Table of contents

1. Prenatal Alcohol Consumption: Perceptions of Harmfulness

2. The body in healing of addictions: Psyche as the container of potentiality, soma as the vessel of actuality

3. Therapist adherence and competence as predictors of client outcomes in adolescent substance use treatment

4. A phenomenological approach exploring the lived experience of members of alcoholics anonymous who have social anxiety

5. The effects of mindfulness on smoking behavior and craving

6. Alcohol consumption in parents of adolescents with externalizing behavior problems: The mediating role of parental emotional distress, and the moderating roles of relationship status and relationship satisfaction

7. Making use of psychodynamic concepts and practice in the treatment of substance-related disorders

8. The Relationship Between Coming to Terms With Family of Origin Experiences and Sustained Sobriety After Treatment for a Substance Use Disorder

9. "Small village/large hell": Cocaine & incarceration in Lima, Peru


11. The soul of drug court: A phenomenological exploration of the multidisciplinary, collaborative team

12. The influence of gender on perceived treatment need among a community sample of substance users
13. Neurocognition and prenatal exposure to methadone: Comparison of the event related potential and the Bayley Scales of Infant Development in the first year

14. Alcohol Interventions for Mandated Students (Project AIMS)

15. A prescription for trouble: Prescription drug diversion as the new trend in drug crime

16. The Functional and Structural Neural Connectivity of Affective Processing in Alcohol Dependence: A Multimodal Imaging Study

17. The role of genetics, nutrition, and cigarette smoking in the longitudinal change in lung function

18. Injecting drug use in Afghanistan: Risk factors for HIV, HCV, STIs, injecting drug practices, and outcomes of an opiate substitution therapy program

19. Methamphetamine use, executive functioning & sexual risk taking behavior

20. Spirituality as positive predictor of coping with stress for individuals in recovery from alcohol and other drug addictions

21. Relationship between Juvenile Internalizing Behaviors and Substance Use in Predicting Recidivism Over Time in Multisystemic Therapy

22. Exploring attachment and defense style effects on the self-reflective ability among individuals with addictive disorders


25. Attitudes Toward the Therapeutic Use of Medical Marijuana and the Impact of Perceived Stigma
26. Temperament and dyadic interactions in infants of opiate-dependent mothers

27. Typology of Couples Entering Alcohol Behavioral Couple Therapy: An Empirical Approach and Test of Predictive Validity on Treatment Response

28. A Qualitative Investigation of California Alcohol and Other Drug Strategic Planning and System Design

29. Integral recovery: A case study of an AQAL [all-quadrants, all-levels, all-lines, all-states, all-types] approach to addiction treatment

30. Delay discounting and risky sexual intentions: A test of the direct and indirect effects of alcohol intoxication and physiological arousal

31. A Cross Sectional Study To Examine the Association Between Caffeinated Coffee Consumption and Overall Self-Rated Health

32. General and Acculturative Stress as predictors of Substance Use among Black Caribbean Americans

33. Maintaining adolescent sobriety with equine assisted psychotherapy: An experiential learning intervention guide

34. Examination of personal motivations and interpersonal factors as determinants of alcohol recovery outcomes and changes in adult attachment status during remission from an alcohol use disorder.

35. Health communication and social media: A case study of the California Tobacco Control Program's "Toxic Butts" campaign

36. The Effects of Emotional Regulation Strategies on Substance Abuse Disorders in an Outpatient Population

37. Investigations into human capital and alcohol

38. Post-traumatic growth among high-risk youth: Predictors, impact of stressful life events, and relationship with changes in substance use behaviors
39. Going Beyond Symptom-Based Conceptualization and Treatment of Substance Use Disorders

40. Changes in affect following smoking cessation in depressed smokers

41. Predicting treatment-related change in adolescent substance use from change in recovery environment

42. Development of the Distress Inventory for Partners of Substance Abusers (DIPSA)

43. PTSD Symptom Severity, Number of Trauma Types Experienced, and Neuropsychological Functioning in Outpatients with Co-occurring Substance Abuse and Other Mental Disorders

44. Smoking in pregnancy: From effects to solutions

45. The experience of elder Alcoholics Anonymous group members of a relapse after a long period of sobriety: A descriptive phenomenological exploration

___________________________________________________________

Document 1 of 45

Prenatal Alcohol Consumption: Perceptions of Harmfulness

Author: Sanchez, Julie


Abstract: The present study focused on the perception of harm regarding maternal alcohol consumption. Specifically, it examined the difference in perception as it pertained to parental status and educations level in order to determine if education level impacts perceptions and if parents are more likely to perceive prenatal alcohol consumption as less harmful. The Health Belief Model and the Protective Motivation Theory were used to
provide a theoretical context for how perceptions impact behaviors. One hundred and seventy participants completed an online survey. Results show that neither education level nor parental status impacted perceptions of harmfulness of prenatal alcohol consumption. Results did indicate that participants were more likely to perceive hard liquor as more harmful than beer or wine to an unborn child. Results showed that participants perceived prenatal alcohol consumption during the second trimester and throughout the entire pregnancy as more harmful than the first and third trimester.


Subject: Mental health; Psychology; Clinical psychology

Classification: 0347: Mental health; 0621: Psychology; 0622: Clinical psychology

Identifier / keyword: Psychology, Health and environmental sciences, Fasd, Health belief model, Maternal alcohol consumption, Perception of harm, Prenatal alcohol consumption, Protection motivation theory

Title: Prenatal Alcohol Consumption: Perceptions of Harmfulness
The body in healing of addictions: Psyche as the container of potentiality, soma as the vessel of actuality

Author: D'Angelo, Rashin

Abstract: This theoretical study examines the image of body, as defined by its physical, emotional, and subtle aspects in the healing of addictions. Through the application of depth psychology, neuroscience, somatic psychology, and quantum physics, this theoretical research recovers a multidimensional view of the body and integrates the somatic and subtle dimensions of the body into the clinical work of healing addictive disorders. This research examines the topic of embodiment from an alchemical hermeneutic approach in order to make space for imaginal perspectives and for the researcher's own embodied process. This research challenges the current paradigm in depth psychology and suggests an embodied approach to understanding. It suggests that the use of the physical bodily sensations and symptoms, as well as imaginal perspectives, allows a clinician to become aware of the voice of the somatic unconscious. Both the field of neuroscience and that of somatic psychology have demonstrated that past trauma is embodied in present physiological states and action tendencies. Research has shown that most addicted persons struggle to identify feelings and have a disconnection in linking between sensation and affect, which leads to impaired insight and judgment and a diminished capacity for the modulation of arousal.
Although all bodily and movement-centered therapies can be effective in treatment, the technique favored by this research is the integration of yoga and mindfulness into the psychological treatment of addictions. The infinite source of healing available in the collective unconscious can be experienced in the subtle-body energies that are found in the transference field, which can activate a new archetypal pattern of healing. Embodiment is significant not only for the patient, but also for the treatment providers; success in early recovery involves a strong enough container to break through the repetition compulsion behind all addictive behaviors. What this study calls forth is an embodied shift in clinical psychology to introduce a consciousness that reflects on the infinite potentialities in the quantum field. This study also supports the perspective that clinicians be embodied in their own mind, body, and psyche. Keywords: addictions, yoga, mindfulness, integrative, embodiment, quantum physics, depth psychology, treatment.

Title: The body in healing of addictions: Psyche as the container of potentiality, soma as the vessel of actuality

Number of pages: 267

Publication year: 2013

Degree date: 2013

School code: 1142

Source: DAI-B 75/02(E), Aug 2014

Place of publication: Ann Arbor

Country of publication: United States

ISBN: 9781303510144

Advisor: Goodchild, Veronica

Committee member: Sloan, Lisa, Shafer, Kathryn

University/institution: Pacifica Graduate Institute

Department: Clinical Psychology

University location: United States -- California

Degree: Ph.D.

Source type: Dissertations & Theses

Language: English
Therapist adherence and competence as predictors of client outcomes in adolescent substance use treatment

Author: Campos-Melady, Marita

Abstract: Central to the debate over the implementation of empirically supported treatments is whether or not therapist skill in delivering these therapies has a measurable, positive relationship with client outcome. The fidelity and skill with which therapists deliver these treatments have been studied under the constructs of therapist adherence and competence. There has been mixed evidence of the relationship between adherence and competence and client outcomes, that could be due to small sample sizes, potentially inadequate measures for rating therapists' skill, and limited statistical methods. The current study utilized a data set from the Adolescent and Family Treatment (AAFT) project in which 91 therapists provided services to 384 clients at regionally diverse sites. Substance abuse therapists trained to deliver the Adolescent Community Reinforcement Approach (A-CRA) submitted audio-taped therapy
sessions to expert raters for review. Measures of adherence and competence derived from these ratings were examined in a Multi-Level Model, for associations with client substance use outcomes at 3, 6 and 12-month follow-up periods. This study found that therapist competence was significantly predictive of decreases in clients' days of substance use. There was a non-significant trend for adherence being associated with decreased days of substance use as well. Client exposure to A-CRA treatment procedures also predicted decreased substance use across follow-ups, as did the cross-level interaction between A-CRA procedure exposure and therapist competence. Post-hoc analyses found that the number of co-morbid disorders of clients as well as client externalizing behaviors were predictive of therapist competence. This study adds to the evidence that treatment fidelity is associated with better treatment outcomes for clients.


Subject: Clinical psychology
A phenomenological approach exploring the lived experience of members of alcoholics anonymous who have social anxiety

Author: Weismantle, Alysia Betres

Abstract: For a significant number of years, quantitative research has been focused on the relationship between social anxiety and drug and alcohol abuse. Many articles have found significant relations between the two but there has never been a qualitative phenomenological study reflecting the lived experiences between those having social anxiety and drug- and alcohol-related problems. Using the method of Clark Moustakas, the researcher found themes related to those who attend Alcoholics Anonymous meetings and suffer from social anxiety as reflected by Social Interaction Anxiety Scale (Mattick & Clarke, "Development and Validation of Measures of Social Phobia Scrutiny Fear and Social Interaction..."
After interviews were conducted, 4 themes emerged from the data analysis and the essence of this phenomenon was established using the commonalities between the participants. Implications for identification, prevention, and future research are discussed as well as the use of cognitive behavioral therapy for those who are suffering now and will suffer in the future when these comorbid disorders are present.


Subject: Mental health; Behavioral psychology; Social psychology; Clinical psychology

Classification: 0347: Mental health; 0384: Behavioral psychology; 0451: Social psychology; 0622: Clinical psychology

Identifier / keyword: Psychology, Health and environmental sciences, Addiction, Alcoholics anonymous, Alcoholism, Anxiety, Phenomenology, Social anxiety
Title: A phenomenological approach exploring the lived experience of members of alcoholics anonymous who have social anxiety

Number of pages: 136

Publication year: 2013

Degree date: 2013

School code: 1351

Source: DAI-B 75/02(E), Aug 2014

Place of publication: Ann Arbor

Country of publication: United States

ISBN: 9781303526718

Advisor: Crawford, Theresa

Committee member: HUENEFELD, NANCY, ST. GERMAINE, JACQUELYN

University/institution: Capella University

Department: Harold Abel School of Social and Behavioral Sciences

University location: United States -- Minnesota

Degree: Ph.D.

Source type: Dissertations & Theses

Language: English

Document type: Dissertation/Thesis

Dissertation/thesis number: 3601441
The effects of mindfulness on smoking behavior and craving

Author: Daunter, Kelly D.

Abstract: The goal of this study is to explore the effects of mindfulness on smoking behavior and craving including nicotine dependence, nicotine withdrawal, and smoking cessation. Adults with more than ten years of chronic smoking and current smoking of five or more cigarettes daily were recruited for the study. Utilizing both a qualitative and quantitative research design, this study was experimental in nature with an interrupted time-series design using both within- and between-subjects comparisons. Ten smokers were recruited. All participants participated in a semi-structured telephone interview as well as completed the following assessment measures: the Fagerstrom Test for Nicotine Dependence (FTND) to assess smoking related behavior including physiological and behavioral symptoms; the Mood and Physical Symptoms Scale (MPSS) to assess withdrawal symptoms; the Mindful Attention Awareness Scale (MAAS) to assess for mindful awareness of what was happening in the present moment; and the Smoking Experiences Questionnaire (SEQ) to assess participants' experience of, feelings about, and awareness of their smoking habit. Participants were assessed at three intervals; pre-intervention, immediately post-intervention, and two weeks post-
intervention. It was hypothesized that the use of mindfulness practices would prove to be effective in decreasing nicotine withdrawal symptoms and nicotine dependence through increased mindful awareness indicating that mindfulness interventions are a viable treatment option for individuals wishing to quit smoking. Using a general linear model for repeated measures within the following covariates (age and years smoking) and factors (gender, marital status, and use of log book) there was no statistically significant difference in between-subjects and within-subjects results, however, a paired t-test on number of cigarettes smoked before and after the study revealed a significant reduction. Qualitative analysis also revealed that the use of mindfulness effectively reduced urges to smoke, nicotine withdrawal symptoms, frequency of smoking, and smoking related behaviors. Qualitative results further revealed that the mindfulness practice reduced stress, increased sense of calm and of peace, and increased mindful awareness and presence in participants' day to day lives.


Subject: Behavioral psychology; Psychology; Clinical psychology
Alcohol consumption in parents of adolescents with externalizing behavior problems: The mediating role of parental emotional distress, and the moderating roles of relationship status and relationship satisfaction

Author: Karch, Kathryn M.

Abstract: Child behavioral problems have a significant impact on the levels of distress experienced by parents. There is some evidence suggesting that in an effort to cope with this elevated distress, parents of children with externalizing behavior problems will consume more alcohol than parents of typical children. The aim of this study is to extend previous work examining the effect of child behavior problems on parental drinking using a community sample (N-387) and longitudinal design. It was hypothesized that the relationship between child behavioral problems and parental alcohol use would be mediated by parental emotional distress, and moderated by parent relationship status (e.g., single versus two parent families) and relationship satisfaction. Two moderated mediation path models were evaluated in MPlus. Contrary to expectations, there was no
evidence for moderated mediation. Although not expected, support was found indicating that child externalizing behaviors at Time 1 were a statistically reliable predictor of parent alcohol use at Time 3 for single parents but not for parents in a relationship. For parents in a relationship, results suggested that parental emotional distress at Time 1 and Time 2 as a statistically reliable predictor of parental alcohol use at Time 3. This study highlights the complexity of self-medication models of alcohol use particularly for parents of children with behavioral problems. Future directions for studies aimed at understanding these complex relationships are discussed.


Subject: Clinical psychology

Classification: 0622: Clinical psychology
Title: Alcohol consumption in parents of adolescents with externalizing behavior problems: The mediating role of parental emotional distress, and the moderating roles of relationship status and relationship satisfaction

Number of pages: 51

Publication year: 2013

Degree date: 2013

School code: 0656

Source: DAI-B 75/02(E), Aug 2014

Place of publication: Ann Arbor

Country of publication: United States

ISBN: 9781303474514

Advisor: Colder, Craig R.

Committee member: Fabiano, Gregory, Read, Jennifer, Gabriel, Shira

University/institution: State University of New York at Buffalo

Department: Psychology

University location: United States -- New York

Degree: Ph.D.

Source type: Dissertations & Theses

Language: English
Making use of psychodynamic concepts and practice in the treatment of substance-related disorders

Author: Taylor, Nora Naim

Abstract: This project involved an exploration and assessment of current theoretical thinking in the mental health field of substance abuse, with an emphasis on psychodynamic theory and practice. The work will benefit professionals who work in different treatment modalities, as well as clinicians' in general who are considering broadening their scope of psychodynamic private practice to include working with clients experiencing addiction problems.
The Relationship Between Coming to Terms With Family of Origin Experiences and Sustained Sobriety After Treatment for a Substance Use Disorder
Abstract: This study looked at the relationships between coming to terms with negative family experiences and lengths of sobriety after a substance use disorder. Two measurements (Family of Origin Scale and Coming to Terms Questionnaire) were given to participants in recovery who had reported at least 30 days of sobriety. The results found a significant (p<.001) relationship between coming to terms and longer lengths of sobriety. Clinical and research implications are discussed.
Title: The Relationship Between Coming to Terms With Family of Origin Experiences and Sustained Sobriety After Treatment for a Substance Use Disorder

Number of pages: 94

Publication year: 2013

Degree date: 2013

School code: 1634

Source: DAI-B 75/02(E), Aug 2014

Place of publication: Ann Arbor

Country of publication: United States

ISBN: 9781303523472

Advisor: Michaels, Marcia

Committee member: Brown, Stephen W., Levinson, Dan

University/institution: Alliant International University

Department: Irvine, CSPP

University location: United States -- California

Degree: Psy.D.

Source type: Dissertations & Theses

Language: English

Document type: Dissertation/Thesis
"Small village/large hell": Cocaine & incarceration in Lima, Peru

Author: Campos, Stephanie

Abstract: The Establecimiento Penitenciario de Mujeres de Chorrillos (commonly referred to by its previous name, Santa Monica) in Lima, Peru was built in 1952 as a reformatory to hold 300 women but by June 2012 it held over 3,500, many of them serving sentences for drug trafficking. This is the largest female prison in this Andean nation. An intersectional analysis of prisoners' narratives collected during fieldwork conducted from 2008 to 2009 demonstrates two inter-related processes. First, inequality was produced and reproduced inside this prison through the interconnections of race, gender, class and citizenship. Prisoners' daily lives and access to resources were constrained by the same inequalities that led to their incarceration. Multiple divisions among women mirrored national and globalized structural inequalities and citizenship in particular emerged as a dividing force. Santa Monica's stratification system was continuously reproduced as prisoners competed for life dependent resources. Secondly, I show the ways in which women's labor was the
linchpin between the transnational cocaine commodity chain and the prison. Santa Monica transformed into a place to "dispose of" low-level workers of the transnational cocaine commodity chain. Because the majority of these workers were women, their labor became the bond between illegal cocaine and the prison. Those who worked as drug couriers and minor retailers were laboring at the riskiest and most visible jobs to police surveillance. They were arrested when they were no longer needed or once they become a threat to the day-to-day operation of trafficking drugs while the (mostly male) middle managers above them remained in the background. Women's labor therefore created a symbiotic relationship between the prison and this chain where each side helped the other grow and expand. Once incarcerated, these women faced a hierarchy that shaped options for survival as they served their sentences.


Subject: Cultural anthropology; Latin American history

Classification: 0326: Cultural anthropology; 0336: Latin American history

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences
Health and human rights: Advocacy tools for structural HIV prevention among Russian drug users

Author: Lunze, Karsten

Abstract: Injection drug use fuels the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the Russian Federation (Russia). Evidence suggests that repressive drug law enforcement is part of the HIV risk environment and associated with risk behaviors that promote HIV transmission among people who inject drugs (PWID). However, no quantitative studies on police involvement and associated risk behaviors or health outcomes exist from Russia. We conducted a mixed-methods study in St. Petersburg, Moscow, and Vladikavkaz to characterize the impact of current policing practices on HIV-risk behaviors and overdose among PWID; and to explore attitudes of stakeholders about Russian drug policy and opportunities to change. Descriptive and multivariate regression analyses of quantitative cross-sectional data from 582 HIV prevention trial participants showed that reported policing practices such as arbitrary arrests, planting of false evidence, and extrajudicial syringe confiscations, are common in Russia and are associated with adverse risk behaviors and health outcomes such as receptive needle sharing and drug overdose, respectively. These policing practices often constitute human rights violations. We failed to demonstrate any deterrent effect of abusive policing practices on drug use. A qualitative exploration among 23 key stakeholders revealed that
police violence in various forms is ubiquitous in the lives of Russian PWID. Police abuse is rooted in stigma and a power imbalance between police and PWID, and reinforced by police corruption and the dehumanization of PWID. This study suggests that police practices are part of the HIV risk environment of Russian PWID. The translation of empiric evidence into policy change in the Russian country context might be facilitated by police trainings emphasizing public health and harm reduction principles as well as the development of joint public safety/public health task forces. Using research evidence from other countries to influence policy in Russia has had limited effects. Therefore, more evidence from Russian studies is needed to advance the alignment of public health and public safety efforts to effectively address drug use-related harm and HIV prevention in Russia.


Subject: Behavioral psychology; Public health; Epidemiology

Classification: 0384: Behavioral psychology; 0573: Public health; 0766: Epidemiology
The soul of drug court: A phenomenological exploration of the multidisciplinary, collaborative team

Author: Garcia, Katie N.

Abstract: As jails became overcrowded and dockets overwhelmed, and as funding and resources depleted, the criminal justice system was faced with a pressing dilemma, desperately needing an alternative solution in responding to individuals continually finding themselves in the legal realm with drug-related offenses (Nolan, 2003; Rosenthal 2002). Legal responsibility for drug related crimes came after a long societal journey attempting to answer the complex question, "Who is responsible for drug users?" Should they be punished? Rehabilitated? Left alone? The medical community, religious community, legal system, mental health communities, as well as others, have all tried their hand at solving this problem, with no avail. In the 1980s, after a long history of attempted solutions, the federal government began a War on Drugs, this influenced a movement, which would transform the way many professionals responded to individuals with drug related troubles. The drug court movement began in Miami, Florida, in 1989, attempting to merge the legal and therapeutic
perspective on drug use. The goal became rehabilitation, empathy and reform, rather than punishment. Drug court is an outpatient, intensive program serving as an alternative to traditional sentencing. The soul of drug court is the multidisciplinary, collaborative team, where members with seemingly different epistemologies are merged in order to bring varying perspectives and expertise, believing that when all perspectives work together, successful results are possible. Drugs courts have been rapidly developing with a reported 2,459 operational drug courts in 2009. Research continually shows that these programs decrease recidivism rates by at least 15% and are tremendously cost effective with a return investment of 221% (Huddleston & Marlowe, 2011; Marlowe, 2010). The drug court collaborative team, however, has been the subject of little research; yet, they have been shown to be a key factor in the effectiveness of the program as a whole (Marlowe, 2010). Through this qualitative, phenomenological study, 14 drug court teams were interviewed, in group settings, and the experiences of the team members were explored, as well as the processes and dynamics of the team as a whole. Emerging themes developed throughout the interview processes including growth through training, working toward a common goal, openness to sharing and learning new knowledge, balance of judicial presence, evolutionary process of the team, and passion for the mission of drug court. Despite the qualitative design's inability to provide research generalizations, recursive implications to the field of marriage and family therapy, drug courts, and multidisciplinary teams were made.


Title: The soul of drug court: A phenomenological exploration of the multidisciplinary, collaborative team

Number of pages: 202

Publication year: 2013

Degree date: 2013

School code: 1352

Source: DAI-A 75/02(E), Aug 2014

Place of publication: Ann Arbor

Country of publication: United States

ISBN: 9781303534003

Advisor: Sutton, Jana P.

Committee member: Rat, Wendel, McCown, William, Marchman, Sharon

University/institution: University of Louisiana at Monroe
The influence of gender on perceived treatment need among a community sample of substance users

Author: Vakharia, Sheila P.

Abstract: Purpose: Most individuals do not perceive a need for substance use treatment despite meeting diagnostic criteria for substance use
disorders and they are least likely to pursue treatment voluntarily. There are also those who perceive a need for treatment and yet do not pursue it. This study aimed to understand which factors increase the likelihood of perceiving a need for treatment for individuals who meet diagnostic criteria for substance use disorders in the hopes to better assist with more targeted efforts for gender-specific treatment recruitment and retention. Using Andersen and Newman's (1973/2005) model of individual determinants of healthcare utilization, the central hypothesis of the study was that gender moderates the relationship between substance use problem severity and perceived treatment need, so that women with increasing problems due to their use of substances are more likely than men to perceive a need for treatment. Additional predisposing and enabling factors from Andersen and Newman's (1973/2005) model were included in the study to understand their impact on perceived need.

Method: The study was a secondary data analysis of the 2010 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) using logistic regression. The weighted sample consisted of a total 20,077,235 American household residents (The unweighted sample was 5,484 participants). Results of the logistic regression were verified using Relogit software for rare events logistic regression due to the rare event of perceived treatment need (King & Zeng, 2001a; 2001b). Results: The moderating effect of female gender was not found. Conversely, men were significantly more likely than women to perceive a need for treatment as substance use problem severity increased. The study also found that a number of factors such as race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, age, marital status, education, co-occurring mental health disorders, and prior treatment history differently impacted the likelihood of perceiving a need for treatment among men and women. Conclusion: Perceived treatment need among individuals who meet criteria for substance use disorders is rare, but identifying factors associated with an increased likelihood of perceiving need for treatment can help the development of gender-appropriate outreach and recruitment for social work treatment, and public health messages.

Committee member: Keane, Florence, Dillon, Frank, Thomlison, Barbara

University/institution: Florida International University

Department: Public Health and Social Work

University location: United States -- Florida

Degree: Ph.D.

Source type: Dissertations & Theses

Language: English

Document type: Dissertation/Thesis

Dissertation/thesis number: 3598130

ProQuest document ID: 1458626721

Document URL:

Copyright: Copyright ProQuest, UMI Dissertations Publishing 2013

Database: ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Full Text

Neurocognition and prenatal exposure to methadone: Comparison of the event related potential and the Bayley Scales of Infant Development in the first year

Author: Logan, Beth A.
Abstract: Prenatal methadone exposure represents risk to the developing fetus, and represents risk to the developing infant both through direct effects of chronic opiate exposure and secondary effects that accompany opiate addiction, including maternal alcohol use, neonatal abstinence syndrome, and environmental factors. The event-related potential (ERP) was used as a measure of neurocognitive development at 7-months of age, and the Bayley Scales of Infant Development was administered at 9-months of age. Methadone-exposed infants showed a neurocognitive ERP profile characterized by dysmaturity when compared with same-age, demographically matched comparison infants. These developmental markers of ERP maturity were predictive of clinical outcome using the Bayley Scales. At 9-months, methadone-exposed infants with comorbid history of alcohol exposure exhibited lower cognitive and language scores, effects that were also predicted by severity of neonatal abstinence syndrome after birth. Methadone-exposed infants exhibited significantly lower motor scores when compared with normative samples, an effect that was predicted by maternal methadone dose increase and maternal alcohol use.
Alcohol Interventions for Mandated Students (Project AIMS)

Author: Logan, Diane E.

Abstract: College student drinking continues to be a significant problem, with consequences directly impacting students, institutions, and communities. While research with volunteer participants generally
supports the use of cognitive behavioral and motivational interventions in reducing drinking quantities and consequences, research with mandated students (students referred for an intervention following violation of a campus alcohol policy) continues to produce mixed results. The current study evaluated the effectiveness of three interventions: Alcohol Skills Training Program (ASTP) groups, Brief Alcohol Screening and Intervention for College Students (BASICS) feedback sessions, and Alcohol Diversion Program (ADP) treatment-as-usual education groups in a sample (N = 61) of mandated students. Pre-intervention behavior change and intervention techniques were also evaluated. Attitudes toward campus policies, readiness to change, intervention satisfaction, and reactions to the sanctioning incident were examined as moderators of intervention efficacy. Finally, defensiveness, norms perceptions, protective behavioral strategies, and alcohol expectancies were examined as mediators of behavioral change. Results revealed a significant pre-intervention decrease in monthly drinks and drinking days. There was a significant effect of time for reductions in blood alcohol content (BAC) and weekly drinks but not consequences. While ASTP and BASICS participants reported decreases in BAC, ADP participants experienced increases over time. Reductions in consequences were related to ASTP participation and lower policy support at baseline. Low external responsibility for the incident predicted greater reductions in BAC, and greater incident aversiveness predicted lower BAC and weekly drinks. Increases in pre-intervention defensiveness were more pronounced among ADP participants as well as male, older, and Greek students. Finally, decreases in overall defensiveness were associated with ASTP participants and more in-session complex reflections. Results from this study suggest a complex relationship between mandated student characteristics and interventions, highlighting potential iatrogenic effects from education-only mandated group interventions, the importance of incident reactions on behavior change, and factors associated with pre- and post-intervention defensiveness.

Subject: Developmental psychology; Psychology; Clinical psychology

Classification: 0620: Developmental psychology; 0621: Psychology; 0622: Clinical psychology

Identifier / keyword: Psychology, Alcohol, Brief interventions, College students, Defensiveness, Mandated students

Title: Alcohol Interventions for Mandated Students (Project AIMS)

Number of pages: 208

Publication year: 2013

Degree date: 2013

School code: 0250

Source: DAI-B 75/02(E), Aug 2014

Place of publication: Ann Arbor

Country of publication: United States

ISBN: 9781303494734

Advisor: Larimer, Mary E.
A prescription for trouble: Prescription drug diversion as the new trend in drug crime

Author: Dykstra, Laura Garnier
Abstract: Nonmedical use of prescription drugs is rising in the United States (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2001; Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2011). Diversion of these substances represents a growing problem for law enforcement and public health officials (Cai, R., Crane, E., Poneleit, K., & Paulozzi, L., 2010; U.S. Department of Justice, 2009). This study documents the extent of prescription drug diversion among an understudied population—individuals with legitimate prescriptions—and uses Social Learning Theory and Rational Choice Theory to examine risk factors relating to diversion. Participants: Participants in this study were 502 young adults who had been prescribed a medication in waves 5 through 7 of the College Life Study. The College Life Study is a prospective longitudinal study of a single cohort of young adults that were sampled from a large, public university in 2004. Methods: Diversion behavior was described in detail and differences between diverters and non-diverters were examined. Regression analyses examined the effects of theoretically driven peer and rational choice effects on the likelihood of diversion. Opportunity and perceptions were examined as potential mediators. Results: Individuals with legitimate prescriptions divert a substantial amount of medication. Reasons for refusing to divert, opportunities for diversion, and beliefs about diversion differ between diverters and non-diverters. Regression analyses revealed both peer effects and exposure to information regarding prescription drugs predict diversion. Opportunity mediated the relationship between perceptions of peer diversion and likelihood of diversion. Conclusions: Support for both social learning and rational choice approaches to diversion was found. Additional research is warranted to continue to explore risk and protective factors relating to diversion. Implications for the field are discussed.

Advisor: Johnson, Brian D.

Committee member: Arria, Amelia M., Gottfredson, Denise C., O'Grady, Kevin E., Paternoster, Raymond

University/institution: University of Maryland, College Park

Department: Criminology and Criminal Justice

University location: United States -- Maryland

Degree: Ph.D.

Source type: Dissertations & Theses

Language: English

Document type: Dissertation/Thesis

Dissertation/thesis number: 3599523

ProQuest document ID: 1462057784

Document URL:

Copyright: Copyright ProQuest, UMI Dissertations Publishing 2013

Database: ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Full Text

--

Document 16 of 45

The Functional and Structural Neural Connectivity of Affective Processing in Alcohol Dependence: A Multimodal Imaging Study

Author: Padula, Claudia Beatriz
Abstract: Previous studies have demonstrated a role for affective processing deficits in the development and maintenance of alcohol dependence (AD) and research has shown that prolonged problematic drinking behaviors have global effects on brain structure and function, including frontolimbic regions underlying affective processing. However, no study to date has examined both functional (fcMRI) and underlying structural connectivity during affective processing in AD. Therefore, the aim of the current study was to characterize fcMRI of brain regions underlying affective processing in individuals with AD and healthy controls. The secondary aim was to determine whether white matter integrity predicts fcMRI in AD. Fourteen abstinent individuals with AD and 14 controls were included in this IRB-approved study. AD participants met criteria for AD in sustained, partial, or full remission; controls had no substance use disorders history. All diagnostic criteria were confirmed by clinical diagnostic interview. The facial affective processing task included fearful and happy expressions. Anatomical, functional, and diffusion tensor imaging data were collected and pre-processed according to previously established protocols. A psychophysiological interaction, fcMRI analysis was then conducted to assess whether the time-series activity in bilateral amygdala seed regions predicted activation in the rest of the brain during fearful and happy faces. In the 14 individuals with AD, functional anisotropy (FA) was calculated to measure white matter integrity. Independent samples t-tests were computed in AFNI to determine fcMRI clusters groups differences and follow up linear regression analyses were conducted in SPSS to include covariates and determine if FA predicted degree of fcMRI in AD. Fearful faces analyses revealed reduced fcMRI compared to controls between left amygdala and left precuneus, right precuneus, right middle frontal gyrus, left postcentral gyrus, right lingual gyrus, right fusiform gyrus, left fusiform gyrus, right middle temporal gyrus, right superior frontal gyrus, and right angular gyrus. Similarly, during happy face processing, the AD group demonstrated reduced fcMRI with the left amygdala and right paracentral gyrus. Additionally, white matter integrity predicted fcMRI in the AD group. As predicted, during fearful faces, increased FA predicted increased fcMRI in four regions. Surprisingly, increased FA also predicted decreased fcMRI in nine regions during fearful faces. One increased FA tract predicted increased fcMRI
during happy faces. In conclusion, this study demonstrated AD was related to decreased fcMRI between left amygdala and various cortical regions during fearful and happy faces compared with controls. Additionally, white matter integrity in AD significantly predicted increased and decreased fcMRI during the task. Aberrant neural networks may relate to AD and structural markers may be one mechanism for observed differences. Results also suggest that inhibitory networks may be related to affective processing in AD. Future studies will examine the relationship between fcMRI and structural connectivity to behavioral indices. Longitudinal studies will determine the directionality of observed relationships and provide intervention direction. Interventions aimed at prevention are most effective, such as affective processing training or social cognition skills in adolescence when most problematic drinking behaviors begin. Additionally, new interventions are emerging in addiction research, which increase cortical and decrease limbic activation.

The role of genetics, nutrition, and cigarette smoking in the longitudinal change in lung function

Author: Tang, Wenbo

Abstract: Lung function is an important predictor of population morbidity and mortality. Decline in lung function is a natural part of aging, but accelerated loss in lung function over time is a harbinger of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), a leading cause of death globally. Smoking is widely recognized as the key risk factor for reduced lung function and COPD, although additional risk factors, such as genetics and nutrition, have been suggested to also play important roles in contributing to changes in lung function. The overall aim of this research was to investigate the role of, and interaction between, genetics, nutrition, and cigarette smoking in relation to the longitudinal change in lung function, as an indicator of COPD susceptibility. First, we explored the association between genetic variation within a network of antioxidant enzyme genes
and the rate of change in lung function in a prospective cohort study of African and European American elderly adults; this study also investigated gene-by-smoking interaction. Evidence of association was identified for genetic variants in several candidate genes, among which were two novel genes (mGST3 and IDH3B) that interacted with smoking in both races/ethnicities. Second, to expand the scope of investigation to all common genetic variants throughout the entire human genome, we conducted a large-scale meta-analysis of genomewide association studies of longitudinal change in lung function in a consortium of 14 individual cohort studies of adults of European ancestry. We found evidence of association at two novel genetic loci (IL16/STARD5/TMC3 and ME3) in the meta-analysis and performed additional gene expression analyses to demonstrate that both loci harbor candidate genes with biologically plausible functional links to lung function. Finally, we explored the role of nutrition directly by investigating the relation between overall dietary patterns and longitudinal change in lung function in a prospective cohort of male adults, considering diet-by-smoking interaction. We identified two distinct dietary patterns by applying principal component analysis to food frequency questionnaire data, and found that a prudent diet rich in fruits, vegetables, fish, and poultry attenuated the accelerated decline in lung function in cigarette smokers, but had no association in non-smokers.

Injecting drug use in Afghanistan: Risk factors for HIV, HCV, STIs, injecting drug practices, and outcomes of an opiate substitution therapy program

Author: Ruisenor-Escudero, Horacio

Abstract: Background: Injecting drug use is the primary mode of HIV infection in Central Asia. Currently, access to and provision of harm reduction services to IDUs in Afghanistan is limited, warranting the characterization of the injecting drug users (IDUs) population in the country. Methods: Data come from the Integrated Biological and Behavioral Survey (IBBS) conducted in 2009 in three Afghan cities among IDUs, from data collected by Medecins du Monde (MdM) for the Opiate
Substitution Therapy (OST) and by interviews conducted by JHU among OST clients. Results: Manuscript 1: 548 male IDUs were surveyed. HIV prevalence was significantly higher in the city of Herat (18.4%), when compared to Kabul and Mazar-i-Sharif (p<0.001). City of residence and time injecting drugs were associated with increased risk of HIV infection (AOR=0.17, 95% CI=0.06-0.47 for Kabul and AOR=0.07, 95% CI=0.01-0.63 in Mazar-i-Sharif and AOR=7.15, 95% CI=1.29-39.6 for time injecting drugs). Higher risk of HCV infection was associated with longer time injecting drugs (AOR=2.3, 95% CI=1.5-3.7 for 1-3 years of injecting drug use, and AOR=5.36, 95% CI=3.01-9.54 for those reporting more than 3 years), and with having a history of imprisonment (AOR=1.4, 95% CI=1.8-2.1). Manuscript 2: Our sample consisted of 482 IDUs with a history of migration (88.0%) and 66 IDUs without a history of migration (12.0%). Among IDUs with a history of migration, needle sharing last time injected and frequency of injection during the last three months were associated with city of residence. Manuscript 3: Mental health score (p<0.01), heroin use (p<0.001), and reported criminal activity (p<0.001) were all significantly lower among those clients that remained enrolled in the program (n=57) compared to clients with a baseline assessment (n=83). A significant increase was observed in general health score (p<0.001), source of income (p<0.001) and family visits (p<0.001) among clients that remained enrolled in the program compared to clients with a baseline assessment. More mental health symptoms were reported among those who continued to use heroin after enrollment (a ?= 1.9, 95% CI=0.2-3.6) with fewer symptoms among client who reported any family contact before enrollment (a ? =-2.9, 95% CI=-5.0 - -0.8). Clients who had a source of income before OST were less likely to use heroin after enrollment (AOR=0.2, 95% CI= 0.0-0.9). Family contact improved among clients who had family contact before starting on OST (AOR= 33.4, 95% CI=2.2-505.4) and among those who reported improvement in their family relation during OST (AOR= 41.4, 95% C1.8-931.9). Clients that remained enrolled (N=57) reported no illegal activity during OST. Conclusion: Factors associated with an increased risk of HIV, HBV, STIs and HCV infection among IDUs living in three urban centers in Afghanistan were identified. Although some important differences were observed between IDUs with a without a history of migration, it appears that overall they had very similar socio-economic characteristics, however, risky injecting behavior appeared to be more likely among IDUs with a history of migration depending on their city of residence. In addition, given that the vast majority of the study population had a history of migration, the potential role of migration should
be further evaluated with larger representation of IDUs without a history of migration. Results from this research should prompt future research to explore social networks, social structure, policy and culture that were not addressed in this work, which would provide country specific data that will help local programs to adapt by generating better information about their drug related epidemics. Harm reduction services should be adapted to serve the needs of IDUs living in Afghanistan aiming to provide universal access to this public health priority.


Subject: Public health; Epidemiology

Classification: 0573: Public health; 0766: Epidemiology

Identifier / keyword: Health and environmental sciences, HIV, Injecting drug users, Hepatitis C virus, Sexually transmitted infections, Opiate substitution therapy, Afghanistan
Methamphetamine use, executive functioning & sexual risk taking behavior

Author: Solomon, Todd Michael

Abstract: Methamphetamine is a highly addictive stimulant that has significant effects on the central nervous system. The methamphetamine problem in the United States, as well as in urban areas such as New York City has been documented through extensive behavioral research. This research has shown the pervasiveness of this drug's use by gay, bisexual, and other men-who-have-sex-with men (MSM), as well as the relationship between use of the drug and sexual risk taking behavior, which has been theorized as a conduit for the transmission of the HIV infection. The role of cognitive functioning has also been suggested as a potential pathway by which the use of methamphetamine may lead to behaviors that could increase the likelihood of HIV transmission. The aims of this study sought to better explain the relations, which exist between the use of methamphetamine and increased sexual risk taking behavior through a mediation process that involves cognitive executive functioning. Significant
differences were found between clinical level of methamphetamine addiction and performance on numerous domains of executive functioning as well as increased sexual risk taking behavior. The data also demonstrated that the relations between level of methamphetamine use and sexual risk taking use were significantly mediated by domains of executive functioning. These results suggest a potential pathway through which methamphetamine use may predispose users to sexual risk taking leading to the spread of HIV. Further, as many methamphetamine treatment strategies rely heavily on cognitive processes, these results help contextualize why current treatments for methamphetamine addiction have proven largely ineffective. Based on the aforementioned data, a new approach in conceptualizing an efficacious strategy for the continued treatment of methamphetamine addiction among MSM in relation to the ongoing HIV epidemic is presented.


Subject: Neurosciences; Mental health; Behavioral psychology; Psychology; Clinical psychology

Classification: 0317: Neurosciences; 0347: Mental health; 0384: Behavioral psychology; 0621: Psychology; 0622: Clinical psychology
Spirituality as positive predictor of coping with stress for individuals in recovery from alcohol and other drug addictions

Author: Jones, Benjamin A.

Abstract: This quantitative correlational research uses the Lazarus Stress, Attachment to God, and Spiritual Well-Being theories to explore the relationship between spirituality, stress and recovery from alcohol and other drug addiction. Twelve-step programs, such as Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous, are known for their spiritual foundation that encourages members to develop a relationship with a Higher Power to avoid relapse. Stress management through appraisal and coping has also been identified through research as an effective mechanism for preventing the return to drug use after obtaining sobriety. Therefore, this research asked 113 people in recovery from alcohol and other drug addiction to complete four instruments designed to measure their spiritual well-being, attachment to God style, and their perception of stress. The findings of the study supported spirituality and attachment to
God as an important buffer in reducing stress that could contribute to relapse and a return to addicted behaviors. Specifically, when participants had higher scores for avoidance attachment (see God as unreachable) or anxious attachment (unsure of God's presence), they also had higher levels of perceived stress, while those who were deemed as securely attached (God is close and responsive) presented lower levels of perceived stress.


Subject: Religion; Public health

Classification: 0318: Religion; 0573: Public health

Identifier / keyword: Philosophy, religion and theology, Health and environmental sciences, Addiction, Attachment, Coping, Recovery, Spirituality, Stress

Title: Spirituality as positive predictor of coping with stress for individuals in recovery from alcohol and other drug addictions
Number of pages: 192
Publication year: 2013
Degree date: 2013
School code: 1351
Source: DAI-B 75/02(E), Aug 2014
Place of publication: Ann Arbor
Country of publication: United States
ISBN: 9781303489068
Advisor: Tirrito, Teresa
Committee member: Lobeer, Charles, Surez, Zulema
University/institution: Capella University
Department: School of Public Service Leadership
University location: United States -- Minnesota
Degree: Ph.D.
Source type: Dissertations & Theses
Language: English
Document type: Dissertation/Thesis
Dissertation/thesis number: 3599533
ProQuest document ID: 1462062031
Abstract: Youth who enter the juvenile justice system tend to present with a high percentage of mental health issues such as substance abuse, problematic conduct, and other mental health disorders. Evidence-based treatment that targets multiple risk factors increasingly shows promise in reducing symptoms at post-treatment data collection. Multi-systemic treatment (MST) and variants that utilize this model have demonstrated particular success with juveniles in the justice system, and those at risk of entering. To date, few studies have examined symptom change over the course of treatment focusing on conduct (internalizing behaviors, substance abuse and externalizing behaviors), which commonly place juveniles at risk for substance use and arrest. The current longitudinal study drew from an archival data set of 185 youth at five time points using parental/caregiver reports (scores on CBCL), youth self-report substance use (PEI), and arrest records. Logistic regression analyses were employed to evaluate whether internalizing behaviors and substance use exhibited a pattern over time (during and at the end of participation in MST) and whether such changes predicted arrest 6 months after MST ended. It was hypothesized that reduction in internalizing behavior and substance use when compared to baseline in MST would predict lower
rates of arrest 6 months subsequent to completion of MST. The findings involving the main variables were not supported. No significant relationships were found between internalizing and substance use behaviors over the course of MST and arrest rates. However, the majority of youth who had been arrested before treatment were not arrested at 6 months post treatment.


Subject: Clinical psychology; Criminology

Classification: 0622: Clinical psychology; 0627: Criminology

Identifier / keyword: Social sciences, Psychology, Externalizing behaviors, Internalizing behaviors, Juvenile offenders, Multisystemic therapy, Recidivism, Substance use

Title: Relationship between Juvenile Internalizing Behaviors and Substance Use in Predicting Recidivism Over Time in Multisystemic Therapy
Exploring attachment and defense style effects on the self-reflective ability among individuals with addictive disorders

Author: Church, Cara

Abstract: This study included 219 participants, consisting of 104 participants from a methadone maintenance program and 115 participants from an outpatient drug-free program (46% females and 54% males). The Experiences in Close Relationships-Revised was used as a measure for attachment security and assessed the two dimensions of avoidance and anxiety. The Defense Style Questionnaire-88 was used as a measure to evaluate defense mechanisms through conscious derivatives of defenses. The Observing Ego Function Scale was used as a measure of the self-reflective function. Multivariate analyses of variance, analyses of variance, and discriminant function analyses revealed that attachment style and defenses used impacted self-reflective capacity. The drug-free group demonstrated greater use of non-factor and adaptive defenses and the methadone group showed greater use of inhibition, regression, and the immature/maladaptive style. Significant interactive effects were found among the drug-free, dismissing, and avoidant defenses (suppression, withdrawal, and isolation). Those in the dismissing methadone group showed greater use of an immature/maladaptive defense style and regression. An interaction was found between methadone, fearful attachment style, and an immature/maladaptive defense style.
Supplemental analyses revealed that not clean participants in both groups had more immature/maladaptive defenses, regression, and inhibition. A significant relationship was found between defenses and self-reflection. The immature/maladaptive defense style significantly related to all aspects of self-reflection. Regression related to impaired self-reflection. The ability to experience affect related to immature/maladaptive and adaptive defenses, regression, splitting, and suppression. Internal awareness related to the immature/maladaptive defense style, and use of inhibition, withdrawal, and splitting. Significant relationships were found between attachment style and self-reflection. The drug-free dismissing group had less ability to experience affect, but overall greater self-reflective ability and impulse control. The methadone dismissing group had greater ability to experience affect, more impulsivity, but less overall self-reflective ability. The drug-free fearful group had greater ability to distance the self without becoming overwhelmed by affect and resulted in overall greater self-reflective ability. The fearful methadone group demonstrated less ability to distance the self without becoming overwhelmed by affect, but resulted in less self-reflective ability.

Magnetic nanoparticle-based targeted drug delivery for treatment of neuro-AIDS and drug addiction

Author: Sagar, Vidya

Abstract: Brain is one of the safe sanctuaries for HIV and, in turn, continuously supplies active viruses to the periphery. Additionally, HIV infection in brain results in several mild-to-severe neuro-immunological complications termed neuroAIDS. One-tenth of HIV-infected population is addicted to recreational drugs such as opiates, alcohol, nicotine, marijuana, etc. which share common target-areas in the brain with HIV. Interestingly, intensity of neuropathogenesis is remarkably enhanced due to exposure of recreational drugs during HIV infection. Current treatments to alleviate either the individual or synergistic effects of abusive drugs and HIV on neuronal modulations are less effective at CNS level, basically due
to impermeability of therapeutic molecules across blood-brain barrier (BBB). Despite exciting advancement of nanotechnology in drug delivery, existing nanovehicles such as dendrimers, polymers, micelles, etc. suffer from the lack of adequate BBB penetrability before the drugs are engulfed by the reticuloendothelial system cells as well as the uncertainty that if and when the nanocarrier reaches the brain. Therefore, in order to develop a fast, target-specific, safe, and effective approach for brain delivery of anti-addiction, anti-viral and neuroprotective drugs, we exploited the potential of magnetic nanoparticles (MNPs) which, in recent years, has attracted significant importance in biomedical applications. We hypothesize that under the influence of external (non-invasive) magnetic force, MNPs can deliver these drugs across BBB in most effective manner. Accordingly, in this dissertation, I delineated the pharmacokinetics and dynamics of MNPs bound anti-opioid, anti-HIV and neuroprotective drugs for delivery in brain. I have developed a liposome-based novel magnetized nanovehicle which, under the influence of external magnetic forces, can transmigrate and effectively deliver drugs across BBB without compromising its integrity. It is expected that the developed nanoformulations may be of high therapeutic significance for neuroAIDS and for drug addiction as well.


A Network Analysis of Online and Offline Social Influence Processes in relation to Adolescent Smoking and Alcohol Use

Author: Huang, Grace C.

Abstract: Smoking and alcohol use are both prominent risk behaviors among adolescents in the U.S. On average, about 20% of high school students smoke regularly and as many as 40% of adolescents in the 12th grade report using alcohol in the past 30 days. Peer influences during adolescence are a strong predictor of risk-taking in part due to more time spent with peers and the added value they place their relationships. Recent increases in social media outlets have transformed traditional
communication patterns and information exchange, as well as the dimensions of social influence. Social media include mobile phones and a multitude of online social networking sites, which are likely to accelerate the transmission of information and adoption of new ideas or behaviors. This dissertation study addresses whether adolescents' use of these new technologies affect their risk behaviors and how these new modes of communication might play a role in shaping normative perceptions, intentions, and behavioral choices about smoking and alcohol use. Study One takes a multivariate approach to assess the impact of several measures relating to adolescent use of social network sites (SNS). Results demonstrated that SNSs differed in function and effects on adolescent risk behaviors. While no specific effects were attributed to the use of any specific SNS, the collective display of risky content by friends was positively associated with higher levels of smoking and alcohol use. As an extension to the findings from the first paper, Study Two is based on a structural approach to examine the specific pathways of influence using a cognitive-behavioral framework to test whether social norms and behavioral intentions mediated the effects between social influences (in-person and digital) on behavior. A comparison of the relative correlations between in-person and digital risk exposures revealed that having friends who smoke or use alcohol and having friends who post content about these risk-behaviors online were both positively associated with intentions and longitudinally associated with behavior. Study Three takes an in-depth longitudinal approach to examine whether associations between social influences and risk behaviors were attributed to actual influences due to behaviors exhibited by friends, or whether the association was attributed to friendship selection. Stochastic actor-based (SAB) modeling was followed by meta-analyses of the five school-level networks. Findings indicated that friendship selection effects were stronger than peer influence effects for both smoking and alcohol use, while influence effects were comparatively more prominent for alcohol use. In terms of social media effects, adolescent friendships were formed based on similar use of SNSs Facebook and Myspace and exposure to friends' risky online content contributed to increases in drinking and smoking. In sum, the three studies using three different statistical methodologies, may be considered a "first look" at the interplay between online social networks, traditional in-person peer friendship networks, and their collective effects on adolescent smoking and alcohol use.
Subject: Behavioral psychology; Social psychology; Public health

Classification: 0384: Behavioral psychology; 0451: Social psychology; 0573: Public health

Identifier / keyword: Psychology, Health and environmental sciences, Adolescent health, Alcohol use, Social influences, Social media, Social networks, Tobacco use

Title: A Network Analysis of Online and Offline Social Influence Processes in relation to Adolescent Smoking and Alcohol Use

Number of pages: 110

Publication year: 2013

Degree date: 2013
Attitudes Toward the Therapeutic Use of Medical Marijuana and the Impact of Perceived Stigma

Author: Ellis, Stacy L.

Abstract: The present study explored the relationship between the stigma surrounding mental illness and the perceived stigma surrounding medical marijuana use. One hundred and one adults were surveyed. Participants completed the Medical Marijuana Use Stigma Scale, which measured perceived stigma as it relates to medical marijuana usage for both physical ailments and mental illness. Results did not show a relationship between perceived social stigma and marijuana use in general. However, results did show that perceived stigma was rated higher for individuals who use medical marijuana for a mental illness than a physical illness. Results indicated that knowing someone who uses marijuana for any reason (i.e., physical, mental, physical and mental, recreational) does not relate to the perceived stigma related to its use. Results also showed that older adults rate perceived stigma lower than younger and middle-aged adults. Lastly, results yielded no gender difference between marijuana usage and no gender difference as it relates to the perceived stigma of medical marijuana users.

Temperament and dyadic interactions in infants of opiate-dependent mothers

Author: Heller, Nicole A.

Abstract: Prescription opiate abuse has led to increases in prenatal opiate exposure and postnatal withdrawal termed Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome. NAS is characterized by autonomic dysregulation that includes neurobehavioral instability (e.g., poor feeding, irritability, excessive crying, and possibly seizures or death). Though methadone is deemed safe to maintain pregnancies in opiate-dependent women, long-term developmental effects are relatively unknown. This study examined the impact of prenatal methadone exposure and NAS on infant neurobehavioral outcomes and temperament at one- and four-months. Mothers in methadone maintenance treatment with infants who were (MethTx; N= 25) or were not medicated (MethNoTx; N=16) for NAS symptomatology and a sociodemographically similar comparison sample (Comp; N= 21) participated in a short-term longitudinal study. At one-month, trained evaluators assessed infant reflex, sensory, and social responsiveness using the Neonatal Network Neurobehavioral Scales. At four-months, dyads participated in the Still Face Paradigm, a social interaction task in which maternal responsiveness is withdrawn and reinstated. Mothers completed standardized infant temperament measures at one- and four-months. MethTx infants had less regulation, poorer quality of movement, and more stress abstinence at one-month than Comp infants. Despite this, concurrent maternal ratings of infant behavior did not differ between groups. At four-months, infants with prenatal methadone exposure smiled and gazed at mothers more frequently during the Still Face paradigm than Comp infants. Maternally-reported infant temperament at four-months differed such that mothers in the MethNoTx group rated their infants as having less distress to limitations, being easier to soothe, and having less negative affect than Comp infants. Despite difficult behavioral profiles at one-month, infants with prenatal methadone exposure smiled and gazed toward mothers more frequently (but not for longer durations) than non-exposed infants at four-months. This may indicate infant hyper-vigilance toward mother due to inconsistent social interactions at home in infants with prenatal methadone exposure. In spite of this finding, methadone-exposed infants appear to "catch up" behaviorally to their comparison counterparts by four-months likely due to the cessation of withdrawal symptomatology. More longitudinal work needs to be completed to determine if sleeper effects may emerge in methadone-exposed infants due to prenatal exposures, postnatal withdrawal, and/or inadequate postnatal home environments. Keywords: Methadone, Prenatal Exposure, Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome, Infancy, Mother-Infant Interactions.
Subject: Developmental psychology

Classification: 0620: Developmental psychology

Identifier / keyword: Psychology, Methadone, Mother-infant interaction, Infancy, Prenatal exposure, Temperament, Neonatal abstinence syndrome

Title: Temperament and dyadic interactions in infants of opiate-dependent mothers

Number of pages: 164

Publication year: 2013

Degree date: 2013

School code: 0113
Abstract: Behavioral Couple Therapy (BCT) has garnered considerable empirical support for its efficacy in resolving marital conflict. BCT also has documented success in treating individual health problems, including alcohol use disorders (AUDs). Consistent with the larger BCT framework, Alcohol Behavioral Couple Therapy (ABCT) theory considers social interactions and exchanges in response to alcohol as critical antecedents and reinforcers of alcohol use. Thus, the purported mechanisms behind such components (e.g. positive reciprocity, leveling & editing) are based on the implicit assumption that the relationships of individuals where one partner has a problem with alcohol work similarly to those in distressed couples which neither partner has an alcohol problem. However, this assumption has yet to be tested directly; thus, the aim of the current study was to test whether classification of the presentation of couples in which one partner has an alcohol problem provides similarly meaningful information to what has been documented in the general couples literature. Specifically, typologies of couples seeking ABCT (N = 169) were examined and compared to couple typologies found in previous research on community samples of couples. Additionally, this study aimed to build on the couple typology findings by examining whether typology at the start of treatment predicted alcohol treatment response and outcome. Results suggest that four types of couples can be reliably established in couples seeking ABCT and these couple types resemble couples types found in previous research. Couple type was associated with baseline relationship satisfaction; however, no evidence was found that couple type is associated with alcohol use outcome. The implications of these findings
are discussed in the context of general couple therapy and ABCT specifically.


Subject: Clinical psychology

Classification: 0622: Clinical psychology

Identifier / keyword: Psychology, Treatment response, Alcohol behavioral couple therapy, Alcohol treatment, Couple typology

Title: Typology of Couples Entering Alcohol Behavioral Couple Therapy: An Empirical Approach and Test of Predictive Validity on Treatment Response

Number of pages: 107

Publication year: 2013
A Qualitative Investigation of California Alcohol and Other Drug Strategic Planning and System Design

Author: Padilla, Annette


Abstract: Little strategic planning has been done for alcohol and other drug (AOD) prevention system designs in California, and an efficient system of AOD prevention for the state has yet to be designed. The goal of this phenomenological study was to address the gap in AOD prevention literature by identifying trends in strategic plans related to social justice, public policy, and goals and objectives. The impact of strategic planning processes for environmental prevention and the ways in which infrastructure creates systems for public health was also addressed. Guided by Holland's complex adaptive systems theory, the U.S. Health and Human Services Administration Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's strategic prevention framework, and the Institute for Public Strategies model, data from 53 California counties were coded via inductive analysis and frequency reports of county trends. Findings revealed the absence of social justice philosophy in planning documents, an interest among counties in social host ordinances, and environmental prevention planning by medium-sized counties. Implications for social change include social justice training and enhanced AOD prevention training among policy makers and providers. Cost savings and reductions in injuries and deaths for residents in California would be expected as a result of these enhanced efficiencies.

Integral recovery: A case study of an AQAL [all-quadrants, all-levels, all-lines, all-states, all-types] approach to addiction treatment

Author: Gorman, Adam M.


Abstract: Addiction to drugs and alcohol is at an all time high. Billions are being spent annually on this epidemic with minimal success (Califano, 2007). Research indicates that drug and alcohol abuse/addiction is one of the major contributing causes to mental health problems (Fletcher, 2013; Sheff, 2013). The purpose of this inquiry is to understand the experience of one client in Integral Recovery (IR). The experience of this client was interpreted through an AQAL lens. Additionally this study used a phenomenological design, the researcher interviewed one client of IR, his mother, and one staff member who regularly worked with the client over the course of three months. After careful analysis of these interviews five key themes related to the IR treatment model emerged: 1) Practices and Structure 2) Obstacles to Recovery 3) Values Integral Recovery 4) Relatedness 5) Optimism. Interview results provided an additional perspective on the experience of an IR client in primary treatment. Future research might consider a longitudinal study with more participants to better understand the success rates of individuals who use IR interventions as their primary means of drug and alcohol treatment.

Subject: Clinical psychology

Classification: 0622: Clinical psychology

Identifier / keyword: Psychology, Addiction recovery, Addiction treatment, Integral psychotherapy, Integral recovery

Title: Integral recovery: A case study of an AQAL [all-quadrants, all-levels, all-lines, all-states, all-types] approach to addiction treatment

Number of pages: 153

Publication year: 2013

Degree date: 2013

School code: 0708

Source: DAI-B 75/02(E), Aug 2014

Place of publication: Ann Arbor

Country of publication: United States

ISBN: 9781303470059

Advisor: Forman, Mark

Committee member: Coble-Temple, Alette

University/institution: John F. Kennedy University

Department: Graduate and Professional Studies
Delay discounting and risky sexual intentions: A test of the direct and indirect effects of alcohol intoxication and physiological arousal

Author: Wray, Tyler B.

Abstract: The relationship between alcohol use and risky sexual behavior is complex and depends on psychological and environmental factors. The alcohol myopia model predicts that, due to alcohol's impact on attention, the behavior of intoxicated individuals will become increasingly directed by
salient cues. Physiological arousal may have a similar effect on attention. Experiential delay discounting may be increased by both alcohol consumption and physiological arousal due to their common effects on information processing and may mediate the relationship between these conditions and risky sex. This study employed a 3 (alcohol, placebo, control) x 2 (high, low arousal) experimental design to examine the effects of acute alcohol intoxication and physiological arousal on experiential delay discounting, subjective sexual arousal, and risky sex. Path models revealed complex results that only partially supported study hypotheses. Ratings of subjective sexual arousal were significantly lower among those in the placebo/high exercise-induced arousal group when compared with the grand mean (b = -0.33, p = .025) and these conditional effects were indirectly associated with unprotected vaginal sex (ab = -0.13, p = .074). Alcohol intoxication exhibited a marginal positive association with unprotected vaginal sex (b = 0.19, p = .096) when controlling for subjective sexual arousal. Experiential delay discounting was negatively associated with oral sex intentions (b = -0.199, p = .068), and subjective sexual arousal showed a marginal positive relationship with oral sex (b = 0.161, p = .074). However, alcohol beverage condition was not related to oral sex. Subjective sexual arousal (b = 0.19, p = .054) and alcohol beverage (b = 0.29, p = .014) were associated with anal sex intentions, while placebo beverage was negatively related (b = -0.20, p = .051). Contrary to prior studies, neither beverage nor arousal condition was associated with experiential discounting, and alcohol intoxication did not affect subjective sexual arousal. However, consistent with a growing body of research, alcohol was uniquely related to increased unprotected sex intentions over-and-above subjective sexual arousal. Alcohol did not interact with physiological arousal in any of the models, suggesting that attentional myopia may be behavior-specific. Models also generally showed considerable similarity across sexual behaviors. The relationship between alcohol use and risky sexual behavior is complex and depends on psychological and environmental factors. The alcohol myopia model predicts that, due to alcohol's impact on attention, the behavior of intoxicated individuals will become increasingly directed by salient cues. Physiological arousal may have a similar effect on attention. Experiential delay discounting may be increased by both alcohol consumption and physiological arousal due to their common effects on information processing and may mediate the relationship between these conditions and risky sex. This study employed a 3 (alcohol, placebo, control) x 2 (high, low arousal) experimental design to examine the effects of acute
alcohol intoxication and physiological arousal on experiential delay discounting, subjective sexual arousal, and risky sex. Path models revealed complex results that only partially supported study hypotheses. Ratings of subjective sexual arousal were significantly lower among those in the placebo/high exercise-induced arousal group when compared with the grand mean ($b = -0.33, p = .025$) and these conditional effects were indirectly associated with unprotected vaginal sex ($ab = -0.13, p = .074$). Alcohol intoxication exhibited a marginal positive association with unprotected vaginal sex ($b = 0.19, p = .096$) when controlling for subjective sexual arousal. Experiential delay discounting was negatively associated with oral sex intentions ($b = -0.199, p = .068$), and subjective sexual arousal showed a marginal positive relationship with oral sex ($b = 0.161, p = .074$). However, alcohol beverage condition was not related to oral sex. Subjective sexual arousal ($b = 0.19, p = .054$) and alcohol beverage ($b = 0.29, p = .014$) were associated with anal sex intentions, while placebo beverage was negatively related ($b = -0.20, p = .051$).

Contrary to prior studies, neither beverage nor arousal condition was associated with experiential discounting, and alcohol intoxication did not affect subjective sexual arousal. However, consistent with a growing body of research, alcohol was uniquely related to increased unprotected sex intentions over-and-above subjective sexual arousal. Alcohol did not interact with physiological arousal in any of the models, suggesting that attentional myopia may be behavior-specific. Models also generally showed considerable similarity across sexual behaviors.


A Cross Sectional Study To Examine the Association Between Caffeinated Coffee Consumption and Overall Self-Rated Health

Author: Weeks, Juliana

Abstract: High levels of caffeinated coffee consumption have been linked to a variety of illnesses such as cancer, heart disease, and diabetes. Despite these findings, there remains a gap in research relating to
whether caffeinated coffee consumption adversely affects one’s well-being as measured by overall self-rated health. The purpose of this study was to determine how much, if any, caffeinated coffee consumption adversely affects self-rated health. The socioecological model guided this study. A cross-sectional internet survey was used to study 258 United States adults. The association between caffeinated coffee consumption and self-rated overall health was tested using multiple logistic regression analysis to control age, gender, race, ethnicity, nationality, body mass index, disease/illness, educational level, marital status, income, employment status, military affiliation, smoking, alcohol, and geography. Questions were derived from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System.

Compared to those who drank no coffee, those who drank one cup had significantly lower odds of good self-rated health (AOR = 0.4488, CI 0.2048-0.9837, p = 0.0454). Positive social changes arising from this study could include development of public health campaigns to educate the public about the risks of caffeinated coffee and occupational health campaigns to moderate consumption in the workplace.

Abstract: This study examined acculturative stress and general stress variables as predictors of drug, alcohol, and marijuana use, separately, among Black Caribbean Americans. Additionally, mastery was examined as a moderator of the stress-substance use relationships. It was hypothesized that the acculturative stress (i.e., separation from family and perceived discrimination) and general stress (i.e., financial problems, family problems, and neighborhood risk) variables would significantly predict the substance use outcomes. It was also hypothesized that mastery would moderate the relationship between stress predictors and substance use, such that the relationship between stress and substance use would be weaker for those with greater perceived control (i.e., high
mastery). This study was a secondary analysis of data from both foreign and U.S. born Caribbean Americans (N = 1438) who participated in the National Survey of American Life (NSAL), a national household survey of the physical and mental health of Black Americans. Significant predictors of substance use were examined via ordinal and multinomial logistic regression analyses. Results indicated partial support for the first hypothesis. Several stress variables (i.e., neighborhood risk, discrimination, family and financial problems) predicted increased drug and alcohol use, but did not predict marijuana use. The second hypothesis was not supported; Mastery did not moderate the relationship between stress and substance use in this study. However, other moderation effects were found. The implications of this work and directions for future research were discussed.


Subject: Psychology; Clinical psychology

Classification: 0621: Psychology; 0622: Clinical psychology
Abstract: Given the prevalence of substance abuse among American adolescents, the implementation of innovative treatment modalities is highly indicated. The practice of animal assisted therapy, specifically equine assisted psychotherapy (EAP), has been demonstrated to effect positive changes and personal growth within participants and is suggested within this work to be applicable to adolescents in residential substance abuse treatment facilities. Due to the benefits evidenced by the therapeutic modality of EAP, participation is hypothesized to promote and maintain abstinence among this population. Thus, this project focused on highlighting the empirical evidence associated with animal assisted therapy, particularly EAP, as well as reviewing the characteristics of adolescent substance abuse and current treatment approaches. The creation of an Intervention Guide which details discussion points as well as EAP activities was designed to target the unique treatment needs of adolescents in residential substance abuse treatment facilities. The
Intervention Guide was reviewed by 2 EAP practitioners who rated the content, strengths, and weaknesses of the Guide. Their feedback was incorporated into a compilation of suggestions and future directions for the Intervention Guide.


Subject: Clinical psychology

Classification: 0622: Clinical psychology

Identifier / keyword: Psychology, Adolescent substance abuse, Animal-assisted psychotherapy, Equine, Equine-assisted psychotherapy, Equine-facilitated psychotherapy, Horse, Sobriety, Experiential learning intervention

Title: Maintaining adolescent sobriety with equine assisted psychotherapy: An experiential learning intervention guide

Number of pages: 222
Examination of personal motivations and interpersonal factors as determinants of alcohol recovery outcomes and changes in adult attachment status during remission from an alcohol use disorder.

Author: Van Dyke, Andrew D.


Abstract: Social relationships and personal motivation for treatment are often implicated as helping or hurting a person's recovery from alcohol use disorders, but specific research investigating their influence of these variables on alcohol related goal achievement and maintenance is scarce. The purpose of this study was to investigate some of the interpersonal and intrapersonal variables that may influence the motivational processes implicated in the initiation and maintenance of recovery from alcohol problems. The sample consisted of 226 individuals who were administered the investigator developed questionnaire that measured self determination, adult attachment status, and level of autonomy support in one's relationship. The study found that relationship status at "rock bottom" differed for levels of external motivation and amotivation associated with successful recovery of 5 years or more. Additionally, the data indicated a general tendency for a person's adult attachment status to shift from insecure attachment categories to secure adult attachment status during the maintenance of recovery. For people in a long-term relationship while they were drinking most heavily, having gained, changed, lost, or remained in that relationship during the maintenance of their recovery was related to longer time in recovery outcomes, indicating that recovery most commonly occurred within the context of a long-term relationship. These results have implications for individuals, family
members, and practitioners who are sorting out the internal and interpersonal motivations of people who have an alcohol use disorder and who are curious about the relationship between a person's relationship status at different times during recovery and achieving stable recovery from an alcohol use disorder. Key words: Self-Determination Theory, Attachment Theory, Social Support, Alcohol, Alcohol Recovery, Motivation, Substance Abuse Treatment, Intrinsic Motivation, Autonomy, Codependency, Disease Model, Adult Attachment Status.


Subject: Behavioral psychology; Social psychology

Classification: 0384: Behavioral psychology; 0451: Social psychology

Identifier / keyword: Psychology, Alcohol recovery, Attachment, Disease model, Motivation, Self-determination, Substance abuse treatment
Title: Examination of personal motivations and interpersonal factors as determinants of alcohol recovery outcomes and changes in adult attachment status during remission from an alcohol use disorder.

Number of pages: 148

Publication year: 2013

Degree date: 2013

School code: 0556

Source: DAI-B 75/02(E), Aug 2014

Place of publication: Ann Arbor

Country of publication: United States

ISBN: 9781303509988

Advisor: Cornelius, Allen

Committee member: Gee, Dick, Smith, Ron

University/institution: The University of the Rockies

Department: Clinical Psychology

University location: United States -- Colorado

Degree: Psy.D.

Source type: Dissertations & Theses

Language: English

Document type: Dissertation/Thesis

Dissertation/thesis number: 3600775
Health communication and social media: A case study of the California Tobacco Control Program's "Toxic Butts" campaign

Author: Smyser, Joseph David

Abstract: Background: In 2011, CTCP awarded a contract to San Diego State University to create a tobacco product waste (TPW) "toolkit" of materials for use by local tobacco control coalitions funded by CTCP. Part of this toolkit was a social media campaign, to function as a case study. No large-scale effort had been made to disseminate information regarding the environmental impact of TPW to the public. The "Toxic Butts" campaign collaborated with several organizations, including the Legacy Foundation, the California Youth Advocacy Network (CYAN), and the Surfrider Foundation. Aims: 1) To evaluate the characterizations of messages on Facebook and Twitter referencing cigarette butts. 2) To evaluate the performance of a social media campaign ("Toxic Butts") using seven Key Performance Indicators (KPI's). 3) How should global tobacco control involve social media in monitoring and countering tobacco industry activities. Methods: In Chapter 2, 960 Facebook posts and 1,890 Tweets were randomly selected and coded by content analysis. Posts and tweets were stratified and evaluated (Pearson's and Fischer's exact test), with Facebook compared to Twitter. Chapter 3 included a content analysis
of 78,073 messages across a variety of media types on the Internet. Messages broadcast during the three pre-campaign months and six campaign months were stratified to seven-day periods. Mean differences in all messages pre- and during campaign were evaluated with two-way independent samples t-tests. Mean differences in messages pre- and during campaign for Facebook, Twitter, and in news coverage were evaluated with independent samples t-tests. In Chapter 4, a literature review is conducted and best practices from the "Toxic Butts" campaign shared, by means of a policy analysis. Results: In Chapter 2, all categories of messages referencing cigarette butts on Facebook and Twitter during the study period were identified, and differences in the use of these categories between the two sites were discovered. In Chapter 3, there was shown to be a significant increase in messages across media types relating to the environmental hazard of cigarette butts, pre-campaign compared to campaign. Performance metrics used by the campaign identified the reach of campaign materials and engagement of social media users with the campaign. Conclusions: Results from these preliminary analyses have important implications for the development of health communication campaigns in social media, and particularly for the development of monitoring and evaluation techniques of such campaigns. The methods and results of these studies appear to indicate that a cost-effective approach could be used by global tobacco control to monitor and intervene in tobacco industry activities in social media.


The Effects of Emotional Regulation Strategies on Substance Abuse Disorders in an Outpatient Population

Author: Schatz, Matthew Brent

Abstract: One reason for Substance Abuse (SA) treatment noncompliance is the use of ineffective Emotional Regulation Strategies (ERS) used to
reduce emotional discomfort. According to the Self-Medication Hypothesis of SA, an individual uses substances to avoid emotional discomfort. There is a paucity of research assessing the role of effective or ineffective use of ERS and an individual's ability to be an active participant in SA treatment. The purpose of this quantitative research study was to develop an understanding of the differences between effective and ineffective ERS in a sample (N=117) of individuals over the age of 18 with either high or low SA. This understanding will allow treatment providers to design treatment plans that will better address issues of ERS and increase SA completion rates. MANOVA analyses demonstrated that there was a significant difference between those in the high and low SA groups in their ability to control their emotional reactions through the use of ERS. However, participants who utilized ineffective ERS did not have increased incidents of treatment noncompliance. This study was limited by the number of participants in the low SA group, use of self-reporting assessments, record keeping of the programs' counselors, and the use of 2 urban treatment centers in Maryland. The positive social change implications for this study are that through understanding the relationships between levels of SA and ERS, therapists can now integrate effective strategies into treatment that will promote recovery through improving an individual's ERS. With recovery and abstinence, individuals will become more engaged with their families, less involved in criminal activity, lower financial costs to society, and be more productive members of society.


Investigations into human capital and alcohol

Author: Bhardwaj, Shilpi

Abstract: This dissertation investigates the effect of alcohol on human capital. Alcohol abuse among youth, has been linked to a number of negative social consequences, including accidents and student performance. The direct effect of students performance is on future labor market outcomes due to accumulation of a lower stock of human capital. To analyze this concern, in my first chapter I examine the effect of legal
access to alcohol on student performance--GPA. A significant amount of attention has been paid by the policy makers to the minimum legal age of drinking (MLDA). Using a fixed effect model on a public university longitudinal data I estimate a positive effect on GPA of a student turning 21 during a semester. However, students' GPA falls if the student is below the age of 21 during the semester. In the second chapter I collect undergraduate student data using an anonymous survey, collecting information on students drinking behavior, Semester GPA, High school GPA and other important individual characteristics. Using simultaneous equation model I estimate the effects of heavy and binge drinking on GPA as negative and significant. In my third chapter I use a semiparametric partial linear model to explore the connection between drinking behavior and unemployment in US by using state level total US dataset. I find no significant relation between total ethanol, spirits, wine, beer consumption and unemployment. The results from this state level total US analysis are then compared with a simple parametric individual and state level data. In this case also I find no correlation between unemployment and drinking behavior.


Subject: Economics; Higher education
Post-traumatic growth among high-risk youth: Predictors, impact of stressful life events, and relationship with changes in substance use behaviors

Author: Arpawong, Thalida Em

Abstract: Background: The experience of a highly stressful life event (SLE) may elicit positive psychosocial change in some individuals, referred to as Post-traumatic Growth (PTG). This dissertation represents novel research in which two studies were designed to answer the following questions: (1) what predicts PTG, including personal and environmental characteristics as well as the number and severity of stressfulness of SLEs experienced?; and (2) how do SLEs and PTG influence changes in the frequency of substance use behaviors over time among vulnerable, ethnically diverse, older youth? In addition, theoretical postulates were tested to examine whether mean scores of PTG in this sample represent an illusory perception of growth as a transient palliative strategy to regain a sense of
self-esteem post-SLE or if PTG scores represent an attempt to achieve congruence through growth in both cognitive and behavioral functioning. Methods: Students were recruited from alternative high schools (n=564; mean age=16.8), where they participated in the Project Toward No Drug Abuse intervention. Surveys were administered in-person, by phone or mail-back. Data regarding socio-demographic, personal and environmental characteristics were collected at baseline and 1-year follow-up. Data regarding SLEs and PTG were collected at 2-year follow-up. Data on substance use behaviors were collected at both baseline and 2-year follow-up. For both studies, multi-level regression models were constructed, controlled for sociodemographic variables, peer and baseline substance use, attrition, and treatment group where relevant. For the exploratory moderation in Study 1, interaction terms were created between ethnicity and each of the potential predictors to evaluate their relationship with PTG. Results: Nearly half of the participants were female; 65% were Hispanic, and on average, all reported experiencing 3 SLEs in the past two years. Findings from Study 1 were that the majority of participants reported developing PTG as a result of their most life-altering SLE. Predictors of PTG included fewer SLEs, less general stress, greater identification with the developmental stage of Emerging Adulthood, and an interaction between Hispanic ethnicity and future time perspective. Findings from Study 2 were that a greater number of SLEs predicted greater use of cigarettes, alcohol, marijuana, hard drugs and substance use. In contrast, greater PTG significantly predicted less use of alcohol, getting drunk on alcohol, binge drinking, marijuana use, and substance abuse. Conclusions: Taken together, findings from these studies indicate that high-risk, older youth report SLEs that reflect their unique life stage and set of circumstances. Constructs that assessed stage of life were more salient in predicting PTG than were constructs reflecting mood states (i.e., depression, positive affect), although future time perspective predicted higher PTG among Hispanics only. Regarding theoretical postulates, the finding that higher PTG predicted less substance use suggests that higher PTG scores were not representative of transient or merely illusory exaggerations of post-SLE adjustment rather they were indicative of growth on both the cognitive and behavioral levels among these youth. Furthermore, although greater SLEs predicted lower PTG, findings from these studies support the notion that positive psychosocial adjustment to a life-altering experience may counteract the negative impact of stress from SLEs on substance use behaviors among high-risk youth.
Title: Post-traumatic growth among high-risk youth: Predictors, impact of stressful life events, and relationship with changes in substance use behaviors

Number of pages: 104

Publication year: 2013
Abstract: This clinical dissertation proposed the idea of looking at substance use disorders from a different conceptualization that was not solely focused on just symptom reduction, but one that was able to examine the patient as a whole. While symptom reduction has had an importance, the body of research has shown a mounting belief that in order for this population to have a full and lasting recovery, they must not only have eliminated the symptom of ingesting drugs and alcohol, but they must also have addressed in therapy their underlying issues so they do not end up relapsing or turning to other unhealthy outlets. This dissertation focused on the existing research analyzed in a selective literature review, rather than on a new research project. In addition, the dissertation examined expansive knowledge and educational gaps of professionals choosing to work with this population, as well as how these gaps have led to unfortunate misunderstandings about this population and the best methods of helping them.
Advisor: Okada, Rumiko

Committee member: Gilbert, Nicole

University/institution: Alliant International University

Department: Los Angeles, CSPP

University location: United States -- California

Degree: Psy.D.

Source type: Dissertations & Theses

Language: English

Document type: Dissertation/Thesis

Dissertation/thesis number: 3599271

ProQuest document ID: 1461462372

Document URL:

Copyright: Copyright ProQuest, UMI Dissertations Publishing 2013

Database: ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Full Text

---

Document 40 of 45

Changes in affect following smoking cessation in depressed smokers

Author: Mathew, Amanda R.
Abstract: Smoking cessation for individuals with Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) represents an important clinical issue. It often has been hypothesized that withdrawing from cigarettes exacerbates affective disturbances in this population. However, studies testing the impact of smoking cessation on changes in affect in smokers with MDD are limited and equivocal. The current study examined affective processes in smokers with MDD undergoing a 12-week smoking cessation intervention (N = 49). The Positive and Negative Affect Scale (PANAS) was used to measure participants' positive affect (PA) and negative affect (NA) trajectories over the course of a quit attempt. Prolonged smoking abstinence was examined as a predictor of affective changes over time. Models also were run to examine pre-quit affective treatment response and the interaction of pre-quit affective response and abstinence status in predicting post-quit affect. Those who were prolonged abstainers at the 3-month follow-up showed significant increases in PA over the course of a quit attempt, as compared to nonabstainers. No significant differences in NA were found between prolonged abstainers and nonabstainers. Prequit affective trajectories significantly predicted post-quit affect, for measures of both PA and NA. Lastly, the interaction of abstinence status and early affective response was significant in predicting affect over time for NA, but not for PA. This suggests that, for those with less pre-quit improvement in NA, being abstinent at any given timpoint following the quit date is associated with lower values of NA than being nonabstinent. The current study highlights important differences in affect between prolonged abstainers and nonabstainers. Study results are discussed with regard to etiological models of smokingMDD as well as implications for tailoring interventions to this at-risk group of smokers.
Subject: Behavioral psychology; Clinical psychology

Classification: 0384: Behavioral psychology; 0622: Clinical psychology

Identifier / keyword: Psychology, Affect, Smoking cessation, Nicotine, Depression, Withdrawal, Cigarette

Title: Changes in affect following smoking cessation in depressed smokers

Number of pages: 58

Publication year: 2013

Degree date: 2013

School code: 0087

Source: DAI-B 75/02(E), Aug 2014

Place of publication: Ann Arbor

Country of publication: United States

ISBN: 9781303527951

Advisor: Norton, Peter J.

Committee member: Blalock, Janice A., Neighbors, Clayton, Robinson, Jason D., Sharp, Carla
Predicting treatment-related change in adolescent substance use from change in recovery environment

Author: Lotts, Vivian A.
Abstract: This study explored changes in a substance use recovery environment risk (RER) and how such changes might predict changes in substance use among adolescents who received the Adolescent Community Reinforcement Approach (ACRA) treatment with an added after-care component, Assertive Continuing Care (ACC) or services usually received through the juvenile probation department (SAU). The adolescent participants were enrolled through a juvenile probation department as part of a larger effectiveness study comparing youth receiving ACRA/ACC to those receiving SAU offered to adolescents under community supervision in Montgomery County, Texas. Participants completed the Global Assessment of Individual Needs (GAIN) at treatment intake and 3, 6, and 12 months after intake. As RER decreased substance use frequency (SFS) and substance use problems (SPS) decreased, suggesting decreases in RER predicted decreases in SFS and SPS. KEY WORDS: Substance use, Adolescent, Recovery Environment, Risk, Global assessment of individual needs, Adolescent community reinforcement approach.

Subject: Behavioral psychology; Clinical psychology

Classification: 0384: Behavioral psychology; 0622: Clinical psychology

Identifier / keyword: Psychology, Substance use, Adolescent, Risk, Recovery environment, Global Assessment of Individual Needs, Community reinforcement approach

Title: Predicting treatment-related change in adolescent substance use from change in recovery environment

Number of pages: 51

Publication year: 2013

Degree date: 2013

School code: 0374

Source: DAI-B 75/02(E), Aug 2014

Place of publication: Ann Arbor

Country of publication: United States

ISBN: 9781303526435

Advisor: Henderson, Craig E.

Committee member: Varela, Jorge G., Henderson, Howard, Kan, Lisa Y., Allen, Brian

University/institution: Sam Houston State University

Department: Psychology

University location: United States -- Texas

Degree: Ph.D.
Abstract: Substance abuse is among one of the most pressing public health concerns in the United States, often resulting in considerable negative consequences not only for those afflicted but also for their families and relationships. Substance abuse can greatly contribute to relationship distress because of different spousal expectations, values, patterns of social interaction and behaviors, conflict between partners about the substance use, and the stress of living with a substance-using partner. Little research and attention has been addressed on the impact of the distress for the partner of the substance abuser. The present study
began the development of an instrument, the Distress Inventory for Partners of Substance Abusers (DIPSA), intended to measure the distress of a partner of a substance abuser. This instrument will be beneficial in determining if and in what context the partner of a substance abuser is being negatively affected. Through identification and measuring the distress that the individual is experiencing as a result of their partners' substance abuse, proper care and treatment for the individual can be sought. This study utilized an exploratory, non-experimental, correlational design. The data was collected using online self-report questionnaires. The instruments utilized in this study was the DIPSA, The Impact of Event Scale (IES) (Horowitz, Wilner, & Alvarez, 1979), The Spann-Fischer Codependency Scale (Spann, Fischer, Crawford, 1991), The Big Five Mini-Modular Markers (3M40) (Saucier, 2003) and a short demographic questionnaire. An item pool was created as an 80-item self-report inventory specifically designed to measure emotional distress from intimate relationships with a substance abuse partner. The items were administered to 207 participants (42 males and 165 females), ranging in age from 21 to 71 years old (M=34.55, SD= 11.345) residing within the United States who had a past or present intimate relationship with a substance abuser. A principal components analysis with varimax rotation was conducted. Additionally, a Pearson Product-moment correlation was run. The level of distress someone experienced from being in a relationship with a substance abuser was expected to correlate with different aspects of distress as measured by several well-established scales.


PTSD Symptom Severity, Number of Trauma Types Experienced, and Neuropsychological Functioning in Outpatients with Co-occurring Substance Abuse and Other Mental Disorders

Author: Perkins, Alexandra J.  


Abstract: PTSD symptom severity and trauma frequency have been associated with neuropsychological impairments, but limited studies have examined these variables in the co-occurring disorders population. This study aimed to examine the relationship between PTSD symptom severity, number of trauma types experienced, and neuropsychological functioning,
while controlling for factors known to affect neuropsychological performance. Additionally, the relationship between the neuropsychological functioning and sub-threshold symptoms of PTSD was examined, specifically whether or not a participant met criterion A for a PTSD diagnosis. Archival protocols of 119 (44 female, 75 male) treatment seekers at a specialized treatment program for individuals with co-occurring substance abuse and other psychiatric disorders were utilized. Protocols included brief neuropsychological and psychological assessments. Pearson correlations revealed significant relationships between PTSD symptom severity and processing speed, learning, and the global deficit score. However, when controlling for drug and alcohol use severity, number and intensity of psychological symptoms, and other demographic variables, PTSD symptom severity no longer accounted for a significant proportion of the variance. Individuals who met criterion A, but did not meet full criteria for PTSD performed significantly better on learning compared to those who met criteria for PTSD. Further research using larger sample sizes is needed to identify the specific effects of PTSD symptom severity and number of trauma types experienced on neuropsychological functioning in the co-occurring disorders population.


Title: PTSD Symptom Severity, Number of Trauma Types Experienced, and Neuropsychological Functioning in Outpatients with Co-occurring Substance Abuse and Other Mental Disorders

Number of pages: 92

Publication year: 2013

Degree date: 2013

School code: 1634

Source: DAI-B 75/02(E), Aug 2014

Place of publication: Ann Arbor

Country of publication: United States

ISBN: 9781303469671

Advisor: Judd, Patricia

Committee member: Rabin, Adele, Bousman, Chad, Twamley, Elizabeth

University/institution: Alliant International University

Department: Clinical Psychology
Abstract: This dissertation examines two aspects of smoking during pregnancy: health effects and prevention of smoking. Miscarriage (loss of pregnancy) and perinatal mortality (death of the fetus or newborn) are both associated with maternal smoking during pregnancy. The first two studies in this dissertation were systematic reviews of the literature on the
associations between 1) smoking and miscarriage and 2) smoking and perinatal death. Meta-analyses synthesized the evidence and explored heterogeneity in the relative risks of miscarriage and perinatal death in smokers compared to nonsmokers. The findings support the conclusion that smoking causes both miscarriage and perinatal death. To prevent these complications, women need assistance in quitting smoking. Counseling by health care providers is an important part of smoking cessation. However, health care providers frequently do not follow best practices for addressing smoking with a patient. The third study in this dissertation used a mixed quantitative and qualitative approach to characterize health care providers who do not identify tobacco use among their patients and who do not counsel patients about tobacco use. Data from the National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS) and the National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NHAMCS) were analyzed to obtain estimates the frequencies of identification of tobacco use and counseling of tobacco users among women of reproductive age. Qualitative interviews further characterized prenatal care providers' knowledge, behaviors, and attitudes regarding smoking by pregnant patients. Since 2000, health care providers identified tobacco use in 73% of visits by women of reproductive age and 67% of visits by pregnant women. The rate of tobacco use identification in pregnant women decreased from 75% in 2001 to 69% in 2009. Counseling on tobacco use was provided during only 21% of visits by pregnant tobacco users. Greater effort to combat smoking among pregnant women is needed, especially given the newly reinforced evidence of its devastating consequences.


The experience of elder Alcoholics Anonymous group members of a relapse after a long period of sobriety: A descriptive phenomenological exploration

Author: Milani, Anya J.

Abstract: The 12 step program, such as Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), is the most utilized model regarding treatment of substance abuse worldwide. Although the 12 Step model claims particular effectiveness for long-term relapse prevention, a review of the literature suggests a number
of ongoing debates regarding AA's overall effectiveness, and the utility of particular aspects of its programs. Research suggests that rates of alcoholism and substance dependence in older aged adults are nearly identical to those of the general population, and addiction among seniors is a growing concern in the United States. While the rate of substance abuse by older adults is comparable to that of the rest of the population, the literature suggests a number of ways in which the dynamics of substance use for older adults may be distinctive. In spite of this, there are few age-specific treatment programs for the older adult population in general, and there is a specific lack of treatment programs tailored for older adults seeking help after a relapse. Because AA and other 12 step substance abuse programs take the view that addicts require lifelong support to maintain sobriety, there are many people who have been AA members for a substantial portion of their lives, and some of these individuals experience lapses in sobriety after a considerable period of AA supported sobriety. A lapse in sobriety under such circumstances would involve dynamics that are distinctive to these circumstances. This study examined the experience of older aged individuals who were active members of AA with a long period of sobriety and then experienced a relapse. This study was conducted using descriptive phenomenology, a qualitative method of research. Analysis of the data revealed 15 essential elements of the experience of the phenomenon of interest, including: initial development of substance abuse problem in youth; initial resistance to addict identity from self and family; long period of sobriety attributed to active AA and other 12 step substance abuse group commitment; stressors leading to negative emotional states and decreased commitment to AA; relapse with substance; and eventual need to re-join an AA program. These findings provided insight into the roles of shame, and passive impulsivity in addiction and older adults. The clinical implications of the findings are discussed.

Advisor: Vogel, Eric

Committee member: Moore-McDowell, Jennifer

University/institution: John F. Kennedy University

Department: College of Graduate and Professional Studies

University location: United States -- California

Degree: Psy.D.

Source type: Dissertations & Theses

Language: English

Document type: Dissertation/Thesis

Dissertation/thesis number: 3598434

ProQuest document ID: 1459228114