Self-reported alcohol use of college fraternity and sorority members.
The Core Alcohol and Drug Survey was used to compare the alcohol use patterns and the personal beliefs and expectancies about alcohol use of 385 fraternity and sorority members and 1,518 non-Greek-affiliated college students. The results show that college fraternity and sorority members reported using significantly higher levels of weekly and monthly alcohol use and a greater likelihood of using alcohol at private parties or at fraternity or sorority houses, than non-Greek students reported. Fraternity members reported higher levels of drinking than did sorority members. Multiple regressions reveal the importance of peer norms and perceived benefits of alcohol in predicting levels of alcohol consumption for fraternity and sorority members. Copyright 1997, American College Personnel Association.
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Borsari BE; Carey KB. *Journal of American College Health* 48(1): 30-37, 1999. (77 refs.)
In light of widespread concern about alcohol abuse on college campuses, the authors review the empirical literature concerning fraternity drinking published since 1980. The review is structured according to 5 themes that emerge from the literature: (a) the continuity between high school and college drinking, (b) the self-selection of heavy drinkers into environments that support heavy drinking, (c) the central role of alcohol in fraternity socialization, (d) the misperception of drinking norms, and (e) the enabling environment of the fraternity house. The literature is summarized for the benefit of those who wish to better understand the role of alcohol use in the fraternity system. Copyright 1999, Helen Dwight Reid Educational Foundation.
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The efficacy of the social norms approach to substance abuse prevention applied to fraternity men.
Students tend to overestimate the amount of alcohol consumed among their peers and often drink to that imaginary level. The social norms strategy, designed to correct norm misperceptions, has been correlated with a decrease in reported consumption in the general college population. However, it has had little or no impact among Greek students, the group that consumes the most alcohol. The authors investigated and subsequently found three possible flaws in the application of the social norms strategy that may account for the failure to decrease binge drinking among fraternity men: there is no predominant, healthy drinking norm in this population; students are influenced more by people within their network(s) than by others; and binge drinking is the norm in this group and may serve to perpetuate the problem. The findings, though preliminary, provide the first step in developing interventions beyond the social norms approach to address binge drinking among fraternity men. Copyright 2000, Helen Dwight Reid Educational Foundation.

Alcohol use in the Greek system: Follow the leader?
Cashin JR; Presley CA; Meilman PW. Journal of Studies on Alcohol 59(1): 63-70, 1998. (24 refs.)
Objective: This study was designed to identify drinking patterns, consequences of use, and belief systems about alcohol among college students according to their level of involvement in campus fraternity and sorority life. Method: This study of 25,411 (15,100 female) students who completed the Core Alcohol and Drug Survey, from 61 institutions, compared alcohol consumption, binge drinking, consequences of use and beliefs about drinking according to students' level of involvement in fraternities and sororities, ranging from no involvement to that of attending functions only, to active involvement, to leadership positions within Creek organizations. Results: Analyses indicated that students in the Creek system averaged significantly more drinks per week, engaged in heavy drinking more often and, with minor exceptions, suffered more negative consequences than non-Greeks. The leaders of fraternities and sororities consumed alcohol, engaged in heavy drinking and experienced negative consequences at levels at least as high and in some cases higher than that of other Greek members. In terms of their views about alcohol, fraternity and sorority members believed that alcohol was a vehicle for friendship, social activity and sexuality to a greater extent than non-Creeks. The beliefs of the leaders did not stand out compared to other members. Conclusions: In addition to corroborating earlier reports that show that fraternity and sorority members use more alcohol than nonmembers, this study indicates that the leadership of Creek organizations are participating in setting heavy-drinking norms. Suggestions are made concerning targeting prevention programming efforts toward this group. Copyright 1998, Alcohol Research Documentation, Inc. Used with permission.
Effects of alcohol policy change.
Cohen F; Rogers D. *Journal of Alcohol and Drug Education* 42(2): 69-82, 1997. (15 refs.)
This provides a case study of the impact of radical change in the enforcement of alcohol policy and sanctions in a campus community. It defines the "new" policy, the process of implementation over eight semesters, and reports upon the effect of policy change on the campus environment. In brief, as the result of a campus incident, the university administration adopted the practice of consistently and uniformly enforcing sanctions in respect to underage drinking, possession, for both individuals and organizations. The patterns of citations issued, by total numbers by month, week, gender, and class year are summarized. The impact on the campus is discussed in terms of staff perceptions, pre- and post policy measures, class rank, the nature of offenses, and the incidence of repeat violations. The authors conclude that the change in policy has had some positive effects on the campus environment. However, there are issues that remain as potential contributing factors to harmful alcohol use, i.e. binge drinking patterns, underage access to alcohol, drinking and driving, and the presence of off-campus substance use, either in fraternities and sororities or student residences. Copyright 1997, Alcohol and Drug Problems Association of North America.

Binge drinking among American college women: A comparison of single-sex and coeducational institutions.
Dowdall GW; Crawford M; Wechsler H. *Psychology of Women Quarterly* 22(4): 705-715, 1998. (28 refs.)
This study examines data from questionnaires to establish the prevalence and correlates of women's binge drinking, defined as four or more drinks per episode, at women's colleges (n = 508) and at coeducational colleges (n = 9,624). Results showed that women at women's colleges binged less frequently, had fewer alcohol-related problems, experienced fewer negative effects of others' drinking, and were less likely to drink and drive. The correlates of binge drinking were similar for the two groups of women. The differences appear to be related not to the quantity or amount of socializing but to its quality. The absence of fraternities and coeducational dormitories, the reduced likelihood of a party-centered lifestyle, and self-selection factors at women's colleges all may contribute to a healthier environment for women, interventions designed to lower the risk of college binge drinking should further explore the peer-group contexts in which problem drinking is reduced. Copyright 1998, Cambridge University Press.
Greek-letter organizations, alcohol, and the courts: A risky mix?
Elkins B; Helms LB; Pierson CT. *Journal of College Student Development* 44(1): 67-80, 2003
This article examines all reported state and federal cases involving college fraternities and sororities and negligence resulting from the use of alcohol by college and university students from 1970 through 2001. Research examined the litigation volume, fact patterns, defendants named for litigation, and outcomes of cases. Results indicate student affairs professionals should focus more on student intervention than on concerns about institutional liability. 2003, American College Personnel Association. Location: Baker Library

*Environmental Strategies to Prevent Alcohol Problems on College Campuses*
This report describes strategies that can be used to reduce alcohol-related problems on college campuses by creating a healthier campus environment in which alcohol is less available and poses less of a threat to the health, safety, and well-being of all students. Suggestions are included for coordinating anti-alcohol strategies at the campus, community, and state levels. Campus strategies include (1) policies that establish clearcut rules regarding alcohol sales and use, and consistently enforced penalties for rule violations; (2) alcohol-free alternatives for socializing; (3) providing training for alcohol servers and social hosts to reduce risks of serving minors, intoxication, and impaired driving; (4) restrictions on marketing messages allowed on campus and in association with campus events; (5) establishment of positive social norms, including strong intolerance of alcohol misuse; (6) establishment of substance-free housing on campus; (7) direct interventions with fraternities and sororities; and (8) collaborative efforts with the community. Brief case examples are provided and related research findings are discussed. The environmental management approach seeks to alter the underlying social, economic, and legal processes of communities that contribute to substance abuse and related problems. This report is designed to serve as a guidebook for raising awareness of college campus alcohol problems and improving the understanding of environmental management strategies. 2003, Project Cork. Location: Available online <www.udetc.org/documents/EnviroStrat.pdf>

A survey analysis of alcohol use at a black university in the deep south.
Grenier CE; Borskey EJ; Folse DW. *Journal of Child & Adolescent Substance Abuse* 7(4): 79-92, 1998. (9 refs.)
This article reports findings from a survey of student drug and alcohol behavior as an all-black university. The study was conducted to provide a bench mark against which to
measure future prevention efforts. Among the findings are that 13% of the students can be considered as relatively high risk. High profile users are described as freshmen, males, members of fraternities, single, living of campus, children of parents on the high end of the educational continuum. A third of students report believing that getting drunk is part of the normal college experience. Also a large majority say that they would attend non-alcoholic parties. Compared to other studies of college populations, this survey indicates fewer heavy drinkers and problem behavior. Copyright 1998, The Haworth Press.

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Alcohol risk reduction for fraternity and sorority members.
Harrington NG; Brigham NL; Clayton RR. Journal of Studies on Alcohol 60(4): 521-527, 1999. (19 refs.)
Objective: The primary objective of this study is to evaluate the effectiveness of "Talking about Alcohol and Drugs... Among Greeks" (TAAD), a lifestyle risk reduction program that is research- and theory-based, protocol-driven, and targeted for fraternity and sorority members. Method: One fraternity and two sororities on five campuses participated in the program. A total of 780 participants completed pre- and posttest questionnaires. Posttest data were collected 1 academic year after pretest data collection. Results: Results indicate that the program decreased positive attitudes toward alcohol consumption among program participants, with participants in the true experimental condition indicating greater disagreement than control participants (F = 3.05, 2/701 df, p < .05). Belief in myths about the etiology of alcoholism was reduced among experimental participants who did not actually attend the program, with those participants indicating greater disagreement than control or true experimental participants (F = 10.92, 2/702 df, p < .0001). The program had no apparent effect on alcohol consumption by experimental participants. Conclusions: The program's ability to influence behavior was hindered by systemic problems, such as trainer credibility and implementation infidelity, and probable participant psychological reactance. Training by professionals and mandatory attendance would set the stage for improved program effectiveness. Beyond that, an approach that emphasized how high-risk drinking norms jeopardize the goals of the fraternities and sororities might be better received than the current approach, which focuses on how individual attitudes, beliefs and behaviors lead to alcohol-related problems and alcoholism. Copyright 1999, Alcohol Research Documentation, Inc. Used with permission.

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Differences in alcohol use and alcohol-related problems among fraternity and sorority members.
This study examined gender differences in alcohol consumption and problem behaviors among fraternity and sorority college students. Males were more likely to drink 13 + drinks at one time; females were more likely to drink 1-3, 4-6, and 7-12 drinks. Females experienced more problems at the 4-6 level; numbers of problems experienced were approximately equal at the 7-12 and 13 + levels. The correlation between consumption and problems was stronger for females (r = 0.58) than for males (r = 0.42). Problem behaviors might be due to individual differences or environmental forces acting upon individuals. Longitudinal studies should investigate possible causal pathways to inform the design of interventions for this at-risk population. Copyright 1997, Elsevier Scientific Publishers Ireland, Ltd.

Investigation of the relationship between college student development and alcohol consumption patterns.

The purpose of this study was to evaluate relationships between alcohol consumption patterns college student development. Student development was examined in the areas of morals using the Defining Issues Test, identity through the Erwin Identity Scale, and intellect using the Scale of Intellectual Development. Alcohol consumption was studied in terms of frequency of binge drinking, using the Core Alcohol and Drug Survey. Study participants were classified according to one of four categories: (1) Abstainers; (2) Drinkers; (3) Bingers; and (4) Frequent Bingers. The study employed discriminant analysis to assess the linear combination of student demographic and developmental variables that best predicts drinking category membership. The study was conducted through a randomized mailing to 400 undergraduate students. The 114 respondents were traditionally-aged, residential students. Results indicated a significant effect by alcohol consumption category for the Commitment subscale of the Scale of Intellectual Development. Non-Binger students were more likely to score higher on this measure of commitment to a value system and to a personal information processing method. There was a significant effect, by alcohol consumption category, for Greek membership, as Bingers and Frequent Bingers were more likely to be Greek organization members than were Drinkers and Abstainers. The author concludes that commitment score and Greek membership are the strongest predictor variables. Public Domain.

Liability management or risk management? Evaluation of a Greek system alcohol policy.
Kilmer JR; Larimer ME; Parks GA; Dimeff LA; Marlatt GA. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors* 13(4): 269-278, 1999. (31 refs.)
The present study is an evaluation of a policy restricting access to alcohol for Greek System members. A cross-sectional comparison of drinking rates and attitudes toward the policy used 994 participants at the implementation of the policy and 1,051 participants 1 year after implementation. Results indicated that drinking per occasion was greater for men and women after the policy was implemented, and, in general, attitudes toward selected policy provisions were more negative. These results suggest that policies designed to manage liability may have unintended consequences related to increased risk. Copyright 1999, American Psychological Association.
Location: Cork Journal Shelf; Baker Library

An individual in context: Predictors of alcohol use and drinking problems among Greek and residence hall students. Larimer ME; Anderson BK; Baer JS; Marlatt GA. *Journal of Substance Abuse* 11(1): 53-68, 2000. (54 refs.)
Fraternity, sorority, and residence hall residents were compared on drinking rates and patterns drinking-related problems, family history of alcohol problems, alcohol outcome expectancies, and high school drinking patterns. Results indicated residence in a fraternity was related to more frequent alcohol consumption and greater negative consequences even after accounting for family history, expectancies, and high school drinking rates. Family history of alcohol problems was only related to negative consequences for men. Only high school drinking rates were related to amount of alcohol consumed per occasion, for both men and women. Fraternity residence was found to be related to more negative consequences even after accounting for current drinking habits. However sorority residence was found to moderate the relationship between current drinking and negative consequences. Both high and low drinkers in sororities indicated similar rates of alcohol-related negative consequences, whereas high frequency female drinkers in the residence hall sample reported significantly more problems. Copyright 2000, Ablex Publishing Corp.
Location: Dartmouth e-journal

Identification, prevention and treatment: A review of individual-focused strategies to reduce problematic alcohol consumption by college students. Larimer ME; Cronce JM. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol* (Supplement): 148-163, 2002. (96 refs.)
Objective: The purpose of this article is to review and assess the existing body of literature on individually focused prevention and treatment approaches for college student drinking. Method: Studies that evaluate the overall efficacy of an approach by measuring behavioral outcome, such as reductions in alcohol use and associated
negative consequences were included. All studies discussed utilized at least one outcome measure focused on behavioral change and included a control or comparison condition; however, not all trials were randomized. Results: Consistent with the results of previous reviews, little evidence exists for the utility of educational or awareness programs. Cognitive behavioral skills-based interventions and brief motivational feedback (including mailed graphic feedback) have consistently yielded greater support for their efficacy than have informational intervention. Conclusions: There is mixed support for values clarification and normative reeducation approaches. Much of the research suffers from serious methodological limitations. The evidence from this review suggests that campuses would best serve the student population by implementing brief motivational or skills-based interventions, targeting high-risk students identified either through brief screening in health care centers or other campus settings or through membership in an identified risk group (e.g., freshmen, Greek Organization members, athletes, mandated students). More research is needed to determine effective strategies for identifying, recruiting and retaining students in efficacious individually focused prevention services, and research on mandated student prevention services is an urgent priority. Integration between campus policies and individually oriented prevention approaches is recommended. Copyright 2002, Alcohol Research Documentation, Inc. Used with permission.

Location: Dana Library

**College drinking and the Greek system: Examining the role of perceived norms for high-risk behavior.**

Larimer ME; Irvine DL; Kilmer JR; Marlatt GA. *Journal of College Student Development* 38(6): 587-598, 1997. (35 refs.)

Participants were 376 members (157 men, 219 women) of Greek houses with reputations for high, average, and low drinking. The average participant was 19.75 years in age, and 88% of the sample was Caucasian. Participants were compared on measures of perceived house reputation (Organizational Perceptions Questionnaire), acceptability of high-risk drinking (House Acceptability Questionnaire), and alcohol norms (Drinking Norms Rating Form). Members of high-drinking houses viewed their social reputations more positively and heavy drinking as more acceptable than did members in houses with reputations for less drinking. Gender differences and implications for alcohol prevention are discussed. Copyright 1997, American College Personnel Association.

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**Male and female recipients of unwanted sexual contact in a college student sample: Prevalence rates, alcohol use, and depression symptoms.**
It is typically assumed that acquaintance rape and other forms of unwanted sexual contact involve males as perpetrators and females as victims. The current study investigated prevalence rates of experiencing as well as instigating sexual coercion, force, and other types of unwanted sexual contact for both men and women in a college Greek system. 165 men and 131 women (82% Caucasian) completed 2 gender neutral measures of unwanted sexual contact, as well as assessments of alcohol use, alcohol related negative consequences, and depressive symptoms. Results indicated men were as likely to report being the recipients of sexual coercion as were women in this sample, although women were more likely to be the victims of physical force. In addition, both men and women in this sample who had been the recipients of unwanted sexual contact reported heavier alcohol consumption and related negative consequences than did their peers who had not had these experiences. Men who had been the recipients of unwanted sexual contact reported more symptoms of depression than other men in this sample, but there were no differences in depression symptoms for women who did or did not report these experiences. Copyright 1999, Plenum Press.

Evaluating a brief alcohol intervention with fraternities.
Larimer ME; Turner AP; Anderson BK; Fader JS; Kilmer JR; Palmer RS; Cronce JM. 

Objective: The current study tested the efficacy of a brief intervention designed to reduce drinking and drinking-related consequences among first-year fraternity members. Method: Twelve fraternities were randomly assigned to receive either a motivational enhancement intervention with individual and housewide feedback components (n = 6 houses) or a treatment-as-usual control condition (n = 6 houses). Individual feedback was delivered either by peer interviewers or professional research staff. Participants were assessed during their pledge (first) year of house membership and during a follow-up period 1 year later. Results: Of the participants who completed follow-up (N = 120), fraternity members who received the brief intervention reported significant reductions in alcohol use (total average consumption) and typical peak blood alcohol concentrations when compared with fraternity members in the control condition. No differences in drinking-related consequences were observed. Fraternity members who received their individualized feedback from peer interviewers and professional members of the research staff reported similar outcomes. Conclusions: Results provide support for the efficacy of a brief motivational enhancement intervention in reducing drinking within this high-risk population. The cost-effective use of peer interviewers appears to be a promising strategy for delivering individualized
prevention programming in college populations. Copyright 2001, Alcohol Research Documentation, Inc. Used with permission.
Location: Dana Library

Greeks and athletes: Who drinks more?
Meilman PW; Leichliter JS; Presley CA. *Journal of American College Health* 47(4): 187-190, 1999. (3 refs.)
This brief report discusses analysis of data from the Cork Alcohol and Drug Survey regarding drinking patterns of athletes and members of Greek organization. In brief, the authors find that both the status of athlete and being a member of a Greek organizations contribute to increased drinking, vis a vis other students, and are also more frequently involved in binge drinking. In respect to the influence of athletic involvement and Greek status, the former is a more significant contributor to heavy drinking. By way of example, Greek athletes consume 3 times more alcohol than do non-athlete, non-Greeks. They are approximately twice as likely to be involved in binge drinking. Copyright 1999, Helen Dwight Reid Educational Foundation.
Location: Dana Library

Alcohol use as a predictor of potential fraternity membership.
O'Connor RM; Cooper SE; Thiel WS. *Journal of College Student Development* 37(6): 669-675, 1996. (27 refs.)
Researchers examined the relationship between prior alcohol use in 121 freshmen and their fraternity pledging decisions. Males matriculating at college with a history of high alcohol consumption pledged fraternities in significantly greater proportions than those in the medium-and low-consumption categories. The results counter the widely held view that fraternities are the principal cause of heavy drinking, and support the alternative perspective that they attract heavy drinkers. Implications for future research and intervention efforts are discussed. Copyright 1996, American College Personnel Association.
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An analysis of the effects of a program to reduce heavy drinking among college students.
Peeler CM; Far J; Miller J; Brigham TA. *Journal of Alcohol and Drug Education* 45(2): 39-54, 2000. (29 refs.)
The present study examined the effects of a Peer Norms Correction procedure (PNC) of college students' perceptions of campus drinking and their actual drinking behavior. Students were recruited from classes, residence halls, Greek houses, and advertisements (N=262, 62% female) and were then enrolled in sections of a 1-credit self-management skills (SMS) course at a Northwestern state university. Sections of
the class were randomly assigned either the standard SMS curriculum (7 sections; N=117 students) or the modified SMS curriculum, which included a 1-hour PNC procedure (8 sections, N=145 students). The SMS curriculum was designed to teach self-management skills to reduce high-risk sexual behaviors. The PNC curriculum was identical to the SMS curriculum except for the one-hour PNC procedure. The PNC procedure attempts to change students' perceptions of others' drinking and thereby reduce the group's overall drinking. At the end of the course, the PNC group reported significantly lower perceptions than the standard SMS group on 5 of the 8 items. The results suggest that the PNC may be useful in correcting misperceptions about the norms for alcohol use but not for decreasing heavy drinking among college students. Suggestions for future research are discussed. Copyright 2000, Alcohol and Drug Problems Association of North America.
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Marking the transition from high school to college: The role of alcohol-related social influence factors in student's drinking.
Read JP; Wood MD; Davidoff OJ; McLaren J; Campbell JF. Substance Abuse 23(1): 53-65, 2002. (33 refs.)
Using a sample of entering college freshmen (N=311), the purposes of this study were to examine 1) whether perceived norms for college student alcohol use and problems differed by gender and level of intended Greek involvement (Greek intent); 2) associations between perceived norms, Greek intent, and alcohol use and problems; and 3) whether relations between perceived norms, Greek intent, and alcohol use and problems were moderated by gender. Perceived norms demonstrated consistent, significant association with both alcohol use and problems, while Greek intent demonstrated significant associations only with alcohol problems. Examinations of gender effects in associations between perceived norms, Greek intent, and alcohol use and problems revealed a number of differences in these relations. Specifically, Greek intent was significantly associated with measures of alcohol use and problems for men, but not for women. Finally, although perceived norms were a significant predictor of heavy drinking for both men and women, the association was much stronger among male students. These findings suggest that alcohol prevention interventions may benefit from specifically targeting perceived norms among incoming students who are at highest risk (i.e. male pledges.) Copyright 2002, Association for Medical Education & Research in Substance Abuse.
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Short- and long-term effects of fraternity and sorority membership on heavy drinking: A social norms perspective.
This study sought to determine whether the well-established relation between fraternity/sorority (Greek) membership and heavy alcohol use persists beyond the college years and whether some common third variables might account for the relation between Greek status and heavy drinking. During each of 4 years of college and 1 additional year, young adults (N = 319) completed measures of alcohol use, personality, alcohol expectancies, and environmental influences on drinking.
Throughout the college years, Greeks consistently drank more heavily than non-Greeks. Statistically controlling for previous alcohol use did not eliminate this effect. However, Greek status did not predict postcollege heavy drinking levels. Also, perceived peer norms for heavy drinking mediated the relation between Greek affiliation and heavy alcohol use. Results are discussed in terms of situational determinants of heavy alcohol involvement in young adults. Copyright 2001, American Psychological Association. Location: Baker Library

Readiness to change among at-risk Greek student drinkers.
Most members of sororities and fraternities report little readiness to reduce their drinking. However, in a sample of 106 at-risk Greek students (largely Caucasian and 18-23 years of age) about 25% report moving into stages that involve thinking about change or action to reduce their consumption. Alcohol risk factors are most concentrated in this group. Research should assess the extent to which high-risk Greeks would use harm-reduction services. Copyright 2000, American College Personnel Association. Location: Baker Library. Dartmouth e-journal

Considerations for more effective social norms based alcohol education on campus: An analysis of different theoretical conceptualizations in predicting drinking among fraternity men.
Trockel M; Williams SS; Reis J. Journal of Studies on Alcohol 64(1): 50-59, 2003. (36 refs.)
Objective: Recent alcohol education campaigns targeting college students have focused on correcting the erroneous perception students have of the amount of alcohol their peers consume. This strategy is based on assumptions that college students overestimate the amount of alcohol their peers consume and that correcting that misperception will lessen the pressure they feel to consume heavily. However, other theoretical constructs of normative influence may be as or more valuable in improving effectiveness of social norms based education for high-risk college students.
This study evaluates the effects of three social normative influence factors on alcohol consumption among fraternity men. Method: Participants were 379 members of randomly selected chapters from two large student fraternity organizations. We used hierarchical linear models to analyze the predictive value of normative influence variables in explaining alcohol consumption differences, both across individuals within chapters and across chapters. Results: Perceived consumption norms and perceived subjective norms were significant predictors of alcohol consumption levels. Both normative influence variables are significant in predicting differences in consumption within chapters and across chapters of fraternity men. General approval of alcohol use did not account for significant variance within chapters in consumption or any unique variance in consumption between chapters. Conclusions: Perceived subjective norms as defined by long-standing behavior theory may provide an alternative and potentially more promising intervention target for this high-risk student population than does the current focus on correcting students' errors in estimating the amount of alcohol their peers consume. Copyright 2003, Alcohol Research Documentation, Inc. Used with permission.

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Family risk factors for alcohol-related consequences and poor adjustment in fraternity and sorority members: Exploring the role of parent-child conflict.

Turner AP; Larimer ME; Sarason IG. Journal of Studies on Alcohol 61(6): 818-826, 2000. (64 refs.)

Objective: The relationship between perceptions of parent-child conflict and alcohol-related consequences was examined in a sample of first-year fraternity and sorority members. Method: Members (N = 302) were asked to complete measures of conflict with their mothers and fathers and report on parent problem drinking. Drinking rates, alcohol-related consequences, depression, and global psychological distress were assessed 1 year later (N = 233). Results: From a final sample with complete mother and father information (N = 202), parent-child conflict at baseline significantly predicted alcohol-related consequences 1 year later for all students. Father-child conflict was a significantly better predictor for male students. Parent histories of problem drinking did not account for this relationship. Although male students reported substantially higher rates of drinking, the relationship between drinking and alcohol-related consequences was stronger among female students. Parent-child conflict at baseline also predicted adjustment to college at 1-year follow-up. Students who perceived higher levels of mother-child and father-child conflict reported higher levels of depression. Students who perceived higher levels of father-child conflict reported higher levels of global psychological distress. Conclusions: Results indicate that perceptions of conflict in specific parent-child relationships constitute a risk factor for...
Changes in binge drinking and related problems among American college students between 1993 and 1997: Results of the Harvard School of Public Health College Alcohol Study.
Wechsler H; Dowdall GW; Maenner G; Gledhill-Hoyt J; Lee H. Journal of American College Health 47(2): 57-68, 1998. (18 refs.)
In 1997, the Harvard School of Public Health College Alcohol Study resurveyed colleges that participated in a 1993 study. The findings revealed little change in binge drinking: a slight decrease in percentage of binge drinkers and slight increases in percentages of abstainers and frequent binge drinkers. Two of 5 students were binge drinkers (42.7%); 1 in 5 (19.0%) was an abstainer, and 1 in 5 was a frequent binge drinker (20.7%). As was true in 1993, 4 of 5 residents of fraternities or sororities were binge drinkers (81.1%). Asian students showed a greater increase and White students a greater decrease in binge drinking from 1993 to 1997, compared with all other students. Among students who drank alcohol, increases in frequency of drinking; drunkenness; drinking to get drunk; and alcohol-related problems, including drinking and driving, were reported. Binge drinkers in both 1993 and 1997 were at increased risk of alcohol-related problems, and nonbingers at colleges with high binge drinking rates had increased risks of encountering secondhand effects of binge drinking. Copyright 1998, Helen Dwight Reid Educational Foundation.
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Finding the meanings of college drinking: An analysis of fraternity drinking stories.
College drinking has traditionally been studied from a public health perspective that attempts to quantify behavior as a means toward description, explanation, and intervention. This article offers a critical and cultural approach to understanding the meanings and functions of high-risk drinking and the ways in which those meanings are reproduced within the culture. Data were collected via an ethnographic study of fraternity members at a large midwestern university to explore the communication of excessive drinking norms. Viewed from various narrative and structural theories, the study examines collected drinking stories as a source for analyzing the construction of meanings surrounding drunkenness for the fraternity subculture. Five themes emerged as functions of drunkenness for the culture, Implications for prevention are discussed. Copyright 2001, Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, Inc.
Location: Not at Dartmouth. Request via ILL