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The Relationship between Affective Family Functioning and Tendency to Consume Alcoholic Beverages

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A B S T R A C T

This study examines the relationship between emotional family atmosphere and tendency to consume alcoholic beverages in the city of Bandar Abbas in 2014-15 years. The statistical population of the study was all male residents of Bandar Abbas city. The sample consisted of 100 subjects: 50 healthy subjects and 50 alcoholic beverages consumer who were selected by simple random sampling method. Family atmosphere inventory of Mouse (1988) was used to collect information. The results showed that two variables of creating sensitivity and explicit expression are as the most influential family variables on the consumption of alcoholic beverages.

Keywords: Emotional Family Atmosphere, Tendency To Consume Alcoholic Beverages.

INTRODUCTION

Historically, major preventive research and interventions develop have been focused on problematic behaviors one of which is alcohol consumption. Alcohol is one of the most commonly abused drugs in the world. Dependence (addiction) to alcohol is often called as alcoholism. Of the consequences and social effects of alcohol consumption is high levels of crime among this group of individuals. Reduction longevity from 10 to 15 years in alcohol-dependent people, increase in suicide, homicide and serious incidents in adolescence and youth, nonfatal loss such as increased risk of heart disease and cancer in adulthood¹, crimes such as sex abuse, mandatory and unwelcomed risky sexual relations (Nguyen et al., 2010), traffic accidents and drunk driving², poor academic performance (Bulmer et al., 2010), committing more serious crimes such as murder, assault, maim and rape, violent crimes and child abuse¹ are the consequences and social effects of alcohol consumption.

Despite the forbiddance of alcohol consumption in many countries, unfortunately alcohol is consumed among youth and young adults constantly or for recreational purposes. Moreover, it is has been many years that alcohol abuse

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The Relationship between Affective Family Functioning and Tendency to Consume ...

and its related problems are of the most important concerns in the family atmosphere. Family plays a major role in the development, persistence and survival of substance abuse. When a family member indicates symptoms, the factor deviated into the function of the center of gravity in the family and interactional patterns in family are organized around this in terms of consumption structure. Drug abuse of a family member can act as a family system holder and balance it, so drug abuse is continuing.

Living in families who are experiencing drug abuse and dependence creates enormous psychological pressure and family tries to deal with it in different ways. Sometimes this endeavor means enormous changes within the family system, their interactions and the growth of children. In the systematic view, family interaction always keeps changing to save its form. From this perspective, drug abuse by family members is a behavior created to achieve the required balance and stability in family functioning. Family reaction to drug abuse is an endeavor to make such a balance for continuing life³.

Drug or alcohol abuse challenges family's ability to adjust the emotional and behavioral functioning severely. Family usually finds its balance as a unit. But this balance maybe of disturbed balances⁴. Due to the importance of this subject, the present study aimed to investigate the relationship between the emotional family atmosphere and tendency to consume alcoholic beverages in the city of Bandar Abbas in 2014-15 years.

METHODOLOGY

The study is descriptive and correlation-based according to the nature and purpose of research methods. The statistical population of the study was all male residents of Bandar Abbas city. The sample consisted of 100 subjects: 50 healthy subjects and 50 alcoholic beverages consumer who were selected by simple random sampling method.

Family atmosphere questionnaire was used to collect information as follows:

Family Atmosphere Questionnaire: In this model, healthy family gives independence to its members and this independence is created with emphasis on explicit expression (questions: positive 24 and 34, and negative 9 and 16), responsibility (questions: positive 15 and 19, negative 4 and 28), openness to others (questions: positive 6 and 14 and negative 23 and 37). Healthy family is a family which creates intimate relationships in the family atmosphere by expressing a variety of emotions (questions: positive 1 and 12, negative 32 and 29), creating an intimate atmosphere in the house meaning spirit and mood (questions: positive 29 and 40, negative 2 and 22), conflict resolution without creating unnecessary stress (questions: positive 27 and 31, negative 7 and 13), to be sensitive to the perception (questions: positive 27 and 31, negative 17 and 30), and creating confidence based on the goodness of human beings (questions: positive 3 and 8, negative 26 and 33).

The healthiest answers to each question (positive questions mentioned above) receive the score of 5 and the unhealthiest responses (negative questions mentioned above) receive a score of 1. Total score or the sum of scores of all

questions are at least 40 and at most 200 and the higher the score, the more healthy the symptoms of family. The main family scale with alpha as 0.75 and standardized questions alpha as 0.97 has good internal consistency. This scale has a great reliability with two-week test-retest reliability in the dimension of independence from 0.39 to 0.88 and median of 0.77, and in the intimacy dimension from 0.46 to 0.87 with the median 0.73. The main scale of family for the known groups has good reliability, so that it differentiates between marriages suffering from alcohol and non-alcohol as well as the conception of marriage and the couple being unreasonable. The scale is also significantly correlated with the level of understanding of family's health in the view of respondents.

Inferential statistics, logistic regression analysis and chi-square test were used in analyzing the data. SPSS software is used in order to use the data of the questionnaires and summarizing them.

RESULTS

Table1. The mean and standard deviation of alcoholic beverages consumers group in a family atmosphere mean and standard deviation

Variable	Group	Mean	Standard deviation
Explicit expression	Healthy	3.16	1.08
	Consumer	2.90	0.94
Responsibility	Healthy	2.98	1.28
	Consumer	3.08	1.02
Openness to others	Healthy	3.10	1.14
	Consumer	2.95	0.92
Feeling expression	Healthy	3.30	1.09
	Consumer	2.95	0.87
Creating intimate atmosphere	Healthy	2.95	1.45
	Consumer	2.89	1.26
Conflict resolution	Healthy	2.91	1.28
	Consumer	3.11	1.16
Creating sensitivity	Healthy	2.87	1.28
	Consumer	3.16	1.06
Creating trust	Healthy	2.74	1.17
	Consumer	2.93	1.13

As it can be seen in the table above, the average of explicit expression in healthy group is 3.16 with a standard deviation of 1.08 and the average of explicit expression in the group of alcohol consumers is 2.09 with a standard deviation of 0.94. The average of responsibility in the healthy group is 2.98 with the standard deviation of 1.28 while the average of responsibility in the group of alcohol consumers is 3.08 with the standard deviations of 1.02. The average of openness to others in healthy group is 3.01 with a standard deviation of 1.14 and the average of openness to others in the group of alcohol consumers is 3.08 with standard

The Relationship between Affective Family Functioning and Tendency to Consume ...

deviations of 1.02. The average of expression of feeling in the healthy group is 3.03 with a standard deviation of 1.09 and the average of expression of feeling in the group of alcohol consumers is 2.95 with a standard deviation of 0.78. The average of creating an intimate atmosphere in the healthy group is 2.95 with a standard deviation of 1.45 and the average of creating a warm atmosphere in the group of alcohol consumers is 2.89 with the standard deviation of 1.45. The average of conflict resolution in the healthy group is 2.91 with the standard deviation of 1.28 and the average of conflict resolution in the group of alcohol consumers is 3.11 with a standard deviation of 1.16. The average of creating sensitivity in healthy group is 2.87 with a standard deviation of 1.28 and the average of creating sensitivity in the group of alcohol consumers is 3.16 with a standard deviation of 1.06. Also, the average of creating trust in the healthy group is 2.74 with a standard deviation of 1.17 and the average of creating trust in the group of alcohol consumers is 2.93 with a standard deviation of 1.13.

Hypothesis of research:

There is relationship between the emotional atmosphere of the family and tendency to consume alcoholic beverages in Bandar Abbas.

Table2. The results of logistic regression coefficients based on characteristics of family atmosphere

Model	B	Standard mean error	Wald	Degree of freedom	Level of significance
Explicit expression	2.033	0.805	6.376	1	0.012
Responsibility	-0.872	0.828	1.108	1	0.292
Openness to others	0.919	0.606	2.305	1	0.129
Feeling expression	0.539	0.540	0.994	1	0.319
Creating intimate atmosphere	0.055	0.920	0.004	1	0.952
Conflict resolution	-1.224	0.893	1.878	1	0.171
Creating sensitivity	-2.145	0.822	6.817	1	0.009
Creating trust	-0.815	0.680	1.437	1	0.231
Fixed value	4.450	2.748	2.621	1	0.105

According to the variance results analysis, it was concluded that among the variables of family atmosphere characteristics, creating sensitivity is significantly under the influence of alcohol consumption. The results of this research indicate a relationship between familial variables and tendency to consume alcoholic beverages.

In addition, regression analysis indicated that two variables of creating sensitivity and explicit expression are as the most influential family variables in the consumption of alcoholic beverages. According to regression analysis, explicit expression and creating sensitivity by beta coefficients of 2.033 and -2.145 in 1% probability levels have had a significant impact on the non-use and alcohol consumption respectively.

There is a relationship between the emotional atmosphere of the family and tendency to consume alcoholic beverages in Bandar Abbas.

Logistic regression test was used to test the hypothesis the results of which are specified as follows:

Table3. The results of chi² test of significant regression model

chi ²	Degree of freedom	Level of significance
79.965	1	0.001

According to the obtained chi² and the p value that is less than 0.05, the regression model is significant.

Table 4. The regression coefficients of the relationship between emotional atmosphere of the family and tendency to consume alcoholic beverages

Variable	B	S.E	Wald	Determination coefficient	Degree of freedom	Level of significance
emotional atmosphere of the family	2.424	0.485	24.929	0.551	1	0.001

Coefficient of determination shows that 0.551% of the shift to consumption of alcohol is been predicted by emotional atmosphere of family. Considering the amount of obtained Wald and that the p value obtained is less than 0.05, so the hypothesis is confirmed. As a result, there is a relationship between the emotional atmosphere of the family and tendency to consume alcoholic beverages in Bandar Abbas.

CONCLUSION

Based on the variance results analysis, it was revealed that creating sensitivity among the characteristics of family atmosphere is significantly affected by the consumption of alcoholic beverages. The results of this research reveal the existence of the relationship between the family atmosphere characteristics and tendency to consume alcohol. In addition, regression analysis indicated that two variables of creating sensitivity and explicit expression are as the most influential family variables in the consumption of alcoholic beverages. According to regression analysis, explicit expression and creating sensitivity by beta coefficients of 2.033 and -2.145 in 1% probability levels have had a significant impact on the non-use and alcohol consumption respectively. All variables in control group were significantly different from consumer and abuse consumer groups. Therefore, control group scores were higher than the scores of consumer and abuse consumer groups in the variables of resiliency, confidence, problem-solving coping skills, secure caring and attachment. But control group scores were less than those of the consumer and abuse consumer groups in the variables of too much protection, ambivalent attachment style, locus of control (high score means

The Relationship between Affective Family Functioning and Tendency to Consume ...

external locus of control), emotion-focused coping and less effective and ineffective adaptation. Comparing consumer and abuse consumer groups showed that consumer and abuse consumer groups had a significant difference in variables of resilience, ambivalence, problem oriented coping skills, and less effective and ineffective adaptation. But there was no significant difference between the two groups in terms variable of caring, too much protection, secure attachment style, self-confidence, locus of control, and emotion-focused coping.

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