

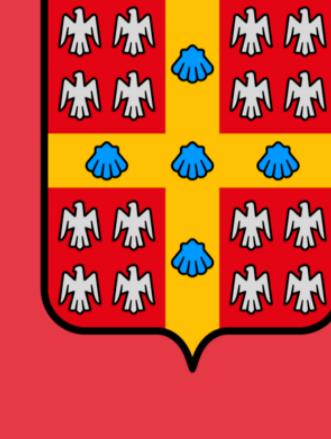


Hazing, violence toward athletes during sports initiation



Étude sur le vécu des athlètes du Québec

Chaire de recherche Sécurité et intégrité en milieu sportif



UNIVERSITÉ LAVAL

Objectives

Based on ÉVAQ data, explore:

- ✔ the socio-demographic profile of athlete initiates who have experienced hazing;
- ✔ the prevalence of hazing;
- ✔ psychosocial adaptations of initiated athletes who have experienced hazing.

Sports initiation

Positive sports initiation

Negative Abusive Hazing



"Any potentially humiliating, degrading, abusive, or dangerous activity expected of a junior-ranking athlete by a more senior teammate, which does not contribute to either athlete's positive development, but is required to be accepted as part of a team, regardless of the junior-ranking athlete's willingness to participate. (...)"

(Crow & Macintosh, 2009, p.449)

Sample

01 1,160 Quebec adolescents aged 14 to 17 met the inclusion criteria for the ÉVAQ.

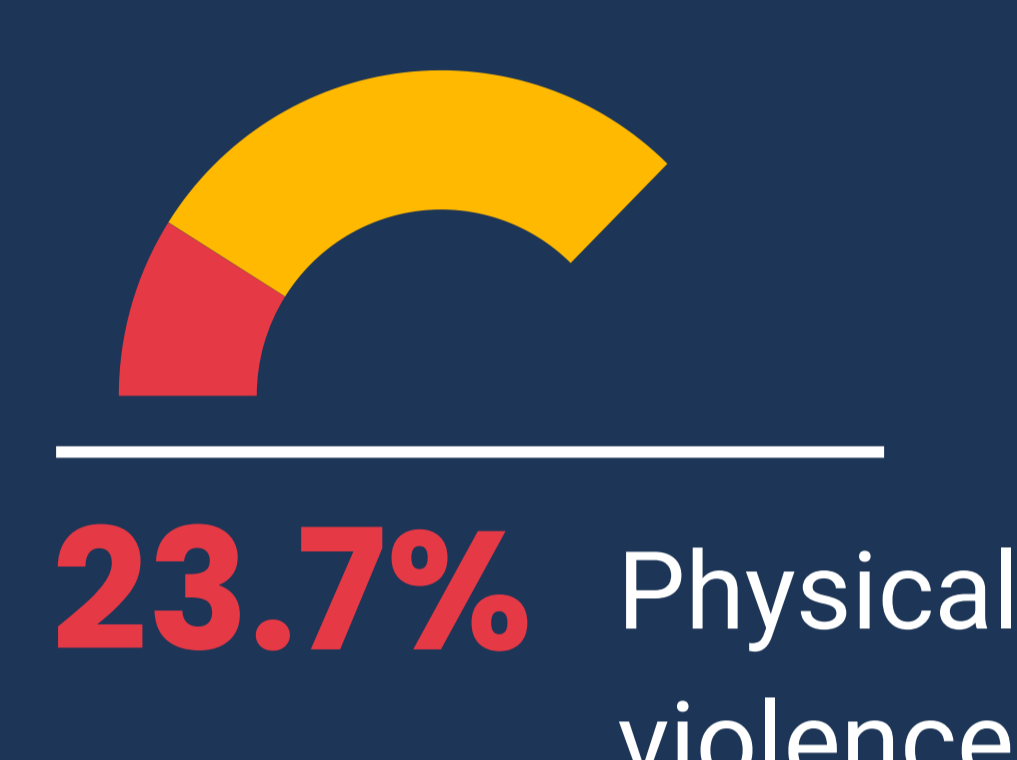
03 120 teenagers reported having experienced **hazing** practices.

02 299 teenagers reported being initiated as part of their sporting activities.

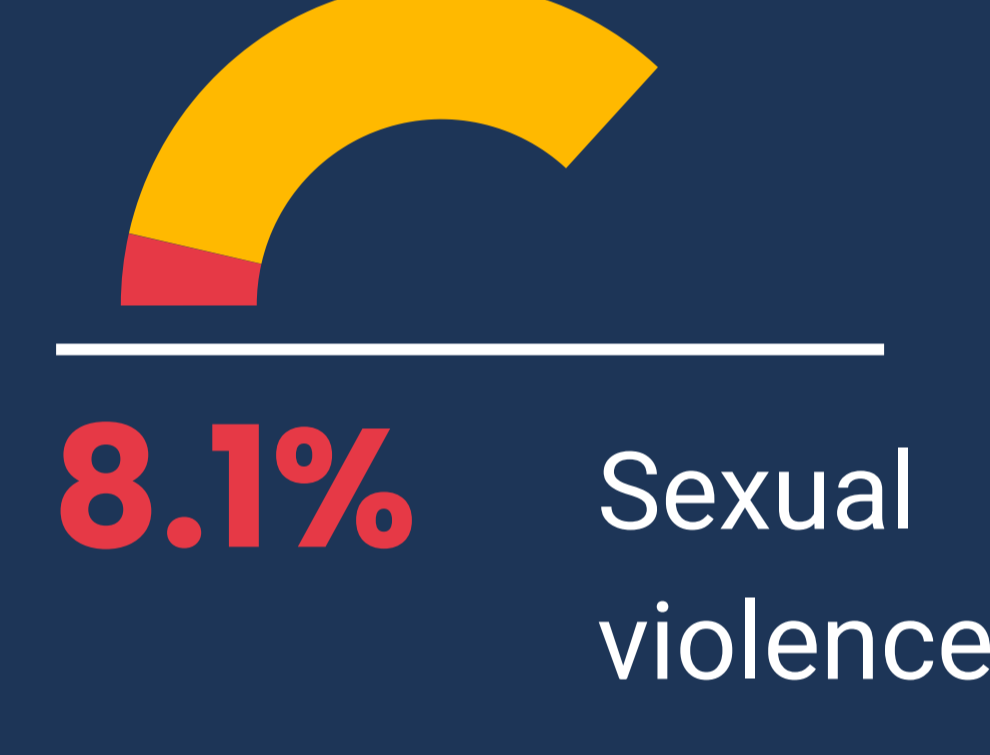
Hazing events during sports initiation (n=299)



- Confronted with unkind words or insults (23.7%)
- Threatened with harm or consequences for disobedience (7.8%)
- Kidnapped, tied up, isolated, abandoned (2.6%)



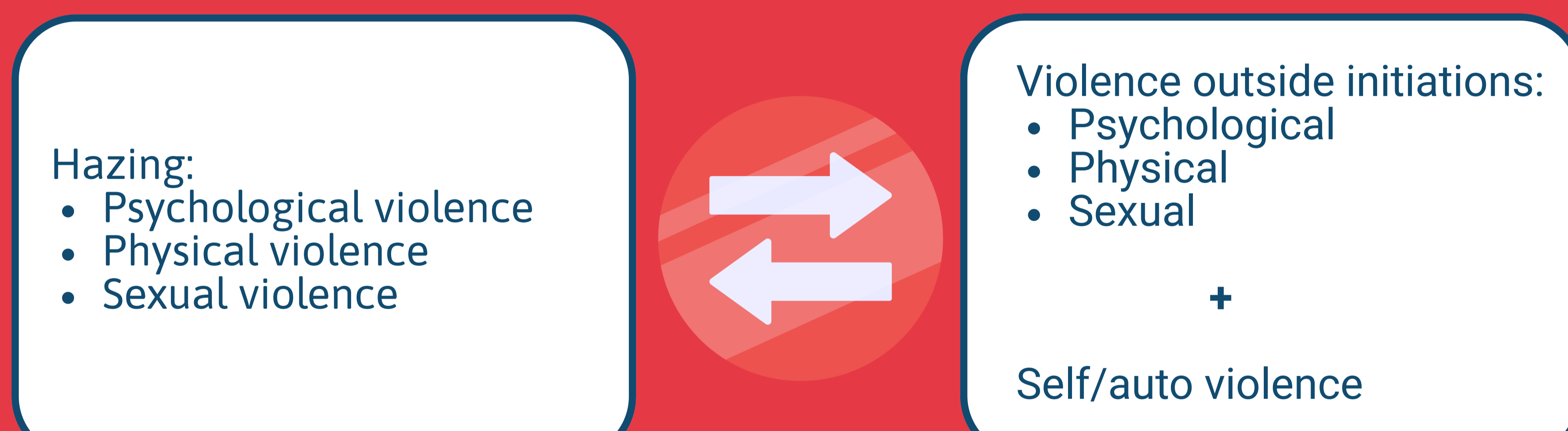
- Sleep deprived (13.6%)
- Pressured to drink large quantities of alcohol in a short space of time (9.8%)
- Hit, pushed or shaken (6.4%)
- Forced to have a body part tattooed, pierced or shaved, or even forced to ingest non-food substances (2.0%)



- Asked to simulate acts of a sexual nature (4.7%)
- Asked to undress or remove clothing (3.7%)
- Asked to perform acts of a sexual nature (2.7%)
- Forced to have unwanted sexual relations (1.0%)

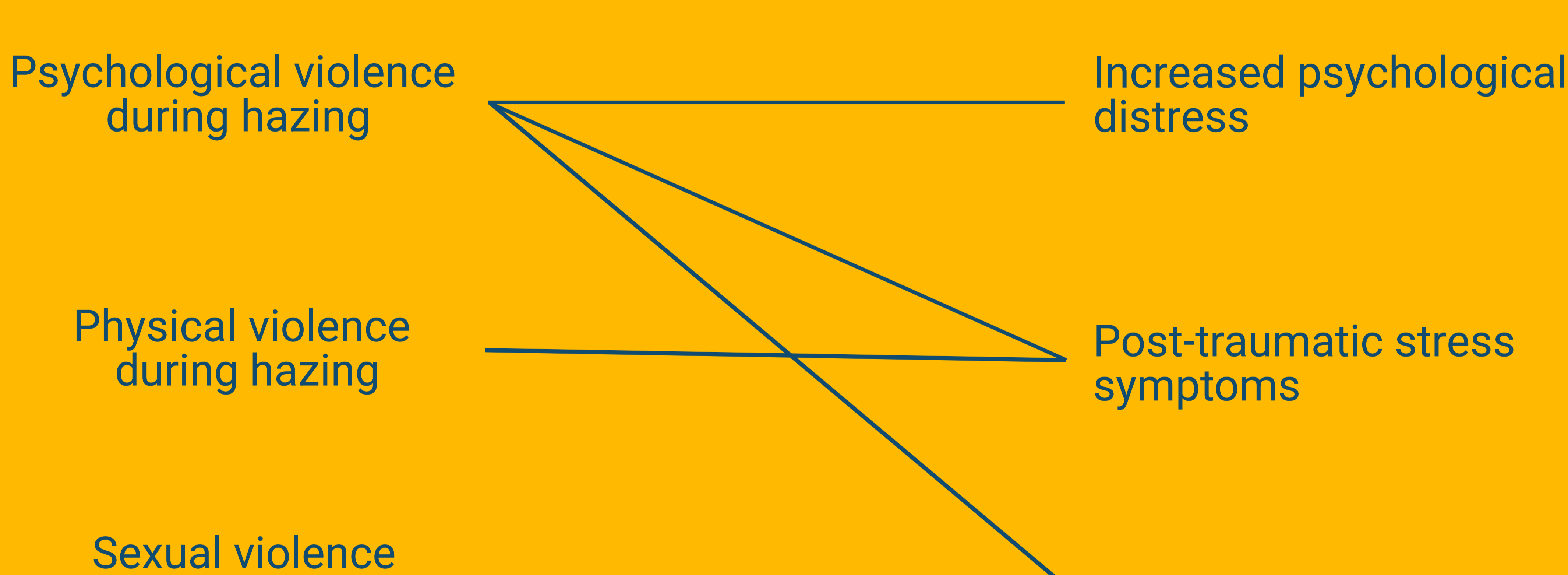
Associations between hazing experience and violence outside initiations

Each form of hazing is associated with each form of violence perpetrated outside initiations and with self/auto violence*.



* "An intentional practice specific to the sport context and perpetrated by the athlete himself that directly endangers his physical, psychological, or emotional health and well-being." (Atkinson & Young, 2008, p.110)

Psychosocial adaptations of athletes who have experienced hazing



Athletes who had experienced hazing had significantly higher levels of **psychological distress** and **post-traumatic stress symptoms** than initiated athletes with no experience of hazing ($p < 0.05$).

Implications for practice

It is recommended to implement preventive measures on hazing:

- Make hazing **rules and sanctions explicit** in violence prevention policies;
- Increase **awareness-raising and information measures aimed at members of the sport community** and organizations;
- **Educate athletes** about the manifestations of hazing, potential harm, rules and applicable sanctions;
- Encourage **positive practices for welcoming and integrating** new athletes;
- **Promote victim support measures** such as the helpline and complaint management mechanism.

To refer this infographic:

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