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Attitudes Towards Drug and Alcohol Use: Culture and Emerging Adulthood

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Attitudes towards Drug and Alcohol Use: Culture and Emerging Adulthood

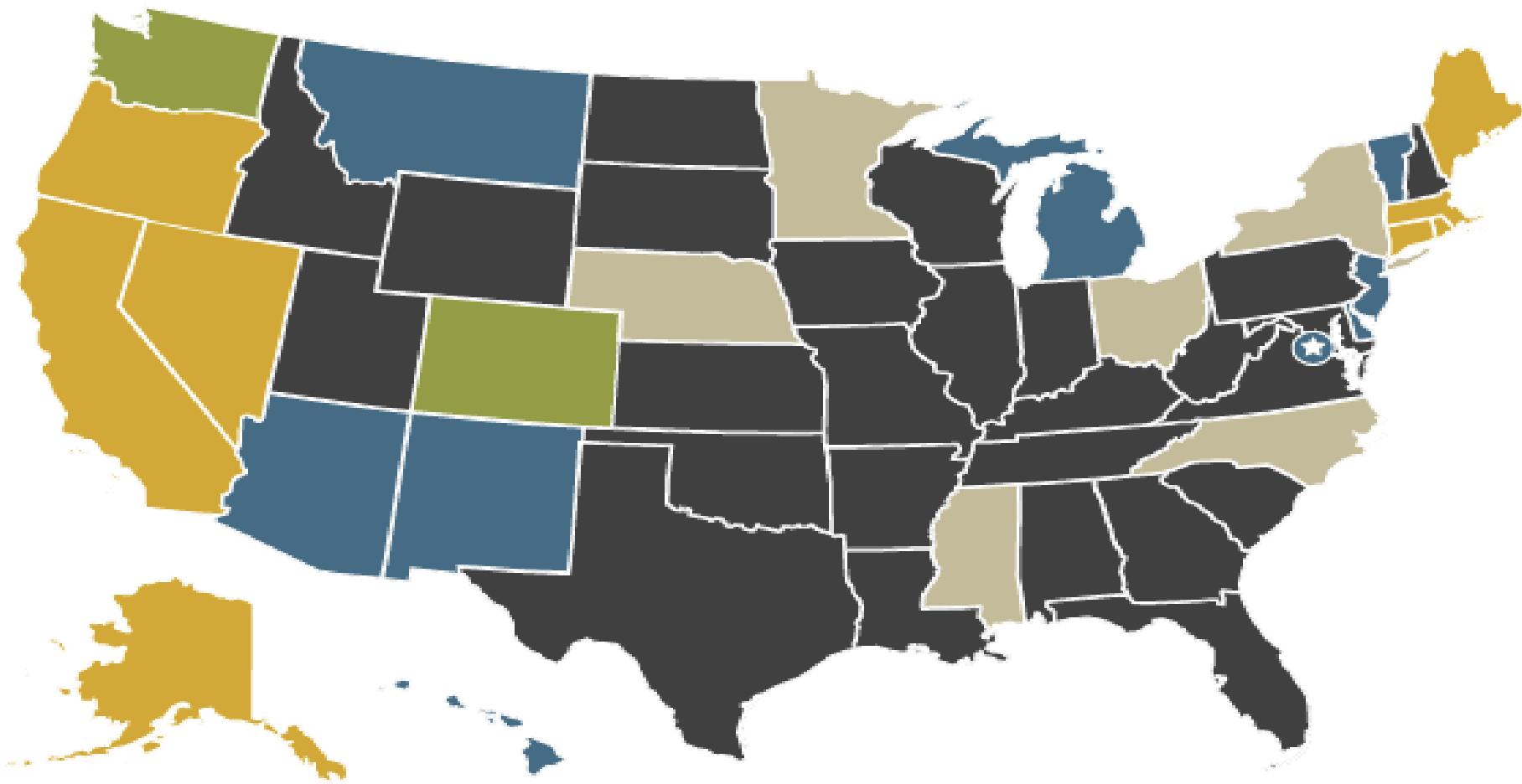
Sam Daniewicz

Advised by Dr. Oscar Baldelomar



Outline

- Emerging adulthood
- Culture and emerging adulthood
- Hypotheses
- Methodology
- Results
- Discussion
- Conclusion



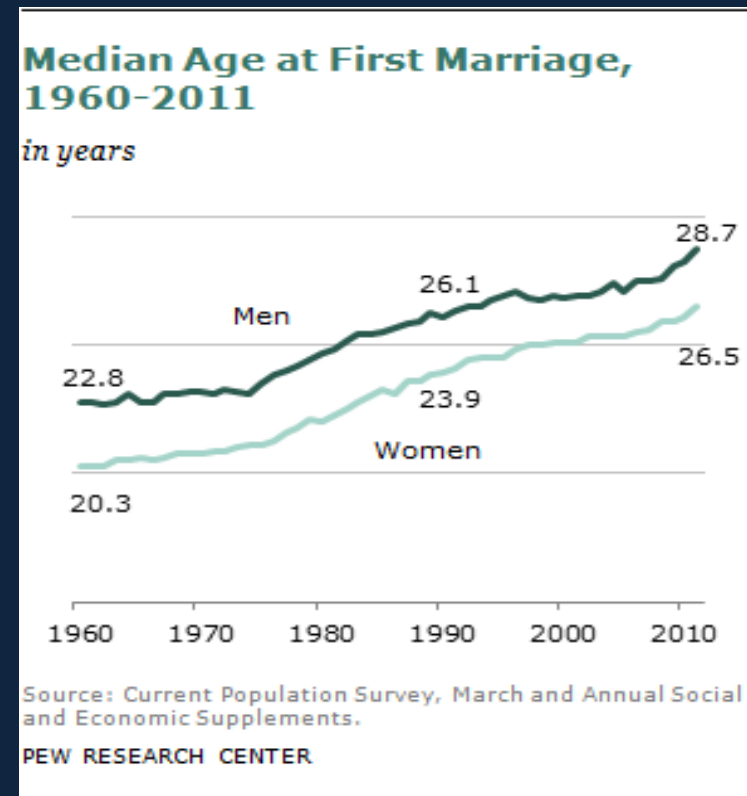
- Legal
- Medicinal Use Only
- Illegal
- Decriminalized
- Medicinal Use Only and Decriminalized

REJECTED BALLOT INITIATIVES

<p>Legalization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alaska California Nevada Oregon 	<p>Medicinal Use Only</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> South Dakota Arkansas <p>Decriminalization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> North Dakota Oregon
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Emerging Adulthood

- Substance use peaks in emerging adulthood (Patrick et al., 2011)
- New stage in development (Arnett, 2000, 2004, 2011)
- Factors in creation
- Five main dimensions
 - Identity exploration
 - Experimentation
 - Instability
 - Self-focused
 - Feeling in-between
- Experimentation and drug use
(Lisha, 2012)



Culture and Emerging Adulthood

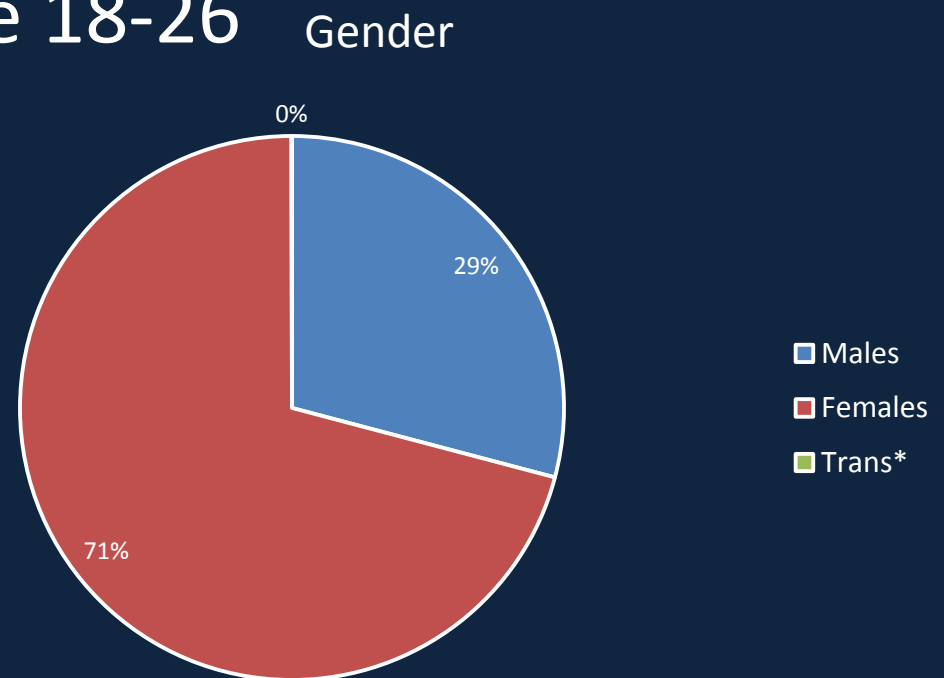
- Individualism and Collectivism (Arnett, 2011)
- Cross-cultural (Nelson & Chen, 2007)
- Collectivism associated with lower levels of substance use (Piko & Brazzai, 2007)

Hypotheses

- Hypothesis 1:
 - Higher levels of emerging adulthood are related to positive attitudes towards substance use.
- Hypothesis 2:
 - Lower levels of emerging adulthood are related to negative attitudes towards substance use.

Procedure and Participants

- Recruitment and extra credit
- Online survey and questionnaires
- UMM students of age 18-26
- 270 participants



Methodology

- Attitudes to Drug Use (Harmon, 1993)
 - $\alpha=.82$
- Beliefs about Consequences (Harmon 1993)
 - How likely would it be for this to happen to you if you consumed (name of drug) in the next month?
 - Positive Beliefs
 - Alcohol ($\alpha=.82$)
 - Tobacco ($\alpha=.90$)
 - Marijuana ($\alpha=.90$)
 - Positive consequence examples:
 - Have more fun
 - Forget my troubles

Methodology cont...

- Negative Beliefs
 - Alcohol ($\alpha=.91$)
 - Tobacco ($\alpha=.86$)
 - Marijuana ($\alpha=.92$)
- Negative consequence examples
 - Get into trouble with police
 - Become an addict

Methodology cont...

- Inventory of the Dimensions of Emerging Adulthood (IDEA) (Reifman, Arnett, & Colwell, 2007)
 - Identity exploration ($\alpha=.83$)
 - Experimentation ($\alpha=.80$)
 - Instability ($\alpha=.83$)
 - Self-focused ($\alpha=.80$)
 - Feeling “in-between” ($\alpha=.70$)
- Demographic section

Results for hypothesis 1

- Alcohol
 - Positive Beliefs positively correlated with:
 - Experimentation ($r = .14$, $p = .019$)
 - Instability ($r = .17$, $p = .05$)
 - Feeling “in-between” ($r = .13$, $p = .040$)
- Tobacco
 - Positive Beliefs negatively correlated with:
 - Identity Exploration ($r = -.19$, $p = .002$)
 - Experimentation ($r = -.17$, $p = .004$)
 - Self-Focused ($r = -.21$, $p = .001$)

Results for hypothesis 2

- Alcohol
 - Negative Beliefs negatively correlated with:
 - Experimentation ($r=-.18, p=.003$)
 - Self-Focused ($r= -.17, p=.005$)
- Tobacco
 - Negative Beliefs negatively correlated with:
 - Experimentation ($r= -.17, p=.004$)
 - Self-Focused ($r= -.17, p= .005$)
- Marijuana
 - Negative Beliefs correlate negatively with:
 - Experimentation ($r= -.145, p=.017$)

Discussion

- Experimentation
- Instability and alcohol
- Attitudes towards marijuana
- Future research
 - Better and more diverse demographic
 - Different age groups

Conclusion

- Higher levels of emerging adulthood correlated with positive attitudes towards alcohol, but not tobacco.
- Lower levels of emerging adulthood correlated with negative attitudes towards alcohol, tobacco, and marijuana.
- Emerging adults
 - think positively of alcohol.
 - Tobacco is thought of less positively than alcohol.
 - Have more ambiguous attitudes towards marijuana.

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Questions?