

Staff Attitudes Toward Borderline Personality Disorder

Unitec Research Symposium 2020

Sarah Gray

Overview

- Borderline Personality Disorder
- Current study
- Future study
- Questions & Answers



Girl, Interrupted (1999)

Borderline Personality Disorder

“is a pervasive pattern of instability of interpersonal relationships, self-image, and affects, and marked impulsivity, beginning by early adulthood and present in a variety of contexts”

(DSM-5)

Stigma and discrimination

- International – higher rates for borderline personality disorder than other disorders
- Rife within NZ mental health services
- Sheree Veysey, 2011 Masters at Unitec: consumer experiences



Why does this matter?

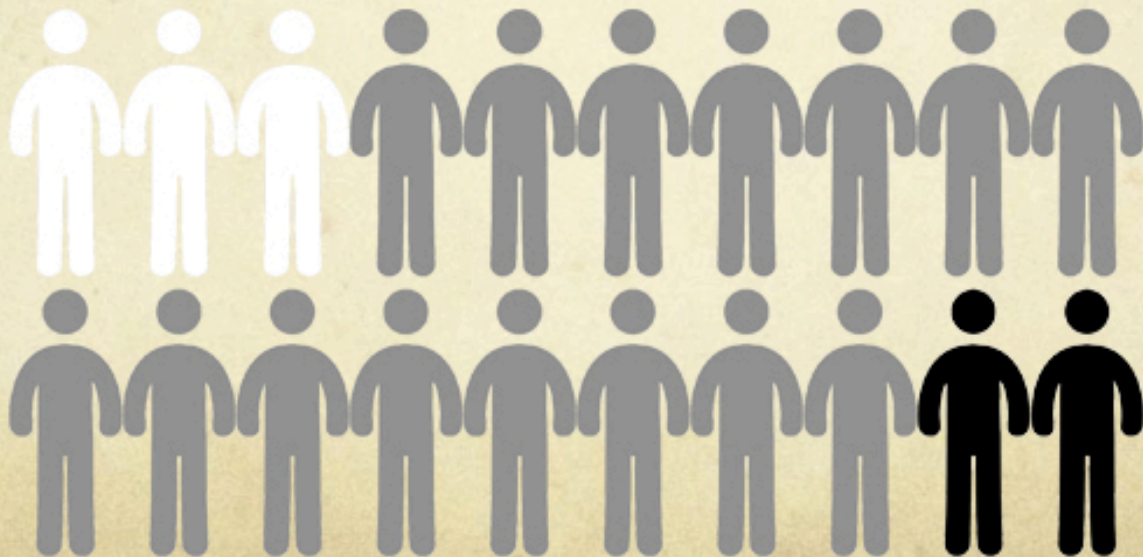
Self-harm

- Prominent help-seeking traits
- High cost to services
- Inpatient admissions
- Distress to families
- Alternative coping skills can be learned
- Unnecessary



Suicide

- High rates in NZ (654 last year)
- 10% lifetime mortality
- 75% attempt



Impact on staff

- Secondary traumatic stress
- Vicarious trauma
- Burnout
- Unnecessary
- Health and safety legal obligations



Current study

Factors influencing staff members' care of clients diagnosed with borderline personality disorder

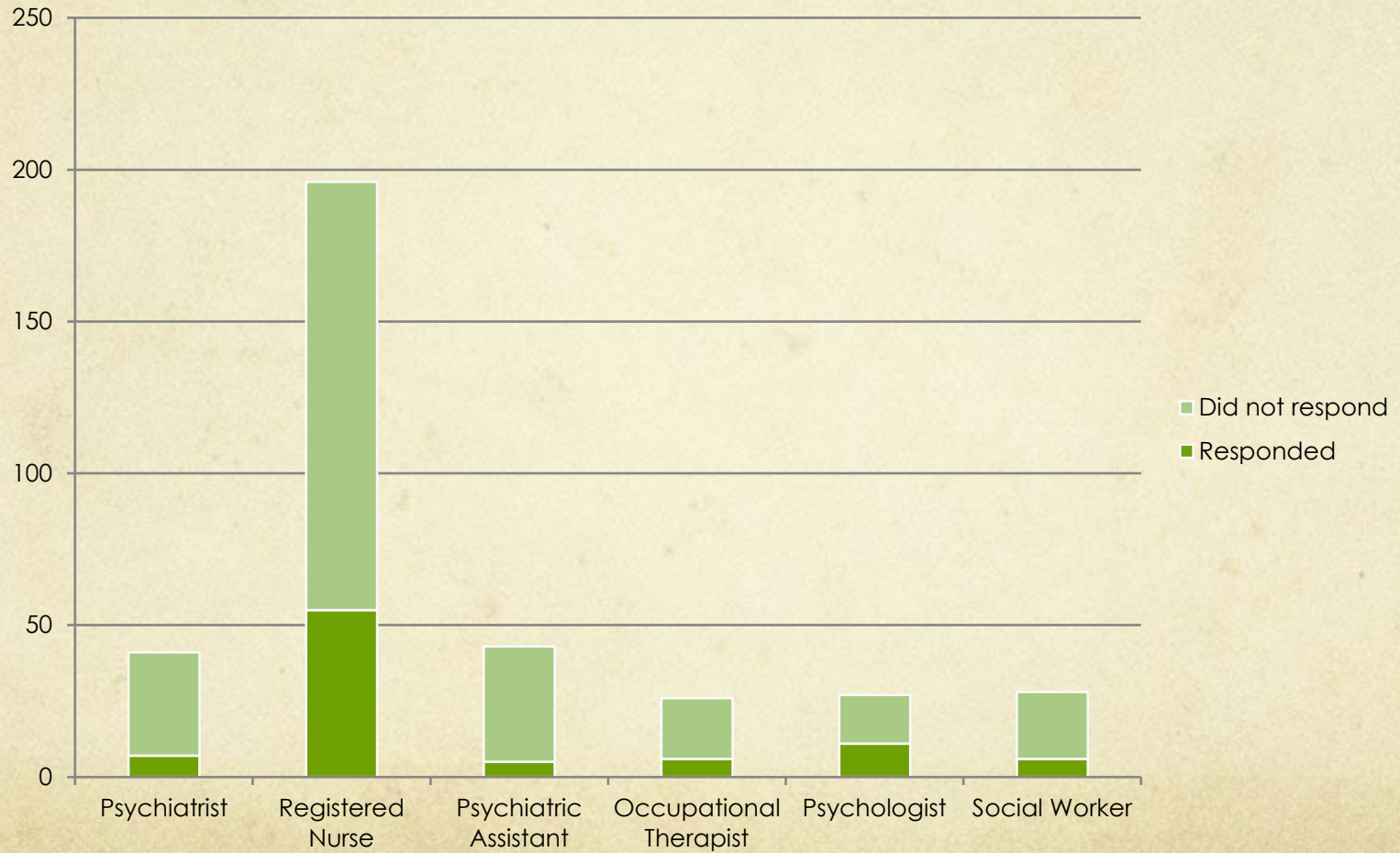
Study phases

- Phase One: Questionnaire sent to all AMHS
- Phase Two: Interviews with Professional Leads
- Recommendations

Questionnaire

- Demographics:
age, gender, ethnicity, professional group,
work area, tenure, full-time equivalent
employment, highest level of education,
specialised education, supervision
- Attitude to Personality Disorder Questionnaire
- Socially Desirable Response Set Five-Item
Survey

Responses



Analysis

Statistical Package for Social Sciences.

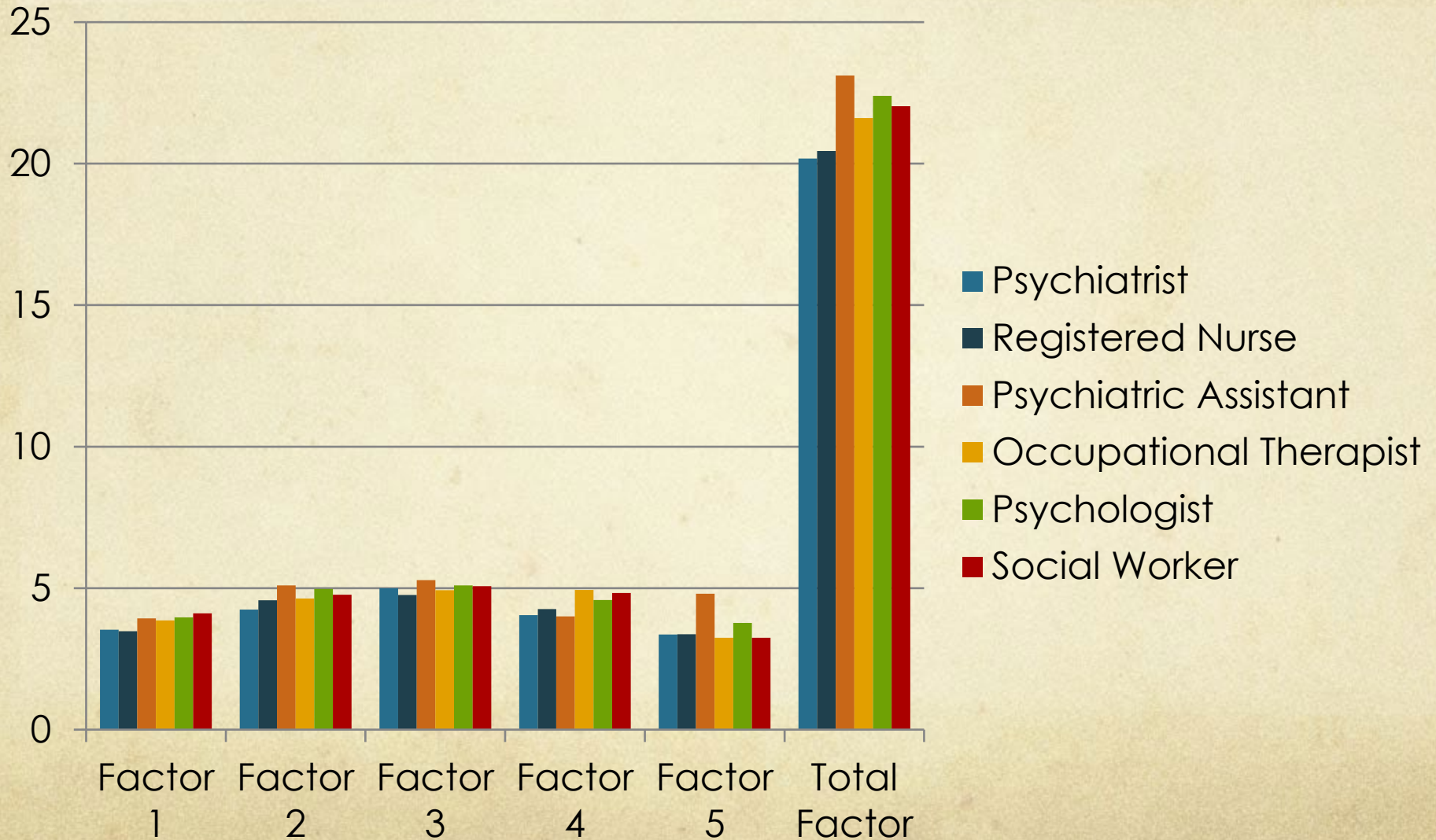
- One-way ANOVAs
- One-way ANCOVAs
 - controlling for confounding variables

Results

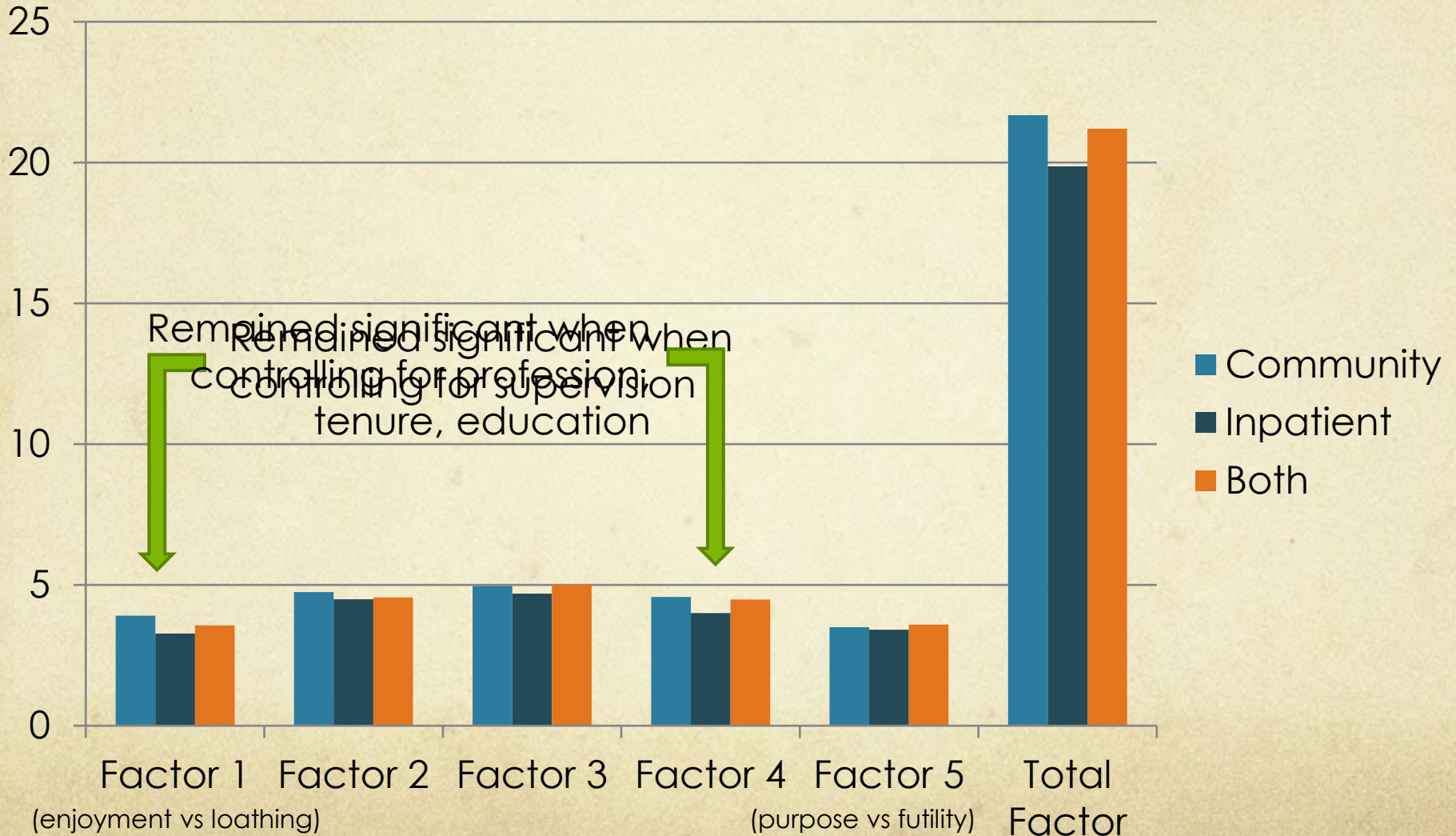
No statistically significant differences between:

- Age
- Gender
- Full-time equivalent employment
- Tenure

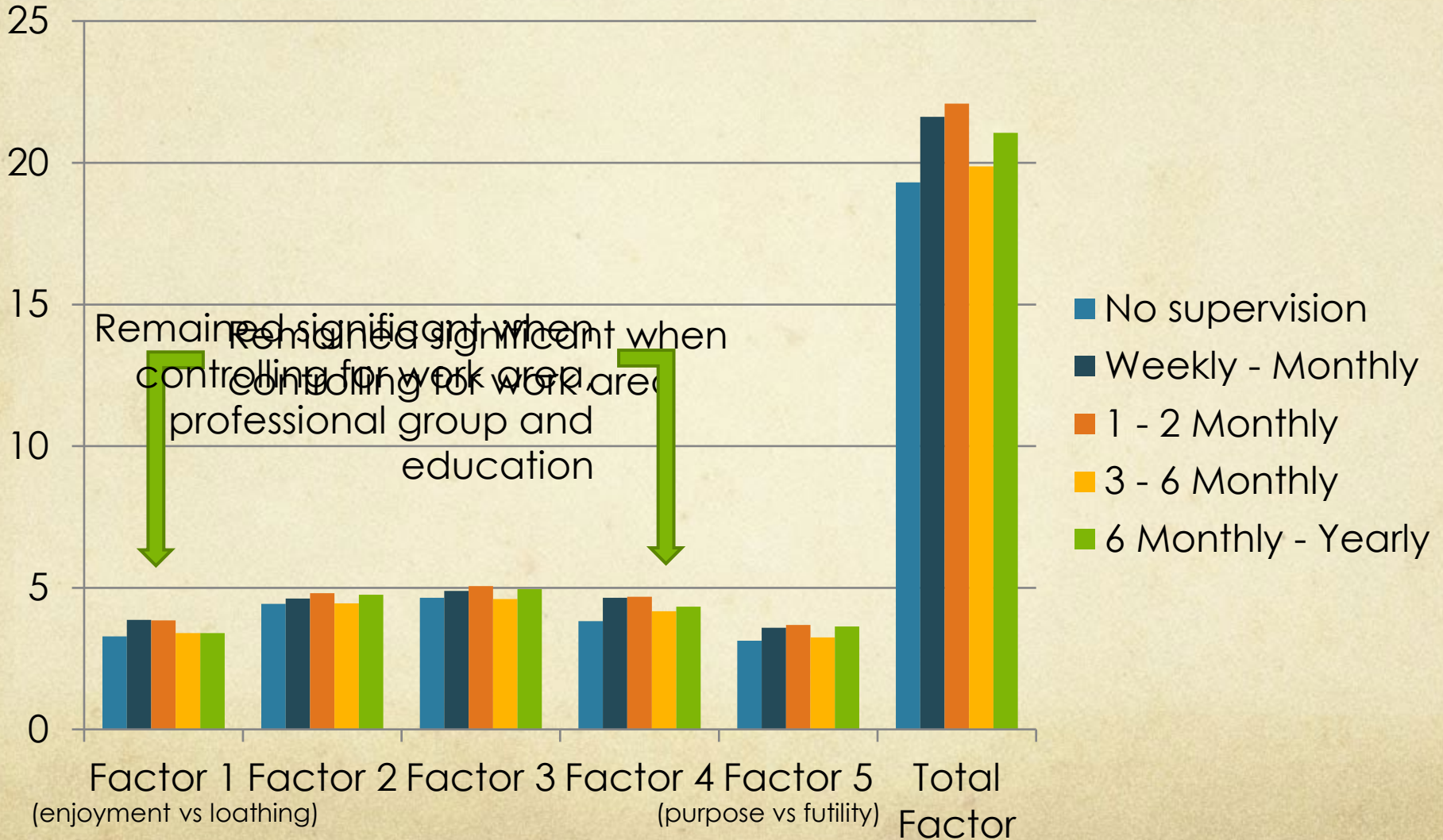
Professional group



Work area



Supervision





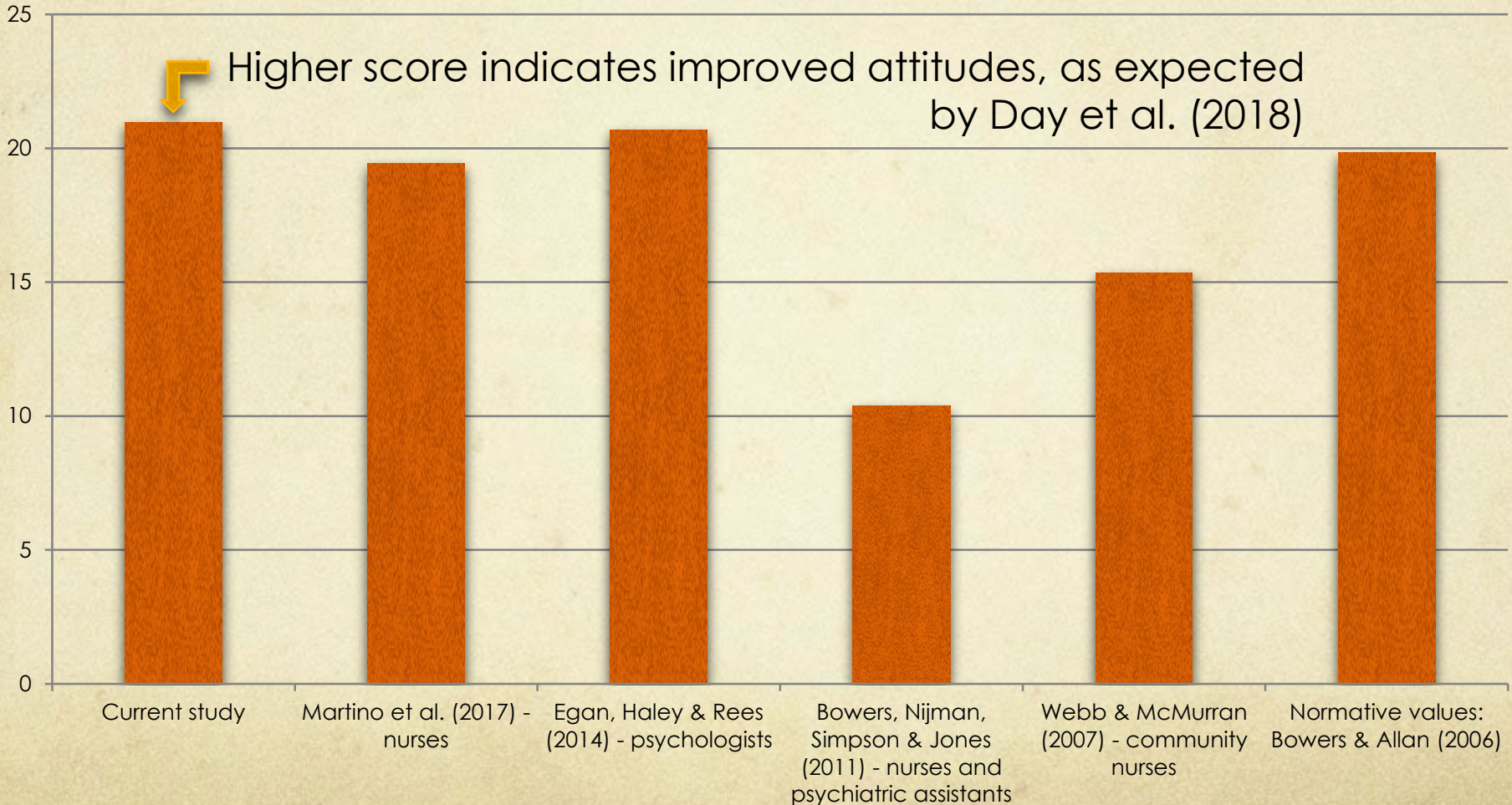
Meaning

Work area and supervision are significantly correlated with attitudes toward borderline personality disorder



International comparison

Total Factor Score



Completion of study

- Phase Two: Interviews conducted
- Currently writing up results, discussion, implications, recommendations
- Thesis submission: November 2020
- Journal article

Future study

- National sampling of APDQ
- Qualitative study with front-line clinicians
- Investigate prevalence of borderline personality disorder within Māori community
- Connectedness of psychiatric assistants
- Vicarious trauma in inpatient staff

Questions?

References

- American Psychiatric Association. (2013). *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition: DSM-5*. Arlington, VA: American Psychiatric Association.
- Bowers, L., & Allan, T. (2006). The attitude to personality disorder questionnaire: Psychometric properties and results. *Journal of Personality Disorders* , 20 (3), 281-293.
- Bowers, L., Nijman, H., Simpson, A., & Jones, J. (2011). The relationship between leadership, teamworking, structure, burnout and attitude to patients on acute psychiatric wards. *Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology* , 46 (2), 143-148.
- Egan, S. J., Haley, S., & Rees, C. S. (2014). Attitudes of clinical psychologists towards clients with personality disorder. *Journal of Personality Disorders* , 28 (3), 403-411.
- Martino, F., Pala, A. N., Valenti, B., Capelli, R., Berardi, D., Bagrodia, R., et al. (2017). Adaptation and psychometric evaluation of the Italian version of the Attitude to Personality Disorder Questionnaire (APDQ). *Journal of Personality Disorders* , 31 (5), 709-719.
- Paris, J. (2019). Suicidality in borderline personality disorder. *Medicina* , 55 (6), 223-228.
- Stanley, B., & Brodsky, B. S. (2005). Suicidal and Self-Injurious Behavior in Borderline Personality Disorder. In J. G. Gunderson, & P. D. Hoffman, *Understanding and Treating Borderline Personality Disorder: A Guide for Professionals and Families* (pp. 43-63). Arlington, VA: American Psychiatric Publishing.
- Veysey, S. (2014). People with a borderline personality disorder diagnosis describe discriminatory experiences. *Kōtuitui: New Zealand Journal of Social Sciences Online* , 9 (1), 20-35.
- Webb, D., & McMurrin, M. (2007). Nursing staff attitudes towards patients with personality disorder. *Personality and Mental Health* , 1, 154-160.

Image Credits

“Emotional portrait of woman suffering from mental disorder”
created by Tunatura. Retrieved from [istockphoto.com](https://www.istockphoto.com)

“Man wearing black polo shirt and grey pants sitting on
chair” created by nappy. Retrieved from [pexels.com](https://www.pexels.com)

Mangold, J. (Director). (1999). *Girl, Interrupted* [Film].
Columbia Pictures.

“Monochrome photo of man wearing hoodie” created by
Luis Quintero. Retrieved from [pexels.com](https://www.pexels.com)

“Opened door” created by Erkan Utu. Retrieved from
[pexels.com](https://www.pexels.com)

“Person Cartoon” created by Yamire. Retrieved from
www.cleanpng.com/