

Two Mental Illness Stigmas: Personal Responsibility and Dangerousness

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What we seem to know

- Disabilities and stigma
 - housing - landlords, neighbors, NIMBY
 - work - employers, co-workers
 - criminal justice - police, judiciary, lawyers
 - health care - mental health, general medicine
 - policy - government representatives and executive

What we need to know

- Is stigma perceived to be a problem?
 - E.g., Otto Wahl surveys of family members and consumers
 - his findings: YES
- Problem: devoid of model, explanations, predictions, interventions

What we need to know

- What is stigma?
 - Public stigma
 - Self-stigma

Public Stigma

- **Stereotype:**

Negative belief about a group
e.g., dangerousness
incompetence
character weakness

- **Prejudice:**

Agreement with belief and/or
negative emotional reaction
e.g., anger
fear

- **Discrimination:**

Behavior response to prejudice
e.g., avoidance of work and
housing opportunities
without help

Self-Stigma

- **Stereotype:**

Negative belief about the self
e.g., character weakness
incompetence

- **Prejudice:**

Agreement with belief
Negative emotional reaction
e.g., low self-esteem
low self-efficacy

- **Discrimination:**

Behavior response to prejudice
e.g., fails to pursue work
and housing opportunities

Define Public Stigma

- Individual representations
 - the knowledge structures that represent a negative view about a group of people
- Collective representations
 - elements of the social fabric

Define Public Stigma

- Collective representations
- Assessed consensually
 - dangerousness
 - incompetence
 - blame-worthy
 - childlike

discriminative
stimuli

cognitive
mediators

behavior

SIGNALS

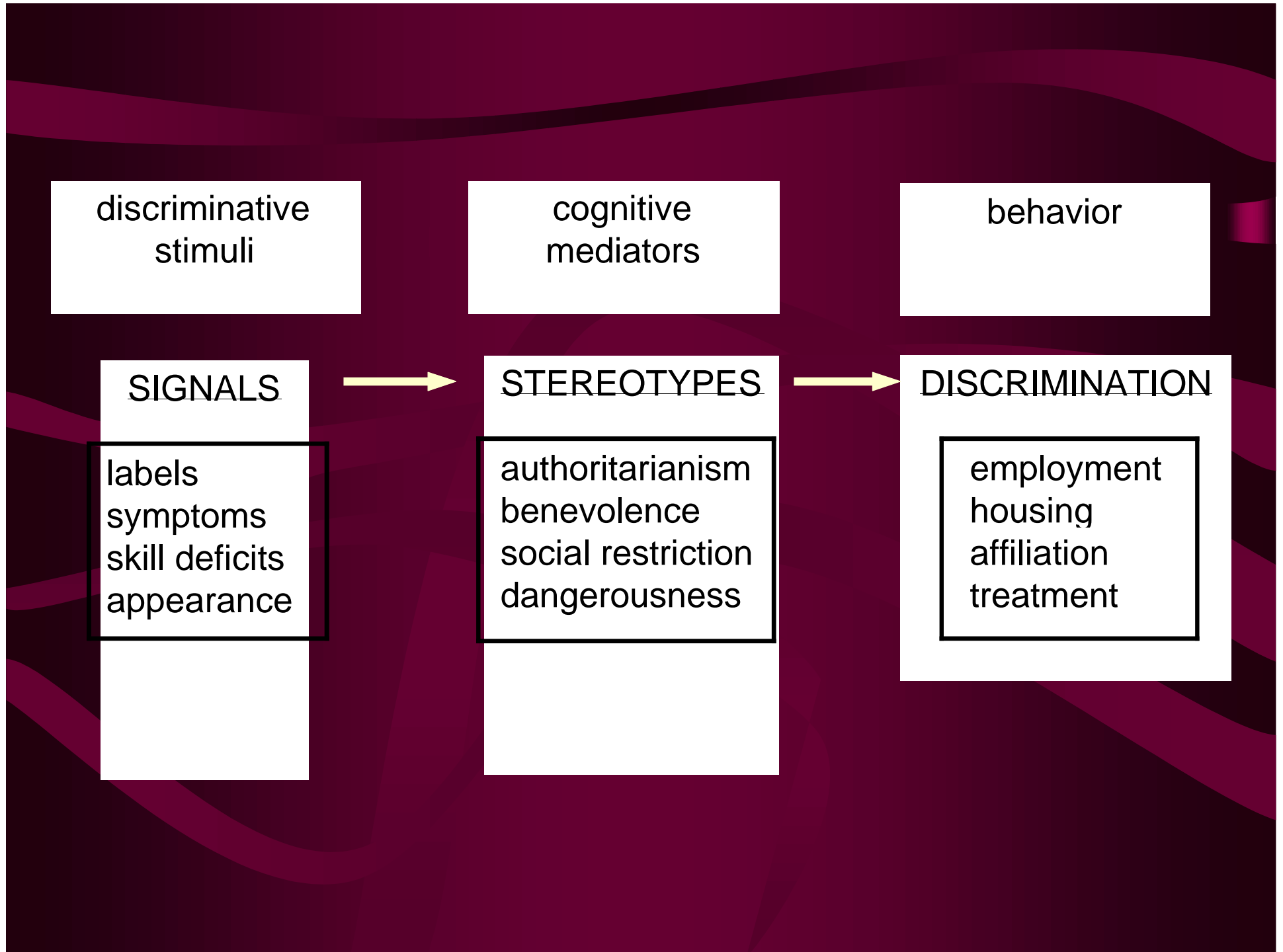
labels
symptoms
skill deficits
appearance

STEREOTYPES

authoritarianism
benevolence
social restriction
dangerousness

DISCRIMINATION

employment
housing
affiliation
treatment



Social cognitive components of stigma

- Stereotype: efficient social belief or knowledge structure



- prejudice: emotion-based endorsement or evaluation of stereotype



- discrimination: behavioral result of prejudice

Two Mental Illness Stigmas

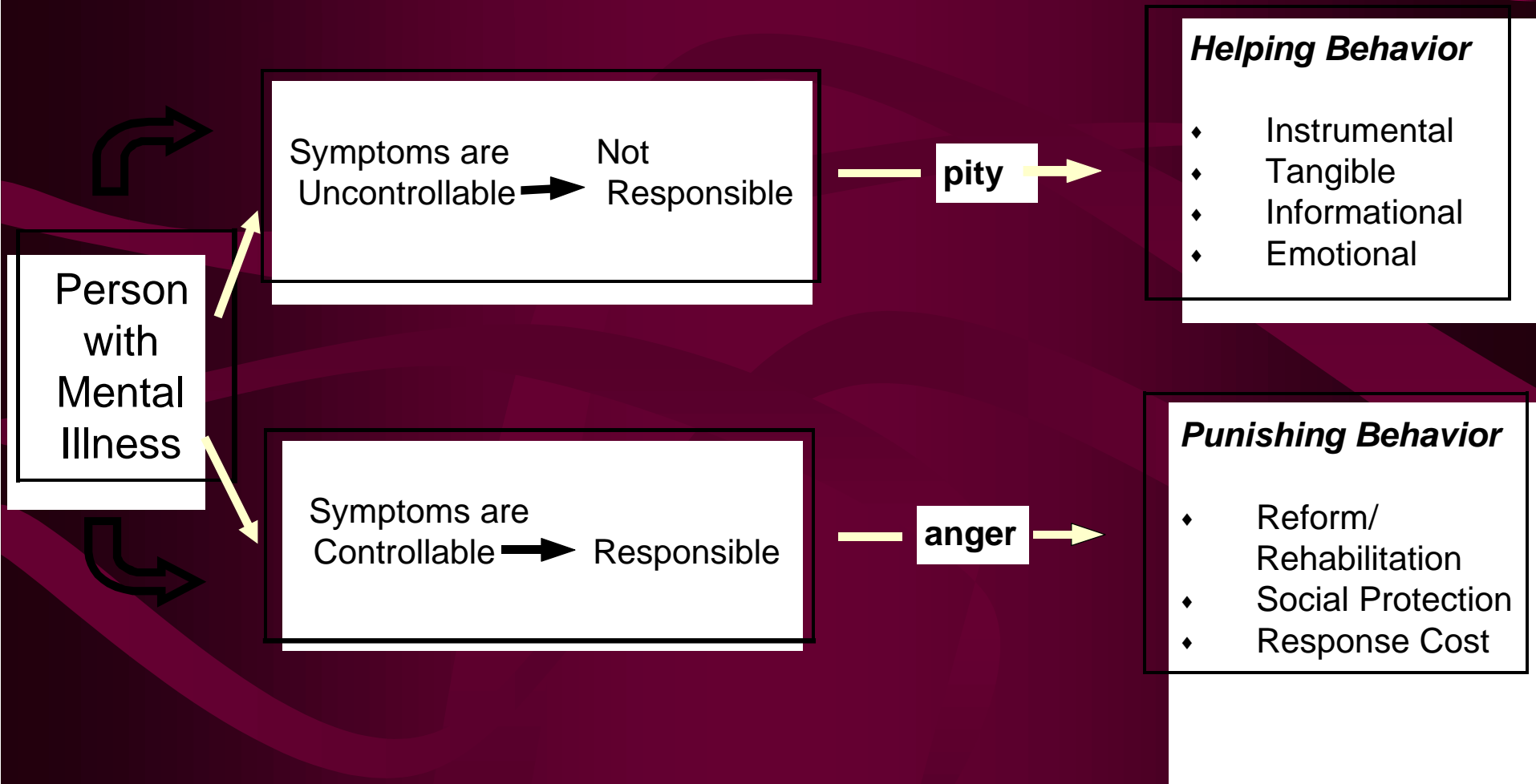
- Responsibility and Blame
- Dangerousness

**Signaling
Event**

**Cognitive
Mediators**

**Affective
Response**

**Behavioral
Reaction**



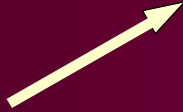
Dangerousness



A.

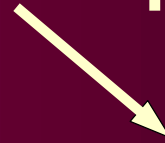
Personal
Responsibility

-

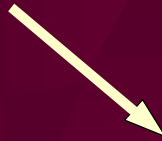


Pity

+



Helping
Behavior



+

Anger



-

B.

Dangerousness

+

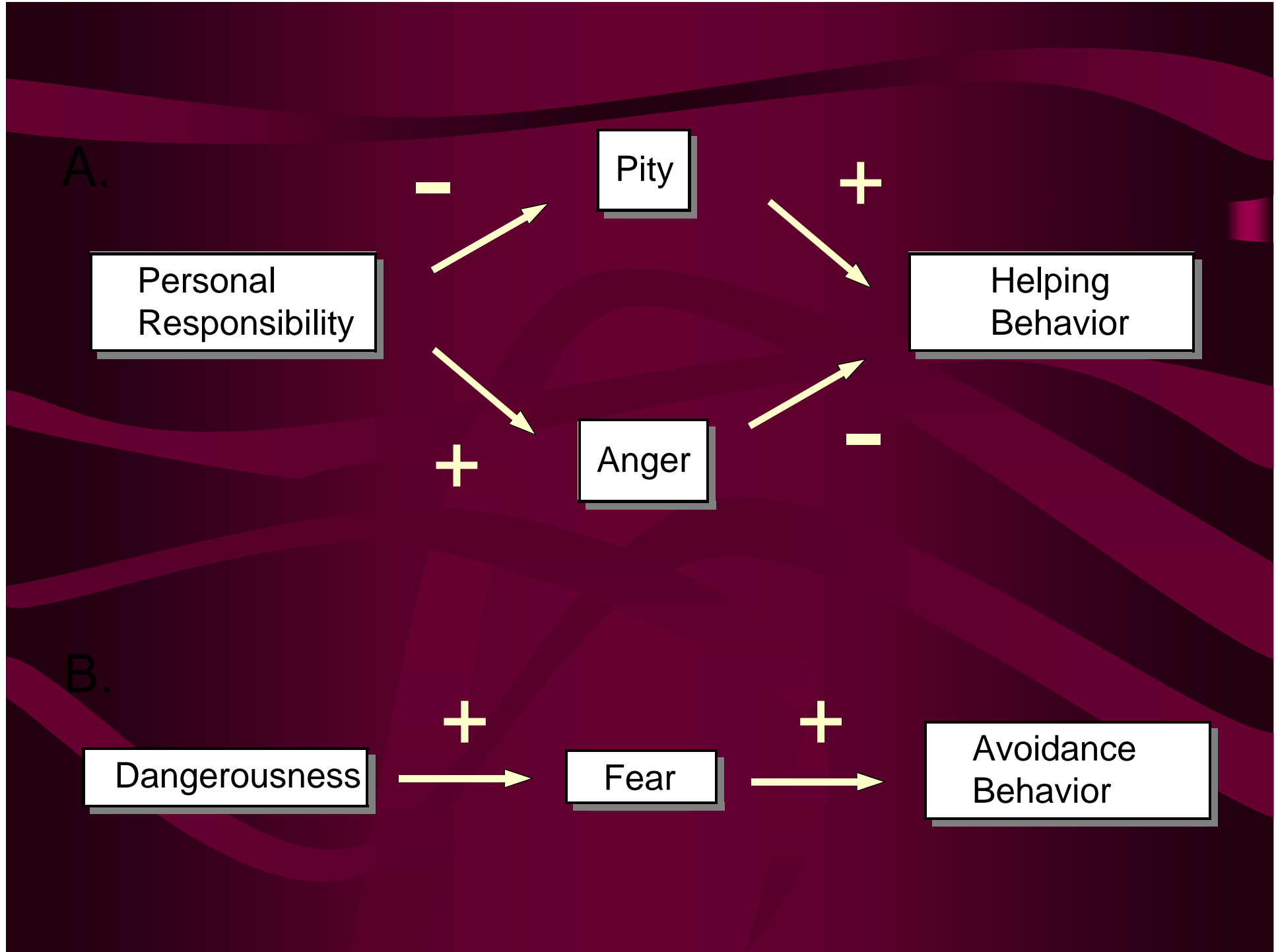


Fear

+



Avoidance
Behavior



Two Stigmas: Part 1

- Community college students
- N= 213
- Age 18-20 M=26.3
- Gender 70.4% female
- Ethnicity

European American 43.9% Latino 8.5%

African American 41.5 Other 6.1%

Attribution Questionnaire

- Responsibility
 - Pity
 - Anger
 - Help
 - Avoidance
 - Dangerousness
 - Fear
- 21 items
 - 3 items per construct
 - 7 point scale

Behavioral Reaction

- Social Distance Scale
- 7 items
- 3 point scale
- NAMI Donation

Method: Latent Variable Structural Modeling

- SAS CALIS procedure
- Step 1: CFA to develop measurement model
 - Relationship between latent factors and manifest indicator variables
- Step 2: Causal Model-examines size and direction of relationships among constructs

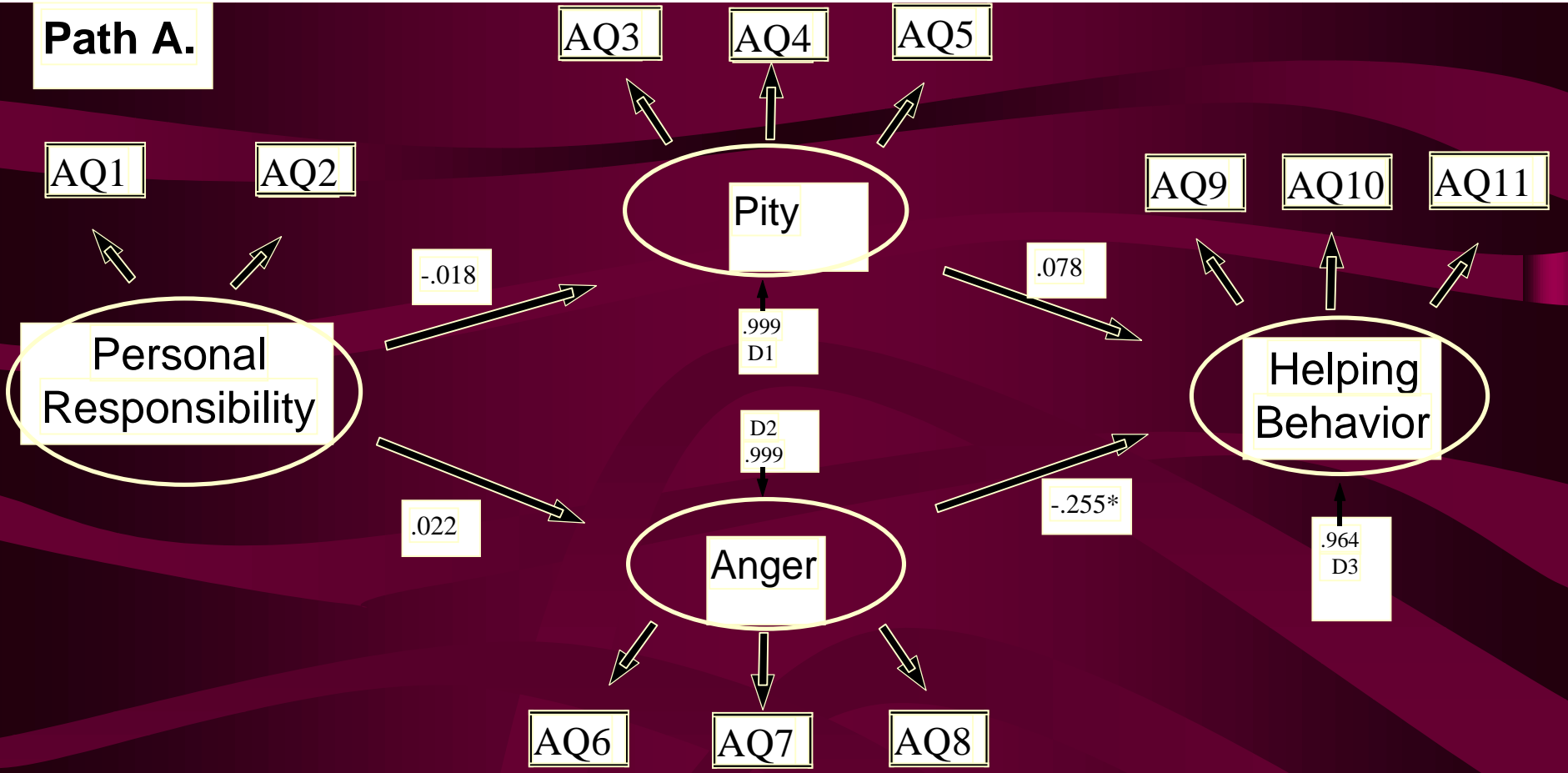
Personal Responsibility Model

- Measurement Model
 - Chi-square 131.2 df (38)
 - Other fit measures
 - AQ11 (concern) eliminated
 - Respecified model
 - Chi-square 71.7 df(29)
 - NFI, NNFI, & CFI > .90

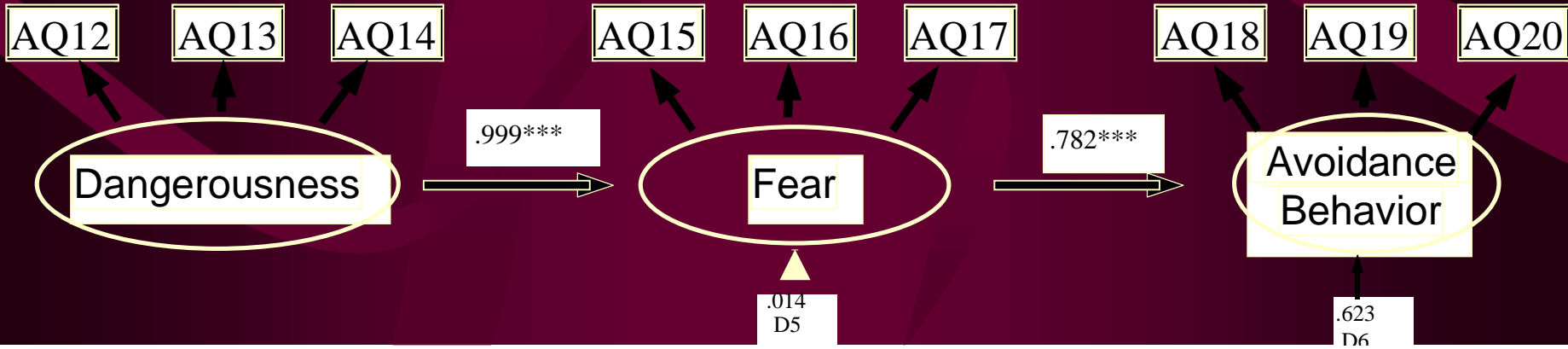
Personal Responsibility

- Theoretical Model
 - Chi-square 86.1 df(31)
 - NFI, NNFI, & CFI > .90
 - Difference of Chi-square test-worse fit than measurement model
 - Only significant path: anger to helping behavior

Path A.



Path B.



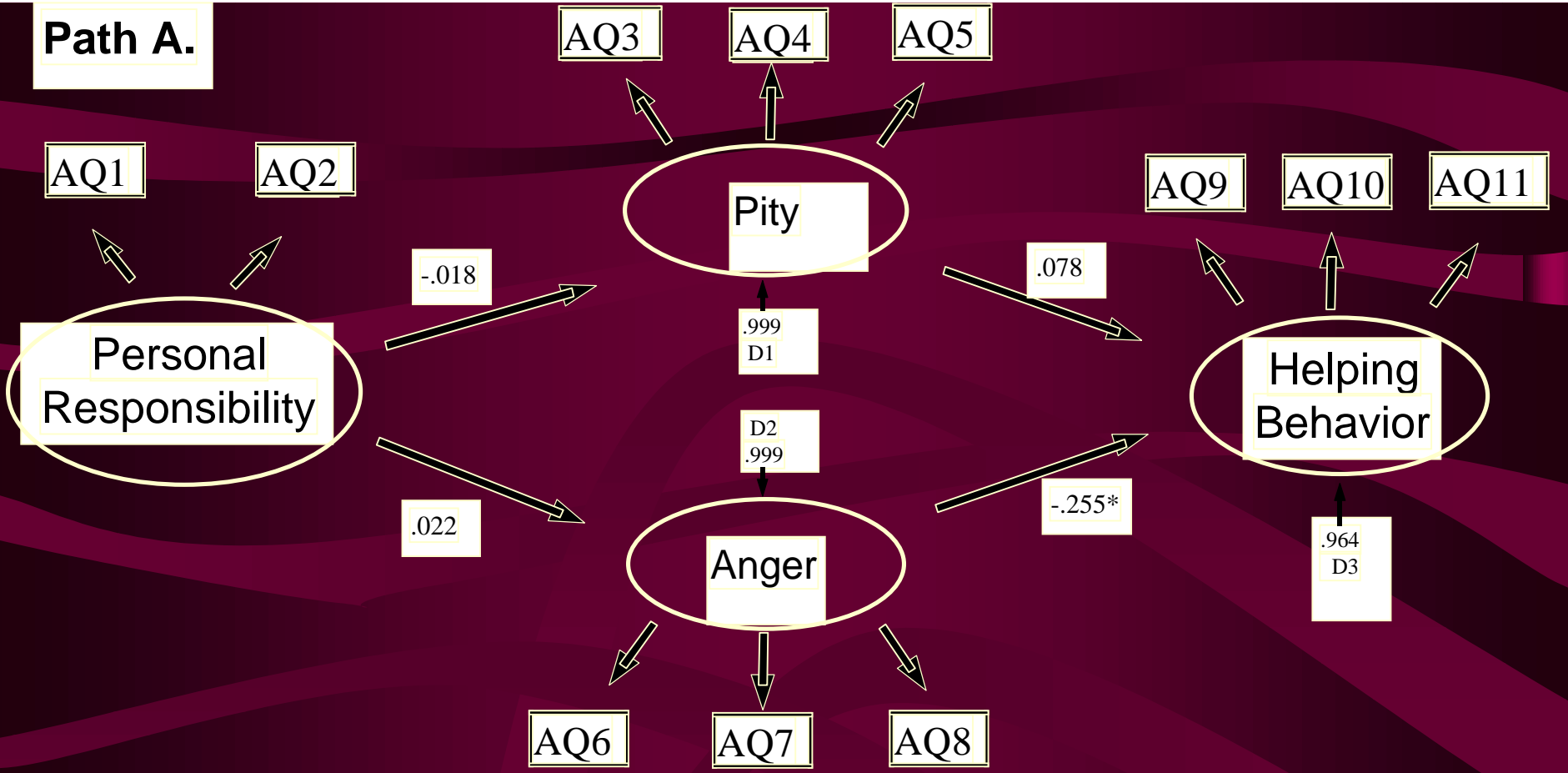
Dangerousness Model

- Measurement Model
 - Chi-square 64.5 df(24)
 - NFI, NNFI, & CFI >.90

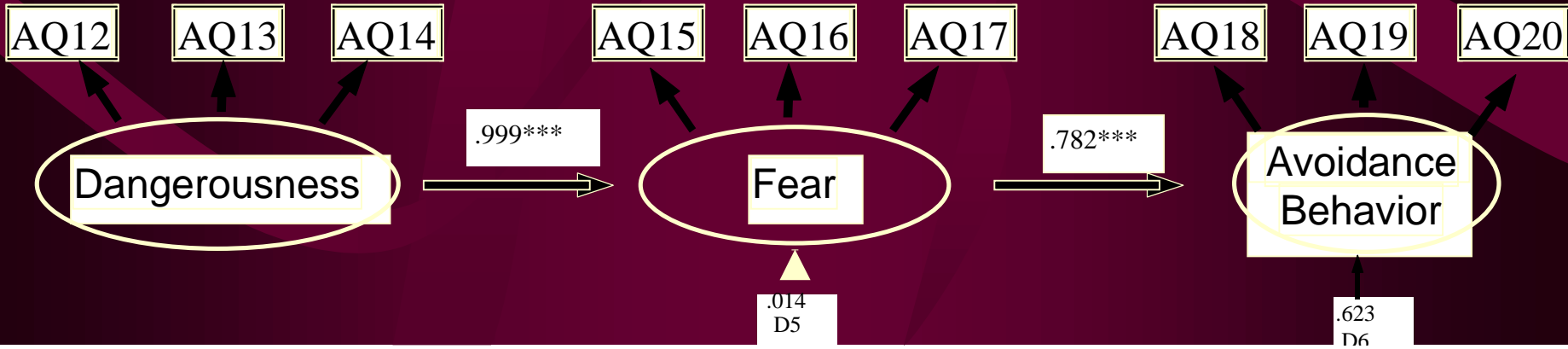
Dangerousness Model

- Theoretical Model
 - Chi-square 74.6 df(22)
 - NFI, NNFI, & CFI >.90
 - Worse fit than measurement model
 - All path coefficients significant

Path A.



Path B.



Part II: Changing Public Stigma

- Stigma Change Study

- Process

- education
- contact

- Content

- dangerousness
- responsibility

N=213

Attribution Questionnaire (AQ)
Social Distance Scale (SDS)

Education:
Responsibility

Contact:
Responsibility

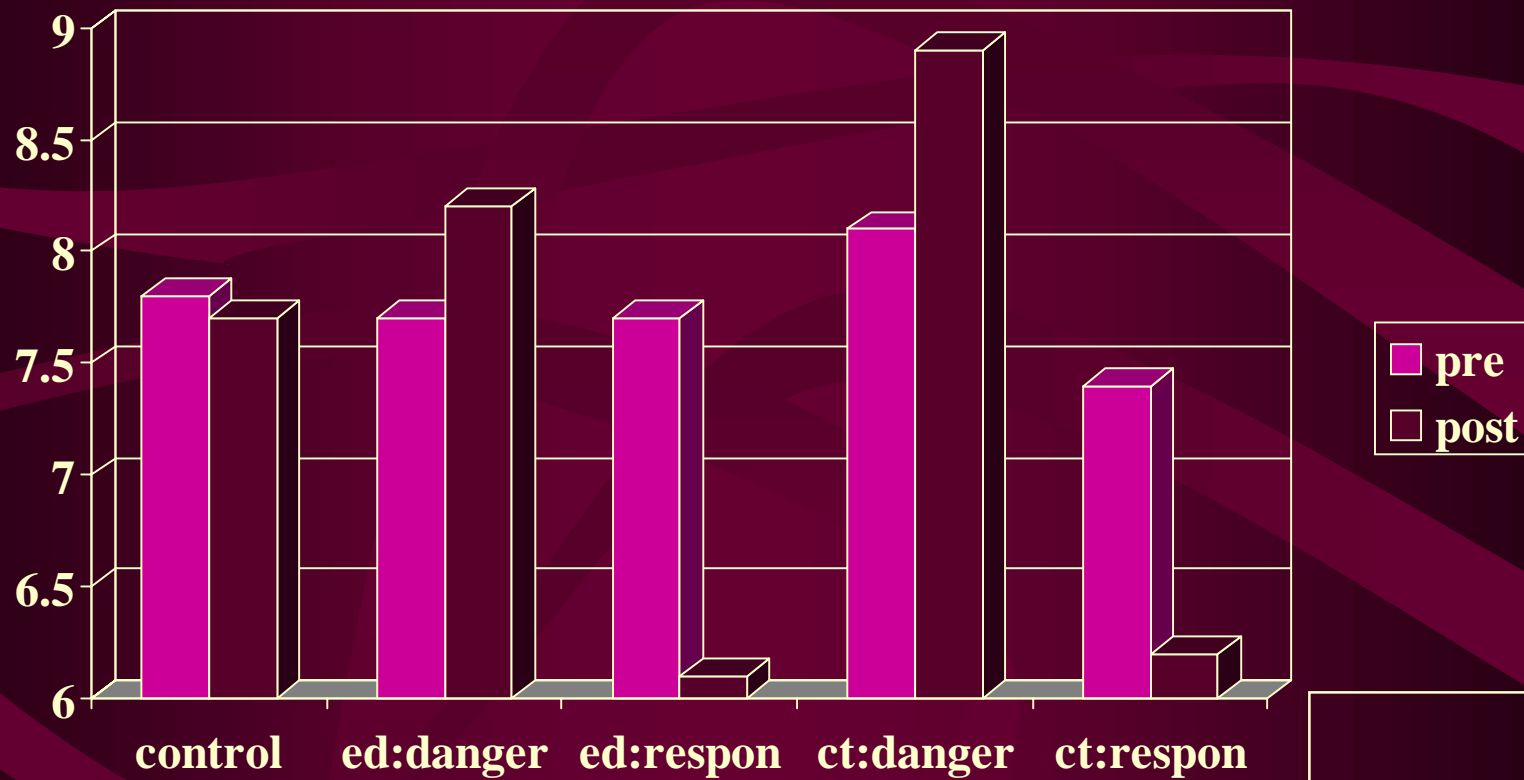
Education:
Dangerousness

control

Contact:
Dangerousness

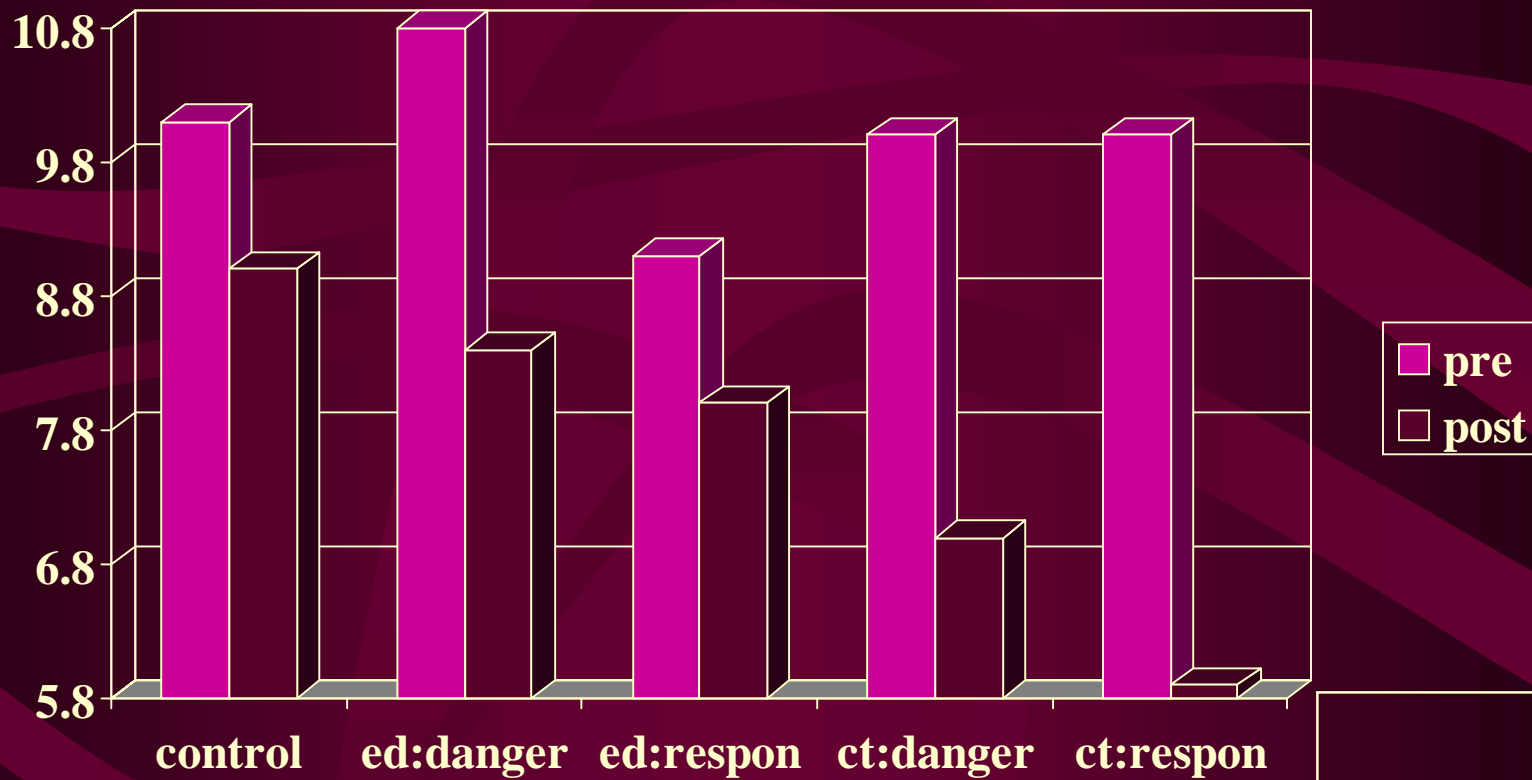
AQ, SDS, and NAMI Donation @ post and 1 wk f-up

Responsibility: pre-post



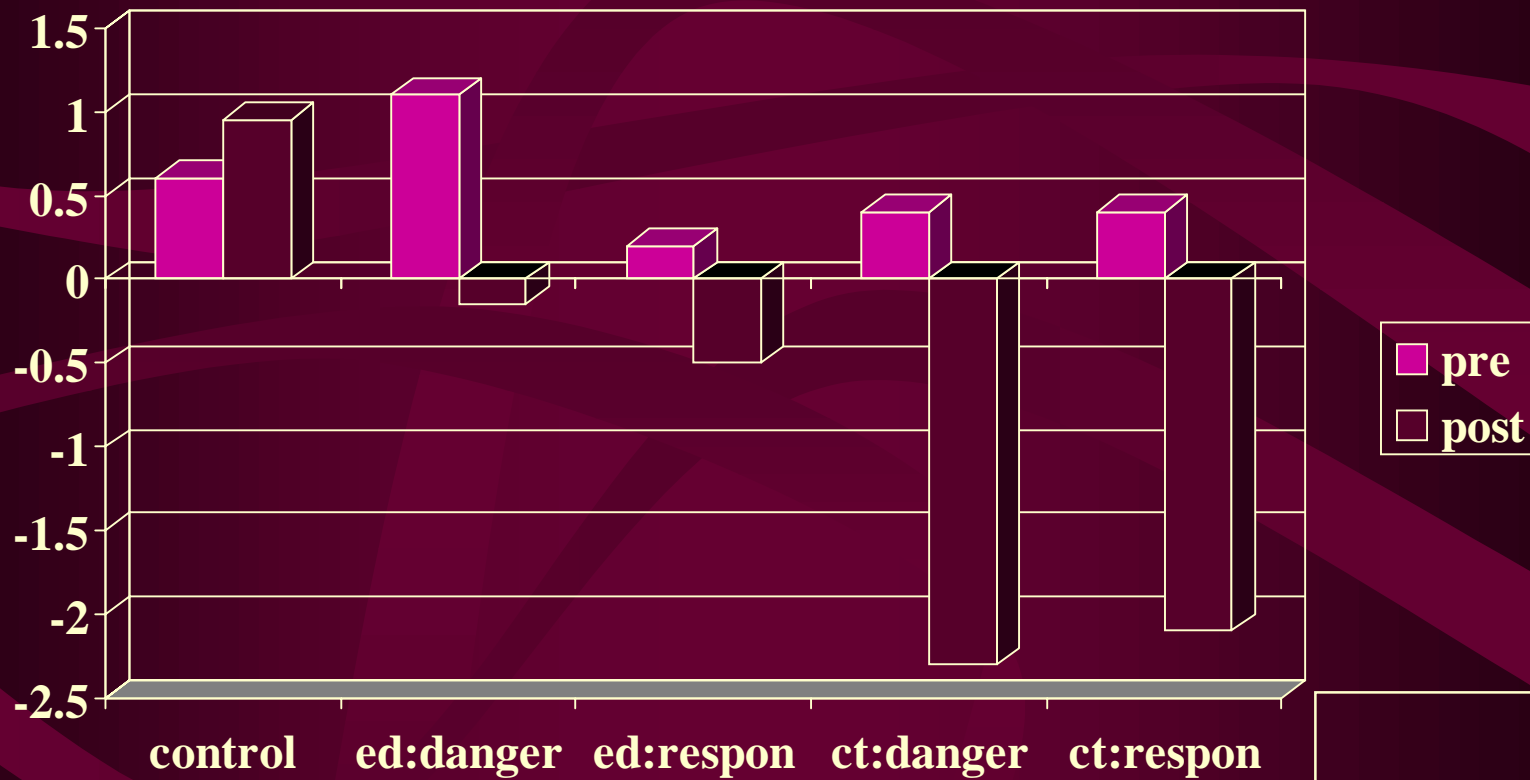
res > danger

Dangerousness: pre-post



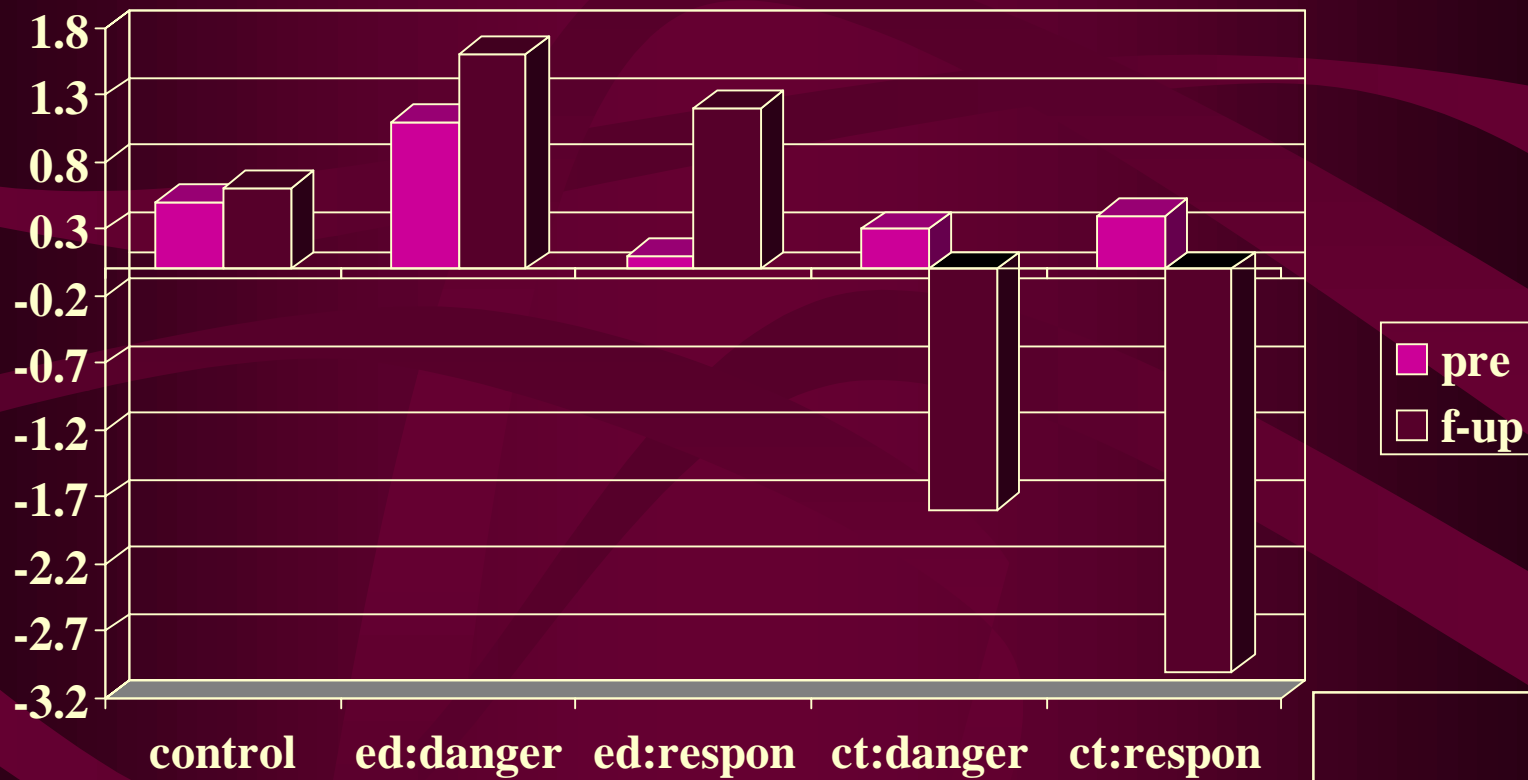
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Avoidance: pre-post



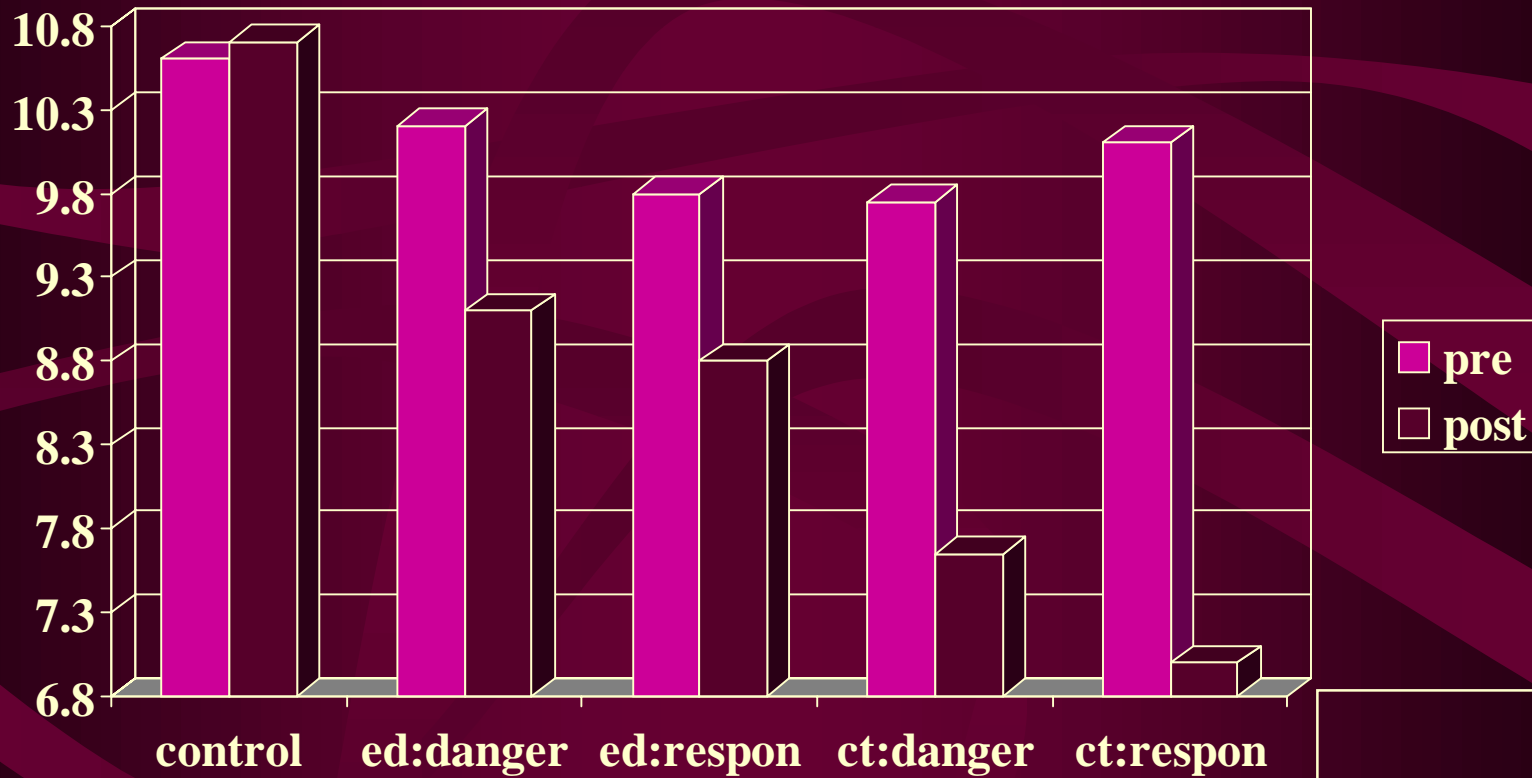
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Avoidance: pre-follow-up



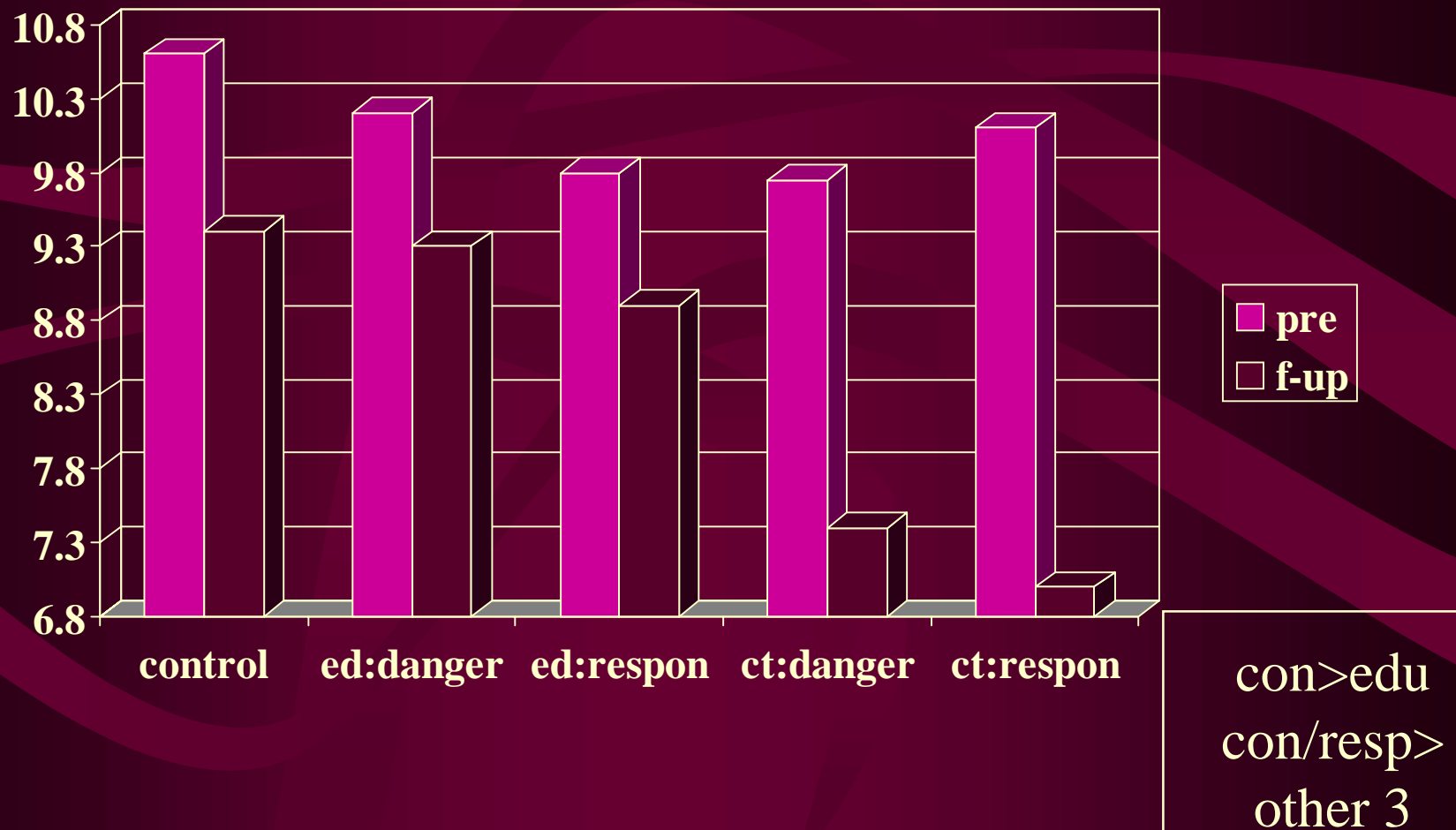
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Social-distance: pre-post

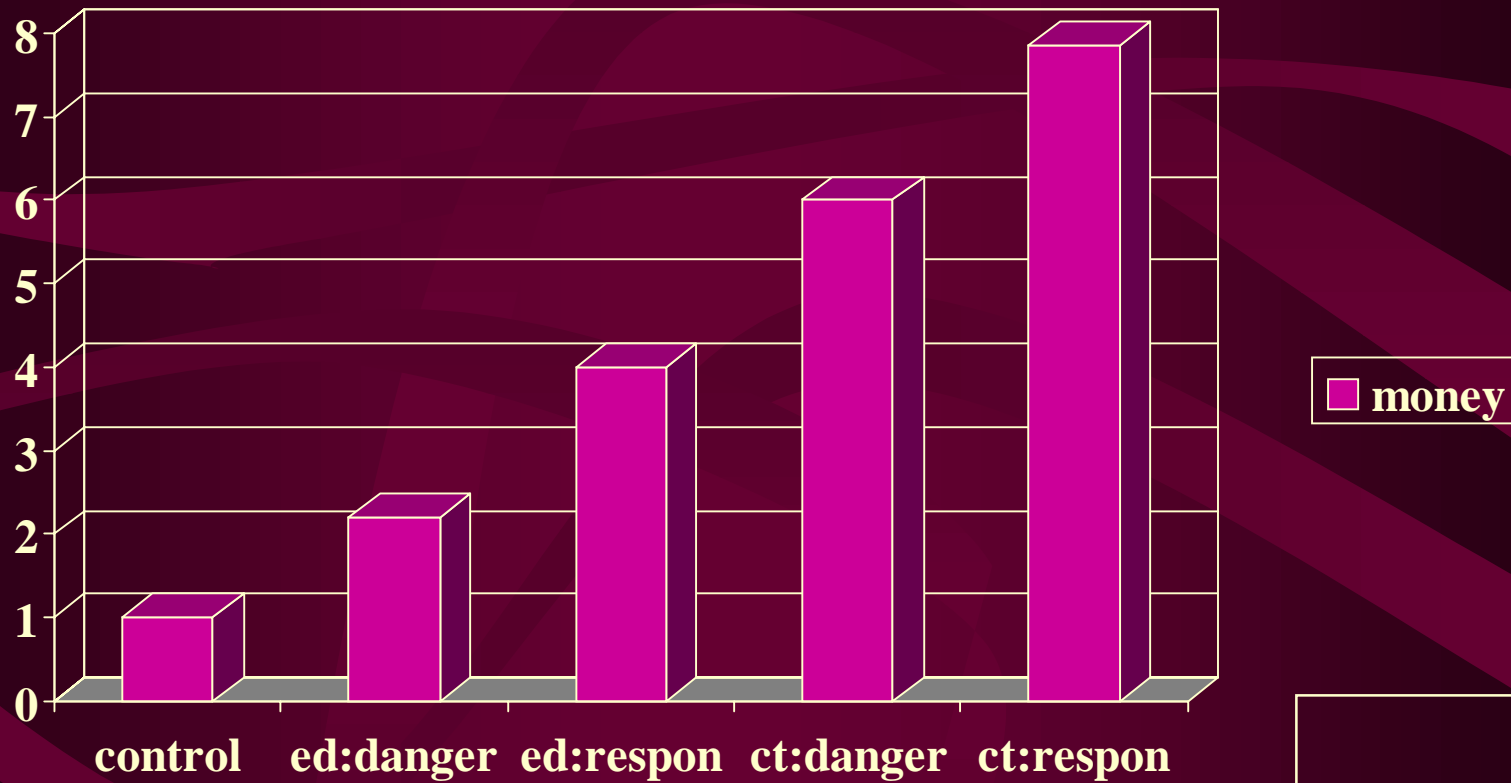


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Social distance: pre-follow-up



NAMI donation



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Conclusions on Change Studies

- Education yields some changes on attributions specific to mental illness
- Contact yields better changes on attributions and behaviors