

# Lifetime sexual violence and childbirth expectations

# Aim

This study aimed to explore the association between lifetime sexual violence and expectations about childbirth.

# Authors

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# Background

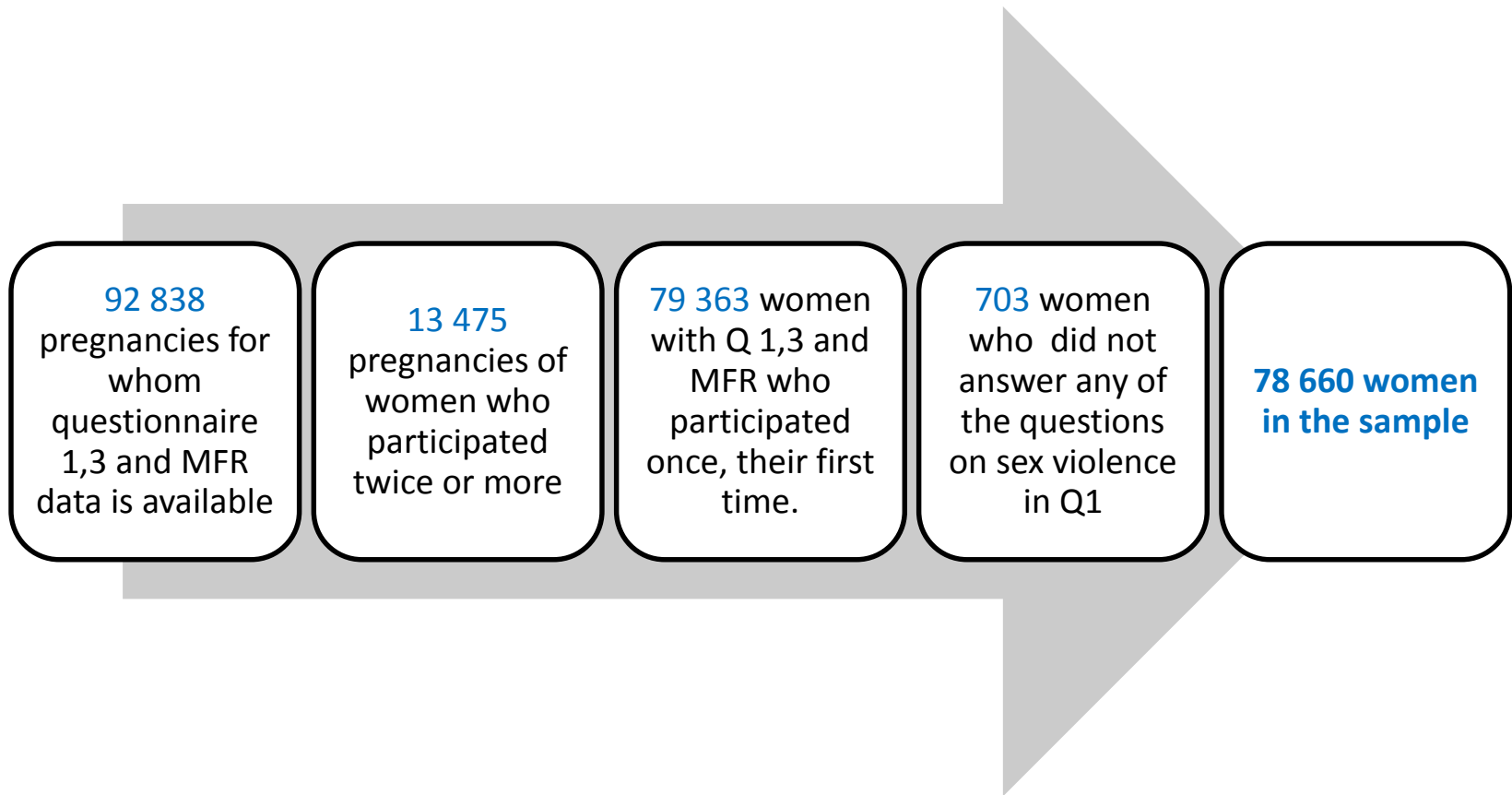
Pregnancy is a period when past and ongoing violent experiences can affect both the woman's maternity care experiences and outcome

Seng et al. *J.Psychosom Obstet Gynaecol* 2010;31:76-187

# Methods

- The Norwegian Mother and Child Cohort Study (MoBa study)
- From 1999 to 2008 the majority of all pregnant women were invited to participate
- Approximately 40% participated

# Population



# Exposure variable

Answering options were:

- 1) No, never
- 2) Yes, pressured
- 3) Yes, forced with power
- 4) Yes, raped

# Results

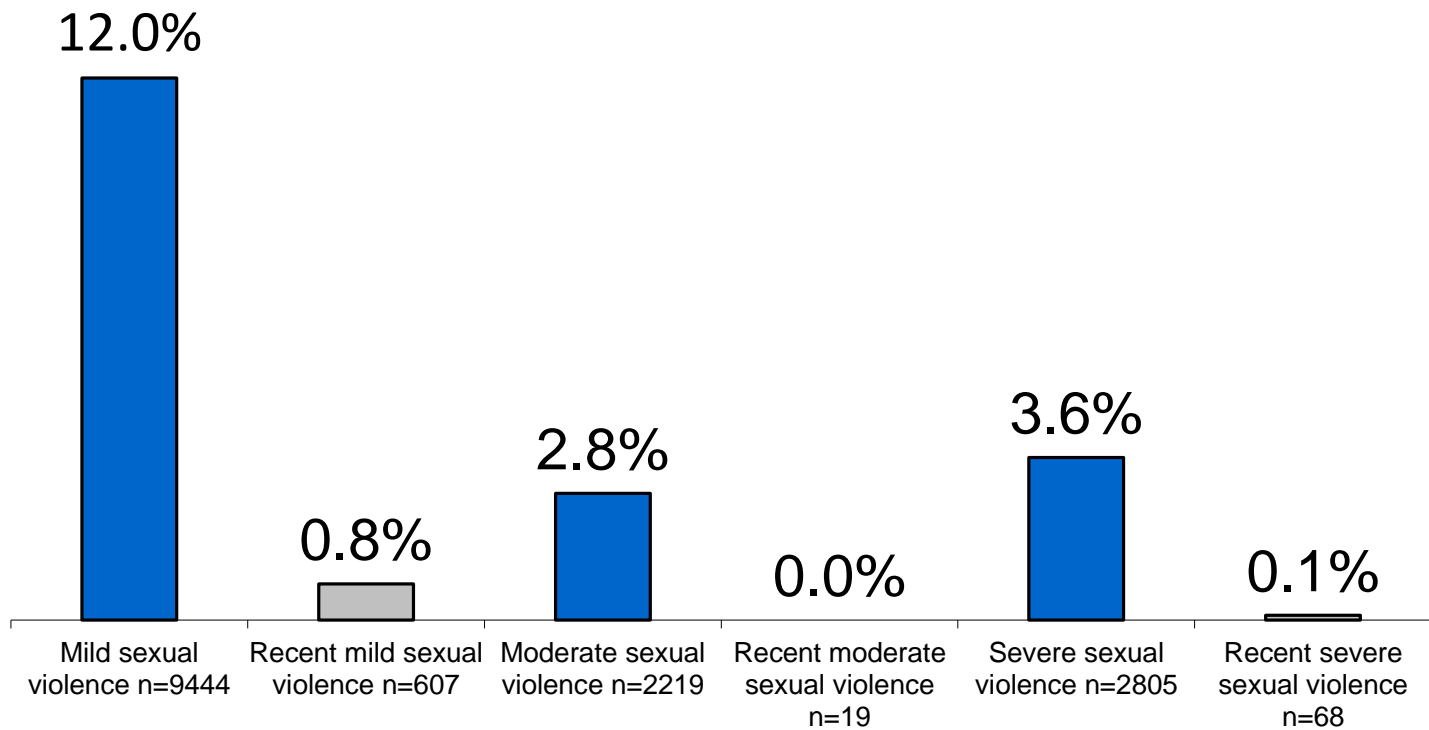
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	Recently	Ever
<b>Any</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>18.4%</b>

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# Results



# Results

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	No violence (n = 64 192)	Mild (n = 9 444)	Moderat (n = 2 219)	Severe (n = 2 805)
Fear of childbirth?	18.3	22.1	23.7	28.8
Wish for “pain-free” birth EDA regardless	7.9	8.5	9.3	11.9
Wish for caesarean section	9.8	10.6	11.6	15.0
Worries about baby's health	4.5	5.2	6.4	8.4
Looking forward to baby	11.0	13.7	16.2	20.2
	97.2	95.8	95.3	95.8

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# Results

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	Previous SV (n = 7 280)	Recent SV (n = 330)
	AOR	AOR
Looking forward to the arrival of the baby	<b>0.8 (0.7-0.9)</b>	<b>0.4 (0.3-0.6)</b>

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# Results

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	Previous SV (n = 6 394)	Recent SV (n = 363)
	AOR	AOR
Looking forward to the arrival of the baby	<b>0.8 (0.7-0.9)</b>	<b>0.3 (0.2-0.4)</b>

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# Results

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## Severe sexual violence

n= 1 553

Fear of childbirth	1.5 (1.3-1.7)
Wish for a “pain-free” birth	1.3 (1.1-1.5)
EDA regardless	1.3 (1.1-1.5)
Wish for caesarean section	1.5 (1.2-1.9)
Worries about baby’s health	1.4 (1.2-1.6)

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# Conclusion

Women with a lifetime exposure to sexual violence were less likely to look forward to the arrival of the baby

Women with experiences of severe sexual violence (rape) were more likely to report worries towards childbirth than women without these experiences

# Acknowledgement

- We are very grateful to all the women who participated in MoBa
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# Thank you for your attention!

