

The influence of age and gender on party drug use among young adults attending dance events, clubs, and rock festivals in Belgium

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Abstract

A random sample of visitors of dance events, clubs, and rock festivals in Belgium (Flanders) was selected to complete an anonymous survey regarding their use of party drugs (alcohol, cannabis, xtc, cocaine, and amphetamines) and patterns of going out. The results of 670 respondents recruited in 2005 are reported and compared with 2003 for gender and age. Drug use in these nightlife settings is higher than in the general population. In younger age groups, the illegal drug use increases, but it decreases in older age groups. This might be linked to more responsibilities. Men still use drugs more often than women, but the gender differences seem to decrease. The changing role of women in society could be an explanation for this evolution. Limitations and implications of this research are discussed.

Web link

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