

SCHOOL OF NURSING



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The Influence of Family Factors and Supervised Alcohol Use on Adolescent Alcohol Use and Harms:

Similarities between Youth in Different Alcohol Policy Contexts



International Youth Development Study

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Background: National Policies

United States

- Legal drinking age = 21
- Surgeon General promotes zero-tolerance policy:
“Just Say No”
- Social host liability laws

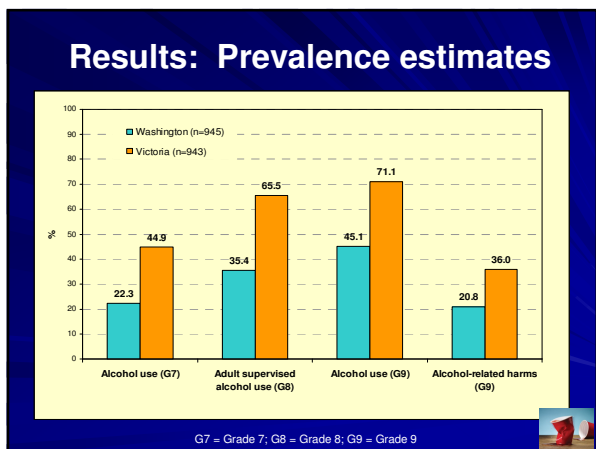


Background: National Policies

Australia

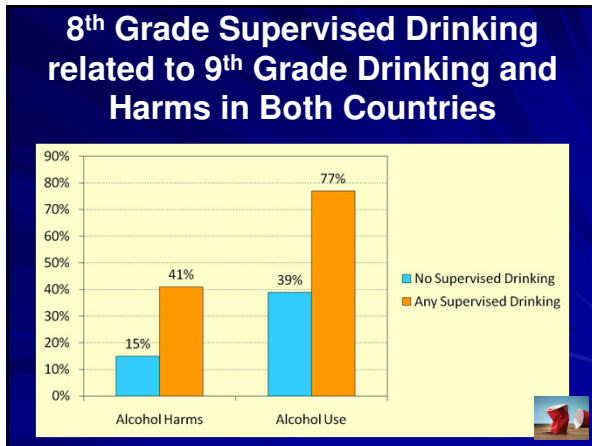
- Legal drinking age = 18
- National Alcohol Guidelines
 - in 2001-2002:
 - Alcohol = normal part of adolescent development
 - adult supervision
 - gradual introduction to alcohol



Harmful Consequences due to Alcohol

- **Loss of control**
...not able to stop drinking once you had started
- **Social conflict**
...trouble at school the next day
...arguments with your family
...become violent and get into a fight
- **Other**
...got injured or had an accident
...had sex with someone, which you later regretted
...got so drunk you were sick or passed out
...were unable to remember the night before because you had been drinking (blackouts)



Possible Mechanisms

- Supervised drinking not protective
 - drinking with adults sends a type of message
 - no carry-over to unsupervised settings
- Drinking at young age associated with brain damage, neurocognitive deficits, disorders/addiction

Findings for Older Teens

- US high school senior girls
 - Drinking at home → binge drinking in college (Livingston et al., 2010)
- Dutch youth age 14-17
 - Alcohol availability at home = risk factor (van den Eijnden et al., 2011)
- Cohort of 11-12 year-olds currently being followed 5 years by National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre in Australia

Contact Information



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Check out the
international project
website: www.lyds.org
