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Lifetime Alcohol Abuse Prevalence: Role of Childhood and Adult Religion

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Comments
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Lifetime Alcohol Abuse Prevalence: Role of Childhood and Adult Religion

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Background
- Alcohol abuse disorder has a lifetime prevalence rate of 13.2% (Kessler et al., 2005).
- Over half of these cases are diagnosed by the early 20s, and three-quarters by age 30 (Kessler et al., 2005).
- Early influences on ETTH consumption have long lasting impact, on later ETTH consumption, health status, and SES (Detranchi, Hartgerink, B. Weiner, 2003).
- Religion is protective against ETTH abuse (Michalak, Trocki, & Bond, 2007).
- Religiosity/Spirituality is protective against alcohol use among emerging adults from multiple racial/ethnic backgrounds (Weimer, Perla, Gahambay, & Wachtel, 2005).
- Religiosity/Spirituality positively impacts health behaviors and alcohol use in 84% of studies (Rew & Wang, 2006).

Hypotheses
1. Male gender, SES factors, childhood adversity and parental factors against LAA
   - Childhood and adult religiosity/spirituality will be protective
   - The link among childhood and adult religiousness and lifetime variables, and lifetime prevalence of alcohol abuse among diverse background populations.

Measures
- Outcome: Any lifetime diagnosis of alcohol abuse or alcohol dependence by the NCS-R/DSM criteria
- Childhood Religiosity
- Adult Religiosity/Spirituality
- Childhood adversity: micro-environmental, micro-social
- Childhood support
- Demographic factors

Data & Sample

452 respondents with complete alcohol and religion data were included from the NCS-R.

Results
- LAA compared to higher income level.
- Middle income levels ($35-75,000) greater likelihood of LAA – relative risk of 1.77
- Males greater likelihood of LAA than females...

Discussion
- Specific developmental periods have different risk for ETTH abuse...
- Religiosity/spirituality may alter the course and should be considered when targeting interventions.

Next Steps
- Include the NSAL and NSLA samples, complete the CPES and include interview data. Before starting targeted interventions...

Table 1. Series of Weighted Logistic Regressions of Any Lifetime Alcohol Abuse

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Independent Variables</th>
<th>Model 1</th>
<th>Model 2</th>
<th>Model 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
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<tr>
<td>Male</td>
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<td>Education Level</td>
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<td>Less than high school</td>
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<td>High school</td>
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<td>College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Income Level</td>
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<td>Less than $15K</td>
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<td>$15K-$30K</td>
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<td>$125K+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Married/Cohabitating</td>
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<td>Divorced/Separated/Never Married</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parental Status</td>
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References