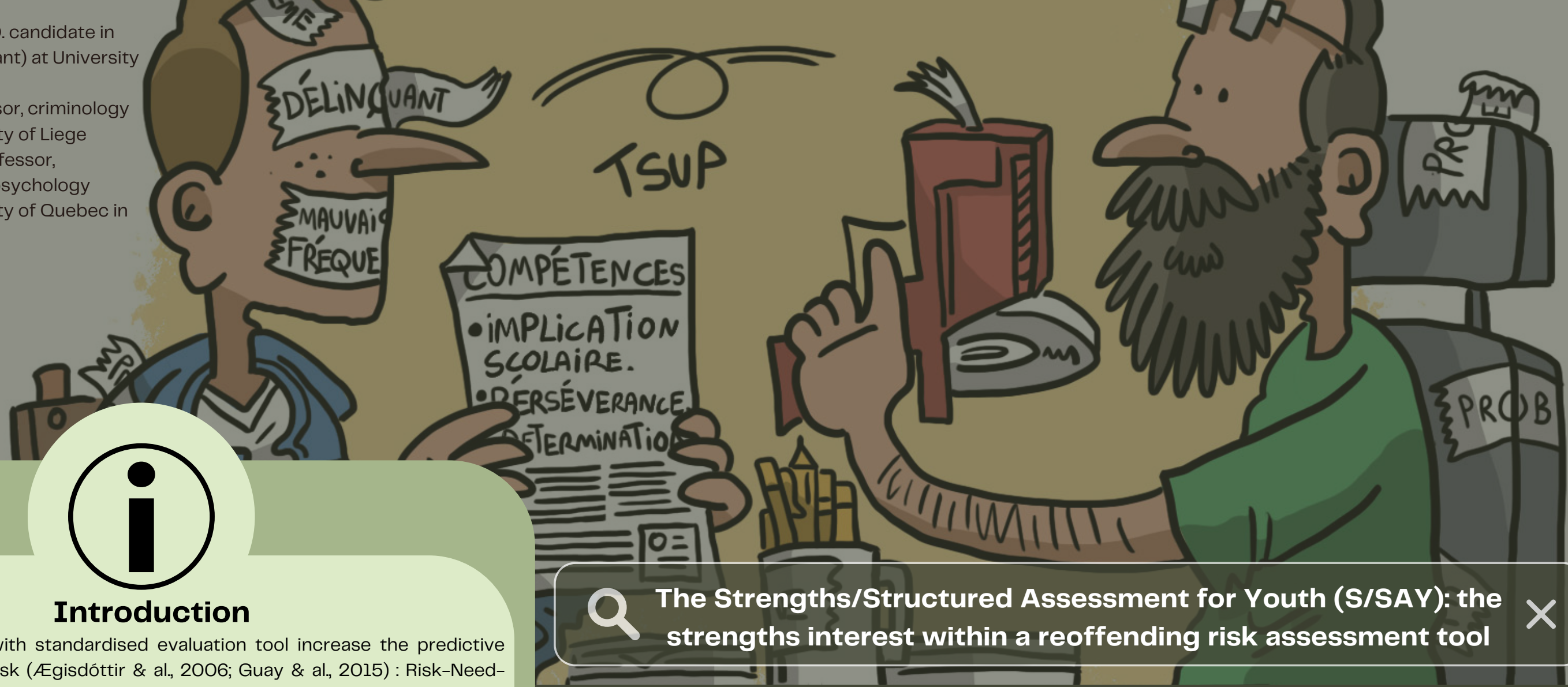


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Introduction

Structured evaluation with standardised evaluation tool increase the predictive validity of reoffending risk (Ægisdóttir & al., 2006; Guay & al., 2015) : Risk-Need-Responsivity Model (RBR Model) with YLS/CMI = the main tool for youth that is used all over the world

Focus on risk factors

Thinking of the evaluation as the first contact with the justice-involved youth, with a focus on his deficits, contributes to some extent to reducing him to his only difficulties and could limit the deployment of the intervention objectives (Case & Haines, 2016; McNeill, 2006).

- Priority to stop criminal conducts and fulfilment comes second (Ward & Fortune, 2013; Ward & al., 2012)
- Stigmatisation and negative image of himself (Graham & McNeill, 2017)
- What about no-criminogenic needs and effect on treatment motivation? (Haqanee & al., 2015; Serie, 2022; Ward & Fortune, 2013; Ward & al., 2012)

What about juvenile offenders' positive side?

Protective factor definition: « Any characteristic of a person, his/her environment or situation which reduces the risk of future violent behavior » (de Vogel & al., 2009)

Conceptual difficulties with protection factors

- Protection factor = absence of risk factor (e.g. no antisocial companions) (Costa & al., 1999; Jessor & al., 1995)
- Protection factor = opposite of risk factor (e.g. functional family system) (Hawkins & al., 1992; Loeber & al., 2003)
- Protection factor = independent factor (e.g. prosocial and antisocial attitudes at the same time) (Farrington & Loeber, 2000; Herrenkohl & al., 2003)

Mechanism difficulties with protection factors

- Cumulative effect
- Buffering effect

The Strengths/Structured Assessment for Youth (S/SAY): the strengths interest within a reoffending risk assessment tool

3



Hypothesis

Considering justice-involved youth's strengths in a new risk of reoffending tool!

Strength definition: « A skill, attitude, exploited or not, present within each individual or his community at large, which can potentially be mobilised in order to adopt a pro-social behavior, to improve his well-being, while reducing the likelihood of harming others or oneself » (Miny, 2020, p.9)



Strengths/Structured Assessment for Youth (S/SAY)

Primary vision of justice-involved youth's positive side, that precede protection factors because doesn't play yet a protective effect

Hypothetic effects about S/SAY

- Increases the predictive validity of reoffending risk ;
- Supports psychosocial workers in identifying justice-involved youth's positive side ;
- Creates new treatment targets/goals ;
- Increases treatment motivation and therapeutic alliance ;
- Increases justice-involved youth's self-esteem and decreases stereotypical image.

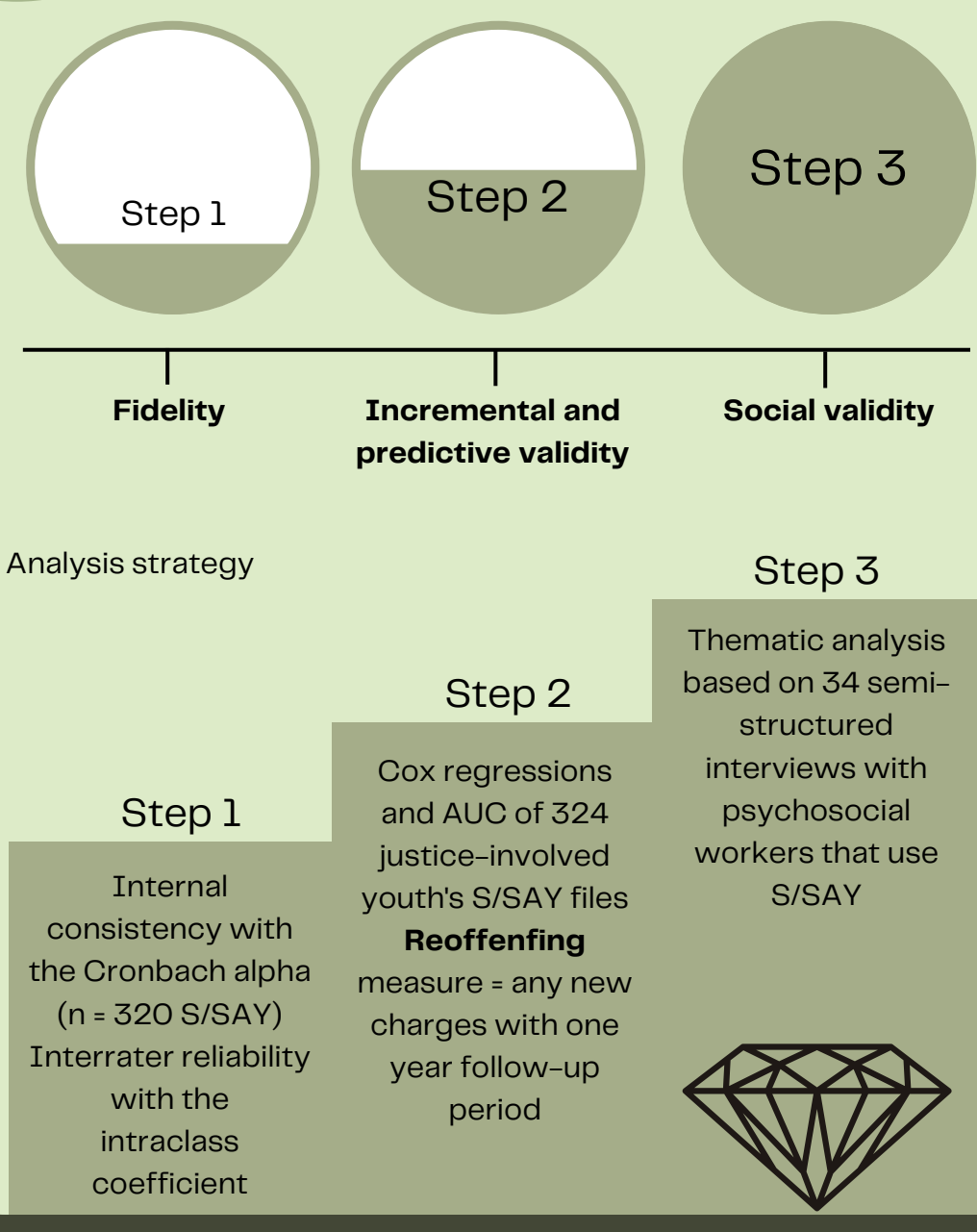
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Conceptual and mechanism difficulties contribute to make it harder to assess the justice-involved youths' positive aspects and impact on existing measurement tools: what are they really measuring?

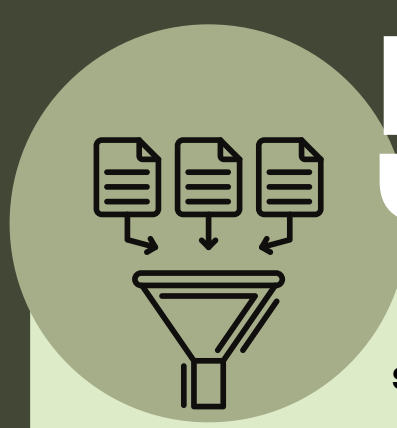
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Thesis project description

Scientific validation of S/SAY in 3 steps



5



Data collect

S/SAY implementation on two sites:

- Québec by youth probation officers
- Belgique by social workers in juvenile detention centers

OBJECTIVE:

Encourage systematic and objective strengths assessment when assessing the reoffending risk using S/SAY

Interrater reliability

- Québec : 15 (n = 40)
- Belgique : 36 (n = 45)

Reoffending data

- Belgique : 139 justice-involved youth (n = 320)

Qualitative interviews

- Québec : 12 (n = 15)
- Belgique : 34 (n = 30)



Have you got already read?

Submitted soon : Mathys, C., Brassine, N. & Parent, G. The Strengths/Structured Assessment for Youth (S/SAY): A case study about evaluation of risks and strengths in juvenile delinquency. Children and Youth Services Review.

Already submitted : Brassine, N. & Mathys, C. (2022). ERiFoRe : Quand les facteurs de risque et les forces des jeunes contrevenants se rencontrent au sein d'un même outil d'évaluation du risque de récidive. Revue internationale de criminologie et de police technique et scientifique, 3, 370 – 381.

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 Miny, A. (2020). Propositions visant une meilleure identification des forces et facteurs de réceptivité au sein de l'outil d'évaluation YLS/CMI-YCA. Travail de fin d'étude en criminologie, Université de Liège, Liège, Belgique.