

# EVERYDAY DRIVING VIOLATIONS OF CAR AND RACING ENTHUSIASTS IN ONTARIO, CANADA

Zümrüt Yıldırım-Yenier, Evelyn Vingilis, and Jane Seeley

Western  Family Medicine

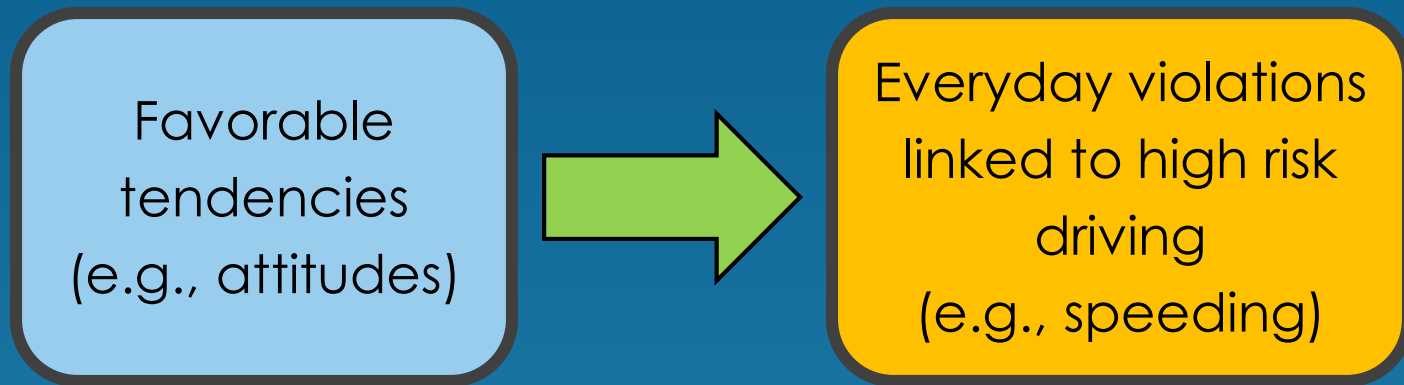
### High risk driving

- Street racing and stunt driving (e.g., drifting)
- Using a vehicle in a dangerous and irresponsible way
- Prohibited in countries such as Canada

### Car and racing enthusiasts

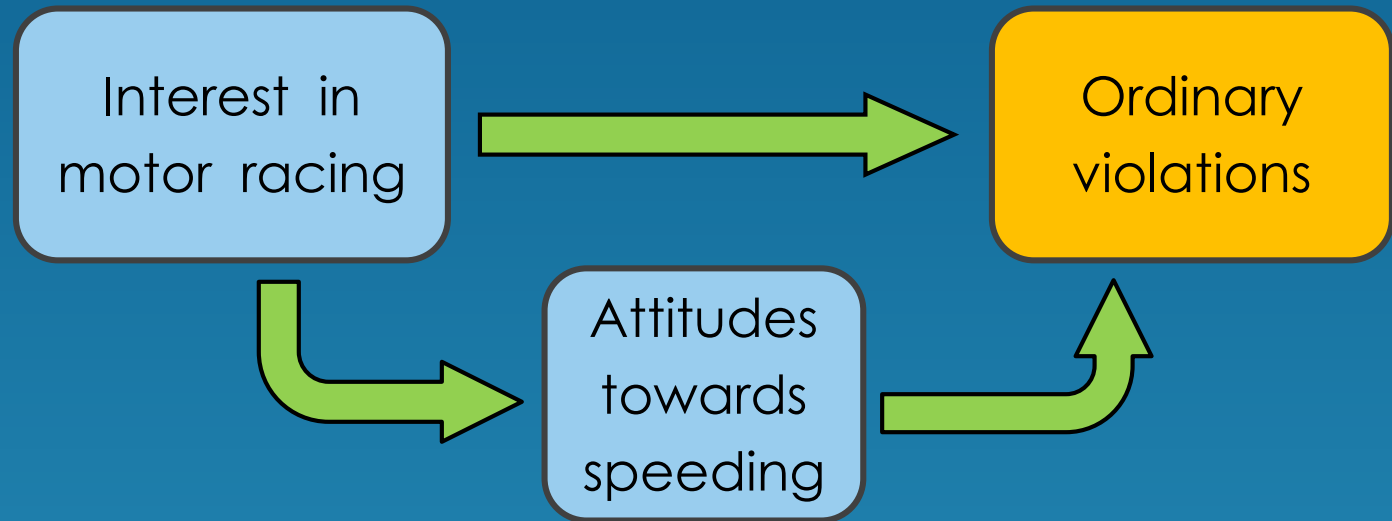
- Car and racing activities as a particular social context
- Not a homogenous group
- Young males, driver thrill seeking, high risk driving attitudes, etc.

# INTRODUCTION



# Everyday violations

- Ordinary violation (i.e., breaking traffic rules)
- Aggressive violation (i.e., aggressive acts toward another road user)



**No study on aggressive violations**

# Negative outcomes

- Driving violations & collisions and driving offence citations
- High risk driving attitudes not studied

## Objective:

The relationships among high risk driving attitudes, driving violations, & negative outcomes (among a sample of car/racing enthusiasts)

## Procedure

- A web-based survey
- Members and visitors of car club and racing websites in southern Ontario
- 134 identified websites
  - 111 had an active email address
- The response rate was 26.1%

# Instruments

## Driving violations

- A 16-item questionnaire based on the Driver Behaviour Questionnaire (Reason et al., 1990)
  - 11 items from different studies
  - 5 items of the Self Report Driver Aggression Quest. (Hennessy et al., 2001)
- Frequency in general

# Instruments

## Attitudes toward street racing and stunt driving

1. Attitudes toward the changes in the street racing and stunt driving legislation
2. Attitudes toward the newly added stunt driving violations in the legislation
3. General attitudes toward street racing and stunt driving
4. Comparison of street racing with other risky driving behaviours

# Instruments

## Negative outcomes

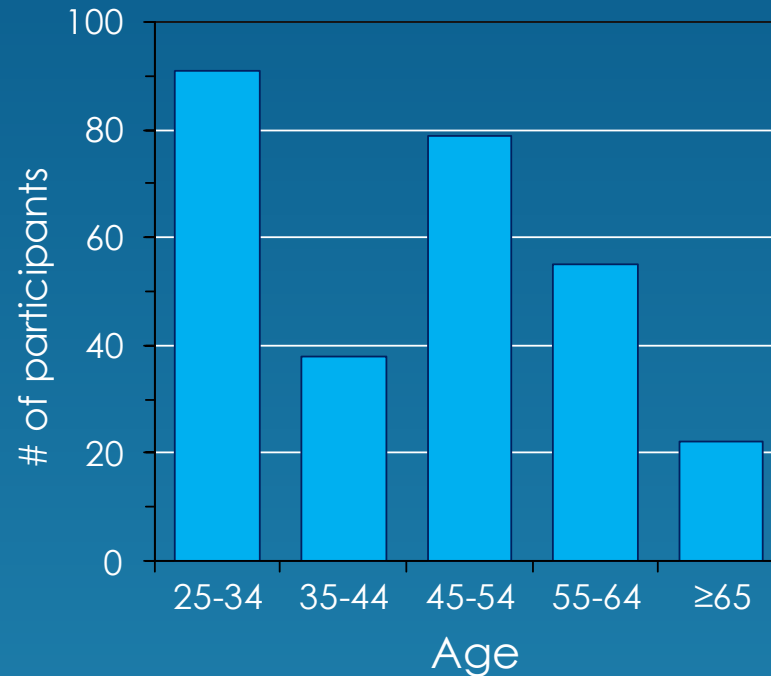
- Self-reported collisions (in the past five years)
- Self-reported driving offence citations (in the past year)

## Background information

- General (e.g., age, gender)
- Driving (e.g., driving hours per week)

# Sample

- 366 subjects (341 male, 25 female)

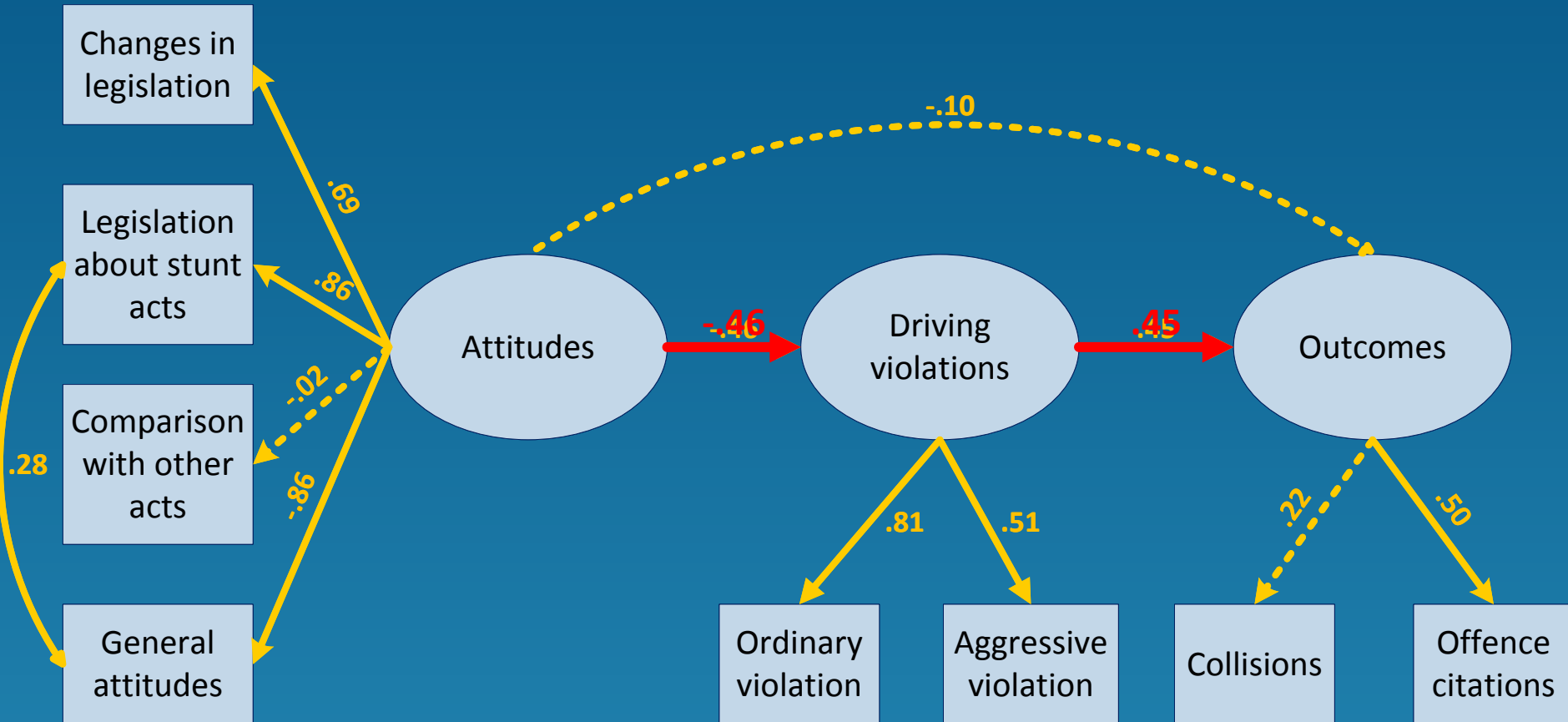


- Driving frequency (h/week):  $\mu = 13.93$ ;  $\sigma = 10.34$
- Age, gender, and driving frequency were controlled

# Factor analysis

- Principal axis factoring
- Driving violations
  1. Aggressive violations (8 items;  $\alpha = 0.81$ )  
(mainly frustration-aggression related)
  2. Ordinary violations (5 items;  $\alpha = 0.87$ )  
(mainly speeding related)

# Structural equation modeling



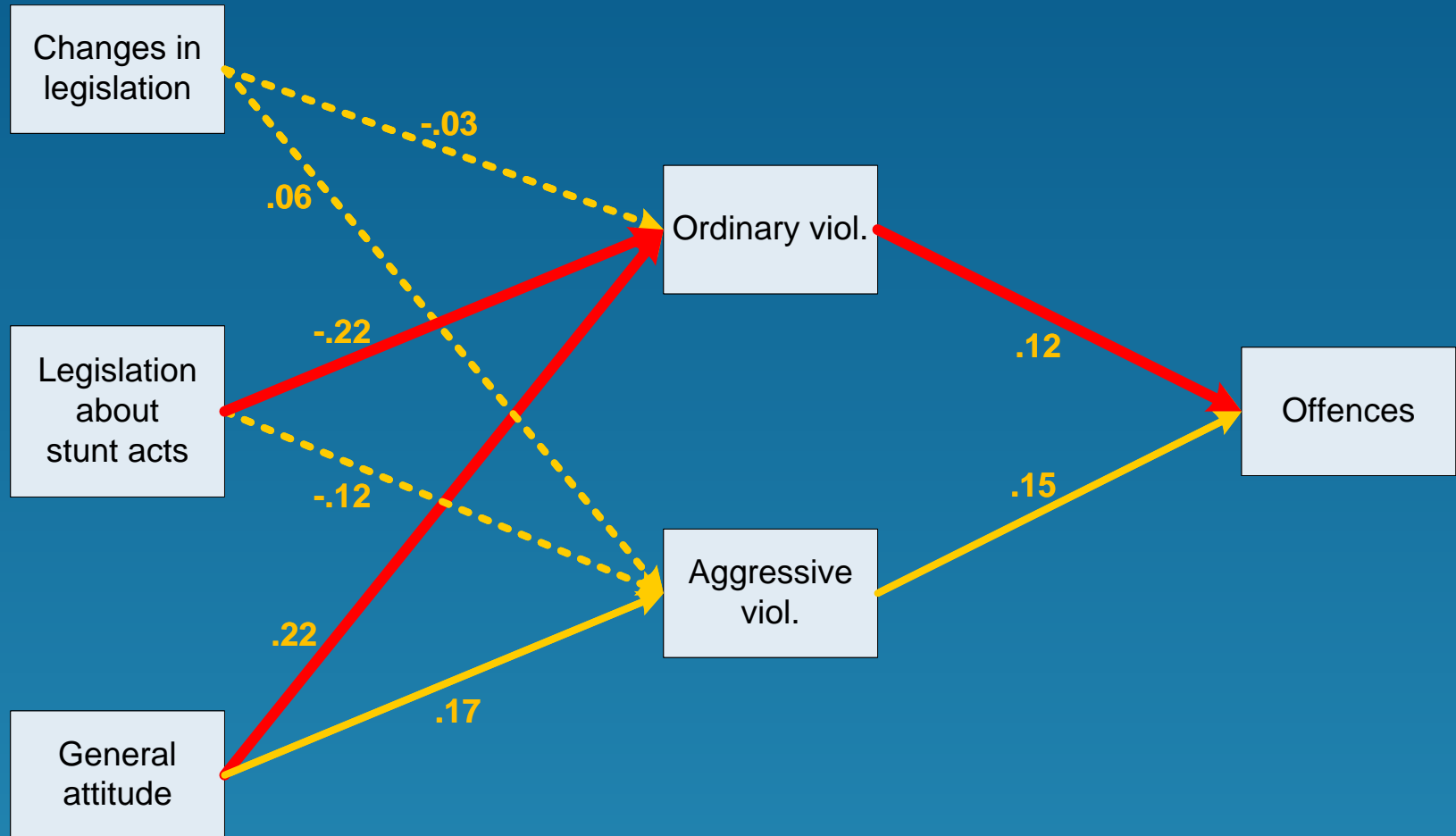
$\chi^2/df=30.03/16$

RMSEA=.05

SRMR=.04

CFI=.98

# Structural equation modeling



INTRODUCTION

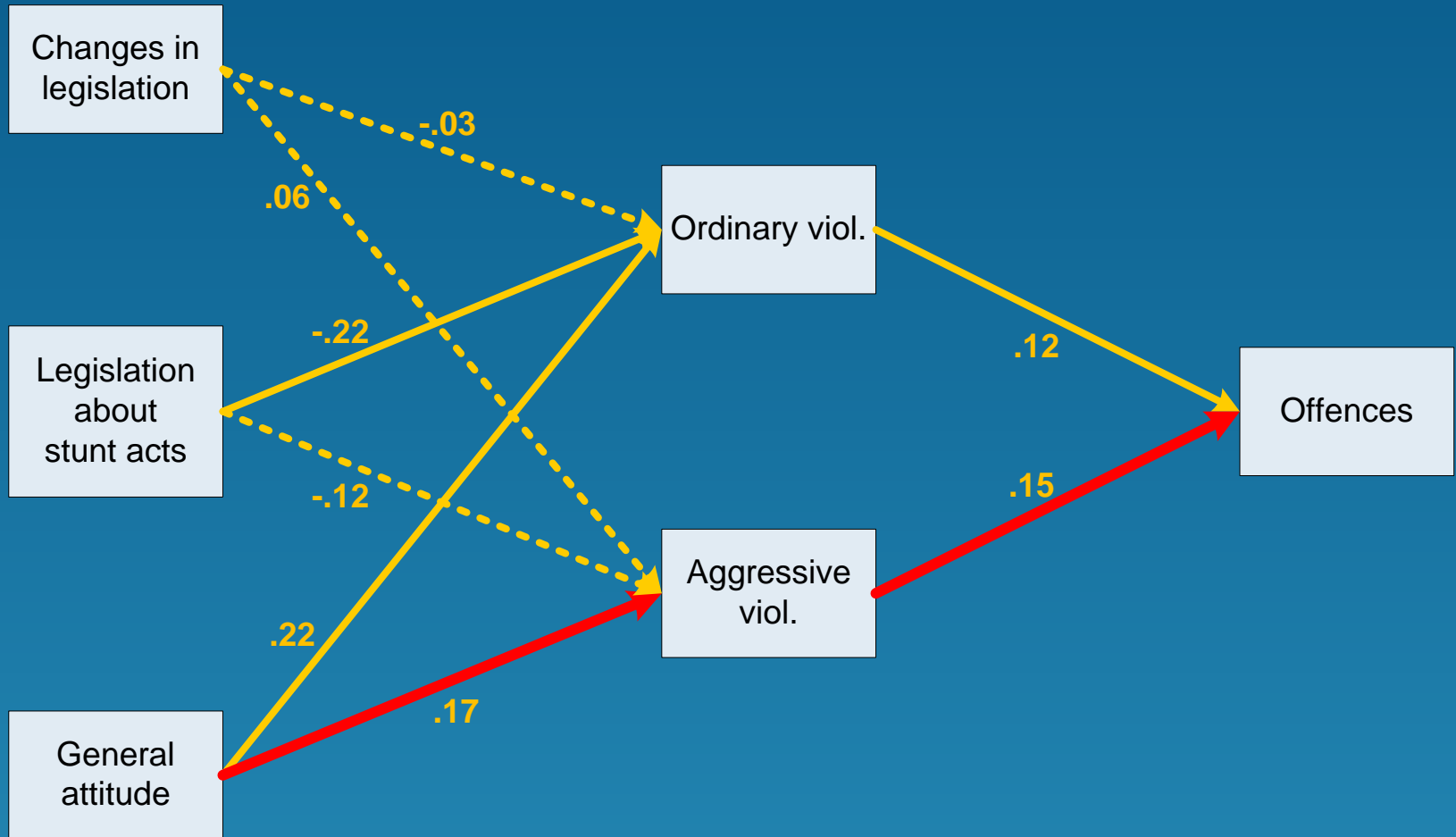
METHOD

RESULTS

## Ordinary violations

- Speeding items
- Speeding is an inherent part of high risk driving and is glorified in car and racing activities
- Attitudes transferred to everyday driving as speeding, in turn, related to offence citations
- Probably, not only to instrumental considerations but also to affective underpinnings

# Structural equation modeling



INTRODUCTION

METHOD

RESULTS

# Aggressive violations

- Frustration-aggression related items
- Thrill seeking & competitiveness on the road
- These may increase feeling frustration on the road which may lead to aggressive violations, predicting offence citations.

INTRODUCTION

METHOD

RESULTS

CONCLUSION

Favourable attitudes toward high risk driving seem to be transferring to violations in everyday traffic which mediate offence citations.

THANK YOU