

Gender, Alcohol and Culture: An International Study



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Participants in the 2003 IRGGA/ GENACIS workshop on the steps of the Collegium Medicum of the Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland.

Forty-seven participants from 28 countries attended the IRGGA/GENACIS workshop held May 30 - June 1, 2003, in Krakow, Poland. This was the 11th annual workshop of the International Research Group on Gender and Alcohol, which was organized during the 1993 Kettil Bruun Society symposium, also in Krakow. It was the third semi-annual working meeting of IRGGA's multi-national study, GENACIS. A report of the 2003 Krakow workshop is available on the IRGGA website (<http://www.medicine.nodak.edu/irgga>).



Presenters respond to questions during a KBS plenary session in honour of Ludek Kubicka.

KBS SYMPOSIUM HONOURS LUDEK KUBICKA

A plenary session at the Krakow KBS symposium honoured Ludek Kubicka of the Czech Republic. Ludek has been an active member of IRGGA since it was organized during the 1993 KBS symposium. He has made important contributions to many areas of research in psychology and alcohol epidemiology. Particularly significant are his longitudinal studies of drinking by Czech women and men before and after the "Velvet Revolution" of 1989, which ended the 41-year Communist era in Czechoslovakia. His studies have encouraged increased research on gender, alcohol, and social change in a number of different countries.

The plenary session, titled "Social Change and Gendered Drinking: A Symposium in Honour of Ludek Kubicka," was chaired by Sharon Wilsnack (USA). Papers were presented by Marja Holmila (Finland) ("Why have the gender differences in drinking not disappeared?"); Kim Bloomfield (Denmark), Ulrike Grittner & Stephanie Kramer (Germany) ("Developments in gender and regional differences in alcohol consumption in reunited Germany"); Bogdan Wojtyniak, Jacek Moskalewicz, Jakub Stokwizewski, & Daniel Rabczenko (Poland) ("Gender-specific mortality associated with alcohol consumption in Poland in transition"); and Myriam Munne (Argentina) ("Alcohol and the economic crisis in Argentina: Recent findings"). Robin Room (Sweden) served as discussant for the session. Participants in the session plan to publish their papers as a group in an international journal, in honour of Ludek.

Proposed Articles from GENACIS Analyses

The following is a list of article proposals, by work area, generated at the workshops at the GENACIS meeting in Krakow, May 30-June 1, 2003. Where lead authors were mentioned, their names have been underlined. Please send any additions or corrections to this list to Stephanie.kramer@medizin.fu-berlin.de.

Drinking Patterns (Pia Mäkelä, Tom Greenfield, UND group)

1. EU drinking patterns/descriptive. Pia Mäkelä, Francois Beck & Stephane Legleye, Gerhard Gmel, Ulrike Grittner, Ronald Knibbe, Giora Rahav
2. 2a) EU drinking patterns + contexts. Salme Ahlström, Heli Mustonen, Zsuzsanna Elekes, Ronald Knibbe, Pia Mäkelä
2b) GENACIS drinking patterns + contexts (Compare to No. 5). Tom Greenfield, Sylvia Kairouz
3. GENACIS descriptive / prevalence overview paper. Sharon Wilsnack, Arlinda Kristjanson, Tom Greenfield, Siri Hettige, Richard Wilsnack, Nancy Vogeltanz-Holm, Pia Mäkelä, Hildigunnur Olafsdottir, Giora Rahav, Juan Carlos Valderrama, Maria Elena Medina-Mora, Martha Romero
4. Methodological comparison of drinking measures (GF vs. QF) (Do measures produce different results by gender and age?). Gerhard Gmel, Kate Graham, Ronald Knibbe, Ludwig Kraus
5. Methodological issues in measuring and interpreting drinking contexts. Tom Greenfield, Andrée Demers, Sylvia Kairouz, Ronald Knibbe, Heli Mustonen, Robin Room, Juan Carlos Valderrama
6. Between- and within-country variation in drinking. Tom Greenfield, Ladislav Csemy, Giora Rahav, Richard Wilsnack
7. Positive experiences of drinking. Karin Helmersson Bergmark, Myriam Munné, Moira Plant
8. Abstinence. Robin Room, Francois Beck, Tom Greenfield, Siri Hettige, Florence Kerr-Correa, Ludwig Kraus, Myriam Munné, Giora Rahav, Richard Wilsnack
9. How much drinking is OK? Myriam Munné, Karin Helmersson-Bergmark, Stephanie Kramer, Moira Plant, Tom Greenfield
10. Reasons for abstaining. Kate Graham, Siri Hettige, Akanidomo Ibanga, Myriam Munné, Isidore Obot, Bedel Sarbayev
11. Intoxication (later paper). Karin Helmersson Bergmark
12. Distribution of alcohol consumption. Zofia Mielecka-Kubien

Drinking Problems (Ronald Knibbe and Isidore Obot)

1. Alcohol-related aggression as part of a constellation of alcohol-related problems (family, work, and other problems). Kate Graham, Sharon Wilsnack and UND group, Sylvia Kairouz
2. Alcohol consumption and problems. Nancy Vogeltanz-Holm, Isidore Obot, Maristela Monteiro
3. Lucky drinker. Andrea Hegedus, Zofia Mielecka-Kubien, Nancy Vogeltanz-Holm, Ludwig Kraus
4. Informal controls/pressure. Marja Holmila, Ronald Knibbe, Robin Room
5. Psychometrics. Sylvia Kairouz, Nancy Vogeltanz-Holm, Kate Graham, Ludwig Kraus, Gerhard Gmel
6. Hazardous drinking score. Robin Room
7. AUDIT in a European context. Ronald Knibbe, Isidore Obot, Maristela Monteiro
8. Interrelationships among alcohol problems. Kate Graham, Sylvia Kairouz, Sharon Wilsnack
9. Interest group on mental health. Florence Kerr-Correa, Andrea Hegedus, Moira Plant, UND group

Alcohol-Related Violence (Karin Helmersson Bergmark and Kate Graham)

1. Prevalence of violence, aggression and fear of violence by country/region, age, and sex. Karin Helmersson Bergmark, Kate Graham, Akanidomo Ibanga, Myriam Munné, Moira Plant, Giora Rahav, Martha Romero, Sharon Wilsnack and UND group, Shinji Shimizu, Francois Beck, Julio Bejarano, Ingeborg Rossow, Florence Kerr-Correa.
2. Relationship between alcohol-related aggression and drinking practices, using hierarchical linear modelling. Karin Helmersson Bergmark, Kate Graham, Akanidomo Ibanga, Florence Kerr-Correa, Moira Plant, Francois Beck, Giora Rahav, Dohnsoo Kim.
3. *(Moved to drinking problems work area: Alcohol-related aggression as part of a constellation of alcohol-related problems. Kate Graham, Sharon Wilsnack and UND group, Sylvia Kariouz)*
4. Aspects of childhood sexual abuse (including prevalence of CSA by country, demographic correlates of CSA, and CSA variables as predictors of drinking outcomes). Jillian Fleming, Akanidomo Ibanga, Dohnsoo Kim, Myriam Munné, Moira Plant, Martha Romero, Sharon Wilsnack and UND group.
5. *(Moved to health and lifestyle work area: Associations between sexual violence and mental health. Florence Kerr-Corrêa)*
6. To be proposed at November 2003 meeting, in either drinking problems or alcohol-related violence work area: Domestic violence and negative consequences related to drinking in Asian and Western societies (2 papers). Shinji Shimizu

Sexuality and Intimacy (Louise Nadeau and Marja Holmila)

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, drinking-related problems, relationship quality and childhood sexual history. Jillian Fleming, Sharon Wilsnack, Karin Helmersson Bergmark, Moira Plant
4. Social support and drinking 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)

1. EU chapter report on social inequality (first draft in November 2003).
2. EU chapter report on social roles (postponed to November 2003).
3. Marital status, middle age and alcohol consumption. Martha Romero, Andrée Demers, Salme Ahström, Ladislav Csemy, Gerhard Gmel, Siri Hettige, Florence Kerr-Correa, Maria Elena Medina-Mora, Giora Rahav, Bedel Sarbayev
4. Area income inequalities. Andrée Demers, Zofia Mielecka-Kubien, Stephanie Kramer

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

1. Prevalence of health and lifestyle factors and their association with alcohol consumption. Moira Plant and Nancy Vogeltanz-Holm, UND group, Andrea Hegedus, Bedel Sarbayev, Hidigunnur Ólafsdóttir
2. Social inequalities and health. Andrée Demers, Kim Bloomfield, Moira Plant, Nancy Vogeltanz-Holm, Gerhard Gmel, Andrea Hegedus, Sharon Wilsnack (This 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

Societal-Level Predictors (Giora Rahav and Richard Wilsnack)

1. EU final chapter (descriptive, bivariate analyses)
2. Economic development, inequality and consumption patterns. Zofia Mielecka-Kubien
3. Inequality and welfare policy as moderators between consumption and problems
4. Influence of welfare and informal controls on alcohol-related violence and family problems

Upcoming Meetings

1. GENACIS Steering Committee meeting, November 8, 2003, Berlin, Germany.
2. 4th Semi-Annual GENACIS Working Meeting (Steering Committee, Work Area Leaders, and Study Leaders), November 9 – 12, 2003, Berlin, Germany.

A SMILE FOR THE DAY



This picture was used by Shoshana Weiss in the introduction to her KBS paper in Krakow. Shoshana noted the limited amount of funding available for alcohol research in Israel. Fortunately, funding is not presently a serious concern for GENACIS, thanks to support for the project from the European Union, the U.S. National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, and the World Health Organization.

Request for interesting articles and news:

Dear GENACIS members,

We would again like to ask you to send your comments and suggestions for the newsletter to Louise Diers at UND (ldiers@medicine.nodak.edu) or Friederike Fröhner at FU Berlin (friederike.froehner@medizin.fu-berlin.de). They will be highly welcome!

Also, please contact us if you wish to announce newly published papers or if you want to contribute an article or interesting news. These items will be included in future newsletters.

Thank you.

WEB SITES

IRGGA/GENACIS project:

<http://www.medicine.nodak.edu/irgga>.

EU-project website:

<http://www.medizin.fu-berlin.de/statistik/Gender&Alcohol/>

GENACIS site at SIPA:

<http://www.sfa-isp.ch/genacis/intro.htm>

KBS website:

<http://www.arg.org/kbs>