LATINX ACCULTURATION AND ALCOHOL USE: WITHIN AND OUT GROUP MARGINALIZATION PROCESSES AS MODERATORS

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Introduction

Alcohol Use in College Campuses

- Heavy drinking and drinking-related problems are issues on college campuses.1
- Alcohol use has implications regarding students’ ability to perform well academically.2
- Has been associated with a greater likelihood for dropping out of college.3

Alcohol Use in Latinx Emerging Adults

- Prevalence rates specific to alcohol use disorders are higher than those of Asian and African American background.4
- More likely to report social consequences of drinking and alcohol dependence when compared to same-aged peers of other racial ethnic groups (e.g., African American, non-Latinx White).5

Latinx College Students and Alcohol Use

- Latinx college students have steadily increased in college enrollment.6,7,8
- Imperative to understand factors related to increased alcohol use for this population.

Acculturation and Alcohol Use

- Acculturation alone may not be the factor driving the association with alcohol outcomes.
- Interaction with stressful events that may come along with it may be.

Purpose & Hypothesis

Purpose

The purpose of the present study is to examine the moderating effects of intragroup marginalization (IM) and discrimination on the relationships between enculturation and enenculturation with alcohol consumption and consequences.

Hypotheses

- IM and discrimination will moderate the relationships between acculturation with alcohol consumption and consequences in that higher levels of IM and discrimination will put one at risk for poorer outcomes compared to lower levels.
- IM and discrimination will moderate the relationships between enculturation with alcohol consumption and consequences in that higher levels of IM and discrimination will put one at risk for poorer outcomes compared to lower levels.

Method

Participants

- 428 Latinx college students
- Ages: 18-25 years (M = 19.69, SD = 1.747)
- Gender: 53% women, 47% men
- Generation: 89.5% born in the U.S.

Instruments

- Alcohol Use Issues: AUDIT9
- Intragroup Marginalization: IM Scale10
- Acculturation & Enculturation: ARSMA-III11
- Discrimination: Racism Scale for Latinos12

Procedure

- Online Qualtrics Survey took 30-45 minutes to complete
- Participants were given course credit for their participation

Results

Alcohol Consumption

[Graph showing alcohol consumption levels across different groups]

Alcohol Consequences

[Graph showing consequences of alcohol consumption across different groups]

Conclusions

- Higher levels of discrimination puts Latinx college students at risk for increased alcohol consumption and consequences at higher levels of acculturation, whereas higher levels of intragroup marginalization puts Latinx college students at risk for increased alcohol consumption and consequences at higher levels of enculturation.
- Both of these finding may be due to an incongruence in the individuals experience. For example, if one is attempting to hold on to their heritage cultural values, and at the same time they are experiencing marginalization from their own ethnic group, they may not know how to reconcile this. This dissonance could put one more at risk for engaging in poorer alcohol use choices, thus consequences. The same may process may be at play in the acculturation-alcohol use link and moderation with discrimination.

Implications

- This study highlights that being marginalized from both those inside of your own ethnic group (intragroup marginalization) and outside of your ethnic group (discrimination) can change the relationships found in the links between acculturation and enculturation on alcohol consumption and consequences.
- Further, there is a need to examine moderating processes when conducting acculturation and alcohol use research in order to disentangle some of the confusion in the current literature regarding these associations.

References

8. Quiros, J., & Lozano, D. F., & Rascon, J. (1995). Disparities in alcohol consumption and consequences at higher levels of acculturation; whereas higher levels of discrimination puts Latinx college students at risk for increased alcohol consumption and consequences at higher levels of enculturation.