

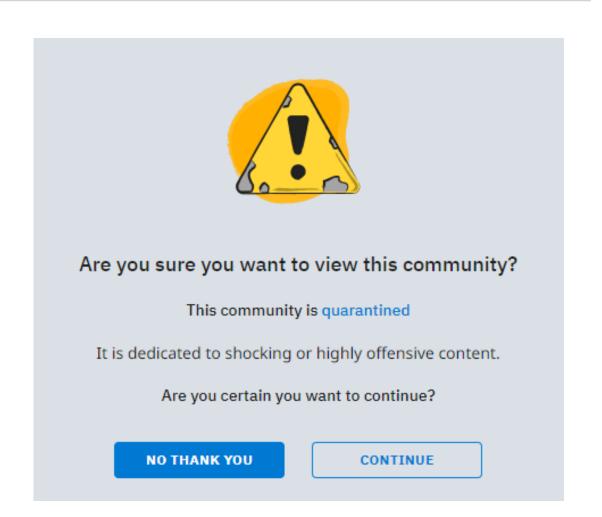
# **MANTRaP**

Misogyny online ANd The Red Pill

Veronika Koller,<sup>1</sup> Mark McGlashan,<sup>2</sup> Frazer Heritage,<sup>1</sup> Alexandra Krendel<sup>1</sup> and Jessica Aiston<sup>1</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Lancaster University <sup>2</sup>Birmingham City University

### Trigger Warning



### Who we are

4 (soon to be 5) researchers interested in:

- gender and identity online
- construction of misogyny and sexism in online contexts
- exploring relevant online data with corpus methods



@VeronikaKoller



@Mark\_McGlashan



@Noun\_Fraze



@ALexiconArtist



@jessicuughh

### Our research questions

- 1. How do members of the various groups of the 'manosphere' use language to:
  - a. represent gendered social actors?
  - b. (re)produce misogyny in online spaces?
- 1. How and where is that discourse mainstreamed?
- 1. What are the implication for young people's online safety?

### Our research questions

- 1. How do members of the various groups of the 'manosphere' use language to:

  - a. represent gendered social actors?b. (re)produce misogyny in online spaces?
- 1. How and where is that discourse mainstreamed?
- 1. What are the implication for young people's online safety?

### Previous and current research

+

#### Pick up artists

Lawson, R. and McGlashan, M. (2017) 'Discourses of neoliberal masculinity: a corpus-based discourse study of an online 'Pick Up Artist' community'.

LGAS 2017, Nottingham

University.

#### **Online misogyny**

Hardaker, C. & McGlashan,
M. (2016) "Real men
don't hate women": Twitter
rape threats and group
identity'. *Journal of Pragmatics* 91: 80-93.

#### Incels

Koller, V. & Heritage, F. (2019)

'Incels, in-groups, and
ideologies: The representation
of gendered social actors in a
sexuality- based online
community', Lavender
Languages and Linguistics 26

#### **MGTOW**

Krendel, A. (2019) 'Hypergamy: a woman's inability to love unconditionally like men can love (and dogs)": Masculinity, femininity, and sexuality across the Reddit "manosphere", Lavender Languages and Linguistics 26

# The Manosphere & The Red Pill

- Lots of research in media & cultural studies, e.g. Feminist
   Media Studies 2018 <u>Special issue</u> on Online Misogyny
- Growing body of (linguistic) research, cf. <u>lavlang26</u> programme
- Need for larger-scale account(s) of the 'Manosphere', recontextualisations of 'red pill philosophy', and discursive

### Data and Methods

Reddit				
	Words	Threads		
Incels (r/braincels)	65,000	50		
MGTOW (r/TheRedPill)	70,052	10		
Men's Rights (r/TheRedPill)	71,069	15		
Red Pill Theory (r/TheRedPill)	73,148	15		

#### Corpus-based Discourse Studies

- Key-keywords (cf. McGlashan & Lawson 2017)
  - Reference corpus: AmE06
  - keyword lists
  - o venn
- Appraisal theory (Martin & White 2005)
- social actor representation (van Leeuwen 2013)
- Need for larger-scale account presents us with methodological and data-related issues
  - collecting and working with really big chunks of online data

# Key-Keywords

Corpora	Total KKWs	Key-keywords
Incels MGTOW MRA PUA	15	GUYS WANT LOL I'M SEX FUCKING IT'S WOMEN YOU GUY GET GIRLS SHIT YOUR FUCK
Incels MGTOW PUA	3	JUST GIRL YOU'RE
MGTOW MRA PUA	9	MEN POINTS DON'T THINK PILL GOLD ALPHA TRP ETC
Incels MRA	2	DUDE HATE
Incels MGTOW	2	CUCK BEING
Incels PUA	2	RE DONT
MGTOW MRA	4	RAPE WOMAN POINT MGTOW
MRA PUA	3	POST LEVEL BETA
MGTOW PUA	1	YOURSELF

### Overall Findings

- Gender is seen in a binary (e.g. there are only men and women)
- This binary is not always homogeneous (e.g. different types of *men*)
- Men and women are constructed in opposition to each other
- Men exist on a hierarchy with different characteristics for each level, whereas women and girls:
  - are innately emotional in comparison to men, who are rational and logical
  - have their sexual and relational desires ascribed by the in-group
  - are negatively judged for capacity and propriety
  - are appreciated for positive/negative aesthetics
  - are appreciated for negative significance

### Men's Rights: gendered social actors

Fe	male social	actors		
Rank	Word	Occurrences		
18	Women	499		
30	Her	330		
33	She	321		
95	Woman	107		
111	Girls	83		
170	Female	53		
174	Girl	51		
246	Feminists	37		
287	Feminist	31		
315	Wife	29		
389	Virgin	24		
420	Bitch	21		
449	sjw	20		
520	Mother	17		
594	Girlfriend	14		
596	Herself	14		
626	Chicks	13		
704	Pussy	12		
746	Feminine	11		
771	sjws	11		
Total:		1698		

Male social actors			
Rank	Word	Occurrences	
22	Men	449	
47	He	244	
71	Man	156	
82	His	127	
148	Him	60	
158	Male	56	
172	Guy	52	
176	Guys	50	
307	Dude	29	
408	Boys	22	
419	Beta	21	
502	Victims	18	
515	Himself	17	
630	Father	13	
647	Males	13	
672	Bro	12	
690	Husband	12	
724	Alpha	11	
765	Patriarchy	11	
Total:		1373	

- Women active and agentive, have a detrimental impact on men and wider society
- Women negatively judged for immorality, whereas girls appreciated as objects
- Girls are given passivated relational/sexual roles
- Men neither judged nor appreciated

### Men's Rights: examples

#### Women:

 "People talk about the benefits in terms of not having to put up with the personality problems of women, high risk of divorce and alimony. There are also benefits in avoiding STDs and 'oops' pregnancies"

#### Girl:

"some sheltered white girl...her opinion doesn't mean shit"

#### *Men* as insecure:

- "too afraid to say anything about the second class citizen status of males"
- "I'm not scared of chicks, I'm scared of the men with guns they can summon"

### Pick-Up Artists: gendered social actors

### Female social actors

Rank	Word	Occurrences	
18	Her	547	
20	She	531	
29	Women	421	
68	Girl	188	
80	Girls	150	
102	Woman	105	
321	Female	31	
352	Bitch	27	
392	Lauren	24	
637	Mother	13	
678	Herself	12	
685	Plates	12	
706	Bitches	11	
725	Girlfriend	11	
Total:		2083	

#### Male social actors

Rank	Word	Occurrences	
61	He	208	
74	Men	164	
81	Man	148	
107	Guy	103	
122	Him	87	
123	His	87	
129	Alpha	82	
131	Guys	81	
175	Beta	71	
221	Male	44	
343	Boyfriend	28	
366	Betas	25	
409	Chad	22	
510	Dude	17	
594	Bro	14	
606	Males	14	
632	Himself	13	
720	Father	11	
Total:		1219	

- Women and girls as potential dating/sexual partners
- Women and girls appreciated for positive and negative aesthetics
- Men appreciated for positive aesthetics

### Pick-Up Artists: examples

- Women actively sleeping with men, rejecting men, and issuing "shit tests"
  - "Will you buy me a drink?"
  - "What do you do for work?"
- Appreciation of aesthetics:
  - "ugly women" who should "keep their body fat down"
  - Girls rated on the "Hot Babe" scale
  - Men as "buffed, rich, alpha"
- Psuedo-scientific arguments to justify heteronormative and competitive masculinity
  - "[t]here is extremely good evidence that that shape of the penis is designed to scoop out and remove the semen of another man"
  - "[women] want to be ravaged and dominated by a man with frame [sic]"

### MGTOW: gendered social actors

Female social actors				
Rank	Word Occurrences			
17	Women	600		
33	She	328		
38	Her	316		
77	Woman	155		
93	Girls	129		
124	Girl	88		
128	Pussy	84		
241	Female	39		
248	Strippers	38		
314	Chicks	29		
331	Wife	28		
369	Chick	24		
411	Bitches	21		
430	Stripper	20		
438	Bitch	19		
465	Herself	19		
514	Hamster	16		
548	Feminists	15		
586	Mother	14		
647	Females	12		
731	Victim	11		
Total:		2005		

Male social actors				
Rank	Word Occurrences			
35	Men	321		
79	Man	147		
94	Guys	126		
156	Guy	71		
209	Male	47		
245	Alpha	38		
268	Cuck	35		
303	Beta	31		
342	Betas	26		
379	Dude	23		
522	Monk	16		
562	Alphas	14		
568	Cucks	14		
583	mgtows	14		
590	Rapists	14		
619	Masculine	13		
640	Chad	12		
707	Himself	11		
731	Virgin	11		
Total:		984		

- Women negatively judged for propriety, and negatively appreciated for significance
- Girls as sexual objects and risk
- Men never passivated nor appreciated
- Men judged for positive capacity

### MGTOW: examples

- Women and girls:
  - "MGTOW men complain that women are disloyal and immoral, and many are angry that their wives have abandoned them, and you advocate encouraging their whorish behaviour"
  - "women are not important enough to change something in my life"
  - "we should jail the girl too and have her serve the same trial as the rapist, the rapist got punished in the end but the girl too. This will ensure that girls don't want to get raped and as such will not compel or allow men to rape them aside from ensuring that the girl gets justice for encouraging rape"
- Men and guys:
  - "Isaac newton prided himself in having spent his life celibate and yet he's inarguably one of the most accomplished men of all time"
  - "They'll even get pregnant by Chad and have a guy like you to provide and raise the kid for them"

### Incels: gendered social actors

	Male social ac	tors	Female Social Actors		tors
Rank	Word	Occurrences	Rank	Word	Occurrence
49	He	185	25	She	29
82	Men	116	31	Women	26
87	Guys	110	44	Her	19
94	Man	104	88	Girl	10
95	Chad	102	127	Woman	7
109	Guy	87	128	Girls	7
116	Him	80	145	She's	(
158	Bro	59	193	Female	4
172	Dude	52	261	Roastie	
201	Male	45	273	Bitch	
226	He's	39	324	Foids	:
236	Cuck	37	428	Females	:
330	Chads	26	466	Feminist	:
389	Brother	22	515	Gf	:
404	Manlet	21	535	Girlfriends	:
447	Cucks	18	551	Foid	:
483	Masculine	17	570	Whore	:
509	Boy	16	575	Wife	1
615	Dudes	13	591	Roasties	:
618	Faggot	13	629	Whores	1
624	Males	13	715	Slut	1
TOTAL		1175			135

Similar number of lexical tokens for male and female social actors

But there do appear to be differences at a lexical level

**Derogatory terms** not as frequent as expected:

16.68% for male and 17.75% for female social actors

but only in terms of lexical semantics

**Less evaluation** for *she*, *women* than for *he*, *men* 

### Incels: examples

- Men and he mostly appraised as lacking capacity (33.3%) and propriety (8.3%) but can be ascribed and/or refer to high-status men
  - "Men can and do get raped by women"
  - "Foids consider white men abusers"
  - "he got the job due to being Jewish and having connections"
  - "He also took part in other criminal activities"
- Women mostly appraised for having capacity (14%) and lacking aesthetics (8%)
  - "Women have the upper hand"
  - "Women in their 30's who are starting to get saggy"
- She mostly appraised for lacking capacity and propriety (10% each)
  - "She can't force him to get hard"
  - "She is not entitled to your money"

### Preliminary conclusions

Women: fear of, attraction to, emancipation from

- negatively judged for propriety (Men's Rights, MGTOW, 'she' for Incels)
- constructed as active, judged as capable but detrimental (Men's Rights, Incels)
- appreciated for looks and sexual attractiveness (Pick-Up Artists, Incels)
- deemed insignificant (MGTOW)

Girls: superiority over, attraction to, fear of

- passive, objectified, lack capacity (Men's Rights, MGTOW, 'she' for Incels)
- appreciated for looks and sexual attractiveness (Pick-Up Artists)
- represent a risk (MGTOW)

#### Men:

- not evaluated (Men's Rights)
- appreciated for good looks (Pick-Up Artists)
- active, capable (MGTOW) or lacking capacity (Incels)

### Future work and applications

How and where is manosphere discourse mainstreamed?



#### The Red Pill Primer For Boys

By popular demand, the agents of the Red Pill Society have assembled an easy-tounderstand guide to the Red Pill praxeology for teenage boys and men who are intrigued by Red Pill concepts and practices.

These are in Google Presentation format, presented free of charge for the betterment of young men everywhere.



"from the cradle to the grave, men are getting a raw deal. ... Feminists are now amongst the most obnoxious bigots."

(Dominic Raab, MP and Tory leadership contender, 2011),

http://theredpillroom.blogspot.com



# Questions, comments, suggestions?

