

Chapter 1: Abstract

The present study investigated the effects of family, academic and peer stress on adolescents' substance use from a sample of 165 secondary students aged between 13 and 19 (41.81% men and 58.18% women) Peer pressure was included in this study as a moderator of family, academic and peer stress on adolescents' substance use, including smoking, alcohol consumption, liquor consumption and illegal drug use.

Results indicated that parents' substance use, a sub-category under family stress, and academic stress had significant main effects on adolescents' substance use.

Unexpectedly, peer pressure was found to have both main and moderating effects on substance use. The present study proposed that modeling was a critical factor associating with substance use, as evident in the significant main effects found in parents' substance use and peer pressure.