

**Report of the 11th Annual Workshop
International Research Group on Gender and Alcohol (IRGGA)
and
GENACIS Third Semi-Annual Working Meeting
May 30–June 1, 2003
Collegium Medicum of the Jagiellonian University, Sw. Anny Str. 12, Krakow, POLAND**

FRIDAY, May 30, 2003

Introductions and overview (Sharon Wilsnack, Kim Bloomfield and Isidore Obot)

Sharon Wilsnack opened the meeting by welcoming all participants and explaining the history of the IRGGA group and its latest project, the GENACIS study. The main goal of the GENACIS project is to use similar methodology in a number of countries to study gender and cultural differences with regard to alcohol consumption and alcohol-related problems. The funding for the project began with support from the EU (project leader: Kim Bloomfield) for the concerted action “Gender, Culture and Alcohol Problems: A Multi-national Study”. Fifteen of the GENACIS countries are members in this project. Kim presented a timeline of when the draft chapters for the work areas within the EU project should be finished.

Isidore Obot, representing the WHO, gave his thanks to Sharon and UND for helping to fund the WHO member participants. He explained that the WHO-funded surveys for the first survey wave (Kazakhstan, Argentina, Sri Lanka, Nigeria) have been completed, and that new surveys have been funded in Costa Rica, India, and Uganda.

Data Centralization (Gerhard Gmel)

Gerhard Gmel gave a brief overview of the status of data centralization for the 30 GENACIS data sets. He expressly requested that all survey sample descriptions be sent as soon as possible. In particular, the information on weighting is necessary for him to complete his work. He will send a paragraph to Sharon and Kim stating exactly what is needed from the survey leader or the person in charge of having conducted the survey (if it is not the GENACIS participant).

For article analyses, work area leaders should contact him with a set of requested variables for the papers in their areas. Gerhard will create a preliminary set, which the authors should try out. Not included in the work decks are data from countries with restrictions on making their data available. By the end of the GENACIS workshops in Krakow, work area leaders should be able to decide which main variables they will need.

Gerhard also requested that, after he sends the main alcohol indicators to each country, each member check for his or her country whether the main alcohol indicators appear correct.

Theoretical perspectives relevant to GENACIS

- Sidsel Eriksen: Historical and theoretical perspectives on gender and alcohol

Sidsel Eriksen presented a theoretical perspective on alcohol and gender based on her paper “Alcohol as a Gender Symbol.” The focus of the paper is on comparing alcohol as a gender symbol in 1900 to its symbolism in 2000. Some issues discussed were the value of characterizing countries in terms of temperance tradition as well as historical influences such as a country’s welfare state model.

Influential theories on gender have been developed by Judith Butler, Joan W. Scott and others. With regard to alcohol consumption and gender, Sidsel suggested framing questions in terms of what constitutes and contributes to traditional vs. non-traditional drinking behaviour. She also raised the question of how to approach similar tendencies in relationships between gender and alcohol in different countries: are they a result of modernization, biology or something else? Her presentation was followed by a question and answer period and discussion among the entire GENACIS group.

- Andrée Demers: Social inequality, gender and alcohol

Andrée Demers discussed why and how social structure affects men's and women's drinking practices. In her paper, she asserted that social inequality and gender are closely related and that one cannot, in fact, look at social inequality without considering gender. Social inequality may occur at various levels, including the societal, household and individual levels (macro and micro levels). Furthermore, gender inequality is rooted in social roles, which can be seen, for example, in horizontal sex segregation. Women and men working in different occupations will also have differing drinking opportunities and therefore different drinking patterns. At home, the parental role may also have different effects on the drinking of men and women. And, while some studies may show a convergence of men's and women's roles, women's work experience is, on the whole, different from men's, and overall women are at a lower socioeconomic standing than men. Andrée outlined two possible guiding theories of Bourdieu and Giddens for looking at use of alcohol by gender and social status in a given society. While the former's notion of *habitus* seems to imply that individual choice is influenced by the social structures shaping his or her choices, Giddens claims that individual actors are not constrained by external structures. The group discussed drinking patterns, theories of individual choice and the role of women's use of alcohol in gender relations.

Drinking patterns and contexts (Pia Mäkelä and Tom Greenfield)

Pia Mäkelä presented a basic overview of survey data available for the EU drinking patterns final report chapter. Specifically, she listed several areas where information was missing or difficult to compare. She urged survey leaders and project members to supply their survey characteristics (e.g., weighting method) so that she could complete her analyses. Areas where there are differences include survey mode and the type of quantity-frequency measures. However, for comparing drinking patterns across countries, volume may be less important than frequency; for example, analyses could be done on frequency of drinking 5+ drinks. For abstinence measures, comparability among EU surveys is also low. Given that drinking populations are defined differently in various countries, analyses based on "current drinkers" are less feasible; for the EU final chapter report, analyses will have to be based on rates in entire populations.

The non-EU GENACIS countries have the advantage of all using the same measure, the graduated frequency measure. However, here too, analyses must proceed carefully as this measure was not always understood by those conducting the surveys and/or their interviewers, so that responses may be skewed.

Salme Ahlström presented her progress in the area of drinking contexts. Three countries in the EU project have all the necessary information: France, the UK and Hungary. The next step is for article leaders to begin to identify standard drinking measures and for a work deck to be created by Gerhard for all GENACIS countries.

Alcohol-related problems (Ronald Knibbe and Isidore Obot)

Ronald Knibbe presented his draft chapter on alcohol-related problems for the EU final report. The analysis for the report is mainly descriptive, consisting of tables for prevalences and gender ratios. He will use Cronbach's Alpha to calculate reliability. Because of the limited comparability of survey measures in the existing EU data sets, the analysis focuses not so much on a summary score but on different individual items. The chapter should be finished in November. There will also be an analysis of the AUDIT for the EU countries.

Isidore Obot read the list of articles from this area (see "wrap-up session").

SATURDAY, May 31, 2003

Global Alcohol Database (Isidore Obot)

Isidore Obot gave a presentation of the information available to all project members in the Global Alcohol Database at www.who.int/alcohol. The data include socioeconomic characteristics of countries, alcohol production statistics (import/export, unrecorded consumption) and the sources for the data from each country (surveys used and experts contacted). At this point, 117 countries have been included in the data base with information ranging from pricing, sales and advertising to drunk driving laws and the definition of an alcoholic beverage. This is in addition to abstainer rates, per capita consumption and advertising restrictions. Furthermore, one can see, for example, what role alcohol-related mortality plays in otherwise “low mortality” developing countries. Meeting participants are asked to look at their own country’s data on the website and contact Nina Rehn (rehn@who.it) if they notice errors or discrepancies.

Country Profiles (Irmgard Eisenbach-Stangl and Allaman Allamani)

Allaman presented the idea of creating country profiles for each EU member country. This would involve the work area leaders or each country member writing a summary of results for his or her country. Alternatively, if extra funds are made available by the EU project, Irmgard and Allaman would hire a student to do the data collection. The summaries would be edited and compiled by Irmgard and Allaman and perhaps made into an additional chapter for the final report for the EU. It was agreed that this work needs to be coordinated with Isidore Obot and Giora Rahav who are both already collecting societal-level data. In particular, it was discussed how to make this most useful for EU and, perhaps later, non-EU GENACIS project countries. It was agreed that Irmgard and Allaman will develop a questionnaire with as little overlap as possible with already-existing country profile data and with a balance between standardization and a qualitative approach, i.e., getting at what is unique in a country with regard to gender and alcohol and yet not asking different questions in each country. This issue was discussed later during the meeting in more depth, the results of which are in the “wrap-up” section.

In the afternoon, there were workshops of the individual work areas.

SUNDAY, June 1, 2003

Wrap-up session: all groups

Each work area leader presented a summary of their workshop and a list of possible articles to come out of their area.

Drinking patterns (Pia Mäkelä and Tom Greenfield)

Tom Greenfield announced that he is working with Gerhard Gmel to develop a matrix showing which country has which variables and, where possible, additional information such as “use this variable with caution.” By November he would like to be able to present an example using 3-4 variables. At the IRGGA meeting on Tuesday, Gerhard will present a matrix of standard demographics to be provided as a part of work decks for all work areas.

The paper proposals which came out of the workshops in Krakow are as follows:

- 1) EU drinking patterns/descriptive (Pia Mäkelä)
- 2) EU drinking patterns + contexts (Salme Ahlström)
- 3) GENACIS drinking patterns + contexts (Tom Greenfield and Sylvia Kariouz)
- 4) GENACIS descriptive paper on drinking patterns (Sharon Wilsnack and UND group)
- 5) Methodological comparison of drinking measures (GF vs. QF) (Gerhard Gmel)

- 6) Methodological comparison of drinking contexts (Tom Greenfield and Sylvia Kariouz)
- 7) Between and within country variation of drinking (Tom Greenfield and Giora Rahav)
- 8) Positive experiences of drinking (Karin Helmersson Bergmark)
- 9) Abstinence (Robin Room)
- 10) How much drinking is ok? (Myriam Munné)
- 11) Reasons for abstaining (WHO and Kate Graham)
- 12) Intoxication (later paper) (Karin Helmersson Bergmark)
- 13) Distribution of alcohol consumption (Zofia Mielecka-Kubien)

Consumption measures for GENACIS analyses proposed by Tom Greenfield, Sharon Wilsnack, and the UND group (numbers in parentheses are question numbers in the GENACIS Core Questionnaire):

Generic frequency (33a)

Generic quantity (35a)

Beverage-specific frequency:

Wine (33b), beer (33d), liquor(33f), other local beverages (33h)

Beverage-specific quantity:

Wine (33c), beer (33e), liquor (33g), other local beverages (33i)

From graduated frequency:

Frequency of 5+ drinks (34 a1c)(for some, whether or not 5+) (total GF score will also be available for most GENACIS countries)

Abstaining vs. drinking:

Past 12 months (33a)

Lifetime (48a)

Frequency of intoxication (44a)

Others:

Age of onset (36)

Amount of time spent drinking (35b)

Drinking with meals (37a)

Proposed drinking measures for EU countries:

Abstaining (12 months, lifetime)

Overall frequency: beverage-specific frequency, weekly drinking (yes/no)

Quantity per drinking day

Generic quantity

Quantity by beverage type?

Volume

Frequency of 5+ drinks

Graduated frequency

Frequency of intoxication

Age of onset

Drinking problems (Ronald Knibbe and Isidore Obot)

Ronald suggested that the following categorization be used in all papers analyzing drinking problems: (1) work-related problems, (2) relationship problems, (3) acute problems, (4) informal problems, (5) other problems. The paper proposals which came out of the drinking problems workshops in Krakow are as follows. A final version will be posted on the GENACIS website. In the following lists of planned papers, leaders of each paper (if known) are underlined.

1. Alcohol-related aggression as part of a constellation of alcohol-related problems (including family and work problems). Kate Graham, Isidore Obot, Sharon Wilsnack and UND group, Sylvia Kariouz
2. Alcohol consumption and problems. Nancy Vogeltanz-Holm
3. Lucky drinker. Andrea Hegedus
4. Informal controls. Marja Holmila, Ronald Knibbe
5. Psychometrics. Sylvia Kariouz
6. Hazardous drinking score. Robin Room
7. Prevalence of AUDIT in a European context. Ronald Knibbe
8. Interrelationships between problems. Kate Graham.

Alcohol-related violence (Karin Helmersson-Bergmark and Kate Graham)

Despite a relatively limited number of variables in the Core Questionnaire, interest in the area of alcohol-related violence is strong and the discussions in Krakow led to several paper proposals:

1. Prevalence of violence, aggression and fear of violence by country/region, age, sex (etc). Karin Helmersson Bergmark, Kate Graham, Akanidomo Ibanga, Myriam Munné, Moira Plant, Giora Rahav, Martha Romero, Sharon Wilsnack and UND group, Shinji Shimizu, Francois Beck.
2. Relationship between alcohol-related aggression and drinking practices, using hierarchical linear modelling. Karin Helmersson Bergmark, Kate Graham, Akanidomo Ibanga, Florence Kerr-Correa, Myriam Munné, Moira Plant, Sharon Wilsnack and UND group, Francois Beck, Ingeborg Rossow, Julio Bejarano
3. Related violence indicators—family and social context for drinking. Kate Graham, Florence Kerr-Correa, Dohnsoo Kim, Moira Plant, Giora Rahav, Francois Beck
4. Problems related to societal-level factors. Kate Graham and Giora Rahav
5. Aspects of childhood sexual abuse. Akanidomo Ibanga, Dohnsoo Kim, Myriam Munné, Moira Plant, Martha Romero, Bedel Sabarayev, Sharon Wilsnack and UND group, Jillian Fleming

Sexuality and intimacy (Louise Nadeau and Marja Holmila)

The paper proposals which came out of the workshops in Krakow are as follows:

1. Relationship quality and drinking patterns of partner and respondent. Louise Nadeau and Sharon Wilsnack
2. Similarity and divergence in couples' drinking. Nancy Vogeltanz-Holm and Robin Room
3. Expectancies of alcohol's effect on sexuality—connections to heavy drinking, problems, relationship quality and childhood sexual history. Jillian Fleming, Sharon Wilsnack, Karin Helmersson Bergmark, Moira Plant
4. Social support and patterns and problems. Louise Nadeau
5. Cross-cultural comparison of alcohol problems in primary networks. Martin Plant, Moira Plant, Marja Holmila

Social inequality and social roles (Kim Bloomfield, Gerhard Gmel and Andrée Demers)

Kim reported that work on the social roles analyses has been postponed until the November 2003 meeting. The workshop in Krakow focused on validating education as an indicator of socio-economic status in project countries. The paper proposals which came out of the workshops in Krakow are as follows:

1. EU chapter report on social inequality (first draft in November).
2. EU chapter report on social roles (postponed to November).

3. Marital status, middle age and alcohol consumption. Martha Romero
4. Area income inequalities. Andrée Demers (preliminary overview of analysis steps for November 2003 meeting)

Health and Lifestyle (Moira Plant and Nancy Vogeltanz-Holm)

Moira noted that participation in this work area has grown considerably over the past months. The paper proposals which came out of the workshops in Krakow are as follows:

1. The prevalence of health and lifestyle factors and the association with alcohol consumption. Moira Plant and Nancy Vogeltanz-Holm, UND group, Andrea Hegedus, Bedel Sarbayev, Hidgunnur Ólafsdóttir
2. Social inequalities and health. Andrée Demers, Kim Bloomfield, Moira Plant, Nancy Vogeltanz-Holm, Gerhard Gmel, Andrea Hegedus, Sharon Wilsnack (This second paper will be developed with the social inequalities group.)
3. Health consequences by beverage type. Patrick Miller, Siri Hettige, Nazarius Mbona Tumwesigye, Moira Plant
4. Excessive behaviours and relation to drinking. Jillian Fleming, Moira Plant, Sharon Wilsnack, UND group

She also reminded the group that the paper ideas presented in Krakow were only the beginning of analyses and could well lead to other papers.

Societal-level predictors (Giora Rahav and Richard Wilsnack)

By the November 2003 meeting, Giora will provide a database with societal-level indicators for partners' use. Robin mentioned a possible connection to the hazardous drinking score and Global Alcohol Database.

The paper proposals which came out of the workshops in Krakow are as follows:

1. EU final chapter, basically descriptive, bivariate analyses
2. Economic development, inequality and consumption patterns
3. Inequality, consumption and welfare policy as moderators between consumption and problems
4. Influence of welfare and informal controls on alcohol-related violence and family problems. (The EU chapter report could be expanded to include other GENACIS countries.)

IRGGA meeting Tuesday, June 3, 2003

Sharon announced the meeting agenda for the IRGGA meeting on June 3, 2003: (1) country profiles, (2) basic demographic variables for work decks (Tom and Gerhard), (3) report on qualitative research workshop in Paris (June 2002), and (4) IRGGA future directions.

Future actions

-A "final" article list will be distributed by Stephanie Kramer via IRGGAnet so that members can make changes or additions. Work area leaders in particular are requested to watch for overlap and to contact Sharon or Kim with any concerns.

-Analysis plans must be sent to the steering committee at the latest by October 25.

-Kim announced the 4th semi-annual GENACIS meeting in Berlin on 9-12 November, 2003. All work area leaders and survey directors are encouraged to attend. Elina Haavio-Mannila, of the University of Helsinki, and Jacek Moskalewicz, of the Institute of Psychiatry and Neurology, Warsaw, Poland, will act as mid-term reviewers for the EU component of GENACIS.

Final AGENDA
11th Annual Workshop, International Research Group on Gender and Alcohol (IRGGA)
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GENACIS Third Semi-Annual Working Meeting
May 30–June 1, 2003
Collegium Medicum of the Jagiellonian University, Sw. Anny Str. 12, Krakow, POLAND

THURSDAY, May 29, 2003

17:00-19:00 Steering Committee meeting

FRIDAY, May 30, 2003 (Room: “Aula Nowodworska”, 1st floor)

09:00-10:30 Introductions and overview (Sharon Wilsnack and Kim Bloomfield)
Overview of data centralisation (Gerhard Gmel)
Timeline and tasks (Sharon Wilsnack and Kim Bloomfield)

10:30-11:00 COFFEE BREAK

11:00-12:30 Theoretical perspectives relevant to GENACIS

- Sidsel Eriksen: Historical and theoretical perspectives on gender and alcohol
- Andrée Demers: Social inequality, gender and alcohol

12:30-14:00 LUNCH

14:00-15:30 Drinking patterns and contexts (EU workpackage 2)
(final EU chapter report and individual proposals)
Co-chairs: Pia Mäkelä and Tom Greenfield

15:30-16:00 COFFEE BREAK

16:00-17:30 Alcohol-related problems (EU workpackage 3)
(final EU chapter report and individual proposals)
Co-chairs: Ronald Knibbe and Isidore Obot

19:00 Group Dinner: “Tetmajerowska”, 34 Rynek Glowny

SATURDAY, May 31, 2003 (Room: “Aula Nowodworska”, 1st floor)
(Workshops will be held in “Aula Nowodworska” and “Sala Senecka”, 1st floor)

09:00-10:30 Plenary: Global Alcohol Database and Country Profiles

- Global Alcohol Database
Chair: Isidore Obot
- Country profiles
Co-chairs: Irmgard Eisenbach-Stangl and Allaman Allamani

10:30-11:00 COFFEE BREAK

11:00-12:30 Parallel workshop sessions:

- Alcohol-related violence and sexual violence (EU workpackage 4)
Co-chairs: Karin Helmersson Bergmark and Kate Graham
- WHO/developing countries (others welcome)

- Chair: Isidore Obot
- 12:30-14:00** **LUNCH**
- 14:00-15:30 Parallel workshop sessions:
- Sexuality and intimacy
Co-chairs: Louise Nadeau and Marja Holmila
 - Social inequality and social roles (EU workpackage 5)
Co-chairs: Kim Bloomfield, Gerhard Gmel and Andrée Demers
- 15:30-16:00** **COFFEE BREAK**
- 16:00-17:30 Parallel workshop sessions:
- Health and lifestyle
Co-chairs: Moira Plant and Nancy Vogeltanz-Holm
 - Societal level predictors
Co-chairs: Giora Rahav and Richard Wilsnack

SUNDAY, June 1, 2003 (Room: “Aula Nowodworska”, 1st floor)

- 09:00-09:30 GENACIS Steering Committee meeting
- 09:30-10:30 Meeting of Steering Committee and Work Package Leaders
- 10:30-11:00** **COFFEE BREAK**
- 11:00-13:30 Wrap-up session: all groups

**Final Participants List GENACIS/IRGGA Pre-KBS meeting
Krakow, May 30-June 1, 2003 (47 participants)**

Name	Country
Ahlstrom, Salme	Finland
Allamani, Allaman	Italy
Beck, Francois	France
Bejarano, Julio	Costa Rica
Benegal, Vivek	India
Bloomfield, Kim	Denmark
Demers, Andrée	Canada
Eisenbach-Stangl, Irmgard	Austria
Elekes, Zsuzsanna	Hungary
Eriksen, Sidsel	Denmark
Fleming, Jillian	Australia
Gmel, Gerhard	Switzerland
Graham, Kate	Canada
Greenfield, Tom	USA
Grittner, Ulrike	Germany
Hegedus, Andrea	USA
Helmersson-Bergmark, Karin	Sweden
Hettige, Siri	Sri Lanka
Holmila, Marja	Finland
Kairouz, Sylvia	Canada
Kerr-Correa, Florence	Brazil
Knibbe, Ronald	The Netherlands
Kramer, Stephanie	Germany
Kraus, Ludwig	Germany
Kristjanson, Arlinda	USA
Mäkelä, Pia	Finland
Mielecka-Kubien, Zofia	Poland
Munné, Myriam	Argentina
Mustonen, Heli	Finland
Nadeau, Louise	Canada
Obot, Isidore	WHO
Ólafsdóttir, Hildigunnur	Iceland
Plant, Martin	England, UK
Plant, Moira	England, UK
Rahav, Giora	Israel
Romero, Martha	Mexico
Room, Robin	Sweden
Rossow, Ingeborg	Norway
Sarbayev, Bedel	Kazakhstan
Shimizu, Shinji	Japan
Teichman, Meir	Israel
Trocki, Karen	USA
Tsoy, Marina	Russia
Tumwesigye, Nazarius Mbona	Uganda
Vogeltanz-Holm, Nancy	USA
Weiss, Shoshana	Israel
Wilsnack, Richard	USA
Wilsnack, Sharon	USA