JOURNAL OF ALCOHOL and DRUG EDUCATION

Volume 55, No. 2, August 2011

ARTICLES:

Alcohol Use Among Italian University Students: The Role of Sensation Seeking, Peer Group Norms
and Self-Efficacy
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ABSTRACT

This study investigated the role of sensation seeking, peer group drinking and self-efficacy in refusing to drink alcohol in influencing alcohol consumption of a sample of 588 Italian university students. Results confirmed that heavy drinkers are typically males living in university residences. Alcohol use is more frequent among students with higher sensation seeking. Moreover, students whose friends drink alcohol and who report lower self-efficacy in refusing to drink alcohol tend to drink themselves to a higher rate and to be involved in drunkenness episodes. The impact of sensation seeking on drinking behaviors appears to be partly influenced by perceived group drinking and perceived self-efficacy. Results emphasis the importance of preventative interventions targeted to group norms and enhancing students' refusal skills.

Keywords: alcohol use, university students, sensation seeking, peer group norms, self-efficacy

ABSTRACT

This study explored an understudied promotive factor, a belief that alcohol use is inconsistent with personal autonomy, which may reduce adolescent intention to drink and subsequent alcohol use. Autonomy was examined as an attitudinal construct within the Theory of Reasoned Action. Longitudinal data from 2,493 seventh grade students nested in 40 schools were analyzed using a structural equation model. Autonomy was negatively correlated with intention to use alcohol and subsequent alcohol use at a later wave, and intention to use fully mediated the effect of autonomy on subsequent alcohol use. These results are consistent with the proposition that when personal autonomy is perceived as inconsistent with alcohol use among younger adolescents, students indicate a lower intention to use alcohol and use less alcohol during the following school year.

Keywords: adolescent protective factors, alcohol use, autonomy, subjective norms, theory of reasoned action

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to determine the Blood (breath) Alcohol Concentration (BrAC) rates of college football fans on game day. Researchers employed a time-series study design, collecting data at home football games at a large university in the Midwest. Participants included 536 individuals (64.4% male) ages 18-83 (M = 28.44, SD = 12.32). Approximately 90% (n=482) of the sample indicated consumption of alcohol. The average BrAC for the entire sample was .061 mL/L (SD = .044). Results demonstrate the majority of college football fans consume alcohol while tailgating on campus. Various ways to minimize alcohol consumption exist including limiting the number of areas where drinking is permitted on game day. Participants appear to support these measures if alcohol consumption is legal in select tailgating areas.

Keywords: alcohol, athletics, fan behavior, blood alcohol concentration, tailgating

Addiction Studies: Exploring Students' Attitudes toward Research in a Graduate Program	74-90
Raven James & Lori Simons	

ABSTRACT

An exploratory study was conducted to compare addiction studies and community counseling students' attitudes toward research. A survey of 66 addiction studies and 17 community counseling students in graduate programs was used to explore interest and self-efficacy in research and the research training environment. A pre/post test design was used to measure differences in an addiction etiology and epidemiology course containing 14 participants. Differences between recovering and non-recovering students were also explored. Independent t-test analyses were conducted to detect significant differences between addiction studies and community counseling students (p < .05), as well as significant differences in those students enrolled in the pilot course (p < .05). No differences were noted among reported recovery status. Implications for graduate program development in addiction studies are discussed.