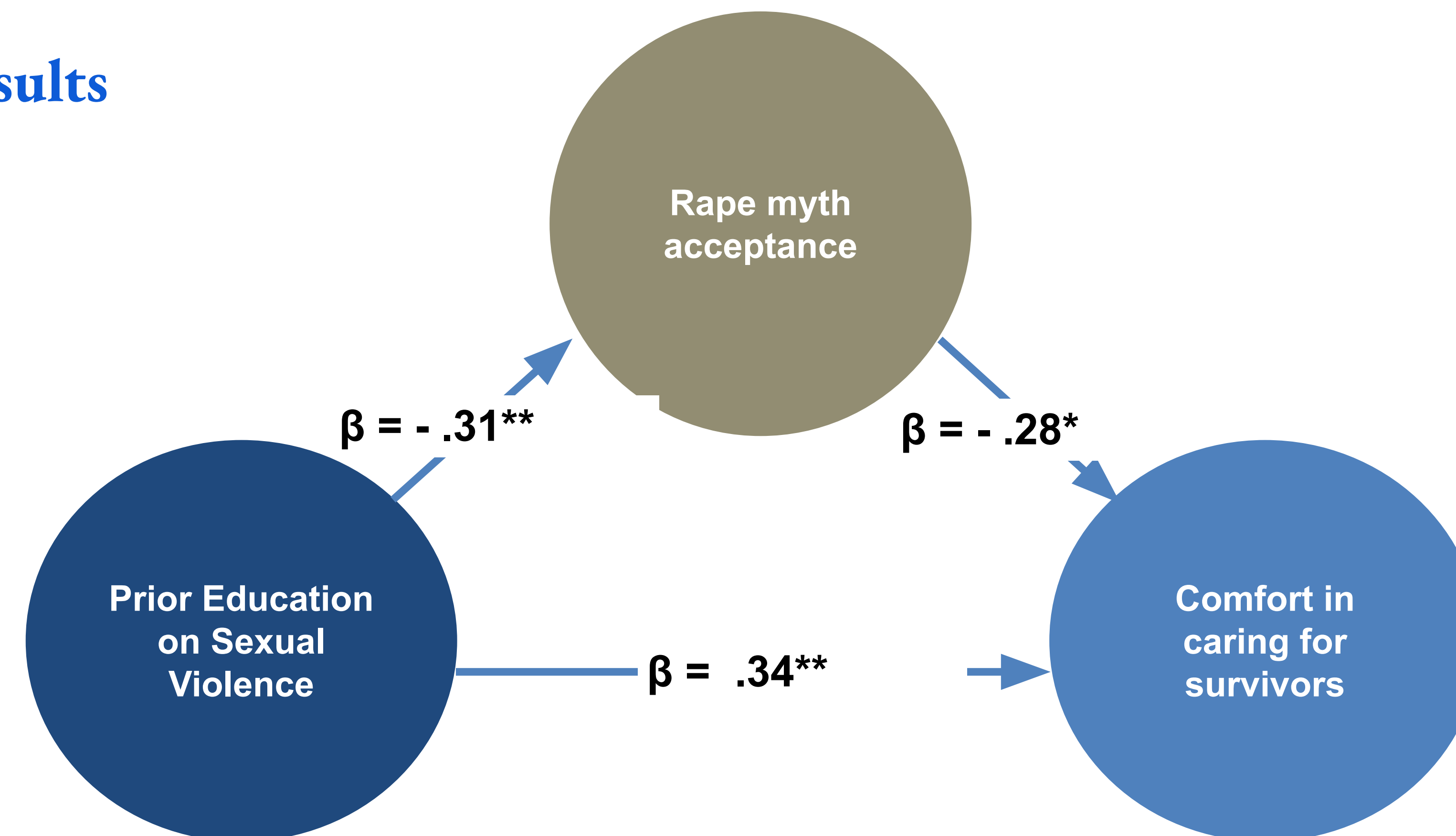
## Methods

**Design:** cross-sectional, survey-based methodology

**Procedure:** N = 72 OUWB students were recruited via Qualtrics

**Analytical Approach:** To test the hypothesis, correlation analysis, multiple regression analysis, and analysis of covariance (ANCOVA) were utilized. The Bonferroni correction was applied to control for the effects of multiple testing.

## Results



## Discussion

- The link between lower rape myth acceptance and improved attitudes towards treating sexual violence (SV) survivors underscores the importance of addressing these myths in medical education.
- Educational efforts enhance student empathy and care quality for SV survivors. Furthermore, students' desire for more SV education points to a significant demand for its inclusion in medical curricula.

## Conclusion

Our research identified knowledge gaps, negative attitudes towards sexual violence survivors, and a confidence deficit in providing care. This indicates a need for curriculum enhancements in medical education. Moreover, there's a student demand for learning about this issue.

We advocate for training medical students in screening, caring for, and treating sexual violence survivors.

## References

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