

POSTER

DEVELOPMENT AND VALIDATION OF THE FEMALE INTRASEXUAL COMPETITION SCALE (FICS)

Camille Burns, Amanda Hahn*

Cal Poly Humboldt, Arcata, CA, USA

[*amanda.hahn@humboldt.edu](mailto:amanda.hahn@humboldt.edu)

ABSTRACT

Intrasexual competition, or the ways in which same-sex individuals compete, typically manifests through four primary categories of behavior: self-promotion, competitor derogation, mate-manipulation, and competitor-manipulation. Female intrasexual competition is nuanced, generally less overt than male intrasexual competition, and can be tied to hormonal fluctuations. However, current tools for measuring intrasexual competition are sex-neutral and therefore may not fully capture the complexities of female competition. This study proposes and validates a new scale, the Female Intrasexual Competition Scale (FICS), which is theory-based and specifically designed to assess female intrasexual competition. The FICS consists of four subscales—self-promotion, competitor derogation, mate-manipulation, and competitor-manipulation—to accurately capture the construct of female intrasexual competition. Upon completion of data collection, the FICS will be compared to Buunk and Fisher's (2009) Intrasexual Competition Scale, the Women's Intrasexual Competition Scale (WICS), Buunk's (1997) jealousy scale, and the revised Sociosexual Orientation Inventory (SOI-R) to assess for convergent and divergent validity. The FICS will be used to provide insight into the competitive dynamics among women and can be utilized across multiple disciplines, including evolutionary psychology, gender studies, and social psychology.