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The Role of Socio-Demographics, Family, and Peer Factors in Adolescent Alcohol Behaviors

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Abstract— *Alcohol consumption can be a volatile pastime amongst people, especially among adolescents. The behavior is debilitating and affects the overall well-being of students across varying instances of their daily lives, including their academics and interpersonal relationships. Adolescent alcohol consumption is influenced by internal and external factors, of which the current study focuses on socio-demographic, family, and peer factors. The sample consists of 751 high school students from Istanbul, Turkey. The data on their drinking behaviors were collected by implementing a survey questionnaire. A chi-square test of independence and Multinomial logistic regression analysis was conducted.The results revealed that variables like household income, parental marital status, mother's level of education and work status, family's alcohol use (mother, father, siblings), and peer alcohol usewere significantly associated with adolescent alcohol consumption. Furthermore, it was revealed that in the current sample being male, 18 years of age, and having educated mothers, mothers working as laborers, working or retired fathers, and alcohol using family members (father and siblings) predicted alcohol use. These findings indicate the importance of external and environmental factors in influencing adolescent consumption of alcohol.*

Keywords— ***Adolescent Alcohol Consumption, Environmental Influence, Family Alcohol Use, Peer Influence, Alcohol Use in High Schools.***

I. INTRODUCTION

Alcohol consumption and drunkenness tend to emerge during early adolescence. The WHO (2018) reports that worldwide 31.4% of adolescents between the ages of 15 and 19 consider themselves to be regular drinkers. Additionally, 12% reported that they had consumed alcohol at least once in their lifetime. Numbers from the United States show that in 2019, approximately 24.6% of adolescents between the ages of 14 to 15 reported having at least one drink, and 7 million 12 to 20-year-olds consumed alcohol occasionally in the past month (NIAAA, 2020). Furthermore, it is said that by the age of 15 or 16 almost 80% of European adolescents would have tried alcohol at least once in their lifetime (ESPAD, 2016).Such overwhelming numbers suggest that adolescents are at a higher risk of emulating drinking behaviors, leading to social, behavioral, and health problems (Ryan, Jorm&Lubman, 2010; Alikaþifoðlu et al., 2004; Donovan, 2004).

Alcohol use in adolescence (roughly 12 to 18 years of age) is an age-inappropriate behavior and is considered illegal in most countries. Consuming alcohol at this age is considered precocious and heavy drinking is deemed deviant in many communities (Oesterle et al., 2004).It is important to note that there exists a clear distinction between alcohol consumption (use) and heavy/binge drinking. Alcohol consumption strictly refers to the frequency and quantity of alcohol use, unlike heavy drinking which involves an excessive amount of alcohol consumed in a relatively shorter period

(Schulenberg&Maggs., 2002). For this research, however, we are looking at alcohol consumptionbehaviors. Alcohol consumption in adolescents affects the physical, psychological, and social well-being of individuals.

The current study seeks to examine the relationship between adolescent alcohol consumption and socio-demographic variables (age, gender, and household income), family variables (parental marital status, parental education level, parental work status, family alcohol use), peer alcohol use. Further, the study aims to identify the predictors of adolescent alcohol consumption from among these variables. It was important to include a wide variety of factors in the study, which may have a significant role to play in adolescent lives and behaviors. This study sets itself apart from other similar studies by including a wide repertoire of variables including personal factors like age and gender, family, and peer factors. This is important given the understanding that adolescent behaviors are generally shaped by different environmental, social, and biological factors (Ennet et al., 2008; Kliewer&Murrelle, 2007; Grant et al., 2005; Vermeiren et al., 2003; Kilpatrick et al., 2000).

Adolescents are at an age where they are easily manipulated and vulnerable to their surroundings. This stage in their lives is characterized by unexpected, and often confusing changes across multiple spheres of functioning; biological, cognitive, and social (Windle, 2000). The onset of puberty also opens up new experiences in terms of heightened levels of emotional volatility, increased levels of negative affect, and increased risk-taking behaviors (Gunn & Smith, 2010).Additionally, these changes make them highly susceptible to acts of violence, delinquency, and/or risky behaviors (Squeglia et al., 2017; Windle, 2000), owing to the lack of prefrontal cortex maturity (Spear, 2000). Adolescent alcohol consumption typically begins in early adolescence with experimentation and gradually increases to peak usage in late adolescence or early adulthood (Webb, Bray, Getz & Adams, 2002). What's more, earlier drinking behaviors can lead to later alcohol dependence and alcohol-related health concerns (Ryan et al., 2010; Grant et al., 2005; Hingson, Heeren, Zakocs, Winter & Wechsler, 2003). These health concerns may present themselves as brain damage, acute and chronic illnesses, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, hypertension, cancer, etc. (CharroBaena et al., 2018; Mostofsky et al., 2016).

Adolescents may pick up drinking habits from a couple of different sources, be it peers, family, school, or the neighborhood they are from.As such, adolescent alcohol behaviors are perhaps best explained by Bronfenbrenner's Ecological System's Theory (1997), which suggests that human development is an intricate process of complex relationships and multiple levels of social contexts. The theory explores adolescent behavior in terms of its relationship with various social institutions like family, peers, schools, and neighborhoods (Bronfenbrenner, 1979). According to Bronfenbrenner, these systems do not influence adolescent behaviors independently, but rather through an intricate web of interrelatedness. Ennett and colleagues (2008) explored Bronfenbrenner's theory concerning adolescent alcohol consumption and relayed that the effect of school, peer, family, and neighborhood contexts significantly predict the development of adolescent alcohol consumption from age 11 to 17. Most of what influences adolescent alcohol use comes from modeling drinking behaviors by parents, peers, and adults alike (Ennet et al., 2008).Likewise, Albert Bandura's Social Learning Theory posits thatadolescents acquire drinking behaviors primarily through role models such as parents and peers (Duncan, Duncan &Strycker, 2006). Adolescents consider parents, peers, and school administrators as immediate socializing agents from whom behavior is modeled and learned. Accordingly, the importance of social relationships in adolescent lives is established. Social Learning Theory also demonstrates the role of positive and negative expectancies in initiating and sustaining adolescent alcohol consumption (Chartier, Hesselbrock&Hesselbrock, 2010).

Gender: The bulk of the research on adolescent alcohol use has focused on males and revealed that males consume more than females (Torikka et al., 2016; Kuntscheet al., 2015; Guler et al., 2009; Nolen-Hoeksema, 2004). The results were consistent with high school adolescents as well (Akkuşet al., 2017; Arslan et al., 2012). However, recent studies have reported a steep inclination in alcohol consumption among younger females (Bolland et al., 2013; Chen & Jacobsen, 2012; Kristjansson et al., 2009; Şaşmaz et al., 2006; Tot et al., 2004). This could be because of the rising social acceptability women face in consuming and partakingin the drinking culture in pubs or other public spaces. In females, alcohol use is related to internalizing factors (anxiety and depression) whereas in males alcohol use is associated with externalizing factors (aggression, violence, delinquency, etc.) (Bolland et al., 2013; Webb et al., 2002). This would explain why males tend to drink more than females.

Age: According to Piaget, adolescents are afflicted with a sense of egocentrismcalled adolescent egocentrism (Alberts, Elkind& Ginsberg, 2006).Elkind (1967) elaborates on Piaget's theory by introducing a sub-construct, the personal fable. The personal fable indulges the adolescent, allowing him to believe that his feelings,

his problems, and his experiences are like none other. This feature in adolescence is also associated with adolescent risk-taking behaviors such as substance or alcohol use (Alberts et al., 2006).Evidence suggests that adolescent alcohol behavior is related to their age and the understanding of alcohol as something bad or good (Herken, Özkan&Bodur, 2000). Studies reveal that alcohol initiation usually begins by the ages of 14 or 15, or earlier even (Doksat et al., 2016; (Bolland et al., 2013; TUIK, 2013; Turkstat, 2012). The consensus within the literature is that alcohol consumption increases with age during adolescence (Ünlü&Evcin, 2014; Arslan et al., 2012; Alikaþifoðlu et al., 2004; Strycker, Duncan & Pickering, 2003;Şaşmaz et al., 2006; Kilpatrick et al., 2000).This increasing trend can be seen in older adolescents and stabilizes during early adulthood (approx. 21-26 years) (Chartier et al., 2010).

Socio-economic Status: Generally, SESis calculated via constructs such as family income, parental education, occupation, and race/ethnicity (Oakes & Rossi, 2003).Adolescent alcohol consumption seems to be more prevalent and frequent in higher-income households (Patrick et al., 2012; Melotti et al., 2011; Tot et al., 2004). Spijkerman and colleagues (2008) found that families with high and intermediate SES enforce strict rules on alcohol-related behaviors. Further, the study also revealed that families with higher SES were more likely to have mothers who consumed alcohol as compared to families with low SES and that alcohol was more readily available in households with higher SES than the contrary. One particular study identified that white adolescents coming from low SES households were related to greater alcohol consumption, cigarette, and cocaine use (Goodman & Huang, 2002). Studies have identified that lower SES is associated with authoritarian parenting styles and are more likely to use physical punishments as a consequence of stress-induced bylow SES (Pinderhughes, Dodge, Bates, Pettit &Zelli, 2000). This can in turn cause adolescents to pick up drinking habits as a way to cope.

Parental Alcohol Use: Parent's alcohol consumption often paves the way for the normalization of alcohol culture within the family. Literature shows that most adolescents who initiate alcohol consumption quite early, do so with their parents, family, or at home (Evren et al., 2014; Şaşmaz et al., 2006; Tot et al., 2004; Strycker, Duncan & Pickering, 2003; Herken et al., 2000; Windle, 2000).

Parental Level of Education: A higher social standing and greater parental education have been identified to be associated with greater adolescent alcohol consumption (Melotti et al., 2011; Maggs, Patrick & Feinstein, 2008). A higher educational qualification in the mother is also a significant factor in adolescent alcohol consumption(Alikaþifoðlu et al., 2004; Tot et al., 2004).\On the other hand, an analysis of the Ontario Student Drug Use Survey revealed that adolescents between the ages of 12 and 19 with college-educated parents were not likely to take part in alcohol use or other substance use (Hamilton, Noh &Adlaf, 2009).

Parental Marital Status: Children with divorced parents have been identified to exhibit higher rates of adolescent alcohol use (Kristjansson et al., 2009; Thompson et al., 2008). Children from recently divorced homes drink more frequently, in higher quantities, and are more likely to be drunk than children whose parents have been divorced for 4 years or more and children from intact families (Jeynes, 2001).Studies also show that there is a greater risk for alcohol initiation in adolescents living with a stepparent as compared to those with intact families (Amato, 2001; Flewelling& Bauman, 1990). Single-parent homes also proved to be a risk factor for adolescent alcohol use (Vanassche et al., 2014; Fisher et al., 2007; Karatay&Kubilay, 2004).

Sibling Alcohol Use: Studies reveal that older siblings can socialize adolescents into risk-taking behaviors, substance use, or alcohol consumption (Fagan &Najman, 2005; Windle, 2000). Further, Whiteman and colleagues (2016) found that not only was there a significant association between older siblings and younger siblings' alcohol consumption but also that this association was mediated through social and cognitive pathways. In particular, older siblings' alcohol use paved the way for younger siblings co-use and positive expectations about alcohol consumption (Whiteman et al., 2016).Sibling influences on adolescent alcohol consumption are especially concerning since there isn't much literature written or studies done regarding this matter (Scholte et al., 2008).

Peer Alcohol Use: Peer factors seem to be as important, if not more, in the initiation of alcohol use among adolescents. This is evident from the fact that alcohol or substance-using peers and peer encouragement in using alcohol are influential factors in the early initiation of alcohol use among adolescents (Strycker, Duncan & Pickering, 2003; Maxwell, 2002; Windle, 2000) and cessation over a year (Maxwell, 2002).Studies can also attest to the fact that having a peer who uses substances or alcohol is a predictor of adolescent alcohol consumption (Poelen et al., 2007; Tot et al., 2004).Factors such as the presence of a large number of friends who are into substance use significantly increased the risk of adolescent alcohol use, whereas being excluded by peers reduced said

risk (Shortt, Hutchinson, Chapman &Toumbourou, 2007). Alcohol use is also associated with adolescents spending time with friends after school in areas outside of parental observation such as cafés, the movies, parks, or the city center (Ünlü&Evcin, 2014). Social media plays a huge role in the peer socialization of drinking culture. Studies suggest that witnessing online portrayals of risky behaviors, drinking, and partying by peers can significantly influence adolescents to conform to the same behavior (Huang et al., 2014).

II. Methods

The study takes on a quantitative approach, making use of surveys to explore the trends and factors related to adolescent alcohol consumption. The study aims to understand the prevalence of alcohol use and the predictors associated with it among adolescents in Turkish high schools. Further, the study aims to identify the impact of demographic, family, peer, and school factors on adolescent alcohol consumption. The data used in the present study is collected from high schools in Turkey. A total of 751 entries were available for analysis. Data analysis is to be conducted using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) and the STATA software.

III. Results and Discussion

Three types of tests i.e. Pearson Chi-square likelihood ratio and Linear by Linear association had were used to assess the relationship between family and peer variables with adolescent alcohol consumption and the results had been presented below in table 1.1.

Table 1.1 Association of adolescent alcohol consumption with family and peer variables

Family and peer Variables	Pearson Chi-Square	Likelihood Ratio	Linear-by-Linear Association
Household Income	17.881***	19.586***	1.998
Parental Marital Status	23.091***	19.337**	.316
Mother's Education Level	24.508***	24.002***	5.570**
Mother's Work Status	35.015***	30.446***	1.749
Mother's Alcohol Use	60.508***	37.465***	4.843**
Father's Alcohol Use	92.565***	67.755***	2.976*
Sibling's Alcohol use	87.724***	56.059***	7.125***
Peer alcohol use	192.159***	183.633***	13.518***

****,** and * represents the significance at 1%,5%, and 10% respectively***.**

From table 1.1 it can be observed that all of the variables indicating family and peer characteristicsare highly related toadolescent alcohol consumption when Pearson chi-square and likelihood ratio tests are used. However, according to the Linear-by-Linear, association there is no relationship between household income and adolescent alcohol consumption. This may be the case that the association between the two is not linear. However, results confidently suggest that family and peer-related characteristics are closely related toadolescent alcohol consumption.

A multinomial logistic regression analysis was conducted to determine the significance of the three variables (gender, age, residence, household income), family variables (parental marital status, mother's education level, father's education level, mother's work status, father's work status, mother's alcohol use, father's alcohol, sibling's alcohol use) and peer alcohol use. The regression results revealed that factors such as being male, being 18 years old, having mothers with any level of formal education and working as minimum wage labor, having working fathers, having retired fathers, having alcohol-consuming peers, and family members (father and siblings), all significantly predicted adolescent alcohol consumption at varying levels of significance.

Table 1.9 Multinomial Logistic Regression Coefficients and Odd Ratios (N=751)

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
VARIABLES	Logit Coeff	Logit Coeff	Odds ratio	Odds ratio
Male	0.632*	0.322	1.882*	1.380
	(0.359)	(0.260)	(0.675)	(0.359)
Age				
19 years old	-1.343	0.507	0.261	1.660
	(0.822)	(0.862)	(0.215)	(1.431)
18 years old	-1.664**	0.0511	0.189**	1.052
	(0.791)	(0.850)	(0.150)	(0.895)
17 years old	-14.83	-14.08	3.64e-07	7.69e-07
	(931.0)	(955.2)	(0.000339)	(0.000734)
Marital Status				
Not divorced, separated	0.110	-0.219	1.117	0.803
	(1.134)	(0.945)	(1.267)	(0.759)
Divorced, separated	0.857	0.423	2.357	1.527
	(0.715)	(0.639)	(1.684)	(0.975)
Divorced, living together	-13.07	-12.64	2.11e-06	3.25e-06
	(3,709)	(3,166)	(0.00783)	(0.0103)
One parent passed away	0.780	-0.422	2.182	0.655
	(1.129)	(1.198)	(2.464)	(0.785)
Mother's Education Status				
Primary school grad	-1.897***	0.718	0.150***	2.049
	(0.587)	(0.666)	(0.0881)	(1.366)
Middle school grad	-1.134*	0.680	0.322*	1.974
	(0.633)	(0.696)	(0.204)	(1.375)
High school grad	-1.385*	1.008	0.250*	2.739
	(0.728)	(0.734)	(0.182)	(2.010)
University grad	0.113	2.028*	1.119	7.601*
	(1.333)	(1.050)	(1.492)	(7.978)
Father's Education Status				
Primary school grad	-1.256	-2.307*	0.285	0.0995*
	(1.256)	(1.196)	(0.358)	(0.119)
Middle school grad	-1.798	-2.202*	0.166	0.111*
	(1.294)	(1.195)	(0.214)	(0.132)
High school grad	-1.649	-2.143*	0.192	0.117*
	(1.335)	(1.224)	(0.257)	(0.144)
University grad	-2.311	-2.933**	0.0991	0.0532**
	(1.522)	(1.348)	(0.151)	(0.0717)

Household Income				
0-1600tl income	-0.0319	-0.439	0.969	0.644
	(0.722)	(0.539)	(0.700)	(0.347)
More than 1600tl income	0.805	0.323	2.236	1.381
	(0.545)	(0.382)	(1.218)	(0.527)
Mother's Work Status				
Laborer	0.713*	-0.206	2.040*	0.814
	(0.387)	(0.330)	(0.789)	(0.269)
Office holder	-1.164	-0.198	0.312	0.821
	(1.655)	(1.050)	(0.517)	(0.861)
Retired	-0.0256	0.926	0.975	2.525
	(1.299)	(1.036)	(1.266)	(2.616)
Tradesmen	0.543	1.204*	1.721	3.335*
	(0.997)	(0.680)	(1.717)	(2.268)
Father's Work Status				
Laborer	1.888**	1.144	6.603**	3.140
	(0.767)	(0.721)	(5.065)	(2.265)
Office holder	3.140***	1.381	23.10***	3.978
	(1.038)	(0.902)	(23.98)	(3.586)
Retired	2.329***	0.840	10.27***	2.316
	(0.836)	(0.811)	(8.586)	(1.878)
Tradesmen	1.910**	1.045	6.750**	2.844
	(0.851)	(0.767)	(5.742)	(2.182)
Peer Alcohol Use				
Closest peer's alcohol use	2.729***	0.324	15.32***	1.383
	(0.761)	(0.865)	(11.65)	(1.197)
Some peer's alcohol use	2.151***	1.998***	8.591***	7.378***
	(0.547)	(0.343)	(4.699)	(2.529)
Most peer's alcohol use	4.314***	2.874***	74.74***	17.71***
	(0.636)	(0.474)	(47.55)	(8.394)
All peer's alcohol use	4.441***	2.198*	84.82***	9.007*
	(1.189)	(1.298)	(100.9)	(11.69)
Family Alcohol Use				
No one	-0.139	-0.259	0.870	0.772
	(0.849)	(0.815)	(0.739)	(0.629)
Mother	1.931	1.677	6.893	5.347
	(1.280)	(1.377)	(8.826)	(7.363)
Father	1.957**	0.673	7.075**	1.961
	(0.814)	(0.820)	(5.757)	(1.607)

Sibling	2.302***	0.620	9.995***	1.860
	(0.810)	(0.849)	(8.101)	(1.578)
Constant	-17.90	-3.292**	1.68e-08	0.0372**
	(808.4)	(1.628)	(1.36e-05)	(0.0605)
Observations	751	751	751	751

The results suggest that adolescents are more likely to consume alcohol if they are males, have mothers working as laborers, have fathers working as laborers, office holders, and tradesmen, have retired fathers, and have alcohol using peers, fathers, and siblings. Furthermore, adolescents are less likely to consume alcohol if they are aged 18, have primary, middle, and high school graduate mothers.

Taking gender into consideration, not only did the sample reveal that more males consume alcohol than females, but also that male adolescents are more likely than female adolescents to consume alcohol. Even, males enjoy a sense of social approval should they choose to drink while women experience social sanctions against drinking (Griffin et al., 2000; Ögel et al., 2000), this finding comes as no surprise. Further, drinking behaviors are also strongly associated with externalizing behaviors, which are in turn related to the male gender (Bolland et al., 2013; Squeglia et al., 2017).

Looking at the variable of age, adolescents aged 18 are less likely than 20-year-olds to consume alcohol. That isyoung adults aged 20 are more likely to consume alcohol. Hence, it is safe to assume that, alcohol consumption may not be as prevalent during adolescence (17-18 years) in the current sample. The results also reveal ages 17 and 19 are not significant probably because of the disproportionate sample size, which consists largely of participants who do not consume alcohol compared to those who consume alcohol.

Looking at the variable of household income the results revealed that household income is associated with alcohol use in adolescents but is not a predictor of the same. Prior studies have sufficiently highlighted the importance of household income and financial status in determining adolescent deviance, substance use, and alcohol consumption. These studies have shown that adolescent alcohol consumption is more prevalent and more frequent in higher-income households (Patrick et al., 2012; Melotti et al., 2011; Humensky, 2010; Tot et al., 2004). This is because higher-income households are of higher social standing and can easily afford alcoholic beverages despite the heavy prices (Spijkerman et al., 2008). Although adolescents from higher-income families report more alcohol consumption, the current study was unable to establish a cause-and-effect relationship between both variables. That is, it cannot be conclusively claimedthat it is because of a higher household income that these adolescents consume alcohol.

Looking at the variable of the mother's level of education is strongly associated with adolescent alcohol consumption and is identified to predict the behavior as well. The nature of this relationship is such that adolescents with educated (primary, middle, and high school graduate) mothers are less likely to consume alcohol compared to those with illiterate mothers. Educated parents can identify the dangers of early drinking behaviors and are hence able to educate their children appropriately. However, since mothers are usually the primary caretakers, being educated is a huge advantage in managing adolescent behaviors. Education provides mothers with a well-equipped arsenal that can be used to discipline, monitor, and curb adolescent alcohol use.Not surprisingly, adolescents with low education levels parents are liable to have the wrong ideas about alcohol, such, as it is harmless or not constituting a drug/substance (Tur, 2003).

Next is the relationship between adolescent alcohol consumption and a mother's work status. The findings signal a strong association between these two variables, with most alcohol-consuming adolescents in the current sample having unemployed mothers. Moreover, alcohol consumption in adolescents is significantly predicted by having mothers working as laborers. That is, adolescents with mothers employed as laborers are more likely to consume alcohol compared to adolescents with unemployed mothers. A mother's work status as a laborer signifies a potential financial risk within the family given labor work is considered unskilled employment. This also reflects poorly on adolescents who may not have sufficient maternal supervision, paving way for deviant behaviors to emerge(Shortt et al., 2007).

Perhaps the most substantial of findings is the relationship between family alcohol use and adolescent alcohol use. One of the main reasons for adolescents emulating drinking behaviors is because they witness the same from socializing family agents. The current study

looked into the drinking behaviors of fathers, mothers, and siblings to reveal a strong association between adolescent alcohol use and family alcohol use. However, only father's and sibling's alcohol use separately predicted alcohol use among adolescents. In other words, adolescents are more likely to consume alcohol if they have fathers and siblings who consume alcohol. This finding is well supported by prior studies(Donovan 2004; Stryker et al., 2003; Herken et al., 2000).Alcohol consumption among family members normalizes the drinking culture within the family, encouraging adolescents to pick up similar habits.It is important to note that siblings, especially older ones, have a stronger influence on adolescents than do parents (Whiteman et al., 2007; Fagan &Najman, 2005). Siblings, on the occasion of having grown together and having shared life experiences, are likely to influence each other's attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors. Older siblings provide adolescents with opportunities that make alcohol consumption possible (Windle, 2000).

Peer influence is perhaps even more powerful in terms of the impact it has on driving adolescent behavior. The reason why peer influence is more compelling to adolescents is that adolescents identify strongly with peer groups at this age, more so than with their parents or siblings. Consequently, the current results revealed that peer alcohol use and adolescent alcohol use are strongly associated with each other. The results also revealed that adolescents with alcohol use peers are more likely to consume alcohol than adolescents with peers who do not use alcohol.Prior studies have made it clear that adolescents with alcohol/substance-using peers are at a higher risk of early alcohol initiation and consumption (Strycker et al., 2003; Maxwell, 2002; Windle, 2000).

IV. Conclusion

This study helps shed light on the current scenario of adolescent alcohol consumption and attempts to explore the relationship between adolescent alcohol consumption and each of the demographic, family, peer, and school variables used in the study. The current sample of Turkish adolescents revealed that being male, 18 years of age, along with having educated mothers, mothers working as laborers, working or retired fathers, and alcohol using family members (father, mother, siblings) predicted alcohol use. Consequently, it is understood that alcohol influence on adolescents operates within an interrelated web of various demographic, family, peer, and school factors. At varying levels of significance, each of these factors is either related to or impacts adolescent alcohol consumption in the current sample. Identifying the underlying factors of alcohol consumption in adolescents is quite important in tailoring remedial and intervention strategies. According to the findings, males and individuals in their late adolescence or young adulthood are implicated, raising the need for increased intervention policies aimed at this specific demographic. Middle schools and high schools would benefit from specific behavioral committees that could monitor student deviant behaviors and identify at-risk students showing markers of potential alcohol consumption. According to this study, these markers can be family alcohol use, parental education and work status, socioeconomic status, peer alcohol use, or school engagement. These committees could work hand-in-hand with counselors, teachers, and other administrative staff while also maintaining communication with at-risk students, their peers, and parents. They could also provide alcohol awareness drives, and implement support systems for the students in the form of counseling centers, thereby helping students navigate the turbulent waters of adolescent experiences. Schools should actively work with the community and families in raising awareness about the dangers of adolescent alcohol use. Families who are unable to obtain this information elsewhere should be able to access these "community-wide programs" despite their children not attending said school. That is, these programs aiming for awareness should be open to all.

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