Parental alcoholism and perceived levels of family health among college freshmen.
Deming MP; Chase ND; Karesh D. Alcoholism Treatment Quarterly 14(1): 47-57, 1996. (36 refs.)
This study investigated the influence of parental alcoholism on 593 freshman students at an urban, non-residential, southeastern university to determine how collegiate children of alcoholics (COAs), problem drinkers, and non-alcoholics (non-COAs) differed in their perceptions of family health as indicated by the Family of Origin Scale (FOS). These three groups of offspring differed significantly in their perceptions of family health as measured by the scale's constructs of autonomy and intimacy and on various items within each construct. Children of alcoholics and problem drinkers scored lower on each construct and its related items, indicating that COAs perceived their families as less healthy when compared to the perceptions of children of non-alcoholics.
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The relationship of parental alcoholism and family dysfunction to stress among college students.
Fischer KE; Kittleson M; Ogletree R; Welshimer K; Woehlke P; Benshoff J. Journal of American College Health 48(4): 151-156, 2000. (31 refs.)
The relationship between collegiate adult children of alcoholics (ACOAs) and adult children from dysfunctional families (ACDFs) was examined to determine whether ACOAs and ACDFs were at greater risk of stress than non-ACOAs and non-ACDFs. The participants were 549 students from a midwestern university. The data collection instruments were the Children of Alcoholics Screening Test, 6-Item Version (CAST-6); the Family Adaptability and Cohesion Evaluation Scales, Version LI (FACES-II); and the Perceived Stress Scale (PSS). A substantial proportion of the sample was classified as ACOA, ACDF, or both, and there was considerable overlap between the two groups. Both ACOA and ACDF status were found to be significant predictors of stress, with ACDF status being a better predictor than ACOA status. Possible explanations for the results and implications for collegiate wellness programs are discussed. Copyright 2000, Helen Dwight Reid Educational Foundation.
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Transitioning into and out of large-effect drinking in young adulthood.
Jackson KM; Sher KJ; Gotham HJ; Wood PK. *Journal of Abnormal Psychology* 110(3): 378-391, 2001. (70 refs.)

As individuals age beyond the college years into young adulthood, many exhibit a tendency to moderate or "mature out" of alcohol involvement. The current study classified effect-drinking statuses in young adults and examined transitions among statuses using latent transition analysis, a latent variable state-sequential model for longitudinal data. At 3 occasions over 7 years (Years 1, 4, and 7), 443 men (47%) and women (mean age of both at baseline = 18.5 years; 51% with family history of alcoholism) responded to 3 past-30-day items assessing drinking and subjective effects of drinking: whether the respondent drank alcohol, felt high, and felt drunk. Latent statuses included abstainers (14% at Year I), limited-effect drinkers (8%), moderate-effect drinkers (23%), and large-effect drinkers (54%). Respondents with family history of alcoholism were less likely to transition out of large-effect drinking than those without family history. Men exhibited more severe initial effect-drinking statuses and lower transition probabilities into less severe effect-drinking statuses than women. Copyright 2001, American Psychological Association, Inc.

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**Coping, drinking motives, goal attainment expectancies, and family models in relation to alcohol-use among college students.**


Associations between coping responses, drinking motivations, expectations of meeting social and academic goals, and family of origin problem drinking and measures of college students' quantity/frequency of alcohol use and social complications of alcohol use were investigated in a sample of 218 college students. Positive associations were found between "emotion-focused" forms of coping such as detachment and the criterion measures, whereas "problem-focused coping" was not significantly associated with quantity/frequency of alcohol use or drinking complications. Positive correlations were also found between drinking motives, goal attainment expectancies and family models measures and the criterion measures. Regression models constructed for alcohol quantity/frequency and drinking complications implicated the total number of drinking motives, family models of problem drinking and the coping strategy of self-blame as strongly related to criterion measures. Positive social drinking motives and coping by seeking social support were implicated as possible protective factors. Copyright 1996, Baywood Publishing Co., Inc.

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**Alcohol expectancies: Effects of gender, age, and family history of alcoholism.**
To explore the effects of gender, age, and positive (FH+) and negative (FH-) family history of alcoholism on alcohol-related expectancies, the Alcohol Expectancy Questionnaire (AEQ) was administered to 627 college students (female n = 430). In an attempt to control for consumption effects, only individuals who described themselves as heavy drinkers were included in the study. A 2 (Family History) times 2 (Gender) times 2 (Age Range) multivariate analysis of variance (MANOVA) was conducted on the six scales of the AEQ. Results indicated that FH+ females under the age of 20 years reported stronger expectancies of social and physical pleasure than did FH- females. Results also suggested that females over the age of 20 reported significantly lower expectancies of global, positive effects compared to all other subjects, regardless of family history of alcoholism. Finally, both male and female subjects under the age of 20 reported greater expectancies of global, positive effects, sexual enhancement, feelings of increased power and aggression, and social assertion compared to individuals over the age of 20. These results indicate that alcohol-related expectancies vary as a function of age, gender, and family history of alcoholism.

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Substance misuse, psychiatric disorder and parental relationships in patients attending a student health service.
MacCall CA; Callender JS; Irvine W; Hamilton M; Rait D; Spence F et al. Primary Care Psychiatry 7(4): 137-143, 2001. (27 refs.)
The mental health of students is a subject of growing concern. There are limited data on the prevalence of mental disorder in the student population and its relationship to previously noted high levels of drug and alcohol use is unknown. Although there is a considerable body of research into the links between experiences of parenting and the subsequent development of psychiatric morbidity, the nature and importance of such links in a student population has not been examined. The aims of this study were to establish the prevalence of substance misuse and psychiatric disorder in patients attending a student health service and to examine these in relation to perceived experiences of parenting. The study also aimed to assess the level of clinical detection of psychiatric disorders by general practitioners (GPs). Four hundred and thirty randomly selected attenders at a student health service completed a substance use and life style questionnaire, the General Health Questionnaire (GHQ) and the Parental Bonding Instrument. Psychiatric caseness, as defined by the GHQ, was compared with a retrospective review of comparable clinical case records. Fifty per cent of men and 32% of women exceeded sensible levels of alcohol consumption and 12% of men and 5% of women reported hazardous levels of alcohol intake. Cannabis was the most
commonly used illicit substance, with 28% of men and 12% of women reporting regular use, while 64% of the subjects reported the use of any illicit drug. Sleep problems were common and the use of prescribed psychotropic drugs within the preceding year was reported by almost one-fifth of subjects. High levels of subjective stress, particularly financial, were associated with the use of illicit drugs (P < 0.01) and prescribed psychotropics (P < 0.0001). Sixty-five percent of women and 54% of men met the criteria for psychiatric caseness on the GHQ and this was associated with the use of illicit drugs (P < 0.01), prescribed psychotropics (P < 0.0001), sleep difficulties (P < 0.0001) and current stressors (P < 0.05). Defective parental bonding, particularly affectionless control (low care and overprotection), was associated with caseness on the GHQ (P < 0.0001), excessive alcohol consumption (P < 0.01) and sleep problems (P < 0.01). Psychological morbidity was recorded as present in 14% of consultations in the course of routine clinical practice. Psychological morbidity and substance misuse in students were significantly related to the styles of parenting experienced earlier in life. GPs working with students should be aware of the high prevalence of these problems in this population. Those responsible for higher education policy should take account of these findings and the fact that the presence of stressors such as financial worries was significantly associated with psychological distress, the prescription of psychotropic medication and the use of illicit drugs. Copyright 2001, Liberpharm, Newberry.

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Family, personality, and social risk factors impacting the retention rates of first-year Hispanic and Anglo college students.

Pidcock BW; Fischer JL; Munsch J. Adolescence 36(144): 803-818, 2001. (48 refs.)

This study investigated familial and behavioral differences between Hispanic and Anglo-American first-year college students. Analyses of variance and chi-square analyses were used to test for ethnic differences in (a) risk factors associated with family dysfunction, family addictions, personality factors, and social experiences, (b) student problem behaviors, namely alcohol use, drug use, and eating disorders, (c) a one-year follow-up of student retention, and (d) specific factors related to retention at the one-year follow-up. The Hispanic freshmen appeared to demonstrate resilience despite a lack of mentoring and greater paternal addiction. However, the one-year follow-up suggested that Hispanic females were at particular risk for leaving school. To improve college retention rates, social policy should focus on Hispanic students' vulnerabilities and strengths in making important developmental transitions. Copyright 2001, Libra Publishers. Used with permission.

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Hispanic and Anglo college women's risk factors for substance use and eating disorders.
This study investigated the role of temperament style (Novelty Seeking and Harm Avoidance) of Hispanic American and Angle college women in moderating and mediating the relationship between family addiction/family functioning and offspring problem behaviors. The sample was comprised of 67 Hispanic American and 770 Angle undergraduate women. Findings of this study indicate that the processes of risk that lead to substance use and eating disorders follow different routes for Hispanic American and Angle women. Novelty Seeking and Harm Avoidance were found to be important factors in both moderating and mediating the effects of parental drinking and family dysfunction for both Hispanic and Angle college women. Copyright 2000, Pergamon Press.

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**Relationship between family interaction, separation, childhood roles, and college student adjustment.**


The study was an investigation of the influence of children's roles, family structure, gender, and psychological separation, on college student drinking and adjustment. The research design was ex post facto and multiple regression analysis was used to analyze data. The sample studied consisted of 225 college freshmen. The instruments used were the Conflictual Independence subscale of the Psychological Separation Inventory (PSI), Structural Family Interaction Scale-Revised (SFIS-R), the Young Adult Alcohol Problem Screening Test, the Student Adaptation to College Questionnaire (SACQ), and the Children's Role Inventory (CRI). Family structure was unrelated to student drinking and aspects of student adjustment. Among children's roles the Scapegoat role was significantly related to drinking behavior, the Hero role to academic adjustment, and the Lost Child role to personal-emotional adjustment. Psychological separation was the most consistent predictor of outcome variables. Although unrelated to drinking behavior, it was related significantly to all aspects of adjustment. Psychological separation also covaried significantly with children's roles and family structure. Separation was predictive of every aspect of adjustment and was related significantly to all adjustment subscales when they covaried with children's roles. The Hero role related again to academic adjustment and the Lost Child role to personal-emotional adjustment. Psychological separation from mother, as a covariate with children's roles, was also predictive of college drinking. Gender covaried with family structure and children's roles and was significantly related only to student drinking. Public Domain.

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Differences among nonclinical college women with alcoholic mothers, alcoholic fathers, and nonalcoholic parents.
To further examine the uniformity myth as it pertains to adult children of alcoholics (ACAs) and to elucidate potential within-ACA difference variables, differences among nonclinical college females with alcoholic fathers (F-ACAs), alcoholic mothers (M-ACAs), and no alcoholic parents (non-ACAs) were explored. These groups were compared in terms of eating disorder symptomatology, interpersonal difficulties, and reports of abuse. F-ACAs reported significantly more distress arising from interpersonal problems than did non-ACAs. Non-ACAs reported significantly fewer threats of parent-perpetrated abuse than either ACA group, whereas F-ACAs reported significantly more father-perpetrated threats of abuse than either non-ACAs or M-ACAs. F-ACAs also reported a significantly higher prevalence of father-perpetrated physical abuse than did M-ACAs. Suggestions for future research are made, and counseling implications are discussed. Copyright 1996, American Psychological Association, Inc.
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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
Binge-drinking-related consequences in college students: Role of drinking beliefs and mother-teen communications.
The present research contrasted theoretical models depicting the nature of the relation among drinking beliefs, drinking tendencies, and behavioral consequences in 266 incoming freshman college students. It also examined the theoretical relations between mother-teen communications and drinking beliefs relevant to behavioral consequences. The findings revealed direct relations between binge-drinking consequences and the drinking beliefs: Alcohol can make positive transformations, can enhance social behavior, and can increase negative affect and normative approval. Direct relations were not observed between consequences and the drinking beliefs regarding physical risk and health orientation. Finally, the present research found consistent support for the relation between mother-teen communications and drinking beliefs relevant to binge-drinking consequences. Copyright 2000, American Psychological Association.
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A brief screening instrument for assessing parental alcoholism in college student populations.
Vail-Smith K; Knight SM; Durham TW. *Journal of American College Health* 44(4): 151-156, 1996. (31 refs.)
The Children of Alcoholics Short Screening Instrument (CASSI), a four-item Likert-type scale, was developed to fulfill the need for a screening instrument to identify children of alcoholics (COAs) in college student populations. A sample of 369 college students was surveyed to assess the psychometric properties of the CASSI; the scale had a Cronbach alpha reliability coefficient of .94 and a 4-week test-retest reliability of .81. The CASSI correlated significantly with the Children of Alcoholics Screening Test (CAST), which supported its concurrent validity. The CASSI appears to be a promising research tool for identifying COAs, particularly among college student populations. Copyright 1996, Helen Dwight Reid Educational Foundation.
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Attitudes toward bulimic behaviors in two generations: The role of knowledge, body mass, gender, and bulimic symptomatology.
The perceived commonality and acceptability of symptoms of bulimia, as well as associated variables including gender, generation, knowledge of bulimia, body mass index, and bulimic symptomatology, were assessed. These views were explored in a sample of college students (N = 155 male; N = 173 female) and their parents (N = 194 mothers; N = 163 fathers). Females perceived bulimic symptoms to be more common than males, and students perceived them to be more common than their parents. Students perceived bulimic symptoms to be more acceptable than their parents. Females had higher levels of bulimic symptomatology, particularly daughters. Stepwise simultaneous regression analyses revealed that one's own level of bulimic symptomatology was the primary predictor of one's attitudes toward the commonality and acceptability of bulimic symptoms. Bulimic symptomatology was primarily predicted from perceptions of the acceptability of bulimic symptoms and body mass index. Results suggest that college-age students may be at greater risk for the development of bulimia nervosa because of their greater tolerance of these symptoms, alternatively, people endorsing higher levels of bulimic symptomatology may adjust their attitudes, perceiving bulimic symptoms to be more tolerable, in order to alleviate the dissonance between their attitudes and behaviors. Copyright 1997, Elsevier Science Ltd.
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The purpose of this study was to estimate the prevalence of parental problem drinking reported by a national sample of college students and to examine the relations between such reports and respondents' patterns of drinking, alcohol abuse, abstinence, and utilization of treatment/counseling. Responses to mailed questionnaires completed by a random sample of 17,592 students at a representative national sample of 140 four-year colleges were analyzed using logistic regression. About 10% of college students reported problem-drinking parents. These children of problem drinkers (COPDs) exhibited a bimodal pattern of drinking behavior, showing higher than normal odds of past year abstinence or heavy episodic drinking. Males were more likely than females to report heavy episodic drinking, and children of affected mothers were at greatest risk. Approximately 23% of COPDs met proxy DSM-IV alcohol abuse criteria. COPDs in college are a heterogeneous group showing both vulnerability and resistance. Those reporting treatment are more likely to be abstainers. Copyright 2000, Williams & Wilkins, Inc.
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