7th ed APA Annotated Bibliography

Baer, J.S. (2002). Student factors: Understanding individual variation in college drinking.

Journal of Studies on Alcohol, *14* (Supp.), 40-53.

http://dx.doi.org/10.15288/jsas.2002.s14.40

The author reviewed studies of individual characteristics related to college drinking,

including family history, genetics, personality, motives, expectancies, and peer use. These

general conclusions were obtained from the studies: students with sensation-seeking, impulsive

and nonconventional behavior, those who drank to relieve stress or anxiety, and members of

Greek organizations and participants of social activities in large groups drank more than other

students. The author believed future research should address three developmental patterns of

drinking: sociopathic alcoholism; "developmentally limited" alcohol-related problems; and

"negative affect alcoholism."

I will use this article to identify personal characteristics leading to excessive college

drinking, but the article also would be useful to begin research into the developmental patterns of

those students most in need of intervention programs.

Wechsler, H., & Austin, S.B. (1998). Binge drinking: The five/four measure. [Letter to the

editor]. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol, 59*(1), 122-124.

http://dx.doi.org/10.15288/jsa.1998.59.122

The authors defined "binge" drinking, used in college drinking behavior studies and the

media, as five or more drinks for men and four or more drinks for women. They noted their compliance with the Journal of Studies on Alcohol's request to change "binge" to "heavy episodic" drinking in their 1995 article. They also defended the five/four measure as the **[Summary]** threshold for alcohol-related consequences because it was directly related to driving after drinking, job difficulties, and college health and safety problems. The editor responded by explaining the need to change the term for the five/four drink experience to avoid confusion with the concept of several days of intoxication that interferes with daily activities, also known as a "binge."

[Evaluation/Reflection]

Although this correspondence is more than ten years old, the consequences of consuming five or more drinks in a row remain the same for today's college students. This article provided background information and evidence of consequences of college drinking for my paper.

Wechsler, H., Kuo, M., Lee, H., & Dowdall, G.W. (2000). Environmental correlates of underage alcohol use and related problems of college students. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine, 19*(1), 24-29. http://www.ajpmonline.org **[Source cited in APA format]**

[Summary] The authors compared drinking behaviors of underage and of-age college students and determined external factors leading to underage binge drinking using the 1997 Harvard School of Public Health College Alcohol Study (CAS) survey. Underage students were less likely to drink, but those who did drink consumed more alcohol per occasion and had more alcohol-related problems. Underage students more likely drank at private parties, purchased alcohol easily and for less than of-age students. The authors advised closer monitoring of private parties, enforcing

laws against sales without licenses or proof of age, and eliminating high-volume, reduced price sales.

Evaluation/Reflection

This study had a large, varied student sample, but may have been limited by self-reporting and nonresponsive biases. While this article, written by highly-regarded experts, is relevant to the topic of causes and effects of college drinking, it is over ten years old and analyzes data from only one of four CAS surveys. However, it led me to a more recent article on causes of excessive college drinking based on all CAS surveys.