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Assessment of Knowledge and Attitude towards Drunk and Drive among Young Adults Studying at Selected Govt. Arts and Science Colleges in Puducherry



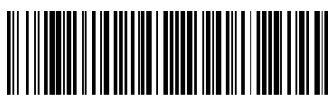
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ABSTRACT

Background: National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data states that in 2015, 501,423 road accidents were reported in India, of which 16,298 (3.2%) were attributed to driving under the influence of alcohol, according to the latest available data from the ministry of road transport & highways (MORTH). Objectives: the main purpose of this study is to assess the level of knowledge on drunk and driving among young adults. To assess the attitude towards the drunk and drive among young adults. To correlate between the knowledge and attitude towards drunk and drive among young adults. To associate the level of knowledge and attitude towards drunk and driving with selected demographic variables. Methodology: The research approach used for this study was quantitative research approach and the design selected was descriptive survey research design. The sample size 365 young adults both male and female selected through purposive sampling techniques. The young adults in the age group between (19-25 years) were included in this study. The researcher assessed the level of knowledge and attitude towards drunk and drive among young adults by using self-structured knowledge and attitude questionnaire on drunk and drive. Result and Conclusion: The finding of the study showed that majority 189(51.78) of the subjects had moderately adequate level of knowledge, 174(47.67%) had inadequate level of knowledge and 2(0.55%) had adequate level of knowledge on drunk and drive among young adults. Related to attitude majority 200(54.79) of them had neutral attitude, 149(40.82%) had positive attitude and 16(4.38%) had negative attitude towards drunk and drive among young adults. The demographic variables like religion (0.0001), residence (0.0001), father's occupation(0.0001), mother's occupation(0.001), mother's income(0.001) were statistically significant association with the level of knowledge on drunk and drive among young adults at the level of $p < 0.001$ value and the other demographic variables mother education(0.027) was statistically significant association with level of knowledge on drunk and drive among young adults at the level of $p < 0.05$. Related to attitude the demographic variables age(0.0001), gender(0.002), religion(0.001), type of family(0.002), father's education(0.001), father's occupation(0.0001), father's income(0.0001), mother's occupation(0.0001) were statistically significant association with the attitude towards drunk and drive among young adults at the level of $p < 0.001$ and the other demographic variables mother's education(0.013) was statistically significant association with level of knowledge on drunk and drive among young adults at the level of $p < 0.05$. The study was concluded that young adults had moderately adequate level of knowledge and neutral attitude.

INTRODUCTION

A young adult is a person between the ages of 19 and 39. A young adult in human development precedes middle adulthood[1]. Younger adult drivers were more liable to have driven under the influence of alcohol or illegitimate drugs than older adult drivers, with exceeding one in three drivers age between 21 to 25.

Alcoholism is a vital health problem in India and globally. For the past 30 to 40 years alcohol utilization has increased staggeringly. The problem of alcohol abuse until a few tens was considered a moral problem and a sign of social alienations[2]. Alcohol consumption contributes to 3 million deaths each year globally as well as to the disabilities and poor health of millions of people. Overall, harmful use of alcohol is responsible for 5.1% of the global burden of disease. Harmful use of alcohol is accountable for 7.1% and 2.2% of the global burden for males and females respectively [3].

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) reports reveals that 16,000 people are killed annually due to drunk and drugged driving[4]. The National Crime Records Bureau's report on Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India 2015 has been repeatedly quoted by critics. The report proposed that about 1.5% of all the total 4.64 lakh road accidents were caused by drunken driving or driving under influence of drug or alcohol, resulting in injuries to 6,295 people. According to the report, resulted in 2,988 deaths more than 8 deaths every day esteeming for just over 2% of all fatalities in road accidents .In 2011, the Ministry had acknowledged that drunken driving was one of the leading causes of road accidents and accounted for as many as 27,152 accident. In 2015 report explains 16,298 accidents to alcohol and the NCRB attributes only 6,970 accidents to it[5].

Tamil Nadu has third most drunken driving deaths. Chennai has the highest number of drunk driving deaths in the country according to the National Crime Records Bureau's (NCRB) 2015 report. In the NCRB's 'Accident and Suicide Report 2015', it states that there have been 93 deaths and 568 injuries due to drinking and driving or drugs [5,14].

The main aim of this study is to assess the level of knowledge on drunk and driving among young adults and also to assess the level of attitude towards drunk and drive among young adults.

Bachani A.M. et.al., (2012) conducted a study on Knowledge, Attitude and Practices around drinking and driving in Cambodia on 1187 individuals in the age group of 18 years and older. This study aims to illustrate current knowledge, attitude and practices around drinking and driving in three Cambodian provinces. A roadside survey of randomly selected road users. The data were collected by self-reported KAPs. The result revealed that 87.1% (n =1025) of the respondents agreed that alcohol use heightened their risk of a road traffic crash[6].

Gururaj G et.al., (2002) conducted a study on driving under the influence of alcohol and road traffic injuries in Bangalore on 5199 young males in the age group of 15 to 60 years. Purposive random sampling techniques and survey method was used. Data were collected using a semi-structured questionnaire. The result revealed that more than 95% knew that drinking and driving are dangerous, only 3% were aware of legal and enforcement aspects[7].

MATERIALS AND METHODS:

Formal written permission from the concerned authorities of Education Department of Puducherry was obtained. The researcher was permitted to conduct the study only in 2 selected Government Arts and Science Colleges at Puducherry. The researcher covered all 2 Government Colleges in Lawspet and Kalitheerthalkuppam. The research approach used in this study was Quantitative. A descriptive research design was adopted for this study. Non-Probability Purposive Sampling technique with a total of 365 boys and girls of young adults studying in colleges[8,9,10].

The tool used in this study was self-structured questionnaire. It included 3 sections. Section A consists of Demographic variables with 13 questions and section B consists of Self- Structured knowledge questionnaire on drunk and drive of 30 questions and section C consists of Self Structured attitude questionnaire on drunk and drive of 15 attitude questions. The collected data were analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics[11].

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

Considering the distribution of the subjects based on their demographic variables majority of 187(51.23%) of subjects are in the age group of 19 years, majority 218(59.72%) of subjects are male, 315(86.30%) belongs to Hindus religion, 219(60%) of the subjects are residing in rural area, 245(67.12%) of the subjects belongs to nuclear family, 334(91.51%) of subjects are day scholars. Regarding parental variables 152(41.6%) of the subjects’ father and 194(53.2%) of the subjects’ mother are educated up to high school level of education, 175(47.9%) of the subjects’ fathers are doing another type of occupation, 153(41.92%) of the subjects’ father are earning Rs.5000-Rs.7000/-, 198(54.2%) of the subjects’ mothers are homemakers, 181(49.6%) of the subjects’ mothers are not earning, 238(65.21%) of the subjects has no family history of alcohol.

Table No 1: Assessment of the level of knowledge on drunk and drive among young adults.
N= 365

Level of Knowledge	No.	%
Adequate Knowledge (21 – 30)	2	0.55
Moderately Adequate Knowledge (11 – 20)	189	51.78
Inadequate Knowledge (≤ 10)	174	47.67

Table no:1 depicts the frequency and percentage distribution of the subjects based on their level of knowledge on drunk and drive. The majority 189 (51.78) of the subjects are in moderate level of knowledge, 174(47.67%) of them are in inadequate level knowledge and only 2(0.55%) are the inadequate level of knowledge on drunk and drive.

The present study finding was supported by Misselke Louise et.al, (2003) conducted a study on the knowledge and attitude of young people towards driving after smoking cannabis or after drinking alcohol on 29 respondents in the age group of 16 to 25 years. The result revealed that young people appear to be knowledgeable about the risks of drinking and driving, and hold a culture-wide value that such behavior is antisocial. This is in stark contrast to their willingness to smoke cannabis and drive coupled with poorly developed values and knowledge about risks involved[12].

Table No 2: Assessment of the level of attitude towards drunk and drive among young adults.

N= 365

Level of Attitude	No.	%
Positive Attitude (56-75)	149	40.82
Neutral Attitude (36-55)	200	54.79
Negative Attitude (≤ 35)	16	4.38

Table no: 2 represents the frequency and percentage distribution of the subjects based on their attitude towards drunk and drive. The majority 200(54.79) of the subjects are in neutral attitude, 149(40.82%) are in a positive attitude and 16(4.38%) are in a negative attitude towards drunk and drive among young adults.

The present study finding was supported by David Mwanza et.al., (2017) conducted a study on knowledge, attitude and practices towards drunk driving as a risk factor for road traffic accidents among public bus drivers in 384 participants aged between the age of 25 to 35 years. The results revealed that all the participants had poor knowledge on drunk driving, despite 60.6% (n=223) of the participants knowing that alcohol impairs judgment and 63.5% (n=243) knowing that alcohol is a risk factor for the increasing number of road traffic accidents, 69.3% (n=266) of the participants had a negative attitude towards drunk driving, 54.7% (n=210) had good practices towards drunk driving. However, only 44.6 % (n=132) admitted to drinking and driving of which only 11 % (n=15) do it all the time, participants had a poor knowledge towards drunk and driving, the participants had a negative attitude towards drunk and driving and had a good practice towards drunk and driving[13].

Table No 3: Correlation of knowledge and attitude towards drunk and drive among young adult

N= 365

Variables	Mean	S.D	Karl Pearson's Correlation Value
Knowledge	11.08	2.78	r = 0.223 p = 0.0001, S***
Attitude	52.53	7.83	

*****p<0.001, S – Significant**

Table no: 3 shows that the mean score of knowledge is 11.08±2.78 and the mean score of attitude is 52.53±7.83. The calculated Karl Pearson's Correlation value of $r = 0.223$ shows a positive correlation which is found to be statistically significant at the level of $p<0.001$ value. This infers that when the level of knowledge on drunk and drive among young adults increases their attitude level also increases. Concerning association of level of knowledge on drunk and drive among young adults with demographic variables religion (0.0001), residence(0.0001), subjects father's occupation(0.0001), mother's occupation(0.001), mother's income(0.001) were statistically significant association with knowledge on drunk and drive among young adults at the level of **p<0.001** and the other demographic variables mother's education(0.027) were statistically significantly associate with the knowledge on drunk and drive among young adults at the level of **p<0.05**.

Concerning association of level of attitude towards drunk and drive among young adults with demographic variables age(0.0001), gender(0.002), religion(0.001), type of family(0.002), subjects father's education(0.001), father's occupation(0.0001), father's income(0.0001), mother's occupation(0.0001) were statistically significantly associate with the attitude towards drunk and drive among young adults at the level of **p<0.001** value and the other demographic variables mother's education(0.013) was statistically significantly associate with the attitude towards drunk and drive among young adults at the level of **p<0.05**.

CONCLUSION

The study findings showed that young adults were having a moderate level of knowledge on drunk and drive and a neutral attitude towards drunk and drive among young adults. The overall results depict that knowledge and attitude are related to each other i.e. when the knowledge on drunk and drive among young adults increases their attitude level also increases. Hence, an awareness program on prevention of drunk and drive and ill effects on drunk and drive can be started to educate the public in both clinical and community settings and Pamphlets related to knowledge and attitude towards drunk and drive was given to prevent the consequences of drunk and drive.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- A similar study can be conducted as comparative study between Private and Government colleges.
- A study can be conducted to find out the effectiveness of a structured teaching program an creating awareness to the general public.
- A similar study can be conducted among adults and older adults.
- A comparative study can be conducted to assess the effectiveness of structured teaching and video-assisted teaching program on awareness of drunk and drive.
- The comparative study can be conducted between boys and girls, young adults and older adults, housewives and young adults.

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