KBS Thematic Meeting: International Conference on Intoxication and Aggressive Behaviour

Organiser: Robin Room
Place: Toronto
Dates: 7-10 October 1996

- draft program
- abstracts

Intoxication and Aggressive Behavior: Understanding and Preventing Alcohol-Related Violence

October 7-10, 1996
Hotel Plaza II
Toronto, Canada

Unless otherwise specified, all sessions will take place in the High Park Ballroom

Saturday, October 5th
Early arrivals will get together for dinner (meet in hotel lobby at 7:00 pm)

Sunday, October 6th
6:00 pm Reception in Room 549 for out-of-town participants

Monday, October 7th
9:00 Welcome

9:30-11:00

Chair: Kate Graham
"Predicting Alcohol Related and Sober Marital Violence Among Newlywed Couples," Brian M. Quigley and Kenneth E. Leondard, Research Institute on Addictions, Buffalo, NY, U.S.A.

"Alcohol, Aggression and Mood in Violent Spousal Relationships," Bodil Lindfors, K. Kanninen and J. Peijari Abo Akademi, Abo, Finland


Discussant: Stuart Taylor, U.S.A.

11:00-11:30 BREAK

11:30-12:30

Chair: Lynda Corneal
Panel on Role of Alcohol in Violence Against Women in Relationships: Brief Overview of Research Issues

Kenneth Leonard--Toronto Star series on spousal violence
Jane Armstrong--Representative of Women's Shelter/Substance Program

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12:30-2:00 LUNCH (not provided)  
2:00-3:00

Chair: Mark Gibson

"Alcohol and Hypermasculinity as Determinants of Men's Perceptions of a Female Victim in Eroticized Rape," Jeanette Norris, William H. George, Kelly L. Cue, Joel Martell and R. Jacob Leonesio, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Institute, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, U.S.A.

"Courtship, Dating and Drinking from a Male Perspective: A Qualitative Analysis of the Issues," Jackie Ferris, BBM Bureau of Management, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Discussant: Ralf Lindman, Finland

3:00-3:30 BREAK

3:30-4:30

Chair: Marjana Martinic

Relation Between Excessive Drinking and Marital Violence in Mexico, Guillermima Natera, Instituto Mexicano de Psiquiatria, Mexico

Alcohol, Aggression and Violent Acts: A Case Study from a Slum Population of Delhi Hark Kesh Sharma All India Institute on Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India

Discussant: Brian Quigley, U.S.A.

5:00-7:00 Reception at Hart House with cash bar

Tuesday, October 8th

9:00-11:00

Chair: Colleen Tessier

"Qualitative Analyses of Sexually Aggressive Incidents Involving Alcohol," Kathleen Parks, Maria Testa, Jennifer Livingston and Lisa Zanatta, Research Institute on Addictions, Buffalo, NY, U.S.A.

"Alcohol and Acquaintance Rape: How and Why are They Linked?" Antonia Abbey, Pam McAuslan and Tina Zawacki, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI, U.S.A.

Discussant: T. Cameron Wild., Canada

"Blame and Punishment for Alcohol-Related Aggression: Factors Affecting Judgements About the Perpetrator," T. Cameron Wild, Kathryn Graham, Jürgen Rehm, and Angela Paglia, Addiction Research Foundation, London, Ontario, Canada

"Toward a Jurisprudence of the Intoxication Defence: In Search of Principle," Martin Shain and Gillian Higgins, Addiction Research Foundation, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Discussant: Roland Gustafson, Sweden

11:00-11:30 BREAK
11:30-12:30

Chair: Robin Room
*Panel on Alcohol as a Defense in Crimes of Violence*

12:30-2:00 LUNCH (not provided)

2:00-3:00

Chair: Gillian McIlwain

"Experimental Investigation of Alcohol-Instigated Aggression," Stuart Taylor, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio, U.S.A.

"Cognitive Performance and the Inhibition of Alcohol-Induced Aggression," Peter Hoaken, Jean Marc Assaad, and Robert O. Pihl, McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Discussant: Stephen Chermack, U.S.A.

3:00-3:30 BREAK

3:30-4:30

Chair: Robert Murray

"The Biphasic Effects of Alcohol Metabolism on Human Aggression," Peter R. Giancola, Amos Zeichner and Christopher S. Martin, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, U.S.A.


Discussant: Robert Pihl, Canada

**Wednesday, October 9th**

9:00-11:00

Chair: Ernie Lang


"Theoretical Explanations for the Alcohol and Aggression Relationship: Fact & Fantasy," Robert O. Pihl, McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Discussant: Kenneth Leonard, U.S.A.

"Applying Theories of Alcohol-Related Aggression to Real World Data," Kathryn Graham, Samantha Wells and Paulette West, Addiction Research Foundation, London, Ontario, Canada


Discussant: Antonia Abbey, U.S.A.

11:00-11:30 BREAK
11:30-12:30

Discussion Session: How Research Methods Influence Research Questions Led by Paulette West and Samantha Wells

12:30-2:00 LUNCH (not provided)

2:00-3:00

Chair: Louis Gliksman

"Alcohol, Drugs and Violence," Deborah A. Dawson, NIAAA, Bethesda, MD, U.S.A.


Discussant: Robin Room, Canada

3:00-3:30 BREAK

3:30-4:30

Chair: Leona Murphy

"The Prevention and Treatment of Alcohol-Related Violence - Programs for Prisoners," Anja Koski-Jännnes, Addiction Research Foundation, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

"Correlates of Verbal or Physical Aggression in Concurrent Psychiatric and Substance Use Disorders," Tony Toneatto, Martin Zack and Kim Calderwood, Addiction Research Foundation, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Discussant: Jeanette Norris, U.S.A.

6:00 pm BANQUET Thursday, October 10th

9:00-11:00

Chair: Jacqueline Jeffrey

"The Roaring Boys. Sociability and Aggression in the Alehouses of Tudor and Stuart England," Jessica Warner, Addiction Research Foundation, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

"The Implementation and Evaluation of the Local Government Safety Action Projects to Reduce Alcohol Related Violence In and Around Licensed Premises," Gillian McIlwain and Marge Hauritz, Alcohol and Drug Services, Gold Coast District Health, Australia

Discussant: Kai Pernanen, Norway


"A Critical Review of Liquor License Accords in Australia," Ernie Lang and Greg Rumbold, Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre Inc., Melbourne, Australia

Discussant: Eric Single, Canada

11:00-11:30 BREAK
11:30-12:30

Chair: Christine Bois

Panel on Policy Issues

Economic costs: Eric Single
Representative from LLBO ?
Community representative Mayor of Windsor

12:30-2:00  LUNCH (not provided)

2:30-4:30

Chair: Kathy Braun

Workshop on Community Action to Reduce Violence Associated with Drinking
ABSTRACTS

ALCOHOL AND ACQUAINTANCE RAPE: HOW AND WHY ARE THEY LINKED?
Antonia Abbey, Pam McAuslan & Tina Zewaski, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI, USA.

Approximately one-quarter of women have experienced some type of sexual assault (Kanin, 1985; Koss et al., 1987; Muehlenhard & Linton, 1987; Russell, 1982). At least half of these sexual assaults involve alcohol consumption by the perpetrator, the victim, or both. Although the co-occurrence of alcohol and sexual assault has been described by many researchers, little is known about how and why they are linked.

Abbey and her colleagues (1991; 1994; 1996) have been developing a model to explain alcohol's role in sexual assaults which occur among acquaintances during social interactions. Gender differences in beliefs and experiences with dating, sexuality, and alcohol are hypothesized to increase the likelihood that a man misperceives a female companion's sexual intentions, and that this misperception leads to sexual assault. This model of alcohol's role in sexual assault is not intended to explain all types of sexual assault (e.g., not relevant to stranger assaults) or all causes of sexual assault (e.g., perpetrator's childhood experiences).

ALCOHOL, DRUGS AND VIOLENCE, Deborah A. Dawson, Ph.D., National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, Bethesda, Maryland, USA.

In a representative U.S. sample of 18,352 current drinkers 18 years of age and over, past-year alcohol or other drug-related fighting and suicide attempt/ideation both showed strong positive bivariate associations with volume of alcohol intake, proportion of drinking days resulting in intoxication (the intoxication index) and past-year drug use, especially multiple drug use. After adjusting for potential confounders in a series of multiple logistic regression models, average daily ethanol intake retained a significant positive association with the odds of alcohol- and other drug-related fighting, as did the intoxication index -- except among drinkers who used marijuana only (i.e., no other drugs). The odds of this outcome also were increased by use of simulants or cocaine only, use of multiple drugs and use of marijuana -- the latter primarily among women. The odds of past-year suicide attempt/ideation were positively associated with the intoxication index but were not significantly associated with average daily ethanol intake. The only two classes of drug use associated with this outcome were sedatives/tranquilizers only and multiple drugs. Because drug use was positively associated with alcohol use, models restricted to only alcohol or only drug use measures overestimated some of their associations with the two outcome measures. Simultaneous use of alcohol and drugs was not significantly associated with the odds of either of the outcomes considered in this analysis, but the data were suggestive of a positive effect of simultaneous use on alcohol and drug-related fighting.


THE BIPHASIC EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL METABOLISM ON HUMAN AGGRESSION, Peter R. Giancola, Amos Zeichner & Christopher S. Martin, Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic, Department of Psychiatry, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 15213-2593.

The purpose of this study was to assess the biphasic effects of alcohol metabolism on human aggression. Subsequent to the ingestion of an acute dose of alcohol, the Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) curve follows a biphasic trajectory characterized by an ascending followed by a descending limb reflecting alcohol absorption and elimination. Sixty male social drinkers were assigned to one of four groups: Alcohol Ascending Limb (AAL), Alcohol Descending Limb (ADL), Control Ascending Limb (CAL), and Control Descending Limb (CDL). Aggression was assessed in the AAL and ADL groups at respective ascending or descending BACs of 0.08%. Each participant in the CAL and the CDL group was respectively yoked with a participant in either the AAL or the ADL group to control for the longer period of time needed to reach a BAC of 0.08% on the descending limb compared to the ascending limb (passage of time effect). Aggression was measured using a modified version of the Taylor aggression paradigm in which electric shocks were received from and administered to a fictitious opponent during a competitive
task. Aggression was operationalized as the intensity and duration of the shocks selected. Results demonstrated that the AAL group was more aggressive than the ADL group. There were no differences between the ADL group and the control groups suggesting that alcohol does not appear to increase aggression on the descending limb. Finally, the control groups did not differ in aggression thus ruling out a passage of time effect. These results indicate that aggression may be selective to the ascending limb of the BAC curve, therefore suggesting that a particular BAC may not be as important in predicting aggression as is the limb upon which it is measured. The findings are discussed with respect to their methodological and conceptual implications for past and future research. Moreover, a hypothetical etiological framework of intoxicated aggression is also presented.


This study will report on the prevalence of alcohol-related incidents of violence and other problems in municipal facilities which issue special occasion permits that permit the sale and/or use of alcohol for a specific function and for a limited amount of time. Municipalities rent their facilities in order to generate revenue and to provide a venue to the residents of the community for special functions. Associated with these events are often a whole host of problems with which the managers of these facilities and municipal politicians have to deal. These problems include the drinking and driving, vandalism, fights, the use of police personnel to intervene in such incidents, and so on.

In addition, the presentation will describe an intervention, Municipal Alcohol Policies (MAP), which seeks to address and redress these problems through the development and implementation of alcohol policies with which renters are intended to comply. A description of the program and the impact that this intervention has had on these problems in facilities of municipalities which have adopted specific policies will be provided as well.

APPLYING THEORIES OF ALCOHOL-RELATED AGGRESSION TO NATURALLY-OCCURRING INCIDENTS, Kathryn Graham, Samantha Wells & Paulette West, Addiction Research Foundation.

Many theories have been proposed to explain the relationship between alcohol intoxication and aggressive behavior. Explanations have been based on characteristics of the drinker, aspects of the drinking situation, specific effects of alcohol, and interactions among these factors. Evaluations of specific hypotheses or theories have found some support for a number of those proposed. Given the wide range of explanations for which support has been found, it seems exceedingly unlikely that a single theory or explanation will account for alcohol-related aggression. Instead, there are probably multiple causes of such behavior. Some causes may interact and some may be systematically related to specific types of aggression.

In order to address the question "What causes intoxicated aggressive behavior?" as opposed to the question usually posed, namely "Does x or y cause intoxicated aggressive behavior?", theories need to be translated into behavioral criteria. This paper reviews explanations of alcohol-related aggression. For each theory, where possible, behavioral criteria will be identified that can be used for assessing the extent that any particular instance of naturally-occurring alcohol-related aggression can be attributed to one or more hypothesized explanations.


The influence of drinking-in-the-event on the odds of physical assault perpetration and victimization was examined utilizing data collected for the 1990 U.S. National Alcohol Survey (N=2,058). This national survey was the first study to collect crime and victimization data as well as in-depth alcohol consumption measures. Extending the investigators' previous research, which showed lifetime drinking history and impulsivity to be associated with physical assault perpetration and victimization, the present study found that drinking-in-the-event is more strongly associated with physical assaults than most of the other social,
personality, or drinking history characteristics. A drinking perpetrator was most likely to report attacking another person who had been drinking, and drinking victims were most likely to be male and report that their attacker also had been drinking. Women who had ever been married were most likely to report, although nonsignificantly (p=.09), that they were drinking when attacked; however, the drinking status of the perpetrator was not associated with women’s victimization. The discussion focuses on the need for further contextual information in order to develop effective prevention strategies.

COGNITIVE PERFORMANCE AND THE INHIBITION OF ALCOHOL-INDUCED AGGRESSION, P.N.S. Hoaken, J.M. Assaad & R.O. Pihl, McGill University, Montreal, Canada.

This study considers the effects of cognitive performance, alcohol, and inhibition on aggressive responding. 43 males, aged 18-30, selected on the basis of high performance on a neuropsychological “executive” test, competed in a modified version of the Taylor Aggression Task. Half the subjects were acutely alcohol intoxicated, the other half were sober. Furthermore, half the subjects in each of these groups received monetary reward for choosing lower shocks. Aggression was defined as shock intensity delivered to a sham opponent. Contrary to the hypothesis, intoxicated subjects even though significantly impaired on tasks putatively assessing frontal lobe functioning, appeared to have no difficulty inhibiting their aggression in order to gain monetary reward. This suggests that in some populations there is residual functioning, which allows for inhibition of aggression while intoxicated.

THE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF ALCOHOL-RELATED VIOLENCE-PROGRAMS FOR PRISONERS, Anja Koski-Jännes, Department of Social Psychology, PL 4 00014, University of Helsinki, Finland (will have moved to the Addiction Research Foundation by the time of the conference).

The great majority of the people in the prisons of the Western world are known to be addicted to alcohol or other psychoactive substances. A considerable proportion of them have been convicted due to alcohol-related violence. Once in prison the probability of getting a new sentence for similar reasons tends to grow fast.

After the "nothing works" (Martinson 1975) mentality towards prisoner rehabilitation in the late seventies and early eighties there has been a growing interest to develop more effective treatment and rehabilitation programs for offenders both in Europe and North-America. Considerable attention has been devoted particularly to the prevention and treatment of addictive behaviors among prisoners. Even though the success rate of these programs is still rather low, any progress in this critical area should be greeted with enthusiasm.

This presentation reviews aspects of effective programs for addicted offenders and discusses points to be noted when developing new programs for the prevention of alcohol-related violence.

A CRITICAL REVIEW OF LOCAL LIQUOR INDUSTRY ACCORDS IN AUSTRALIA, Ernie Lang & Greg Rumbold, Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre Inc., Fitzroy, Australia.

The findings from the National Committee on Violence and a National Symposium on Alcohol and Violence have encouraged a growing interest in locally-based initiatives to deal with the problem of alcohol-related violence in and around licensed premises. The first initiatives to emerge were in the form of local Accords between police and licensees, with varying degrees of input and support from local government, licensing authorities, the various liquor industry associations and the local community. To date none of these Accords have had any legislative backing, nor have they been underpinned by signed agreements, relying solely on the good will and cooperation of the various parties, a so-called "gentleman’s agreement." The early success claimed by the pioneering Accords has resulted in their proliferation in all States and Territories, in inner city locations, popular tourist resorts, regional cities and smaller regional centres. However, the claims of success were premature in the case of two of the better known Accords - the West End Forum and the Surfers Paradise Project - while a third, the Geelong Local Industry Accord, is indisputably the most successful to date as a result of a claimed dramatic reduction in violence in and around late-night entertainment venues. This paper reviews these three Accords in order to identify what does and does not work, with particular attention being paid to the Geelong Accord as its evaluation may
have implications for a number of Accords being implemented elsewhere using it as a model. The paper concludes with a brief discussion of current moves toward a more holistic approach in dealing with alcohol-related violence as exemplified in the Safer City Project in central Melbourne which evolved to replace the failed West End Forum. It is suggested that unless notice is taken of the lessons learned from this, and from other Accords, then this project may well suffer the same fate.

ALCOHOL, AGGRESSION AND MOOD IN VIOLENT SPOUSAL RELATIONSHIPS, B. Lindfors, K. Kanninen & J. Peijari, Department of Psychology, Abo Akademi, Finland.

The effects of intervention on drinking and violence between spouses were explored. Nineteen volunteer couples with a background of physical violence were interviewed three times over a period of seventeen months. After the first in-depth interview (approximately 3 h/person), two groups of couples who wanted to attend weekly problem-focused discussion groups (10 x 2 h) were formed. The first group was treated before the second interview, the second between the second and third interviews. Changes in violent behavior (CTS), alcohol use, alcohol expectancies (AEQ), depression (Beck), locus of control (LC), jealousy, interaction of the couples were compared between those couples who had attended discussion groups (N=6) and those that did not (N=13). Alcohol consumption, physical violence, verbal aggression, depression, external locus of control and jealousy scores decreased for all participants during the study. Women were more depressed than men overall, whereas men were more jealous. There were no changes in alcohol expectancies, nor any sex differences in this respect. Generally, the results supported the positive impact of any intervention, either in the form of discussion groups or mere interviews. The relationship between decreased alcohol use and measurements of violence, depression, and LC is discussed.

SOBER-STATE CORTISOL AS A PREDICTOR OF DRUNKEN VIOLENCE, Ralf Lindman1, Anu Aromaki1 & C.J. Peter Eriksson2, Department of Psychology1, Abo Akademi University, Turku, Finland, Department of Alcohol Research2, National Public Health Institute, Helsinki, Finland.

Objective: Basal testosterone and cortisol levels in violently and nonviolently predisposed men were compared to those in alcoholics and control subjects. Method: Prisoners convicted of aggressive crimes were compared to individuals previously convicted of similar crimes but currently at large, to nonviolent alcoholics and to randomly selected control males. Morning, afternoon, and evening levels of serum testosterone and cortisol were assessed after a minimum alcohol abstinence period of 24 hours. Trait hostility was assessed by the SCL-90 and proneness to anger and physical aggression by the Buss-Durkee Hostility Inventory. Structured interviews were conducted to determine DSM-III-R Antisocial Personality Disorder (ASP). Alcoholism was assessed by MAST.

Results: The violently predisposed men scored higher on anger and physical aggression compared to alcoholics and controls, and the majority were diagnosed as suffering from ASP and drinking problems. Violent and nonviolent men did not differ in serum total testosterone on any sampling occasion but hostility was well predicted by day testosterone levels among the violent men. Nonviolent alcoholics did not differ from the control subjects in terms of cortisol. Among the violent men, however, those currently at large with daily access to alcohol had significantly higher cortisol levels than the prisoners who lacked access to alcohol. The high sober-state cortisol levels of the violently predisposed men at large were similar to those previously observed in sober spouse abusers.

Conclusions: Environmental as well as dispositional factors may determine variations in cortisol. The low basal cortisol levels in the violent prisoners may reflect their lack of access to alcohol while the elevated sober-state cortisol in the violently predisposed men at large may reflect stress or withdrawal symptoms from the previous drinking episode.

THE IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT SAFETY ACTION PROJECTS TO REDUCE ALCOHOL RELATED VIOLENCE IN AND AROUND LICENSED VENUES: THE KNOWLEDGE GAINED FROM THE SURFERS PARADISE PROJECT AND REPLICATIONS IN CAIRNS, TOWNSVILLE AND MACKAY STUDIES, Gillian McIlwain & Marge Hauritz, Alcohol and Drug Services, Gold Coast District Health, Australia.
The Surfers Paradise Safety Action Project demonstrated that alcohol-related violence in and around licensed venues can be significantly reduced using a community-based approach which includes licensees in addition to traditional health, police and licensing authorities. As one of the few Australian data-based evaluation study of its kind, the approach incorporated the principles of harm-minimisation, intersectoral collaboration, informal and formal compliance with Codes of Practice and legislation as well as situational crime prevention strategies. Given the significant reductions in violence achieved, the project was replicated across three diverse communities to assess the dependability and validity of the approach taken. Importantly, the core elements of the original study were implemented and tailored for community differences where necessary. This implementation process, now trialled across four settings has revealed important information about the changing implementation process, the structure and responsibilities of the Steering Committee and Task Forces, timeliness of actions, sequencing of actions, major milestones, policy and political management of the projects. Particularly important is the significance of the interactive relationship developed between regulators, community and licensees. Because of the pervasive reach of alcohol into many aspects of community life, the latter stage of the implementation process (i.e., the maintenance stage) is showing a common trend across all projects in that project officers are providing valuable input to other community activities which aim to make communities safer. This paper will present the implementation methodology and findings across these four trial projects for each of the identified stages in the implementation process with particular focus on the interactive relationship between informal regulation (community), formal regulators (police) and self-regulation (licensees).

RELATION BETWEEN EXCESSIVE DRINKING AND MARITAL VIOLENCE IN MEXICO, G. Natera et al.

This paper presents data from a general population survey carried out in the southern area of Mexico City. This representative sample the zone consists on 1486 households randomly selected, where 554 males and 929 females older than 15 years were interviewed.

The objective was to approach the perception of domestic violence, specially violence aimed to women inside marital relationships and its relation with alcohol. Two different questionnaires were applied, the first one explores the frequency of violence occurrence in the zone. The second questionnaire was applied only to women whom had lived with a partner, it explores alcohol and other drugs consumption and violence.

Preliminary results show that the perception of domestic violence is greater than drinking perception. 15% of family arguments are attributed to drinking by one family member, 21.6% of women had had a first union with an abusive partner who drank on daily basis and only 5.1% of women reported a second union with an abusive drinker partner.

ALCOHOL AND HYPERMASCULINITY AS DETERMINANTS OF MEN'S PERCEPTIONS OF A FEMALE VICTIM IN EROTICIZED RAPE, Jeanette Norris, William H. George, Kelly L. Cue, Joel Martell, & R. Jacob Leonesio.

Two variables that have been implicated in male sexual aggression towards women are hostile masculinity (Malamuth et al., 1995) and alcohol. Malamuth et al.’s (1995) confluence model hypothesizes that hostile masculinity, which includes a hostile and distrustful orientation toward women and a desire to dominate them, converges with a noncommittal, gameplaying orientation towards sex in men to effect sexual aggression. Alcohol consumption can influence the commission of sexual aggression either through direct physiological or expectancy effects. In addition, the presence of alcohol in a situation can act as a permissive cue to enhance sexual aspects of a male-female encounter and diminish perceptions of aggression. This study was designed to examine both the independent influences of hostile masculinity and alcohol and their interactions on men's self-reported judgments of a female victim in a sexually explicit story involving sexual aggression. One hundred nineteen male subjects participated in a between-subjects experiment that varied subjects’ beverage condition (alcohol vs. placebo vs. tonic), story characters’ beverage (alcohol vs. mineral water) and female story character's emotional response (pleasure vs. distress). The target BAL for subjects receiving alcohol was 0.06 mg%. Hostile masculinity was assessed as a background variable by means of the Hypermasculinity Scale (Mosher & Sirkin, 1984). Results showed several main effects for hypermasculinity, as well as interactions between it and the manipulated variables. In general, men high on hypermasculinity responded more positively to the story than those low on this trait. Interactions between hypermasculinity and the alcohol variables will be discussed in terms of both Malamuth et al.’s confluence model and the alcohol myopia model.

QUALITATIVE ANALYSES OF SEXUALLY AGGRESSIVE INCIDENTS INVOLVING ALCOHOL, **Kathleen Parks, Maria Testa, Jennifer Livingston & Lisa Zanatta**, Research Institute on Addictions, Buffalo, NY.

Conventionally wisdom and systematic reviews of the alcohol and sexual aggression literature indicate that alcohol contributes to the sexual victimization of women. However, the precise nature of the relationship remains unclear. In two studies of women drinkers, qualitative descriptions of unpleasant sexual experiences involving alcohol were obtained. Qualitative analyses of women's accounts provide descriptions of the ways in which alcohol can increase risk for sexual aggression. For example, women described alcohol as impairing their perceptions and judgements of situations and men, and decreasing their ability and desire to stop unwanted sexual advances and acts. The intentional use of alcohol and drugs, by men, to incapacitate women and facilitate unwanted intercourse were also portrayed. Furthermore, public drinking settings (i.e., bars, clubs) were often reported as the point of initial contact between the perpetrator and victim. This paper will integrate the findings from these qualitative studies with recent reviews of alcohol and sexual victimization.

SOME CONCEPTUAL ISSUES IN THE THEORY OF ALCOHOL-RELATED AGGRESSION, **Kai Pernanen**, National Institute for Alcohol and Drug Research, Oslo, Norway.

It is argued in the paper that several conceptual issues must be addressed before we can assess the validity of some common explanations of alcohol-related aggression. Two types of such conceptual matters are discussed.

The first part of the paper is concerned with the conceptual activity of scientists as they try to define, understand and explain phenomena associated with alcohol-related behavior. The discussion focuses on the central concepts of "disinhibition" and "expectancy". Different uses of the disinhibition concept and their descriptive and explanatory status are described. Generally, the concept is poorly defined, and its explanatory status ambiguous. With regard to the expectancy concept, it is important to specify the ontological status of expectancies. Are they, for example, entities that are subject only to a binary (on/off) process as they are activated and deactivated by a stimulus or cue (this is how they seem to be treated in much of the literature), or are they cognitive (and semantic) entities that have an internal linguistic and thus cognitive structure. The answers to such questions will have a bearing on if and how alcohol can affect expectancies, and what kinds of explanations can make use of the expectancy concept.

The second major issue dealt with in the paper concerns the conceptual activity of human actors under the influence of alcohol. The special nature of intoxicated cognition and conceptualization, and the relevance that it may have for the explanation of alcohol-related behavior (including aggression) are discussed. Alcohol-related aggression typically develops through interactional episodes. In these situations many alcohol-linked and other types of expectancies are activated, but so are conceptual processes which do not easily fit under the expectancy concept. It is argued that we need theoretical entities that reflect the relatively complex structure of human cognitive activity (drunk or sober). It is also suggested how verbal behaviors that seem "d uninhibited" can be explained by the effects that alcohol has on the drinker's conceptual abilities, and generally how a cognitive approach may help us explain alcohol-related behavior and affect.

THEORETICAL EXPLANATIONS FOR THE ALCOHOL AND AGGRESSION RELATIONSHIP: FACT & FANTASY, **Robert O. Pihl**, Department of Psychology, McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

The alcohol-aggression relationship is both real and substantial. The effect is neither one of alcohol or expectancy per se but an interactive process between pharmacological effects operating upon a social-psychological-historical-current context. Biological systems, variously labeled, that impact the likelihood of an aggressive response, which are altered by various drugs, include the anxiety, the psychomotor, and pain systems. Particular cognitive functions, also affected in turn significantly modulate the activity of these systems. Although, variations and state-trait differences in these systems explain the likelihood of an
aggressive response per se as well as the alcohol-aggression correlation they are modifiable at each level of analyses from the molecular to the societal.

PREDICTING ALCOHOL RELATED AND SOBER MARITAL VIOLENCE AMONG NEWLYWED COUPLES, Brian M. Quigley & Kenneth E. Leonard, Research Institute on Addictions, Buffalo, New York.

The effects of drinking, alcohol expectancies, and conflict style on husband alcohol related aggression and severe violence in the first year of marriage were examined. Drinking and conflict predicted alcohol related aggression but husband’s expectancy that alcohol causes aggressive behavior and husband’s tolerance of intoxicated behavior did not. Alcohol expectancies did predict severe violence in the marriage, however, the more the husband believed alcohol caused aggression and the more tolerant the husband was of intoxication the less severe violence occurred in the marriage. Additionally, expectancies interacted with marital conflict and drinking. Among those did not believe alcohol causes aggression, the more conflict which occurred in the marriage the more severe violence occurred. Heavy drinkers who did not believe alcohol causes aggression had more severe violence than heavy drinkers who did believe alcohol causes aggression. Results are discussed in terms of alcohol expectancy measures tapping general constructs of tolerance and attitudes toward antinormative behavior. It is recommended that future research on the effect of alcohol expectancies better define the construct and examine more complex interactions among variables.

TOWARD A JURISPRUDENCE OF THE INTOXICATION DEFENCE: IN SEARCH OF PRINCIPLE, Martin Shain & Gillian Higgins, Addiction Research Foundation, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

This paper is an attempt to apply an emerging method of research, "legal praxeology", to the study of decisions concerning intoxication as a defence to criminal charges. This method is based on the observation that judges import their own values, attitudes and beliefs into their decisions in identifiable ways. We observed this phenomenon in 40 cases and were able to deduce that judicial views about the intoxication defence are organized around two major constructs which themselves are drawn from the substrate of judicial views concerning the basis of criminal liability in general. The resulting two-dimensional analytic framework was then applied to the leading Canadian case, R.v. Daviault [1994]3 SCR 63. We observe that majority and minority opinions of the Supreme Court in Daviault fall out along the dimensions extracted from the 40 cases, as does the text of the legislative amendment introduced in the wake of the decision (Bill C-72, now S.33.1 of the Criminal Code of Canada). In Daviault, the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms plays a significant role in challenging the judges of the Supreme Court to identify their fundamental values and beliefs. We conclude that the Charter is a benign catalyst to the development of legal praxeology in that it calls for a more declarative, and thus public jurisprudence. Charter-assisted legal praxeology goes some way toward revealing the great social value tensions locked up in what, at first, appear to be purely legal doctrinal disputes concerning the scope and application of the intoxication defence.

ALCOHOL, AGGRESSION AND VIOLENT ACTS: A CASE STUDY FROM A SLUM POPULATION OF DELHI, Hark Kesh Sharma, All India Institute on Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India.

In recent years, alcohol production has been synomised with economic development and source of revenue in majority of the developing countries. India is no longer an exception and during the last three decades there has been manifold increase in the production and consumption of alcoholic beverages. The steady increase has its own implications in terms of adverse public health and severe strain on the family and community at large. These implications are also manifested among the weaker sections and other vulnerable groups when they fall victims of alcohol related aggressive behaviour, violence and crime. In the present communication, attempts have been made to explore the nature of alcohol/drug related violent acts among these vulnerable groups and ascertain socio-cultural factors of disinhibition in aggression.

The empirical work is based on assessment of alcohol related problems to provide primary health care services in a slum cluster of Delhi. The slum cluster with a population of 20,000 is inhabited by folk-artist families and other migrant workers and is known for heavy alcohol consumption and also stigmatised for violent behaviour. A majority of these folk-artists and their families has rationalised alcohol use and associated drunken behaviour with skills, performance and living conditions. The ethnographic accounts
over the last 3 years show the role of alcohol in 17 to 25 percent of cases of spouse and child abuse and inter and intra group social conflicts, quarrels and fights. The violent acts and risks are more in the alcohol families and in this respect women, children and elderly are the silent sufferers.

Besides treatment of problematic drinkers, socio-cultural intervention is being focused on social environment, attitudinal changes among the sufferers and women empowerment.

EXPERIMENTAL INVESTIGATION OF ALCOHOL-INSTIGATED AGGRESSION, Stuart Taylor, Department of Psychology, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio, USA.

The purpose of my presentation is to discuss the research that has been conducted in my laboratory on the experimental investigation of alcohol-elicited aggression. I intend to discuss three issues. First, I will summarize the research I have conducted on the aggression-instigating effects of alcohol. Second, I will discuss the research we have done concerning the expectancy and psychopharmacological models of the alcohol-aggression relationship. An attempt will be made to empirically demonstrate the relative merits of these models. Third, research on the interactive effects of alcohol and other drugs will be presented. Finally, an attempt will be made to demonstrate that aggression is not the inevitable result of alcohol consumption. Research will be presented to show that the instigating effects of alcohol can be prevented or altered by cues which enhance self-reflection. An implication of this research is that alcohol-elicited aggression is preventable through education and community intervention.

CORRELATES OF VERBAL OR PHYSICAL AGGRESSION IN CONCURRENT PSYCHIATRIC AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS, Tony Toneatto, Martin Zack & Kim Calderwood, Mental Health Unit, Addiction Research Foundation.

Since 1992, individuals with substance abuse/dependence and other non-psychotic Axis I psychiatric disorders have been assessed and treated on the Mental Health Unit of the Addiction Research Foundation. The comprehensive intake, diagnostic and psychometric assessment includes the assessment of intoxication-related aggression (physical and verbal). This article will present data summarizing the sociodemographic, substance use history, and psychiatric characteristics of a sub-sample of individuals who report physical aggression (n=62), verbal aggression (n=89) and no aggression (n=241) while intoxicated by alcohol. Preliminary analyses indicate that individuals who are either/or verbally physically aggressive reported significantly more family substance abuse, contact with mental health professionals and psychiatric hospitalizations than those with no aggression. These individuals also report a significantly more chronic history of substance use problems and more frequent attempts to quit or reduce substance use than those who reported no aggression. Physical (but not verbal) aggression was significantly related to more polydrug use and more frequent arrests due to intoxication. Individuals reporting alcohol-related physical aggression were also found to have significantly higher scores on the obsessive-compulsive, depression, anger-hostility, paranoid ideation subscales as well as significantly higher overall global score on the Symptom Checklist-90-R, a widely used and validated measure of current psychiatric distress. Alcohol was also more likely to be rated a major or very major problem if the individual also reported a history of physical and verbal aggression than if no intoxication-related aggression was reported. There were no statistical differences on any sociodemographic variable between aggressors and non-aggressors. Implications of substance-related aggression as a predictor of treatment course and outcome for concurrent substance use and psychiatric disorder will be discussed.


This paper documents the rituals, games, and other practices observed by groups of male drinkers in Tudor and Stuart England. It examines the extent to which practices of this sort served to promote sociability and deflect aggression among groups whose ties to the community were in fact very weak. Other sources of tensions and potential conflict within these groups included underemployment, low wages, and the related problem of being unable to afford to marry. The rituals observed by these groups ranged form games designed to mock or reverse the existing social order, as in the creation of corporations and drunkards academies, to rituals such as pledging healths, in which the object was frequently one of thinly veiled aggression toward rivals who were pressured into drinking to the point of losing control. It is argued that groups of male drinkers sought to level the differences among themselves, and in the process sought to circumvent the essentially hierarchical basis for social interaction in the early
modern period. The paper concludes that sociability and aggression existed along a continuum, and that rituals designed to control aggression were largely ineffective, most notably because they did not reflect the values of the larger community.

**BLAME AND PUNISHMENT FOR ALCOHOL-RELATED AGGRESSION: FACTORS AFFECTING JUDGEMENTS ABOUT THE PERPETRATOR, T. Cameron Wild, Kathryn Graham, Jürgen Rehm & Angela Paglia, Addiction Research Foundation.**

Anthropological and social-psychological theories propose that intoxicated people will be judged less culpable than relatively sober people for engaging in aggressive behaviour. However, empirical evaluation of this hypothesis has yielded equivocal results. In the present study, a probability sample of 994 Ontario residents rated the causal role of alcohol consumption, blame, and punishment in response to a series of five experimental vignettes that depicted drinking in the context of unwanted touching, date rape, assault and rape, vandalism, and common assault. For all scenarios, respondents believed that the perpetrator’s drinking led to the outcome more when the perpetrator was portrayed as drunk, as opposed to consuming a few drinks or no drinks. However, for four of the five alcohol-related aggression scenarios, judgements that the perpetrator’s drinking led to the outcome were either uncorrelated or negatively correlated with blame and punishment judgements. Instead, blame and punishment judgements were modified by interactions between drinking and (1) intentions to commit the aggressive act, (2) criminal history, and (3) gender of the perpetrator. These results suggest that accounts of perceived causality, blame, and punishment for alcohol-related aggression that rely on single sociocultural factors such as the meaning of intoxication as a “time out” from normative behaviour, or on single attributional principles, such as discounting, are limited.

**EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH ON INTOXICATED AGGRESSION: PAST TRENDS AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS. Martin Zack, Addiction Research Foundation.**

Numerous experimental studies have endeavored to assess the causal effects of alcohol on aggressive behaviour. The majority of these studies have employed some version of the Buss paradigm which measures aggression in terms of the amount of electric shock a subject will deliver to a confederate. The results of these studies indicate that alcohol consumption alone will not increase aggression and that environmental and cognitive variables account for much more variance in aggressive behaviour than alcohol per se. Because the Buss paradigm requires that a subject use shock to communicate with a confederate, either to train a particular response by the confederate or to deter him/her from competing against the subject on a secondary task (e.g., reaction time), these studies appear to be testing instrumental aggression. However, the majority of aggressive acts committed under alcohol in society are noninstrumental or impulsive in nature. As a result, existing experimental findings may not adequately predict or explain intoxicated aggression that occurs outside the laboratory. Whereas instrumental behaviour is governed by its consequences (i.e., reward or punishment), noninstrumental behaviour is emitted regardless of its consequences. Thus, although studies using the Buss paradigm have emphasized the importance of environmental factors, a better understanding of noninstrumental aggression may come from an investigation of intrapersonal (e.g., cognitive) rather than extrapersonal variables. This argument is supported by a recent review of the literature which emphasized the need for more research on the "mechanisms" (i.e., processes) mediating intoxicated aggression, and on the role of personality in this behaviour. Developments in cognitive psychology have made it possible to measure basic processes involved in impulse control. Preliminary evidence using a computerized task with university students indicates that impulse control is a stable trait of an individual, that alcohol reliably impairs impulse control, and that the degree of impairment in impulse control varies greatly across individuals. These findings suggest that performance on this task may identify individuals at risk for impulsive aggression under alcohol. One way to determine the predictive utility of this task would be to test individuals high on the criterion variables, namely, intoxicated aggression. By comparing the task performance of such individuals to the performance of individuals with equivalent chronic exposure to alcohol but no history of aggression, and individuals with no history of alcohol abuse or aggression, it may be possible to determine the contribution of heavy alcohol use to impulsive behaviour under alcohol. By assessing the relative probability of a subject having previously committed aggression under alcohol as opposed to other drugs, it may be possible to clarify whether acute alcohol intoxication interacts with trait deficits in impulse control. The present paper outlines a strategy for conducting this research.