JOURNAL OF ALCOHOL and DRUG EDUCATION

Volume 58, No. 1, April 2014

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High Risk Drinking Among Non-Affiliated College Students	3
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ABSTRACT

This study investigated the high risk drinking practices of unaffiliated college students who are not involved in formal athletics, fraternities, or sororities. Using a qualitative research design, the investigators interviewed students at a northeast public college in fall 2010 to learn about unaffiliated students' drinking experiences and their related consequences. Five major themes emerged from the interviews: Unaffiliated students engage in high risk drinking practices consuming a range of 5 to 18 drinks per episode; they participate in "pre-gaming" or drinking before going out to party; they participate in drinking games over the course of a drinking episode; they experience negative health and social consequences including: vomiting, hangovers, confusion, memory loss, medical and law enforcement involvement, and strained interpersonal relationships; and some use psychoactive substances while drinking. The major finding is that unaffiliated college students engage in high risk drinking and experience a variety of negative consequences.

Key words: High risk drinking, unaffiliated college students, negative consequences

ABSTRACT

The relationship between perceived parental approval of drinking and alcohol use and problems was explored with undergraduate students in a small midwestern university. Participants completed a survey measuring demographic information, perceived approval of drinking, and alcohol use and problems. Results indicated perceived parental approval of drinking was significantly related to alcohol use and problems. Path analysis demonstrated perceived parental approval of drinking affected weekly drinking quantity, alcohol use frequency, and negative consequences of alcohol indirectly through perceived friends' approval of drinking. There was also a significant direct effect from parental approval to alcohol-use frequency. These findings suggest that parents may influence their children's drinking by mechanisms such as affecting peer selection.

ABSTRACT

Injunctive norms, or perceived peer approval of drinking is a potentially important influence on college student drinking. Few studies on college student drinking have attended to injunctive norms during the first few months of college. Longitudinal data from 534 first semester freshmen are used to describe the contributions of injunctive norms to alcohol consumption. Injunctive norms were measured by peer approval of drinking and alcohol consumption was measured by the typical number of drinks consumed in the past 30-days while partying. Results indicate that injunctive norms were a significant predictor of drinking after controlling for gender and effects of time.