While studies show that young African Americans tend to use alcohol and drugs at lower rates than their White and Hispanic peers, substance abuse and involvement continue to touch the lives of millions of African American youth. This Substance Abuse Resource Guide for prevention specialists, educators, parents, and others was compiled from a variety of publications and represents the most current information to date. It is not an all-inclusive listing of materials on this topic. The first section lists 11 prevention materials, which include fact sheets, booklets and brochures, and classroom materials. The second section presents 28 abstracts of studies, articles, and reports related to young African Americans and substance abuse. The third section lists 24 groups, organizations, and programs that provide information and services for young African Americans, and the final section lists 20 Internet access sites, some of which are federal, that provide information about African Americans and substance abuse. (SLD)
African Americans

From the Director of CSAP...

While studies show that young African Americans tend to use alcohol and drugs at lower rates than their White and Hispanic peers, substance abuse and involvement continues to touch the lives of millions of African American youth. Violence, AIDS, and teenage pregnancy are just a few of the risks associated with substance use, and regrettably, many African Americans find themselves involved in these unfortunate situations.

Prevention specialists, educators, parents, and others will find a message of hope in this resource guide, and we at CSAP look forward to working side by side with you toward a better future for our African-American communities.

Elaine M. Johnson, Ph.D.
The listing of materials or programs in this resource guide does not constitute or imply endorsement by the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, the Public Health Service, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, or the Department of Health and Human Services. The materials have been reviewed for accuracy, appropriateness, and conformance with public health principles.

This Substance Abuse Resource Guide was compiled from a variety of publications and data bases and represents the most current information to date. It is not an all-inclusive listing of materials on this topic. This guide will be updated regularly, and your comments or suggestions are welcome. To suggest information or materials that might be included in future editions, please write to the National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information (NCADI), P.O. Box 2345, Rockville, MD 20847-2345.

Produced by the National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information, Andrea B. Miller, editor.


Please feel free to be a "copy cat," and make all the copies you want. You have our permission!
Prevention Materials

Making Prevention Work: Actions for African Americans
Organization: Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
Year: 1994
Format: Fact Sheet
Length: 1 page
Target Audience: General Public
Inventory Number: MPW009
Availability: National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information, P.O. Box 2345, Rockville, MD 20847-2345; 800-729-6686. (free)

Twelve ways African Americans can prevent substance abuse in their communities are presented. Pointers include: Challenge myths about African-American youth and their involvement with alcohol and drugs; celebrate the resilience and pride of young African-Americans; and share pride in the accomplishments of neighborhood children by writing to your community newsletter, city newspaper, and TV editors about their activities.

Quick List: Ten Steps to a Drug-Free Future
Organization: Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
Year: 1992
Format: Brochure
Length: 6 page fold-out
Target Audience: Parents, Educators, General Public
Inventory Number: PHD602
Availability: National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information, P.O. Box 2345, Rockville, MD 20847-2345; 800-729-6686. (free)

Brief and easy-to-read, this brochure suggests 10 things adults can do to help a child say no to alcohol, tobacco, or illicit drugs. Ideas include helping your child feel good about himself or herself, helping your child develop strong values, making family rules, and talking to your child about alcohol and illicit drugs.

Growing Up Black and Proud
Organization: Johnson Institute-QVS, Inc.
Year: 1992
Format: Curriculum
Context: Two parts -- Facilitator's Guidebook (190 pages) and Guide for Teenagers (128 pages)
Target Audience: Educators, Junior and Senior High School Youth
Availability: Johnson Institute - QVS, Inc., 7205 Ohms Lane, Minneapolis, MN 55439; 800-231-5165. ($$)

Facilitators can use this 14-part curriculum to help African-American teenagers discover who they are and recognize that they can reach their fullest potential without using substances. The book's large print and animated drawings capture students' attention. Topics include identity, cultural boundaries, racism, communication, decision making, peer pressure, and problem solving.

My Brother Got AIDS -- An African American's Story
Organization: Channing L. Bete Co., Inc.
Year: 1993
Format: Booklet
Length: 7 pages
Target Audience: Young Adults, Men, General Public
Availability: Channing L. Bete Co., Inc., 200 State Road, South Deerfield, MA 01373; 800-628-7733. ($$)

This easy-to-read booklet tells a brief story about AIDS transmission to bring the perception of risk closer to home. It includes information about condom use and instructions for cleaning needles.
Pathways to Freedom: Winning the Fight Against Tobacco
Organization: Fox Chase Cancer Center
Year: 1992
Format: Booklet
Length: 34 pages
Target Audience: Smokers Who Want to Quit, Prevention Professionals, Public
Availability: CDC's Office on Smoking and Health, Mail Stop K-50, 4770 Buford Highway NE, Atlanta, GA 30341-3724; 800-232-1311. (free)

This smoking cessation program, specifically tailored for African Americans, is divided into three sections: the scope of the problem, methods of quitting, and how communities can take action against tobacco.

The Congress of National Black Churches, Inc. -- National Anti-Drug Campaign
Organization: The Congress of National Black Churches (CNBC)
Year: 1995
Format: Communications Package
Length: 4 booklets
Target Audience: Religious and Community Service Groups

This packet of materials contains a program booklet that explains the campaign, a planning strategies booklet, and tips to parents, congregations, and the community. A newsletter and technical assistance bulletin are also included.

Lie, Cheat and Steal: How the Alcoholic Beverage Industry Markets to African-Americans
Organization: The Marin Institute for the Prevention of Alcohol and Other Drug Problems
Year: 1992
Format: Script and Slide Show

This educational slide show illustrates marketing practices of the alcohol advertising and marketing industry. The show is designed to inspire people to take action and communicate with the advertising agency to create change. A set of community action ideas, discussion questions, and a resource list are included.

Dopebust®rs Real Life Action Book Series
Organization: Dopebust®rs International, Inc.
Year: 1994
Format: Classroom Material
Length: Length Varies, 19-29 Pages Each
Target Audience: Educators of Students Grades 2-8
Availability: Dopebust®rs International, Inc., 331 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107; 215-923-8107. ($$)

This 5-book illustrated series tells the story of the Dopebusters, a group of students (elementary, middle, and high school) who spread an anti-drug message. The story begins with the news that a high school basketball star has been killed by a stray bullet during an argument by rival drug dealers. This motivates the students to form the Dopebusters. Through a series of events, the students find out who shot the basketball star and another young boy. The last page of each book contains story questions for class discussion.

If You're Dabbling in Drugs... You Could Be Dabbling with Your Life
Organization: America Responds to AIDS
Year: 1993
Format: Poster
Target Audience: Men, High-Risk Youth, General Public

For further information, write to NCADI, P.O. Box 2345 Rockville, MD 20847-2345
Target Audience: Men, High-Risk Youth, General Public
Item Number: P061
Availability: CDC's National AIDS Information Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 6003, Rockville, MD 20849-6003; 800-458-5231. (free)

On this poster is a photograph of an young African-American man dressed in a basketball uniform. The poster reads "If you're dabbling in drugs... you could be dabbling with your life." It warns the reader that "skin popping" can result in contracting AIDS.

If Your Man Is Dabbling in Drugs... He Could Be Dabbling with Your Life
Organization: America Responds to AIDS
Year: 1993
Format: Poster
Target Audience: Women, General Public
Item Number: P081
Availability: CDC's National AIDS Information Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 6003, Rockville, MD 20849-6003; 800-458-5231. (free)

On this poster is a photograph of an African-American woman holding a cup of coffee. The poster reads "If your man is dabbling in drugs... he could be dabbling with your life." It warns women that their man could bring home the AIDS virus if he is using drugs and possibly sharing needles. It urges them to insist the man wear a condom every time they have sex, and to leave if the man won't.

Mother and Child
Organization: National Women's Resource Center for the Prevention of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Abuse and Mental Illness
Year: 1993
Format: Poster
Context: Part of the "Embrace Life" Poster Series
Target Audience: Pregnant Women, General Public
Availability: National Women's Resource Center, 515 King Street, Suite 410, Alexandria, VA 22314; 703-836-8761. ($$)

This poster features a painting by artist J. Denmark of an African-American mother holding a small child. The wording is "Embrace Life! Let love weave families together to prevent substance abuse."
Studies, Articles and Reports

Stereotype or Reality: Another Look at Alcohol and Drug Use Among African American Children
Bass, L.E.; Kane-Williams, E.
Public Health Reports 108(1):78-84, 1993

The Center for Substance Abuse Prevention’s Division of Communications Programs launched its Urban Youth Public Education Campaign in late 1990 to target African-American youth in 14 cities with prevention messages about substance abuse. During the market research phase of the campaign, CSAP sought to determine the extent to which inner city African-American children are impacted by and how widespread the use of these substances is among younger children. Is it rampant and universal, as some press accounts have it, or are the images portrayed by the news media, by popular movies, and by other communication outlets fueling harmful stereotypes? The campaign’s market research consisted of in-depth reviews of the literature, personal communications, conference proceedings, grant and contract reports, monographs, newspaper and magazine articles, and national survey results, and the analysis of findings from focus groups conducted with 143 African-American children living in several urban environments. Although information and conclusions gleaned from the market research revealed a longstanding trend of comparatively lower rates of substance abuse by African-American youth, also disclosed was a need for an expanded framework to address the problems of substance abuse within the African-American community. An expanded framework acknowledges the dimension of substance use but also addressed the significance of involvement, exposure, and victimization for this population of youth who live in urban, high-risk environments.

Gender Differences Among African-American Substance Abusers
Boyd, C. J.; Blow, F.; Orgain, L. S.

The purpose of this investigation was to determine if there were gender differences in 80 medical records (37 African-American men and 43 African-American women) from one drug treatment facility located in a midwestern city. Using independent t-tests and chi square analyses to determine group differences, there were significant gender differences relative to childhood sexual abuse experiences and maternal substance abuse; however, there were no gender differences relative to most drug-related behaviors and to paternal substance abuse. Implications for further study are discussed.

Psychosocial, Alcohol/Other Drug Use, and Delinquency Differences Between Urban Black and White Male High Risk Youth
Dembo, R.; Williams, L.; Schmeidler, J.

Using data collected about 286 Black and White male youths entering a juvenile detention center, the authors examined differences in psychosocial functioning, substance use, and delin-
quency/crime. Comparison is made on a wide range of variables, including sociodemographic characteristics, family problems, records of contact with the juvenile court, physical abuse or sexual victimization history, substance abuse, friends' involvement in substance use and crime, and emotional/psychological functioning problems. Implications of the results for understanding the youths' involvement in the juvenile justice system, and for the development of, and linkage with, appropriate services, are drawn.

Race, Class, and Gender Differences in Substance Abuse: Evidence of Middle-Class/Underclass Polarization Among Black Males

Barr, K.E.; Farrell, M.P.; Barnes, G.M.; Welte, J.W.


The relationships between race, class, gender, and substance abuse were studied, with a focus on Black males. The study data are derived from a sample of 6,364 adults over the age of 18, including college students, and persons living in shelters for the homeless. Home telephone and non-telephone samples were used. Alcohol consumption, alcohol-related problems, and illicit drug use were addressed. The following results of the study were seen: (1) gender had a significant effect on all variables, with males drinking more, having more problems as a result of drinking, and being more likely to use drugs; (2) race had a significant effect, with Blacks drinking more, having more alcohol-related problems, and using more drugs; and (3) increased education had an effect, with less substance use and fewer problems with more years of education. It is not understood how substance abuse first into the life course of Black males in the underclass.

Smoking and Nicotine Dependence in Young Adults: Differences Between Blacks and Whites

Andreski, P.; Breslau, N.

Drug and Alcohol Dependence 32(2):119-125, 1993

Data from a household interview of young adults in Michigan was analyzed to determine the prevalence of smoking and nicotine dependence and to examine the relationship of nicotine dependence with health indicators in Black and White smokers. The NIMH Diagnostic Interview Schedule, revised to cover DSM-III-R diagnoses, was used to assess nicotine dependence. A greater proportion of Whites than Blacks tried smoking, became regular smokers and met criteria for nicotine dependence. Whites had their first cigarette, began smoking regularly and manifested symptoms of nicotine dependence at a younger age than Blacks. Nicotine dependence, rather than smoking per se, was associated with poor physical and psychological health among both Blacks and Whites. However, it had stronger associations with health problems in Blacks than in Whites.

Predicting Drinking Problems Among Black and White Men: Results from a National Survey

Herd, D.


This study describes the prevalence of alcohol-related problems and develops predictive models to explain racial differences in subsamples of 494 Black and 568 White men from a national probability survey of drinking patterns and problems. The results showed that although Black men exhibited higher mean scores on many types of alcohol-related problems, they did not report significantly higher rates of heavier drinking and drunkenness, nor did they score higher on a scale of permissive-
ness of drinking norms. A hierarchical regression analysis indicated that race independently predicts problem scores even when controlling for other social and demographic factors. Moreover, an interactive model showed that race interacts significantly with the frequency of heavier drinking and some sociodemographic characteristics. As the frequency of heavier drinking increases, rates of drinking problems rise faster among Black men than White men. Religion and unemployment also had different effects on rates of alcohol-related problems in each group of men. These findings suggest that racial differences in the prevalence of drinking problems might be related to differences in the sociocultural context of drinking and in the material conditions under which Black and White men live.

The "Hustle": Socioeconomic Deprivation, Urban Drug Trafficking, and Low-Income, African-American Male Gender Identity

Whitehead, T.L.; Peterson, J.; Kaljee, L.

Pediatrics 93(6):1050-1054, 1994

Drug trafficking seems to be both prevalent and associated with considerable morbidity and mortality among inner-city African-American males. Survey data have indicated the possible importance of economic need in the rapid emergence of drug trafficking in this population. In the present study, an historical-cultural approach is used to examine this economic relationship further and to explore the role that drug trafficking plays in a society that has permitted its successful and rapid growth. Data were obtained from interviews of approximately 600 African-Americans residing in inner-city neighborhoods in Washington, DC and Baltimore during nine drug- and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome-related studies conducted over four years. From the perspective of the study participants, the need to provide economic support for one’s family and to achieve some sense of status, respect, and reputation among peers, are two core constructs of masculine identity. The historical and worsening inequities in access to economic resources and power by African-American males are viewed as significantly reducing the opportunity for economic success through more social or legal enterprises. Pursuit of nonmainstream activities (such as drug trafficking) is perceived as offering an opportunity for economic advancement and for establishing a power base for individuals who have been denied access to mainstream opportunities.

Recent and Intended Drug Trafficking Among Male and Female Urban African-American Early Adolescents

Li, X.; Feigelman, S.


This study investigated associations between recent and intended involvement in drug trafficking and perceptions of the social environment among high-risk urban African-American youths. A multicomponent risk assessment survey was conducted among a convenience sample of 351 African-American youths 9 through 15 years of age residing in low-income communities. Both univariate analysis and logistic regression were performed to examine the association of youths’ perceived social environment with recent or intended involvement in drug trafficking. Drug selling or delivering in the previous 6 months was reported by 6 percent of the youths; 12 percent expected to engage in these activities in the next 6 months. There was a strong association between drug trafficking and other high-risk behaviors, including drug use. Among both genders, perceptions that neighbors, friends, or family members were involved in drug trafficking were correlated with recent or intended drug trafficking. For boys, personal economic needs had a strong association with
drug trafficking. For girls, personal feelings were more important correlates of intended involvement. Efforts aimed at both drug trafficking prevention and intervention need to be community-based and multifaceted. Programs should address the youths' perceived social environments and consider gender differences regarding correlates of drug-trafficking involvement.

**African-American Youth: Drug Trafficking and the Justice System**
Leviton, S.; Schindler, M.A.; Orleans, R.S.


This study examined the role of the legal system in adolescent drug trafficking by reviewing descriptive and analytic reviews of the literature and relevant legislation. Utilization of young adolescents by drug "kingpins" in drug trafficking is a new practice that is highly advantageous to the employer for several legal and economic reasons. From the perspective of the drug kingpins, juveniles are particularly useful in drug trafficking because they work for lower wages. Even if the youth are arrested, the juvenile justice system enables their rapid return for continued service in the drug trade. From the perspective of the youth, drug trafficking offers one of the few economic opportunities available to them. Further, the numbers suggest a tremendous racial disparity in the juvenile justice system. The mutual advantages to both employer and employee of using youths in drug trafficking increases the likelihood that this new practice will continue to flourish and with increasingly younger children. Effective prevention and treatment interventions will need to be multifaceted, addressing the economic, educational, and social issues that have permitted the rapid emergence of adolescent drug trafficking. Finally, further investigation of the apparent racial disparities is necessary.

**Stressful Loss and the Buffering Effect of Social Support on Drinking Behavior among African-Americans: Results of a National Survey**
Johnson, K.A.; Jennison, K.M.


This paper is an analysis of stressful loss, both for the individual and extended kinship network members, the buffering hypothesis, and utilitarian drinking in a national probability sample of 1,478 African-Americans. Multiple logistic regression analysis indicates that respondents who experience stressful losses, or whose extended family members have experienced such losses, are significantly likely to drink excessively. Utilitarian drinking among African-Americans may therefore, in part, be a reaction to life circumstances in which alcohol represents an attempt to cope with traumatic social and psychological stress. The results also indicate that supportive social resources, particularly the extended kinship network and Black church, can attenuate or buffer the effects of negative life stressors on drinking. These important resources could be used more than they are presently in education prevention and treatment programs for the Black alcoholic and problem drinker.

**Drug Use Among Racial/Ethnic Minorities**

(Available from NCADI, P.O. Box 2345, Rockville, MD 20847-2345; 800-729-6686. Inventory Number BKD180.)

This report provides the most current data available on the nature of drug use among racial/ethnic minorities.
among minorities. Basic population statistics are presented from the Census Bureau and projections are given from racial/ethnic minorities in the United States to help professionals determine the relative size of racial/ethnic groups and compare demographic factors, such as family income. An overview is provided of drug use patterns for the total U.S. population and for racial/ethnic groups using data obtained from the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse. Prevalence estimates on past-month, past-year, and lifetime use of illicit drugs, alcohol, and cigarettes are included. Drug use and drug-related behaviors among minority youth are examined. Data are presented on risk behaviors such as dropping out of school, driving under the influence of substances, and engaging in high-risk sexual behaviors. Data are discussed on women of childbearing age and on drug use during pregnancy. The health consequences of substance use also are examined. Drug use and crime are addressed, including data on the drug use history of inmates and on the percentage of inmates who committed offenses under the influence of drugs, to get money for drugs, or both.

Black College Students’ Drinking Patterns: The Roles of Family Religious Affiliation and Parental Guidance During the First Drinking Experience

Lo, C. C.; Globetti, G.


Drinking patterns of Black college students were studied. The research sample included 160 students at a predominantly Black university in the South. The students were administered a questionnaire derived from Ronald Akers’ Boys Town Study. The following results of the study were seen: (1) greater tendency to drink more and to experience alcohol-related problems in college for those who have their first drink at a lower age; (2) attenuation of the negative relationship between age at first drink and college drinking patterns for those who start drinking in the presence of adults or with the knowledge of their parents; (3) an important role for religious affiliation in constraining problem drinking during college years. It is concluded that family religious affiliation and parental guidance may serve as social control variables providing access to normative standards within a particular sociocultural context. If these variables become internalized by the time a student reaches college age, they can become a part of a personal control system.

African-American Women Who Smoke Crack Cocaine: Sexual Trauma and the Mother-Daughter Relationship

Boyd, C.; Guthrie, B.; Pohl, J.; Whitmarsh, J.; Henderson, D.


This study evolved from previous writings that linked sexual abuse to the quality of the mother-daughter relationship. The purpose of this investigation was to examine the mother-daughter relationship among African-American women who use crack cocaine by comparing three different groups: women who have not experienced incest but have experienced sexual abuse; women who have experienced incest; and women who have not experienced sexual abuse. A convenience sample of 64 African-American women was used, 35 of whom were in drug abuse treatment and 29 of whom were using crack cocaine. Using analysis of variance studies, significant differences were found between the three groups in terms of the mother-daughter relationship. Differences were also found in terms of the amount of use and first age of use. This preliminary investigation indicates the need for further study of specific populations in this area—most notably, African Americans.
Use of Cocaine During the Immediate Prepartum Period by Childbearing Women in Ohio

Moser, J.M.; Jones, V.H.; Kuthy, M.L.

Despite widespread concern about exposure of infants in utero to cocaine, population-based data regarding the prevalence of such exposures are limited. An official task force in Ohio called for studies to generate such data for that State. During three weeks in late 1990, urine was obtained within 48 hours of birth from 1,819 infants born in 25 Ohio hospitals randomly selected from a pool of hospitals accounting for over 80 percent of Ohio births. Maternal age, race/ethnicity, and residence information were collected so that results could not be linked to individual mothers or infants. Urines were screened for benzoylecgonine (BZE), a cocaine metabolite, using a commercially available immunoassay. The crude prevalence of BZE positively was 2.0 percent. When adjusted for unequal cluster sizes and race/ethnicity, the prevalence was 1.4 percent. The adjusted prevalence for infants born to Black mothers was 7.2 percent, for infants born to White mothers, 0.3 percent. Ninety-seven percent of the mothers whose infants tested positive were residents of a city of 20,000 or more people. The use of hospital maternity units as a basis for anonymous sampling, as demonstrated in this study, may be a useful model for other jurisdictions seeking population-based data concerning perinatal drug exposures. Such methods may be especially useful for trend studies and program evaluation. In this study, the authors found widely distributed prepartal cocaine usage in Ohio. Black newborns were significantly more likely than White newborns to show evidence of recent cocaine exposure.

Raising Grandchildren from Crack-Cocaine Households: Effects on Family and Friendship Ties of African-American Women

Minkler, M.; Roe, K.M.; Robertson-Beckley, R.F.

Changes in family and friendship networks of 71 African-American grandmothers raising grandchildren as a consequence of the crack-cocaine epidemic are examined. Many of the women reported continued strong social ties, decreased contact with family and friends other than confidants, and a decline in marital satisfaction. Implications of the findings for research, policy, and practice are discussed.

Prescription and Nonprescription Drug Use Among Black and White Community-Residing Elderly


This study examined and compared concomitants of prescription and nonprescription drug use of Black and White community-dwelling elderly. Information on prescription and nonprescription drug use, demographic and health characteristics, and use of health services was obtained from a probability-based sample of Black (n = 2,152) and White (n = 1,821) community-resident elderly in the Piedmont area of North Carolina. Descriptive statistics were calculated. Linear regression, in which sample weights and design effects were taken into account, was used...
for the final models. For prescription drug use, 37 percent of the variance was explained for Whites; 32 percent of the variance was explained for Blacks. For nonprescription drug use, 6 percent of the variance was explained for Whites, and 5 percent of the variance was explained for Blacks. Health status and use of medical services were the strongest predictors of prescription drug use for both races (with Medigap insurance also important for Whites and Medicaid important for Blacks). Demographic characteristic and self-assessed health were significant factors in predicting the use of nonprescription drugs. Race independently predicted use of both types of drugs but explained only a small proportion of the variance. Health status and use of health services are important related to prescription drug use. Nonprescription drug use is difficult to explain.


Orlandi, M.A., Ed.; et. al


(Available from NCADI, P.O. Box 2345, Rockville, MD 20847-2345; 800-729-6686. Inventory Number BKD79.)

As an introduction to a series on the array of issues in the implementation and evaluation of substance abuse prevention programs, this volume integrates two types of competence for substance abuse prevention program practitioners: program evaluation competence and cultural competence. The chapters in this document provide conceptual frameworks and practical suggestions for evaluators working with various ethnic groups.


(Available from NCADI, P.O. Box 2345, Rockville, MD 20847-2345; 800-729-6686. Inventory Number BK199.)

This report is the product of a Center for Substance Abuse Prevention conference on addressing the needs of Black youth at high risk in a culturally relevant manner. The report is organized into three sections. Section I gives an overview and background to substance abuse problems in the African-American community. Section II gives current applications and future directions for substance abuse prevention services. Section III is a discussion of the components of an African-centered model of substance abuse prevention. Conference deliberations were guided by the critical issue of how to translate pragmatically the theoretical discussions of cultural competence into programmatic activities.

Alcohol Abuse Prevention in African-American Communities

Brown, L.S., Jr.

Journal of the National Medical Association 85(9):665-673, 1993

Presented in part at the meeting of the Working Group on Alcohol Prevention Research in Minority Communities, Washington, DC, May 18-19, 1992

Alcohol abuse prevention in African-American communities is discussed. Section headings in this article include: (1) heterogeneous communities; (2) incidence and prevalence issues; (3) specific prevention research issues; and (4) recommendations. It is recommended that research should clearly define specific cultural subpopulations of African-Americans; should include comparative
studies among subpopulations; should pay attention to methodology; should be directed at those factors associated with successful prevention outcomes; and should consider issues of racial identity and cultural differences.

Second Annual National Conference on Preventing and Treating Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse, HIV Infection, and AIDS in Black Communities: From Advocacy to Action. CSAP Prevention Monograph 13
(Available from NCADI, P.O. Box 2345, Rockville, MD 20847-2345; 800-729-6686, Inventory Number BKD78.)

African Americans suffer much more from a variety of diseases when compared with the White population of the United States. The expected life span of African-American males actually is decreasing, due to a great extent to the ravages of substance abuse. Alcohol and drugs sometimes kill directly, through the physiological effects of these substances on the body; more often, however, they kill indirectly. The homicide rate among African-American males in the inner cities has been skyrocketing for several years; many of the deaths are drug-related. The number of deaths from AIDS continues to increase, especially in racial and ethnic communities, where substance abuse is prevalent. The efforts of thousands of people over the last few years has produced the resources to convert knowledge of preventing and treating these problems into practical efforts to eradicate them from African-American communities.

Drug Abuse Prevention for High-Risk African American Children and Their Families: Review and Model Program
Addictive Behaviors 18(2):213-234, 1993

This article is concerned with the familial and socioeconomic factors that contribute to the high prevalence rates of drug abuse in African-American children. In addition to detailing the impact of drug abuse in African-American children and their families, the authors consider how this critical health problem can be prevented using existing knowledge and strategies known to mental health professionals. A model program entitled Project for a Substance Abuse-Free Environment (SAFE) is outlined. It describes (1) a broad-spectrum family intervention to empower disadvantaged and high-risk families in their communities; (2) a competency-based skills intervention to increase resilience and decrease substance use and other maladaptive behaviors in at-risk children; (3) alternative activities that will promote self-efficacy, achievement, and self-esteem; (4) a culturally-relevant evaluation plan that includes both formative (process) and summative (outcome) evaluation; (5) a comprehensive approach for assessing project impact; (6) systematic procedures for enhancing the maintenance and generalization of gains in participating children and families.

Healthful Behaviors: Do They Protect African-American, Urban Preadolescents from Abusable Substance Use?
D'Elio, M.A.; Mundt, D.J.; Bush, P.J.; Iannotti, R.J.
American Journal of Health Promotion 7(5):354-363, 1993

For further information, write to NCADI, P.O. Box 2345 Rockville, MD 20847-2345
Researchers examined the relationship between positive health behaviors and substance abuse in preadolescent, urban African-American schoolchildren. All respondents, 303 fourth and fifth graders (151 males, 152 females), resided in the District of Columbia and attended public schools. Both classroom surveys and personal interviews were conducted to assess health behaviors and substance abuse. Results showed that children who engaged in more healthful behaviors were one-third less likely to have smoked or to have drunk alcohol than those who engaged in fewer healthful activities.

**Using Research to Guide Culturally Appropriate Drug Abuse Prevention**


Several ways in which research can be an important tool in creating culturally appropriate prevention programs are suggested. To illustrate cultural variability, data from a study of fifth-grade African-American and European-American students are presented. These data describe rates of early initiation levels of exposure to identified risk factors, and degree to which identified risk factors predict substances initiated. Results indicate that European-American students have higher rates of tobacco and alcohol initiation, that the same risk factors predict the variety of substances initiated for African-American and European-American students, and that several differences exist in the level of exposure to risk factors between the two groups. Implications of the findings for developing culturally appropriate substance abuse prevention are discussed.

**Issues in Drug Abuse Prevention Intervention Research with African Americans**

Beatty, L.A.


(Available from NCADI, P.O. Box 2345, Rockville, MD 20847-2345; 800-729-6686, Inventory Number M139.)

Over the last 20 years, there has been substantial field-initiated work and Federal support of prevention demonstrations and research to determine how to prevent substance use and abuse in the American population more effectively; this has led to dramatic advancements in the science of prevention. The author asks what this still-developing knowledge base reveals about prevention with African-Americans. In the author’s opinion, there is a near-desperate need for prevention intervention research for African-Americans. The purpose of this chapter is to present issues that affect drug abuse prevention research with African-Americans. The focus is on diversity in the African-American population; etiologic concerns, especially risks and protective factors; theory development and expansion; methodological and design concerns; models of prevention intervention and implementation; and the need for increased involvement of African-American researchers.

**Using Mass Media to Reduce Adolescent Involvement in Drug Trafficking**

Romer, D.


Drug trafficking among adolescents is a newly recognized high-risk behavior that seems to be involving large numbers of youths. Strategies to prevent and/or alter this behavior must be de-
veloped and evaluated. In view of the high exposure of adolescents to the mass media, interventionists have increasingly employed the media in their efforts to reduce adolescent risk behaviors in general. However, not all risk behaviors may be amenable to change as a result of this approach. Therefore, before using this approach to address adolescent drug trafficking, it is important to investigate previous efforts targeting related risk behaviors. Mass media campaigns against the use of drugs have been common in the U.S. and seem to have played a role in reducing consumption of both legal and illegal drugs. The most effective messages seem to focus on the risks of drug use and the social disapproval that attends use. The mass media may increase the influence of these antidrug messages by changing the social climate surrounding drug use. The mass media may be a particularly effective way to reach adolescents and their parents in communities in which adolescent drug trafficking is prevalent and to unite the institutions that could influence adolescents against involvement in the drug trade. However, intervention efforts must also contend with the economic incentives of the drug trade in poor, central-city communities.

Drug Abuse Among Minority Youth: Methodological Issues and Recent Research Advances

DeLaRosa, M.R. (Ed.); Adrados, J.L.R. (Ed.)


(available from NCADI, P.O. Box 2345, Rockville, MD 20847-2345; 800-729-6686, Inventory Number M130.)

Data are presented on recent findings from theory-driven research studies on the etiology of substance use among minority youth. Information regarding methodological problems and other barriers affecting the lack and quality of research in this field also is presented. Issues under discussion include cultural identification, acculturation, integrating mainstream and subcultural explanations of drug use, social network theory, interactional theory, self-report validity, survey techniques, and data collection.

Self-Rejection/Derogation, Peer Factors, and Alcohol, Drug, and Cigarette Use among a Sample of Hispanic, African-American, and White Non-Hispanic Adolescents


Data from the first two waves of a longitudinal study are reported on the relationships between self-rejection/derogation and substance use among a multiracial/ethnic sample of adolescents (n=4,983). Significant increases were found for all three groups between Waves 1 and 2. African Americans had the lowest rates at both time periods. Peer factors, rejection/derogation, and race/ethnicity were significant predictors of alcohol and cigarette use but not of illicit drug use. Peer factors were more powerful predictors of substance use than rejection/derogation. Interaction analyses indicated peer and rejection/derogation factors were independent predictors of substance use.

African-Centered Drug Treatment: Alternative Conceptual Paradigm for Drug Counseling with African-American Clients

Rowe, D.; Grills, C.

An alternative conceptual framework is presented for understanding the culturally normative behavior of African-
Americans in substance abuse treatment and recovery, based on an appreciation of core African-centered beliefs. Key ontological and epistemological assumptions of traditional clinical and counseling interventions are presented that highlight the differences between traditional goals and theories and the proposed alternative conceptual system and treatment strategies. Implications for African-centered treatment and future research on the course of addiction and recovery among African-Americans are discussed.
Groups, Organizations, and Programs

African American Family Services
(formerly the Institute on Black Chemical Abuse Resource Center)
2616 Nicollet Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55408
612-871-7878

Al-Anon/Alateen Family Group Headquarters, Inc.
P.O. Box 862
Midtown Station
New York, NY 10018-0862
800-344-2666 (USA)
800-443-4525 (Canada)

Alcoholics Anonymous
World Services Inc.
475 Riverside Dr.
New York, NY 10115
212-870-3400

Black Congress on Health, Law, and Economics (BCHLE)
1025 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Suite 308
Washington, DC 200036
202-659-4020

CDC's National AIDS Clearinghouse
P.O. Box 6003
Rockville, MD 20849-6003
800-458-5231

Center for Science in the Public Interest
1875 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Suite 300
Washington, DC 20009-5728
202-332-9110

Drug Information & Strategy Clearinghouse
P.O. Box 6424
Rockville, MD 20850
800-245-2691

Hazelden Publication and Education
P.O. Box 176
Center City, MN 55012
800-328-9000

Marin Institute for the Prevention of Alcohol and Other Drug Problems
24 Belvedere Street
San Rafael, CA 94901
415-456-5692

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)
511 E. John Carpenter Freeway
Suite 700
Irving, TX 75062
214-744-6233
800-GET-MADD

Nar-Anon Family Groups
P.O. Box 2562
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274
213-547-5800

Narcotics Anonymous
P.O. Box 9999
Van Nuys, CA 91409
818-780-3951

National Association of African-Americans for Positive Imagery
Reverend Jesse Brown, Jr.
3536 North 16th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19140
215-225-5232

National Black Alcoholism Council
1629 K Street NW, Suite 802
Washington, DC 20006
202-296-2696
National Black Chamber of Commerce (NBCC)
2000 L Street, NW
Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036
202-416-1622

National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information
P.O. Box 2345
Rockville, MD 20847-2345
800-729-6686
800-487-4889 TDD

National Cocaine Hotline
800-COCAINELINE

National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, Inc. (NCADD)
12 West 21st, 7th Floor
New York, NY 10017
800-NCA-CALL

National Urban League, Inc.
Substance Abuse Programs
500 East 62nd Street
New York, NY 10021
212-310-9000

Office of Minority Health Resource Center
P.O. Box 37337
Washington, DC 20013-7337
800-444-6472

Parents' Resource Institute for Drug Education, Inc. (PRIDE)
50 Hurt Plaza, Suite 210
Atlanta, GA 30303
404-577-4500
800-677-7433

Rational Recovery Systems
P.O. Box 800
Lotus, CA 95651
916-621-2667

Rutgers University Center of Alcohol Studies Library
P.O. Box 969
Piscataway, NJ 08855-0969
908-932-4442

Students Against Driving Drunk (SADD)
200 Pleasant Street
Marlboro, MA 01752
508-481-3568
## Internet Access Sites

### Federal Resources

- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**
  
  http://www.cdc.gov/cdc.htm

- **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services**
  
  http://www.os.dhhs.gov/

- **National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information (NCADI) and PREVline**
  
  ftp://ftp.health.org
  
  gopher://gopher.health.org
  
  http://www.health.org

- **National Health Information Center**
  
  http://nhic-nt.health.org/

- **National Institutes of Health**
  
  http://www.nih.gov/

- **Office of Minority Health**
  
  http://www.os.dhhs.gov/progorg/ophs/omh/

- **Partnership Against Violence Network (PAVnet)**
  
  gopher://cyfer.esusda.gov:70/11/violence
  
  http://www.usdoj.gov/pavnet.htm

- **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration**
  
  http://www.samhsa.gov/

### Other Resources

- **Alcoholics Anonymous**
  
  http://www.alcoholics-anonymous.org/

- **African Studies (University of Pennsylvania)**
  
  http://www.sas.upenn.edu/African_Studies/AS.html

- **Children's Defense Fund**
  
  http://www.tmn.com/cdf/index.html

- **Hazelden**
  
  http://www.hazelden.org/

- **Join Together Online**
  
  http://www.jointogether.org/jointogether.html

- **Men’s Issues Page**
  
  http://info-sys.home.vix.com/men/

- **Minority Health Network**
  
  http://www.pitt.edu/~ejbr/min/

- **Mothers Against Drunk Driving**
  
  http://www.gran-net.com/madd/madd.htm

- **National Parent Information Network**
  
  http://ericps.ed.uiuc.edu/npin/npinhome.html

- **Resources for Diversity**
  
  http://www.nova.edu/Inter-Links/diversity.html

- **SafetyNet: Domestic Violence Resources**
  
  http://www.cybergrrl.com/dv.html

- **The Universal Black Pages**
  
  http://www.gatech.edu/bgsa/blackpages.html
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