Alcohol Use

- Although there are differences between Latino/a subgroups, as a whole, Latino/as are more likely to abuse alcohol (Lipsky & Caetano, 2009).

Academic Performance

- According to the U.S Census Bureau, Latino/a adolescents have had lower graduation rates than members of other ethnic groups (2009).
- Latino/as also have lower attendance rates than members of other ethnic groups (Snyder, Tan, & Hoffman, 2006).
- Latino/as have been found to have higher grade point averages (GPA) when they are enveloped in both their host and origin cultures (Aguayo, 2011).
- It has also been noticed that the GPAs of Latino/as adolescents decline as they age (Aguayo, 2011).

THE IMPACT OF DISCRIMINATION

- Discrimination has been linked to increased alcohol use amongst Latino/a adolescents (Gil, Wagner, & Vega, 2000).
- Poor academic performance predicts alcohol usage and substance abuse among adolescents (Lopez et al., 2008; Vaughan et al., 2011).

RELIGION & FAMILY COPING AS POTENTIAL PROTECTIVE FACTORS

- Strong family relationships have been linked to better academic performance (Crosnoe, 2004) and the absence of parental relationships have been linked to poor academic performance (Amato & Booth, 2006).
- Maternal support and parental involvement were linked to lower likelihood of underage drinking and substance abuse by Latino/a adolescents (Brown, 2010; Prado et al., 2009).
- Religiosity has been shown to be used as a coping mechanism for depression and suicidality (Eliassen, Taylor, & Lloyd, 2005; Petts, 2009).
- Family strategies have been able to lower the risk of suicidal tendencies (White, 2005).

THEME OF PROTECTIVE FACTORS

- Alcohol Use
- Academic Performance
- Discrimination
- Religion
- Family Coping

References


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