**Surviving the dangerous and polluted river of life: Desire for revenge and forgiveness in childhood sexual abuse survivors' well-being and health**

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The proposed study aims to expand and refine theoretical knowledge to better understand the well-being and health of adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse (CSA) by examining the joint contributions of the desire for revenge, revenge fantasies, and forgiveness as potential facilitators of recovery. In western thinking, the desire for revenge and forgiveness are on opposite ends of a continuum; the desire for revenge is considered immoral, irrational, and a form of mental disease; and forgiveness is seen as a potential cure. In contrast, our model posits that revenge fantasies and forgiveness can co-exist as potential contributors to a sense of coherence in CSA survivors, which consequently facilitates well-being and health. In addition, in our study we expand upon prior models that ignore the potential roles of dissociation, rumination, and anger rumination in masking the positive aspects of the desire for revenge.

We based our hypotheses on preliminary findings about the empowering effects of revenge and forgiveness on victims' well-being. We propose a rich, innovative, non-binary understanding of healing trajectories among CSA adult survivors in which the desire for revenge and forgiveness can serve complementary functions in coping with harm and injustice. The empirical validation of our theoretical model will improve our understanding of revenge fantasies and forgiveness and their complementary roles in the well-being and thriving of CSA survivors, contributing key findings to the field of trauma recovery.