

**Title:** Perspectives of forgiveness in relation to bombing victim Gill Hicks

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**Abstract:** The purpose of our current study was to assess the effects of different perspectives of forgiveness. Participants ( $N = 145$ ) answered three questions based on Gill Hicks story of becoming a victim of a 2005 London bombing incident. One group of participants ( $n = 71$ ) were told that Gill forgave the person responsible for the attack, while the other participants ( $n = 74$ ) were told that she wanted revenge on the person responsible. To assess the perspectives of forgiveness, all answers were coded based on common themes seen in the responses. These common themes were then analyzed as being 'present' or 'not present' in each response. A Chi-square analysis showed that those in the group that read about Gill wanting to forgive responded with higher rates of admiration, empathy, inspiration, etc. Those in the group that read about Gill wanting revenge showed higher rates of anger, skepticism, etc. Further analysis will be shown in the presentation.

**Citation:** Blackstad, D.; Eachus, S.; Sparstad, G. (2018, November). *Perspective of forgiveness in relation to bombing victim Gill Hicks*. Poster presented at the Tri-State Psychology Conference, Dubuque, IA.