# Article information:

“Coaching Boys into Men”: A Cluster-Randomized Controlled Trial of a Dating Violence Prevention Program | Scholars Portal Journals
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# Article summary:

1. Dating violence (DV) is prevalent among adolescents, with one in three U.S. girls reporting physical, emotional, or verbal abuse from a dating partner.

2. The "Coaching Boys into Men" program, which engages athletic coaches to deliver violence prevention messages to adolescent male athletes, showed increases in high school male athletes' intentions to intervene and actual bystander intervention behaviors.

3. Male student athletes constitute an important target for DV prevention, given the relatively higher prevalence of DV perpetration and endorsement of attitudes supportive of violence against women among athletes.

# Article rating:

Appears moderately imbalanced: The article provides some useful information, but is missing several important points or pieces of evidence that would be required to present the discussed topics in a balanced and reliable way. You are encouraged to seek a more balanced perspective on the presented issues by exploring the provided research topics and looking at different information sources.

# Article analysis:

The article titled “Coaching Boys into Men”: A Cluster-Randomized Controlled Trial of a Dating Violence Prevention Program” presents a study evaluating the effectiveness of the Coaching Boys into Men (CBIM) program in preventing dating violence among male high school athletes. The article highlights the prevalence of dating violence among adolescents and the need for effective prevention programs. It also discusses the importance of engaging men and boys to promote nonviolent, gender-equitable attitudes as a critical public health strategy to reduce violence against women.

The study design is a cluster-randomized controlled trial, which involves randomly assigning schools to either an intervention or control group. The intervention group received the CBIM program, while the control group received coaching as usual. The primary outcomes measured were recognition of abusive behavior, gender-equitable attitudes, and intentions to intervene when witnessing abusive behaviors. Secondary outcomes included positive and negative bystander intervention behavior scores and abuse perpetration.

Overall, the article provides a comprehensive overview of the study design, methods, and outcomes. However, there are some potential biases and limitations that should be considered. For example, the study only focused on male high school athletes in urban areas in California, which may limit its generalizability to other populations or settings. Additionally, the study relied on self-reported data from participants, which may be subject to social desirability bias or recall bias.

Furthermore, while the article acknowledges that few programs with demonstrated effectiveness exist for preventing dating violence among adolescents, it does not provide a thorough review of existing prevention programs or their limitations. This lack of context may make it difficult for readers to fully understand how CBIM compares to other interventions.

Additionally, while the article highlights the importance of engaging men and boys in promoting nonviolent attitudes towards women as a critical public health strategy to reduce violence against women, it does not explore potential counterarguments or critiques of this approach. For example, some scholars have argued that focusing solely on changing individual attitudes may overlook broader structural factors that contribute to gender-based violence.

In terms of promotional content or partiality, it is worth noting that CBIM was developed by Futures Without Violence (FWV), an organization dedicated to ending domestic and sexual violence against women and children. While this affiliation does not necessarily invalidate the study's findings or conclusions, it is important for readers to be aware of potential conflicts of interest.

Overall, while this article provides valuable insights into the effectiveness of CBIM in preventing dating violence among male high school athletes in urban areas in California, readers should consider potential biases and limitations when interpreting its findings. Additionally, further research is needed to determine whether similar interventions would be effective in other populations or settings and how they compare with existing prevention programs.

# Topics for further research:

* Critiques of individual attitude change approaches to preventing gender-based violence
* Existing dating violence prevention programs and their limitations
* Structural factors contributing to gender-based violence
* Effectiveness of prevention programs in different populations and settings
* Social desirability bias in self-reported data
* Potential conflicts of interest in research on dating violence prevention programs

# Report location:

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