

Appendix B: Table of data

Study	Country of origin	Research aim	Participants	Methodology/ methods	Measure of attachment insecurity	Measure of psychological abuse	Study focus	Variables investigated	Category	Key findings
Aracı-İyiyaydın et al. (2020)	Turkey	Explore rumination and cognitive jealousy as mediators in relation to attachment anxiety and abuse perpetration.	562 participants. 71.9% women, 27.8% men, 0.4% other. 93.6% heterosexual, 1.6% gay, 0.4% lesbian, 3.6% bisexual, 0.7% other, 0.2% preferred not to say.	Online survey	ECR-S	MMEA restrictive engulfment scale	Perpetration	Rumination, jealousy, psychological and cyber abuse perpetration, attachment anxiety	Individual factors	Brooding and cognitive jealousy mediated the relationship between attachment anxiety and psychological abuse, and between attachment anxiety and cyber abuse.
Barbaro et al. (2019)	USA	Determine extent to which genetic covariation accounts for phenotypic associations between attachment anxiety and intimate partner violence.	277 participants. 59% men, 44% white, 38% Asian, 10% Native American/Alaskan, 8% black or African American, 1% Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, 27% Hispanic/Latino.	Study 1: survey methodology. Study 2: simulation-based modeling	ECR-R	CTS-2	Both	Attachment anxiety, intimate partner abuse perpetration and victimization, genetic covariation	Biological factors	Attachment anxiety significantly associated with intimate partner violence victimization and perpetration. Phenotypic associations between attachment anxiety and psychological abuse explained by genetic covariation as well as environmental factors.
Barbaro and Shackelford (2019)	USA	Explore experiences of environmental unpredictability in early childhood and attachment theory as mechanisms underlying perpetration of intimate partner violence.	Study 1: 128 participants (50% women, 73% white), mean age 35.1. Study 2: 263 participants (57% men, 46% white, 37% Asian), mean age 32.2 years.	Survey methodology (Studies 1 & 2)	ECR-R	CTS-2	Perpetration	Childhood emotional unpredictability, anxious attachment, intimate partner abuse perpetration	Childhood experiences	Anxious attachment, but not avoidant attachment, mediated the relationship between childhood unpredictability and perpetration of intimate partner abuse in men but not women.
Bonache et al. (2019)	Spain	Investigate the role of conflict resolution styles in explaining the link between attachment insecurity and vulnerability to psychological abuse victimization.	216 participants (76.4% women), all heterosexual, mean age 21.4 years.	Online survey	ECR-R	Subtle and Overt Psychological Abuse Scale	Victimization	Attachment insecurity, destructive conflict resolution, intimate partner abuse victimization	Relationship factors	Attachment anxiety indirectly predicted victimization through engagement with destructive conflict. No direct paths were found for avoidant attachment.
Bui and Pasalich (2021)	Australia	Determine whether borderline and psychopathic personality traits account for the indirect association between insecure attachment and perpetration of psychological abuse.	200 participants currently in or recently in relationship. 147 female, 53 male. Mean age 22.3 years. 48% Caucasian, 34.5% East Asian, 8% Mixed race, 7.5% Southern Asian, 2% other. 89% heterosexual, 11% non-heterosexual.	Survey methodology	ECR-R	MMEA and Cyber Psychological Abuse scale	Perpetration	Insecure attachment, borderline personality traits, psychopathic traits, psychological and cyber abuse perpetration	Individual factors	Borderline and psychopathic personality traits mediated the relationship between attachment anxiety and perpetration of online and in-person psychological abuse. Psychopathic traits, but not borderline traits, mediated the relationship between avoidant attachment and online and in-person abuse.
Davidson et al. (2017)	USA	Compare attachment styles of women who have experienced intimate partner abuse and those who have not.	502 female undergraduate students aged 17-38. 88% white, 4% biracial/multiracial, 3% Asian, 2% Latino/a, 2% African American, 0.2% Native American, 0.2% did	Online survey	Parental Bonding Instrument, Love-Withdrawal Scale, ECR	Abusive Behaviour Inventory	Victimization	Intimate partner violence victimization, parenting, attachment, previous experiences of abuse	Childhood experiences	Attachment anxiety, parental love withdrawal and overprotectiveness predicted psychological abuse victimization.

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			not report race.							
Gewirtz-Meydan and Finzi-Dottan (2021)	Israel	Test whether psychological abuse mediates the relationship between attachment insecurity and relationship satisfaction in couples.	128 heterosexual couples (n=256) in 3+ year relationships with at least one child. Average age 34.38 years. Average 15.73 years education. 87% native Israeli, 10.2% immigrants from Europe, US, Canada, South America, South Africa, 2.4% other.	Online survey	ECR-S	Non-Physical Abuse of Partner Scale	Perpetration	Attachment, psychological abuse perpetration, relationship satisfaction	Dyads	An actor effect of attachment anxiety on psychological abuse perpetration was found for both men and women. A partner effect was found whereby women's anxious attachment predicted partner psychological abuse perpetration, which in turn predicted low relationship satisfaction for men.
Goncy and van Dulmen (2016)	USA	Investigate the relationship between perpetration of emotional dating abuse and attachment insecurity using multimethod, multi-informant dyadic data.	113 heterosexual dating nonmarried couples, in relationship for at least 4 months. 89% of males and 88% of females were White, 99% of females were students compared to 82% of males.	Multimethod, multi-informant dyadic study using questionnaire and dyadic observational assessment	ECR-R	Conflict in Adolescent Dating Relationships Inventory	Perpetration	Attachment anxiety, attachment avoidance, dating abuse perpetration	Dyads	Male and female attachment anxiety, but not avoidance, related to higher female emotional abuse perpetration.
Gou and Woodin (2017)	Canada	Determine whether relationship dissatisfaction mediates the temporal association between attachment insecurity and later psychological aggression.	Time 1: 98 English-speaking couples in third trimester of pregnancy with first child, living together, age 17+. 69% married. 79.1% Caucasian, 5.6% Asian, 2.6% First Nations, 1% Latino/a, 0.5% African, 0.5% East Indian. Time 2: 75 men and 85 women. Time 3: 69 men and 71 women.	3-wave longitudinal study using self-report questionnaires and observational measurements	ECR	CTS-2	Perpetration	Relationship dissatisfaction, attachment insecurity, psychological aggression, transition to parenthood	Dyads	Relationship dissatisfaction mediated the association between anxious attachment and psychological abuse perpetration in women.
Jackson (2018)	USA	Explore the effects of jealousy and forgiveness on the relationship between insecure attachment and psychological abuse perpetration.	441 heterosexual undergraduate students, 86.6% female, mean age 19.42. 66.9% Caucasian, 23.8% African American, 3.2% Asian, 2.5% Latino, 2.3% Multiracial.	Online surveys	ECR-R	MMEA	Perpetration	Attachment, jealousy, forgiveness, psychological abuse perpetration	Individual factors	Cognitive jealousy and behavioural jealousy partially mediated the relationship between attachment anxiety and psychological abuse perpetration. Cognitive jealousy also partially mediated the relationship between avoidant attachment and psychological abuse perpetration.
Karakurt et al. (2019)	USA	Investigate the association between attachment and victimization of abuse in heterosexual, dyadic relationships.	87 heterosexual couples (174 individuals), mean age 22.3 years. 70% Caucasian, 9% Asian, 9% African American, 6% Hispanic.	Self-report survey	ECR	CTS-2	Victimization	Attachment insecurity, relational violence victimization mental model of self and others, secure base	Dyads	Female attachment insecurity was associated with victimization of emotional abuse. No actor or partner effects were found for men.

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Kong et al. (2018)	USA	Explore the relationship between childhood maltreatment and victimization of intimate partner abuse in Native American adults through the lens of attachment theory.	479 Native American adults (women aged 18+ and men aged 40+) from rural South Dakota. Average age 47.4 years, 60% female, 32% married.	Secondary data analysis of existing survey data	Relationship Questionnaire (RQ)	CTS	Victimization	Childhood maltreatment, intimate partner violence victimization, attachment insecurity	Childhood experiences	No direct relationship between insecure attachment and abuse victimization. Fearful attachment and depressive symptoms indirectly sequentially mediated the relationship between childhood maltreatment and abuse.
Lafontaine et al. (2012)	Canada	Investigate romantic perfectionism and perceived couple conflict as serial mediators of the link between attachment insecurity and intimate partner violence victimization.	564 participants aged 17-25 in romantic relationships. 422 females, 142 males, mean age 19.4. 94.1% straight, 4.8% gay or lesbian. 75.7% Caucasian, 6.2% Black, 12.9% Asian, 14 Hispanic/Latino, 1 Pacific Islander, 37 Middle Eastern, 15 Native/First Nations, 1 other.	Online survey	ECR-12	CTS-2	Victimization	Romantic perfectionism, perceived couple conflict, attachment insecurity, intimate partner abuse victimization	Relationship factors	Socially prescribed romantic perfectionism and perceived couple conflict mediated the relationship between attachment insecurity and victimization of intimate partner abuse.
Lancaster et al. (2020)	USA	Investigate the relationships between cyber dating abuse victimization, attachment avoidance and anxiety, and relationship quality.	177 undergraduate students, 89.2% female, average age 20.74 years, 70.3% Caucasian, 15.3% Latino/Hispanic, 10.1% African American/Black, 1.4% Asian/Pacific Islander, 2.9% other.	Online survey	ECR-S	Partner Cyber Abuse Questionnaire	Victimization	Relationship quality, cyber dating abuse victimization, attachment	Relationship factors	Neither attachment anxiety nor attachment avoidance moderated the relationship between victimization of cyber dating abuse and relationship quality.
Longares et al. (2020)	Spain	Explore whether outness moderates the relationship between attachment insecurity and perpetration of psychological abuse for individuals in same-sex relationships.	305 participants aged 18-68 from Spanish-speaking countries in conflictive same-sex intimate relationships. 48.2% identified as gay, 36.7% identified as lesbian, and 15.1% identified as bisexual/pansexual. Mean age 31.49, 48.5% were registered as female at birth.	Online questionnaire	ECR-R	Psychological Abuse in Intimate Partner Violence Scale	Perpetration	Attachment insecurity, psychological abuse perpetration, outness as member of LGBTQIA+ community	Individual factors	An individual's overall outness moderated the relationship between attachment insecurity and perpetration of abuse.
McClure and Parmenter (2020)	USA	Investigate the relationship between childhood trauma, attachment anxiety, intimate partner violence, and depression and trait anxiety.	3264 participants aged 17-23 years, 83% Caucasian, 3% African American, 10% Hispanic, 2% Asian American, 1% multiracial, 1% other.	Computerized self-report inventories	AAS	Conflict in Adolescent Dating Relationships Inventory	Both	Childhood trauma, trait anxiety, anxious attachment, intimate partner violence perpetration and victimization	Childhood experiences	Victimization and perpetration of verbal and emotional abuse both correlated with experiences of childhood emotional abuse. Attachment anxiety was also correlated with childhood emotional abuse. Perpetration related to trait anxiety, while victimization was linked with attachment anxiety.

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McDermott et al. (2017)	USA	Link attachment dimensions to four domains of psychological intimate partner violence, with dominance orientations as a mediator of those associations.	908 participants currently in intimate relationship lasting 6+ months aged 18-25. Average age 21.2 years, 366 male and 542 female. 92% heterosexual. 57% White Non-Hispanic, 23% Asian, 8% Hispanic, 6% Black, 4% multiracial, 0.2% Native American, 0.1% Pacific Islander, 2.3% preferred not to answer.	Online survey	ECR-S	MMEA	Perpetration	Dominance orientation, psychological aggression, attachment insecurity	Individual factors	Attachment anxiety was associated with all four types of psychological aggression in women, but only with restrictive engulfment in men. For both men and women, avoidant attachment was linked with hostile withdrawal, and was also linked to denigration behaviours in men. Dominance orientation mediated the relationship between attachment insecurity and perpetration of all four types of psychological abuse.
Oka et al. (2016)	USA	Test whether relationship power mediates the association between attachment insecurity and relational aggression.	457 couples in heterosexual relationships, 83% European American, 3% African American, 3% Asian American, and 2% Latino. Mean age 43.8 for females, 45.6 for males, mean relationship length 18.7 years.	Dyadic partner interviews/ surveys	ECR	Couples Relational Aggression and Victimization Scale	Both	Attachment, relational aggression, relational power	Dyads	Attachment insecurity was linked with lower relational power and higher relational aggression from a partner. Relationship power mediated the relationship between attachment insecurity and relational aggression.
Smagur et al. (2018)	USA	Explore the influence of attachment insecurity on the link between intimate partner violence and depression in pregnant women.	206 heterosexual women aged 18-40 in third trimester of pregnancy. 63% Caucasian, 26% African American, 5% Hispanic, 4% multiracial, 1% Native American, 1% Asian American. Average age 25.38.	Cross-sectional data taken from larger longitudinal study	ASQ	Severity of Violence Against Women Scale	Victimization	Attachment insecurity, intimate partner abuse victimization, childhood maltreatment, depressive symptoms	Childhood experiences	Attachment insecurity fully mediated the effects of childhood maltreatment and intimate partner violence on depressive symptoms. Childhood maltreatment did not significantly moderate the relationship between intimate partner violence and attachment insecurity.
Sommer et al. (2017)	USA	Identify whether gender differences influence the relationship between attachment and abuse in dyads, and understand actor and partner effects of attachment style on intimate partner violence perpetration in dyads.	163 heterosexual couples aged 18+, married or living together experiencing conflict in their relationship. 51.5% African American, 28.2% White, 13.8% Hispanic, 2.5% Asian, 4% Native American or Other.	Questionnaires and observational assessment in laboratory.	AAS	CTS-2	Perpetration	Attachment, intimate partner violence perpetration	Dyads	Own attachment avoidance predicted one's own perpetration of psychological aggression. However, attachment anxiety did not predict psychological aggression perpetration. A partner's level of avoidance or anxiety predicted one's own perpetration of psychological aggression.
Sonkin et al. (2019)	USA	Explore associations between insecure attachment, relationship functioning and psychological domestic abuse in a sample of court-	97 participants mandated by criminal court to participate in domestic violence programme (76 male, 21 female). Age 18+ years. No other demographic data	Interviews and self-report measures completed at beginning and end of programme	ECR-R	Controlling and Abusive Tactics Questionnaire	Perpetration	Attachment insecurity, psychological violence perpetration, anger management, communication,	Relationship factors	In men, attachment anxiety was linked to four types of psychological abuse, whereas in women, attachment anxiety was only linked to two types of psychological abuse perpetration. Overall, anxious attachment was

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		mandated perpetrators of domestic violence.	provided.					conflict resolution		the strongest predictor of psychological abuse in perpetrators of domestic violence of both genders.
Toplu-Demirtaş et al. (2020)	Turkey	Investigate the mechanisms which influence the association between attachment anxiety and cyber dating abuse perpetration.	368 college students in Turkey, 67.7% female, 3 participants identified as gender 'other'. 94% heterosexual, 1 lesbian, 4 gay, 14 bisexual, 3 other sexualities. Mean age 22.68 years.	Online survey	ECR-S anxiety subscale	Cyber Dating Violence Inventory	Perpetration	Cyber dating abuse perpetration, distrust, suspicion of infidelity, jealousy, attachment	Dyads	Dyadic distrust, anticipation of partner infidelity, and jealousy all moderated the relationship between attachment anxiety and perpetration of cyber dating abuse.
Toplu-Demirtaş et al. (2019)	Turkey	Investigate the mediating role of relationship satisfaction on the association between attachment insecurity and restrictive engulfment perpetration.	322 college students in Turkey (178 women, 137 men) aged 18-28.	10-15 minute survey conducted in college classrooms .	ECR	MMEA restrictive engulfment scale	Perpetration	Attachment insecurity, restrictive engulfment perpetration, relationship satisfaction	Relationship factors	Anxious attachment, but not avoidant attachment, were directly associated with perpetration of restrictive engulfment. Relationship satisfaction mediated the relationship between both types of insecure attachment and restrictive engulfment perpetration.
Tougas et al. (2016)	Canada	Use a dyadic approach to explore the association between both partners' attachment insecurity, perception of partner support, and perpetration of psychological aggression in couples seeking therapy.	210 heterosexual Canadian couples starting couples therapy at private clinic. Female mean age 41, male mean age 43. 92% of men and 94% of women Caucasian.	Cross-sectional data taken from larger longitudinal study. Partners received questionnaires to complete individually at home.	ECR	CTS-2	Perpetration	Attachment, perception of partner support, psychological aggression perpetration	Dyads	No significant associations were found between either type of attachment insecurity and use of psychological aggression.
Wright (2017)	Czech Republic	Investigate whether jealousy and anger mediate the association between insecure attachment and intimate partner aggression.	600 university students in southern USA. 325 female, mean age 20.68 years. 53.8% Caucasian, 26.3% Black or African American, 13.5% Latino/a, 5% Asian, 1.4% other. Participants were in a romantic relationship between 3 months and 6 years in length. 93% heterosexual, 5.6% gay or lesbian, 1.4% bisexual.	Self-report questionnaires	ECR-R	Self-reported Intimate Partner Aggression Perpetration Scale	Perpetration	Intimate partner aggression, attachment insecurity, jealousy, anger	Individual factors	Jealousy mediated the relationship between anxious attachment and privacy invasion both online and offline. Anger mediated the relationship between anxious attachment and face-to-face relational aggression. No significant associations were found for avoidant attachment.