# Article information:

The treatment of dangerous behavior - Foxx - 2003 - Behavioral Interventions - Wiley Online Library  
<https://onlinelibrary-wiley-com.proxy.library.brocku.ca/doi/pdf/10.1002/bin.127>

# Article summary:

1. The article discusses the treatment of dangerous behavior in individuals, particularly those with developmental disabilities.

2. The author emphasizes the importance of functional assessment to identify the underlying causes of dangerous behavior and develop effective interventions.

3. The article highlights various behavioral interventions that have been successful in reducing dangerous behavior, including positive reinforcement, punishment, and extinction techniques.

# 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 "The treatment of dangerous behavior" by Foxx (2003) provides an overview of the various interventions used to treat dangerous behavior. While the article is informative and well-written, it has some potential biases and limitations that need to be considered.

One potential bias in the article is that it focuses primarily on behavioral interventions and does not consider other forms of treatment such as medication or psychotherapy. This narrow focus may limit the effectiveness of the interventions discussed in the article and may not provide a comprehensive understanding of how to treat dangerous behavior.

Another limitation of the article is that it does not address the underlying causes of dangerous behavior. While behavioral interventions can be effective in reducing dangerous behaviors, they may not address the root causes of these behaviors. Therefore, a more holistic approach that considers both behavioral and psychological factors may be necessary for successful treatment.

Additionally, the article does not provide sufficient evidence for some of its claims. For example, while it suggests that aversive conditioning can be effective in reducing dangerous behaviors, there is limited empirical evidence to support this claim. Furthermore, some studies have shown that aversive conditioning can have negative side effects such as increased aggression and anxiety.

The article also presents a one-sided view of behavioral interventions as being universally effective in treating dangerous behavior. However, there are cases where these interventions may not be appropriate or effective. For example, individuals with severe mental illness or developmental disabilities may require specialized treatments that go beyond traditional behavioral interventions.

Finally, while the article acknowledges some potential risks associated with certain interventions such as physical restraint or seclusion, it does not fully explore these risks or provide guidance on how to minimize them. This lack of consideration for potential risks could lead to unintended harm for individuals receiving treatment.

In conclusion, while Foxx's (2003) article provides valuable information on treating dangerous behavior through behavioral interventions, it has some limitations and biases that need to be considered. A more comprehensive approach that considers both behavioral and psychological factors, as well as potential risks and limitations of interventions, may be necessary for successful treatment.

# Topics for further research:

* Medication and psychotherapy for treating dangerous behavior
* Root causes of dangerous behavior and holistic treatment approaches
* Empirical evidence for aversive conditioning and its potential negative side effects
* Specialized treatments for individuals with severe mental illness or developmental disabilities
* Risks associated with physical restraint and seclusion in treating dangerous behavior
* Comprehensive approach to treating dangerous behavior that considers behavioral
* psychological
* and risk factors.

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