

A compendium of alcohol and other drug-related resources for law enforcement in Australia.

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Introduction

This compendium was developed as a result of a collaborative effort between the National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund (NDLERF) and the National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction (NCETA). It consists of a collection of alcohol and other drug-related law enforcement literature published in the years 2004 to early 2008. In addition, where particularly important resources were published which were outside of this timeframe, these have also been included.

The compendium is intended to serve as an information resource for police and other law enforcement officers working in a variety of settings, student law enforcement officers, policy makers, researchers and others with an interest in this area. Indeed the resource will be valuable to all those who require information about contemporary alcohol and other drug-related issues impacting upon the law enforcement sector and current responses to these issues. The overall aim of the publication is to enhance the access that law enforcement staff have to research concerning the identification of, and responses to, alcohol and other drug-related problems. It is envisaged that the use of the compendium will encourage evidence-based practice in this area.

The contents of the compendium are not confined to research conducted into law enforcement activities. Instead, a broader approach was adopted in the compendium's development. As well as research into law enforcement activities, other resources have been included that will better inform the law enforcement sector about the broader alcohol and other drug-related trends that impact on its work.

The preparation of this document required careful consideration of the criteria used to include and exclude resources. If, for example, criteria were used that were too broad, then this would risk the development of an overly large document with an unacceptably large number of marginally relevant or poor quality resources. Equally, if criteria were used that were too narrow, this would exclude many of the valuable documents that failed to meet these more stringent criteria. Ultimately, parameters were established by the authors that sought to find the middle ground between these two ends of the continuum.

The resources chosen for inclusion in this compendium have been grouped into a series of subject categories. *The subject categories below are quick links. In order to use the quick link function, CTRL + click on your chosen subject heading.* The categories are:

1. Alcohol Law Enforcement/Regulation
2. Illicit Drug Issues
3. Pharmaceutical Drugs
4. Volatile Substances
5. Demographics of Alcohol and Other Drug Use
6. Alcohol and Other Drug Related Crime/Links Between Drugs & Crime
7. Drink Driving
8. Drug Driving
9. Alcohol and Other Drug Related Social Harms
10. Criminal Justice Responses Including Alcohol and Other Drug Diversion Programs
11. Alcohol and Other Drug Problems Among Young People
12. Alcohol and Other Drug Related Crime Prevention

13. Alcohol and Other Drug Issues in the Police Workplace/OHS
14. Alcohol and Other Drug Related Problems Among Indigenous People
15. Alcohol and Other Drug Related Police Custody Issues

Many of the resources fit into more than one subject area and, as such, they appear under more than one subject category. Again, it was necessary for the authors to exercise some judgement in the placement of the resources in each subject category.

This document may be used in one of three ways.

1. Users can read each entry to identify publications of interest.
2. Users can limit their reading to a particular subject category.
3. Users of electronic copies can utilise the *Find* function to locate specific keywords. The electronic version of this compendium also contains the abstracts of articles to broaden the possibilities for finding articles which are relevant to the search topic. It can be accessed at www.ndlerf.gov.au

Methodology employed in developing the compendium

In February and March 2008 a series of systematic searches of publication databases were conducted. These databases were selected in order to capture as much alcohol and other drug-related law enforcement literature as possible. Search terms including police, policing, drug law enforcement, drug-related crime, alcohol enforcement, alcohol-related crime, drink driving and drug driving were used. The following databases were accessed.

- AGIS Plus Text;
- Australian Federal Police Digest;
- Blackwell Synergy;
- British Library;
- CINCH: Australian Criminology Database;
- Informit Search;
- Journals@Ovid;
- Lexis.com;
- Science Direct;
- Sage Journals;
- Springerlink;
- Web of Knowledge/Science; and
- Google Scholar.

In addition to this, a number of websites were reviewed. These included:

- Australasian Centre for Policing Research;
- Australian Institute of Criminology (including the Drug Use Monitoring in Australia website);
- South Australian Office of Crime Statistics and Research;
- NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research;
- National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund;

- National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre;
- National Drug Research Institute;
- National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction;
- United Kingdom Home Office;
- United Kingdom Home Office Crime Reduction;
- United Kingdom Drug Policy Commission;
- United States Department of Justice Website; and
- The Drug Policy Modelling Program Online Bibliography.

Two documents produced by the former Australasian Centre for Policing Research were also consulted during this process. These were *Police Literature 2005: An Australian-Focussed Compendium* (Sced, Nicholas & Beattie, 2006); and *Police Literature 2004: An Australian-Focussed Compendium* (Lynch, Nicholas, Beattie, Sced & Baur, 2007).

The authors are also grateful to have been able to access existing internal NCETA data sources.

Using this broad search approach, 1,026 references were retrieved and captured in Endnote. A data reduction process was then applied which involved removing all duplicates and deleting publications according to the exclusion criteria. The following exclusion criteria were applied: lack of relevance; lack of generalisability beyond the area of implementation/research; newsletters; advertisements; editorials; speeches; corrections; comments; reviews; replies to critiques; press releases; meeting minutes; briefing papers; legal cases; book reviews; court reports; and case law. Through this data reduction process, 653 resources were identified as warranting inclusion in the compendium.

After this, the remaining articles were sorted into subject categories.

How to obtain the resources listed in the Compendium

A useful place to start in seeking to obtain any of these resources is a basic Google search. Simply go to www.google.com.au and put the title of the article in the search field. Similarly useful is Google Scholar at <http://scholar.google.com.au>.

Your organisation's library or a public library may also be able to assist with obtaining the resources.

Assessing the quality and usefulness of the resources¹

This compendium contains a large number of resources and, as was mentioned earlier, it was necessary to 'find middle ground' between being under-inclusive and over-inclusive in the resources that have been cited. Indeed, many articles were excluded from the 'first and second cuts' of the resource collection process because they failed the exclusion criteria. As such, the articles contained in this compendium are a small subset of the multitude of resources that are available on this topic.

Many of the resources listed in the compendium, summarise the findings of research projects. It is therefore important to be able to evaluate their accuracy and usefulness to the issue to which they are to be applied. This requires a process of critical appraisal which involves a systematic examination of research evidence to address three basic questions.

¹Adapted with permission from Bywood, P. (2006). Judging the research: Tools for best practice. *Of Substance*. 4, 3, pp 28-29.

These are:

1. Is the study (or review) valid?
2. Are the results reliable?
3. Are the results relevant to my area of interest and will they help my organisation?

These are discussed in more detail below and are intended to provide the users of this Compendium with a useful starting point.

1. *Is the study (or review) valid?*

This involves establishing whether the study methods were sound and whether the conclusions of the authors were justified. The research study should have a clearly defined research question that describes the population studied, the intervention which took place and the outcomes measured. Second, the type of study design should be appropriate for the research question. It is also important to check that the researchers *actually* used the kind of methodology that they *claimed* to have used (for example, that a random allocation to one or other group was *actually* random).

Bias can occur when there is a systematic error in the way in which participants were selected for the study, and/or in the way that measurements were taken or recorded. A further problem, called confounding, can occur when something that is related to the intervention, which is the subject of the research, also influences the outcome. If, for example, a particular policing measure was introduced to reduce alcohol-related violence, it would be necessary to ensure that any outcomes that occurred were as a result of that policing measure. It could, for example, be that changes in alcohol-related violence resulted from some other change in policing practices (such as increased numbers of police) rather than from implementation the policing measure itself.

2. *Are the results reliable?*

It is important to ensure that the results are reliable. This involves checking that the effect that is being studied is real and not a chance event. It is also important to know whether the size of the effect is large enough to bring about a significant benefit. This involves examining the way that data is analysed and the size of the sample from which the data was collected.

3. *Are the results relevant and will they help my organisation?*

The key issue here is whether the research findings are relevant to the settings in which they are intended to be applied. Research that has been conducted in other countries, for example, may not be relevant to the Australian situation because a range of different factors apply.

There is a range of tools available to assist with the assessment of validity, reliability and relevance. These include pre-appraised literature, such as systematic literature searches conducted by others, guidelines for reading and interpreting literature, and checklists for assessing research. One such checklist appears below.

Features of study	Key items	Key questions to ask
Study validity	Concealment of allocation to experimental groups	Was randomisation by: random numbers table; coin flip; or drawing numbers from a hat?
Bias confounding	Blinded assessment of outcome measures allocation?	Were participants, data collectors and/or data analysts unaware of experimental group allocation?
	Follow up of participants	Were participants followed up at the end of the study and were all included in data analysis including dropouts and those switching sides (intention to treat)?
	Reliable outcome measures	Were outcome measures clearly described and accurate? Were objective measures used, or if self-report measures, were they well tested and validated?
	Protection against contamination	Did the groups comply with the allocated treatment (e.g. groups were allocated by institution, community or practice)?
	Baseline measurement and characteristics	Were baseline measures taken before the intervention? Were there significant differences present across groups, or were differences adjusted for using appropriate statistical procedures?
	Recruitment of participants from same population and time period	Did groups have similar baseline characteristics, such as socioeconomic status and ethnicity? Were all participants recruited at the same time?
Reliability of results	Adequate reporting of major findings	Were data detailed so that statistical analyses and conclusions could be checked?
	Adequate study sample size	Was the study large enough to achieve a statistically significant difference between groups?
	Precision of results	Were estimates of the random variability of the data provided (e.g. confidence intervals, standard errors)?
	Adequate reporting of losses to follow-up	Was the proportion of participants lost to follow-up small and unlikely to affect findings? Where losses were greater than 20%, were their characteristics described?
Relevance	Representativeness of the study participants	Were study participants' characteristics similar to the source population?
	The treatment and facilities were equivalent to that used in the source population.	Were the experimental group similar to that which is used in the broader population?

Adapted from Bywood, P. (2006). Judging the research: Tools for best practice. *Of Substance*. 4, 3, pp 28-29.

1. Alcohol Law Enforcement/Regulation

This section contains resources that deal with law enforcement and regulatory processes to reduce the harms associated with alcohol consumption. Also included in this section are potential initiatives which may not primarily involve law enforcement activities, but in which law enforcement officers could play a leadership role in encouraging other agencies to implement.

Abru, E. (2004). In accord on alcohol. *New South Wales Police News: Official journal of the Police Association of New South Wales*, 84(9), 31-32.

Allsop, S. (2006). Regulating alcohol availability. *Centrelines*, 18 (April), 1-8.

Allsop, S., Pascal, R., & Chikritzhs, T. (2005). *Management of alcohol at large-scale sports fixtures and other public events*. Perth: National Drug Research Institute.

Babb, P. (2007). *Violent crime, disorder and criminal damage since the introduction of the Licensing Act 2003* (2nd edition). London: Research Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office.

Baragry, P. (2004). Licensed premises and registered clubs: What to look for in the clubs and pubs. *Policing Issues and Practice Journal*, 12(1), 25-29.

Barclay, E., Donnermeyer, J. F., Scott, J., & Hogg, R. (Eds.). (2007). *Crime in rural Australia*. Sydney: Federation Press.

Abstract

Contemporary rural crime is more varied and sophisticated than it once was. The new forms range from agricultural crimes, such as the theft of water designated for agricultural production, to environmental crimes such as the illegal dumping of waste. They take place side by side with 'traditional' rural crimes such as cattle duffing while 'urban' crimes such as drug and alcohol abuse and violent assaults are also prevalent, and on the rise. This publication brings together leading academics who examine the major dimensions of crime and justice in rural and regional Australia including: the extent of rural crime; farm crime; violence; juvenile crime; policing; Indigenous crime and justice; crime prevention; drugs; fear of crime; and sentencing and punishment.

Bellis, M. A., Anderson, Z., & Hughes, K. (2006). *Effects of the Alcohol Misuse Enforcement Campaigns and the Licensing Act 2003 on Violence: A preliminary assessment of Accident and Emergency attendances in Wirral*. Liverpool: Centre for Public Health, Faculty of Health and Applied Social Sciences, Liverpool John Moores University.

Abstract

In recent years, the capacity of licensed premises in many town and city centres in the UK has increased substantially. Combined with growing levels of alcohol consumption among young people, this has meant popular nightlife areas have experienced increasing problems with alcohol-related violence. In response, the UK Government has invested in significant police resources and legislative change in order to stem a rising tide of alcohol-related violence largely associated with the night time economy. These include changes to licensing legislation and implementation of the Alcohol Misuse Enforcement Campaigns (AMECs). This paper uses Accident and Emergency data to measure the effects of the AMECs and the initial impact of the Licensing Act on violent injuries as measured by assault attendance at an A&E department in the North West of England.

Brewer, R. D., & Swahn, M. H. (2005). Binge Drinking and Violence. *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, 294(5), 616-618.

Abstract

Binge drinking is a common risk behaviour in the United States throughout all life stages and is closely interwoven into the fabric of US society, affecting a variety of health outcomes. While binge drinking is related to a wide range of health and social problems, its association with injuries is among the most robust and imminent. The proportion of injury deaths in the United States that are attributable to alcohol consumption ranges from approximately 20% to 100%, depending on the type of injury. The strong connection between binge drinking and injuries is perhaps best characterised for motor vehicle crashes. Research findings support a strong connection between binge drinking and violence. Alcohol consumption is common among perpetrators of violent crimes in the United States, including those arrested for homicide (range, 28%-86%), assault (range, 24%-37%), robbery (range, 7%-72%), and sexual offences (range, 13%-60%).

Briscoe, S., & Donnelly, N. (2003). *Liquor Licensing Enforcement Activity in New South Wales*. Sydney: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research.

Abstract

This bulletin is the first attempt to provide a comprehensive analysis of liquor licensing enforcement in NSW. Four relevant data sources were accessed for this study: court proceedings, Liquor Administration Board conferences, police infringement notices and NSW Department of Gaming and Racing infringement and compliance notices. In 2001, the most recent year for which complete data was available, 4,619 enforcement actions were initiated under the NSW liquor laws. A large percentage of this enforcement activity was concentrated on patrons or minors, with over one-quarter of enforcement actions being against patrons for failing to leave a licensed venue and 14 per cent being against persons under the age of 18 years. Just 147 (3.1%) breaches for conduct offences were recorded by enforcement agencies in 2001. Data quality issues are noted throughout the bulletin and barriers to enforcement of the NSW liquor laws are discussed.

British Medical Association, Board of Science. (2008). *Alcohol misuse: tackling the UK epidemic*. London: BMA.

Abstract

Alcoholic beverages consumed in moderation are enjoyed by many people. Although socially accepted, alcohol can be an addictive drug. Alcohol misuse can be harmful foremost to the individual but also places a substantial burden on families and society. The levels of alcohol-related disorder, crime, morbidity and premature mortality in the UK are unacceptably high. Despite this, the strategy to reduce alcohol-related harm in the UK has seen an over-reliance on popular but ineffective policies, as well as liberalisation of the major drivers of alcohol consumption: availability and price. This represents a significant shortcoming in the political drive to improve public health and order. It is essential that the UK Governments implement alcohol control policies that are evidence-based and proven to reduce alcohol-related harm. This includes policies that limit access to alcohol, as well as enforcement of responsible retailing and a move away from self-regulation by the alcohol industry. Targeted approaches are vital, including measures to reduce alcohol consumption by young people and children, and a greater emphasis on the provision of treatment for individuals who misuse alcohol. The BMA has developed a comprehensive policy on alcohol, and this report unifies its work and identifies effective, evidence-based policies for reducing the burden of alcohol misuse in the UK. It continues the work of the Board of Science on alcohol and health promotion which has resulted in a number of publications including *Foetal alcohol spectrum disorders – a guide for healthcare professionals* (BMA, 2007), *Binge drinking* (2005), and *Adolescent Health* (2003). The aim of this report is to tackle alcohol misuse and to propose policies that promote a culture where alcohol is enjoyed safely. As with other BMA Board of Science publications, this report is intended for policy makers with strategic or operational responsibility for public health and health promotion in the UK.

Brockie, J. (2007). Under the influence. On *Insight*, May 18, 2007: SBS-TV [Videorecording].

Abstract

“Imagine a drug that costs the Australian economy about 7.6 billion dollars every year in crime, health problems and lost productivity. A drug that kills between 3,000 and 4,000 of us annually. And a drug that governments across the country are now making much easier to get around the clock. The drug is alcohol – for many of us our drug of choice. But with more and more 24-hour licences being issued, there’s increasing concern we may be making booze too readily available.”

Cagney, P., & Palmer, S. (2007). *The sale and supply of alcohol to under 18 year olds in New Zealand: A systematic overview of international and New Zealand literature (Final Report)*: NZ Ministry of Justice.

Abstract

In common with other Western nations, alcohol is the most widespread legal recreational drug in New Zealand. ‘Having a drink’ is an accepted and positive part of social intercourse for many New Zealanders and an integral part of New Zealand’s sense of identity and culture. However, New Zealand’s drinking customs are also characterised by a culture of binge drinking with intoxication and the consumption of large quantities of alcohol in one sitting accepted as a social norm (Alcohol Advisory Council of New Zealand, 2005b; Alcohol Advisory Council of New Zealand and Ministry of Health, 2001).

While the youth drinking culture may broadly mirror the adult drinking culture, young people tend to have especially risky drinking patterns that result in their experiencing a disproportionate amount of alcohol-related harm. When they drink, young people are more likely to binge and consume large quantities of alcohol in one session. Given that this pattern of bingeing and intoxication has been shown to result in the greatest amount of alcohol-related harm, underage drinking and the sale and supply of alcohol to minors is a genuine source of concern to the community.

Like drinking behaviour among the wider community, drinking by minors is a social behaviour; a learned process that is primarily determined by wider social structures and norms. It is therefore crucial that prevention efforts and public action strategies are based on a thorough understanding of the complex mix of socio-economic, political and cultural factors that impact on underage drinking and its associated harms.

Given the complexity of the environment and the array of risk factors impacting on youth drinking, strategies to reduce underage drinking by limiting the sale and supply of alcohol to minors are likely to be most effective when coordinated at multiple levels in society. Thus, in addition to the regulation of sales from licensed premises and other retailers, it is also necessary to engage, inform and mobilise society at large in order to bring about a long-term normative change in prevailing community attitudes towards underage drinking and the supply of alcohol to minors.

Calma, T. (2004, February). *Implications of the Racial Discrimination Act 1975 with reference to state and territory liquor licensing legislation*. Paper presented at the 34th Australasian Liquor Licensing Authorities Conference, Melbourne, Victoria.

Abstract

This paper was given by the Acting Race Discrimination Commissioner and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner at the Australasian Liquor Licensing Authorities Conference. Its aim was to identify issues which may arise under the *Racial Discrimination Act 1975* (Cth) in relation to the creation of restrictive conditions on liquor licences in Indigenous communities. The Act is also relevant to the manner in which the condition is enforced and how the decision to impose the condition was arrived at. The role and function of the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission are outlined, and an overview of relevant provisions of the *Racial Discrimination Act* is given, with examples of both direct and indirect discrimination in

relation to alcohol restrictions. The Commissioner concludes by stating there is evidence for the fact that alcohol restrictions often do not tackle the problems of violence and neglect despite these being the reasons for the restrictions in the first place, and that there seems to be evidence suggesting that alcohol restrictions in isolation of any mechanism to address why people are abusing alcohol actually entrench the problems that the restrictions were designed to stop. Alcohol restrictions from the Indigenous perspective have therefore been identified in criminology as a situational crime prevention technique. It is argued that this is not sustainable on its own, because it is not an underlying crime prevention technique.

Casswell, S., & Maxwell, A. (2005). What works to reduce alcohol-related harm and why aren't the policies more popular? *Social Policy Journal of New Zealand*, 25, 118-141.

Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2005). Enhanced enforcement of laws to prevent alcohol sales to underage persons – New Hampshire, 1999–2004. *Morbidity & Mortality Weekly Report*, 53(21), 452-454.

Abstract

In 1984, the *National Minimum Drinking Age Act* (Public Law 98-363) was passed, requiring states to raise to 21 years the minimum age to purchase and publicly possess alcohol. Although the law has contributed to substantial reductions in underage drinking and alcohol-related motor-vehicle crashes, alcohol use and binge drinking rates among youths remain high in the United States, and efforts by youths to purchase alcohol from licensed establishments frequently are successful. To reduce alcohol sales to persons aged <21 years in Concord (2000 population: 40,687), New Hampshire, the Concord Police Department (CPD) and New Hampshire Liquor Commission (NHLC) conducted a pilot program of enhanced law enforcement with quarterly compliance checks of alcohol licenses during March 2002 – February 2004. This report summarizes the results of that program, which indicated that enhanced enforcement 1) resulted in a 64% reduction in retail alcohol sales to underage youths and 2) was temporally associated with declines in alcohol use and binge drinking among Concord high school students. These findings emphasize the potential effectiveness of enhanced enforcement of minimum drinking age laws to reduce consumption of alcohol by underage youths.

Chikritzhs, T. (2006). Profit versus harm: The paradox of alcohol regulation in Australia. *Centre Lines*, 18 (April), 2-3.

Abstract

This article reflects on some of the changes that have occurred among the various Liquor Acts in Australia and highlights some of the confronting issues likely to affect the future of alcohol regulation in this country.

Chikritzhs, T. (2008). Tools for Policy and Prevention: The Australian National Alcohol Indicators Project (NAIP). *Contemporary Drug Problems*, (In Press).

Chikritzhs, T., & Stockwell, T. (2006). The impact of later trading hours for hotels on levels of impaired driver road crashes and driver breath alcohol levels. *Addiction*, 101(9), 1254-1264.

Abstract

The aim of this study was to examine the impact of later trading hours for licensed hotels in Perth, Western Australia, on levels of associated impaired-driver road crashes and driver breath alcohol levels (BALs).

Police data on the 'last place of drinking' for impaired drivers involved in road crashes and their corresponding BALs were examined to identify those associated with Perth hotels between 1 July 1990 and 30 June 1997. During this period, 43 (23%) of the 186 hotels meeting study criteria were granted an Extended Trading Permit for 1 a.m. closing (ETP hotels), while the rest continued to close at midnight (non-ETP hotels).

After controlling for the trend in crash rates associated with non-ETP hotels and the introduction of mobile police breath testing stations to Perth freeways, a significant increase in monthly crash rates for ETP hotels was found. This relationship was largely accounted for by higher volumes of high-alcohol content beer, wine and spirits purchased by ETP hotels. No relation was found between driver BALs and the introduction of ETPs.

The study concluded that late trading was associated with increased levels of impaired driver road crashes and alcohol consumption, particularly high-risk alcoholic beverages. Greater numbers of patrons and characteristics specific to clientele of hotels which applied for late trading hours (i.e. younger age, greater propensity to drunk-drive, preference for high-risk beverages) were suggested as having contributed to this increase.

Chikritzhs, T., & Stockwell, T. (2007). The impact of later trading hours for hotels (public houses) on breath alcohol levels of apprehended impaired drivers. *Addiction*, 102(10), 1609-1617.

Abstract

The aim of this study was to examine the impact of extended trading permits (ETPs) for licensed hotels in Perth, Western Australia, on impaired driver breath alcohol levels (BALs) between July 1993 and June 1997.

Forty-three hotels obtained ETPs allowing later closing hours and 130 maintained standard closing time (controls). Impaired driver BALs were linked to 'last place of drinking' hotels. Before and after period BALs of drivers who last drank at ETP or non-ETP hotels were compared by time of day of apprehension and sex, controlling for age.

Impaired female drivers apprehended between 10.01 p.m. and 12 midnight (before closing time) had significantly lower BALs after drinking at ETP hotels. Male drivers aged 18–25 years and apprehended between 12.01 and 2.00 a.m. after drinking at ETP hotels had significantly higher BALs than drivers who drank at non-ETP hotels.

The study concluded that at peak times for alcohol-related offences, late trading is associated with higher BALs among those drinkers who are most at risk of alcohol-related harm.

Chikritzhs, T., Catalano, P., Pascal, R., & Henrickson, N. (2007). *Predicting alcohol-related harms from licensed outlet density: A feasibility study*. Hobart: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

This feasibility study demonstrated the utility of using systematically recorded data to model relationships between licensed outlet density and alcohol-related harm in Western Australia. This report describes in detail how volume of wholesale alcohol purchase data can be used effectively to: identify existing associations; identify the size and direction of associations; estimate the likely impact that changes to licensed outlet density will have on levels of alcohol-related harms; and demonstrate the variability of relationships among regions. The results also concur with the overall findings from the research literature; that is, greater physical availability of alcohol is associated with higher levels of alcohol-related harms.

Nonetheless, it must be recognised that any model which attempts to estimate the impact of one variable on another will only be as accurate, sensitive and reliable as the data and assumptions upon which it is based. One of the main reasons for selecting Western Australia as a test case for this project was the relatively easy access to comprehensive alcohol consumption and alcohol-related harms data. Much of that which has been demonstrated in this report could not be achieved on a national scale given current gaps in data collection. This highlights a fundamental issue which needs to be addressed if work in this area is to move forward – access to data on alcohol purchases by licensed retail outlets.

Chikritzhs, T., Stockwell, T., & Pascal, R. (2005). The impact of the Northern Territory's Living With Alcohol program, 1992–2002: Revisiting the evaluation. *Addiction, 100*, 1625-1636.

Abstract

The aim of this study was to evaluate the effects of the Living With Alcohol (LWA) program and the LWA Alcoholic Beverage Levy on alcohol-attributable deaths in the Northern Territory (NT) controlling for simultaneous trends in death rates from a control region and non-alcohol related death trends in the NT, between 1985 and 2002.

The LWA program was introduced in 1992 with funding from a special NT tax (Levy) on beverages with greater than 3% alcohol content by volume. The Levy was removed in 1997 but the LWA program continued to be funded by the federal government until 2002. Trends in age standardised rates of acute and chronic alcohol-attributable deaths in the NT were examined before, during and after the combined implementation of the LWA program and Levy; and before and during the full length of the LWA program. ARIMA time series analyses included internal and external control series and adjustments for possible confounders. Separate estimates were made for Indigenous and non-Indigenous NT residents.

When combined, the Levy and the LWA program were associated with significant declines in acute alcohol-attributable deaths in the NT as well as Indigenous deaths between 1992 and 1997. A significant but delayed decline in chronic deaths was evident towards the end of the study period between 1998 and 2002.

The study concluded that the combined impact of the LWA program levy and the programs and services funded by the levy reduced the burden of alcohol-attributable injury to the NT in the short-term and may have contributed to a reduction in chronic illness in the longer term. The results of this study present a strong argument for the effectiveness of combining alcohol taxes with comprehensive programs and services designed to reduce the harms from alcohol, and underline the need to distinguish between the acute and chronic effects of alcohol in population level studies.

Clough, A. (2006). No alcohol beyond this point: Restricted areas in the top end. *Of Substance, 4*, 10-11.

Abstract

A recent surge in applications for restricted alcohol areas in the Northern Territory will take the number of restricted areas there to more than 100. The restricted area provisions of the current NT Liquor Act have presented remote Indigenous communities with the opportunity to re-enforce their own local efforts to control liquor and its attendant problems. This article discusses the significance of these strategies in meeting the needs of the resident Indigenous groups in relation to the following regions: Groote Eylandt restricted area, Maningrida restricted area, and Yirrkala. These case studies show that local circumstances have a real impact on what licensing conditions might or might not work in a given community.

Combined Aboriginal Organisations of the Northern Territory. (2007). *A proposed emergency response and development plan to protect Aboriginal children in the Northern Territory: A preliminary response to the Australian Government's proposals*. Alice Springs: Combined Aboriginal Organisations of the Northern Territory.

Abstract

In June 2007, the Australian Government responded to the report of the Northern Territory Board of Inquiry into the Protection of Aboriginal Children with the announcement of a package of 12 'emergency' measures. This short paper comments on the likely effectiveness of the proposals and puts forward a set of practical immediate measures and long-term reform proposals to address the problem. These draw upon the experience of Aboriginal communities and service providers

on the ground, and some of the many reports detailing problems in Aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory and elsewhere. It proposes a two-tiered response to the problems of child abuse in remote Aboriginal communities. The first phase, an 'emergency response', on which agreement can be reached quickly between governments and community leaders, would include such actions as more resources for communities, police, child protection and health services to protect the victims of violence and abuse (such as safe houses, night patrols, and Aboriginal Community Police); tougher restrictions on sale of alcohol outside the communities (including take away trade), community based family support; improved access to mediation, treatment and rehabilitation services; and better access to primary health care and education services. The second, a 'long term development plan' to improve the capacities and services in Aboriginal communities to continue the work commenced in the emergency response and to combat the underlying risk factors for Aboriginal children.

Cusens, B., & Shepherd, J. (2005). Prevention of alcohol-related assault and injury. *Hospital Medicine*, 66(6), 346-348.

Abstract

There is a causal link between alcohol intoxication and injury in assault, mediated by individual, contextual and cultural factors. Harm reduction can be achieved through practical measures like plastic glasses and bottles in licensed premises, controlling drinks prices and targeted policing organised on the basis of police and accident and emergency data.

de Jersey, A. (2006). *Unlawful drink spiking: Criminal Code (Drink Spiking) and Other Acts Amendment Bill 2006 (Qld)*. Brisbane: Queensland Parliamentary Library.

Abstract

'Drink spiking' refers to drugs or alcohol being added to a person's drink without their consent. It has become a growing problem worldwide, and has come to be associated with sexual assault and theft. It is notoriously difficult to determine the exact number of drink spiking incidents which occur within the community, due in part to the covert nature of the act and the difficulty in verifying whether a reported incident has actually occurred. This research brief examines this emerging issue and why it occurs. It also looks at measures that may be implemented to reduce the incidence of drink spiking, including legislative amendments proposed by the Criminal Code (Drink Spiking) and Other Acts Amendment Bill 2006 (Qld) to create the offence of unlawful drink spiking.

Dean, J., Harris, J., Kake, T., Kirby, S., & Kypr, K. (2005). 'Think before you buy under-18s drink': Evaluation of a community alcohol intervention. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 24(1), 13-20.

Abstract

Hazardous consumption of alcohol by teenagers is a significant public health problem in New Zealand. Concern about supply of alcohol to minors motivated the establishment of 'Think before you buy under-18s drink', a campaign to reduce alcohol-related harm by discouraging inappropriate supply of alcohol by adults. Two intervention districts and a comparison district, in the South Island of New Zealand, were selected for the purpose of evaluating the campaign. Primary outcome measures were changes in the prevalence of parent supply to their teenager (13 -17 years) for unsupervised drinking (USD), and changes in the prevalence of binge drinking among teenagers. At baseline, 49% of teenagers reported a recent episode of binge drinking. USD in the past month was reported by 36% of teenagers. Recent purchases of alcohol by under-18s were common (bottle shops: 16%; pubs/bars: 11%). In contrast to teenagers, only 2% of parents reported USD in the past month. Levels of binge drinking decreased in all three districts. Analysis of data from 474 teenagers who completed questionnaires, at baseline and follow-up, showed decreased USD in Ashburton and Waitaki relative to Clutha, although this was not significant. Discrepancies between teenager and parent reports of USD may be due to the latter providing a socially desirable survey response and to differences in the interpretation of what constitutes adult

supervision. The lack of a significant association between changes in USD and binge drinking may be a consequence of teenagers obtaining relatively small amounts of alcohol from their parents and larger quantities from other sources, e.g. peers (some of whom may be able to purchase alcohol legally) and from licensed premises.

Debeer, J. (2006). Social host liability in Canada. *Tort Law Review*, 14(3), 174-182.

Abstract

Implications for Canadian social hosts, homeowners, insurers and victims of drink driving of the ruling in the *Childs v Desormeaux* case that party hosts are generally not liable if their guests drive drunk and injure third parties.

Deehan, A. (2004). The prevention of alcohol-related crime: Operationalising situational and environmental strategies. *Crime Prevention and Community Safety: An International Journal*, 6(1), 43-52.

Dent, C. W., Grube, J. W., & Biglan, A. (2005). Community level alcohol availability and enforcement of possession laws as predictors of youth drinking. *Preventive Medicine: An International Journal Devoted to Practice and Theory*, 40(3), 355-362.

Dingwall, G. (2007). Responding to alcohol-related crime and disorder in England and Wales: Understanding the Government's 'Blitz'. *Security Journal*, 20, 284-292.

Abstract

In a much-publicised attempt to reduce "alcohol-related" crime and disorder, the governments in England and Wales have radically reformed the licensing of alcohol and have introduced a range of other measures designed to curb problematic drinking. This article aims to analyse why "alcohol-related" crime and disorder came to dominate the criminal justice agenda at that time and why so radical a response emerged despite the extensive concerns of professional groups and the adverse experience of some other jurisdictions that have adopted similar strategies.

Doherty, S. J., & Roche, A. M. (2003). *Alcohol and licensed premises: Best practice in policing. A monograph for police and policy makers*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

The aim of the project was to develop a document for police services across Australia that identifies best practice strategies to reduce alcohol-related harms in and around licensed premises. This Monograph has been developed specifically for operational police, their managers and policy makers. It is also intended that the Monograph will be a useful tool for those from the full range of other disciplines with an interest in this area.

The Monograph identifies a number of gaps and makes 11 recommendations that can be used to inform police and policy makers about areas for further inquiry and research in achieving best practice in the policing of licensed premises.

Donnelly, N., & Briscoe, S. (2005). Intelligence-led regulation of licensed premises. In T. R. Stockwell, P. J. Gruenewald, J. W. Toumbourou & W. Loxley (Eds.), *Preventing harmful substance use: The evidence base for policy and practice* (pp. 257-266). Chichester, UK: John Wiley and Sons.

Abstract

In this chapter, the potential for reducing the levels of alcohol-related crime through improved and better integrated law enforcement and liquor licensing information systems is critically examined. Licensed premises have been clearly identified as an important situational risk factor for alcohol-related problems, with some at a much higher risk than others. Research also indicates

that a strong enforcement component is necessary to improve compliance with liquor laws, particularly those relating to patron intoxication. The clear implication of these findings is that limited law enforcement and crime prevention initiatives can be strategically targeted to those times and places which are at much greater risk for alcohol-related crime. The authors suggest that such targeting would be greatly facilitated by having in place well integrated and comprehensive information systems which enable the identification of those licensed premises which repeatedly breach the liquor licensing laws. The report identifies a number of distinct sources of such data in New South Wales, and after analysis suggests there is a need for these to be better integrated for the targeting of harm minimisation initiatives.

Donnelly, N., Poynton, S., Weatherburn, D., Bamford, E., & Nottage, J. (2006). *Liquor outlet concentrations and alcohol-related neighbourhood problems*. Sydney: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research.

Abstract

This bulletin presents the results of research investigating the relationship between the concentration of licensed premises in a given area and perceptions of alcohol-related problems in that locale. For this purpose, a secondary analysis of the National Crime and Safety Survey (2002) was conducted using data from survey participants who resided in NSW. This investigation examined three outcomes: (1) reported problems with drunkenness in the neighbourhood, (2) reported problems with property damage in the neighbourhood and (3) assault victimisation in the home. Two measures of alcohol outlet concentration were constructed for this analysis and included as independent variables: (1) liquor outlet accessibility and (2) liquor outlet density. Multilevel modelling of these data showed that respondents who lived closer to liquor outlets were more likely to report problems in their neighbourhood from drunkenness and property damage, controlling for socio-demographic factors. The analysis also showed that respondents who lived in areas with a higher density of licensed premises were more likely to report problems in their neighbourhood from drunkenness, again controlling for socio-demographic factors. The implications of these findings for liquor licensing policy in NSW are discussed.

Donnelly, N., Scott, L., Poynton, S., Weatherburn, D., Shanahan, M., & Hansen, F. (2007). *Estimating the short-term cost of police time spent dealing with alcohol-related crime in NSW*. Hobart: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

It is well established that alcohol is an important situational risk factor for a number of crime types, such as violence, malicious damage to property, public disorder and dangerous driving. While there is evidence that alcohol is involved in about one-half of assault hospitalisations and one-third of road fatalities, the specific impact that such incidents place on police resources has been difficult to quantify. This study conducted an activity survey across a representative sample of NSW Police Force Local Area Commands (LACs). The main aims were to estimate the percentage of police officers' time which is spent dealing with alcohol-related issues and to quantify the salary costs of this time. As well as being asked to record the type of alcohol-related incident attended, police officers were asked to provide information about the time they actually spent on the incident. The activity survey was designed to directly measure the profile of alcohol-related activities engaged in by police (both proactive and reactive) and the amount of time spent dealing with such incidents relative to other incident types. Dollar values were assigned to police time on the basis of each participating officer's hourly salary.

Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee, Parliament of Victoria. (2004). *Inquiry into strategies to reduce harmful alcohol consumption: Discussion paper*. Melbourne: Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee.

Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee, Parliament of Victoria. (2005). *Inquiry into strategies to reduce harmful alcohol consumption: Final report*. Melbourne: Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee.

Duailibi, S., Ponicki, W. R., Grube, J. W., Pinsky, I., Laranjeira, R., & Raw, M. (2007). The effect of restricting opening hours on alcohol-related violence. *American Journal of Public Health, 97*(12), 2276-2280.

Abstract

This study investigated whether limiting the hours of alcoholic beverage sales in bars had an effect on homicides and violence against women in the Brazilian city of Diadema. The policy to restrict alcohol sales was introduced in July 2002 and prohibited on-premises alcohol sales after 11 pm.

The researchers analysed data on homicides (1995 to 2005) and violence against women (2000 to 2005) from the Diadema (population 360 000) police archives using log-linear regression analyses. They found that the new restriction on drinking hours led to a decrease of almost 9 murders a month. Assaults against women also decreased, but this effect was not significant in models in which we controlled for underlying trends.

The study concluded that introducing restrictions on opening hours resulted in a significant decrease in murders, which confirmed what was known from the literature: restricting access to alcohol can reduce alcohol-related problems. The results did not support the converse view, that increasing availability will somehow reduce problems.

Engineer, R., Phillips, A., Thompson, J., & Nicholls, J. (2003). *Drunk and disorderly: A qualitative study of binge drinking among 18- to 24-year-olds*. London: Home Office Research, Development and Statistics Directorate.

Abstract

This report presents the findings from a qualitative study exploring the social context of binge drinking among young adults aged from 18 to 24 years. The study examines young people's experiences of crime, disorder and risk-taking in the night-time economy, and explores ways in which drinking patterns, attitudes to drinking alcohol and the effects of binge drinking were related to these experiences. The research aims to provide an evidence base for the development of policies to reduce alcohol-related crime, disorder and violence, and public drunkenness. The research consisted of 16 focus group discussions with young people, conducted across 8 locations in England and Wales. All of these young people had regular experience of binge drinking, and many reported behaving in ways associated with alcohol-related crime and disorder while out drinking. The research identified four key elements of the social context that are relevant to the relationship between binge drinking and disorder: attitudes and motivations towards binge drinking, social and peer group norms, the effects of binge drinking on mood and behaviour, and the drinking environment. Key 'risk factors' were identified in each area. The research concluded that where these are present, and particularly when they interact, the likelihood of disorderly outcomes and risk-taking is increased. The report's conclusion illustrates and explains these integral relationships.

Foster, J. H. (2008). The *Licensing Act 2003*: Eighteen months down the road. *Drugs: Education, Prevention & Policy, 15*(1), 1-6.

Gosselt, J. F., van Hoof, J. J., de Jong, M. D. T., & Prinsen, S. (2007). Mystery shopping and alcohol sales: Do supermarkets and liquor stores sell alcohol to underage customers? *Journal of Adolescent Health, 41*(3), 302-308.

Abstract

The Dutch national policy regarding alcohol and youth relies on retailers' willingness to refuse to sell alcohol to underage customers. This study examined unobtrusively whether supermarkets and liquor stores do indeed comply with the legal age restrictions for alcohol sales.

A research protocol was developed based on the methodology of mystery shopping. Using the protocol, 150 supermarkets and 75 liquor stores were visited by 15-year-old adolescents who tried to buy soft alcoholic beverages (legal age, 16 years), and 75 liquor stores were visited by 17-year-old adolescents who tried to buy strong alcoholic beverages (legal age, 18). The study found that of all 300 buying attempts, 86% were successful. In supermarkets, 88% of all attempts succeeded. In liquor stores, a difference was found between the purchase of strong alcohol by 17-year-olds (89%) and the purchase of soft alcoholic beverages by 15-year-olds (77%). In only 71 of all visits, mystery shoppers were asked for an ID. In 39% of these cases, they were still able to buy alcohol. Female adolescents were more successful in buying alcohol than male adolescents.

The results show that supermarkets and liquor stores generally fail to see the need for extra care when young customers try to buy alcohol. Legal age restrictions without enforcement and facilitation are clearly not sufficient to protect adolescents from early exposure to alcohol.

Graham, K., Bernards, S., Osgood, D. W., & Wells, S. (2006). Bad nights or bad bars? Multi-level analysis of environmental predictors of aggression in late-night large-capacity bars and clubs. *Addiction, 101*(11), 1569-1580.

Abstract

The aim of this study was to clarify the environmental predictors of bar-room aggression by differentiating relationships due to nightly variations versus across bar variations, frequency versus severity of aggression and patron versus staff aggression.

Male-female pairs of researcher-observers conducted 1334 observations in 118 large capacity (> 300) bars and clubs in Toronto, Canada. These observers independently rated aspects of the environment (e.g. crowding) at every visit and wrote detailed narratives of each incident of aggression that occurred. Measures of severity of aggression for the visit were calculated by aggregating ratings for each person in aggressive incidents.

The study found that although bivariate analyses confirmed the significance of most environmental predictors of aggression identified in previous research, multivariate analyses identified the following key visit-level predictors (controlling for bar-level relationships): rowdiness/permissive environment and people hanging around after closing predicted both frequency and severity of aggression; sexual activity, contact and competition and people with two or more drinks at closing predicted frequency but not severity of aggression; lack of staff monitoring predicted more severe patron aggression, while having more and better coordinated staff predicted more severe staff aggression. Intoxication of patrons was significantly associated with more frequent and severe patron aggression at the bar level (but not at the visit level) in the multivariate analyses and negatively associated with severity of staff aggression at the visit level.

The results demonstrate clearly the importance of the immediate environment (not just the type of bar or characteristics of usual patrons) and the importance of specific environmental factors, including staff behaviour, in predicting both frequency and severity of aggression.

Green, J., & Plant, M. A. (2007). Bad bars: A review of risk factors. *Journal of Substance Use, 12*(3), 157-189.

Abstract

Bars, inns, taverns, and hotels have been popular settings for recreational alcohol consumption for centuries. The bar is firmly established as an important adjunct of leisure in many societies. Alcohol consumption in bars is mainly convivial, restrained and problem-free. Even so it has long been apparent that heavy drinking in bars is associated with aggression, violence, public disorder and injuries. This paper examines published empirical evidence related to the possibility that problematic behaviours are associated with identifiable characteristics of a bar. It is concluded that evidence suggests that a number of factors are associated with elevated risks that a bar will be a focus for problematic behaviour. These risk factors are considered under the following main headings: internal physical characteristics and atmosphere (e.g. layout, crowding), organisational factors (e.g. beverage promotions, entertainment), patron characteristics (e.g. gender, age), beverage choice and external characteristics (e.g. location, density). It is concluded that the type of evidence presented here should be taken into account when reviewing licensing arrangements, designing bars and planning the location, type and density of bars in any locality where such establishments are situated.

Grube, J. W., & Stewart, K. (2004). Preventing impaired driving using alcohol policy. *Prevention, 5*(3), 199-207.

Abstract

Considerable progress has been made in the reduction of impaired driving crashes during the last two decades. Much of this progress is attributable to strengthening laws against impaired driving along with vigorous enforcement efforts aimed at deterring impaired driving. In addition, many useful strategies can also be applied that focus on the control of alcohol availability, use, and promotion. Alcohol policies include controls on the price of alcohol, the location, density, and opening hours of sales outlets, controls on the social availability of alcohol, and on the promotion and advertising of alcohol. Enforcement of these policies is an important aspect of their effectiveness. These strategies have been shown to be effective or promising in reducing impaired driving as well as other consequences related to alcohol use and misuse.

Gruenewald, P. J., Freisthler, B., Remer, L., LaScala, E. A., & Treno, A. J. (2006). Ecological models of alcohol outlets and violent assaults: Crime potentials and geospatial analysis. *Addiction, 101*(5), 666-677.

Abstract

Empirical tests of relationships between alcohol outlets and violence are generally conducted with statistical controls for correlates related to characteristics of people and the places in which they live. Crime potentials theory asserts that certain subpopulations are disposed to participate in criminal activities (population potentials) and certain neighborhoods are more likely to be places where crimes occur (place potentials). The current study assesses the degree to which measures of the different geographic distributions of these potentials contribute to violent crime.

Cross-sectional data on hospital discharges for violent assaults were obtained for residents of 1637 zip code areas in California. Assault rates were related to measures of population and place characteristics using spatial statistical models corrected for spatial auto correlated error.

The study found that rates of assault were related to population and place characteristics within zip code areas, and with characteristics of populations living in adjacent zip code areas. Assault rates were greater in densely populated, poor minority urban areas with greater residential instability. Assault rates were also greater in zip code areas adjacent to densely populated urban areas. Assault rates were related significantly to local densities of off-premise alcohol retail

establishments, not bars. However, densities of bars moderated substantially effects related to local population characteristics. Bars were related significantly to violence in unstable poor minority areas and in rural middle-income areas of the state.

The study concluded that population and place characteristics are associated with rates of violence across spatial areas. Alcohol outlets directly affect and moderate potentials for violence associated with socio-demographic groups.

Hadfield, P. (2007). A hard act to follow: Assessing the consequences of licensing reform in England and Wales. *Addiction*, 102(2), 177-180.

Haines, B., & Graham, K. (2005). Violence prevention in licensed premises. In T. R. Stockwell, P. J. Gruenewald, J. W. Toumbourou & W. Loxley (Eds.), *Preventing harmful substance use: The evidence base for policy and practice*. (pp. 163-176). Chichester, UK: John Wiley and Sons.

Abstract

Licensed premises are associated with a significantly increased risk of aggression and violence. This chapter examines the risk factors for violence in licensed premises. These include high levels of intoxication, environmental sources of frustration or irritation, socially permissive environments, aggressive patrons, and inexperienced or violent staff. It then investigates various strategies and interventions used to reduce alcohol-related violence in licensed premises, and their corresponding strengths and weaknesses. These include broad-based community interventions such as: Responsible Beverage Service programs; local accords or agreements on appropriate industry practices; programs run to train staff in techniques for better managing aggression and other problem behaviour; interventions to reduce environmental risks; changes to industry regulations; and targeted policing approaches. Many of these interventions, especially broad-based community interventions, have shown significant reductions in violence. The authors argue, however, that rigorous evaluations have been rare, and a wide range of strategies showing promising results are worthy of further study.

Hall, W. (2005). British alcohol policy: Lessons for Australia. *ADCA News*, 6-7.

Abstract

Alcohol dependence is a serious problem in Britain. A new British report, 'Alcohol harm reduction strategy for England', shows all the signs of 'regulatory capture' in that it embraces the alcohol industry's diagnosis of the alcohol problem and its preferred remedies while eschewing any policies that may adversely affect the profitability of the industry. The UK Government declines to use the most effective options for reducing the alcohol problem: using taxation on the alcohol content of beverages to increase the price of those with the highest alcohol content, and reducing the availability of alcohol by restricting pub trading hours. Although Australia's alcohol policies have been headed in much the same direction as Britain's, alcohol consumption has actually fallen in Australia since 1980. This is because Australia imposed much lower taxes on low alcohol beer than full strength beer, and because all states have defined the blood alcohol level for drink driving as being greater than 0.05% (rather than 0.08% as in the UK). The Australian alcohol and other drugs field needs to take heed of the British experience. NGOs in the alcohol and other drug field have an important role to play in campaigning for increased taxes on higher alcohol beverages, and in mobilising efforts to avoid further liberalisation of trading hours and to reduce the promotion of higher alcohol beverages.

Hamilton, A. (2006). City tries to ban drinkers from standing at the bar [Electronic Version]. *Times Online*, August 2. Retrieved 9 July 2007 from <http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/article697031.ece>.

Healey, J. (2007). *Alcohol abuse*. Thirroul, NSW: Spinney Press.

Abstract

Alcohol is the most widely used legal drug in Australia however, its consumption carries with it a number of risks. In 2001, 1.5 million Australian adults (11%) consumed alcohol in risky or high risk amounts. This book examines the extent of alcohol consumption in Australia by adults and under-aged drinkers and presents information on the adverse health and social risks of excessive alcohol use. Topics in this book include: the effects of alcohol on the body and behaviour; alcoholism; drink driving; under-age drinking; binge drinking; alcohol abuse risk groups such as people from lower socio-economic and Indigenous backgrounds; alcohol and crime; alcohol and violence; alcohol and sexual health; responsible drinking choices; treatment for problem drinking; and ways of reducing or abstaining from alcohol consumption.

Hewitson, R. (2006). *Licensing law handbook: A practical guide to liquor and entertainment licensing*. London: Law Society.

Hobbs, R. (2003). *Alcohol and the night-time economy*. London: Alcohol Concern.

Hodgkinson, S., & Tilley, N. (2007). Policing anti-social behaviour: Constraints, dilemmas and opportunities. *The Howard Journal*, 46(4), 385-400.

Abstract

Anti-social behaviour (ASB) has received increasing political and media attention. It is of great concern to the public. The police are under pressure to tackle it, in particular using anti-social behaviour orders (ASBOs). There is currently little hard data on what is effective. This article presents findings from an evaluation of an ASB Taskforce, which increasingly focused on using ASBOs. Whilst there is evidence of a citywide reduction in perceived ASB, there is none that reported levels have fallen. The difficulties facing the police are discussed. It is concluded that a broader approach to the problem would be more promising.

Hogan, E., Boffa, J., Rosewarne, C., Bell, S., & Ah Chee, D. (2006). What price do we pay to prevent alcohol-related harms in Aboriginal communities? The Alice Springs trial of liquor licensing restrictions. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 25(3), 207-212.

Abstract

This paper analyses the trial of alcohol restrictions that was implemented in Alice Springs from April 2002 to June 2003. The trial included a ban on alcohol in containers greater than two litres and reduced take-away trading hours. The history of the trial, its findings, and the different interpretations placed on trial data is discussed. Particular emphasis is placed on evidence indicating a link between alcohol price and consumption. Data from the evaluations of the Alice Springs trial are reviewed. The trials add substantial new evidence to the strength of the relationship between alcohol price, consumption and harm as the restrictions led to a 1000% increase in the sale of the cheapest form of alcohol – two-litre port. Recent proposals for supply reduction strategies such as a tiered volumetric tax on alcohol and a trial of alcohol restrictions based on a minimum price benchmark demand further consideration by policy makers, especially in regions marked by an excessive alcohol consumption and a high burden of alcohol-related harms such as Alice Springs.

Home Office (2005). *Alcohol consumption in public places: Designation orders*. London: Home Office.

Abstract

The Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 (CJPA) gave local authorities the power to designate public areas through the introduction of a Designated Public Place Orders (DPPO) where it is an offence to drink alcohol after being required by a police officer not to do so. The police have the power to require individuals to surrender the alcohol and any opened or sealed containers, and if they fail to comply with the request they can be arrested. The powers – which replaced the old drinking by-laws – were introduced to help the police deal with the problems of anti-social drinking in public spaces. DPPOs make it easier for local authorities to designate places where restrictions on public drinking will apply and can be used in areas that have experienced alcohol-related disorder or nuisance.

Home Office (2008). *Alcohol disorder zones guidance*. Retrieved from <http://police.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/operational-policing/alcohol-disorder-zone-guidance?view=Binary>

Abstract

The primary purpose of Alcohol Disorder Zones is to help address the crime and anti-social behaviour harms of alcohol misuse, by providing local authorities and the police with an additional tool to be used as a last resort to reduce alcohol-related crime and disorder where all other approaches, including the consideration of other statutory powers, and interventions such as Business Improvement Districts, have failed to materialise or bring about the necessary improvement.

Home Office Communication Directorate. (2005). *Lessons from the Summer 2004 Alcohol Misuse Enforcement Campaign*. London: Home Office Communication Directorate.

Home Office, Department of Health, Department for Children, Schools and Families (2008). *Safe, sensible, social: Alcohol strategy local implementation toolkit*. London: Home Office.

Abstract

This toolkit is a resource to help local teams develop strategies to address alcohol-related crime, ill health and other harms in line with the U.K. Government's Safe. Sensible. Social. The next steps in the National Alcohol Strategy.

Homel, R. J., Carvolth, R., Hauritz, M., McIlwain, G., & Teague, R. (2004). Making licensed venues safer for patrons: What environmental factors should be the focus of interventions? *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 23(1), 19-29.

Hopkins, M. (2004). Targeting hotspots of alcohol-related town centre violence: A Nottinghamshire case study. *Security Journal*, 17(4), 53-66.

Hopkins, M., & Sparrow, P. (2006). Sobering up. *Criminology and Criminal Justice*, 6(4), 389-410.

Abstract

Since their inception in the mid-1980s, there has been a rapid increase in the number of arrest referral schemes implemented in custody suites across the United Kingdom. These schemes have generally been focused upon detainees with drug-related problems and their key aims have been to provide education and treatment for detainees immediately after arrest as this is viewed as the time when the subject will be most contemplative of, and receptive to, change. It is becoming recognised that the custody suite may also be an appropriate setting for tackling alcohol-related problems through both 'arrest referral' and 'brief intervention'. The article outlines the principles that lie behind arrest referral and brief intervention and it presents a case study of a scheme that provided such treatment for detainees arrested for alcohol-related/specific incidents. The

background to the initiative and the key data collected as part of an independent evaluation are presented. Consideration also is given throughout the article to problems encountered in implementing and evaluating the scheme and it is hoped that some of these will serve as lessons for future research.

Huckle, T., Casswell, S., & Pledger, M. (2005). Evaluation of a regional community action intervention in New Zealand to improve age checks for young people purchasing alcohol. *Health Promotion International*, 20(2), 147-155.

Abstract

This paper describes the evaluation of a regional community action intervention to reduce access to alcohol from off-license premises by minors. The intervention focussed on: (1) monitoring alcohol sales made without age identification from off-licenses; (2) utilising data on alcohol sales for media advocacy and direct contact with alcohol retailers; and (3) working with key enforcement staff to encourage increased monitoring and enforcement of minimum purchase age legislation for off-licenses. Evaluation of this intervention used a case study design. Purchase survey data was obtained before and after the intervention. Media items were monitored and included pre- and post-intervention phases. Interviews with key enforcement staff, and document review were undertaken post-intervention. Purchase survey data showed a significant decrease ($p < 0.05$) in the sales of alcohol made to young people without age identification pre- and post-intervention. Pre-intervention: 60% of visits resulted in a sale made without age identification; post-intervention this proportion was 46%. Principal component analysis of newsprint media indicated an increased coverage of items advocating improved age checking for off-licenses following intervention. Interview data and document review indicated that some enforcement staff in the region implemented increased enforcement strategies including controlled purchase operations and increased visits to off-licenses due to the intervention. Evaluation findings indicate that collaborative and intersectoral community action interventions implemented regionally can be effective in redirecting resources to achieve preventive outcomes at a population level.

Huckle, T., Pledger, M., & Casswell, S. (2006). Trends in alcohol-related harms and offences in a liberalised alcohol environment. *Addiction*, 101(2), 232-240.

Abstract

The aim of this study was to assess alcohol-related harms and offences in New Zealand from 1990 to 2003, a period of alcohol policy liberalisation, which included the lowering of the purchase age from 20 to 18 years in 1999. Time trend analyses were carried out on routinely collected data for prosecutions for driving with excess alcohol; alcohol-involved vehicle crashes (all and fatal); and prosecutions for disorder offences. These were carried out separately for those aged 14–15, 16–17, 18–19, 20–24 and 25 years and over.

Rates of prosecutions for driving with excess alcohol (1990–2003); rates of alcohol- involved vehicle crashes (all and fatal) (1990–2003); and rates of prosecutions for disorder offences (1994–2003) were all examined.

The study found that the effects of alcohol policy liberalisation resulted in positive trends in the rates of prosecutions for disorder in the 16–17, 18–19, 20–24 and 25 + age groups; with 18–19-year-olds and 16–17-year-olds having the largest rates and largest positive trend in rates. For 16–17-year-olds, there was a positive trend in the rates of prosecutions for excess breath alcohol. Negative trends in rates were found for alcohol-related crashes (all and fatal) among all age groups. Negative trends for those over 16–17 years were found for prosecutions for driving with excess breath alcohol (this was prior to the lowering of the purchase age). In relation to an examination of the effects of lowering the minimum purchase age the study found that the lowering of minimum purchase age coincided with an increase in the trend of alcohol-related crashes for 18–19-year-olds; the next largest increase was among the 20–24-year-olds (all other age groups also increased

but at a much lower rate). A similar result was found for driving with excess alcohol for those aged 18–19 (and those aged 20–24 years). An increase in the rates of prosecutions for disorder offences occurred for the 14–15-year-old group following the lowering of the purchase age.

The study concluded that the liberalisation of alcohol throughout the 1990s may have influenced younger people more, as reflected in increases in their disorder offences and drink driving. The lowering of the minimum purchase age may have led to an increase in drink-driving among the 18–19-year-olds (those directly affected by the change in purchase age).

Hughes, K., Anderson, Z., Morleo, M., & Bellis, M. A. (2008). Alcohol, nightlife and violence: The relative contributions of drinking before and during nights out to negative health and criminal justice outcomes. *Addiction*, 103(1), 60-65.

Abstract

This paper explores the differences in alcohol consumption and negative nightlife experiences between young people who drink prior to attending city nightlife venues and those who do not drink until reaching bars and nightclubs. The researchers conducted a cross-sectional survey of 380 young people (aged 18–35 years) in bars and nightclubs in a large city centre in the North-west of England. An anonymous questionnaire explored participants' basic demographics; frequency of utilising nightlife; quantities of alcohol consumed prior to and during a typical night out in the city; and negative experiences in the city's nightlife in the previous year [fighting, being verbally abused, being sexually molested (e.g. groped) and being too drunk to walk]. Participants who reported drinking prior to attending nightlife (e.g. at their own or a friend's home) reported significantly higher total alcohol consumption over a night out than those not drinking until reaching bars and nightclubs. Over a quarter (26.5%) of female and 15.4% of male alcohol consumption over a night out occurred prior to attending nightlife. Individuals who drink before going out were over four times more likely to report drinking >20 units on a usual night out and 2.5 times more likely to have been involved in a fight in the city's nightlife during the previous 12 months. Measures to tackle drunkenness and alcohol-related violence in nightlife should expand beyond those targeted solely at nightlife environments. Continued disparities in pricing and policing of alcohol between on- and off-licensed premises may increase at-home drinking prior to nights out and alcohol-related problems in residential areas.

Hunter, N., Kenneally, B., & Wundersitz, J. (2005). *Monitoring the Adelaide Dry Area: An update*. Adelaide: SA Office of Crime Statistics and Research.

Abstract

The Adelaide Dry Area Trial commenced in October 2001. This report details the key findings to emerge from the monitoring of the Trial undertaken by the Office of Crime Statistics and Research (OCSAR) during the last 12 months. It builds upon an earlier monitoring exercise conducted by OCSAR, which culminated in the submission of a report to Cabinet in 2004. After receiving the first OCSAR report, Cabinet announced the extension of the Adelaide Dry Area for another two years, indicating that there would be continued monitoring during this period. By analysing the existing quantitative data and consulting with the agencies responsible for implementing the Dry Area initiatives, four of the original objectives were monitored as follows: i) reduce the incidence of public drinking in designated Dry Area locations without displacement to other areas; ii) reduce the incidence of anti-social or criminal behaviour by public drinkers; iii) minimise the impact on some specific population groups, particularly young people, homeless people and Aborigines; and, iv) ensure the implementation and appropriateness of existing services and safety initiatives available to support the Dry Area. In this report, the presentation of the results are grouped around these four objectives.

Inner City Entertainment Precincts Taskforce. (2005). *'A good night for all': Options for improving safety and amenity in inner city entertainment precincts: A discussion paper*. Melbourne: Department of Justice, Victoria.

International Center for Alcohol Policies. (2008). *Alcohol and Violence: Exploring Patterns and Responses*. Washington DC: International Center for Alcohol Policies.

Jayne, M., Holloway, S. L., & Valentine, G. (2006). Drunk and disorderly: Alcohol, urban life and public space. *Progress in Human Geography*, 30(4), 451-468.

Abstract

This paper shows that, despite receiving significant attention, the relationship between alcohol, drunkenness and public space has been under-theorised. We show that where drinking has been considered it has generally been as a peripheral concern of political-economy accounts that have sought to conceptualize the development of the modern city, or more recently the impact of global economic restructuring on urban life and public space. Moreover, such work has regarded the relationship between drinking and the political, economic, social, cultural and spatial practices and processes bound up with, for example, social control in the modern city or with contemporary gentrification, corporatisation, fragmentation and regulation of the night-time economy, public space and urban policy – in very general terms. While drawing on evidence from around the world, this paper focuses on the UK and highlights the need for a research agenda underpinned by a more specific consideration of urban drinking. We suggest that such a project must seek to unpack the connections and differences between supranational, national, regional and local drinking practices and related issues, and in particular pursue a more graduated understanding of the social relations and cultural practices associated with the emergence of particular kinds of urban drinking spaces.

Jones, S. C., & Lynch, M. (2007). Non-advertising alcohol promotions in licensed premises: Does the Code of Practice ensure responsible promotion of alcohol? *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 26(5), 477-485.

Abstract

Binge drinking is a major public health issue in Australia, particularly among young people. There has been a considerable focus on alcohol advertising, among both researchers and policy makers, resulting in efforts to bring about some level of regulation of unacceptable advertising practices. However, despite the existence of a Code of Practice for Responsible Promotion of Liquor Products which provides 'a framework of practices which are considered acceptable and reasonable' for licensed premises, there are few, if any, data on the nature and extent of promotions which could arguably fall under either 'acceptable' or 'unacceptable' practices. Over an 8 week period we monitored promotions offered by licensed venues (pubs, bars and clubs) in the Wollongong central area. Seventeen venues were identified, and each venue was visited daily for 1 week. Trained research assistants took notes on all promotions/events in visited venues, including both manufacturer- and management-initiated. We identified a range of different types of promotions, including low cost and free drinks. Some of the promotions identified could be seen to have a positive public health impact, such as free food and free transport. However, the majority of promotions were of a nature likely to increase the likelihood of excessive drinking. It is evident from this review that there are numerous examples of promotions which breach both the spirit and the letter of the Code. It is equally evident that the system for monitoring compliance with the Code is fundamentally inadequate.

Komro, K. A., Maldonado-Molina, M. M., Tobler, A. L., Bonds, J. R., & Muller, K. E. (2007). Effects of home access and availability of alcohol on young adolescents' alcohol use. *Addiction, 102*(10), 1597-1608.

Abstract

The purpose of the present study was to examine the effects of parental provision of alcohol and home alcohol accessibility on the trajectories of young adolescent alcohol use and intentions.

Data were collected as part of a longitudinal study of alcohol use among multi-ethnic urban young adolescents who were assigned randomly to the control group of a prevention trial. Setting: Data were collected from a cohort of youth, and their parents, who attended public schools in Chicago, Illinois (2002–2005). The sample comprised the 1388 students, and their parents, who had been assigned randomly to the control group and were present and completed surveys at baseline, in the beginning of 6th grade (age 12). The sample was primarily low-income, and African American and Hispanic.

Students completed self-report questionnaires when in the 6th, 7th and 8th grades (age 12–14 years; response rates 91–96%). Parents of the 6th grade students also completed questionnaires (70% response rate).

The results of the study indicate that it is risky for parents to allow children to drink during early adolescence. When these findings are considered together with the risks associated with early onset of alcohol use, it is clear that parents can play an important role in prevention.

Kypri, K., Dean, J. I., & Stojanovski, E. (2007). Parent attitudes on the supply of alcohol to minors. *Drug and Alcohol Review, 26*(1), 41-47.

Abstract

Inappropriate supply of alcohol by parents is often cited as a cause of teenage hazardous drinking. We investigated parental attitudes regarding supply of alcohol to minors, in a country which recently increased alcohol availability and where drinking per se is not prohibited at any age. A postal survey of 748 parents of 13–17 year-olds (80% response) in three New Zealand communities was undertaken. Parents indicated agreement/disagreement with statements concerning teenage drinking and sources of alcohol, and described factors they considered in deciding whether to supply alcohol. Four in five parents disagreed with permissive statements such as 'It's okay for parents to give their teenager one or two drinks to take to an unsupervised party', and 59% agreed that 'No one should supply alcohol to someone who is underage'. Recent suppliers commonly said they would only supply if there was suitable adult supervision at the drinking location. Many said they would only supply at home with a meal and reported restrictions on quantity and strength, e.g. 'no spirits or mixed drinks', 'small quantity only'. Parents generally opposed supply to minors or they specified responsible conditions of supply. They favoured legal restrictions on availability and promotion, and greater enforcement of liquor laws. The findings should be interpreted in light of social desirability bias and limitations of generalisability outside the participating communities.

Kypri, K., Voas, R. B., Langley, J. D., Stephenson, S. C. R., Begg, D. J., Tippetts, A. S., et al. (2006). Minimum purchasing age for alcohol and traffic crash injuries among 15- to 19-year-olds in New Zealand. *American Journal of Public Health, 96*(1), 126-131.

Abstract

In 1999, New Zealand lowered the minimum purchasing age for alcohol from 20 to 18 years. We tested the hypothesis that this increased traffic crash injuries among 15- to 19-year olds.

Poisson regression was used to compute incidence rate ratios for the after to before incidence of alcohol-involved crashes and hospitalised injuries among 18- to 19-year-olds and 15- to 17-year-olds (20- to 24-year-olds were the reference).

The study found that significantly more alcohol-involved crashes occurred among 15-to 19-year-olds than would have occurred had the purchase age not been reduced to 18 years. The effect size for 18- to 19-year-olds is remarkable given the legal exceptions to the pre-1999 law and its poor enforcement.

Livingston, M., Chikritzhs, T., & Room, R. (2007). Changing the density of alcohol outlets to reduce alcohol-related problems. *Drug and Alcohol Review, 26*, 557-566.

Abstract

Increasingly, it seems, legal and political debates regarding the granting of new liquor licences are turning to the issue of whether the number and density of alcohol outlets makes a difference in rates of alcohol consumption and alcohol-related harm. But what is the state of the evidence on this question? In this Harm Reduction Digest, Livingston, Chikritzhs and Room review the research literature on the effects of density of alcohol sales outlets on alcohol consumption and alcohol-related problems. They suggest a new way of conceptualising the relationships and discuss the implications for reducing alcohol-related harm.

Loxley, W., Toumbourou, J., Stockwell, T., Haines, B., Scott, K., Godfey, C., Waters, E., Patton, G., Fordham, R., Gray, D., Marshall, J., Ryder, D., Siggers, S., Sanci, L., & Williams, J. (2004). *The Prevention of Substance Use, Risk and Harm in Australia: A Review of the Evidence*. Perth: National Drug Research Institute & the Centre for Adolescent Health.

Malkin, I., & Voon, T. (2007). Social hosts' responsibility for their intoxicated guests: Where courts fear to tread. *Torts Law Journal, 15*(1), 62-86.

Abstract

The recent Supreme Court of Canada case, *Childs v. Desormeaux*, provides a valuable opportunity to reassess the High Court of Australia's position regarding the liability of commercial hosts for the injurious conduct of their intoxicated clientele, as well as the likely Australian approach to social host liability. In Canada, while commercial hosts owe a duty of care to their impaired patrons, social hosts ordinarily do not. In Australia, courts would be reluctant to impose a duty on either type of host. Moreover, the trend in Australia away from imposing liability in tort makes social hosts just one more example of potential tortfeasors with little incentive to engage in responsible conduct, thereby threatening public safety. Difficulties with the potential use of Australian tort law as a deterrent are highlighted by the High Court's likely response to an innocent passenger like Zoe Childs, rendered a paraplegic at 18 years of age by a partygoer's drunk driving.

Manchester, C., Poppleston, S., & Allen, J. (2007). *Alcohol and entertainment licensing law* (2nd ed). London: Routledge-Cavendish.

Mansdotter, A. M., Rydberg, M. K., Wallin, E., Lindholm, L. A., & Andreasson, S. (2007). A cost-effectiveness analysis of alcohol prevention targeting licensed premises. *European Journal of Public Health, 17*(6), 618-623.

Abstract

A multi-component alcohol prevention programme targeting licensed premises has been ongoing in Stockholm since 1996. An earlier study established that this led to a 29% reduction in police-reported violence. The objective of the present study is to calculate the programme's cost-effectiveness from a societal perspective, the cost of implementation, the savings made as a result of fewer assaults, unlawful threats and violence towards officials, and the health gains in terms of quality-adjusted life-years (QALYs).

The costs included administration, studies of alcohol serving practices, community mobilisation, responsible beverage service training and stricter alcohol law enforcement. For the purpose of

estimating how the decrease in violence affected savings and health gains, a survey among victims of violence (N=604) was performed.

The cost of the programme was estimated at Euro 796,000. The average cost of a violent crime was estimated at Euro 19,049, which implies overall savings of Euro 31.314 million related to the judicial system (78%), production losses (15%), health care issues (5%) and other damages (2%). Accordingly, the base case cost-saving ratio was 1:39. The average loss of health state weighting among the victims at 0.09 translates into 236 gained QALYs for society as a whole, which should be compared with the modest proportion of savings in the health sector.

The most significant concern about this study is the low response rate (35%), and caution needs to be exercised when interpreting our results. Yet, a reasonable conclusion is that the monetary and human benefits have been considerable.

Margolis, S. A., Ypinazar, V. A., & Muller, R. (2007). The impact of supply reduction through alcohol management plans on serious injury in remote indigenous communities in remote Australia: A ten-year analysis using data from the Royal Flying Doctor Service. *Alcohol and Alcoholism*, 43(1), 104-110.

Abstract

The aim of this project was to assess the impact of supply reduction through Alcohol Management Plans (AMPs) on the rate of serious injuries in four indigenous communities in remote Australia. An ecological study used the database of the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) to calculate trauma retrieval rates for 8 years pre- and 2 years post-AMP in four remote communities covering a period from 1 January 1995 to 24 November 2005. All serious injuries in these communities required aero-medical retrieval.

The study found that serious injury resulted in a total of 798 retrievals during the observation period. One-sided analysis of variance for repeated measurements over the 10 years demonstrated a significant ($P = 0.021$) decrease of injury retrieval rates after the introduction of the AMP. Similarly, a comparison of linear trends of injury retrieval rates pre- and post-AMP also resulted in a significant decrease ($P = 0.022$; one-sided paired t-test). Comparisons of injury retrieval rates of just the 2 years pre- and post-AMP also revealed a significant reduction ($P = 0.001$; paired t-test), with an average 52% decline. Identical comparisons of retrieval rates for causes other than injury revealed no significant changes.

Overall, this impact evaluation provides evidence that AMPs were effective in reducing serious injury in the assessed indigenous communities.

Measham, F. (2006). The new policy mix: Alcohol, harm minimisation, and determined drunkenness in contemporary society. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 17(4), 258-268.

Measham, F., & Brain, K. (2005). 'Binge' drinking, British alcohol policy and the new culture of intoxication. *Crime, Media, Culture*, 1, 262-283.

Midford, R., Chikritzhs, T., Kite, E., Pascal, R., Playford, D., & Young, D. (2005). *An evaluation of liquor licensing restrictions in the Western Australian community of Port Hedland*. Perth: National Drug Research Institute.

Miller, J. W., Naimi, T. S., Brewer, R. D., & Jones, S. E. (2007). Binge drinking and associated health risk behaviours among high school students. *Pediatrics*, 119(1), 76-85.

Abstract

Underage drinking contributes to the 3 leading causes of death (unintentional injury, homicide, and suicide) among persons aged 12 to 20 years. Most adverse health effects from underage drinking stem from acute intoxication resulting from binge drinking. Although binge drinking,

typically defined as consuming \geq 5 drinks on one occasion, is a common pattern of alcohol consumption among youth, few population-based studies have focused specifically on the characteristics of underage binge drinkers and their associated health risk behaviours.

We analysed data on current drinking, binge drinking, and other health risk behaviours from the 2003 National Youth Risk Behaviour Survey. Prevalence estimates and 95% confidence intervals were calculated by using SAS and SUDAAN statistical software. Logistic regression was used to examine the associations between different patterns of alcohol consumption and health risk behaviours.

Overall, 44.9% of high school students reported drinking alcohol during the past 30 days (28.8% binge drank and 16.1% drank alcohol but did not binge drink). Although girls reported more current drinking with no binge drinking, binge-drinking rates were similar among boys and girls. Binge-drinking rates increased with age and school grade. Students who binge drank were more likely than both nondrinkers and current drinkers who did not binge to report poor school performance and involvement in other health risk behaviours such as riding with a driver who had been drinking, being currently sexually active, smoking cigarettes or cigars, being a victim of dating violence, attempting suicide, and using illicit drugs. A strong dose-response relationship was found between the frequency of binge drinking and the prevalence of other health risk behaviours.

Binge drinking is the most common pattern of alcohol consumption among high school youth who drink alcohol and is strongly associated with a wide range of other health risk behaviours. Effective intervention strategies (e.g., enforcement of the minimum legal drinking age, screening and brief intervention, and increasing alcohol taxes) should be implemented to prevent underage alcohol consumption and adverse health and social consequences resulting from this behaviour.

Ministerial Council on Drug Strategy (2006). *National Alcohol Strategy*. Canberra: Commonwealth of Australia.

Mistral, W., Velleman, R., Mastache, C., & Templeton, L. (2007). *UKCAPP: An evaluation of 3 UK Community Alcohol Prevention Programs*. Mental Health R&D Unit, University of Bath and Avon & Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust.

Abstract

In the UK, alcohol-related harm has become a community concern over recent years, mirrored by an increase in community initiatives to tackle problems at a local level. In 2003–04 the Alcohol Education and Research Council (AERC) prioritised community action to reduce alcohol-related harm, and part-funded three projects in the cities of Glasgow, Cardiff and Birmingham. The projects became jointly known as the UK Community Alcohol Prevention Programme (UKCAPP), and aimed to reduce alcohol-related harm and disorder. The projects were influenced by the approach championed by Holder (e.g. 2000, 2004), that efforts be directed toward policy-makers in positions to influence social, economic, and environmental structures in the local environment. In Glasgow and Cardiff the projects were city-centre focused, building on long-standing community partnerships. The Birmingham project was undertaken on a transport corridor across three southern suburbs, where community action had to be developed. The AERC commissioned the Mental Health Research and Development Unit to ascertain the extent to which the projects adhered to the Holder model: identify barriers and solutions to implementation; draw conclusions about what worked and how; and combine individual project evaluations into a whole. Partnerships and collaborations were crucial to all interventions, providing financial and human resources beyond the ability of any single agency, and without which no substantive multi-faceted interventions to combat alcohol-related harm could be undertaken. Partnerships included the local health authority, community safety partnership, alcohol and drug teams, police, licensing forums, business, the media, and general public.

Mistral, W., Velleman, R., Templeton, L., & Mastache, C. (2006). Local action to prevent alcohol problems: Is the UK Community Alcohol Prevention Programme the best solution? *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 17(4), 278-284.

Abstract

Increasing evidence indicates that the UK has a serious alcohol problem. This crosses many patterns of drinking and all ages, whereas the public debate about alcohol tends to focus almost exclusively on binge drinking and on young people's alcohol-related anti-social behaviour. This paper addresses the interventions and policy developments currently implemented in the UK to reduce alcohol-related anti-social behaviour. There are two main approaches: a national (England) change in the licensing laws; and local harm reduction projects seeking to effect change independently of central Government initiatives. This paper describes the critique currently mounted against the expected efficacy of new licensing laws and describes the theoretical and practical developments of some local prevention initiatives that are part of the United Kingdom Alcohol Prevention Programme (UKCAPP), funded by the Alcohol Education and Research Council (AERC). Although it is too early to draw conclusions as to the effects of either of these developments, initial reports suggest that changes in the licensing regime have not yet created the increase in alcohol-related problems some commentators have argued would occur; and the local prevention initiatives have led to the formation of extremely strong community partnerships, with a range of innovative and integrated actions to tackle alcohol-related anti-social behaviour. Fundamental criticisms of both the new licensing laws and the National Alcohol Strategy remain, however. Even if the above interventions lead to reductions in alcohol-related anti-social behaviour, it is not clear how they might deal with the rising levels of alcohol-related health harms reported within the UK. Nevertheless, the community partnership approach may be the best possibility for dealing with at least some of the alcohol-related problems caused by the rise in availability and accessibility of alcohol within the UK.

Model Criminal Code Officers' Committee of the Standing Committee of Attorneys-General. (2006). Discussion paper: *Drink spiking*. Canberra: Standing Committee of Attorneys-General.

Abstract

This discussion paper was prepared by the Model Criminal Code Officers' Committee of the Standing Committee of Attorneys-General in response to a perceived need to 'do something' about the emerging behavioural problem of drink spiking. The application of the existing criminal law in each state in relation to this issue is examined. The paper concludes with the recommendation that 'all Australian jurisdictions enact an offence of "mere" drink spiking (without further intent), that the offence be summary, and that the offence extend to any substance', and that 'NSW, Victoria, Queensland, WA and the ACT amend their criminal laws to close the gaps in the coverage of their laws that have been identified in this report'.

Montgomery, J. M., Foley, K. M., & Wolfson, M. (2006). Enforcing the minimum drinking age: State, local and agency characteristics associated with compliance checks and Cops in Shops programs. *Addiction*, 101(2), 223-231.

Abstract

The aim of this study is to identify state, local and organisational characteristics associated with local law enforcement agencies' implementation of two dramatically different approaches to enforcement of underage drinking laws: compliance checks and Cops in Shops programs. Compliance checks use underage decoys to attempt to purchase alcohol from retail merchants, while Cops in Shops programs deploy undercover law enforcement officers in alcohol outlets to detect and cite persons under the age of 21 who attempt to purchase alcohol.

Representatives of city police departments, departments of public safety, sheriffs or county police were included (n = 920 local agencies). Alcohol compliance checks and Cops in Shops programs

were the primary outcomes. Covariates included state level policies (e.g. beer tax), agency resources (e.g. number of sworn officers) and community demographics (e.g. college dormitory population).

The study found that local enforcement agencies were more likely to perform alcohol compliance checks than to have a Cops in Shops program (73.9% compared to 41.1% in cities > 25 000 and 55.7% compared to 23.9% in cities ≤ 25 000). Conducting compliance checks for tobacco age-of-sale laws was positively associated with alcohol compliance checks and Cops in Shops (OR 3.30, $P < 0.001$; OR 1.84, $P = 0.001$, respectively). Having a Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) officer was negatively related to conducting compliance checks (OR 0.67, $P = 0.03$). Special community policing units were associated with departments having Cops in Shops programs (OR 1.80, $P = 0.006$).

This study used a nationally representative sample of communities to better understand state and local factors that shape local law enforcement agencies' use of two distinct approaches to underage drinking enforcement. The strong link observed between tobacco and alcohol compliance checks may indicate a culture within some law enforcement agencies supporting strict enforcement of age-of-sale laws.

Moore, S., Shepherd, J., Perham, N., & Cusens, B. (2007). The prevalence of alcohol intoxication in the night-time economy. *Alcohol and Alcoholism*, 42(6), 629-634.

Abstract

The aim of this study was to assess the prevalence of alcohol misuse in the night-time economy. A random sample of 893 people were interviewed and breathalysed in 24 repeated, cross-sectional surveys over the course of a year in the city centre streets of a European capital city between 11.00 PM and 3.00 AM.

The median blood alcohol concentration (BAC) in men was 0.13% (min = 0%, max = 0.33%) and in women was 0.09% (min = 0%, max = 0.27%) – which were below the threshold used to indicate 'at risk BAC' (0.15%; for men $t = 9.32$, $P < 0.001$ and for women $t = 17.54$, $P < 0.001$). Men provided higher BACs than women ($t = 7.17$, $P < 0.001$). The relationship between age and BAC for men described an inverted 'U', peaking at 29 years, but for women the relationship was positive and linear. BAC was inversely related to the ability to remember and report the evening's consumption ($z = 4.76$, $P < 0.001$). Reported consumption predicted only 12% ($P < 0.001$) of the variance in BAC for men and 10% ($P < 0.001$) for women.

'At risk' intoxication was apparent only in a minority of drinkers, who were mostly employed men in their late twenties, but a third of men and half of women had consumed more than the recommended daily limit. The probability for respondents to recall past consumption diminished as BAC increased, suggesting self-report data are not suitable to assess consumption in heavy drinkers. Breath analysis surveys are valuable in understanding alcohol misuse in the night-time economy.

National Drug Research Institute. (2007). *Restrictions on the sale and supply of alcohol: Evidence and outcomes*. Perth: National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University of Technology.

Newton, A., Sarker, S. J., Pahal, G. S., van den Bergh, E., & Young, C. (2007). Impact of the new UK licensing law on emergency hospital attendances: A cohort study. *Emergency Medicine Journal*, 24(8), 532-534.

Abstract

The objective of this study was to assess the effect of the new UK alcohol licensing law on overnight attendances to the emergency department.

A retrospective cohort study was conducted at the emergency department of St Thomas' Hospital, London, over 2 months, one before and one after the introduction of the new legislation. All

people over the age of 16 years who attended the emergency department between 21:00 and 09:00 during the two study periods (March 2005 and March 2006) were included. An alcohol-related attendance was defined as having occurred if there was documentation of alcohol consumption before attendance, or of alcohol intoxication in relation to the patient's physical examination or final diagnosis. The primary outcome measure was change in the number and percentage of alcohol-related attendances to the emergency department between the two study periods. Secondary outcome measures, compared between the two study periods, were number and percentage of alcohol-related attendances as a consequence of assault, and of injury; and number and percentage of alcohol-related attendances resulting in admission to hospital.

The study found that in March 2005 there were 2,736 overnight attendances to the ED, of which 79 (2.9%) were classified as alcohol related. In comparison, in March 2006 there were a total of 3135 overnight attendances, of which 250 (8%) were alcohol related, representing a significant increase ($p < 0.001$). There were also significant increases in percentage of alcohol related attendances as a consequence of injury ($p < 0.001$) and assault ($p = 0.002$); and in admission rates for alcohol related attendances ($p < 0.001$) between the two study periods.

Overnight alcohol related emergency attendances to St Thomas' hospital increased after the introduction of new alcohol licensing legislation. If reproduced over longer time periods and across the UK as a whole, the additional burden on emergency care could be substantial.

Nicholas, R. (2004). *The antecedents of alcohol related violence in and around licensed premises*. Adelaide: Australasian Centre for Policing Research.

Nicholas, R. (2006). *Identifying and responding to problematic licensed premises – A guide for police*. Adelaide: Australasian Centre for Policing Research.

Abstract

A significant proportion of the harm that is associated with alcohol intoxication occurs within, in the vicinity of, or after the consumption of alcohol in licensed premises. Therefore, licensed premises are an important priority for police in reducing alcohol intoxication-related problems. In addition to the direct policing implications of the assaults and public disorder problems that occur in and around licensed premises, these incidents are also a problem for policing in that they diminish public perceptions of safety. The impact of these incidents on perceptions of public safety is, in all probability, not confined to victims of assaults and similar incidents. Rather, it is likely that perceptions of public safety are also affected among those who witness, or hear of, these incidents either directly or in the media. If police are to consider how best to reduce alcohol-related harms in and around licensed premises, it is critical that these premises are not viewed merely as venues providing alcohol. Unless the whole range of services provided by these venues is considered, there is a risk of adopting overly narrow approaches to this complex problem.

Nicholas, R. (2008). *Understanding and Responding to Alcohol-Related Social Harms in Australia: Options for Policing*. Hobart: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Nicholas, R., & Shoobridge, J. (2005). *Alcohol and other drug issues facing policing in Australia*. Adelaide: Australasian Centre for Policing Research.

Abstract

At its November 2004 meeting, the Commissioners' Drugs Committee of the Conference of Commissioners of Police of Australasia and the South West Pacific Region asked the Australasian Centre for Policing Research to conduct an environmental scan. The objective of the scan was to identify the alcohol and other drug issues impacting upon Australian policing at present as well as into the future with a view to guiding the future activities of the Commissioners' Drugs Committee. This report is the outcome of the environmental scan. It paints a broad picture of the alcohol and other drug issues facing Australia with particular emphasis on those issues that impact upon policing.

Norström, T., & Skog, O.J. (2005). Saturday opening of alcohol retail shops in Sweden: An experiment in two phases. *Addiction*, 100(6), 767-776.

Office of Crime Statistics and Research. (2005). *Evaluation of the fake ID Project*. Adelaide: Office of Crime Statistics and Research.

Abstract

The Fake ID Project was launched in 2003 as an initiative of the Sturt Police Local Service Area via their Drug Action Team, and the Office of Liquor and Gambling Commissioner, in order to reduce the number of young people using false or altered identification to enter licensed premises or purchase alcohol. The use of false identification is a concern due to the range of harms that attending licensed premises and alcohol use can expose young people to, including health issues, sexual assault, behavioural incidents and violence. This report summarises the activities and findings associated with an evaluation of the initiative. It should be noted that the evaluation directs particular attention to the survey of school students. This is a function of the extensiveness of the study, and also because it provides a picture of the attitudes, experiences and behaviours of young people in relation to underage entry to licensed premises, underage purchases of alcohol, and the use of fake identification. The detailed methodology for each of the evaluation components is addressed separately in the report, with the final section providing a synthesis of findings across the evaluation, and some overview of future considerations in dealing with this issue.

Ogilvie, D., & Gruer, L. Haw, S. (2005). Young people's access to tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs. *British Medical Journal*, 331, 393-396.

Abstract

Young people in the United Kingdom can easily obtain cigarettes and alcoholic drinks from a range of social and illicit commercial sources before they reach the legal minimum age for such purchases; many also report having access to illicit drugs. Un-enforced voluntary agreements with retailers and intervening in illicit distribution systems have not been shown to influence young people's use of tobacco, alcohol, or other drugs.

Palk, G., Davey, J., & Freeman, J. (2007). Policing alcohol-related incidents: A study of time and prevalence. *Policing: An International Journal of Police Strategies & Management*, 30(1), 82-92.

Abstract

The purpose of this paper was to investigate the prevalence and impact of alcohol-related incidents on police resources in a major Australasian region.

The paper shows that participants in the current study were first response operational police officers who completed a modified activity log over a five-week period, identifying the type, time spent on, and the number of alcohol-related incidents that were attended (n = 31090).

The findings in this paper indicate that a substantial proportion of current police work involves attendance at alcohol-related incidents, i.e. 25 percent. The most common incidents police attended were vehicle and/or traffic matters, disturbances and offences against property, which were also the most likely to involve alcohol. These events are most likely to occur in the early hours of the morning on the weekends, and importantly, usually take longer to complete than non-alcohol related incidents.

The findings in the paper highlight the pervasive nature of alcohol across a range of offences and provides a current perspective regarding the considerable impact that alcohol-related crime has on policing resources.

Palmer, D., & Whelan, C. (2007). Policing in the 'Communal Spaces' of major event venues. *Police Practice & Research*, 8(5), 401-414.

Abstract

The recent re-conceptualisation of 'mass private property' as one form of 'communal spaces' raises a series of questions concerning policing and security in these domains. This paper applies the concept of 'communal spaces' to an analysis of policing in 'major event venues.' We assess the character of policing in these communal spaces by drawing upon interviews conducted with policing personnel (private and public) operating in major event venues. The paper identifies different perspectives on the nature of policing in these communal spaces and tension between public and private police personnel concerning their respective roles and responsibilities. We conclude by raising issues concerning the implications for the 'public good' in policing at major event venues.

Paschall, M. J., Grube, J. W., Black, C., Flewelling, R. L., Ringwalt, C. L., & Biglan, A. (2006). Alcohol outlet characteristics and alcohol sales to youth: Results of alcohol purchase surveys in 45 Oregon communities. *Prevention Science*, 8(2), 153-159.

Abstract

Reducing youth access to commercial sources of alcohol is recognised as a necessary component of a comprehensive strategy to reduce underage drinking and alcohol-related problems. However, research on policy-relevant factors that may influence the commercial availability of alcohol to youth is limited. The present study examines characteristics of off-premise alcohol outlets that may affect alcohol sales to youth. Random alcohol purchase surveys (N = 385) were conducted in 45 Oregon communities in 2005. Underage-looking decoys that were 21 years old but did not carry IDs were able to purchase alcohol at 34% of the outlets that were approached. Purchase rates were highest at convenience (38%) and grocery (36%) stores but were relatively low (14%) at other types of outlets (e.g., liquor and drug stores). Alcohol purchases were less likely at stores that were participating in the Oregon Liquor Control Commission's Responsible Vendor Program (RVP), when sales clerks asked the decoys for their IDs, and at stores with a posted underage alcohol sale warning sign. Alcohol purchases were also inversely related to the number of sales clerks present in a store, but were not related to sales clerks' age and gender. Findings of this study suggest that more frequent compliance checks by law enforcement agents should target convenience and grocery stores, and owners of off-premise outlets should require training of all salesclerks to ensure reliable checks of young-looking patron IDs, and should post underage alcohol sales warning signs in clear view of patrons.

Plant, M. A., Plant, M. L., & Green, J. (2007). Safer bars, safer streets? *Journal of Substance Use*, 12(3), 151-155.

Powell, M. (2007). A safe entertainment precinct for Bendigo: Councils help to make partying safer. *DrugInfo*, 5(3), 2.

Abstract

Bendigo's entertainment precinct takes up seven blocks of the central business district and contains about ten nightclubs. A range of issues emanating from the area confronted council and the community on a weekly basis. This brief article outlines the response from the City of Greater Bendigo and some of the key initiatives which have been undertaken.

Poynton, S., Donnelly, N., Weatherburn, D., Fulde, G., & Scott, L. (2005). *The role of alcohol in injuries presenting to St Vincent's Hospital Emergency Department and the associated short-term costs*. Sydney: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research.

Abstract

This bulletin presents the results from research investigating the role of alcohol in injury presentations to an inner-city emergency department and the associated short-term economic costs. In this study injured patients attending St Vincent's Hospital Emergency Department during

September 2004 and February 2005 were interviewed about their alcohol consumption prior to the injury event and, where possible, were administered a breathalyser test. One-third of the injured patients interviewed reported consuming alcohol prior to the injury and almost two-thirds of these patients stated that they had been drinking at licensed premises. Alcohol consumption was found to be more prevalent amongst patients presenting with injuries resulting from interpersonal violence, with almost two-thirds of these patients reporting that they had been drinking prior to the injury. The estimated annual cost of alcohol to St Vincent's Emergency Department was as much as \$1.38 million. While the overall economic cost of alcohol-related injuries is probably much greater than our estimate indicates, the research described here highlights the resources that could be devoted to other illness and disease if a proportion of alcohol-related injuries were reduced.

Pratten, J., & Bailey, N. (2005). Pubwatch: Questions on its validity and a police response. *International Journal of Contemporary Hospitality Management*, 17(4), 359-364.

Pratten, J., & Greig, B. (2005). Can Pubwatch address the problems of binge drinking? A case study from the North West of England. *International Journal of Contemporary Hospitality Management*, 17(3), 252-260.

Reiling, D. M., & Nusbaumer, M. R. (2007). An exploration of the potential impact of the designated driver campaign on bartenders' willingness to over-serve. *International Journal of Drug Policy* 18(6), 458-463.

Abstract

Much has been written about the impact of the presence of a designated driver on patrons' consumption, but heretofore, its impact on the behaviour of the server has been virtually ignored. The goal of this paper was to explore the potential impact of the presence of a designated driver on alcoholic beverage servers' self-reported willingness to knowingly serve an already intoxicated customer. χ^2 analysis of survey data collected from 938 licensed servers, in the state of Indiana, USA, was performed. Approximately 43% of the bartenders surveyed reported that they either would be or might be willing to over-serve an already intoxicated customer. Of those who answered the follow-up question as to under what conditions they would be willing to over-serve, almost 80% reported that they would do so if the patron were accompanied by a designated driver. The statistical significance of the relationship between these two variables (.000) raises the question of whether the Designated Driver Campaign has the latent function of enabling some servers to neutralise their responsibility for over-serving by disregarding other types of intoxication-related harm.

Richardson, A., & Budd, T. (2003). Young adults, alcohol, crime and disorder. *Criminal Behaviour and Mental Health*, 13(1), 5-17.

Abstract

Alcohol-related crime is increasingly being recognised as a problem in cities and towns with popular entertainment districts. Crime and disorder linked to alcohol has been particularly connected with binge drinking or heavy sessional drinking. Research evidence indicates that it is the young adult age group who are most likely to be involved in crime and disorder and the most likely to binge drink. This paper examines the relationship between binge drinking and criminal and disorderly behaviour among 18- to 24-year-olds. Secondary analysis was undertaken of the 1998/1999 Youth Lifestyles Survey, a large-scale, representative, household survey of 12- to 30-year-olds living in England and Wales.

The study found that binge drinking, and especially male binge drinking, among 18- to 24-year-olds is statistically related to offending behaviour. In the 12 months prior to interview 39% of binge drinkers admitted to committing an offence and 60% admitted criminal and/or disorderly behaviour during or after drinking alcohol. Multivariate analysis found that binge drinking remains strongly associated with criminal and disorderly behaviour even after taking other relevant factors into account. Individuals who got drunk at least once a week had more than five times the odds

of being involved in a fight or violent crime. For offences or disorderly behaviour that took place during or after drinking alcohol an individual had a seven times greater chance of breaking or damaging something and a five times greater chance of being involved in a fight if he/she got drunk at least once a week.

These findings suggest that frequency of drunkenness is a better predictor of offending behaviour than frequency of drinking per se. Using frequency of drunkenness as the basis for defining binge drinking reveals that a large minority of young adults who binge drink also become involved in offending or disorderly behaviour. Binge drinking is particularly associated with crimes of violence. The relationship between binge drinking and crime and disorder is stronger among young males than females.

Richardson, A., Nicholls, M., & Finney, A. (2004). *Alcohol audits, strategies and initiatives: Lessons from crime and disorder reduction partnerships*. London: Research, Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office UK.

Abstract

This report explores how local concern about alcohol-related crime and disorder is implemented in practice by examining how it is identified, prioritised and tackled at a local level. The report also presents information on how some local areas are tackling some of the more negative aspects of a thriving night-time economy. The report aims to present: a national picture of the concern about alcohol-related crime presented by Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) throughout England and Wales; the extent to which partnerships acknowledged alcohol as a strategic priority; and examples of approaches to tackling local alcohol-related problems.

This was achieved by systematically searching CDRP audit and strategy documents and by undertaking case studies of local initiatives set up to tackle alcohol-related crime and disorder. The report will be of use to practitioners in the alcohol field by providing an overview of how partnerships are dealing with alcohol-related crime and disorder in their audit and strategy documents and by sharing learning points from existing initiatives.

Roberts, M. (2006). From 'creative city' to 'no-go areas' – The expansion of the night-time economy in British town and city centres. *Cities*, 23(5), 331-338.

Abstract

Attempts to revitalise the centres of British towns and cities in the 1990s drew on the concept of the 24-hour city and, by extension, into liquor licensing reform. The protagonists for the 24-hour city, and many magistrates and local authorities, assumed that a relaxation of British licensing laws would bring about a more civilised mode of alcohol consumption and deliver a 'continental ambience' to urban life that would extend into the night. This paper brings forward evidence from a cross-cultural comparison of four European cities to demonstrate that a 'continental' style of alcohol consumption is supported by a variety of controls and enforcement measures. It concludes that British free market attitudes to licensing reform will undermine the government's professed aspirations for an 'urban renaissance' of cultural inclusion and animation.

Roberts, M., Turner, C., Greenfield, S., & Osborn, G. (2005). A continental ambience? Lessons in managing alcohol-related evening and night-time entertainment from four European capitals. *Urban Studies*, 43(7), 1105-1125.

Robson, G., & Marlatt, G. A. (2006). Harm reduction and alcohol policy. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 17(4), 255-257.

Roche, A, Bywood, P, Lunnay, B., Freeman, T., Lawton, T., Tovell, A., Nicholas, R. (2007). *Young People and Alcohol: The Role of Cultural Influences*. Adelaide: National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction.

Salom, C., Watts, M., Kinner, S., & Young, D. (2005). Schoolies week in perspective: Studies of alcohol, drug and risk-taking behaviour. *Of Substance*, 3, 26-29.

Schafer, J. A. (2005). Negotiating order in the policing of youth drinking. *Policing: An International Journal of Police Strategies & Management*, 28(2), 279-300.

Scholz, M. (2007). Darebin City Council responds to public drinking. *DrugInfo*, 5(3), 4.

Abstract

Darebin City Council has recently adopted the Darebin Alcohol Strategy that outlines Council's policy approach to alcohol related issues. This brief article discusses one of the key strategies, which involves the establishment of sobering up centres.

Scott, L., Donnelly, N., Poynton, S., & Weatherburn, D. (2007). *Young adults' experience of responsible service practice in NSW: An update*. Sydney: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research.

Shepherd, J. (2007). Preventing alcohol-related violence: A public health approach. *Criminal Behaviour and Mental Health*, 17(4), 250-264.

Abstract

Studies of the relationship between alcohol and violent injury confirm that while there is some evidence of a direct pharmacological association, many other factors are relevant to the frequency and severity of both violent perpetration and being a victim of violence. It is now widely recognised that official police statistics are a poor indicator of the nature and extent of public violence. Accident and emergency departments and trauma surgeons are not only in a position to provide more accurate information on the nature and extent of clinically significant injury, but they can contribute substantially to violence prevention. This can be achieved through individually targeted interventions in conjunction with other clinicians on the one hand, and on the other through public health and community initiatives, in conjunction with other community agencies, including the police and local authorities. This article describes some of those initiatives and the evidence underpinning them.

Silverstone, D. (2006). *Night clubbing: Drugs, clubs and regulation*. Cullompton: Willan.

Smith, A., Edwards, C., & Harris, W. (2005). Bottleshops and 'ready-to-drink' alcoholic beverages. *Health Promotion Journal of Australia*, 16(1), 32-36.

South Australian Department of Health. (2005). *South Australian Drug Strategy: 2005–2010*. Retrieved from http://www.dassa.sa.gov.au/webdata/resources/files/SA_Drug_Strategy.pdf.

Abstract

This strategy is a practical plan to combat the physical and psychological harm, as well as the broader community problems, arising from the abuse and misuse of drugs. The culmination of more than two years' work, the strategy builds on the findings of the South Australian Drugs Summit of June 2002 and draws on the expertise of some of the State's most capable practitioners in the field. Many of the Summit's recommendations have shaped this report, along with the widespread belief among delegates that prevention should be the cornerstone of the community's response to drug abuse. This Strategy places emphasis on preventing the use of illicit drugs and the misuse of licit drugs and reinforces the importance of evidence-based approaches. The Strategy is also consistent with the National Drug Strategy 2004–2009 and provides a foundation on which South Australia can continue to deliver and enhance a truly comprehensive community wide response to licit and illicit drug use and harms.

Stockwell, T. (2006). *Alcohol pricing and public health in Canada: Issues and opportunities*. British Columbia, Canada: Centre for Addictions Research of BC, University of Victoria.

Stockwell, T. (2006). Alcohol supply, demand, and harm reduction: What is the strongest cocktail? *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 17(4), 269-277.

Stockwell, T., Gruenewald, P. J., Toumbourou, J. W., & Loxley, W. E. (Eds). (2005). *Preventing harmful substance use: The evidence base for policy and practice*. New York: John Wiley & Sons Ltd.

Talbot, D. (2006). *The Licensing Act 2003* and the problematisation of the night-time economy: Planning, licensing and subcultural closure in the UK. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 30(1), 159-171.

Abstract

Nightlife historically has been viewed as a social problem to be contained by licensing, policing and the management of supply. In the context of recent trends towards deregulation of hours and supply, fears have again resurfaced as to the detrimental impact of the 'night-time economy' on street disorder and violence, concerns that have focused attention on *The Licensing Act 2003*. Utilising a case study of the regulation of nightlife in the London locality of Southview, this article will explore how there has been ongoing and renewed attention on the problems associated with the night-time economy centred on differentiating between risky and safe cultural and economic forms. The article will argue that the *Licensing Act* represents a consolidation of over a decade of regulatory change that has 'reordered' regulatory approaches to nightlife; one that has, in combination with other aspects of economic, social and cultural change, been productive of 'subcultural closure'.

Tasmania Law Reform Institute (2006). *Intoxication and criminal responsibility*. Hobart: Law Reform Institute.

Abstract

Australian studies – self-reports by prisoners and detainees, analysis of urine samples within 48 hours of arrest and victim surveys – suggest that many offenders commit crime while under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. Moreover, criminal assaults are common in and around licensed premises. Together with increased scientific knowledge about the effects of alcohol and other drugs on behaviour and mental state, this indicates that intoxication has the potential to be a relevant consideration in criminal trials. This report is not concerned with alcohol and other drugs as a cause of crime, but with the question of the extent to which an accused person should be able to rely upon intoxication caused by alcohol or other drugs as a defence to a criminal charge. Published in six sections, part one of this paper serves as an introduction, part two looks at the relationship between alcohol and crime, and part three examines the current law in Tasmania. Part four examines the need for reform, as it is the view of the Institute that the law in Tasmania relating to intoxication is uncertain, illogical, inconsistent, unprincipled and unduly complex and that this constitutes persuasive grounds for reform. Part five looks at the law of intoxication in other Australian jurisdictions and considers the position in the United Kingdom, Canada and New Zealand. Part six examines the options for reform and makes eight recommendations for reform.

Taylor, N., Charlton, K., Prichard, J. (2004). *National project on drink spiking: Investigating the nature and extent of drink spiking in Australia*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Tomsen, S. (2005). 'Boozers and bouncers': Masculine conflict, disengagement and the contemporary governance of drinking-related violence and disorder. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology*, 38(3), 283-297.

Toomey, T. L., Erickson, D. J., Lenk, K. M., Kilian, G. R., Perry, C. L., & Wagenaar, A. C. (2008). A randomised trial to evaluate a management training program to prevent illegal alcohol sales. *Addiction, 103*(3), 405-413.

Abstract

The aim of this study was to evaluate the effects of a training program for owners/managers of alcohol establishments, Alcohol Risk Management (ARM), on: (i) propensity to sell alcohol to obviously intoxicated patrons; and (ii) changing establishment level policies/practices.

We assigned alcohol establishments, in one large metropolitan area in Midwestern United States, randomly to intervention (full-ARM) and delayed-intervention/control (ARM Express) conditions. Participants in the study were owners and managers at 231 on-premise alcohol establishments (i.e. bars, restaurants). Training programs consisted of one-to-one sessions with the owner/manager at each establishment. The goal of the training was to help owners/managers to select and implement alcohol control policies in their establishments. The full-ARM training consisted of four one-to-one sessions and the ARM Express was a single session.

We measured intervention effects through baseline and follow-up pseudo-intoxicated alcohol purchase attempts (i.e. feigning intoxication while attempting to purchase alcohol) and telephone surveys of owners/managers at alcohol establishments.

The findings of this study indicate that sales rates to pseudo-intoxicated patrons reduced 23% (relative to delayed-intervention/control condition) at the first follow-up purchase attempt ($P = 0.06$) but returned to baseline levels 3 months later. On average, establishments selected 13 of 18 recommended policies, but in multivariate models we observed no significant differences at follow-up in reported policies/practices across establishments.

The study concludes that reliance on manager training to promote responsible establishment alcohol policies is not sufficient to prevent illegal alcohol sales to obviously intoxicated patrons and to reduce alcohol-related problems.

Toomey, T. L., Fabian, L. A., Erickson, D. J., Wagenaar, A. C., Fletcher, L., & Lenk, K. M. (2006). Influencing alcohol control policies and practices at community festivals. *Journal of Drug Education, 36*(1), 15-32.

Abstract

The goal of this study was to assess the feasibility and effectiveness of two interventions aimed at reducing alcohol-related risks at community festivals: a training program for festival planners and a community organising campaign. We randomly selected four festivals for each intervention and had 24 comparison festivals. Our assessment included process evaluation to track and evaluate the types of alcohol policies resulting from each of the interventions, pre and post telephone surveys of key festival planners and law enforcement agencies, and pre and post pseudo-underage and pseudo-intoxicated purchase attempts. Analyses showed that both interventions were feasible and were successful in influencing the adoption of written policies and improving alcohol-related practices. However, neither intervention appeared to decrease the propensity for illegal alcohol sales at these events, likely due, in part, to the short time frame of the interventions. Future research should assess effects of the interventions on alcohol-related problems and the effects of enforcement interventions.

Toumbourou, J. W., Godfrey, C., Rowland, B., & Duff, C. (2004). *Law, regulation, policing and enforcement in the prevention of alcohol-related harm*. Melbourne: DrugInfo Clearinghouse.

Treno, A. J., Gruenewald, P. J., Lee, J. P., & Remer, L. G. (2007). The Sacramento Neighborhood Alcohol Prevention Project: Outcomes from a community prevention trial. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol*, 68(2), 197-207.

Abstract

This article reports the results of the Sacramento Neighborhood Alcohol Prevention Project (SNAPP). SNAPP set as its goal the reduction of alcohol access, drinking, and related problems in two low-income, predominantly ethnic minority neighborhoods, focusing on individuals between the ages 15 and 29, an age group identified with high rates of alcohol-involved problems.

Two neighborhoods in Sacramento were selected to be the intervention sites because they were economically and ethnically diverse and had high rates of crime and other drinking-related problems. The quasi-experimental design of the study took a “phased” approach to program implementation and statistical examination of outcome data. Outcome-related data were collected in the intervention sites as well as in the Sacramento community at large. Five project interventions included a mobilisation component to support the overall project, a community awareness component, a responsible beverage-service component, an underage-access law enforcement component, and an intoxicated-patron law enforcement component. Archival data were collected to measure and evaluate study outcomes and to provide background and demographic information for the study.

Overall, we found significant ($p < .05$) reductions in assaults as reported by police, aggregate emergency medical services (EMS) outcomes, EMS assaults, and EMS motor vehicle accidents.

The results from the SNAPP demonstrate the effectiveness of neighborhood-based interventions in the reduction of alcohol-related problems such as assaults, motor vehicle crashes, and sale of alcohol to minors.

Treno, A. J., Gruenewald, P. J., Remer, L., Johnson, F. W., & Lascala, E. A. (2008). Examining multi-level relationships between bars, hostility and aggression: Social selection and social influence. *Addiction*, 103(1), 66-77.

Abstract

This paper considers the statistical relationships often observed between densities of bars and pubs and rates of violence as suggested by two general approaches: (i) social influence and (ii) social selection.

A stratified sample of 36 zip code areas in California was identified as having ‘high’, ‘medium’ and ‘low’ densities of bars and pubs. Aggregate US Census 2000 data were used to characterize population demographics of each zip code area. Telephone surveys were conducted assessing respondent demographics, drinking patterns, utilisation of different places for drinking, self-report measures of hostility, norms for aggression and norms for alcohol-related aggression. Hierarchical linear models assessed the degree to which densities of bars and pubs were related to self-reports of hostility and norms for aggression, and if the individual measures of hostility and norms for aggression were related to choice of drinking venue.

The study found that respondents living in areas with greater densities of bars and pubs reported lower norms for aggression and greater norms for alcohol-related aggression. Greater peak drinking levels were related directly to greater levels of hostility and norms for both aggression and alcohol-related aggression. Self-reported hostility and norms for alcohol-related aggression were related directly to drinking at bars and pubs, parties and friends’ homes. Aggressive norms were related to drinking at parties.

Whether bars serve to concentrate aggressive people into selected environments, whether these environments serve to increase levels of aggression, or whether both these processes reinforce each other mutually is not known. However, our findings do indicate relationships between certain exogenous measures, including alcohol outlet densities and social-psychological characteristics associated with violence. Many of these measures are also associated with the social contexts in which people drink.

Victorian Parliament Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee. (2006). *Inquiry into strategies to reduce harmful alcohol consumption: Final report*. Melbourne: Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee.

Wagenaar, A. C., Toomey, T. L., & Erickson, D. J. (2005). Complying with the minimum drinking age: Effects of enforcement and training interventions. *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research*, 29(2), 255-262.

Wagenaar, A. C., Toomey, T. L., & Erickson, D. J. (2005). Preventing youth access to alcohol: Outcomes from a multi-community time-series trial. *Addiction*, 100(3), 335-345.

Abstract

The Complying with the Minimum Drinking Age project (CMDA) is a community trial designed to test effects of two interventions designed to reduce alcohol sales to minors: (1) training for management of retail alcohol establishments and (2) enforcement checks of alcohol establishments.

CMDA was implemented in 20 cities in four geographic areas in the US Midwest. The core outcome, propensity for alcohol sales to minors, was directly tested with research staff who attempted to purchase alcohol without showing age identification using a standardised protocol in 602 on-premise and 340 off-premise alcohol establishments. Data were collected every other week in all communities over 4 years. Mixed-model regression and Box-Jenkins time-series analyses were used to assess short- and long-term establishment-specific and general community-level effects of the two interventions.

The effects of the training intervention were mixed. Specific deterrent effects were observed for enforcement checks, with an immediate 17% reduction in likelihood of sales to minors. These effects decayed entirely within 3 months in off-premise establishments and to an 8.2% reduction in on-premise establishments.

The study concludes that enforcement checks prevent alcohol sales to minors. At the intensity levels tested, enforcement primarily affected specific establishments checked, with limited diffusion to the whole community. Finally, most of the enforcement effect decayed within 3 months, suggesting that a regular schedule of enforcement is necessary to maintain deterrence.

Wallin, E., & Andreasson, S. (2004). Can I have a beer, please? A study of alcohol service to young adults on licensed premises in Stockholm. *Prevention Science*, 5(4), 221-229.

Abstract

This study evaluated the effects of a community alcohol prevention program on the frequency of alcohol service to young adults at licensed premises in Stockholm, Sweden. We used a pre-test (1996) and post-tests (1998 and 2001) design with intervention and control areas. The multi-component intervention combines training of serving staff in responsible beverage service, policy initiatives, and enforcement of existing alcohol regulations.

Adolescents aged 18 years old (the legal drinking age on licensed premises in Sweden), but younger looking according to an expert panel, visited licensed premises in pairs, where each adolescent ordered a beer. At baseline in 1996, the adolescents made 600 attempts to order. At follow-up in 1998, the number of attempts to order was 252, and at the second follow-up in 2001, the adolescents made 238 attempts.

We found no statistically significant differences between the intervention and control areas. Overall, the frequency of alcohol service to adolescents on licensed premises in these areas of Stockholm decreased significantly over time, from 45% to 41% and to 32%, in 1996, 1998, and 2001, respectively. The decrease in alcohol service in 2001 was statistically significant compared to the baseline in 1996. One explanation for this improvement could be more effective enforcement of existing alcohol laws in both the intervention and control areas. We also found that licensed premises that used doormen to screen potential customers were less likely to sell to minors.

Warburton, A. L., & Shepherd, J. P. (2006). Tackling alcohol related violence in city centres: Effect of emergency medicine and police intervention. *Emergency Medicine Journal*, 23(1), 12-17.

Abstract

The objective of this study was to identify correlates of alcohol related assault injury in the city centre of a European capital city, with particular reference to emergency department (ED) and police interventions, and number and capacity of licensed premises.

Assaults resulting in ED treatment were studied using a longitudinal controlled intervention, a three stage design during a three year period of rapid expansion in the night-time economy, when ED initiated targeted police interventions were delivered. A controlled ED intervention targeted at high risk night-clubs was carried out. The main outcome measure was ED treatment after assault in licensed premises and the street.

The study found that targeted police intervention was associated with substantial reductions in assaults in licensed premises but unexpected increases in street assault were also observed (34% overall: 105% in the principal entertainment thoroughfare). Combined police/ED intervention was associated with a significantly greater reduction compared with police intervention alone (OR = 0.61, 95% CI 0.40 to 0.91). Street assault correlated significantly with numbers and capacity of premises. Risk of assault was 50% greater in and around licensed premises in the city centre compared with those in the suburbs, although dispersion of violence to more licensed premises was not observed.

The study concluded that marked decreases in licensed premises assaults resulting from targeted policing were enhanced by the intervention of ED and maxillofacial consultants. The capacity of licensed premises was a major predictor of assaults in the city centre street in which they are clustered. City centre assault injury prevention can be achieved through police/ED interventions targeted at high risk licensed premises, which should also target the streets around which these premises are clustered.

Webb, M., Marriott-Lloyd, P., & Grenfell, M. (2004, May). *Banning the bottle: Liquor bans in New Zealand*. Paper presented at the 3rd Australasian Drug Strategy Conference, Alice Springs, NT.

Weitzman, E. R., Folkman, A., Lemieux Folkman, M. P. H. K., & Wechsler, H. (2003). The relationship of alcohol outlet density to heavy and frequent drinking and drinking-related problems among college students at eight universities. *Health and Place*, 9, 1-6.

Western Australia Office of Crime Prevention, Department of the Premier and Cabinet. (2004). *State Government Northbridge strategy: Young people in Northbridge policy: One year on*. Retrieved from <http://www.crimeprevention.wa.gov.au/Portals/0/PDF/ocp-youngpeopleinnorthbridgeoneyearon-2004.pdf>.

Abstract

In April 2003, the WA State Government proposed a ban on unsupervised juveniles in Northbridge. The move was aimed at addressing crime and child welfare issues, since the area was the destination for large numbers of unsupervised children and young people which the Government believed were at real risk of physical and moral danger. The area had also developed a reputation for unacceptable levels of violent, aggressive and generally anti-social behaviour. This paper reports that the policy made a significant impact in its first twelve months of operation, with clear indicators of improvement including: fewer children and young people at risk on the streets at night; a reduction in anti-social and aggressive behaviour from young people; fewer young people being apprehended for drunkenness, solvent abuse and use of illicit drugs. The business community reported an increase in trading and a reduction in the intimidation of patrons. The users of Northbridge also indicated that the area feels safer. Workers and services had been put in place to assist those at risk, both on the street and to follow up.

Wiggers, J. H., Jauncey, M., Considine, R. J., Daly, J. B., Kingsland, M., Purss, K., et al. (2004). Strategies and outcomes in translating alcohol harm reduction research into practice: The Alcohol Linking Program. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 23(3), 355-364.

2. Illicit Drug Issues

This section contains resources that deal with law enforcement, legislative and other approaches to reduce the supply of, demand for and harm associated with illicit drugs.

Abadinsky, H. (2004). *Drugs: An introduction* (5th ed). London: Wadsworth/Thomson Learning.

Abele, G. (2004). Synthetic drugs trafficking in three European cities: major trends and the involvement of organised crime. *Trends in Organised Crime*, 8(1), 24-37.

Abstract

This report contains the outcomes of a cross-national study that investigated three urban synthetic drug markets at different stages of development: Amsterdam, Barcelona and Turin. Key words used in the report include: composite picture; flexible, dynamic actors; 'free' drug economy; more structured, mafia-type organisations; role reconceived; primary sources; qualitative interpretative tools; methodology; law enforcement and policy; recommendations.

Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs. (2004). *ACMD Technical Committee: Report on Ketamine*. London: Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs.

Abstract

Ketamine is synthetic drug that is commonly used in medical and veterinary practice. It is known as a disassociative anaesthetic and is also used as an analgesic. The Advisory Council's Report sets out the following recommendations:

- Ketamine should be controlled under the *Misuse of Drugs Act 1971*.
 - Ketamine should be placed in Class C of the *Misuse of Drugs Act* and in Schedule 4 Part 1 of the *Misuse of Drugs Regulations 2001*.
 - Coroners and Procurators Fiscal should be encouraged to consider more routine screening for Ketamine in cases of unexpected deaths and road traffic accidents.
 - Ketamine should be included in the British Crime Survey in order to obtain more robust epidemiological data.
-

Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs. (2005). *Further consideration of the classification of cannabis under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971*. London: Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs.

Abstract

Following the Home Secretary's request in March 2005, the Advisory Council has reviewed its position on the classification of cannabis products. In particular it has examined recent evidence (published since its last Report in 2002) on the effects of cannabis on mental health and claims of increased prevalence of cannabis with high levels of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC). The Advisory Council's Report has been prepared after extensive consideration of oral and written evidence from a wide range of external experts with special knowledge of the field. The Report states that the Advisory Council remains of the view that cannabis is harmful and its consumption can lead to a wide range of physical and psychological hazards. Nevertheless, it does not recommend that the classification of cannabis products should be changed on the basis of the results of recent research into the effects on the development of mental illness. Although cannabis is unquestionably harmful, its harmfulness does not equate to that of other Class B substances either at the level of the individual or of society. The Report contains a series of recommendations.

Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs. (2005). *Khat (Qat): Assessment of risk to the individual and communities in the UK*. London: Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs.

Abstract

The khat plant (*catha edulis*) originates from Ethiopia and has been used for centuries in several countries in East Africa and the Arab Peninsular around the Red Sea. The leaves are chewed and have a stimulant effect similar to (mild) amphetamine. The Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs (ACMD) was asked to consider its harms and produce a report. The Home Secretary has agreed to the ACMD's recommendations in full. It is important that those who chew khat are made aware of the risks posed by chewing khat, and that treatment and advice services are appropriately targeted.

Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs. (2005). *Methylamphetamine Review: A report by the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs*. London: Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs.

Abstract

The illicit use of amphetamines, almost exclusively in the form of AMP sulphate powder, is widespread in the UK, but has been declining in recent years. At the same time, MDMA and the use of cocaine have increased. There is a paucity of information about the prevalence of Methylamphetamine use in the UK. What evidence there is suggests consumption of Methylamphetamine in the UK is very limited. However, given the experience of other countries such as the USA where Methylamphetamine misuse has become widespread, the ACMD has been asked to review the harms posed by the drug now and the potential for its use to increase in the UK in the future.

Allender, B. (2005). A case of MDMA 'madness'. *Australian Police Journal*, 59(1), 44-47.

Altshuler, S. J. (2005). Drug-endangered children need a collaborative community response. *Child Welfare*, 84(2), 171-190.

Andreas, P., & Nadelmann, E. A. (2006). *Policing the globe: Criminalisation and crime control in international relations*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Abstract

In this illuminating history that spans past campaigns against piracy and slavery to contemporary campaigns against drug trafficking and transnational terrorism, Peter Andreas and Ethan Nadelmann explain how and why prohibitions and policing practices increasingly extend across borders. The internationalisation of crime control is too often described as simply a natural and predictable response to the growth of transnational crime in an age of globalisation. Andreas and Nadelmann challenge this conventional view as at best incomplete and at worst misleading. The internationalisation of policing, they demonstrate, primarily reflects ambitious efforts by generations of Western powers to export their own definitions of 'crime', not just for political and economic gain but also in an attempt to promote their own morals to other parts of the world.

Arnold, C. (2007). Operation Sorbet's sweet reward Search and Rescue Squad members retrieved key evidence in the AFP investigation into Australia's largest known heroin importation. *Police life: Victoria Police Force Magazine*.

Abstract

Plans by an international crime gang to import 150 kilograms of heroin into Victoria were being monitored by the AFP for some time. Key words in the report include: Operation Sorbet – April 2003 – Search and Rescue (SAR) Squad – Melbourne, Geelong, Great Ocean Road – deceased body – hideouts – evidence – four men arrested – ship destroyed.

Australian Centre for Policing Research. (2004). The role of police in supporting illicit drug related public health outcomes. *Australian Police Journal*, 58(2), 53-59.

Australian Crime Commission (2005). *Australian Crime Commission: Illicit drug data report 2003–2004*. Canberra: Australian Crime Commission.

Australian Crime Commission (2007). *Illicit Drug Data Report 2005–2006*. Canberra: Australian Crime Commission.

Abstract

This report contains data and analysis provided by federal, state and territory police, as well as forensic laboratories and the Australian Customs Service.

The Australian Crime Commission (ACC) collects data annually from all state and territory police services, the Australian Federal Police (AFP), the Australian Customs Service, and the state and territory drug analytical laboratories. The illicit drug data collected and presented in this report for the 2005-06 financial year includes: consumer and provider arrests; seizures; purity levels; and prices.

The purpose of this report is to provide statistics and analyses that will assist decision-makers in developing illicit drug supply and harm reduction strategies. The data also assists the Australian Government to meet national and international reporting obligations.

Australian Federal Police (2005). The impact of AFP drug law enforcement on the availability of heroin. *AFP Research Notes Series*, 7, 1-2.

Australian Federal Police. (2004). *AFP Drug Harm Index*. Canberra: Australian Federal Police.

Australian Institute of Criminology. (2006). *Police perception of negative outcomes due to illicit drugs in Indigenous communities*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

There has been considerable media coverage about the negative outcomes associated with the abuse of alcohol and inhalants in Indigenous communities. Police in remote areas have also been concerned about the extent to which illicit drug use is having a negative impact in these communities. In 2005, the National Drug Law Enforcement Fund commissioned research into the policing implications of such use in rural and remote Australia. The Australian Institute of Criminology conducted a survey of police in urban and country areas in the Northern Territory, Western Australia, South Australia and Queensland on perceptions associated with the illicit use of cannabis and amphetamines. Overall, a large proportion of police indicated that there were negative outcomes associated with these two drugs in terms of family violence, mental and physical health, and engagement in crime to fund a drug habit. The impact of cannabis use on these various outcomes was generally considered similar in urban and country areas. In contrast, there was more variability in regard to amphetamines, with a greater proportion of police reporting negative consequences in urban areas. The caveat is that a large percentage of police in rural areas indicated 'don't know', which is probably due to the more recent introduction and lower penetration of amphetamines into those communities at the time of the survey.

Australian Institute of Criminology. (2006). *Trends in illicit drug use in Australia*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

The 2004 National Drug Strategy household survey was conducted by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare at the request of the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing. Almost 30,000 Australians participated in the survey, in which they were asked about their past and present drug consumption and attitudes towards drugs and drug policy. According to the survey, in 2004, 38 percent of Australians aged 14 years and over admitted using an illicit drug at least once during their lifetime, and 15 percent said they used in the previous 12 months. Trends in recent use (i.e. in the 12 months leading up to each survey) of selected illicit drugs between 1991 and 2004 are displayed in graph form. Throughout the period 1991–2004 cannabis was the illicit drug most likely to have been used recently, with 11 percent reporting using it in the past 12 months (2004 survey). Cannabis use has undergone an overall decline since 1991 (when it stood at 14%), with a pronounced peak in 1998 (18%). With the exception of ecstasy, use of other major illicit drugs, including meth/amphetamine (speed), cocaine and heroin, also peaked in the 1998 survey and declined thereafter. Recent use of ecstasy increased steadily in the period, from one percent in 1991 to three percent in 2004.

Australian Institute of Criminology. (2007). *Clandestine drug laboratories in Australia*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

A report published by the Australian Institute of Criminology in 2007 examined the market for amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS) in Oceania, and included information about the manufacture of ATS and related drugs in clandestine laboratories. This information sheet discusses data from the report on the detection of clandestine drug laboratories. The number of laboratories detected each financial year over the period 1996–2006 increased almost seven-fold, from 58 in 1996–97 to 390 in 2005–06. The period of greatest growth in the number of laboratories detected each year was from 2000–01 to 2002–03, with at least 50 more being detected each year than the year before. The growth in the number of discoveries slowed thereafter (up 23 to 381 laboratories in 2004–05, then up 9 to 390 in 2005–06). This reflects the growth in ATS use after 2000 and its stabilisation after 2003, as noted by the Drug Use Monitoring in Australia program.

Australian Institute of Criminology. (2007). *Drug use among police detainees across Australia*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

The Australian Institute of Criminology's Drug Use Monitoring in Australia (DUMA) program provides information through urinalysis and interviews on illegal drug use among people detained in a police station or watch-house. This information sheet highlights the differences between the nine sites in adult male detainees testing positive to cannabis, methylamphetamine, heroin and cocaine during 2006. Consistent across the sites, cannabis was the most widely used drug, with a range of 41 to 67% of detainees testing positive. Compared with the other eight DUMA sites, few detainees in Darwin tested positive to illicit drugs other than cannabis. With the exception of Darwin and Bankstown, a similar proportion of detainees tested positive to methylamphetamine across all sites. The largest variation was in the percentage testing positive to heroin. Four percent of male detainees in Elizabeth tested positive to heroin, compared with 32% in Footscray/Sunshine, while most sites returned 10% positive tests or less. The unusual percentage of positive heroin tests for Footscray/Sunshine reflects a reputation for drug dealing, particularly heroin, which the Footscray area has acquired in recent years. Victoria Police recently established Project Reduction – in which police request a court order prohibiting an offender from entering the area – to combat the trade.

Australian Institute of Criminology. (2007). *Global seizures of amphetamine-type stimulants*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) publishes findings from the worldwide monitoring of the production, trafficking, interception and consumption of illicit drugs in its annual World drug report. This information sheet briefly describes the findings from the current issue which reports on seizures of amphetamine-type stimulants from 104 countries and territories. The report shows that interception and seizure of ATS in 2004–05 was higher than a decade before, but followed a downward trend that began in 2000. Methylamphetamine was the most commonly seized ATS, accounting for 40% of the more than 43 tonnes intercepted, with amphetamine (30%), non-specified amphetamines (18%) and ecstasy (12%) making up the remainder. By region, East and Southeast Asia accounted for the most ATS seized (32%), followed by West and Central Europe (25%) and North America (18%). Oceania, including Australia, accounted for five percent, with Australia accounting for four percent of world ATS seizures made at a national level.

Australian Institute of Criminology. (2007). *Reasons for not buying drugs*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

Of the 4,232 adult detainees in police custody who responded to questions on local drug markets in the 2006 'Drug Use Monitoring in Australia' annual report, 49 percent (n=2,058) reported that they had purchased drugs in the past month by paying cash. Of these, 584 (14%) said there was an occasion in the past month when they had tried to purchase drugs but were not successful. The most common reason across all drug types was that the dealers did not have the particular drugs sought, and this was most commonly the case for cannabis and cocaine. Across all drug types, around one-quarter of the detainees said that there was no dealer available. Detainees trying to purchase heroin were more likely to report police activity as the reason for not purchasing the drug compared with other drug types; this reflects the market dynamics for heroin, which is more likely to be purchased from the street. Poor quality was also an important reason, particularly for heroin (21%) and meth/amphetamine (20%). Detainees trying to purchase ecstasy were more likely than other unsuccessful purchasers to indicate that no dealer was available (31%) or the price was too high (8%).

Ayling, J., & Grabosky, P. N. (2006). Policing by command: Enhancing law enforcement capacity through coercion. *Law & Policy*, 28(4), 420-443.

Abstract

This article addresses the numerous ways command or coercion is used by the state to enhance law enforcement, ways that involve creative interactions with both the targets of law enforcement and third parties. Coercive measures encompass both mandatory reporting and mandatory action. Examples are given and the benefits of using coercion in such circumstances are discussed. However, coercion may also have unintended consequences and impose unreasonable costs. With these effects in mind, the authors suggest a set of guidelines for evaluating the appropriateness of coercive measures.

Balkin, K. (2005). *Drug legalisation*. Farmington Hills, MI: Greenhaven Press.

Barclay, E., Donnermeyer, J. F., Scott, J., & Hogg, R. (Eds). (2007). *Crime in rural Australia*. Sydney: Federation Press.

Abstract

Contemporary rural crime is more varied and sophisticated than it once was. The new forms range from agricultural crimes, such as the theft of water designated for agricultural production, to environmental crimes such as the illegal dumping of waste. They take place side by side with 'traditional' rural crimes such as cattle duffing while 'urban' crimes such as drug and alcohol abuse and violent assaults are also prevalent, and on the rise. This publication covers all of these issues. It examines the major dimensions of crime and justice in rural and regional Australia including: the extent of rural crime; farm crime; violence; juvenile crime; policing; Indigenous crime and justice; crime prevention; drugs; fear of crime; and sentencing and punishment. It includes vignettes on rural policing and the stock squad from the perspectives of the NSW police. Divided into three main sections, the chapters of this book provide an overview of theory and methods, main contemporary issues and the administration of criminal justice in rural Australia.

Barratt, M. J., Chanteloup, F., Lenton, S., & Marsh, A. (2005). Cannabis law reform in Western Australia: An opportunity to test theories of marginal deterrence and legitimacy. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 24(4), 321-330.

Barton, L. V. (2007). *Illegal drugs and governmental policies*. New York: Nova Science Publishers.

Beletsky, L., Macalino, G. E., & Burris, S. (2005). Attitudes of police officers towards syringe access, occupational needle-sticks, and drug use: A qualitative study of one city police department in the United States. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 16(4), 267-274.

Best, D., Havis, S., Gossop, M., Gross, S., Witton, J., Keaney, F., et al. (2004). The risk of drug swallowing at the point of arrest: An analysis of 24 cocaine related deaths following police care or custody in England and Wales. *Policing & Society*, 14(4), 380-391.

Black, E., & Degenhardt, L. (2005). *Self-reported substance-related aggressive behaviour in the IDU sample, 2004*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

Intoxication due to use of methamphetamine and alcohol has been associated with aggressive and violent behaviour. This bulletin presents findings from the 2004 IDRS Injecting Drug User Survey on self reported substance-related aggression. The survey found, among other things, that approximately one third of injecting drug users (IDU) reported becoming verbally aggressive and one sixth reported becoming physically aggressive following use of a drug in the six months preceding interview. There were no significant gender differences. They also witnessed substantial levels of substance-related aggression among other individuals known to them in this time. The most commonly reported drugs after which aggression occurred were alcohol, methamphetamine (particularly ice), benzodiazepines and heroin. Participants reporting methamphetamine as their drug of choice were more likely to report becoming verbally and physically aggressive following use of a drug. Younger IDU (i.e. those aged 18–24) were more likely to report aggressive behaviour. IDU who had been arrested in the past year were more likely to report substance-related aggression, as were IDU who reported committing a crime in the month preceding interview. These findings have implications for the management and/or treatment of IDU who are regular methamphetamine users by both law enforcement and health service providers.

Bouchard, M. (2007). On the resilience of illegal drug markets. *Global Crime*, 8(4), 325-344.

Abstract

This paper argues that the concept of resilience is a fruitful way of understanding the impact of repressive policies on illegal drug markets. Key terms used in the paper include: definition of 'resilience' – illegal drug markets – core features – decentralised structure – high prices – increase resilience – market comparison – resilient properties – empirical, policy implications.

Bronitt, S. (2006). Directing traffic and the death penalty: Policing the borders of drug law enforcement. *Criminal Law Journal*, 30(5), 270-274.

Abstract

Much of the public concern in Australia about the fate of Schapelle Corby and the Bali nine relates to the perceived unfairness of the Indonesian criminal justice system, particularly the application of draconian offences that reverse the burden of proof and carry the severest of penalties, including death by firing squad. The prospect of the death penalty in cases of drug trafficking exposes the moral and legal limits of law enforcement cooperation and Australia's involvement in the global 'war on drugs'. Cases involving the realistic prospect of the death penalty expose the pressures on law enforcement and justice officials. They raise not only hard ethical questions about the individual choices made by law enforcers, but also raise wider questions about the legality and propriety of their actions as a matter of national policy. This editorial argues that in an era of globalisation of crime, these disputes over suspects, in which Australian police and justice officials become involved, will continue to raise concern over the proper limits of law enforcement in cases involving jurisdictions that impose the ultimate sanction for drug trafficking.

Burris, S., & Strathdee, G. (2006). To serve and protect? Toward a better relationship between drug control policy and public health. *AIDS*, 20(1), 117-118.

Abstract

The USA has the highest rate of incarceration in the world; over 2 million people are behind bars and another 4.5 million are on probation or parole. The number of incarcerated people in the USA has almost doubled over the last decade, due at least in part to penally oriented US drug policies. In their paper, Friedman et al. examine the extent to which legal repressiveness – measured through drug-related arrests, police per capita and corrections expenditures per capita – influences HIV infection in 89 major US metropolitan areas. In the current paper, the authors show that their three indices of legal repressiveness had no effect on drug use measures, but all three were associated with higher HIV prevalence.

Bush, W., Roberts, M., & Trace, M. (2004). Upheavals in the Australian drug market: Heroin drought, stimulant flood. [Electronic Version]. *DrugScope Briefing Paper*. Retrieved 27 February, 2006, from http://www.internationaldrugpolicy.net/reports/BeckleyFoundation_BriefingPaper_04.pdf#search=%22upheavals%22.

Camilleri, A., & Caldicott, D. (2005). Underground pill testing, down under. *Forensic Science International*, 151(1), 53-58.

Campbell, G., & Degenhardt, L. (2007). *ACT trends in ecstasy and related drug markets 2006: Findings from the Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS)*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

The Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS, formerly known as the Party Drugs Initiative) is a national monitoring system of ecstasy and related drugs that is intended to serve as a strategic early warning system, identifying emerging trends of jurisdictional and national interest in ecstasy and related drug markets. It was conducted across Australia for the first time in 2003. For the purposes of the study, the term ‘ecstasy and related drugs’ is considered to include drugs that are routinely used in the context of entertainment venues including nightclubs and dance parties. This includes drugs such as ecstasy (MDMA, 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine), methamphetamine, cocaine, LSD, ketamine, MDA (3,4-methylenedioxyamphetamine) and GHB (gamma-hydroxybutyrate). The findings in this report provide a summary of trends in ecstasy and other drug use detected in the Australian Capital Territory in 2006. These trends have been extrapolated from the three data sources: interviews with current regular ecstasy users, interviews with professionals who have contact with ecstasy users (key experts), and the collation of indicator data. The specific aims of the study were to: i) describe the characteristics of a sample of current regular ecstasy users interviewed; ii) examine the patterns of ecstasy and other drug use of this sample; iii) document the current price, purity and availability of ecstasy and related drugs; iv) examine participants’ perceptions of the benefits of ecstasy and other party drug use; v) examine participants’ perceptions of the incidence and nature of ecstasy and other party drug-related harm, including physical, psychological, financial, occupational, social and legal harms; and vi) identify emerging trends in the party drug market that may require further investigation.

Caulkins, J. P. (2007). Price and purity analysis for illicit drugs: Data and conceptual issues. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 90, 561-568.

Abstract

Data on illicit drug purity and prices are invaluable but challenging. Academic purists argue they are unsuitable for economic analysis but in practice they are used frequently. This paper reviews data and conceptual issues that people producing, analyzing, and consuming drug price and purity series should understand in order to reduce the likelihood of misinterpretation. It also

identifies aspects of drug markets that are both poorly understood and relevant to some of these issues. They constitute a useful research agenda for health and law enforcement communities who would benefit from better data on the supply, availability, and use of illicit drugs.

Chanteloup, F., Lenton, S., Barratt, M. J., & Fetherston, J. (2005). *Effects of the Western Australian Cannabis Infringement Notice Scheme on regular cannabis users regarding attitudes, use, and drug market factors: Baseline, year 1*. Perth: National Drug Research Institute.

Abstract

This is a report on one of the sub-studies of a larger project funded by the National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund (NDLERF) to evaluate the impact of changes to cannabis law in Western Australia (WA) on cannabis use, the drug market, law enforcement, knowledge and attitudes, and cannabis-related harms. This project is a pre-post evaluation of changes to legislation and regulations for minor cannabis offences as a result of recommendations of the WA Community Drug Summit held by the WA Government in August 2001.

Cherney, A. (2006). Networks and meta-regulation: Strategies aimed at governing illicit synthetic drugs. *Policing & Society*, 16(4), 370-385.

Abstract

This article sets out to explore the role of police agencies within a complex range of networks through a case study of illicit synthetic drug control. Reducing the supply of illicit synthetic drugs presents unique challenges for the police compared to the control of traditional plant-based illicit drugs such as cannabis or heroin. A key focus of reducing supply is that of governing the interface between licit and illicit market activities. This strategy has required police agencies to increasingly engage in forms of meta-regulation. Under such a strategy, the police role is increasingly one of acting as “brokers”, i.e. connecting the internal capacity of external institutions to crime control goals and promoting collective responses around externalities (i.e. opportunities for illegal conduct) generated by legitimate commercial activity.

Cherney, A., O'Reilly, J., & Grabosky, P. N. (2005). *The governance of illicit synthetic drugs*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

The focus of this report is on amphetamine type substances (ATS) mainly amphetamine, methamphetamine and ecstasy (i.e. MDMA). Throughout the lifecycle of an illicit synthetic drug there are a number of individuals or institutions in a position to reduce supply. The challenge for law enforcement is to find the means of leveraging these external institutions in furtherance of supply reduction. The aim of the project has been to:

1. Identify concrete examples of law enforcement agencies harnessing external institutions (public, private and non-profit) in furtherance of amphetamine and other illicit synthetic drug control.
2. Identify objective, replicable measures of each partnership's institutional properties, and their impacts.
3. Analyse the strengths and weaknesses of each.
4. Disseminate the findings to Australasian law enforcement agencies.

Cherney, A., O'Reilly, J., & Grabosky, P. N. (2006). The multilateralisation of policing: The case of illicit synthetic drug control. *Police Practice and Research*, 7(3), 177-194.

Abstract

Many security-related roles that were customarily the responsibility of governments and public police agencies have become commercialised, devolved, or otherwise dispersed. This phenomenon has been described as ‘multilateralisation’. This paper sets out to analyse the

multilateralisation of policing as it applies to strategies of supply reduction in the area of illicit synthetic drugs, focusing in particular upon amphetamine type substances. Supply reduction can constitute interventions not ordinarily thought of as drug law enforcement and entail a range of technologies underpinned by regulatory theory. Various strategies of engaging external institutions in furtherance of reducing the supply of illicit synthetic drugs are canvassed. The authors provide an analytical framework for understanding how illicit synthetic drugs can be governed through strategies of co-production and the possible barriers and issues that need to be considered when attempting to engage the crime control capacities of external institutions.

Chilvers, M., & Weatherburn, D. (2003). The impact of heroin dependence on long-term robbery trends. *Crime and Justice Bulletin: Contemporary Issues in Crime and Justice* (79), 1-12.

Abstract

This study reports the results of a time series analysis of the relationship between heroin use and robbery over the period 1966 to 2000 in NSW. A statistically significant relationship was found between these two variables, controlling for other potential causes of the increase in robbery, such as rising unemployment rates for males, a decreased likelihood of apprehension by police for robbery crimes, and a reduction in the likelihood of imprisonment for robbery. Using the time series modelling results, the elasticity between dependent heroin use and robbery was estimated; a 10 percent decrease in the annual number of heroin dependent users resulted in a 6 per cent decrease in robbery. The paper concludes on the basis of this and other evidence that policies designed to encourage more heroin users into methadone treatment or increase the price of heroin are likely to prove helpful in reducing or limiting the growth in robbery.

Clough, A. R., Lee, K. S. K., Cairney, S., Maruff, P., O'Reilly, B., d'Abbs, P., et al. (2006). Changes in cannabis use and its consequences over 3 years in a remote indigenous population in northern Australia. *Addiction*, 101(5), 696-705.

Abstract

Few studies describe cannabis use in indigenous populations, and no longitudinal studies are available in Australia. We conducted 3-year follow-up interviews and assessments in Aboriginal communities in Arnhem Land (Northern Territory, NT). A randomly selected sample (n = 161; 80 males, 81 females aged 13–36 years) was assessed in October 2001 and then reassessed in September 2004. An opportunistically recruited sample (n = 104; 53 males, 51 females aged 13-36 years) was also interviewed in 2001 and followed-up in 2004. Cannabis and other substance use were determined by combining proxy assessments by local Aboriginal health workers, medical records and data from interviews.

The study found that those who used cannabis at both baseline and follow-up were at greater risk than those who never used it to have suffered: auditory hallucinations; suicidal ideation; and imprisonment. In the randomly selected cohort there were fewer cannabis users at follow-up than at baseline (P= 0.003). The reduction was evident in females generally (P= 0.008) and older males (aged = 16 at baseline) (P= 0.007). In those interviewed at both baseline and follow-up we measured no statistically significant reduction in frequency and levels of use, although fewer cannabis users reported symptoms of misuse such as: fragmented thought processes; memory disruption; difficulties controlling use; and auditory and visual hallucinations.

The study concludes that modest reductions in cannabis use and its consequences in this population were demonstrated. These may be the result of enhanced supply control and broader socio-political changes.

Collins, M., Huttunen, J., Evans, I., & Robertson, J. (2007). Illicit drug profiling: The Australian experience. *Australian Journal of Forensic Sciences*, 39(1), 25-32.

Abstract

Illicit drug profiling provides law enforcement agencies with physical and chemical information that may assist in identifying and disrupting drug trafficking organisations. Detailed chemical analysis provides information which, when compared to historical data, allows investigators to determine the geo-location of cultivated drugs such as cocaine and heroin. Similar analyses of synthetic drugs afford information on synthetic route and precursor chemicals. When combined with physical evidence this information may also be used to help establish links between different seizures of illicit drugs. The Australian Illicit Drug Intelligence Program, which is a collaboration between the Australian Federal Police and the Australian National Measurement Institute, was established to acquire chemical and profiling data on illicit drugs and disseminate information to appropriate national and international governmental agencies.

Cooper, H., Moore, L. L., Gruskin, S., & Krieger, N. (2005). The impact of a police drug crackdown on drug injectors' ability to practice harm reduction: A qualitative study. *Social Science & Medicine*, 61(3), 673-684.

Coumans, M., Knibbe, R. A., & van de Mheen, D. (2006). Street-level effects of local drug policy on marginalisation and hardening: An ethnographic study among chronic drug users. *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*, 38(2), 161-171.

Abstract

This study focuses on the effects of increased enforcement on marginalisation of and quality of relations between chronic drug users in the region of Parkstad Limburg (The Netherlands). Data were mainly gathered by ethnographic community fieldwork, verified by interviews with key informants and supported by a survey sample of 100 drug users. The results show direct effects of repression on stigmatisation and marginalisation of drug users, and on the availability of drugs. More indirect effects are the hectic reactions of drug users and dealers, greater visibility of drug users in public places, and increased tensions in and deterioration of relations between the drug users. The impact of the increased enforcement on reports of drug-related nuisance in general population surveys and on police control is also discussed.

Cunningham, J. K. (2005). Impacts of federal precursor chemical regulations on methamphetamine arrests. *Addiction*, 100(4), 479-488.

Davis, C. S. (2005). Effects of an intensive street-level police intervention on syringe exchange program use in Philadelphia. *American Journal of Public Health*, 95(2), 233-236.

Degenhardt, L., & Day, C. (2004). *The course and consequences of the heroin shortage in New South Wales*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

The heroin shortage followed a period of unprecedented heroin availability in Australia. In early 2001 the price, purity and availability of heroin in NSW dramatically and unexpectedly decreased; this decrease was felt most strongly in the months January to April of that year. Although the market appears to have stabilised, it has not returned to pre-shortage levels.

For those who continued to use heroin and other drugs, the heroin shortage was associated with increased levels of crime and aggression. Changes to drug use patterns, health and criminal activity of heroin users required health and police services to respond, often compromising their ability to deliver appropriate and necessary services. Responses were varied and reflected the dynamic nature and resourcefulness of many services. On the whole the skill bases of services increased and, while many of the acute/negative impacts of the shortage dissipated, many of the positive changes remained.

Degenhardt, L., & Day, C. (2006). *Impact of the heroin shortage: Additional research*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

The heroin shortage followed a period of unprecedented heroin availability in Australia. In early 2001 the price, purity and availability of heroin in NSW dramatically and unexpectedly decreased; this decrease was felt most strongly in the months January to April of that year. Although the market appears to have stabilised, it has not returned to pre-shortage levels.

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Degenhardt, L., Coffey, C., Carlin, J. B., Moran, P., & Patton, G. C. (2007). Who are the new amphetamine users? A 10-year prospective study of young Australians. *Addiction*, 102(8), 1269-1279.

Abstract

In early 2001, Australia experienced a sudden and dramatic decrease in heroin availability, concomitant with increases in price and decreases in purity. This phenomenon, known as the 'heroin shortage', was assessed in a comprehensive body of research examining the causes, course and consequence of the shortage (Degenhardt et al. 2004). As a result of those findings a number of additional questions were raised, and some findings required further and more detailed analysis, which are addressed in the current report.

Degenhardt, L., Conroy, E., Gilmour, S., & Collins, L. (2005). The effect of reduction in heroin supply in Australia upon drug distribution and acquisitive crime. *British Journal of Criminology*, 45(1), 2-24.

Abstract

Despite good evidence of increased availability and use of amphetamines world-wide, relatively little is known about the epidemiology of young adult amphetamine users; relationships with social functioning, other drug use and mental health at this age; nor of the adolescent predictors of such use. We examined these issues using a representative cohort of young people followed-up in Victoria, Australia.

A stratified, random sample of 1943 adolescents was recruited from secondary schools across Victoria at age 14–15 years. This cohort was interviewed on eight occasions until the age of 24-25 years (78% follow-up at that age). Cross-sectional and predictive associations were assessed using logistic regression.

The study found that at age 24 years, 12% of the sample had used amphetamines in the past year, with 1–2% using at least weekly. Young adult amphetamine use was predicted strongly by adolescent drug use and was associated robustly with other drug use and dependence in young adulthood. Associations were stronger for more frequent users. Among young adults who had not been using amphetamines at age 20 years, the strongest predictor of use at age 24 years was the use of other drugs, particularly cannabis, at 20 years. Psychological distress did not predict independently an increased likelihood of amphetamine use in this cohort.

Young people in Australia using amphetamine at age 24 years are highly likely to be significant polydrug users. The risks for both initiation of young adult amphetamine use, and maintenance of such use, pertain to the heavy use of other drugs. Interventions for heavy amphetamine users at this age are likely to require attention to multiple drug problems.

Degenhardt, L., Conroy, E., Gilmour, S., & Hall, W. D. (2004). The effect of a reduction in heroin supply on fatal and non-fatal drug overdoses in New South Wales, Australia. *Medical Journal of Australia*, 182(1), 20-23.

Degenhardt, L., Copeland, J., & Dillon, P. (2005). Recent trends in the use of 'club drugs': An Australian review. *Substance Use & Misuse*, 40(9-10), 1241-1256.

Degenhardt, L., Day, C., & Hall, W. D. (2004). *The causes, course and consequences of the heroin shortage in Australia*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Degenhardt, L., Day, C., Dietze, P., Pointer, S., Conroy, E., & Collins, L., et al. (2005). Effects of a sustained heroin shortage in three Australian states. *Addiction*, 100(7), 908-920.

Degenhardt, L., Day, C., Gilmour, S., & Hall, W. (2005). Patterns of illicit drug use in NSW, Australia following a reduction in heroin supply. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 16(5), 300-307.

Degenhardt, L., Day, C., Gilmour, S., & Hall, W. (2006). The 'lessons' of the Australian 'heroin shortage'. *Substance Abuse Treatment, Prevention, and Policy* 1(11), 1-7.

Abstract

Heroin use causes considerable harm to individual users including dependence, fatal and nonfatal overdose, mental health problems, and blood borne virus transmission. It also adversely affects the community through drug dealing, property crime and reduced public amenity. During the mid to late 1990s in Australia the prevalence of heroin use increased as reflected in steeply rising overdose deaths. In January 2001, there were reports of an unpredicted and unprecedented reduction in heroin supply with an abrupt onset in all Australian jurisdictions. The shortage was most marked in New South Wales, the State with the largest heroin market, which saw increases in price, dramatic decreases in purity at the street level, and reductions in the ease with which injecting drug users reported being able to obtain the drug. The abrupt onset of the shortage and a subsequent dramatic reduction in overdose deaths prompted national debate about the causes of the shortage and later international debate about the policy significance of what has come to be called the "Australian heroin shortage". In this paper we summarise insights from four years' research into the causes, consequences and policy implications of the "heroin shortage".

Degenhardt, L., Reuter, P., Collins, L., & Hall, W. D. (2005). Evaluating explanations of the Australian 'heroin shortage'. *Addiction*, 100(4), 459-469.

Degenhardt, L., Stafford, J., Kinner, S., Johnston, J., Fry, C., & Bruno, R., et al. (2005). *Reflections on a two-year national pilot study of the Party Drugs Initiative (PDI)*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Delahunty, B., & Putt, J. (2006). *Good practice framework: Policing illicit drugs in rural and remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait communities*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

The advice in this guide is intended for police and police organisations looking to review their approaches to policing illicit drug use and reducing drug-related harms among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in rural and remote areas. The advice and materials in this guide focus on opportunities to improve policing through the use of: i) strategic policies and programs requiring different sectors and jurisdictions to commit to coordinated approaches to drug control; ii) local, district and regional area planning to prevent crime and promote community

safety, including the reduction of illicit drug supply and use; and iii) individual police practices. These elements work best when coordinated as part of a holistic police approach to working in partnership with Aboriginal communities and other organisations to improve police effectiveness and improve outcomes. Where relevant, the examples cited in this framework refer to the main report: *Policing implications of cannabis, amphetamine and other drug use in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities* (2006).

Delahunty, B., & Putt, J. (2006). *The policing implications of cannabis, amphetamine and other illicit drug use in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

This report focuses on the policing of cannabis, amphetamine and other illicit drug use in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in rural and remote areas, including the role of police in efforts to reduce drug-related harms. Recent shifts in drug supply and use appear to be exposing isolated Aboriginal communities to unexpected difficulties. Cannabis is now flowing into remote areas at an alarming rate, a trade fuelled by high demand and extreme profits but increasingly facilitated by profiteers from outside the community rather than resident user-dealers. Despite a sharp rise in cannabis smoking, particularly among young people, there is no evidence of a corresponding fall in drinking. Alcohol and alcohol-related conflicts remain an urgent issue for most communities, while the illicit drug trade is adding fresh and dynamic impediments to an already complex policing environment.

Dietze, P., Miller, P., Clemens, S., Matthews, S., Gilmour, S., & Collins, L. (2004). *The course and consequences of the heroin shortage in Victoria*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Diguisto, E., Shakeshaft, A., Ritter, A., Mattick, R., White, J., Lintzeris, N., et al. (2006). Effects of pharmacotherapies for Opioid dependence on participants' criminal behaviour and expenditure on illicit drugs: An Australian national evaluation. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology*, 39(2), 171-189.

Abstract

Examines the relationship between illicit drug use, criminal behaviour and expenditure on illicit drugs among opioid-dependent individuals. Includes an analysis of the data collected in pharmacotherapy trials.

Donnelly, N., & Snowball, L. (2006). Recent trends in property and drug-related crime in Kings Cross. *Crime and Justice Bulletin: Contemporary Issues in Crime and Justice* (105), 1-8.

Abstract

Trends in property and drug-related crime in Kings Cross were examined over the period from mid-2002 (when the Sydney Medically Supervised Injecting Centre (MSIC) operations were extended) through to mid-2006. Consistent with the findings of the original evaluation of the impact of the MSIC on crime, it was found that theft and robbery offences showed a similar, predominantly decreasing pattern in Kings Cross as was the case throughout the rest of Sydney. Recorded cases of dealing/trafficking in narcotics declined in both Kings Cross and the rest of Sydney. Recorded cases of possession/use of narcotics have remained stable in Kings Cross, but have declined throughout the rest of Sydney. Recorded cases of using and trafficking in amphetamines have shown no significant increase in Kings Cross but have significantly increased throughout the rest of Sydney. Recorded cases of possession/use of cocaine have increased in both Kings Cross and the rest of Sydney. Recorded cases of dealing and trafficking in cocaine briefly increased in Kings Cross (but not the rest of Sydney) but have since declined. The number of cocaine trafficking offences remains lower in Kings Cross than it was prior to the opening of the MSIC. There was a sharp increase in

police 'move-ons' in Kings Cross around the time the MSIC commenced operations in mid-2001. This change, however, probably reflects police efforts to prevent drug-related loitering rather than a real increase in drug-related loitering. It is concluded that the continued operation of the MSIC has not at this stage had an adverse impact on crime in Kings Cross.

Dorn, N. (2004). UK policing of drug traffickers and users: Policy implementation in the contexts of national law, European traditions, international drug conventions, and security after 2001. *Journal of Drug Issues*, 34(3), 533-550.

Drug and Crime Prevention Committee, Victoria Parliament. (2004). *Inquiry into amphetamine and 'party drug' use in Victoria: Final report*. Melbourne: Victoria Parliament.

Abstract

The Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee was given Terms of Reference to investigate and report to Parliament on the use of amphetamines and 'party drugs' in Victoria. This included examining the nature and extent of use, the consequences of such use, and the strategies employed to restrict such use and provide treatment for users. A major concern identified through this Inquiry has been the dearth of information relating to the extent of amphetamine and 'party drug' use, the long-term effects of use and the lack of specific education, services and appropriate treatment for specific users of specific drugs. The need for further targeted research and partnerships between all groups working in areas related to the supply and use of these drugs was seen as essential to effectively addressing these issues.

Dunn, M., & Degenhardt, L. (2007). *New South Wales trends in ecstasy and related drug markets 2006: Findings from the Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS)*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

The Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS, formerly known as the Party Drugs Initiative) is a national monitoring system of ecstasy and related drugs that is intended to serve as a strategic early warning system, identifying emerging trends of jurisdictional and national interest in ecstasy and related drug markets. It was conducted across Australia for the first time in 2003. For the purposes of the study, the term 'ecstasy and related drugs' is considered to include drugs that are routinely used in the context of entertainment venues including nightclubs and dance parties. This includes drugs such as ecstasy (MDMA, 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine), methamphetamine, cocaine, LSD, ketamine, MDA (3,4-methylenedioxyamphetamine) and GHB (gamma-hydroxybutyrate). The findings in this report provide a summary of trends in ecstasy and other drug use detected in New South Wales in 2006 through the conduct of the fourth year of the EDRS study. These trends have been extrapolated from the three data sources: interviews with current regular ecstasy users, interviews with professionals who have contact with ecstasy users (key experts), and the collation of indicator data. The specific aims of the study were to: i) describe the characteristics of a sample of current regular ecstasy users interviewed; ii) examine the patterns of ecstasy and other drug use of this sample; iii) document the current price, purity and availability of ecstasy and related drugs; iv) examine participants' perceptions of the benefits of ecstasy and other party drug use; v) examine participants' perceptions of the incidence and nature of ecstasy- and other party drug-related harm, including physical, psychological, financial, occupational, social and legal harms; and vi) identify emerging trends in the party drug market that may require further investigation.

Dunn, M., Degenhardt, L., Campbell, G., George, J., Johnston, J., Kinner, S., et al. (2007). *Australian trends in ecstasy and related drug markets 2006: Findings from the Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS)*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

The Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS, formerly known as the Party Drugs Initiative) is a national monitoring system of ecstasy and related drugs that is intended to serve as a strategic early warning system, identifying emerging trends of jurisdictional and national interest in ecstasy and related drug markets. It was conducted across Australia for the first time in 2003. For the purposes of the study, the term 'ecstasy and related drugs' is considered to include drugs that are routinely used in the context of entertainment venues including nightclubs and dance parties. This includes drugs such as ecstasy (MDMA, 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine), methamphetamine, cocaine, LSD, ketamine, MDA (3,4-methylenedioxyamphetamine) and GHB (gamma-hydroxybutyrate). The findings in this report provide a summary of trends in ecstasy and other drug use detected across Australia in 2006 through the conduct of the fourth year of the EDRS study. These trends have been extrapolated from the three data sources: interviews with current regular ecstasy users, interviews with professionals who have contact with ecstasy users (key experts), and the collation of indicator data. The specific aims of the study were to: i) describe the characteristics of a sample of current regular ecstasy users interviewed in each capital city of Australia; ii) examine the patterns of ecstasy and other drug use of these samples; iii) document the current price, purity and availability of ecstasy and related drugs across Australia; iv) examine participants' reports of ecstasy-related harm, including physical, psychological, financial, occupational, social and legal harms; and v) identify emerging trends in the party drug market that may require further investigation.

Englert, G. (2007). When a house is not a home: Asian operated hydroponic cannabis cultivation. *Australian Police Journal*, 61(1), 16-19.

Abstract

The phenomenon of Asian operated hydroponic cannabis premises in New South Wales that rose dramatically between 2002 and 2006 is examined as are the policing options that have been used to successfully combat this increase.

Farrington, F., & Lenton, S. (2005). *Effects of the Western Australian Cannabis Infringement Notice Scheme on attitudes and drug use behaviour of school children: Baseline, year 1*. Perth: National Drug Research Institute.

Abstract

This reports on the first phase of one of the seven sub-studies of a larger project funded by the National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund (NDLERF) to evaluate the impact of changes to cannabis law in Western Australia on cannabis use, the drug market, law enforcement, knowledge and attitudes, and cannabis-related harms. NDLERF agreed to initially fund Year 1 of this 2-year study.

Fitzgerald, J. L. (2005). Policing as public health menace in the policy struggles over public injecting. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 16(4), 203-206.

Forman, R. F., Marlowe, D. B., & McLellan, A. T. (2006). The Internet as a source of drugs of abuse. *Current Psychiatry Reports*, 8(5), 377-382.

Abstract

The Internet is a vital medium for communication, entertainment, and commerce, with more than 1 billion individuals connected worldwide. In addition to the many positive functions served by the Internet, it also has been used to facilitate the illicit sale of controlled substances.

No-prescription websites (NPWs) offer and then sell controlled substances over the Internet without a valid prescription. NPW monitoring studies have focused primarily on the availability of prescription opioid medications, although many other drugs of abuse are also available online. Research indicates that these NPW sites are prevalent. Google or Yahoo searches simply using the term "Vicodin" return 40% to 50% NPWs in the top 100 sites. Thus, NPWs represent an important development in the sale of illicit drugs because of the ease with which controlled substances can be sold with relative anonymity. The emergence of NPWs requires new law enforcement and public health initiatives. Continued monitoring efforts will determine whether efforts to reduce the availability of NPWs are successful.

Fowler, G., Kinner, S., & Krenske, L. (2007). *Containing ecstasy: Analytical tools for profiling an illegal drug market*. Hobart: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

The Ecstasy Market Indicator (EMI) project was developed in response to the National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund's (NDLERF) request for an enhanced understanding of the ecstasy markets in Australia for law enforcement. The call for a study measuring the structure and functioning of ecstasy markets emerged out of the recent increases in ecstasy prevalence and the unique characteristics of ecstasy users compared to other illegal drug users. Specifically, NDLERF requested that a research template, designed to measure the ecstasy market, be developed and then trialled in Queensland. This template was to address the following research areas: market characteristics, patterns of use, and the implications for law enforcement. The EMI project has developed a research template that utilises a range of methodologies to measure the Queensland ecstasy market. The EMI study expanded the scope of the Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS) by adding additional questions to the EDRS questionnaire, increasing the sample size, and recruiting respondents from Brisbane, the Gold Coast and Cairns. A series of in-depth interviews with ecstasy consumers, ecstasy suppliers and related health and law enforcement personnel about the dynamics of the ecstasy market were also conducted. Finally, all relevant and available survey and indicator data held by health and law enforcement agencies were collated and analysed. The information collected from this triangulated approach was used to build a profile of the Queensland ecstasy market and is documented in this report.

Friedrichs, J. (2008). *Fighting terrorism and drugs: Europe and international police cooperation*. London: Routledge.

Frisher, M., Crome, I., Macleod, J., Bloor, R., & Hickman, M. (2007). *Predictive factors for illicit drug use among young people: A literature review*. London: Research Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office UK.

George, J., & Lenton, S. (2007). *West Australian trends in ecstasy and related drug markets 2006: Findings from the Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS)*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

The Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS, formerly known as the Party Drugs Initiative) is a national monitoring system of ecstasy and related drugs that is intended to serve as a strategic early warning system, identifying emerging trends of jurisdictional and national interest in ecstasy and related drug markets. It was conducted across Australia for the first time in 2003. For the purposes of the study, the term 'ecstasy and related drugs' is considered to include drugs that are routinely used in the context of entertainment venues including nightclubs and dance parties. This includes drugs such as ecstasy (MDMA, 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine), methamphetamine, cocaine, LSD, ketamine, MDA (3,4-methylenedioxyamphetamine) and GHB (gamma-hydroxybutyrate). The findings in this report provide a summary of trends in ecstasy

and other drug use detected in Western Australia in 2006 through the conduct of the fourth year of the EDRS study. These trends have been extrapolated from the three data sources: interviews with current regular ecstasy users, interviews with professionals who have contact with ecstasy users (key experts), and the collation of indicator data. The specific aims of the study were to: i) describe the characteristics of a sample of current regular ecstasy users interviewed in Perth; ii) examine the patterns of ecstasy and other drug use of this sample; iii) document the current price, purity and availability of ecstasy and related drugs in Perth; iv) examine participants' perceptions of the incidence and nature of ecstasy-related harm, including physical, psychological, financial, occupational, social and legal harms; v) compare key findings of this study with those reported in previous years; and vi) identify emerging trends in the ecstasy and related drug markets that may require further investigation.

Goode, E. (2008). *Drugs in American society* (7th ed). San Francisco: McGraw-Hill.

Goodwin, A. (2007). *Measuring the harm from illegal drugs: The Drug Harm Index 2005*. London: Crime and Drugs Analysis and Research, Home Office.

Abstract

The UK Government's Drug Strategy is underpinned by a Public Service Agreement (PSA) target which, over the Spending Review Period 2005–06 to 2007–08, requires it to "Reduce the harm caused by illegal drugs (as measured by the Drug Harm Index encompassing measures of the availability of Class A drugs and drug related crime) including substantially increasing the number of drug misusing offenders entering treatment through the criminal justice system."

The Drug Harm Index (DHI) was developed as the overarching measure for this PSA target. A technical account was published in March 2005 with data up to and including 2003, along with a full description of data sources and methodology. This report is available at www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs05/rdsolr2405.pdf. An update was published in March 2006 to incorporate some minor improvements to the methodology and data for 2004 (see <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs06/rdsolr0806.pdf>). The PSA target requires that the DHI is lower in 2007–08 than in 2002.

Hansen, F. (2006). Harm minimisation: Different expectations on police. *Australian Police Journal*, 60(2), 87-91.

Abstract

This article is a reprint of a paper presented at the Australian Professional Society on Alcohol and other Drugs (APSAD) Conference held in 2004. It discusses the challenges confronting local police in Sydney, particularly Cabramatta, in their attempt to satisfy operational demands and community expectations in both the context of harm minimisation and competing public health imperatives. It also highlights the role of police in dealing with these issues through partnerships with the health sector and guidance from Police Instructions.

Hanson, D. (2005). Right in your backyard: Identifying illegal drug labs lurking in the shadows. *Law Enforcement Technology*, 35(2), 8, 10, 12, 14-16.

Harrison, A., Christie, P., Longo, M., Pointer, S., & Ali, R. (2004). *The course and consequences of the heroin shortage in South Australia*. Payneham, SA: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Hay, G., Gannon, M., MacDougall, J., Millar, T., Eastwood, C., & McKeganey, N. (2007). *National and regional estimates of the prevalence of opiate use and/or crack cocaine use 2005/06: A summary of key findings*. London: Research Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office UK.

Abstract

This report summarises the results of the second sweep of a three-year study to estimate the prevalence of 'problem drug use' (defined as use of opiates and/or crack cocaine) nationally (England only), regionally, and locally. An overview of national and Government Office Region estimates are presented in this report as are comparisons with the estimates produced by the previous (2004/05) sweep of this study.

Healey, J. (2004). *Illicit drugs*. Thirroul, NSW: Spinney Press.

Abstract

Based on the 2001 National Drug Strategy Household Survey, almost 40% of the Australian population aged 14 years and over has used an illicit or illegal drug at least once in their life and nearly 17% has used at least once in the previous 12 months. This book looks at what the most used illicit drugs are, and explores the following issues: health risks, addiction and treatment; crime and punishment involving drug offences; and the impact of illicit drug use on families and society in general.

Hunt, D. E. (2006). Methamphetamine abuse: Challenges for law enforcement and communities. *National Institute of Justice Journal*, (254), 24-27.

Abstract

Fifty-eight percent of county law enforcement agencies surveyed by the National Association of Counties in 2005 listed methamphetamine as the number one drug problem in their area. States as diverse as Arkansas, Indiana, Vermont, and Wyoming reported increases of more than 90 percent in methamphetamine arrests in the prior year. Cheap, easy to manufacture, and long lasting, methamphetamine has become more popular than cocaine in some U.S. cities. And the problem is no longer confined to discrete regions of the country.

Why is methamphetamine abuse such a growing problem, and what should police and communities do to combat this threat? The final report of a study funded by the National Institute of Justice provides findings that State and local law enforcement and public safety officials need to know to answer these questions.

Hunt, K., & Furst, R. T. (2006). A select annotated bibliography: Illegal drug research in rural and suburban areas. *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*, 38(2), 173-188.

Abstract

As the diffusion of illegal drugs continues to spread to rural and suburban areas, there is a greater need among illegal drug researchers, law enforcement, and policy makers to gain knowledge from previous work done on what is loosely termed as rural substance abuse research. To help serve that need an annotated bibliography is proffered based on three categories and one method of illegal substance abuse research. These are: drug consumption, drug distribution, drug prices, and ethnography. An exhaustive review of the literature was not undertaken, but rather a focus on research that addresses drug consumption and distribution is put forward.

International Narcotics Control Board. (2008). *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2007*. Vienna: International Narcotics Control Board.

Abstract

A close look at the world's drug problem reveals two developments of particular concern. First, criminal organisations are taking advantage of loopholes in the control systems in Africa for

chemicals used in illicit drug manufacture and are in the process of establishing in that region trafficking hubs for chemicals. Numerous suspicious shipments of precursor chemicals to Africa have been identified. Also of concern is the establishment of routes for smuggling cocaine between countries in South America and Africa. Countries affected by those developments should introduce appropriate measures to prevent their territory from being targeted for such criminal activity.

Jacobs, K., Burke, T., Green, M., Saggars, S., Mason, R., & Barclay, A. (2007). *Making sense of partnerships: A study of police and housing department collaboration for tackling drug and related problems on public housing estates*. Hobart: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

The aim of this project is to explore the realities of partnerships by focusing on the collaboration between the police and housing departments to tackle problems associated with illicit drug activity and anti-social behaviour (ASB) on three Australian public housing estates. The rationale for the project is that, though only a small minority of tenants are perpetrators, their actions can seriously blight the lives of their neighbours. Usually it is the housing department that responds to complaints relating to ASB but, in the more serious cases that are deemed criminal, the police also perform a role. Three locations were chosen as case studies.

Johnson, B. D. (2003). Patterns of drug distribution: Implications and issues. *Substance Use & Misuse*, 38, 11-13.

Abstract

This article delineates various patterns of illicit sales of drugs, especially at the retail (and near-retail) level, addressing a variety of central issues about drug sales and distribution documented during the past 30 years including: a) the links between drug consumption and drug distribution activities; b) the various distribution roles; c) various levels of the distribution hierarchy; d) types of retail and wholesale markets; e) the association of drug distribution with non-drug associated criminality and violence. The article also will address the implications of drug distribution and whether various public policies such as supply reduction and source interdiction affect illicit drug markets, and how policing strategies and various law enforcement strategies can influence the involvement of individual participation in drug distribution activities. The overlooked contribution of treatment for "drug abuse" to reducing drug sales and distribution activities also will be considered as will other critical unresolved issues.

Johnston, J., Quinn, B., & Jenkinson, R. (2007). *Victorian trends in ecstasy and related drug markets 2006: Findings from the Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS)*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

This report presents the results from the fourth year of a study monitoring ecstasy and related drug (ERD) trends in Victoria. The demographic characteristics, patterns of drug use and perceptions of the price, purity and availability of ERD among a sample of regular ecstasy users (REU) are described in this report. Their severity of dependence on ecstasy and methamphetamines, perceptions of the effects of drug use (e.g. benefits and risks), health risk behaviours and criminal behaviour are also reported. These findings are triangulated with information from key expert (KE) and secondary indicator data sources in an attempt to minimise biases and weaknesses inherent to each source of data. These methods are employed to gain an understanding of the current ERD markets in Melbourne, Victoria. Where appropriate, 2006 findings are compared to findings from the previous three years and implications of the results and the nature and characteristics of ERD markets are discussed.

Joint Committee on the Australian Crime Commission. (2007). *Inquiry into the manufacture, importation and use of amphetamines and other synthetic drugs (AOSD) in Australia*. Canberra: Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia.

Jones, C., Weatherburn, D. J., Freeman, K., & Matthews, R. (2005). *Psycho-stimulant use, health and criminal activity among injecting heroin users*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

The present research sought to address three questions of relevance to illicit drug policy:

- (1) What effect do the perceived price, purity and availability of heroin have on (a) heroin use and (b) heroin expenditure?
- (2) What effect does the perceived risk of 'scoring', perceived 'hassle' associated with scoring and amount of contact with police have on (a) heroin use and (b) heroin expenditure?
- (3) What differences are there in terms of adverse health and behavioural outcomes between intravenous drug users (IDUs) who use heroin only and IDUs who use a combination of heroin and psycho-stimulant drugs, such as cocaine and methamphetamine?

Kerr, T., Small, W., & Wood, E. (2005). The public health and social impacts of drug market enforcement: A review of the evidence. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 16(4), 210-220.

Kinner, S., & Degenhardt, L. (2006). Reflections on the development and implementation of an early warning system for ecstasy and related drug markets in Australia. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 25, 445-449.

Abstract

Regular and systematic monitoring of drug markets provides the basis for evidence-based policy. In Australia, trends in ecstasy and related drug (ERD) markets have been monitored in selected jurisdictions since 2000 and nationally since 2003, by the Party Drugs Initiative (PDI). The PDI maximises the validity of conclusions by triangulating information from (a) interviews with regular ecstasy users (REU), (b) interviews with key experts and (c) indicator data. There is currently no other system in Australia for monitoring these markets systematically; however, the value of the PDI has been constrained by the quality of available data. Difficulties in recruiting and interviewing appropriate consumers (REU) and key experts have been experienced, but largely overcome. Limitations of available indicator data from both health and law enforcement continue to present challenges and there remains considerable scope for enhancing existing routine data collection systems, to facilitate monitoring of ERD markets. With an expanding market for ecstasy and related drugs in Australia, and in the context of indicator data that continue to be limited in scope and detail, there is a strong argument for the continued collection of annual, comparable data from a sentinel group of REU, such as those recruited for the PDI.

Kinner, S., Fowler, G., Fischer, J., Stafford, J., & Degenhardt, L. (2005). Monitoring the ecstasy market in Australia: Challenges and successes. *Party Drug Trends Bulletin*, April, 1-6.

Lenton, S. (2005). Evaluation of the Western Australian cannabis infringement notice scheme: An overview. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 24(4), 297-299.

Lenton, S., & Fetherston, J. (2005). *Effects of the Western Australian Cannabis Infringement Notice Scheme on public attitudes, knowledge and use: Baseline, year 1*. Perth: National Drug Research Institute.

Abstract

This is a report on phase one of one of the seven sub-studies of a larger project funded by the National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund (NDLERF) to evaluate the impact of changes to cannabis law in Western Australia on cannabis use, the drug market, law enforcement, knowledge and attitudes, and cannabis-related harms. This project is a pre-post evaluation of changes to legislation and regulations for minor cannabis offences as a result of recommendations of the Western Australian (WA) Community Drug Summit held by the WA Government in August 2001.

Lenton, S., Chanteloup, F., Fetherston, J., Sutton, A., Hawks, D., & Barratt, M. J., et al. (2005). *An evaluation of the impact of changes to cannabis law in WA: A summary of year 1 findings*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Lichtenwald, T. G. (2004). Drug smuggling behaviour: A developmental smuggling model: Part II. *Forensic Examiner*, (Spring), 14-23.

Lind, B., Chen, S., Weatherburn, D. J., & Mattick, R. (2005). The effectiveness of methadone maintenance treatment in controlling crime: An Australian aggregate-level analysis. *British Journal of Criminology*, 45(2), 201-211.

Loxley, W., Toumbourou, J., Stockwell, T., Haines, B., Scott, K., Godfey, C., Waters, E., Patton, G., Fordham, R., Gray, D., Marshall, J., Ryder, D., Saggars, S., Sanci, L., & Williams, J. (2004). *The Prevention of Substance Use, Risk and Harm in Australia: A Review of the Evidence*. Perth: National Drug Research Institute & the Centre for Adolescent Health.

MacDonald, Z., Collingwood, J., & Gordon, L. (2006). *Measuring the harm from illegal drugs using the Drug Harm Index – an update*. London: Research Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office UK.

Abstract

The Government's Drug Strategy is underpinned by a Public Service Agreement (PSA) target, which over the Spending Review Period 2005/06 to 2007/08 requires it to "reduce the harm caused by illegal drugs, encompassing the availability of Class A drugs and drug-related crime, including substantially increasing the number of drug misusing offenders entering treatment through the criminal justice system."

The Drug Harm Index (DHI) was developed as the overarching measure for this PSA target. A technical account was published in March 2005 for data up to and including 2003 along with a full description of data sources and methodology (the report is available at www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs05/rdsolr2405.pdf)

Matrix Knowledge Group. (2007). *The illicit drug trade in the United Kingdom*. London: Research Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office UK.

Matthews, A., & Bruno, R. (2007). *Tasmanian trends in ecstasy and related drug markets 2006: Findings from the Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS)*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

The Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS, formerly known as the Party Drugs Initiative) is a national monitoring system of ecstasy and related drugs that is intended to serve as a strategic early warning system, identifying emerging trends of jurisdictional and national interest in ecstasy and related drug markets. It was conducted across Australia for the first time in 2003. For the purposes of the study, the term 'ecstasy and related drugs' is considered to include drugs that are routinely used in the context of entertainment venues including nightclubs and dance parties. This includes drugs such as ecstasy (MDMA, 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine), methamphetamine, cocaine, LSD, ketamine, MDA (3,4-methylenedioxyamphetamine) and GHB (gamma-hydroxybutyrate). The findings in this report provide a summary of trends in ecstasy and other drug use detected in Tasmania in 2006 through the conduct of the fourth year of the EDRS study. These trends have been extrapolated from the three data sources: interviews with current regular ecstasy users, interviews with professionals who have contact with ecstasy users (key experts), and the collation of indicator data. The specific aims of the study were to: i) describe the characteristics of a sample of current regular ecstasy users interviewed; ii) examine the patterns of ecstasy and other drug use of this sample; iii) document the current price, purity and availability of ecstasy and related drugs; iv) examine participants' perceptions of the benefits of ecstasy and other party drug use; v) examine participants' perceptions of the incidence and nature of ecstasy- and other party drug-related harm, including physical, psychological, financial, occupational, social and legal harms; and vi) identify emerging trends in the party drug market that may require further investigation.

May, T., & Hough, M. (2004). Drug markets and distribution systems. *Addiction Research and Theory*, 12(6), 549-563.

Mazerolle, L. (2005). *A systematic review of drug law enforcement strategies*. Mt Gravatt, Qld: Griffith University.

Mazerolle, L., Kadleck, C., & Roehl, J. (2004). Differential police control at drug dealing places. *Security Journal*, 17(1), 61-69.

Mazerolle, L., Soole, D., & Rombouts, S. (2005). *Drug law enforcement: The evidence*. Fitzroy, Victoria: Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre Inc.

Mazerolle, L., Soole, D., & Rombouts, S. (2006). Street-level drug law enforcement: A meta-analytical review. *Journal of Experimental Criminology*, 2(4), 409-435.

Abstract

Our paper presents the results of a meta-analytical review of street level drug law enforcement. We conducted a series of meta-analyses to compare and contrast the effectiveness of four types of drug law enforcement approaches, including community-wide policing, problem-oriented/partnership approaches that were geographically focused, hotspots policing and standard, unfocused law enforcement efforts. We examined the relative impact of these different crime control tactics on street-level drug problems as well as associated problems such as property crime, disorder and violent crime. The results of the meta-analyses, together with examination of forest plots, reveal that problem-oriented policing and geographically-focused interventions involving cooperative partnerships between police and third parties tend to be more effective at controlling drug problems than community-wide policing efforts that are unfocused and spread out across a community. But geographically focused and community-wide drug law enforcement interventions that leverage partnerships are more effective at dealing with drug problems than traditional,

law enforcement-only interventions. Our results suggest that the key to successful drug law enforcement lies in the capacity of the police to forge productive partnerships with third parties rather than simply increasing police presence or intervention (e.g., arrests) at drug hotspots.

Mazerolle, L., Soole, D., & Rombouts, S. (2007). Drug law enforcement: A review of the evaluation literature. *Police Quarterly*, 10(2), 115-153.

Abstract

This article describes the results of a systematic review of drug law enforcement evaluations. The authors describe the search procedures and document the results in five main categories: international/national interventions (e.g., interdiction and drug seizure), reactive/directed interventions (e.g., crackdowns, raids, buy-busts, saturation patrol, etc.), proactive/partnership interventions (e.g., third-party policing, problem-oriented policing, community policing, drug nuisance abatement, etc.), individualised interventions (e.g., arrest referral and diversion), or interventions that used a combination of reactive/directed and proactive/partnership strategies. Results indicate that proactive interventions involving partnership between the police and third parties and/or community entities appear to be more effective at reducing both drug and non-drug problems in drug problem places than are reactive/directed approaches. But the general quality of research in drug law enforcement is poor, the range of interventions that have been evaluated is limited, and more high-quality research is needed across a greater variety of drug interventions.

McKetin, R., & McLaren, J. (2004). *The methamphetamine situation in Australia: A review of routine data sources*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

McKetin, R., Gibson, A., Degenhardt, L., & Day, C. (2005). Recent trends in heroin supply to markets in Australia, the United States and Western Europe. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 16(5), 293-299.

McKetin, R., McLaren, J., & Kelly, E. (2004). Ice in Australia: Understanding the dynamics of the methamphetamine market. *Eastern Horizons*, 17, 5-6.

McKetin, R., McLaren, J., & Kelly, E. (2005). *The Sydney methamphetamine market: Patterns of supply, use, personal harms and social consequences*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

The methamphetamine market in Australia has undergone radical changes since the late 1990s with the emergence of new, more pure forms of base and ice. The current research was undertaken to fulfil a need to understand the impact of base and ice on the methamphetamine market, and the health and social consequences associated with these more pure forms of methamphetamine.

McKetin, R., McLaren, J., Riddell, S., & Robins, L. (2006). The relationship between methamphetamine use and violent behaviour. *Crime and Justice Bulletin: Contemporary Issues in Crime and Justice*, (97), 1-16.

Abstract

The current bulletin assesses whether there is any relationship between the increasing assault rate in NSW seen over the past decade and increasing methamphetamine use. During this time, there have been several changes to methamphetamine use patterns that could have contributed to an increase in methamphetamine related problems, such as violent behaviour. There is currently insufficient evidence to infer a direct causal link between methamphetamine use and violence, but there is considerable evidence that the two entities are related. The strongest evidence for a relationship between methamphetamine use and violence is in the context of methamphetamine-induced psychosis. In this context, violence is likely to be related to persecutory delusions and

perceived threat. There is also experimental evidence that chronic use of the drug increases the risk of violent behaviour, and a proportion of chronic methamphetamine users report problems controlling violent behaviour. Despite this evidence, it is not clear whether violent behaviour among chronic methamphetamine users is due to methamphetamine use per se or co-occurring factors (e.g. alcohol use, psychiatric status, personality, lifestyle associated with illicit drug use). Acute intoxication with methamphetamine alone does not appear to lead to violent behaviour, but it may enhance aggression in someone who is otherwise provoked. In conclusion, there is currently insufficient empirical data to estimate whether, or to what extent, methamphetamine use has increased assaults in NSW. Existing evidence suggests that methamphetamine use is likely to have a relatively minor impact on the assault rate in NSW in comparison with other factors.

McPherson, M., & Spooner, C. (2004). Police contribution to illicit drug harm minimisation. *Australian Police Journal*, 58(3), 145-148.

Messner, S. F., Galea, S., Tardiff, K. J., Tracy, M., Bucciarelli, A., Piper, T. M., et al. (2007). Policing, drugs, and the homicide decline in New York City in the 1990s. *Criminology*, 45(2), 385-414.

Abstract

This research reassesses the role of policing and drugs in the sharp homicide decline in New York City in the 1990s. Drawing on theoretical arguments about “broken windows” policing and lethal violence associated with the diffusion of crack cocaine, we estimate the effects of measures of misdemeanor arrests and cocaine prevalence on homicide rates with pooled, cross-sectional time-series data for 74 New York City precincts over 1990–1999. The results of mixed regression models reveal a significant negative effect of changes in misdemeanor arrests and a significant positive effect of changes in cocaine prevalence on changes in total homicide rates. Additional analyses of homicide disaggregated by weapon indicate that the effects of misdemeanor arrests and cocaine prevalence emerge for gun-related but not for non-gun-related homicides. Overall, the research generally supports influential interpretations of the homicide decline in New York City but also raises questions about underlying mechanisms that warrant more inquiry in future research.

Miller, G. J. (2005). *Drugs and the law: Detection, recognition & investigation* (3rd ed). Charlottesville, VA: Gould Publications.

Mirakbari, S. M. (2004). Heroin overdose as cause of death: Truth or myth. *Australian Journal of Forensic Sciences*, 36(2), 73-78.

Abstract

Heroin-related deaths have many causes and occur in a heterogeneous group of patients. The current paper examines critically the literature on deaths attributed to heroin overdose, and examines the characteristics and complexity of such deaths. In particular, the dominance of the widely held belief that heroin-related fatalities are a consequence of overdose is challenged. The presence of other drugs (primarily central nervous system depressants such as alcohol and benzodiazepines) being commonly detected at autopsy and study of patients with acute opioid overdose who arrive in Emergency departments do not prove this coherency. Furthermore, deaths attributed to overdose are likely to have morphine levels no higher than those who survive, or heroin users who die from other causes. It is concluded that the term overdose may in many cases be a misleading term, since it implies the same mechanism of death in all cases. In order to determine the impact of co-intoxicants on mortality and morbidity after opioid overdose, future studies should measure serum levels of opioids and suspected co-intoxicants in both survivors and fatalities and conduct similar prospective follow-ups for defined adverse events including death.

Moffatt, S., Weatherburn, D., & Donnelly, N. (2005). *What caused the recent drop in property crime?* Sydney: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research.

Moon, C., & Newman, J. (2007). *Northern Territory trends in ecstasy and related drug markets 2006: Findings from the Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS)*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

The Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS, formerly known as the Party Drugs Initiative) is a national monitoring system of ecstasy and related drugs that is intended to serve as a strategic early warning system, identifying emerging trends of jurisdictional and national interest in ecstasy and related drug markets. It was conducted across Australia for the first time in 2003. For the purposes of the study, the term 'ecstasy and related drugs' is considered to include drugs that are routinely used in the context of entertainment venues including nightclubs and dance parties. This includes drugs such as ecstasy (MDMA, 3,4-methylenedioxyamphetamine), methamphetamine, cocaine, LSD, ketamine, MDA (3,4-methylenedioxyamphetamine) and GHB (gamma-hydroxybutyrate). The findings in this report provide a summary of trends in ecstasy and other drug use detected in the Northern Territory in 2006 through the conduct of the fourth year of the EDRS study. These trends have been extrapolated from the three data sources: interviews with current regular ecstasy users, interviews with professionals who have contact with ecstasy users (key experts), and the collation of indicator data. The specific aims of the study were to: i) describe the characteristics of a sample of current regular ecstasy users interviewed in Darwin in 2006; ii) examine the patterns of ecstasy and other drug use of this sample; iii) document the current price, purity and availability of ecstasy and related drugs available in Darwin; iv) examine participants' perceptions of the incidence and nature of ecstasy-related harm, including physical, psychological, financial, occupational, social and legal harms; and vi) identify emerging trends in the ecstasy and related drug market that may require further investigation.

Mouzos, J., Hind, N., Smith, L., & Adams, K. (2007). *Drug use monitoring in Australia: 2006 annual report on drug use among police detainees*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

The Drug Use Monitoring in Australia (DUMA) program, established in 1999, is a quarterly collection of information from police detainees in seven sites (police states or watch-houses) across Australia. In 2006, the number of sites increased to nine. There are two parts to the information collected: a questionnaire, which is conducted with a trained interviewer independent from the police, and a urine sample, which is tested for six different classes of drugs. Information collected from the questionnaire includes basic demographic data, drug use history, drug market information, treatment history and information on prior contact with the criminal justice system. The nine DUMA sites represent a range of community configurations: three sites represent the metropolitan area of a major state capital; three cover a metropolitan city area; one the outer suburbs of a major state capital; another one a regional centre; and the last covers a major tourist and retirement destination. This report presents both self-report data from 4,555 participating detainees and urinalysis for 77% of these for 2006. It includes an overview of the characteristics of detainees at each site, including self-reported drug use, prior criminal behaviour and treatment history. In addition to tracking changes in local drug markets, DUMA collects additional information on key strategic issues in a timely manner. Since its inception a number of addendums have been run as part of the DUMA questionnaire. In 2006, the following different addendums were run at the sites: quarter one: amphetamines (all sites except Darwin) and alcohol (Darwin); quarter two: drug driving (all sites); quarter three: motives for offending (all sites); and quarter four: alcohol (Darwin, Adelaide, Elizabeth, East Perth) and mental health (Bankstown,

Parramatta, Brisbane, Southport, Sunshine/Footscray). The collection of this information allows for the formation and implementation of better-informed policies, and can also serve to guide key stakeholders, such as law enforcement bodies, in future tactical, strategic and operational decision-making.

Natarajan, M. (2006). Understanding the structure of a large heroin distribution network: a quantitative analysis of quantitative data. *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*, 22(2), 171-192.

Abstract

This paper presents an analysis of 2,408 wiretap conversations gathered in the course of prosecuting a heroin dealing organisation in New York in the 1990s. Key words in the paper include: Five-step analysis – large, loosely structured group – 294 individuals – limited contacts with others in group – active core 38 individuals – extended contracts – little status differentiation – some task specialisation – more tightly connected group of 22 individuals – communal business – large criminal conspiracy not confirmed – one segment of heroin market – study supports recent analyses – organised crimes – mostly work of small groups of loosely linked entrepreneurs.

National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (2005). *National Cannabis Strategy consultation paper*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

On 12 November 2004 the Ministerial Council on Drug Strategy agreed to the development of a National Cannabis Strategy, the first of its kind in Australia. This consultation paper serves as a starter to what will be a comprehensive consultation process for the development of the Strategy; it is not a draft of the Strategy. The paper highlights important areas that need to be considered when developing the Strategy, and outlines some potential strategies to address the issues involved. Issues discussed are: educating the community about cannabis; reducing the negative effects of cannabis; responding to high risk groups; cannabis and other drug use; cannabis use and crime; developing effective partnerships; and monitoring and evaluation.

National Drug Intelligence Center. (2007). *National Drug Threat Assessment: 2008*. Washington: U.S. Department of Justice.

Abstract

The trafficking and abuse of illicit drugs are a great burden on citizens, private businesses, financial institutions, public health systems, and law enforcement agencies in the United States. These burdens are manifested and measured in many ways; however, the most striking evidence of the impact of drug trafficking and abuse on U.S. society is the thousands of drug-related deaths (overdoses, homicides, accidents, or other fatal incidents) that occur each year. This interagency assessment provides a strategic overview and predictive outlook of the threat to the United States from the illicit trafficking and use of cocaine, methamphetamine, marijuana, heroin, pharmaceutical drugs, and other dangerous drugs.

Nevala, S., & Aromaa, K., (eds.). (2004). *Organised crime, trafficking, drugs: Selected papers presented at the annual conference of the European Society of Criminology, Helsinki 2003*. Helsinki: European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control.

New South Wales Office of the Ombudsman. (2005). *Review of the Police Powers (Drug Premises) Act 2001*. Sydney: NSW Ombudsman.

New South Wales Office of the Ombudsman. (2005). *Review of the Police Powers (Internally Concealed Drugs) Act 2001*. Sydney: NSW Ombudsman.

New Zealand Police Association. (2005). How organised crime controls the meth market. *New Zealand Police Association Police News*, 38, 12-14.

Abstract

New Zealand multimillionaires, some of them legitimate businessmen in their own right, have effectively 'bought' motorcycle gangs in order to facilitate the distribution of methamphetamine /P and other amphetamine type substances. This article describes the methods used by motorcycle gangs, some of whom are directly importing meth/P from overseas suppliers. Drug supply networks throughout Asia are also fostered through European, Australian, American and Canadian biker gang networks. These transnational connections are providing local gangs with the know how to launder their criminal takings by moving their profits into legitimate businesses. There is concern among police on the ground that there is no national police strategy in place for dealing with the distribution of hard drugs by the gangs.

Nicholas, R. (2002). *The feasibility and implications of compulsory DNA testing of drug offenders*. Adelaide: Australasian Centre for Policing Research.

Abstract

The use of DNA matching techniques is proving to be a valuable investigative tool for police, since it can aid in the identification and exclusion of suspects and in the linkage of otherwise apparently unrelated crimes. This paper explores a range of issues relating to the feasibility and implications of the compulsory DNA testing of drug offenders as a means of linking these offenders to other offences that they may have committed. In considering this issue, it should be noted that, in the context of this paper, the term drug offender refers to a person who has pleaded or been found guilty of a State, Territory or Commonwealth drug offence. The term major drug offender refers to a person who has been convicted of an indictable drug offence. The term minor drug offender refers to a person who has been found to have committed a non-indictable drug offence, such as a simple possession offence. The term suspect refers to a person who is suspected of having committed a drug offence and who may or may not have been charged with that offence.

Nicholas, R. (2002). *The impact of the national focus on harm minimisation on the uptake of illicit drugs in Australia*. Adelaide: Australasian Centre for Policing Research.

Abstract

This paper concerns the impact of the national focus on harm minimisation on the uptake of illicit drugs and it addresses two issues. The first of these is the extent to which there is broad agreement and clarity on the meaning of the term harm minimisation. Second, the paper examines whether Australia currently has the right balance between strategies which aim to prevent the uptake or continuation of illicit drug use and strategies which aim to reduce the harm once a decision has been made to use illicit drugs. The central tenet of this discussion paper is that while there are aspects of Australia's National Drug Strategy that are the envy of many other countries, its drug use prevention efforts may warrant further examination.

Nicholas, R. (2003). *The impact of general law enforcement on the illicit drug market*. Adelaide: Australasian Centre for Policing Research.

Abstract

The illicit drug supply reduction activities of the law enforcement sector in Australia are often conceptualised simply in terms of the seizure of illicit drugs. However, law enforcement also makes substantial efforts to reduce the harm from illicit drugs and, in particular, to reduce the demand for illicit drugs. This paper examines the range of ways in which general law enforcement activities influence the illicit drug market in Australia, from both supply and demand reduction perspectives.

Nicholas, R. (2003). *The use of amphetamine type stimulants by offenders involved in high speed pursuits*. Adelaide: Australasian Centre for Policing Research.

Abstract

Despite considerable anecdotal evidence, there is currently no research evidence to support the proposition that amphetamine type stimulants (ATS) use by offenders is a significant factor in police high speed pursuits. The lack of research evidence does not mean that this is not an emerging problem, but it does mean that this paper can only examine the issue indirectly. Accordingly, the paper explores this issue by examining what is known about the effects of ATS on human behaviour in general and on driving in particular. It also describes the perceptions of those who drive while under the influence of ATS, but who are not necessarily involved in high speed pursuits (HSP). Finally, the paper draws conclusions about the probable ways in which the use of ATS by offenders could impact on HSP and the potential implications of this for police.

Nicholas, R. (2004). *The apprehension and custodial care of offenders affected by the use of amphetamine type stimulants*. Adelaide: Australasian Centre for Policing Research.

Nicholas, R. (2006). *On-site ecstasy pill testing – a consideration of the issues from a policing perspective*. Adelaide: Australasian Centre for Policing Research.

Abstract

Australasian policing has a long history of supporting a range of initiatives, such as methadone programs and needle and syringe provision services that reduce illicit drug-related harm. These programs have been supported because the evidence base pointed to the benefits of doing so. It is therefore appropriate that the same evidence-based tests be applied to the issue of ecstasy pill testing. In doing so, it is important to remain cognisant that both the (Australian) Ministerial Council on Drug Strategy and the Intergovernmental Committee on Drugs have rejected pill testing as an appropriate harm minimisation practice. In summary, the evidence base is sufficiently strong to adopt a position opposing existing reagent based approaches to on-site pill testing at dance parties.

Nicholas, R. (2006). *The current amphetamine situation in Australasia – implications for policing*. Adelaide: Australasian Centre for Policing Research.

Nicholas, R. (2007). *Policing responses to substance misuse in rural and remote indigenous communities. The report from a National Workshop held at the Crowne Plaza, Alice Springs, 29–30 August 2007*. Hobart: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

This report concerns a National Workshop held at Alice Springs on 29–30 August 2007. The Workshop focused on policing responses to alcohol and other substance misuse problems in rural and remote Indigenous communities. The purpose of this report is to provide a vehicle to help disseminate the learning that occurred at the Workshop (including the research itself) and to highlight further issues that the NDLERF Board of Management may wish to consider. The report does not set out to evaluate the Workshop. This was undertaken by Northern Territory Police. It is, however, noteworthy that the evaluation was very favourable. An important feature of the Workshop was that it acted as a good demonstration of the process of operationalising research. This involved taking NDLERF research findings and applying them to situations that were of direct relevance to the Workshop participants, using a systematic framework that was also developed as part of NDLERF-funded research. Added to this was the opportunity for networking amongst participants that enabled them to share their experiences and perspectives.

Nicholas, R., & Shoobridge, J. (2005). *Alcohol and other drug issues facing policing in Australia*. Adelaide: Australasian Centre for Policing Research.

Abstract

At its November 2004 meeting, the Commissioners' Drugs Committee of the Conference of Commissioners of Police of Australasia and the South West Pacific Region asked the Australasian Centre for Policing Research to conduct an environmental scan. The objective of the scan was to identify the alcohol and other drug issues impacting upon Australian policing at present as well as into the future. This was with a view to guiding the future activities of the Commissioners' Drugs Committee. This report is the outcome of the environmental scan. It paints a broad picture of the alcohol and other drug issues facing Australia with particular emphasis on those issues that impact upon policing.

Nicholas, R., & Shoobridge, J. (2006). *The health and social impacts of cannabis use*. Adelaide: Australasian Centre for Policing Research.

Abstract

As part of its ongoing role in monitoring contemporary drug issues in Australasia, the Commissioners' Drugs Committee asked the Australasian Centre for Policing Research (ACPR) to re-examine the current literature concerning the health effects of cannabis consumption, and given advances in published research, revise a paper on the health harms associated with cannabis use that was originally produced in 2001. This paper is the result of that request and, in accordance with the wishes of the Committee, the paper places particular emphasis on the impact of cannabis use on mental health.

Office of National Drug Control Policy (2005). *Cities without drugs: The 'Major Cities' guide to reducing substance abuse in your community*. Office of National Drug Control Policy.

Abstract

Americans understand the value of working together. We know that when we pool our resources and combine our strengths and when we unite as a community there is little we cannot accomplish. This booklet represents the lessons ONDCP and our partners have learned and the knowledge we have gained in the course of administering the Major Cities project. It is, in effect, a "how to" manual for citizens anywhere who want to adopt the Major Cities model for their own communities. The document does not pretend to have all the answers. Because the nature of the drug threat differs from city to city, there are no hard and fast rules for addressing the problem, just as there is no one size fits all formula for stopping drug use. In each community, the specific methods must be tailored to address local needs.

Office of National Drug Control Policy (2006). *Synthetic drug control strategy: A focus on methamphetamine and prescription drug abuse*. Office of National Drug Control Policy.

Abstract

The President's National Drug Control Strategy describes the Administration's strategic approach for reducing illicit drug use in the United States. The Administration's Synthetic Drug Control Strategy is a companion to the National Strategy. It follows the main principles set out in the National Strategy: that supply and demand are the ultimate drivers in all illicit drug markets and that a balanced approach incorporating prevention, treatment, and market disruption initiatives (such as interdiction, arrests, prosecutions, and regulatory interventions) is the best way to reduce the supply of, and demand for, illicit drugs.

O'Reilly, J., & Cherney, A. (2005). The chemical generation and plural policing. *Platypus*, 68, 30-36.

Abstract

Control of the manufacture and distribution of illicit synthetic drugs is a significant issue for law enforcement. This paper examines the experiences and practices adopted by the United States in reducing the supply of illicit synthetic drugs. It also notes that crime control and the policing of illicit synthetic drugs has become multilateralised. Other issues examined in the paper include domestic chemical control and the role of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) in the US controls on chemical distribution.

Oscapella, E. (2004). Illegal drugs and terrorism financing. *Intersec*, 14(11/12), 351-353.

Payne, J. (2006, April). Drug use histories of juveniles in detention. *Of Substance*, 4, 16-17.

Abstract

Research into the link between drug use and crime has consistently demonstrated a number of key findings: criminal offenders report higher rates of psychoactive substance (drug) use than the general population; frequent drug use is linked to higher frequencies of offending; the majority of offenders commence both crime and drug use during adolescence; and adult offenders who were detained as a juvenile report more serious and frequent offending profiles and higher levels of drug use. This study provides a summary of a research study undertaken by the Australian Institute of Criminology to examine the drug histories of 371 young people aged between 11 and 17 years who were sentenced to or remanded in detention in all Australian states and territories. These voluntary face-to-face interviews included 25 females and 364 males with an average age of 16 years. The findings of this study indicate that for a large proportion of juveniles in detention, drug use does play an important role in criminal participation, and highlights the importance of early intervention programs for breaking the cycle of drugs and crime.

Pearson, G. (2004). 'E' is for enterprise: Middle level drug markets in ecstasy and stimulants. *Addiction Research and Theory*, 12(6), 565-576.

Perez, P., Dray, A., Ritter, A., Dietze, P., Moore, T., & Mazerolle, L. (2005). *Simdrug: Exploring the complexity of heroin use in Melbourne*. Fitzroy, Victoria: Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre Inc.

Pertile, E. (2006). On the heroin trail. *Jane's Police Review*, 114, 26-27.

Abstract

This article discusses a typical drugs trail, and explains what the Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA) is doing to stop 'the business'. Key words include SOCA – conglomeration – organised crime enterprises – Afghanistan – cultivation – counter narcotics force – precursor chemicals – processing plant, factory – transportation – intelligence gathering – knowledge – vulnerabilities – strategic alliances.

Peters, L., & Walker, R. (2005). *Rapid assessment of powers to close 'crack houses'*. London: Home Office, Research, Development and Statistics Directorate.

Abstract

Part 1 of the *Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003* introduced new powers specifically designed to close 'crack houses'. The legislation enables the police to serve a closure notice, with immediate effect, on premises used in connection with the production of class A drugs (associated with the occurrence of disorder or serious nuisance) subject to obtaining a closure order in court within 48 hours. The new provisions, enacted on 20th January 2004, are primarily police powers, with a requirement to consult with the relevant local authority in seeking a closure. Previously, practitioners relied on powers contained in a number of pieces of legislation to close 'crack houses' with varying degrees of success (such as *Misuse of Drugs Act 1971* and *Housing Act 1996*). This report examines the implementation of the new provisions in four case study areas.

Pieper, R. (2006). Trends in law enforcement and border operations in the Asia-Pacific. *Development Bulletin*, (69), 18-21.

Abstract

Public opinion is the outcome of a complex symbiotic relationship between journalists, public relations officers and policy makers. Therefore public opinion could be seen as the outcome of how the mass media choose to report various issues. Those engaged in policy making about drugs and development and those engaged in crime prevention and enforcement share one thing in common – they all operate within a context where public opinion influences their decisions. This article assesses the role of the Australian media in the reporting of drugs. It argues that the media has operated within a culture of blame, rather than seriously examining the complexity of the drug problem.

Prior, J. (2004). *Law enforcement measures to reduce harms associated with injecting drug use in Western Australia: Second report to the Minister for Health, harm reduction term of reference*. Perth: Working Party on Drug Law Reform.

Prunckun, H. (2007). Does price really matter? The relationship between heroin price and purity in Australia and the ramifications for international drug enforcement. *Global Crime*, 8(4), 367-380.

Abstract

This study determines the relationship between the black market price for heroin and its corresponding purity in Australia for the period from July 1996 to June 2003. Key words include: regression, correlation analyses – test relationship between variables – near zero correlation at commercial level – conclusion – Australian law enforcement operations neither effective nor ineffective re commercial quantities – noticeably ineffective re street level users – need more aggressive enforcement operations – international Customs barrier.

Putt, J., & Delahunty, B. (2006). *Illicit drug use in rural and remote Indigenous communities*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

There has been considerable media coverage recently of inhalant misuse by Indigenous young people in remote Australia. However, this misuse must be understood within a wider context of other drug use. Funded by the National Law Enforcement Research Fund and initiated by police concerned about illicit drug use, the study summarised in this paper has highlighted widespread and often heavy use of cannabis and increasing signs of amphetamine use by Indigenous people in rural and remote communities. While alcohol abuse remains a primary concern, illicit drug use is also impacting on individuals and communities, with quite distinct problems clearly identified in isolated settlements. There are particular challenges for police involved in preventing the supply of drugs and helping communities reduce drug related harms. There is also a demonstrable need for more drug specific services, especially diversion and treatment programs.

Rand Drug Policy Research Center. (2004). *Technical report for the price and purity of illicit drugs: 1981 through the second quarter of 2003*. Washington DC: Office of National Drug Control Policy.

Rees Davis, W., Johnson, B. D., Randolph, D., Liberty, H. J., & Eterno, J. (2005). Comparing police drug-allegations with enumerations of drug users/sellers. *Policing: An International Journal of Police Strategies & Management*, 28(4), 594-608.

Reuter, P. (2006). What drug policies cost. Estimating government drug policy expenditures. *Addiction*, 101(3), 315-322.

Abstract

Many nations now spend large sums of government money to reduce drug problems. The size and composition of public expenditures aimed at reducing drug use and related problems (a drug budget) is a useful partial description of a nation's drug policy. This paper examines whether it is possible to estimate these sums in a consistent manner across nations.

Past drug budget efforts in the United Kingdom and United States were reviewed. A new methodology was offered for estimation and used for estimates of expenditures in the Netherlands and Sweden. Using this methodology, expenditures were compared.

In both the Netherlands and Sweden, with very different official drug policy rhetoric, enforcement expenditures dominate the total; prevention expenditures are a tiny share. The baseline estimates indicate that the Netherlands, by a variety of metrics (e.g. Euros per capita, Euros per problematic user), spends more on drug control, even enforcement, than Sweden but the range of estimates is such that this cannot be inferred with confidence.

Estimating total government expenditures on reducing drug use and related problems is feasible and can yield useful policy insights.

Richardson, M., Kinner, S., & Lloyd, B. (2007). *Queensland trends in ecstasy and related drug markets 2006: Findings from the Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS)*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

The Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS, formerly known as the Party Drugs Initiative) is a national monitoring system of ecstasy and related drugs that is intended to serve as a strategic early warning system, identifying emerging trends of jurisdictional and national interest in ecstasy and related drug markets. It was conducted across Australia for the first time in 2003. For the purposes of the study, the term 'ecstasy and related drugs' is considered to include drugs that are routinely used in the context of entertainment venues including nightclubs and dance parties. This includes drugs such as ecstasy (MDMA, 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine), methamphetamine, cocaine, LSD, ketamine, MDA (3,4-methylenedioxyamphetamine) and GHB (gamma-hydroxybutyrate). The findings in this report provide a summary of trends in ecstasy and other drug use detected in Queensland in 2006 through the conduct of the fourth year of the EDRS study. These trends have been extrapolated from the three data sources: interviews with current regular ecstasy users, interviews with professionals who have contact with ecstasy users (key experts), and the collation of indicator data. The specific aims of the study were to: i) describe the characteristics of a sample of current regular ecstasy users interviewed; ii) examine the patterns of ecstasy and other drug use of this sample; iii) document the current price, purity and availability of ecstasy and related drugs; iv) examine participants' perceptions of the benefits of ecstasy and other party drug use; v) examine participants' perceptions of the incidence and nature of ecstasy- and other party drug-related harm, including physical, psychological, financial, occupational, social and legal harms; and vi) identify emerging trends in the party drug market that may require further investigation.

Richman, J. E., McAndrew, K. G., Decker, D., & Mullaney, S. C. (2004). An evaluation of pupil size standards used by police officers for detecting drug impairment. *Optometry*, 75(3), 175-182.

Richman, M. (2006). The drugs/crime nexus. *ADCA News*, (November/December), 9.

Abstract

This brief article outlines the shift in public and police attitudes to both licit and illicit drugs. This is demonstrated by the Tasmania Police example, and their implementation of drug diversion strategies, which re-affirm that illicit drug use is both a health and a legal issue. The relationship between drugs and crime is described.

Riddell, S., Nielsens, O., Butler, T., MacDonald, C., & Starmer, G. (2006). The relationship between amphetamine use, crime and psychiatric disorder among prisoners in New South Wales. *Psychiatry, Psychology and Law*, 13(2), 160-165.

Abstract

This paper examines data from a survey of mental health of prisoners to examine possible links between amphetamine use, psychiatric disorder and alleged offences leading to imprisonment. Key findings include: charges laid against amphetamine users are similar to those for heroin use; those with severe psychotic symptoms are more likely to commit violent offences.

Risser, D., Uhl, A., Oberndorfer, F., Honigschnabl, S., Stichenwirth, M., Hirz, R., et al. (2007). Is there a relationship between street heroin purity and drug-related emergencies and/or drug-related deaths? An analysis from Vienna, Austria. *Journal of Forensic Sciences*, 52(5), 1171-1176.

Abstract

This study examines the quality of street heroin seized in Vienna in 1999 and whether there was a relationship between the purity of street heroin and the number of heroin-related emergencies as well as the number of heroin-related deaths. Street heroin confiscated by the Viennese police, run-sheets of drug-related emergencies, and postmortem reports of drug-related deaths in Vienna in 1999 were analysed. A total of 415 retail samples with a total weight of 128.02 g contained a median percentage of 6.5% diacetylmorphine (range: 0.0-47.0%). All the samples contained a diluent, mainly lactose, as well as adulterants, such as caffeine and/or paracetamol. During the study period, 75 heroin-related deaths and 387 heroin-related emergencies were registered in Vienna. Time-series analysis revealed no statistically significant relationship between the rate of heroin-related incidents and the diacetylmorphine concentration of street heroin samples confiscated in Vienna in 1999. The widely held belief that the number of heroin-related deaths could be explained simply through fluctuations in the purity of street heroin could not be substantiated, even though the results of this study do not rule out an association between the purity of heroin and heroin-related deaths/emergencies.

Roberts, M., Trace, M., & Klein, A. (2004). *Law enforcement and supply reduction*. London: DrugScope.

Roche, A., Pidd, K., Bywood, P., Duraisingam, V., Teenson, T., Freeman, T., Nicholas, R. (2008). *Drug Testing in Schools: Evidence, Impacts and Alternatives*. Canberra: Australian National Council on Drugs.

Rodriguez, N., Katz, C., Webb, V. J., & Schaefer, D. R. (2005). Examining the impact of individual, community, and market factors on methamphetamine use: A tale of two cities. *Journal of Drug Issues*, 35(4), 665-694.

Rogers, N., & Anderson, W. (2007). A community development approach to deal with public drug use in Box Hill. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 26(1), 87-95.

Abstract

The use of alcohol and other drugs in public space is one that generates much heat in the public discourse and in the media. Too often the responses called for to reduce the problems of public amenity involve punitive policing and other responses that aim to engineer (mostly) young people out of these public spaces. Often local retailers are a key stakeholder group calling loudest for punitive action. In this Harm Reduction Digest Rogers and Anderson describe a community development approach taken to address these problems in Box Hill in the City of Whitehorse, near Melbourne. This approach which aimed to develop 'bridging social capital' between community retailers and other stakeholders in the area appears to have been effective in reducing harm associated with public drug use. Moreover these changes have become institutionalised and the approach has been expanded to address other public amenity problems in the area. It provides an example of how drug related harm can be reduced by grass roots networks of local councils, business people, law enforcement and health and welfare service providers to address these issues.

Room, R. (2005). Trends and issues in the international drug control system – Vienna 2003. *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*, 37(4), 373-383.

Rooney, A. (2006). *Drugs on the street*. London: Evans.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police. (2004). *Drug situation in Canada, 2003*. Ottawa: Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Schloenhardt, A. (2007). *The market for amphetamine-type stimulants and their precursors in Oceania*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

Oceania, most notably Australia and New Zealand, has emerged as the region with the highest rate of consumption of amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS), including ecstasy, a disproportionately large share in relation to the population in the area. The illicit ATS trade in Oceania is of great concern to contemporary criminal justice and poses an imminent challenge to law enforcement agencies, governments, and the international community. This study examines the market for ATS in Oceania including Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands, and the involvement of criminal organisations in that market. It explores contemporary patterns of ATS production, trafficking, and demand in the region, analyses the involvement of organised crime, and reviews current legislative frameworks – domestic and international – to penalise activities in the illicit ATS market, especially those relating to organised crime activities. The study focuses on the production, trafficking, importation, and consumption of ATS in Oceania, and is limited to synthetic drugs that are commonly classified as amphetamine-type stimulants, including amphetamine, methylamphetamine, MDMA, MDA, and MDEA. The study also covers precursor chemicals used in the manufacturing of ATS. Part one analyses current levels of production of ATS in Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands, the availability of and illicit trade in ATS precursors, the market factors of ATS production, and organised crime involvement in ATS production and precursor trading. The second part outlines contemporary patterns and levels of ATS trafficking and importation in Oceania, market factors, and organised crime involvement. Part three identifies the current prevalence of ATS consumption in the region and examines the retail market and retail prices for these substances. The fourth part analyses existing domestic and international legal frameworks relevant to the criminalisation of the illicit, commercial ATS and ATS-precursor trade. This part outlines and examines relevant provisions under international legal instruments, their implementation into domestic laws of the countries in the region, and other relevant penal provisions under domestic law. The study concludes by highlighting some key indicators of the ATS trade in Oceania and developing a set of basic suggestions for policy change and law reform.

Schulte, C., Mouzos, J., & Makkai, T. (2005). *Drug use monitoring in Australia: 2004 annual report on drug use among police detainees*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Shanahan, M., Hetherington, K., Mattick, R., & Weatherburn, D. (2007). *Estimating the cost-savings of reduced crime while in methadone treatment*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

The aim of this study was to assess whether there was evidence of cost-savings due to crimes averted while individuals were engaged in methadone maintenance as a treatment for heroin use. It examines the costs of crime, treatment and days in prison, as well as exploring the impact of age and gender on treatment and crime costs. Analyses were undertaken over a four year period for a population-based sample of NSW methadone clients. The study found a reduction in the cost of crime associated with enrolment in methadone consistent with the broader literature. When comparing only the treatment and crime costs, it was apparent that the investment in methadone treatment was only partially offset by savings from averted crime. However, the results from regression analysis, which examined the relationship between time in methadone treatment and costs of crime and prison, found that every day an individual was enrolled in methadone treatment paid for itself in terms of a decrease in prison and crime costs.

Shearer, J., Johnston, J., Kaye, S., Dillon, P., & Collins, L. (2005). *Characteristics and dynamics of cocaine supply and demand in Sydney and Melbourne*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

Cocaine and crack cocaine are the leading causes of illicit drug-related problems in North America and in more recent years have emerged as serious problems in Western Europe. Australia and the Asia Pacific have largely escaped this global trend and crack cocaine use remains uncommon. The market for cocaine in Australia has been small, and socially and geographically concentrated, reducing the visibility of cocaine use and 'related-harms' such as hospital admissions and user and provider arrests. Nevertheless, in recent years hundreds of kilograms of cocaine have been intercepted on boats in Australian waters, found in remote beaches on the Eastern and Western Seaboards and in Pacific Islands en route to Australia [ACC 2003]. What occurs to large cocaine shipments once they arrived in Australia has not been entirely clear. This study set out to examine the characteristics and dynamics of cocaine supply and demand in the two largest Australian cities, Sydney and Melbourne. The main aim of the study was to describe the breadth (in terms of types of users and dealers) and the depth of the market (length of supply chains, overlap with other drug supply).

Sheehan, A., Prichard, J., Krenske, L., & Freeman, J. (2007). *Illicit drug use in Queensland: A survey of households: 2002–05*. Brisbane: Crime and Misconduct Commission.

Abstract

In 2002, the Crime and Misconduct Commission arranged with the Office of Economic and Statistical Research to include questions on illicit drug use in the Queensland Household Survey. Queenslanders were questioned on their use of illicit drugs, their attitudes towards the availability of illicit drugs, and the perceived health risks associated with illicit drug use. The questions constitute the Queensland Household Illicit Drug Use Survey. The objective of the survey is to provide information on the patterns of illicit drug use among Queensland's general population. This report specifically examines information that is collected on Queenslanders' use of cannabis, amphetamines, heroin, ecstasy, hallucinogens and sleeping pills/tranquillisers for non-medical purposes. Patterns of use, age of first use, frequency of use, recent use, the level of health risks associated with use, and ease of obtaining illicit drugs were examined across a range of sociodemographic factors.

Silverstone, D. (2006). *Night clubbing: Drugs, clubs and regulation*. Cullompton: Willan.

Simpson, M., Shildrick, T., & MacDonald, R. (2007). *Drugs in Britain: Supply, consumption and control*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Small, W., Kerr, T., Charette, J., Schechter, M., & Spittal, P. (2006). Impacts of intensified police activity on injection drug users: Evidence from an ethnographic investigation. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 17(2), 85-95.

Abstract

In an effort to dismantle the open drug market and improve public order, a large-scale police initiative named the Citywide Enforcement Team (CET) began in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside (DTES) on 7th April 2003. This research sought to assess the CET's impact upon drug consumption activities as well as access to sterile syringes and health services among injection drug users (IDUs). Ethnographic research methods including participant observation and semi-structured interviews were employed. Interviews were conducted with 30 individuals recruited from an ongoing cohort study of IDUs and nine individuals who provide health services to drug users. In addition, an ongoing participant-observation program investigating public drug use in the DTES yielded data during the period of the CET, as well as seven months prior to its commencement. With regard to drug use patterns, intensified police presence prompted 'rushed' injections, injecting in riskier environments, discouraged safer injection practices, and increased unsafe disposal of syringes. Service providers indicated that the CET negatively impacted contact between health services and IDUs, as outreach was compromised due to the displacement of IDUs. Police activities also negatively influenced IDUs' access to syringes and their willingness to carry syringes, and syringe confiscation was reported. The intensification of police activities led to less drug related activity in the area where the drug market was traditionally concentrated, but widespread displacement of drug use activities to other locations also occurred. The adverse impact of concentrated police activities upon urban drug problems and the implications for both public order and public health should be recognised.

Smithson, M., McFadden, M., & Mwesigye, S. (2004). *Impact of AFP drug law enforcement on the supply of heroin in Australia*. Canberra: Australian Federal Police.

Smithson, M., McFadden, M., & Mwesigye, S.-E. (2005). Impact of federal drug law enforcement on the supply of heroin in Australia. *Addiction*, 100(8), 1110-1120.

Smithson, M., McFadden, M., Mwesigye, S., & Casey, T. (2003). The impact of illicit drug supply reduction on health and social outcomes: The heroin shortage in the Australian Capital Territory. *Addiction*, 98(3), 340-348.

Abstract

In this study the authors sought to establish whether a substantial decline in the supply of heroin, as measured by indicators such as drug purity, is related to changes in drug-related health indicators such as ambulance callouts to heroin overdoses and numbers participating in methadone treatment programs, and to changes in levels of property crime. The guiding hypothesis was that reduced supply will result in positive health and social outcomes. Standard time-series methods were employed to analyse official data from local law enforcement and heroin supply indicators and several health and social outcome indicators within the Australian Capital Territory, spanning the late 1990s to early 2002. Autoregressive moving average models were estimated to remove autocorrelation from these series. Cross-correlation and autoregression models were then employed to identify the best predictive models. When autocorrelation has been removed, a reduction in heroin purity predicts a large decline in heroin-related ambulance callouts and an increase in methadone treatment program enrolments. There was little evidence of an increase in

negative outcomes due to heroin users switching to other drugs. A reduction in purity also predicts declines in robbery and burglary but not in theft. The overall evidence indicated modest links between the declines in heroin supply and increases in positive health outcomes and decreases in crime, as predicted by a simple economic model. The authors state that due to the shortness of some of the series and consequent limitations in statistical power, these conclusions should be regarded as tentative.

Soldo, S. (2007). The ICE epidemic. *New South Wales Police News: Official journal of the Police Association of New South Wales*, 87(1), 24-27.

Abstract

The drug Ice, and its growing popularity and damaging effects on users, have been given increased media attention over the past few years. Key words include: Ice epidemic? – impact – policing resources – NSW – highly addictive – psychological, physical effects – psychosis – violence – crime – social dysfunction – serious health problems – NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research – National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC) – graphs – USA experience.

Sommers, I. B., & Baskin, D. R. (2004). *The social consequences of methamphetamine use*. Lewiston, N.Y.; Lampeter: Edwin Mellen Press.

South Australian Department of Health. (2005). *South Australian Drug Strategy: 2005–2010*. Retrieved. from http://www.dassa.sa.gov.au/webdata/resources/files/SA_Drug_Strategy.pdf.

Abstract

This strategy is a practical plan to combat the physical and psychological harm, as well as the broader community problems, arising from the abuse and misuse of drugs. The culmination of more than two years' work, the strategy builds on the findings of the South Australian Drugs Summit of June 2002 and draws on the expertise of some of the State's most capable practitioners in the field. Many of the Summit's recommendations have shaped this report, along with the widespread belief among delegates that prevention should be the cornerstone of the community's response to drug abuse. This Strategy places emphasis on preventing the use of illicit drugs and the misuse of licit drugs and reinforces the importance of evidence-based approaches. The Strategy is also consistent with the National Drug Strategy 2004–2009 and provides a foundation on which South Australia can continue to deliver and enhance a truly comprehensive community wide response to licit and illicit drug use and harms.

Spooner, C., McPherson, M., & Hall, W. (2004). *The role of police in preventing and minimising illicit drug use and its harm*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

There has been substantial documentation and evaluation of the range of illicit drug-related initiatives conducted by the health sector in Australia. However, there has been much less documentation and evaluation of initiatives conducted by police, especially on illicit drug harm reduction and demand reduction. Such information is necessary for enhancing the efficacy of police practice. In 2000, in response to this lack of documentation and evaluation, the Board of the National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund (NDLERF) commissioned a number of research projects on drug law enforcement, one of which is the subject of this report. The objective of this research project, as specified by NDLERF, was to increase the understanding of Australian police, at the policy, planning and operational levels, of ways in which they can contribute to the outcomes sought by the National Drug Strategy.

Sproat, P. A. (2007). An evaluation of the UK's anti-money laundering and asset recovery regime. *Crime, Law and Social Change*, 47(3), 169-184.

Abstract

This paper describes the UK's anti-money laundering and asset recovery laws, and the aims and objectives behind the regime since the introduction of the Proceeds of Crime Act (UK) in 2002. Key words include: AML and asset recovery strategy – attempt to re-balance criminal justice system in favour of law abiding citizen – previous evaluation – theory, practice – evaluation – asset recovery – organised crime – illegal drugs – inaction – serious concerns – morality, trustworthiness of politicians.

Stafford, J., Degenhardt, L., Agaliotis, M., Chanteloup, F., Fischer, J., & Matthews, A., et al. (2005). *Australian party drug trends 2004: Findings from the Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS)*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Stafford, J., Dunn, M., & Degenhardt, L. (2006). *Patterns of other drug use among regular ecstasy users (REU) in Australia: Focusing on cocaine, ketamine, LSD, GHB and MDA*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

Participants of the 2005 Party Drug Initiative (PDI) were regular ecstasy users (REU) recruited in the capital city of each state and territory. The main focus of this bulletin is to look at the use of cocaine, ketamine, LSD, GHB and MDA among regular ecstasy users interviewed for the 2005 PDI. Eight hundred and ten REU were interviewed for the PDI, with interviews conducted in all states and territories. The national sample was predominantly male, with a mean age of 24 years. Analyses focused on differences between gender and age. The sample was divided into two age groups based on the median age of the national sample, with the younger group comprised of REU aged between 16–22 years and the older group between 23–61 years. The results show that the use of cocaine, ketamine, GHB, LSD and MDA was commonly reported among REU, with two-thirds reporting lifetime use of cocaine and LSD, and nearly two-fifths reporting ketamine.

Steffen, G. S., & Candelaria, S. M. (2003). *Drug interdiction: Partnerships, legal principles and investigative methodologies for law enforcement*. Boca Raton, Fla.; London: CRC.

Storti, C. C., & De Grauwe, P. (2007). *Globalisation and the price decline of illicit drugs*. Munich: Center for Economic Studies/IFO.

Abstract

Retail prices of major drugs like cocaine and heroin have declined dramatically during the last two decades. This price decline has tended to offset the effects of drug policies aimed at reducing drug use in major industrial countries. The main finding of this paper is that the decline in the retail prices of drugs is related to the strong decline in the intermediation margin (the difference between the retail and producer prices) in the drug business. We develop the hypothesis, and give some evidence, that globalisation has been an important factor behind the decline of the intermediation margin. We conclude with some thoughts about the effects of globalisation on the effectiveness of drug policies and argue that globalisation may have increased the relative effectiveness of policies aiming at reducing the demand of drugs.

Sutton, A., & Hawks, D. (2005). *Review of policy makers, police and judicial perspectives on the Western Australian Cannabis Infringement Notice Scheme: Baseline, year 1*. Perth: National Drug Research Institute.

Abstract

This is the final report from sub-study five of an evaluation of the impact of changes to cannabis law in WA on cannabis use, the drug market, law enforcement, knowledge and attitudes and cannabis-related harms. The overall project, funded by the National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund (NDLERF) and coordinated by the National Drug Research Institute at Curtin University of Technology, is reviewing the first phase of development and implementation of a “prohibition with civil penalties” system for adults who commit minor cannabis offences in Western Australia. The current report explores the policy aims of this model and the ways police and other criminal justice personnel understand it and are beginning to implement it. The legislative basis for the reforms evaluated in this and other sub-studies has been provided by the *Cannabis Control Act 2003*, approved by the Western Australian Parliament on 24 September 2003 and proclaimed on 22 March 2004. Under this law, small-scale possession, cultivation and use of cannabis continue to be illegal. However, many such offences now can be dealt with by means of an infringement notice rather than by a formal court prosecution.

Sutton, A., & Hawks, D. (2005). The Cannabis Infringement Notice scheme in Western Australia: A review of policy, police and judicial perspectives. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 24(4), 331-336.

Swensen, G., & Crofts, T. (2005). Reforms to minor cannabis offences in the United Kingdom and Western Australia. *Web Journal of Current Legal Issues*, 1, 15.

Tasmania Law Reform Institute (2006). *Intoxication and criminal responsibility*. Hobart: Law Reform Institute.

Abstract

Australian studies – self-reports by prisoners and detainees, analysis of urine samples within 48 hours of arrest and victim surveys – suggest that many offenders commit crime while under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. Moreover, criminal assaults are common in and around licensed premises. Together with increased scientific knowledge about the effects of alcohol and other drugs on behaviour and mental state, this indicates that intoxication has the potential to be a relevant consideration in criminal trials. This report is not concerned with alcohol and other drugs as a cause of crime, but with the question of the extent to which an accused person should be able to rely upon intoxication caused by alcohol or other drugs as a defence to a criminal charge. Published in six sections, part one of this paper serves as an introduction, part two looks at the relationship between alcohol and crime, and part three examines the current law in Tasmania. Part four examines the need for reform, as it is the view of the Institute that the law in Tasmania relating to intoxication is uncertain, illogical, inconsistent, unprincipled and unduly complex and that this constitutes persuasive grounds for reform. Part five looks at the law of intoxication in other Australian jurisdictions and considers the position in the United Kingdom, Canada and New Zealand. Part six examines the options for reform and makes eight recommendations for reform.

Trifonoff, A., & Edmonds, D. (2005). Drugs and law enforcement: Trends and initiatives. *Public Health Bulletin South Australia*, 2, 21-22.

Turner, N., Pointer, S., & Trifonoff, A. (2005). *Amphetamines use amongst police detainees*. Adelaide: South Australian Office of Crime Statistics and Research.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (2004). *World drug report 2004*. Vienna: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (2005). *World drug report 2005*. Vienna: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (2007). *Commission on Narcotic Drugs: Report on the fiftieth session (17 March 2006 and 12–16 March and 27–28 November 2007)*. New York: United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

Abstract

The Economic and Social Council established the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) in 1946 as the central policy-making body of the United Nations in drug related matters. The Commission enables Member States to analyse the global drug situation, provide follow-up to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem and to take measures at the global level within its scope of action. It also monitors the implementation of the three international drug control conventions and is empowered to consider all matters pertaining to the aim of the conventions, including the scheduling of substances to be brought under international control.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (2007). *Report of the Executive Director on the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime*. Vienna: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

Abstract

The present report examines the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime during the past year. It focuses on how drug control, crime prevention, terrorism prevention and criminal justice interact with the themes of peace, security, development and the rule of law. During the period under review, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime supported Member States in their efforts to achieve a world safe from crime, drugs and terrorism through the three pillars of its work programme: (a) research to increase knowledge and understanding of drug and crime issues and to expand the evidence base for policy and operational decisions; (b) normative work to assist States in the ratification and implementation of international treaties, the development of domestic legislation on drugs, crime and terrorism, and the provision of substantive and secretariat services to treaty-based and governing bodies; and (c) field-based technical cooperation projects. The report also contains the information requested by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2006/21 concerning implementation of the Programme of Action, 2006–2010, on strengthening the rule of law and the criminal justice systems in Africa.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (2007). *Summary of individual significant seizures of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances covering the period 1 January–30 June 2007*. Vienna: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

Abstract

This report contains data on significant drug seizure cases which have been reported by Governments to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) for the period 1 January to 30 June 2007. Updated information on seizure cases for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2006 is also included here. The information is presented per seizure case and contains details, as reported, on the type of drug, place and date of seizure, quantity seized, origin and destination of drug seized, means of transportation and the number and nationality of traffickers. An analysis of this data is included in the regional drug trafficking trend reports and other statistical documents prepared by UNODC. It is anticipated that the information presented here will assist the specific national authorities to determine the manner in which countermeasures may most effectively be applied.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (2007). *World Drug Report 2006*. Vienna: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (2008). *World Drug Report 2007*. Vienna: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

Abstract

Something new and significant is going on in the world drugs market. In last year's World Drug Report we made the argument that drug control is working and the world drug problem is being contained. This 2007 Report provides further robust evidence of this trend. For almost every kind of illicit drug – cocaine, heroin, cannabis and amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS) – there are signs of overall stability, whether we speak of cultivation, production or consumption. Hopefully, within the next few years evidence to support this claim will become statistically and logically incontrovertible. This does not mean that the drug problem has been solved or that we can become complacent. Nor is the good news universal. Progress made in some areas is often offset by negative trends elsewhere. But overall, we seem to have reached a point where the world drug situation has stabilised and been brought under control. The first encouraging sign is that coca cultivation in the Andean countries continues to fall, driven by significant declines in Colombia. Global demand for cocaine has also stabilised, although the decline in the United States is offset by alarming increases in some European countries. Secondly, the production and consumption of ATS has levelled off, with a clear downward trend in North America and, to a lesser degree, Europe. Thirdly, the health warnings on higher potency cannabis, delivered in past World Drug Reports, appear to be getting through. For the first time in years, we do not see an upward trend in the global production and consumption of cannabis. Fourthly, opium production, while significant, is now highly concentrated in Afghanistan's southern provinces. Indeed, the Helmand province is on the verge of becoming the world's biggest drug supplier, with the dubious distinction of cultivating more drugs than entire countries such as Myanmar, Morocco or even Colombia. Curing Helmand of its drug and insurgency cancer will rid the world of the most dangerous source of its most dangerous narcotic, and go a long way to bringing security to the region.

Victorian Department of Human Services (2006). *Improving health, reducing harm: Victorian Drug Strategy 2006–09*. Retrieved from http://www.health.vic.gov.au/drugservices/downloads/drug_strategy_06-09.pdf.

Waddell-Smith, R. J. H. (2007). A review of recent advances in impurity profiling of illicit MDMA samples. *Journal of Forensic Sciences*, 52(6), 1297-1304.

Abstract

Profiling illicit ecstasy tablets has the potential to become an invaluable tool in the crackdown on drug trafficking, but that potential has yet to be fully realised. The impurity profile of an ecstasy tablet can be used to determine the method employed to synthesize the actual controlled substance, which in most cases, is 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA). Tablets can then be linked to a common synthetic route, potentially to a common manufacturer, and possibly even to a common manufacturing batch, based on the impurities present. Current methods for profiling MDMA tablets typically involve extracting the organic impurities for analysis by gas chromatography-mass spectrometry. The potential of profiling the trace metals present in tablets has begun to be investigated while more robust statistical and chemometric procedures are being applied to compare and link tablets. This article

Weatherburn, D. J., Lind, B., Chen, S., & Mattick, R. P. (2004). *The effectiveness of methadone maintenance treatment in controlling crime: An aggregate-level analysis*. Sydney: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research.

White, N., Vial, R., & Ali, R. (2007). *South Australian trends in ecstasy and related drug markets 2006: Findings from the Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS)*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

The Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS, formerly known as the Party Drugs Initiative) is a national monitoring system of ecstasy and related drugs that is intended to serve as a strategic early warning system, identifying emerging trends of jurisdictional and national interest in ecstasy and related drug markets. It was conducted across Australia for the first time in 2003. For the purposes of the study, the term 'ecstasy and related drugs' is considered to include drugs that are routinely used in the context of entertainment venues including nightclubs and dance parties. This includes drugs such as ecstasy (MDMA, 3,4-methylenedioxyamphetamine), methamphetamine, cocaine, LSD, ketamine, MDA (3,4-methylenedioxyamphetamine) and GHB (gamma-hydroxybutyrate). The findings in this report provide a summary of trends in ecstasy and other drug use detected in South Australia in 2006 through the conduct of the fourth year of the EDRS study. These trends have been extrapolated from the three data sources: interviews with current regular ecstasy users, interviews with professionals who have contact with ecstasy users (key experts), and the collation of indicator data. The specific aims of the study were to: i) describe the characteristics of a sample of current regular ecstasy users interviewed; ii) examine the patterns of ecstasy and other drug use of this sample; iii) document the current price, purity and availability of ecstasy and related drugs; iv) examine participants' perceptions of the benefits of ecstasy and other party drug use; v) examine participants' perceptions of the incidence and nature of ecstasy- and other party drug-related harm, including physical, psychological, financial, occupational, social and legal harms; and vi) identify emerging trends in the party drug market that may require further investigation.

White, V., & Hayman, J. (2006). *Australian secondary school students' use of over-the-counter and illicit substances in 2005*. Canberra: Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing.

Willis, K., Homel, P., & Gray, K. (2006). *Developing and implementing a performance measurement framework for drug law enforcement in Australia*. Payneham SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

This report presents a detailed description of a model process for developing a viable performance measurement framework for drug law enforcement in Australia. It was undertaken by the Australian Institute of Criminology on behalf of the National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund (NDLERF) in order to help provide a better accounting for the benefits from the estimated annual \$1.4 billion expenditure on drug law enforcement in Australia. Commissioned in March 2004, the eighteen-month-long project arose directly out of the perceived shortage of appropriate and meaningful performance information that could inform the most effective intervention, or combination of interventions, within drug law enforcement. Through the systematic development and implementation of a key set of appropriate performance measures, it was hoped that drug law enforcement agencies would be able to better assess the appropriateness and effectiveness of current drug law enforcement strategies in tackling the supply and distribution of illicit drugs in Australia.

Wood, E., Spittal, P. M., Small, W., Kerr, T., Li, K., Hogg, R. S., et al. (2004). Displacement of Canada's largest public illicit drug market in response to a police crackdown. *Canadian Medical Association Journal*, 170(10), 1551-1556.

Wood, E., Stoltz, J., Li, K., Montaner, J. S. G., & Kerr, T. (2006). The cause of the Australian heroin shortage: Time to reconsider? *Addiction*, *101*(5), 623-625.

Wood, E., Stoltz, J., Li, K., Montaner, J. S. G., & Kerr, T. (2006). Changes in Canadian heroin supply coinciding with the Australian heroin shortage. *Addiction*, *101*(5), 689-695.

Young, D., Stayton, C., Rosenzweig, E., & Wycoff, L. (2005). *Process evaluation of an effort to engage police in alternative responses to neighbourhood drug problems, final report*. College Park, MD: University of Maryland, Bureau of Governmental Research.

3. Pharmaceutical Drugs

This section contains resources on (primarily) prescription drugs, the links between these and crime, illicit drug markets and impaired driving.

Bruno, R. (2007). *Benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid misuse and their relationship to crime: An examination of illicit prescription drug markets in Melbourne, Hobart and Darwin: Tasmanian report*. Hobart: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

A study was conducted to examine the relationship between benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid misuse and crime in three select Australian jurisdictions (Victoria, Tasmania, Northern Territory) where there is evidence of illicit prescription pharmaceutical markets. This report focuses on the Tasmanian aspect of the study. While the primary focus of the study remains on law enforcement interests in relation to licit and illicit benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid markets, these are discussed in relation to the broader public health implications of supply reduction efforts in a harm minimisation framework. The primary aims of the study were to: i) gain a greater understanding of illicit benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid marketplace dimensions and characteristics; ii) investigate the hypothesised relationship between benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid misuse and crime; iii) explore the implications for police and other frontline workers (e.g. accident and emergency staff, ambulance officers and health/youth workers) of emergent markets for benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioids; and iv) consider appropriate interventions to address both the law enforcement and health impacts of benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid misuse. A secondary broader aim of the research was to examine the nexus between prescribed pharmaceutical misuse, illicit prescription pharmaceutical markets, crime and health harms. The research demonstrated that misuse and injecting of benzodiazepines and pharmaceutical opioids has become entrenched among some groups of people who inject drugs in Tasmania. The findings suggest that the drugs are diverted to the black market and can be sold for considerable profit, and are relatively easy to obtain on the street. They also suggest criminal behaviour may be related to the dependence on, and the use of, prescription drugs. In addition, uninhibited, aggressive, and bizarre behaviour, and feelings of invincibility, were attributed to the drugs, in particular benzodiazepines.

Dobbin, M., Jenkinson, R., Clark, N., & Fry, C. (2005). Buprenorphine diversion and injection in Melbourne, Australia: An emerging issue? *Addiction*, 100(2), 197-205.

Abstract

The aim of this study was to examine indicators of buprenorphine diversion and injection among injecting drug users in Melbourne, and to determine the factors associated with buprenorphine injection. It was conducted at five Needle and Syringe Program sites as part of the Melbourne arm of the 2002 Illicit Drug Reporting System cross-sectional study. A total of 156 current injecting drug users fitted the study eligibility criteria of at least monthly injection during the previous six months, and Melbourne residence for at least the preceding 12 months. A structured questionnaire covering demographic characteristics, drug use history, the price, purity and availability of drugs, criminal activity, risk-taking behaviours, health-related issues and general drug use trends was issued to each participant. Over one-third (37%) of the study sample reported injecting buprenorphine in their life-time and 33% reported injecting the drug in the last six months. Recent buprenorphine injection was associated with the injection of other drug types (i.e. polydrug injectors), opioid substitution treatment, injection-related health problems and involvement in crime. Almost half (47%) of those who reported recent buprenorphine injection reported obtaining the drug illicitly at least once during that time. Given the significant health harms associated with intravenous buprenorphine use (e.g. vein damage, abscesses and infections, precipitated withdrawal, blood-borne virus transmission, hospitalisation and death), the authors propose that routine monitoring of the misuse of buprenorphine in Melbourne is warranted. These results suggest the need for development of effective countermeasures to address diversion and injection of buprenorphine in this setting.

Fry, C., Smith, B., Bruno, R., O'Keefe, B., & Miller, P. G. (2007). *Benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid misuse and their relationship to crime: An examination of illicit prescription drug markets in Melbourne, Hobart and Darwin – National Overview Report*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

The National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund (NDLERF) sought tenders in 2002 for research to enhance the law enforcement sector's understanding of the structure and functioning of illicit drug markets in Australia. This research had a particular focus on illicit markets for prescription pharmaceuticals, namely benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioids and their misuse and impact on crime in Victoria, Tasmania and the Northern Territory. The primary focus of the study was on law enforcement interests in relation to this issue. Where warranted, these findings were also discussed in relation to the broader public health implications of the range of interventions potentially available. This report presents a review of the literature, an overview of study methodology, key findings and jurisdiction-specific discussion points. The section outlining the key findings is structured according to the main study themes of market characteristics, diversion and links to crime, implications for police and other front line workers, and interventions.

Gibson, A., Larance, B., Roxburgh, A., Degenhardt, L., & Black, E. (2007). *The extent of diversion of fentanyl for non-medical purposes in Australia: What do we know?* Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

Fentanyl is a potent synthetically produced opioid agonist with an important role in the treatment of strong chronic pain, such as cancer pain. However, the drug does carry the risk of fatal opioid overdoses if used inappropriately. This report aims to present a summary of what is known about the extent of diversion and clandestine production of fentanyl among IDU, and any harms associated with its use in this context. More specifically, this paper aims to:

1. examine trends in fentanyl prescriptions across Australia;
2. present data from IDU sampled in routine monitoring systems (IDRS and NSP survey);
3. present data from key experts working with IDU on the extent of fentanyl diversion; and
4. present data from the NCIS on fentanyl-related overdoses.

Gilson, A. M., & Joranson, D. E. (2007). The federal Drug Enforcement Administration "prescription series" proposal: Continuing concerns. *Journal of Pain & Palliative Care Pharmacotherapy*, 21(4), 21-24.

Abstract

Two leading health and pain policy analysts discuss the implications of the Federal Drug Enforcement Administration's proposed position on the legality of practitioners writing series of controlled substance prescriptions for the purpose of providing ongoing pain management without the necessity for unneeded patient visits to their prescribers. This issue led to a series of regulatory proposals that engendered great concern in the pain management community. The proposed positive outcome from the DEA is described.

Henderson, J. K., & Cassady, Q. (2006). Drug deals in 2006: Cutting edge legal and regulatory issues in the pharmaceutical industry. *Annals of Health Law, 15*(1), 107-149.

Abstract

Set amidst the backdrop of rising prescription drug costs and a renewed governmental commitment to combating fraud, this article highlights recent enforcement actions against the pharmaceutical industry. In an effort to clarify today's turbulent regulatory landscape, the authors also explore the elements of a successful compliance program for pharmaceutical manufacturers and identify the major areas of concern for the future.

Hurwitz, W. (2005). The challenge of prescription drug misuse: A review and commentary. *Pain Medicine, 6*(2), 152-161.

Inciardi, J. A., Surratt, H. L., Kurtz, S. P., & Burke, J. J. (2006). The diversion of prescription drugs by health care workers in Cincinnati, Ohio. *Substance Use & Misuse, 41*(2), 255-264.

Abstract

Data are reported from drug diversion cases involving health care workers who were investigated by the Cincinnati Police Division Pharmaceutical Diversion Squad over an 11-year period. This type of information is rarely available because few U.S. police jurisdictions dedicate resources to prescription drug diversion surveillance. Data from 1992 through 2002 show that opioids were the drugs most commonly diverted by health care workers, followed by benzodiazepines. Nurses, nursing assistants, and medical assistants were involved in almost three quarters of all cases. Hospitals were the most common sources of complaint to police, followed by pharmacies. Health care professional associations are advised to promote greater awareness of drug misuse and dependence concerns among their memberships, and health care facilities that stock pharmaceuticals liable for misuse and diversion are advised to increase the security of their supplies.

Jones, A. W., Holmgren, A., & Kugelberg, F. C. (2007). Concentrations of scheduled prescription drugs in blood of impaired drivers: Considerations for interpreting the results. *Therapeutic Drug Monitoring, 29*(2), 248-260.

Abstract

We report on the concentrations of scheduled prescription drugs in blood samples from people arrested in Sweden for driving under the influence of drugs (DUID). The investigation covered a 2 year period, 2004 (N = 7052 cases) and 2005 (N = 7759 cases), and was prompted by recent legislation stipulating zero-concentration limits in blood for controlled substances. However, prescription drugs are exempt from the zero-limit law provided that the medication was being used in accordance with a doctor's prescription. The blood concentrations of various psychoactive substances were compared with the limits of quantitation of the analytic method used and the so-called therapeutic concentration range according to various reference books and tabulations. Diazepam [N = 1950 (26%)] and nordazepam [N = 2168 (28%)] were the therapeutic agents most frequently identified in these forensic blood samples along with other benzodiazepines such as alprazolam [N = 430 (5.6%)], flunitrazepam [N = 308 (4.0%)], and nitrazepam [N = 222 (2.9%)]. The newer hypnotics, exemplified by zolpidem [N = 148 (1.9%)] and zopiclone [N = 111 (1.5%)], were also high on the list of psychoactive substances identified. Interpreting the concentration of a prescription drug in blood in relation to whether the person had taken an overdose or was abusing the substance in question is not always easy. The age, gender, degree of obesity, and ethnicity of the person concerned; the pharmacokinetic profile of the drug; polymorphism of drug-metabolising enzymes as well as liver and kidney function and blood hematocrit need to be considered. In blood samples from DUID suspects, the concentrations of many commonly used sedatives and hypnotics exceeded the accepted therapeutic limits, which gives an indication of the abuse potential of these types of medications.

Joranson, D. E., & Gilson, A. M. (2005). Drug crime is a source of abused pain medications in the United States. *Journal of Pain and Symptom Management*, 30(4), 299-301.

Jung, B., & Reidenberg, M. M. (2006). The risk of action by the Drug Enforcement Administration against physicians prescribing opioids for pain. *Pain Medicine* 7(4), 353-357.

Abstract

The fear of government actions against physicians for prescribing opioids for their chronic pain patients is a cause for undertreatment of pain. This study was conducted to assess the risk of action by the federal Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). The DEA responded to a written request with a list of all DEA arrests in fiscal 2003. The Federal Register was reviewed for all revocations of DEA registrations for 2003 and 2004.

There were 47 arrests in 2003 from among 963,385 doctors registered with the DEA and 56 revocations of registration seen in the 2003 and 2004 period. The reasons for these actions included loss of medical license, fraud, substance abuse by prescriber, sex in exchange for prescriptions, and prescribing without seeing the patient. For the majority of cases, there was information to believe that a documented doctor-patient relationship with a chronic pain patient did not exist.

Overall the study found that, when adequate documentation exists in the medical record, the risk of civil, criminal, or administrative action being taken by the DEA against a physician for prescribing opioids for a chronic pain patient is small.

Loxley, W. (2007). *Benzodiazepine use and harms among police detainees in Australia*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

This paper investigates self-reported prevalence, patterns and potential harms of benzodiazepine use in a sample of adult police detainees, using data from the Drug Use Monitoring in Australia (DUMA) program for the period 1999 to 2005. Of the sample, 15 percent had used illegal benzodiazepines in the previous 12 months, and around 13 percent had used prescribed benzodiazepines in the previous fortnight. The extent of self-reported benzodiazepine dependence was much lower than that for heroin, and similar to that for amphetamines. There is evidence of the use of benzodiazepines in conjunction with other drugs, particularly heroin and amphetamines, which indicates greater risk of harms, notably heroin overdose. Although these are preliminary findings only, they point to the value of further analysis to reveal more complex patterns of behaviour and use. For the relatively small number of people in contact with the criminal justice system whose only illegal drug use is of benzodiazepines, the results suggest the need to ensure that they have access to the treatment and other interventions available to the much larger group who use and are dependent on multiple drugs, notably heroin and amphetamines.

Mossialos, E., Mrazek, M. F., & Walley, T. (2004). *Regulating pharmaceuticals in Europe: Striving for efficiency, equity and quality*. Maidenhead: Open University Press.

Nicholas, R. (2002). *The diversion of pharmaceutical drugs onto the illicit market*. Adelaide: Australasian Centre for Policing Research.

Abstract

This paper examines the issue of the diversion of pharmaceutical drugs onto the illicit market. Although it is impossible to quantify the extent of this diversion, there are indicators from a range of sources that it is a very significant problem indeed. There are two major issues that warrant consideration in this area. The first is the diversion of pharmaceutical drugs onto the illicit market for direct misuse. These drugs may be sold or bartered for illicit drugs. The second issue is the

diversion of pharmaceuticals to be used for the manufacture of illicit drugs. Drugs that are diverted onto the illicit market for direct use are generally prescription drugs, whereas drugs that are diverted to produce other illicit drugs are usually over the counter medications available without a prescription.

O'Reilly, B., Leibrick, F., Huxtable, D., & Chenhall, R. (2007). *Benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid misuse and their relationship to crime: An examination of illicit prescription drug markets in Melbourne, Hobart and Darwin: Northern Territory report*. Hobart: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

The purpose of this major research project was to contribute to the law enforcement sector's understanding of the relationship between benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid misuse and crime in three select Australian jurisdictions (Victoria, Tasmania, Northern Territory) where there is evidence of illicit prescription pharmaceutical markets. This report focuses on the Northern Territory aspect of the study. While the primary focus of the study remains on law enforcement interests in relation to licit and illicit benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid markets, these are discussed in relation to the broader public health implications of supply reduction efforts in a harm minimisation framework. The primary aims of the study therefore were to: i) gain a greater understanding of illicit benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid marketplace dimensions and characteristics; ii) investigate the hypothesised relationship between benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid misuse and crime; iii) explore the implications for police and other frontline workers (e.g. accident and emergency staff, ambulance officers and health/youth workers) of emergent markets for benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioids; and iv) consider appropriate interventions to address both the law enforcement and health impacts of benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid misuse. A secondary broader aim of the research was to examine the nexus between prescribed pharmaceutical misuse, illicit prescription pharmaceutical markets, crime and health harms. The research demonstrated that misuse and injecting of benzodiazepines and pharmaceutical opioids has become entrenched among some groups of people who inject drugs in the Northern Territory. The findings suggest that the drugs are diverted to the black market and can be sold for considerable profit, and are relatively easy to obtain on the street. They also suggest criminal behaviour may be related to the dependence on, and the use of, prescription drugs. In addition, uninhibited, aggressive, and bizarre behaviour, and feelings of invincibility, were attributed to the drugs, in particular benzodiazepines.

Smith, B., Miller, P. G., O'Keefe, B., & Fry, C. (2007). *Benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid misuse and their relationship to crime: An examination of illicit prescription drug markets in Melbourne, Hobart and Darwin: Victorian report*. Hobart: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

The purpose of this major research project was to contribute to the law enforcement sector's understanding of the relationship between benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid misuse and crime in three select Australian jurisdictions (Victoria, Tasmania, Northern Territory) where there is evidence of illicit prescription pharmaceutical markets. This report focuses on the Victorian aspect of the study. While the primary focus of the study remains on law enforcement interests in relation to licit and illicit benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid markets, these are discussed in relation to the broader public health implications of supply reduction efforts in a harm minimisation framework. The primary aims of the study therefore were to: i) gain a greater understanding of illicit benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid marketplace dimensions and characteristics; ii) investigate the hypothesised relationship between benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid misuse and crime; iii) explore the implications for police and other frontline workers (e.g. accident and emergency staff, ambulance officers and health/youth workers) of

emergent markets for benzodiazepines and pharmaceutical opioids; and iv) consider appropriate interventions to address both the law enforcement and health impacts of benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid misuse. A secondary broader aim of the research was to examine the nexus between prescribed pharmaceutical misuse, illicit prescription pharmaceutical markets, crime and health harms. The research demonstrated that misuse and injecting of benzodiazepines and pharmaceutical opioids, especially morphine and buprenorphine, has become entrenched among some groups of people who inject drugs in Melbourne. The findings suggest that the drugs are diverted to the black market and can be sold for considerable profit, and are relatively easy to obtain on the street. They also suggest criminal behaviour may be related to the dependence on, and the use of, prescription drugs. In addition, uninhibited, aggressive, and bizarre behaviour, and feelings of invincibility, were attributed to the drugs, in particular benzodiazepines.

Victorian Parliament & Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee. (2006). *Inquiry into the misuse/abuse of benzodiazepines and other forms of pharmaceutical drugs in Victoria: Interim report*. Melbourne: Victorian Parliament.

White, V., & Hayman, J. (2006). *Australian secondary school students' use of over-the-counter and illicit substances in 2005*. Canberra: Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing.

Zalesky, C. D. (2006). Pharmaceutical marketing practices: Balancing public health and law enforcement interests; moving beyond regulation-through-litigation. *Journal of Health Law, 39*(2), 235-264.

Abstract

Fraudulent or abusive sales and marketing practices by pharmaceutical companies can result in costly over utilisation of products that are increasingly paid for by government healthcare programs and may result in adverse health and safety consequences to the patient-beneficiaries of those programs. Federal enforcement efforts in this area are largely modelled on those used to combat white-collar crime, with cases taking years to reach conclusion. This approach overlooks the impact on patients who receive unnecessary care or are denied access to appropriate care during the course of the investigation. Many states are beginning to regulate certain pharmaceutical sales and marketing practices, but state-by-state regulation ignores the importance of a uniform federal regulatory and enforcement approach in an area already occupied by federal law. This article explores current federal and state efforts to limit over utilisation, fraud, and abuse in the sale and marketing of prescription drugs, and illustrates the merits of an expanded role for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to regulate pharmaceutical sales and marketing practices. This approach borrows lessons learned from the FDA's efficient and effective regulatory and enforcement methods and maintains a careful balance between the interests of patient-beneficiaries, the government and industry.

4. Volatile Substances

This section contains resources on the policing implications of volatile substance misuse.

Aagaard, J. (2004). *Petrol sniffing in remote Northern Territory communities*. Darwin: Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory, Select Committee on Substance Abuse in the Community.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commission. (2004). *Responding to petrol sniffing on the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Lands: A case study*. Canberra: Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission.

Australian Institute of Criminology. (2006). *Police perception of negative outcomes due to illicit drugs in Indigenous communities*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

There has been considerable media coverage about the negative outcomes associated with the abuse of alcohol and inhalants in Indigenous communities. Police in remote areas have also been concerned about the extent to which illicit drug use is having a negative impact in these communities. In 2005, the National Drug Law Enforcement Fund (NDLERF) commissioned research into the policing implications of such use in rural and remote Australia. The Australian Institute of Criminology conducted a survey of police in urban and country areas in the Northern Territory, Western Australia, South Australia and Queensland and reported on the perceptions associated with the illicit use of cannabis and amphetamines. Overall, a large proportion of police indicated that there were negative outcomes associated with these two drugs in terms of family violence, mental and physical health, and engagement in crime to fund a drug habit. The impact of cannabis use on these various outcomes was generally considered similar in urban and country areas. In contrast, there was more variability in regard to amphetamines, with a greater proportion of police reporting negative consequences in urban areas. The caveat is that a large percentage of police in rural areas indicated 'don't know', which is probably due to the more recent introduction and lower penetration of amphetamines into those communities at the time of the survey.

Chivell, W. C. (2005). *Finding of inquest [inquest into the deaths of Kunmanara Ward, Kunmanara Ken, Kunmanara Ryan and Kunmanara Cooper]*. Adelaide: State Coroner's Office.

d'Abbs, P., & Brady, M. (2004). Other people, other drugs: The policy response to petrol sniffing among Indigenous Australians. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 23, 253-260.

Abstract

This paper examines the policy response of Australian governments to petrol sniffing in Indigenous communities from the 1980s until the present time. During this period, despite the formation of numerous inquiries, working parties, and intergovernmental committees, there has been little accumulation of knowledge about the nature and causes of sniffing, or about the effectiveness of interventions. Policies are fragmentary; programmes are rarely evaluated, and most rely on short-term funding. The paper sets out to explain why this should be so. It draws upon a conceptual framework known as 'analytics of government' to examine the ways in which petrol sniffing comes to the attention of government agencies and is perceived as an issue; the mechanisms deployed by governments to address petrol sniffing; ways in which knowledge about sniffing is generated; and the underlying assumptions about people that inform policy-making. Drawing upon case studies of policy responses, the paper argues that a number of structural factors combine to marginalise petrol sniffing as an issue, and to encourage reliance on short-term, one-off interventions in place of a sustained policy commitment. Four recommendations are advanced to help overcome these factors: (1) agreements should be reached within and between levels of government on steps to be taken to reduce risk factors before the eruption of petrol-sniffing crises; (2) the evidence base relevant to petrol sniffing (and other inhalants) should be improved by funding and directing one or more national drug research centres to collate data on inhalant caused mortality and morbidity, and to conduct or commission research into prevalence patterns, effectiveness of interventions and other gaps in knowledge; (3) the current pattern of short-term, pilot and project funding should

be replaced with longer-term, evidence-based interventions that address the multiple risk and protective factors present in communities; and (4) insistence by governments that communities must take 'ownership' of the problem should be replaced by genuine partnerships involving governments, non-government and community sectors.

Fairbairn, A., & Murray, D. (2003). Chroming: Legislative change and practical dilemmas. *Indigenous Law Bulletin*, 5(23), 19-21.

Gray, D., Shaw, G., d'Abbs, P., Brooks, D., Stearne, A., Mosey, A., et al. (2006). *Policing, volatile substance misuse, and Indigenous Australians*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

Volatile substance misuse is the inhalation of substances containing hydrocarbons to induce a state of intoxication. There are a number of acute and chronic health and social problems with which it can be associated. Police have an important role to play in the minimisation of both volatile substance misuse and related harm – a role that has been established within the framework of Australia's National Drug Strategy. The objective of this project was to enhance the understanding of the law enforcement sector concerning the extent and nature of petrol sniffing and other inhalant misuse by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples predominantly in rural and remote, but also urban communities.

Nicholas, R. (2004). *The policing implications of volatile substance misuse*. Adelaide: Australasian Centre for Policing Research.

Nicholas, R. (2007). *Policing responses to substance misuse in rural and remote Indigenous communities. The report from a National Workshop held at the Crowne Plaza, Alice Springs, 29-30 August 2007*. Adelaide: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

This report concerns a National Workshop held at Alice Springs on 29–30 August 2007. The Workshop focused on policing responses to alcohol and other substance misuse problems in rural and remote Indigenous communities. The purpose of this report is to provide a vehicle to help disseminate the learning that occurred at the Workshop (including the research itself) and to highlight further issues that the National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund (NDLERF) Board of Management may wish to consider. The report does not set out to evaluate the Workshop. This was undertaken by Northern Territory Police. It is, however, noteworthy that the evaluation was very favourable. An important feature of the Workshop was that it acted as a good demonstration of the process of operationalising research. This involved taking NDLERF research findings and applying them to situations that were of direct relevance to the Workshop participants, using a systematic framework that was also developed as part of NDLERF-funded research. Added to this was the opportunity for networking amongst participants that enabled them to share their experiences and perspectives.

Queensland Crime and Misconduct Commission. (2005). *Police powers and VSM: A review: Responding to volatile substance misuse*. Brisbane: Queensland Crime and Misconduct Commission.

Queensland Crime and Misconduct Commission. (2005). *Responding to volatile substance misuse: Evaluation of the places of safety model*. Brisbane: Queensland Crime and Misconduct Commission.

Toumbourou, J. W., Dimsey, L., & Rowland, B. (2004). *Preventing harms associated with volatile substance abuse (Prevention Research Evaluation Report)*. Melbourne: DrugInfo Clearinghouse.

5. Demographics of Alcohol and Other Drug Use

This section contains resources emanating from research conducted into alcohol and other drug use trends at the population level. It contains information about these trends among the broader population and among specific groups.

Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs. (2005). *Methylamphetamine Review: A report by the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs*. London: Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs.

Abstract

The illicit use of amphetamines, almost exclusively in the form of AMP sulphate powder, is widespread in the UK, but has been declining in recent years. At the same time, the use of MDMA and cocaine have increased. There is a paucity of information about the prevalence of Methamphetamine use in the UK. What evidence there is suggests consumption of methamphetamine in the UK is very limited. However, given the experience of other countries such as the USA where methamphetamine misuse has become widespread, the ACMD has been asked to review the harms posed by the drug now and the potential for its use to increase in the UK in the future.

Amerasinghe, R., & Trifonoff, A. (2006). *Drug driving amongst police detainees*. South Australian Office of Crime Statistics and Research.

Australian Crime Commission (2005). *Australian Crime Commission: Illicit drug data report 2003–2004*. Australian Crime Commission.

Australian Crime Commission (2007). *Illicit Drug Data Report 2005–2006*. Canberra: Australian Crime Commission.

Abstract

This report contains data and analysis provided by federal, state and territory police, as well as forensic laboratories and the Australian Customs Service (Customs).

The Australian Crime Commission (ACC) collects data annually from all state and territory police services, the Australian Federal Police (AFP), the Australian Customs Service (Customs), and the state and territory drug analytical laboratories. The illicit drug data collected and presented in this report for the 2005–06 financial year includes: consumer and provider arrests; seizures; purity levels; and prices.

The purpose of this report is to provide statistics and analysis that will assist decision-makers in developing illicit drug supply and harm reduction strategies. The data also assists the Australian Government to meet national and international reporting obligations.

Australian Institute of Criminology. (2005). *Drug use by young serious offenders*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

The Australian Government Attorney-General's Department funded the Australian Institute of Criminology to undertake the Drug Use Careers of Offenders study. The first two parts of the study looked at men and women in prison. The third part comprised research into the lifetime offending and substance use patterns of 371 juveniles, aged 10 to 17 years, incarcerated in Australian juvenile detention centres. The study confirmed that young people sentenced to detention have extensive offending and drug use histories. Using self-reported prevalence of substance use, the research showed that almost all juvenile detainees had used alcohol (97%) and cannabis (94%), while half had used amphetamines (50%) and one in three had used ecstasy at some stage in their lives. Cannabis was the drug most commonly used on a regular basis by young people in the six months prior to their detention (63%), followed by alcohol (46%) and amphetamines (20%). Nearly one in three juvenile offenders were regular poly-substance users in the six months prior to detention.

Australian Institute of Criminology. (2005). *Key findings from the Drug Use Careers of Female Offenders (DUCO) study*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

The Drug Use Careers of Female Offenders study, recently released by the Australian Institute of Criminology, is the latest addition to the DUCO project which has previously examined over 2,000 male offenders. In the female study, 470 women incarcerated in prisons in six jurisdictions were interviewed. The project was funded by the Australian Government Attorney-General's Department under the National Illicit Drug Strategy. The study found that a majority (80%) of the female offenders reported having ever used any illegal drugs. In particular, cannabis was the most common drug ever used (78%), followed by amphetamines (61%) and heroin (46%). A large percentage of offenders indicated having used more than one drug (65%). Following a similar pattern, the percentage of female offenders indicating current regular use of any drug was also high (62%). The most common drugs associated with current regular use were cannabis (40%), amphetamines (37%) and multiple drug use (39%). Current regular use of cocaine was reported by only six per cent of female offenders.

Australian Institute of Criminology. (2005). *Mental health and drug dependency amongst police detainees*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Australian Institute of Criminology. (2005). *Methylamphetamine use stabilising*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

The 2004 National Drug Strategy Household Survey shows that amphetamine-type stimulants rank second in the most recently used illegal drugs in Australia. Through the quarterly drug testing of police detainees, as part of the Drug Use Monitoring in Australia (DUMA) program, it is possible to track changes in methylamphetamine use between 2000 and 2004. Applying a logarithmic trend analysis indicates that the proportion of police detainees who tested positive to methylamphetamine has generally increased over this five-year period. The growth rate was greatest between 2000 and 2002, followed by a period of stabilisation between 2003 and 2004. Over this period there have always been differences across the DUMA sites in the proportion of detainees who tested positive to methylamphetamine. In 2004, East Perth and Brisbane had the highest proportion of detainees who tested positive to methylamphetamine (34 per cent of males and 44 per cent of females in East Perth, and 31 per cent of males and 47 per cent of females in Brisbane). In comparison, Bankstown had the lowest proportion of detainees who tested positive (13 per cent of males and 13 per cent of females).

Australian Institute of Criminology. (2006). *Drug use and crime*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

The connection between drug use and criminal activity is frequently debated in the community. The Drug Use Monitoring in Australia (DUMA) program, managed by the Australian Institute of Criminology, is focused on people who come into contact with the criminal justice system to provide specialised data that cannot be found in routine administrative data collections. As part of its quarterly survey, DUMA collects information on the age of first and regular use of seven classes of drugs, as well as the age of first arrest. The 2005 annual report for DUMA shows the mean age of male offenders' first and regular use of alcohol and cannabis was 14 and 16 years respectively, with the mean age of first arrest at 18 and 16 years. Other drugs, such as cocaine, heroin, and methamphetamines, have older ages of first and regular use (19, 19 and 18 years respectively for first use and 21, 20 and 21 for regular use), but a mean age of first arrest the same or lower than those for alcohol and cannabis (16, 15 and 16 years respectively). This suggests that users of these particular drugs were likely to have been arrested for criminal activities before they self-reported regular use of these drugs.

Australian Institute of Criminology. (2006). *Trends in illicit drug use in Australia*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

The 2004 National Drug Strategy Household Survey was conducted by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare at the request of the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing. Almost 30,000 Australians participated in the survey, in which they were asked about their past and present drug consumption and attitudes towards drugs and drug policy. Earlier surveys asked similar questions, but employed smaller samples. According to the survey, in 2004, 38 percent of Australians aged 14 years and over admitted using an illicit drug at least once during their lifetime, and 15 percent said they used in the previous 12 months. Trends in recent use (i.e. in the 12 months leading up to each survey) of selected illicit drugs between 1991 and 2004 are displayed in graph form. Data from previous surveys are not shown because they are not strictly comparable, due to different methodologies. Throughout the period 1991–2004 cannabis was the illicit drug most likely to have been used recently, with 11 percent reporting using it in the past 12 months (2004 survey). Cannabis use has undergone an overall decline since 1991 (when it stood at 14%), with a pronounced peak in 1998 (18%). With the exception of ecstasy, use of other major illicit drugs, including meth/amphetamine (speed), cocaine and heroin, also peaked in the 1998 survey and declined thereafter. Recent use of ecstasy increased steadily in the period, from one percent in 1991 to three percent in 2004.

Australian Institute of Criminology. (2007). *Drug use among police detainees across Australia*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

The Australian Institute of Criminology's Drug Use Monitoring in Australia (DUMA) program provides information through urinalysis and interviews on illegal drug use among people detained in a police station or watch-house. This information sheet highlights the differences between the nine sites in adult male detainees testing positive to cannabis, methylamphetamine, heroin and cocaine during 2006. Consistent across the sites, cannabis was the most widely used drug, with a range of 41 to 67% of detainees testing positive. Compared with the other eight DUMA sites, few detainees in Darwin tested positive to illicit drugs other than cannabis. With the exception of Darwin and Bankstown, a similar proportion of detainees tested positive to methylamphetamine across all sites. The largest variation was in the percentage testing positive to heroin. Four percent of male detainees in Elizabeth tested positive to heroin, compared with 32% in Footscray/Sunshine, while most sites returned 10% positive tests or less. The unusual percentage of positive heroin tests for Footscray/Sunshine reflects a reputation for drug dealing, particularly heroin, which the Footscray area has acquired in recent years. Victoria Police recently established Project Reduction – in which police request a court order prohibiting an offender from entering the area – to combat the illicit drug trade.

Australian Institute of Criminology. (2007). *Reasons for not buying drugs*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

Of 4,232 adult detainees in police custody who responded to questions on local drug markets in the 2006 'Drug Use Monitoring in Australia' annual report, 49 percent (n=2,058) reported that they had purchased drugs in the past month by paying cash. Of these, 584 (14%) said there was an occasion in the past month when they had tried to purchase drugs but were not successful. The most common reason across all drug types was that the dealers did not have the particular drugs sought, and this was most commonly the case for cannabis and cocaine. Across all drug types, around one-quarter of the detainees said that there was no dealer available. Detainees trying to purchase heroin were more likely to report police activity as the reason for not purchasing the drug

compared with other drug types; this reflects the market dynamics for heroin, which is more likely to be purchased from the street. Poor quality was also an important reason, particularly for heroin (21%) and meth/amphetamine (20%). Detainees trying to purchase ecstasy were more likely than other unsuccessful purchasers to indicate that no dealer was available (31%) or that the price was too high (8%).

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. (2007). *Statistics on drug use in Australia 2006*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

Banken, J. A. (2004). Drug abuse trends among youth in the United States. *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences*, 1025, 465-471.

Abstract

Several years of survey data indicate that illicit drug use among U.S. youth was at its highest level in 1979. Generally, the use of some illicit drugs declined progressively throughout the 1980s, stabilised, and then decreased slightly. Reducing illicit drug use among U.S. youth continues to be a priority of federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies. The U.S. government tracks youth illicit drug use through three nationally representative surveys: National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, Monitoring the Future Study, and Youth Risk Behaviour Survey. Other surveys include the Partnership Attitudes Tracking Study, conducted annually to assess youth and parental attitudes about drugs, and Drug Abuse Awareness Network (DAWN), a national surveillance system that monitors trends in drug-related emergency department visits and deaths. Although survey methods differ, similar trends in drug use are well documented by these surveys. Among American youth, illicit use of drugs such as tobacco, alcohol, inhalants, marijuana, LSD, cocaine, heroin, and methamphetamine has remained relatively stable. However, a noteworthy exception is the increased use of MDMA (methylenedioxymethamphetamine). The physical consequences of "club and recreational drug use" are evidenced in the increased numbers of emergency department visits, specifically those related to MDMA and gamma-hydroxy-butyrate use, which may represent a new and emerging trend in illicit drug use.

Bellis, M. A., Hughes, K., Morleo, M., Tocque, K., Hughes, S., Allen, T., et al. (2007). Predictors of risky alcohol consumption in school children and their implications for preventing alcohol-related harm. *Substance Abuse Treatment, Prevention, and Policy*, 2(15), 1-10.

Abstract

While alcohol-related health and social problems amongst youths are increasing internationally, both consumption and associated harms are particularly high in British youth. Youth drinking patterns, including bingeing, frequent drinking and drinking in public spaces, are associated with increased risks of acute (e.g. violence) and long-term (e.g. alcohol-dependence) health problems. Here we examine economic, behavioural and demographic factors that predict these risky drinking behaviours among 15–16 year old schoolchildren who consume alcohol. A cross-sectional survey was conducted among schoolchildren in North West England (n = 10,271) using an anonymous questionnaire delivered in school settings. Analysis utilised logistic regression to identify independent predictors of risky drinking behaviour.

Bennett, T., & Holloway, K. (2007). *Drug-crime connections*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Black, E., & Degenhardt, L. (2005). *Self-reported substance-related aggressive behaviour in the IDU sample, 2004*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

Intoxication due to use of methamphetamine and alcohol has been associated with aggressive and violent behaviour. This bulletin presents findings from the 2004 IDRS Injecting Drug User Survey on self reported substance-related aggression. The survey found, among other things, that approximately one third of injecting drug users (IDU) reported becoming verbally aggressive and one sixth reported becoming physically aggressive following use of a drug in the six months preceding interview. There were no significant gender differences. They also witnessed substantial levels of substance-related aggression among other individuals known to them in this time. The most commonly reported drugs after which aggression occurred were alcohol, methamphetamine (particularly ice), benzodiazepines and heroin. Participants reporting methamphetamine as their drug of choice were more likely to report becoming verbally and physically aggressive following use of a drug. Younger IDU (i.e. those aged 18–24 years) were more likely to report aggressive behaviour. IDU who had been arrested in the past year were more likely to report substance-related aggression, as were IDU who reported committing a crime in the month preceding interview. These findings have implications for management and/or treatment of IDU who are regular methamphetamine users by both law enforcement and health service providers.

Boreham, R., Cronberg, A., Dollin, L., & Pudney, S. (2007). *The Arrestee Survey 2003–2006*. London: Research, Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office UK.

Abstract

The Arrestee Survey is the first nationally-representative survey of drugs and crime among individuals arrested in England and Wales. It provides a measurement of self reported drug misuse among a sample of individuals arrested in England and Wales. The link between drug and/or alcohol consumption and criminal offences leading to arrest is also examined, as are associations between self-reported drug use and wider offending behaviour. Three sweeps of the data have been collected in 2003–04, 2004–05 and 2005–06. This report presents the findings from the 2005–06 survey, as well as highlighting any significant changes in results over the three sweeps. Only statistically significant, and substantial, changes over time are included in this report. Any other apparently substantial differences in tables are not statistically significant and as such cannot be used to show real change.

Breen, C. (2004). *Australian party drug trends 2003: Findings from the Party Drugs Initiative (PDI)*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Bruno, R. (2005). *Tasmanian drug trends 2004: Findings from the Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS)*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Bruno, R., & McLean, S. (2004). *Tasmanian drug trends 2003: Findings from the Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS)*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Bull, M. (2007). Alcohol and drug problems in rural and regional Australia. In E. Barclay, et al. (Ed.), *Crime in rural Australia*. Sydney: Federation Press.

Abstract

Alcohol and other drugs have been considered a problem of government in Australia since colonisation. Recently there has been a growing concern that current strategies for responding to alcohol and other drug problems fail, or are less effective or inappropriate for, regional, rural and remote Australia. This chapter considers how well current policies are able to respond to alcohol

and other drugs use in regional, rural and remote Australia. It begins by examining the evidence that is available regarding the extent of use, and the effects of these substances among people not living in metropolitan areas. It concludes by reviewing the effectiveness of recently-introduced criminal justice policies and practices concerned with drug and alcohol-related offending in non-metropolitan settings.

Campbell, G., & Degenhardt, L. (2007). *ACT trends in ecstasy and related drug markets 2006: Findings from the Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS)*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

The Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS, formerly known as the Party Drugs Initiative) is a national monitoring system of ecstasy and related drugs that is intended to serve as a strategic early warning system, identifying emerging trends of jurisdictional and national interest in ecstasy and related drug markets. It was conducted across Australia for the first time in 2003. For the purposes of the study, the term 'ecstasy and related drugs' is considered to include drugs that are routinely used in the context of entertainment venues including nightclubs and dance parties. This includes drugs such as ecstasy (MDMA, 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine), methamphetamine, cocaine, LSD, ketamine, MDA (3,4-methylenedioxyamphetamine) and GHB (gamma-hydroxybutyrate). The findings in this report provide a summary of trends in ecstasy and other drug use detected in the Australian Capital Territory in 2006 through the conduct of the fourth year of the EDRS study. These trends have been extrapolated from the three data sources: interviews with current regular ecstasy users, interviews with professionals who have contact with ecstasy users (key experts), and the collation of indicator data. The specific aims of the study were to: i) describe the characteristics of a sample of current regular ecstasy users interviewed; ii) examine the patterns of ecstasy and other drug use of this sample; iii) document the current price, purity and availability of ecstasy and related drugs; iv) examine participants' perceptions of the benefits of ecstasy and other party drug use; v) examine participants' perceptions of the incidence and nature of ecstasy- and other party drug-related harm, including physical, psychological, financial, occupational, social and legal harms; and vi) identify emerging trends in the party drug market that may require further investigation.

Condon, J., & Smith, N. (2003). *Prevalence of drug use: Key findings from the 2002/2003 British Crime Survey*. London: Home Office.

Degenhardt, L., & Dietze, P. (2005). *Data sources on illicit drug use and harm in Australia*. Fitzroy, Vic: Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre.

Abstract

The aim of the Drug Policy Modelling Project (DPMP) is to create valuable new drug policy insights, ideas and interventions that will allow Australia to respond with alacrity and success to illicit drug use. DPMP addresses drug policy using a comprehensive approach that includes considering law enforcement, prevention, treatment and harm reduction. This monograph provides a description and review of the routinely-collected data sources available in Australia that capture information on illicit drug use and related harms. Based on work undertaken at the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre and Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre, it is intended as a reference document to provide interested persons with a guide to the type and nature of the information available in Australia. It reviews available data across four main domains: patterns and prevalence of use, health consequences, market characteristics and drug crime.

Degenhardt, L., Coffey, C., Carlin, J. B., Moran, P., & Patton, G. C. (2007). Who are the new amphetamine users? A 10-year prospective study of young Australians. *Addiction, 102*(8), 1269-1279.

Abstract

Despite good evidence of increased availability and use of amphetamines world-wide, relatively little is known about the epidemiology of young adult amphetamine use; relationships with social functioning, other drug use and mental health at this age; nor of the adolescent predictors of such use. We examined these issues using a representative cohort of young people followed-up in Victoria, Australia.

A stratified, random sample of 1943 adolescents was recruited from secondary schools across Victoria at age 14–15 years. This cohort was interviewed on eight occasions until the age of 24–25 years (78% follow-up at that age). Cross-sectional and predictive associations were assessed using logistic regression.

The study found that at age 24 years, 12% of the sample had used amphetamines in the past year, with 1-2% using at least weekly. Young adult amphetamine use was predicted strongly by adolescent drug use and was associated robustly with other drug use and dependence in young adulthood. Associations were stronger for more frequent users. Among young adults who had not been using amphetamines at age 20 years, the strongest predictor of use at age 24 years was the use of other drugs, particularly cannabis, at 20 years. Psychological distress did not predict independently an increased likelihood of amphetamine use in this cohort.

The researchers concluded that young people in Australia using amphetamine at age 24 years are highly likely to be significant polydrug users. The risks for both initiation of young adult amphetamine use, and maintenance of such use, pertain to the heavy use of other drugs. Interventions for heavy amphetamine users at this age are likely to require attention to multiple drug problems.

Degenhardt, L., Copeland, J., & Dillon, P. (2005). Recent trends in the use of 'club drugs': An Australian review. *Substance Use & Misuse, 40*(9-10), 1241-1256.

Degenhardt, L., Stafford, J., Kinner, S., Johnston, J., Fry, C., & Bruno, R., et al. (2005). *Reflections on a two-year national pilot study of the Party Drugs Initiative (PDI)*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Degenhardt, L., Hall, W., & Lynskey, M. (2000). Cohort trends in the age of initiation of drug use in Australia. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health, 24*, 421-426.

Dunn, M., & Degenhardt, L. (2007). *New South Wales trends in ecstasy and related drug markets 2006: Findings from the Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS)*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

The Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS, formerly known as the Party Drugs Initiative) is a national monitoring system of ecstasy and related drugs that is intended to serve as a strategic early warning system, identifying emerging trends of jurisdictional and national interest in ecstasy and related drug markets. It was conducted across Australia for the first time in 2003. For the purposes of the study, the term 'ecstasy and related drugs' is considered to include drugs that are routinely used in the context of entertainment venues including nightclubs and dance parties. This includes drugs such as ecstasy (MDMA, 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine), methamphetamine, cocaine, LSD, ketamine, MDA (3,4-methylenedioxyamphetamine) and GHB (gamma-hydroxybutyrate). The findings in this report provide a summary of trends in ecstasy and other drug use detected in New South Wales in 2006 through the conduct of the fourth year of

the EDRS study. These trends have been extrapolated from the three data sources: interviews with current regular ecstasy users, interviews with professionals who have contact with ecstasy users (key experts), and the collation of indicator data. The specific aims of the study were to: i) describe the characteristics of a sample of current regular ecstasy users interviewed; ii) examine the patterns of ecstasy and other drug use of this sample; iii) document the current price, purity and availability of ecstasy and related drugs; iv) examine participants' perceptions of the benefits of ecstasy and other party drug use; v) examine participants' perceptions of the incidence and nature of ecstasy- and other party drug-related harm, including physical, psychological, financial, occupational, social and legal harms; and vi) identify emerging trends in the party drug market that may require further investigation.

Dunn, M., Degenhardt, L., Campbell, G., George, J., Johnston, J., Kinner, S., et al. (2007). *Australian trends in ecstasy and related drug markets 2006: Findings from the Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS)*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

The Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS, formerly known as the Party Drugs Initiative) is a national monitoring system of ecstasy and related drugs that is intended to serve as a strategic early warning system, identifying emerging trends of jurisdictional and national interest in ecstasy and related drug markets. It was conducted across Australia for the first time in 2003. For the purposes of the study, the term 'ecstasy and related drugs' is considered to include drugs that are routinely used in the context of entertainment venues including nightclubs and dance parties. This includes drugs such as ecstasy (MDMA, 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine), methamphetamine, cocaine, LSD, ketamine, MDA (3,4-methylenedioxyamphetamine) and GHB (gamma-hydroxybutyrate). The findings in this report provide a summary of trends in ecstasy and other drug use detected across Australia in 2006 through the conduct of the fourth year of the EDRS study. These trends have been extrapolated from the three data sources: interviews with current regular ecstasy users, interviews with professionals who have contact with ecstasy users (key experts), and the collation of indicator data. The specific aims of the study were to: i) describe the characteristics of a sample of current regular ecstasy users interviewed in each capital city of Australia; ii) examine the patterns of ecstasy and other drug use of these samples; iii) document the current price, purity and availability of ecstasy and related drugs across Australia; iv) examine participants' reports of ecstasy-related harm, including physical, psychological, financial, occupational, social and legal harms; and v) identify emerging trends in the party drug market that may require further investigation.

Elkadi, S., Dain, S., & Dick, S. (2006, May). *The profile of drug use and offending in young offenders in Victorian prisons*. Paper presented at the 5th International Conference on Drugs and Young People, Randwick, NSW.

Abstract

Young offenders are a significant group within the Victorian Prisons system. This conference paper outlines a study undertaken by Caraniche Pty Ltd for Corrections Victoria, to profile the drug use and offending patterns of male and female young adult offenders identified as medium to high risk alcohol and other drugs abusers within Victorian prisons. In addition, the clinical implications of the findings were discussed for management and treatment options. The prisons serviced include Barwon, Ararat, Langi Kal Kal and Loddon. All male and female offenders assessed by Corrections Victoria as being of medium to high risk of alcohol and other drugs abuse were referred to Carniche. Patterns of drug use were surveyed, with the result that the offending activity reflects the income generating activity; however, there is no information about which activity comes first, the drug use or the offending.

Fowler, G., Kinner, S., & Krenske, L. (2007). *Containing ecstasy: Analytical tools for profiling an illegal drug market*. Hobart: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

The Ecstasy Market Indicator (EMI) project was developed in response to the National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund's (NDLERF) request for an enhanced understanding of the ecstasy markets in Australia for law enforcement. The call for a study measuring the structure and functioning of ecstasy markets emerged out of the recent increases in ecstasy prevalence and the unique characteristics of ecstasy users compared to other illegal drug users. Specifically, NDLERF requested that a research template, designed to measure the ecstasy market, be developed and then trialled in Queensland. This template was used to address the following research areas: market characteristics, patterns of use, and the implications for law enforcement. The EMI project has developed a research template that utilises a range of methodologies to measure the Queensland ecstasy market. The EMI study expanded the scope of the Ecstasy and related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS) by adding additional questions to the EDRS questionnaire, increasing the sample size, and recruiting respondents from Brisbane, the Gold Coast and Cairns. A series of in-depth interviews with ecstasy consumers, ecstasy suppliers and related health and law enforcement personnel about the dynamics of the ecstasy market were also conducted. Finally, all relevant and available survey and indicator data held by health and law enforcement agencies were collated and analysed. The information collected from this triangulated approach was used to build a profile of the Queensland ecstasy market and is documented in this report.

George, J., & Lenton, S. (2007). *West Australian trends in ecstasy and related drug markets 2006: Findings from the Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS)*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

The Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS, formerly known as the Party Drugs Initiative) is a national monitoring system of ecstasy and related drugs that is intended to serve as a strategic early warning system, identifying emerging trends of jurisdictional and national interest in ecstasy and related drug markets. It was conducted across Australia for the first time in 2003. For the purposes of the study, the term 'ecstasy and related drugs' is considered to include drugs that are routinely used in the context of entertainment venues including nightclubs and dance parties. This includes drugs such as ecstasy (MDMA, 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine), methamphetamine, cocaine, LSD, ketamine, MDA (3,4-methylenedioxyamphetamine) and GHB (gamma-hydroxybutyrate). The findings in this report provide a summary of trends in ecstasy and other drug use detected in Western Australia in 2006 through the conduct of the fourth year of the EDRS study. These trends have been extrapolated from the three data sources: interviews with current regular ecstasy users, interviews with professionals who have contact with ecstasy users (key experts), and the collation of indicator data. The specific aims of the study were to: i) describe the characteristics of a sample of current regular ecstasy users interviewed in Perth; ii) examine the patterns of ecstasy and other drug use of this sample; iii) document the current price, purity and availability of ecstasy and related drugs in Perth; iv) examine participants' perceptions of the incidence and nature of ecstasy-related harm, including physical, psychological, financial, occupational, social and legal harms; v) compare key findings of this study with those reported in previous years; and vi) identify emerging trends in the ecstasy and related drug markets that may require further investigation.

Hay, G., Gannon, M., MacDougall, J., Millar, T., Eastwood, C., & McKeganey, N. (2007). *National and regional estimates of the prevalence of opiate use and/or crack cocaine use 2005/06: A summary of key findings*. London: Research Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office UK.

Abstract

This report summarises the results of the second sweep of a three-year study to estimate the prevalence of 'problem drug use' (defined as use of opiates and/or crack cocaine) nationally (England only), regionally, and locally. An overview of national and Government Office Region estimates are presented in this report as are comparisons with the estimates produced by the previous (2004/05) sweep of this study.

Home Office (2008). *Drugs: Protecting families and communities – The 2008 drug strategy*. London: Home Office.

Abstract

The UK Drug Strategy aims to restrict the supply of illegal drugs and reduce the demand for them. It focuses on protecting families and strengthening communities.

The four main strands of work are:

1. protecting communities through robust enforcement to tackle drug supply, drug-related crime and anti-social behaviour;
 2. preventing harm to children, young people and families affected by drug misuse;
 3. delivering new approaches to drug treatment and social re-integration;
 4. public information campaigns, communications and community engagement.
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Johnson, H. (2004). *Drugs and crime: A study of incarcerated female offenders*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Johnson, H. (2006). Drug use by incarcerated women offenders. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 25(5), 433-437.

Abstract

The Drug Use Careers of Offenders (DUCO) project, conducted by the Australian Institute of Criminology, aims to contribute empirical evidence about the interaction between drug use and criminal offending. A total of 470 women incarcerated in six jurisdictions in Australia were interviewed for the female component of the DUCO project. This study examines illegal drug use prior to arrest and the correlates of drug use among those incarcerated women. Regular use of illegal drugs in the six months prior to arrest was reported by 62% of offenders and 39% reported multiple drug use. Indigenous women reported higher rates of cannabis use while non-Indigenous women had higher rates of heroin, amphetamines and benzodiazepines as well as multiple drug use. Multivariate analysis identified the following statistically significant predictors of regular drug use prior to arrest: age, marital status, not having children, early exposure to drug problems among family members, violent victimisation as an adult, earning an income primarily from crime or sex work and using amphetamines, benzodiazepines or morphine on prescription. Additional factors predicting multiple drug use were low education, non-Indigenous status, having mental health problems and having been in juvenile detention. These results suggest that drug treatment that fails to identify and respond to some of the antecedents of drug use such as mental health problems and the effects of violent victimisation may result in higher rates of drug use relapse and lower success upon release from prison.

Johnson, H. (2006). *Factors associated with drug and alcohol dependency among women in prison*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Johnston, J., Quinn, B., & Jenkinson, R. (2007). *Victorian trends in ecstasy and related drug markets 2006: Findings from the Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS)*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

This report presents the results from the fourth year of a study monitoring ecstasy and related drug (ERD) trends in Victoria. The demographic characteristics, patterns of drug use and perceptions of the price, purity and availability of ERD among a sample of regular ecstasy users (REU) are described in this report. Their severity of dependence on ecstasy and methamphetamines, perceptions of the effects of drug use (e.g. benefits and risks), health risk behaviours and criminal behaviour are also reported. These findings are triangulated with information from key expert (KE) and secondary indicator data sources in an attempt to minimise biases and weaknesses inherent to each source of data. These methods are employed to gain an understanding of the current ERD markets in Melbourne, Victoria. Where appropriate, 2006 findings are compared to findings from the previous three years and implications of the results and the nature and characteristics of ERD markets are discussed.

Kinner, S., & Degenhardt, L. (2006). Reflections on the development and implementation of an early warning system for ecstasy and related drug markets in Australia. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 25, 445-449.

Abstract

Regular and systematic monitoring of drug markets provides the basis for evidence-based policy. In Australia, trends in ecstasy and related drug (ERD) markets have been monitored in selected jurisdictions since 2000 and nationally since 2003, by the Party Drugs Initiative (PDI). The PDI maximises the validity of conclusions by triangulating information from (a) interviews with regular ecstasy users (REU), (b) interviews with key experts and (c) indicator data. There is currently no other system in Australia for monitoring these markets systematically; however, the value of the PDI has been constrained by the quality of available data. Difficulties in recruiting and interviewing appropriate consumers (REU) and key experts have been experienced, but largely overcome. Limitations of available indicator data from both health and law enforcement continue to present challenges and there remains considerable scope for enhancing existing routine data collection systems, to facilitate monitoring of ERD markets. With an expanding market for ecstasy and related drugs in Australia, and in the context of indicator data that continue to be limited in scope and detail, there is a strong argument for the continued collection of annual, comparable data from a sentinel group of REU, such as those recruited for the PDI.

Kinner, S., Fowler, G., Fischer, J., Stafford, J., & Degenhardt, L. (2005). Monitoring the ecstasy market in Australia: Challenges and successes. *Party Drug Trends Bulletin*, April, 1-6.

Krenske, L. (2004). *Exploring drug use: Prevalence and patterns among emergency department patients*. Brisbane: Queensland Crime and Misconduct Commission.

Loxley, W. (2007). *Benzodiazepine use and harms among police detainees in Australia*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

This paper investigates self-reported prevalence, patterns and potential harms of benzodiazepine use in a sample of adult police detainees, using data from the Drug Use Monitoring in Australia (DUMA) program for the period 1999 to 2005. Of the sample, 15 percent had used illegal benzodiazepines in the previous 12 months, and around 13 percent had used prescribed

benzodiazepines in the previous fortnight. The extent of self-reported benzodiazepine dependence was much lower than that for heroin, and similar to that for amphetamines. There is evidence of use of benzodiazepines in conjunction with other drugs, particularly heroin and amphetamines, which indicates a greater risk of harms, notably heroin overdose. Although these are preliminary findings only, they point to the value of further analysis to reveal more complex patterns of behaviour and use. For the relatively small number of people in contact with the criminal justice system and whose only illegal drug use is benzodiazepines, the results suggest the need to ensure that they have access to the treatment and other interventions that are available to the much larger group who use and are dependent on multiple drugs, notably heroin and amphetamines.

Loxley, W., Toumbourou, J., Stockwell, T., Haines, B., Scott, K., Godfrey, C., Waters, E., Patton, G., Fordham, R., Gray, D., Marshall, J., Ryder, D., Saggars, S., Sanci, L., & Williams, J. (2004). *The Prevention of Substance Use, Risk and Harm in Australia: A Review of the Evidence*. Perth: National Drug Research Institute & the Centre for Adolescent Health.

Makkai, T., & Payne, J. (2005). Illicit drug use and offending histories: A study of male incarcerated offenders in Australia. *Probation Journal*, 52(2), 153-168.

Abstract

Utilising the self-reported offending and drug use histories of over 2000 incarcerated male prisoners from four Australian jurisdictions, offenders were categorised into different offending typologies based on lifetime criminal behaviour. Eight different crime types were developed and offenders' reported use of four drugs – cannabis, amphetamines, heroin and cocaine – was examined. The analysis found that the type and level of illicit drug use varied across the different types of offenders. Of those who had used illicit drugs, the rates of poly-drug use were high. Furthermore, most illicit drug using offenders, regardless of crime type, were on average more likely to commit minor offending prior to the onset of illicit drug use. The extent to which offenders attributed their criminal careers to illicit drug use also varied. This article highlights that interventions aimed at illicit drug use alone will have only a limited impact on reducing the likelihood of re-offending.

Matthews, A., & Bruno, R. (2007). *Tasmanian trends in ecstasy and related drug markets 2006: Findings from the Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS)*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

The Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS, formerly known as the Party Drugs Initiative) is a national monitoring system of ecstasy and related drugs that is intended to serve as a strategic early warning system, identifying emerging trends of jurisdictional and national interest in ecstasy and related drug markets. It was conducted across Australia for the first time in 2003. For the purposes of the study, the term 'ecstasy and related drugs' is considered to include drugs that are routinely used in the context of entertainment venues including nightclubs and dance parties. This includes drugs such as ecstasy (MDMA, 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine), methamphetamine, cocaine, LSD, ketamine, MDA (3,4-methylenedioxyamphetamine) and GHB (gamma-hydroxybutyrate). The findings in this report provide a summary of trends in ecstasy and other drug use detected in Tasmania in 2006 through the conduct of the fourth year of the EDRS study. These trends have been extrapolated from the three data sources: interviews with current regular ecstasy users, interviews with professionals who have contact with ecstasy users (key experts), and the collation of indicator data. The specific aims of the study were to: i) describe the characteristics of a sample of current regular ecstasy users interviewed; ii) examine the patterns of ecstasy and other drug use of this sample; iii) document the current price, purity and availability of ecstasy and related drugs; iv) examine participants' perceptions of the benefits of ecstasy and other party drug use; v) examine participants' perceptions of the incidence and nature of ecstasy- and

other party drug-related harm, including physical, psychological, financial, occupational, social and legal harms; and vi) identify emerging trends in the party drug market that may require further investigation.

Matthews, S., Brasnett, L., & Smith, J. (2006). *Underage drinking: Findings from the 2004 Offending, Crime and Justice Survey*. London: Research, Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office UK.

Abstract

The Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy for England (Cabinet Office, 2004) highlighted the costs to society of alcohol-related crime, disorder and antisocial behaviour. Key aims of the strategy are to reduce alcohol-related crime and disorder and to tackle the minority who consume and sell alcohol irresponsibly. This report presents the findings from the 2004 Offending, Crime and Justice Survey (OCJS) which is a nationally representative self-report offending survey of 10 to 25 year-olds which also includes questions on alcohol consumption. The 2004 OCJS predates the onset of the Government's Alcohol Misuse Enforcement Campaign aimed at tackling alcohol-related crime and disorder including underage alcohol sales. This report is specifically focused on the results for those aged 10 to 17 years (n=3,172). It explores both the prevalence and nature of underage drinking and the relationship between alcohol consumption and offending among young people.

McKetin, R., & McLaren, J. (2004). *The methamphetamine situation in Australia: A review of routine data sources*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

McKetin, R., McLaren, J., & Kelly, E. (2005). *The Sydney methamphetamine market: Patterns of supply, use, personal harms and social consequences*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

The methamphetamine market in Australia has undergone radical changes since the late 1990s with the emergence of new, more pure forms of base and ice. The current research was undertaken to fulfil a need to understand the impact of base and ice on the methamphetamine market, and the health and social consequences associated with these more pure forms of methamphetamine.

Milner, L., & McGregor, K. (2004). *Cocaine use among a sample of police detainees*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Ministerial Council on Drug Strategy (2006). *National Alcohol Strategy*. Canberra: Commonwealth of Australia.

Moon, C., & Newman, J. (2007). *Northern Territory trends in ecstasy and related drug markets 2006: Findings from the Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS)*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

The Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS, formerly known as the Party Drugs Initiative) is a national monitoring system of ecstasy and related drugs that is intended to serve as a strategic early warning system, identifying emerging trends of jurisdictional and national interest in ecstasy and related drug markets. It was conducted across Australia for the first time in 2003. For the purposes of the study, the term 'ecstasy and related drugs' is considered to include drugs that are routinely used in the context of entertainment venues including nightclubs and dance parties. This includes drugs such as ecstasy (MDMA, 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine), methamphetamine, cocaine, LSD, ketamine, MDA (3,4-methylenedioxyamphetamine) and GHB (gamma-hydroxybutyrate). The findings in this report provide a summary of trends in ecstasy and other drug use detected in the Northern Territory in 2006 through the conduct of the fourth year of

the EDRS study. These trends have been extrapolated from the three data sources: interviews with current regular ecstasy users, interviews with professionals who have contact with ecstasy users (key experts), and the collation of indicator data. The specific aims of the study were to: i) describe the characteristics of a sample of current regular ecstasy users interviewed in Darwin in 2006; ii) examine the patterns of ecstasy and other drug use of this sample; iii) document the current price, purity and availability of ecstasy and related drugs available in Darwin; iv) examine participants' perceptions of the incidence and nature of ecstasy-related harm, including physical, psychological, financial, occupational, social and legal harms; and vi) identify emerging trends in the ecstasy and related drug market that may require further investigation.

Moore, T. (2007). *Working estimates of the social costs per gram and per user for cannabis, cocaine, opiates and amphetamines*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

Illicit drug use is an area of major policy concern in Australia. It has been estimated that approximately \$1.3 billion is spent on drug policies by Australian governments, with more again spent on dealing with the consequences of illicit drug use. The majority is spent on enforcing drug laws, while significant amounts are spent on preventing drug use and treating drug users. The aim of the Drug Policy Monitoring Project (DPMP) is to create valuable new drug policy insights, ideas and interventions that will allow Australia to respond with alacrity and success to illicit drug use. DPMP addresses drug policy using a comprehensive approach that includes a consideration of law enforcement, prevention, treatment and harm reduction. The work in this report represents a first step in estimating the different social costs associated with different illicit drugs. More specifically, the report sets out in detail the annual costs in Australia (circa 2004) associated with opiates, amphetamines, cocaine, and other illicit drugs separately across two major classes of social costs: health and crime. The cost estimates are further broken down between dependent users and non-dependent users. These are then combined with prevalence and consumption to generate estimates of the: social costs per drug user by drug type; and social costs per kilogram (or gram) for each drug type. The work is important because, by generating estimates such as these, different policy responses can be evaluated in terms of cost savings to the community.

Mouzos, J., & Borzycki, M. (2006). *Weapons, drugs and crime: The Australian experience*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Mouzos, J., & Smith, L. (2007). Illicits and crime: Recent trends. *Of Substance*, 5, 21.

Abstract

This article describes the activities of the Drug Use Monitoring in Australia (DUMA) program, which is managed by the Australian Institute of Criminology. Monitored on a quarterly basis, the program collects both questionnaire data and urine samples from police detainees. The samples are analysed for a range of drugs, while the questionnaire explores both use of and dependency on illicit drugs. Trends from the 2006 DUMA annual report are also discussed.

Mouzos, J., & Smith, L. (2007). *Partner violence among a sample of police detainees*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

Using data from the Drug Use Monitoring in Australia (DUMA) program, this paper explores involvement in intimate partner violence, and provides first-time results from face-to-face interviews with a group of 1,597 police detainees. The study found that the levels of intimate partner violence are much higher among this group (49%) than is found from general population surveys. More than two-thirds of the detainees who were involved in partner violence reported being both a victim and a perpetrator in the past 12 months. This is consistent with other criminological research that finds that a large proportion of offenders often report having been

victims of crime. Factors found to be significant risk markers for detainees' involvement in partner violence included prior arrest, drug and alcohol dependency, having dependent children, and experiencing physical abuse as a child. Although a greater percentage of female than male detainees reported being involved in partner violence, once these other risk factors were controlled for, gender was not found to be a significant risk marker among this sample. The paper discusses the policy implications of the findings, particularly the need for early intervention with at-risk families and where drug and alcohol dependency issues are emerging.

Mouzos, J., Hind, N., Smith, L., & Adams, K. (2007). *Drug use monitoring in Australia: 2006 annual report on drug use among police detainees*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

The Drug Use Monitoring in Australia (DUMA) program, established in 1999, is a quarterly collection of information from police detainees in seven sites (police states or watch-houses) across Australia. In 2006, the number of sites increased to nine. There are two parts to the information collected: a questionnaire, which is conducted with a trained interviewer independent from the police, and a urine sample, which is tested for six different classes of drugs. Information collected from the questionnaire includes basic demographic data, drug use history, drug market information, treatment history and information on prior contact with the criminal justice system. The nine DUMA sites represent a range of community configurations: three sites represent the metropolitan area of a major state capital; three cover a metropolitan city area; one the outer suburbs of a major state capital; another one a regional centre; and the last covers a major tourist and retirement destination. This report presents both self-report data from 4,555 participating detainees and urinalysis for 77% of these for 2006. It includes an overview of the characteristics of detainees at each site, including self-reported drug use, prior criminal behaviour and treatment history. In addition to tracking changes in local drug markets, DUMA collects additional information on key strategic issues in a timely manner. Since its inception a number of addendums have been run as part of the DUMA questionnaire. In 2006, the following different addendums were run at the sites: quarter one: amphetamines (all sites except Darwin) and alcohol (Darwin); quarter two: drug driving (all sites); quarter three: motives for offending (all sites); and quarter four: alcohol (Darwin, Adelaide, Elizabeth, East Perth) and mental health (Bankstown, Parramatta, Brisbane, Southport, Sunshine/Footscray). The collection of this information allows for the formation and implementation of better-informed policies, and can also serve to guide key stakeholders, such as law enforcement bodies, in future tactical, strategic and operational decision-making.

Mouzos, J., Smith, L., & Hind, N. (2006). *Drug use monitoring in Australia: 2005 annual report on drug use among police detainees*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Murphy, R., & Roe, S. (2007). *Drug misuse declared: Findings from the 2006/07 British Crime Survey – England and Wales*. London: Research, Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office UK.

Abstract

This statistical bulletin considers the extent of illicit drug use among 16 to 59 year olds in England and Wales in 2006/07 and trends in drug use since 1998 (the beginning of the Government's Drug Strategy) based on data from the British Crime Survey (BCS). It particularly focuses on young people and also looks at demographic and geographical variations in drug use.

Office of National Drug Control Policy. (2006). *Synthetic drug control strategy: A focus on methamphetamine and prescription drug abuse*. Washington: Office of National Drug Control Policy.

Abstract

The President's National Drug Control Strategy describes the Administration's strategic approach for reducing illicit drug use in the United States. The Administration's Synthetic Drug Control Strategy is a companion to the National Strategy. It follows the main principles set out in the National Strategy: that supply and demand are the ultimate drivers in all illicit drug markets and that a balanced approach incorporating prevention, treatment, and market disruption initiatives (such as interdiction, arrests, prosecutions, and regulatory interventions) is the best way to reduce the supply of, and demand for, illicit drugs.

Payne, J. (2006). *A discrete-time survival study of drug use and property offending: Implications for early intervention and treatment*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

The nexus between drug use and criminal offending is of great interest to policy makers and researchers alike. The possibility that both illegal activities are interrelated provides promise that targeted interventions, such as drug diversion programs and drug courts, may have a tangible influence in reducing the social and economic costs of crime to the community. Although most in the academic and policy arenas agree that drugs and crime are interconnected, the nature of the relationship remains highly contested. This report contributes to this debate through an examination of drug use initiation and criminal escalation where it seeks to identify whether: drug use initiation increases the likelihood of offence escalation, and whether particular drugs play a more or less important role in increasing offending; delayed onset of drug use increases or decreases the risk of offence escalation; and, self-reported motives for the engagement in offending help to predict onset and escalation risk. This study uses data from the Australian Institute of Criminology's Drug Use Careers of Offenders Study (DUCO), an interviewer-administered self-reported survey of offending and drug use, conducted in 2001 among adult male prisoners in Queensland, Western Australia, Tasmania and the Northern Territory to examine the temporal pattern of drug use and offending. Using a survival analysis technique, this study examines the risk profile of 1,500 property offenders and their likelihood of escalating to regular offending. Drug use, including cannabis and other illicit drugs, are modelled as temporal predictors as a means of estimating their effect on increasing or decreasing escalation risk across the criminal career. The results of this study provide some important findings for the development of policies aimed at preventing crime.

Prichard, J., & Payne, J. (2005). *Alcohol, drugs and crime: A study of juveniles in detention* (No. 0642538913). Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Richardson, M., Kinner, S., & Lloyd, B. (2007). *Queensland trends in ecstasy and related drug markets 2006: Findings from the Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS)*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

The Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS, formerly known as the Party Drugs Initiative) is a national monitoring system of ecstasy and related drugs that is intended to serve as a strategic early warning system, identifying emerging trends of jurisdictional and national interest in ecstasy and related drug markets. It was conducted across Australia for the first time in 2003. For the purposes of the study, the term 'ecstasy and related drugs' is considered to include drugs that are routinely used in the context of entertainment venues including nightclubs and dance parties. This includes drugs such as ecstasy (MDMA, 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine), methamphetamine, cocaine, LSD, ketamine, MDA (3,4-methylenedioxyamphetamine) and GHB

(gamma-hydroxybutyrate). The findings in this report provide a summary of trends in ecstasy and other drug use detected in Queensland in 2006 through the conduct of the fourth year of the EDRS study. These trends have been extrapolated from the three data sources: interviews with current regular ecstasy users, interviews with professionals who have contact with ecstasy users (key experts), and the collation of indicator data. The specific aims of the study were to: i) describe the characteristics of a sample of current regular ecstasy users interviewed; ii) examine the patterns of ecstasy and other drug use of this sample; iii) document the current price, purity and availability of ecstasy and related drugs; iv) examine participants' perceptions of the benefits of ecstasy and other party drug use; v) examine participants' perceptions of the incidence and nature of ecstasy- and other party drug-related harm, including physical, psychological, financial, occupational, social and legal harms; and vi) identify emerging trends in the party drug market that may require further investigation.

Riddell, S., Niessen, O., Butler, T., MacDonald, C., & Starmer, G. (2006). The relationship between amphetamine use, crime and psychiatric disorder among prisoners in New South Wales. *Psychiatry, Psychology and Law*, 13(2), 160-165.

Abstract

Data is examined from a survey of mental health prisoners to identify the possible links between amphetamine use, psychiatric disorder and alleged offences leading to imprisonment. The charges laid against amphetamine users are similar to those for heroin use and those with severe psychotic symptoms are more likely to commit violent offences.

Sadiq, S. (2004). *Overview of the UK Drug Strategy with a focus on treatment and the development of drug interventions in the Criminal Justice System (England and Wales)*. Tokyo: United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders.

Schulte, C., Mouzos, J., & Makkai, T. (2005). *Drug use monitoring in Australia: 2004 annual report on drug use among police detainees*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Sheehan, A., Prichard, J., Krenske, L., & Freeman, J. (2007). *Illicit drug use in Queensland: A survey of households: 2002–05*. Brisbane: Crime and Misconduct Commission.

Abstract

In 2002, the Crime and Misconduct Commission arranged with the Office of Economic and Statistical Research to include questions on illicit drug use in the Queensland Household Survey. Queenslanders were questioned on their use of illicit drugs, their attitudes towards the availability of illicit drugs, and the perceived health risks associated with illicit drug use. The questions constitute the Queensland Household Illicit Drug Use Survey. The objective of the survey is to provide information on the patterns of illicit drug use among Queensland's general population. This report specifically examines information that is collected on Queenslanders' use of cannabis, amphetamines, heroin, ecstasy, hallucinogens and sleeping pills/tranquillisers for non-medical purposes. Patterns of use, age of first use, frequency of use, recent use, the level of health risks associated with use, and ease of obtaining illicit drugs were examined across a range of socio-demographic factors.

Shepherd, J. (2007). Preventing alcohol-related violence: A public health approach. *Criminal Behaviour and Mental Health*, 17(4), 250-264.

Abstract

Studies of the relationship between alcohol and violent injury confirm that while there is some evidence of a direct pharmacological association, many other factors are relevant to the frequency and severity of both violent perpetration and being a victim of violence. It is now widely recognised that official police statistics are a poor indicator of the nature and extent of public

violence. Accident and emergency departments and trauma surgeons are not only in a position to provide more accurate information on the nature and extent of clinically significant injury, but they can contribute substantially to violence prevention. This can be achieved through individually targeted interventions in conjunction with other clinicians on the one hand, and on the other through public health and community initiatives, in conjunction with other community agencies, including the police and local authorities. This article describes some of those initiatives and the evidence underpinning them.

Simpson, M., Shildrick, T., & MacDonald, R. (2007). *Drugs in Britain: Supply, consumption and control*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

South Australian Department of Health. (2005). *South Australian Drug Strategy: 2005–2010*. Retrieved from http://www.dassa.sa.gov.au/webdata/resources/files/SA_Drug_Strategy.pdf.

Abstract

This strategy is a practical plan to combat the physical and psychological harm, as well as the broader community problems, arising from the abuse and misuse of drugs. The culmination of more than two years' work, the strategy builds on the findings of the South Australian Drugs Summit of June 2002 and draws on the expertise of some of the State's most capable practitioners in the field. Many of the Summit's recommendations have shaped this report, along with the widespread belief among delegates that prevention should be the cornerstone of the community's response to drug abuse. This Strategy places emphasis on preventing the use of illicit drugs and the misuse of licit drugs and reinforces the importance of evidence-based approaches. The Strategy is also consistent with the National Drug Strategy 2004–2009 and provides a foundation on which South Australia can continue to deliver and enhance a truly comprehensive community wide response to licit and illicit drug use and harms.

Stafford, J., Black, E., & Degenhardt, L. (2006). *Examining gender differences among regular injecting drug users (IDU) in Australia*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

Participants of the 2005 Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS) survey were regular injecting drug users (IDU) recruited in the capital city of each state and territory. This bulletin provides a closer look at IDU survey results, focusing on the differences between male and female IDU. Of the total IDU who were interviewed for 2005, 606 were males and 337 females. An analysis of the demographic data revealed that male IDU were significantly more likely to be older and have a prison history, and were more likely to report the lifetime use of heroin. They were also more likely to have ever used, ever injected and recently injected a greater number of drug types, and were significantly less likely to report that they had lent or shared needles. Both groups were poly-drug users, with heroin or methamphetamine being the most commonly nominated. Frequency of use was remarkably similar between the groups for all drug types.

Stafford, J., Degenhardt, L., Agaliotis, M., Chanteloup, F., Fischer, J., & Matthews, A., et al. (2005). *Australian party drug trends 2004: Findings from the Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS)*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Stafford, J., Dunn, M., & Degenhardt, L. (2006). *Patterns of other drug use among regular ecstasy users (REU) in Australia: Focusing on cocaine, ketamine, LSD, GHB and MDA*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Stoove, M., Jenkinson, R., Cvetkovski, S., Matthews, S., Quinn, B., & Dietze, P., et al. (2006). *The Victorian drug statistics handbook 2006: Patterns of drug use and related harm in Victoria*. Retrieved from http://www.health.vic.gov.au/drugservices/downloads/hbook_2006.pdf.

Abstract

Participants of the 2005 Party Drug Initiative (PDI) were regular ecstasy users (REU) recruited in the capital city of each state and territory. The main focus of this bulletin is to look at the use of cocaine, ketamine, LSD, GHB and MDA among regular ecstasy users interviewed for the 2005 PDI. Eight hundred and ten REU were interviewed for the PDI, with interviews conducted in all states and territories. The national sample was predominantly male, with a mean age of 24 years. Analyses conducted focused on differences between gender and age. The sample was divided into two age groups based on the median age of the national sample, with the younger group comprised of REU aged between 16–22 years and the older group between 23–61 years. The results show that the use of cocaine, ketamine, GHB, LSD and MDA was commonly reported among REU, with two-thirds reporting lifetime use of cocaine and LSD, and nearly two-fifths reporting ketamine.

Tasmania Law Reform Institute (2006). *Intoxication and criminal responsibility*. Hobart: Law Reform Institute.

Abstract

Australian studies – self-reports by prisoners and detainees, analysis of urine samples within 48 hours of arrest and victim surveys – suggest that many offenders commit crime while under the influence of alcohol and/or other drugs. Moreover, criminal assaults are common in and around licensed premises. Together with increased scientific knowledge about the effects of alcohol and other drugs on behaviour and mental state, this indicates that intoxication has the potential to be a relevant consideration in criminal trials. This report is not concerned with alcohol and other drugs as a cause of crime, but with the question of the extent to which an accused person should be able to rely upon intoxication caused by alcohol or other drugs as a defence to a criminal charge. Published in six sections, part one of this paper serves as an introduction, part two looks at the relationship between alcohol and crime, and part three examines the current law in Tasmania. Part four examines the need for reform, as it is the view of the Institute that the law in Tasmania relating to intoxication is uncertain, illogical, inconsistent, unprincipled and unduly complex and that this constitutes persuasive grounds for reform. Part five looks at the law of intoxication in other Australian jurisdictions and considers the position in the United Kingdom, Canada and New Zealand. Part six examines the options for reform and makes eight recommendations for reform.

Turner, N., Pointer, S., & Trifonoff, A. (2005). *Amphetamines use amongst police detainees*. Adelaide: South Australian Office of Crime Statistics and Research.

Victorian Department of Human Services (2006). *Improving health, reducing harm: Victorian Drug Strategy 2006–09*. Retrieved from: http://www.health.vic.gov.au/drugservices/downloads/drug_strategy_06-09.pdf.

Wei, Z., Makkai, T., & McGregor, K. (2003). *Drug use among a sample of juvenile detainees*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

This paper examines the drug-taking patterns of a group of juveniles detained by police and interviewed as part of the Drug Use Monitoring in Australia (DUMA) project. The findings show the prevalent use of drugs by members of the group with few juveniles reporting accessing treatment. The findings highlight the need for a continued commitment to early prevention and intervention strategies.

Western Australia Office of Crime Prevention, Department of the Premier and Cabinet. (2004). *State Government Northbridge strategy: Young people in Northbridge policy: One year on*. Retrieved from <http://www.crimeprevention.wa.gov.au/Portals/0/PDF/ocp-youngpeopleinnorthbridgeoneyearon-2004.pdf>.

Abstract

In April 2003, the WA State Government proposed a ban on unsupervised juveniles in Northbridge. The move was aimed at addressing crime and child welfare issues, since the area was the destination for large numbers of unsupervised children and young people which the Government believed were at real risk of physical and moral danger. The area had also developed a reputation for unacceptable levels of violent, aggressive and generally anti-social behaviour. This paper reports that the policy made a significant impact in its first twelve months of operation, with clear indicators of improvement including: fewer children and young people at risk on the streets at night; a reduction in anti-social and aggressive behaviour from young people; fewer young people being apprehended for drunkenness, solvent abuse and use of illicit drugs; the business community reporting an increase in trading and a reduction in the intimidation of patrons; users of Northbridge indicating that the area feels safer; and that workers and services are in place to assist those at risk, both on the street and to follow up.

White, N., Vial, R., & Ali, R. (2007). *South Australian trends in ecstasy and related drug markets 2006: Findings from the Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS)*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

The Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS, formerly known as the Party Drugs Initiative) is a national monitoring system of ecstasy and related drugs that is intended to serve as a strategic early warning system, identifying emerging trends of jurisdictional and national interest in ecstasy and related drug markets. It was conducted across Australia for the first time in 2003. For the purposes of the study, the term 'ecstasy and related drugs' is considered to include drugs that are routinely used in the context of entertainment venues including nightclubs and dance parties. This includes drugs such as ecstasy (MDMA, 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine), methamphetamine, cocaine, LSD, ketamine, MDA (3,4-methylenedioxyamphetamine) and GHB (gamma-hydroxybutyrate). The findings in this report provide a summary of trends in ecstasy and other drug use detected in South Australia in 2006 through the conduct of the fourth year of the EDRS study. These trends have been extrapolated from the three data sources: interviews with current regular ecstasy users, interviews with professionals who have contact with ecstasy users (key experts), and the collation of indicator data. The specific aims of the study were to: i) describe the characteristics of a sample of current regular ecstasy users interviewed; ii) examine the patterns of ecstasy and other drug use of this sample; iii) document the current price, purity and availability of ecstasy and related drugs; iv) examine participants' perceptions of the benefits of ecstasy and other party drug use; v) examine participants' perceptions of the incidence and nature of ecstasy- and other party drug-related harm, including physical, psychological, financial, occupational, social and legal harms; and vi) identify emerging trends in the party drug market that may require further investigation

White, V., & Hayman, J. (2006). *Australian secondary school students' use of alcohol in 2005*. Canberra: Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing.

Willis, K., & Rushforth, C. (2003). *The female criminal: An overview of women's drug use and offending behaviour*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

Key words/phrases include: Australian and international research on the links between women's drug use and their criminal behaviour – common risk factors for these activities – key data and research on women's drug use and offending patterns – there is currently no national survey of women inmates' experience of drug use and offending – need for this type of information to be collected for policy purposes, in the management of women through the criminal justice system and in drug treatment settings.

6. Alcohol and Other Drug Related Crime/Links Between Drugs & Crime

This section contains resources on a range of crime and disorder which is related to the misuse of alcohol and other drugs.

Adams, M. (2006, September). *Working towards changing the negative image of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander males*. Paper presented at the Victims of Crime NT conference: 'Positive Ways: An Indigenous Say', Marrara, NT.

Abstract

The portrayal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander males has often been negative because of their association with family violence, sexual abuse, excessive misuse of alcohol and illicit drugs, incarceration, suicidal levels and other unacceptable social behaviour. While this holds true for a small percentage, the comments are inclusive of all Indigenous males. This paper discusses the historical and social factors that have influenced this perception, which have their roots in dispossession, cultural dislocation and often alcohol and other substance misuse, and what can be done to change this negative image.

Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs. (2007). *Drug Facilitated Sexual Assault*. London: Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs.

Abstract

The Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs is established under the Misuse of Drugs Act (1971). In January 2006, the then Home Secretary requested the Council to report on drug facilitated sexual assault.

In this report the Council makes several recommendations to help tackle date rape. These include:

- the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) should enhance evidence gathering so that the Forensic Science Service can test for date rape drugs;
- the Department of Health should ensure hospitals have early evidence kits to allow for similar tests;
- the Government should seek advice on whether the *Sexual Offences Act* should be strengthened;
- drug facilitated sexual assault should be part of the British Crime Survey and be recorded by police; and
- schools and other educational establishments should alert people to take common sense measures, such as minding drinks, to avoid being a victim.

Allen, C. (2005). The links between heroin, crack cocaine and crime: Where does street crime fit in? *British Journal of Criminology*, 45(3), 355-372.

Allen, C. (2007). *Crime, drugs and social theory: A phenomenological approach*. Aldershot: Ashgate.

Amerasinghe, R., & Trifonoff, A. (2006). *Drug driving amongst police detainees*. South Australian Office of Crime Statistics and Research.

Australian Institute of Criminology. (2004). *Does drug use cause crime? Understanding the drugs-crime link*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Australian Institute of Criminology. (2005). *Homicide in Australia: 2003–2004 National Homicide Monitoring Program (NHMP) annual report*. Canberra, ACT: AIC.

Australian Institute of Criminology. (2005). *Drug use by young serious offenders*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

The Australian Government Attorney-General's Department funded the Australian Institute of Criminology to undertake the Drug Use Careers of Offenders study. The first two parts of the study looked at men and women in prison. The third part comprised research into the lifetime offending and substance use patterns of 371 juveniles, aged 10 to 17 years, incarcerated in Australian juvenile detention centres. The study confirmed that young people sentenced to detention have extensive offending and drug use histories. Using self-reported prevalence of substance use, the research showed that almost all juvenile detainees had used alcohol (97%) and cannabis (94%), while half had used amphetamines (50%) and one in three had used ecstasy at some stage in their lives. Cannabis was the drug most commonly used on a regular basis by young people in the six months prior to their detention (63%), followed by alcohol (46%) and amphetamines (20%). Nearly one in three juvenile offenders were regular poly-substance users in the six months prior to detention.

Australian Institute of Criminology. (2005). *Gender differences in the sequence of drug use and crime*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

Illicit drug use has been identified as an important factor in criminal offending for both men and women. There is debate about whether drug use 'leads' to crime or the reverse. The Australian Institute of Criminology conducted the Drug Use Careers of Offenders (DUCO) study in order to examine the interaction between criminal offending and drug use patterns. A total of 470 females and 2,135 males incarcerated in Australian prisons were interviewed. The project, which was funded by the Australian Government Attorney-General's Department, identified gender differences in the temporal order of drug use and crime. Using the self-reported age of first drug use and first criminal offence, this study shows that female prisoners were equally divided in the sequence of their drug use and offending initiation. A similar proportion of female prisoners reported illicit drug use before offending (35%) as they did offending before illicit drug use (34%). Male prisoners were more likely to have engaged in offending before drug use (54%) and were less likely than women to have used drugs prior to offending (17%). These results suggest that illicit drugs may play a different role in the development of a criminal career for women as compared with men.

Australian Institute of Criminology. (2005). *Key findings from the Drug Use Careers of Female Offenders (DUCO) study*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

The Drug Use Careers of female Offenders (DUCO) study, recently released by the Australian Institute of Criminology, is the latest addition to the DUCO project which has previously examined over 2,000 male offenders. In the female study, 470 women incarcerated in prisons in six jurisdictions were interviewed. The project was funded by the Australian Government Attorney-General's Department under the National Illicit Drug Strategy. The study found that a majority (80%) of the female offenders reported having ever used any illegal drugs. In particular, cannabis was the most common drug ever used (78%), followed by amphetamines (61%) and heroin (46%). A large percentage of offenders indicated having used more than one drug (65%). Following a similar pattern, the percentage of female offenders indicating current regular use of any drug was also high (62%). The most common drugs associated with current regular use were cannabis (40%), amphetamines (37%) and multiple drug use (39%). Current regular use of cocaine was reported by only six per cent of female offenders.

Australian Institute of Criminology. (2005). *Mental health and drug dependency amongst police detainees*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Australian Institute of Criminology. (2005). *Methylamphetamine use stabilising*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

The 2004 National Drug Strategy Household Survey shows that amphetamine-type stimulants rank second in the most recently used illegal drugs in Australia. Through the quarterly drug testing of police detainees, as part of the Drug Use Monitoring in Australia (DUMA) program, it is possible to track changes in methylamphetamine use between 2000 and 2004. Applying a logarithmic trend analysis indicates that the proportion of police detainees who tested positive to methylamphetamine has generally increased over this five-year period. The growth rate was greatest between 2000 and 2002, followed by a period of stabilisation between 2003 and 2004. Over this period there have always been differences across the DUMA sites in the proportion of detainees who tested positive to methylamphetamine. In 2004, East Perth and Brisbane had the highest proportion of detainees who tested positive to methylamphetamine (34 per cent of males and 44 per cent of females in East Perth, and 31 per cent of males and 47 per cent of females in Brisbane). In comparison, Bankstown had the lowest proportion of detainees who tested positive (13 per cent of males and 13 per cent of females).

Australian Institute of Criminology. (2006). *Drug use and crime*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

The connection between drug use and criminal activity is frequently debated in the community. The Drug Use Monitoring in Australia (DUMA) program, managed by the Australian Institute of Criminology, is focused on people who come into contact with the criminal justice system to provide specialised data that cannot be found in routine administrative data collections. As part of its quarterly survey, DUMA collects information on the age of first and regular use of seven classes of drugs, as well as the age of first arrest. The 2005 annual report for DUMA shows the mean age of male offenders' first and regular use of alcohol and cannabis was 14 and 16 years respectively, with the mean age of first arrest at 18 and 16 years. Other drugs, such as cocaine, heroin, and methamphetamines, have older ages of first and regular use (19, 19 and 18 years respectively for first use and 21, 20 and 21 for regular use), but a mean age of first arrest the same or lower than those for alcohol and cannabis (16, 15 and 16 years respectively). This suggests that users of these particular drugs were likely to have been arrested for criminal activities before they self-reported regular use of these drugs.

Australian Institute of Criminology. (2007). *Drug use among police detainees across Australia*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

The Australian Institute of Criminology's Drug Use Monitoring in Australia (DUMA) program provides information through urinalysis and interviews on illegal drug use among people detained in a police station or watch-house. This information sheet highlights the differences between the nine sites in adult male detainees testing positive to cannabis, methylamphetamine, heroin and cocaine during 2006. Consistent across the sites, cannabis was the most widely used drug, with a range of 41 to 67% of detainees testing positive. Compared with the other eight DUMA sites, few detainees in Darwin tested positive to illicit drugs other than cannabis. With the exception of Darwin and Bankstown, a similar proportion of detainees tested positive to methylamphetamine across all sites. The largest variation was in the percentage testing positive to heroin. Four percent of male detainees in Elizabeth tested positive to heroin, compared with 32% in Footscray/Sunshine, while most sites returned 10% positive tests or less. The unusual percentage of positive heroin tests for Footscray/Sunshine reflects a reputation for drug dealing, particularly heroin,

which the Footscray area has acquired in recent years. Victoria Police recently established Project Reduction – in which police request a court order prohibiting an offender from entering the area – to combat the trade.

Babb, P. (2007). *Violent crime, disorder and criminal damage since the introduction of the Licensing Act 2003 (2nd edition)*. London: Research Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office.

Barclay, E., Donnermeyer, J. F., Scott, J., & Hogg, R. (Eds). (2007). *Crime in rural Australia*. Sydney: Federation Press.

Abstract

Contemporary rural crime is more varied and sophisticated than it once was. The new forms range from agricultural crimes, such as the theft of water designated for agricultural production, to environmental crimes such as the illegal dumping of waste. They take place side by side with 'traditional' rural crimes such as cattle duffing while 'urban' crimes such as drug and alcohol abuse and violent assaults are also prevalent, and on the rise. This publication covers all of these issues. It brings together leading academics who examine the major dimensions of crime and justice in rural and regional Australia including: the extent of rural crime; farm crime; violence; juvenile crime; policing; Indigenous crime and justice; crime prevention; drugs; fear of crime; and sentencing and punishment. It includes vignettes on rural policing and the stock squad from the perspectives of the NSW police. Divided into three main sections, the chapters of this book provide an overview of theory and methods, main contemporary issues and the administration of criminal justice in rural Australia.

Bean, P. (2004). *Drugs and crime* (2nd ed). Cullompton: Willan.

Bennett, T., & Holloway, K. (2005). *Understanding drugs, alcohol and crime*. Maidenhead: Open University Press.

Bennett, T., & Holloway, K. (2007). *Drug-crime connections*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Black, E., & Degenhardt, L. (2005). *Self-reported substance-related aggressive behaviour in the IDU sample, 2004*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

Intoxication due to the use of methamphetamine and alcohol has been associated with aggressive and violent behaviour. This bulletin presents findings from the 2004 IDRS Injecting Drug User Survey on self reported substance-related aggression. The survey found, among other things, that approximately one third of injecting drug users (IDU) reported becoming verbally aggressive and one sixth reported becoming physically aggressive following the use of a drug in the six months preceding interview. There were no significant gender differences. They also witnessed substantial levels of substance-related aggression among other individuals known to them in this time. The most commonly reported drugs after which aggression occurred were alcohol, methamphetamine (particularly ice), benzodiazepines and heroin. Participants reporting methamphetamine as their drug of choice were more likely to report becoming verbally and physically aggressive following the use of a drug. Younger IDU (i.e. those aged 18–24) were more likely to report aggressive behaviour. IDU who had been arrested in the past year were more likely to report substance-related aggression, as were IDU who reported committing a crime in the month preceding interview. These findings have implications for management and/or treatment of IDU who are regular methamphetamine users by both law enforcement and health service providers.

Black, E., & Degenhardt, L. (2005). Self-reported substance-related aggressive behaviour in the IDU sample, 2004. *Drug Trends Bulletin*, 1-3.

Boreham, R., Cronberg, A., Dollin, L., & Pudney, S. (2007). *The Arrestee Survey 2003–2006*. London: Research, Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office UK.

Abstract

The Arrestee Survey is the first nationally-representative survey of drugs and crime among individuals arrested in England and Wales. It provides a measurement of self reported drug misuse among a sample of individuals arrested in England and Wales. The link between drug and/or alcohol consumption and criminal offences leading to arrest is also examined, as are associations between self-reported drug use and wider offending behaviour. Three sweeps of the data have been collected in 2003–04, 2004–05 and 2005–06. This report presents the findings from the 2005–06 survey, as well as highlighting any significant changes in results over the three sweeps. Only statistically significant, and substantial, changes over time are included in this report. Any other apparently substantial differences in tables are not statistically significant and as such cannot be taken as showing real change.

Bowers, K. J., Johnson, S. D., & Hirschfield, A. (2004). The measurement of crime prevention intensity and its impact on levels of crime. *British Journal of Criminology*, 44(3), 419-440.

Braga, A. (2006). The crime prevention value of hot spots policing. *Psicothema*, 18(3), 630-637.

Abstract

This paper reviews the available research evidence on the effectiveness of hot spots policing programs in reducing crime and disorder. The research identified five randomised controlled experiments and four non-equivalent control group quasi-experiments evaluating the effects of hot spots policing interventions on crime. Seven of the nine selected evaluations reported noteworthy crime and disorder reductions. Meta-analyses of the randomised experiments revealed statistically significant mean effect sizes favoring hot spots policing interventions in reducing citizen calls for service in treatment places relative to control places. When immediate spatial displacement was measured, it was very limited and unintended crime prevention benefits were associated with the hot spots policing programs. The results of this review suggest that hot spots policing is an effective crime prevention strategy.

Brewer, R. D., & Swahn, M. H. (2005). Binge Drinking and Violence. *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, 294(5), 616-618.

Abstract

Binge drinking is a common risk behaviour in the United States throughout all life stages and is closely interwoven into the fabric of US society, affecting a variety of health outcomes. While binge drinking is related to a wide range of health and social problems, its association with injuries is among the most robust and imminent. The proportion of injury deaths in the United States that are attributable to alcohol consumption ranges from approximately 20% to 100%, depending on the type of injury. The strong connection between binge drinking and injuries is perhaps best characterised for motor vehicle crashes. Research findings support a strong connection between binge drinking and violence. Alcohol consumption is common among perpetrators of violent crimes in the United States, including those arrested for homicide (range, 28%–86%), assault (range, 24%–37%), robbery (range, 7%–72%), and sexual offences (range, 13%–60%).

Brock, D., & Walker, D. (2005). Rural policing and the drug problem: An examination of the influence of major metropolitan areas on drug offending in surrounding rural communities. *Police Journal*, 78(2), 129-146.

Bruno, R. (2007). *Benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid misuse and their relationship to crime: An examination of illicit prescription drug markets in Melbourne, Hobart and Darwin: Tasmanian report*. Hobart: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

This study examined the relationship between benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid misuse and crime in three select Australian jurisdictions (Victoria, Tasmania, Northern Territory) where there is evidence of illicit prescription pharmaceutical markets. This report focuses on the Tasmanian aspect of the study. While the primary focus of the study remains on law enforcement interests in relation to licit and illicit benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid markets, these are discussed in relation to the broader public health implications of supply reduction efforts in a harm minimisation framework. The primary aims of the study therefore were to: i) gain a greater understanding of illicit benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid marketplace dimensions and characteristics; ii) investigate the hypothesised relationship between benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid misuse and crime; iii) explore the implications for police and other frontline workers (e.g. accident and emergency staff, ambulance officers and health/youth workers) of emergent markets for benzodiazepines and pharmaceutical opioids; and iv) consider appropriate interventions to address both the law enforcement and health impacts of benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid misuse. A secondary broader aim of the research was to examine the nexus between prescribed pharmaceutical misuse, illicit prescription pharmaceutical markets, crime and health harms. The research demonstrated that misuse and injecting of benzodiazepines and pharmaceutical opioids has become entrenched among some groups of people who inject drugs in Tasmania. The findings suggest that the drugs are diverted to the black market and can be sold for considerable profit, and are relatively easy to obtain on the street. They also suggest criminal behaviour may be related to the dependence on, and the use of, prescription drugs. In addition, uninhibited, aggressive, and bizarre behaviour, and feelings of invincibility, were attributed to the drugs, in particular benzodiazepines.

Chikritzhs, T., Catalano, P., Pascal, R., & Henrickson, N. (2007). *Predicting alcohol-related harms from licensed outlet density: A feasibility study*. Hobart: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

This feasibility study has demonstrated the utility of using systematically recorded data to model relationships between licensed outlet density and alcohol-related harm in Western Australia. This report describes in detail how volume of wholesale alcohol purchase data can be used effectively to: identify existing associations; identify the size and direction of associations; estimate the likely impact that changes to licensed outlet density will have on levels of alcohol-related harms; and demonstrate the variability of relationships among regions. The results also concur with the overall findings from the research literature; that is, greater physical availability of alcohol is associated with higher levels of alcohol-related harms.

Nonetheless, it must be recognised that any model which attempts to estimate the impact of one variable on another will only be as accurate, sensitive and reliable as the data and assumptions upon which it is based. One of the main reasons for selecting Western Australia as a test case for this project was the relatively easy access to comprehensive alcohol consumption and alcohol-related harms data. Much of that which has been demonstrated in this report could not be achieved on a national scale given current gaps in data collection. This highlights a fundamental issue which needs to be addressed if work in this area is to move forward – access to data on alcohol purchases by licensed retail outlets.

Chilvers, M., & Weatherburn, D. (2003). The impact of heroin dependence on long-term robbery trends. *Crime and Justice Bulletin: Contemporary Issues in Crime and Justice*, (79), 1-12.

Abstract

This study reports the results of a time series analysis of the relationship between heroin use and robbery over the period 1966 to 2000 in NSW. A statistically significant relationship was found between these two variables, controlling for other potential causes of the increase in robbery, such as rising unemployment rates for males, a decreased likelihood of apprehension by police for robbery crimes, and a reduction in the likelihood of imprisonment for robbery. Using the time series modelling results, the elasticity between dependent heroin use and robbery was estimated; a 10 percent decrease in the annual number of heroin dependent users resulted in a 6 per cent decrease in robbery. The paper concludes on the basis of this and other evidence that policies designed to encourage more heroin users into methadone treatment or increase the price of heroin are likely to prove helpful in reducing or limiting the growth in robbery.

Commonwealth of Australia Parliamentary Joint Committee on the Australian Crime Commission. (2007). *Inquiry into the future impact of serious and organised crime on Australian society*. Canberra: Parliamentary Joint Committee on the Australian Crime Commission.

Abstract

Serious and organised crime covers a diverse range of criminal activities and includes such activities as the trafficking of people, identity theft, the importation, manufacture and distribution of illicit drugs, money laundering, bribery, and financial fraud. The duties of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on the Australian Crime Commission (ACC) require the committee to examine trends and changes in criminal activities, practices and methods and report to both houses of the parliament any change that the committee thinks desirable to the functions, structure, powers and procedures of the ACC. In December 2006, the committee initiated an inquiry into the future impact of serious and organised crime on Australian society. The terms of reference required the inquiry to have particular reference to: i) future trends in serious and organised crime activities, practices and methods and their impact on Australian society; ii) strategies for countering future serious and organised crime; iii) the economic cost of countering future organised crime at a national and state and territory level; and, iv) the adequacy of legislative and administrative arrangements, including the adequacy of cross-jurisdictional databases, to meet future needs. This report addresses the committee's terms of reference in eight chapters. The evidence given to the committee during its hearings on the nature and extent of organised crime in Australia has highlighted some shortcomings in national crime fighting capacities and has throughout the report identified a number of areas where further scrutiny by the committee may be warranted. The report makes 22 recommendations arising from the inquiry's findings.

Connolly, J. (2006). *Drugs and crime in Ireland*. Dublin: Health Research Board.

Crime and Misconduct Commission (2004). *Organised crime markets in Queensland: A strategic assessment*. Brisbane: Crime and Misconduct Commission.

Dawson, P. (2005). *Early Findings from the Prolific and Other Priority Offenders Evaluation*. London: Research, Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office UK.

Abstract

Research indicates that a small number of offenders are responsible for a disproportionately large amount of crime. The Prolific and other Priority Offenders (PPO) programme, which was implemented nationally on 6 September 2004, directs resources to this group of offenders. This DPR informs practitioners and other interested parties of the early findings from the national PPO evaluation.

Day, A., Howells, K., Heseltine, K., & Casey, S. (2003). Alcohol use and negative affect in the offence cycle. *Criminal Behaviour and Mental Health*, 13(1), 45-58.

Abstract

It is commonly acknowledged that, for many offenders, alcohol use is strongly associated with criminal behaviour. The belief held by many professionals that the two phenomena are associated, probably in a causal way, has led to the inclusion of alcohol use as a criminogenic need in many settings where rehabilitation programmes are used to reduce recidivism. However, the mechanisms and pathways involved in the alcohol-crime link remain poorly understood. This paper reviews the literature relating to alcohol-offending links and draws some inferences about the role of alcohol use as a criminogenic need in offender rehabilitation. It is proposed that the bi-directional relationship between alcohol use and negative affective states is important in understanding the offence cycle, and that deficits in self-regulation not only characterize both alcohol misuse and negative affect but are also implicated in the offending behaviour itself.

Deehan, A. (2004). The prevention of alcohol-related crime: Operationalising situational and environmental strategies. *Crime Prevention and Community Safety: An International Journal*, 6(1), 43-52.

Degenhardt, L., Conroy, E., Gilmour, S., & Collins, L. (2005). The effect of reduction in heroin supply in Australia upon drug distribution and acquisitive crime. *British Journal of Criminology*, 45(1), 2-24.

Diguisto, E., Shakeshaft, A., Ritter, A., Mattick, R., White, J., Lintzeris, N., et al. (2006). Effects of pharmacotherapies for opioid dependence on participants' criminal behaviour and expenditure on illicit drugs: An Australian national evaluation. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology*, 39(2), 171-189.

Abstract

Examines the relationship between illicit drug use, criminal behaviour and expenditure on illicit drugs among opioid-dependent individuals and includes an analysis of the data collected in pharmacotherapy trials.

Dingwall, G. (Ed). (2006). *Alcohol and Crime*. Leicester: Willan Publishing.

Abstract

Seeks to understand the nature of the connection between alcohol and crime, and the way the criminal justice system responds to the problem, providing a clear and accessible account and analysis of the subject. This book draws upon a wide range of sources and research findings, and also sets the subject within a broader comparative context.

Donnelly, N., & Snowball, L. (2006). Recent trends in property and drug-related crime in Kings Cross. *Crime and Justice Bulletin: Contemporary Issues in Crime and Justice*, (105), 1-8.

Abstract

Trends in property and drug-related crime in Kings Cross were examined over the period from mid-2002 (when the Sydney Medically Supervised Injecting Centre (MSIC) operations were extended) through to mid-2006. Consistent with the findings of the original evaluation of the impact of the MSIC on crime, it was found that theft and robbery offences showed a similar, predominantly decreasing pattern in Kings Cross as was the case throughout the rest of Sydney. Recorded cases of dealing/trafficking in narcotics declined in both Kings Cross and the rest of Sydney. Recorded cases of possession/use of narcotics have remained stable in Kings Cross, but have declined throughout the rest of Sydney. Recorded cases of using and trafficking in amphetamines have shown no significant increase in Kings Cross but have significantly increased throughout the rest of Sydney.

Recorded cases of possession/use of cocaine have increased in both Kings Cross and the rest of Sydney. Recorded cases of dealing and trafficking in cocaine briefly increased in Kings Cross (but not the rest of Sydney) but have since declined. The number of cocaine trafficking offences remains lower in Kings Cross than it was prior to the opening of the MSIC. There was a sharp increase in police 'move ons' in Kings Cross around the time the MSIC commenced operations in mid-2001. This change, however, probably reflects police efforts to prevent drug-related loitering rather than a real increase in drug-related loitering. It is concluded that the continued operation of the MSIC has not at this stage had an adverse impact on crime in Kings Cross.

Donnelly, N., Poynton, S., Weatherburn, D., Bamford, E., & Nottage, J. (2006). *Liquor outlet concentrations and alcohol-related neighbourhood problems*. Sydney: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research.

Abstract

This bulletin presents the results of research investigating the relationship between the concentration of licensed premises in a given area and perceptions of alcohol-related problems in that locale. For this purpose, a secondary analysis of the National Crime and Safety Survey (2002) was conducted using data from survey participants who resided in NSW. This investigation examined three outcomes: (1) reported problems with drunkenness in the neighbourhood, (2) reported problems with property damage in the neighbourhood and (3) assault victimisation in the home. Two measures of alcohol outlet concentration were constructed for this analysis and included as independent variables: (1) liquor outlet accessibility and (2) liquor outlet density. Multilevel modelling of these data showed that respondents who lived closer to liquor outlets were more likely to report problems in their neighbourhood from drunkenness and property damage, controlling for socio-demographic factors. The analysis also showed that respondents who lived in areas with a higher density of licensed premises were more likely to report problems in their neighbourhood from drunkenness, again controlling for socio-demographic factors. It was not possible to apply multilevel modelling to assess the relationship between domestic assault victimisation and either of the alcohol outlet concentration measures due to the relatively low number of assaults in the sample which were reported as having occurred at home. The implications of these findings for liquor licensing policy in NSW are discussed.

Donnelly, N., Scott, L., Poynton, S., Weatherburn, D., Shanahan, M., & Hansen, F. (2007). *Estimating the short-term cost of police time spent dealing with alcohol-related crime in NSW*. Hobart: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

It is well established that alcohol is an important situational risk factor for a number of crime types, such as violence, malicious damage to property, public disorder and dangerous driving. While there is evidence that alcohol is involved in about one-half of assault hospitalisations and one-third of road fatalities, the specific impact that such incidents place on police resources has been difficult to quantify. This study conducted an activity survey across a representative sample of NSW Police Force Local Area Commands. Activity surveys, conducted on a random sample of LACs for a limited time period, have the advantage of being accurate but much cheaper to conduct than a full audit of the entire police service over a prolonged period. The main aims were to estimate the percentage of police officers' time which is spent dealing with alcohol-related issues and to quantify the salary costs of this time. As well as being asked to record the type of alcohol-related incidents that were attended, police officers were asked to provide information about the time actually spent on the incident. The activity survey was designed to directly measure the profile of alcohol-related activities engaged in by police (both proactive and reactive) and the amount of time spent dealing with such incidents relative to other incident types. Dollar values were assigned to police time on the basis of each participating officer's hourly salary.

Duailibi, S., Ponicki, W. R., Grube, J. W., Pinsky, I., Laranjeira, R., & Raw, M. (2007). The effect of restricting opening hours on alcohol-related violence. *American Journal of Public Health, 97*(12), 2276-2280.

Abstract

This study investigated whether limiting the hours of alcoholic beverage sales in bars had an effect on homicides and violence against women in the Brazilian city of Diadema. The policy to restrict alcohol sales was introduced in July 2002 and prohibited on-premises alcohol sales after 11pm.

Elkadi, S., Dain, S., & Dick, S. (2006, May). *The profile of drug use and offending in young offenders in Victorian prisons*. Paper presented at the 5th International Conference on Drugs and Young People. Randwick, NSW.

Abstract

Young offenders are a significant group within the Victorian Prisons system. This conference paper outlines a study undertaken by Caraniche Pty Ltd for Corrections Victoria, to profile the drug use and offending patterns of male and female young adult offenders identified as medium to high risk alcohol and other drugs abusers within Victorian prisons. In addition, the clinical implications of the findings were discussed for management and treatment options. The prisons serviced include Barwon, Ararat, Langi Kal Kal and Lodden. All male and female offenders who were assessed by Corrections Victoria as being of medium to high risk of alcohol and other drugs abuse were referred to Carniche. Patterns of drug use were surveyed, with the result that the offending activity reflects the income generating activity; however, there is no information about which activity comes first, the drug use or the offending.

Englert, G. (2007). When a house is not a home: Asian operated hydroponic cannabis cultivation. *Australian Police Journal, 61*(1), 16-19.

Abstract

This paper examines the phenomenon of Asian operated hydroponic cannabis premises in New South Wales that rose dramatically between 2002 and 2006. It also identifies the policing options that were used to successfully combat this increase.

Finney, A. (2004). *Alcohol and sexual violence: Key findings from the research*. London: Home Office.

Foote, W., Wangmann, J., & Braaf, R. (2004). *Old crime, new modus operandi: Preventing drug and alcohol assisted sexual assault*. Sydney: Attorney General's Department of New South Wales.

Freeman, K., Jones, C., Weatherburn, D. J., Rutter, S., Spooner, C., & Donnelly, N. (2005). The impact of the Sydney Medically Supervised Injecting Centre (MSIC) on crime. *Drug and Alcohol Review, 24*(2), 173-184.

French, M. T., McCollister, K. E., Alexandre, P. K., Chitwood, D. D., & McCoy, C. B. (2004). Revolving roles in drug-related crime: The cost of chronic drug users as victims and perpetrators. *Journal of Quantitative Criminology, 20*(3), 217-241.

Fry, C., Smith, B., Bruno, R., O'Keefe, B., & Miller, P. G. (2007). *Benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid misuse and their relationship to crime: An examination of illicit prescription drug markets in Melbourne, Hobart and Darwin – National Overview Report*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

The National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund (NDLERF) sought tenders in 2002 for research to enhance the law enforcement sector's understanding of the structure and functioning of illicit drug markets in Australia. There was a particular focus on illicit markets for prescription pharmaceuticals, namely benzodiazepines and pharmaceutical opioids, and their misuse and impact on crime in Victoria, Tasmania and the Northern Territory, where there is evidence of illicit prescription pharmaceutical markets. This report presents a review of the literature, an overview of study methodology, key findings and jurisdiction-specific discussion points. The section outlining the key findings is structured according to the main study themes of market characteristics, diversion and links to crime, implications for police and other front line workers, and interventions.

Galvani, S. (2004). *Grasping the nettle: Alcohol and domestic violence*. London: Alcohol Concern.

Graham, K., Bernards, S., Osgood, D. W., & Wells, S. (2006). Bad nights or bad bars? Multi-level analysis of environmental predictors of aggression in late-night large-capacity bars and clubs. *Addiction*, 101(11), 1569-1580.

Abstract

The aim of this study was to clarify the environmental predictors of bar-room aggression by differentiating relationships due to nightly variations versus across bar variations, frequency versus severity of aggression and patron versus staff aggression.

Male and female pairs of researcher/observers conducted 1334 observations in 118 large capacity (> 300) bars and clubs in Toronto, Canada. The observers independently rated aspects of the environment (e.g. crowding) at every visit and wrote detailed narratives of each incident of aggression that occurred. Measures of severity of aggression for the visit were calculated by aggregating ratings for each person in aggressive incidents.

The study found that although bivariate analyses confirmed the significance of most environmental predictors of aggression identified in previous research, multivariate analyses identified the following key visit-level predictors (controlling for bar-level relationships): rowdiness/permissive environment and people hanging around after closing predicted both frequency and severity of aggression; sexual activity, contact and competition and people with two or more drinks at closing time predicted frequency but not severity of aggression; lack of staff monitoring predicted more severe patron aggression, while having more and better coordinated staff predicted more severe staff aggression. Intoxication of patrons was significantly associated with more frequent and severe patron aggression at the bar level (but not at the visit level) in the multivariate analyses and negatively associated with severity of staff aggression at the visit level.

The results demonstrate clearly the importance of the immediate environment (not just the type of bar or characteristics of usual patrons) and the importance of specific environmental factors, including staff behaviour, in predicting both frequency and severity of aggression.

Griggs, W., Caldicott, D., Pfeiffer, J., Edwards, N., Pearce, A., & Davey, M. A. (2007). *The impact of drugs on road crashes, assaults and other trauma: A prospective trauma toxicology study*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

The primary objective of this study was to determine the prevalence and patterns of use of specific recreational drugs in all patients with injuries requiring assessment by a trauma team at the Royal Adelaide Hospital over a one-year period. It also aimed to examine the correlation between drug use and mechanism, pattern, and severity of injury in patients presenting to the Royal Adelaide Hospital following a motor vehicle accident, and the epidemiological and demographic patterns associated with drug use and trauma. The study was conducted over a period of 12 months, and involved the identification and quantitative analysis of blood samples for the presence of ethanol, opiates, methadone, amphetamines, benzodiazepines, cannabinoids and cocaine. The results were compared with each patient's prescribed medications, thereby yielding an estimate as to the prevalence of recreational drug use in patients presenting to hospital following a trauma. This study is one of the largest of its type ever completed, recruiting 2,127 patients from two trauma groups and one control group. Its findings provide compelling evidence of the incidence and severity of drug- and alcohol-related trauma in South Australia. They also have significant implications for health, law enforcement, policy-making and research in relation to the recognition of the impact of drugs on a range of trauma. Patients who are positive for alcohol and other drugs (AODs) create an additional, and presumably otherwise avoidable, financial burden on the health system. Significantly, the findings also add to the growing evidence base for trauma related to drug driving. The key findings of the study confirm that alcohol remains the most common recreational drug found in trauma patients. Other recreational drugs, especially cannabis, are also associated with trauma. There is evidence to suggest that use of recreational drugs before/while driving is associated with increased risk of injury occurrence and severity.

Gruenewald, P. J., Freisthler, B., Remer, L., LaScala, E. A., & Treno, A. J. (2006). Ecological models of alcohol outlets and violent assaults: Crime potentials and geospatial analysis. *Addiction*, 101(5), 666-677.

Abstract

Empirical tests of the relationships between alcohol outlets and violence are generally conducted with statistical controls for correlates related to characteristics of people and the places in which they live. Crime potentials theory asserts that certain subpopulations are disposed to participate in criminal activities (population potentials) and certain neighborhoods are more likely to be places where crimes occur (place potentials). The current study assesses the degree to which measures of the different geographic distributions of these potentials contribute to violent crime.

Cross-sectional data on hospital discharges for violent assaults were obtained for residents of 1637 zip code areas in California. Assault rates were related to measures of population and place characteristics using spatial statistical models corrected for spatial autocorrelated error.

The study found that the rates of assault were related to population and place characteristics within zip code areas, and with characteristics of populations living in adjacent zip code areas. Assault rates were greater in densely populated, poor minority urban areas with greater residential instability. Assault rates were also greater in zip code areas adjacent to densely populated urban areas. Assault rates were related significantly to local densities of off-premise alcohol retail establishments, not bars. However, densities of bars moderated substantially effects related to local population characteristics. Bars were related significantly to violence in unstable poor minority areas and in rural middle-income areas of the state.

The study concluded that population and place characteristics are associated with rates of violence across spatial areas. Alcohol outlets directly affect and moderate potentials for violence associated with socio-demographic groups.

Haines, B., & Graham, K. (2005). Violence prevention in licensed premises. In T. R. Stockwell, P. J. Gruenewald, J. W. Toumbourou & W. Loxley (Eds.), *Preventing harmful substance use: The evidence base for policy and practice*. (pp. 163-176). Chichester, UK: John Wiley and Sons.

Abstract

Licensed premises are associated with a significantly increased risk of aggression and violence. This chapter examines the risk factors for violence in licensed premises. These include high levels of intoxication, environmental sources of frustration or irritation, socially permissive environments, aggressive patrons, and inexperienced or violent staff. It then investigates various strategies and interventions used to reduce alcohol-related violence in licensed premises, and their corresponding strengths and weaknesses. These include broad-based community interventions, Responsible Beverage Service programs, local accords or agreements on appropriate industry practices, programs run to train staff in techniques for better managing aggression and other problem behaviour, interventions to reduce environmental risks, changes to industry regulations, and targeted policing approaches. Many of these interventions, especially broad-based community interventions, have shown significant reductions in violence. The authors argue, however, that rigorous evaluations have been rare, and a wide range of strategies showing promising results are worthy of further study.

Hamilton, A. (2006). City tries to ban drinkers from standing at the bar [Electronic Version]. *Times Online*, August 2. Retrieved 9 July 2007 from <http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/article697031.ece>.

Hobbs, R. (2003). *Alcohol and the night-time economy*. London: Alcohol Concern.

Hodgkinson, S., & Tilley, N. (2007). Policing anti-social behaviour: Constraints, dilemmas and opportunities. *The Howard Journal*, 46(4), 385-400.

Abstract

Anti-social behaviour (ASB) has received increasing political and media attention. It is of great concern to the public. The police are under pressure to tackle it, in particular using anti-social behaviour orders (ASBOs). There is currently little hard data on what is effective. This article presents findings from an evaluation of an ASB Taskforce, which increasingly focused on using ASBOs. Whilst there is evidence of a citywide reduction in perceived ASB, there is none that reported levels have fallen. The difficulties facing the police are discussed. It is concluded that a broader approach to the problem would be more promising.

Home Office, UK. (2007). *Key messages for the Drug Interventions Programme*. London: Home Office UK.

Abstract

The Drug Interventions Programme is a key part of the Government's strategy for tackling drugs and reducing crime. And it's working: drug-related crime has fallen by a fifth since the Programme started and record numbers of people are being helped with their drug misuse. Introduced in 2003, with new elements having been phased in each year since, the Programme aims to get adult drug-misusing offenders out of crime and into treatment and other support. Some interventions operate right across England and Wales, while additional "intensive" elements operate in those areas with the highest acquisitive crime.

Homel, R. J., Carvolth, R., Hauritz, M., McIlwain, G., & Teague, R. (2004). Making licensed venues safer for patrons: What environmental factors should be the focus of interventions? *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 23(1), 19-29.

Huckle, T., Pledger, M., & Casswell, S. (2006). Trends in alcohol-related harms and offences in a liberalised alcohol environment. *Addiction*, *101*(2), 232-240.

Abstract

The aim of this project was to assess alcohol-related harms and offences in New Zealand from 1990 to 2003, a period of alcohol policy liberalisation, that included the lowering of the purchase age from 20 to 18 years in 1999.

Time trend analyses were carried out on routinely collected data for prosecutions for driving with excess alcohol; alcohol-involved vehicle crashes (all and fatal) and prosecutions for disorder offences. These were carried out separately for those aged 14–15, 16–17, 18–19, 20–24 and 25 years and over. Measurements included rates of: prosecutions for driving with excess alcohol (1990–2003); rates of alcohol-involved vehicle crashes (all and fatal) (1990–2003); and rates of prosecutions for disorder offences (1994–2003).

The study found that the alcohol policy liberalisation resulted in positive trends in the rates of prosecutions for disorder in the 16–17, 18–19, 20–24 and 25 + age groups; with 18–19-year-olds and 16–17-year-olds having the largest rates and largest positive trend in rates. For 16–17-year-olds, there was a positive trend in the rates of prosecutions for excess breath alcohol. Negative trends in rates were found for alcohol-related crashes (all and fatal) among all age groups. Negative trends for those over 16–17 years were found for prosecutions for driving with excess breath alcohol (this was prior to the lowering of the purchase age).

Further, the lowering of the minimum purchase age coincided with an increase in the trend of alcohol-related crashes for 18–19-year-olds; the next largest increase was among the 20–24-year-olds (all other age groups also increased but at a much lower rate). A similar result was found for driving with excess alcohol for those aged 18–19 (and those aged 20–24 years). An increase in the rates of prosecutions for disorder offences occurred for the 14–15-year-old group following the lowering of the purchase age.

The study concluded that the liberalisation of alcohol throughout the 1990s may have influenced younger people more, as reflected in increases in their disorder offences and drink driving. The lowering of the minimum purchase age may have led to an increase in drink-driving among the 18–19-year-olds (those directly affected by the change in purchase age).

Hughes, K., Anderson, Z., Morleo, M., & Bellis, M. A. (2008). Alcohol, nightlife and violence: The relative contributions of drinking before and during nights out to negative health and criminal justice outcomes. *Addiction*, *103*(1), 60-65.

Abstract

Explores the differences in alcohol consumption and negative nightlife experiences between young people who drink prior to attending city nightlife venues and those who do not drink until reaching bars and nightclubs by conducting a cross-sectional survey of 380 young people (aged 18–35 years) in bars and nightclubs in a large city centre in the North-west of England. An anonymous questionnaire explored participants' basic demographics; frequency of utilising nightlife; quantities of alcohol consumed prior to and during a typical night out in the city; and negative experiences in the city's nightlife in the previous year [fighting, being verbally abused, being sexually molested (e.g. groped) and being too drunk to walk]. Participants who reported drinking prior to attending nightlife (e.g. at their own or a friend's home) reported significantly higher total alcohol consumption over a night out than those not drinking until reaching bars and nightclubs. Over a quarter (26.5%) of female and 15.4% of male alcohol consumption over a night out occurred prior to attending nightlife. Individuals who drink before going out were over four times more likely to report drinking >20 units on a usual night out and 2.5 times more likely to have been involved in a fight in the city's nightlife during the previous 12 months. Measures to tackle drunkenness and alcohol-related violence in nightlife should expand beyond those targeted

solely at nightlife environments. Continued disparities in pricing and policing of alcohol between on- and off-licensed premises may increase at-home drinking prior to nights out and alcohol-related problems in residential areas.

International Center for Alcohol Policies. (2008). *Alcohol and Violence: Exploring Patterns and Responses*. Washington DC: International Center for Alcohol Policies.

Jansen, K. L., & Theron, L. (2006). Ecstasy (MDMA), methamphetamine, and date rape (drug-facilitated sexual assault): A consideration of the issues. *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*, 38(1), 1-12.

Abstract

The term “date rape drug” has traditionally been applied by the media to powerful sedatives, such as gamma hydroxybutyrate (GHB) and flunitrazepam (Rohypnol), which can render a person unconscious and hence unable to resist and/or recall an assault. However, some law enforcement agents and others have recently obtained convictions by arguing that the empathy-generating and sensual effects of MDMA, and an occasional increase in disinhibition and sexual desire linked with methamphetamine use, remove a person’s ability to give a reasoned consent, turning the person into “a helpless slave” to their own sexual desires and those of the alleged perpetrator. The argument holds that the victim becomes part of the assault because they may appear to be cooperating and colluding with activity which they would not have consented to without taking these drugs. This interpretation of the term “date rape” has been fed by data that sometimes finds MDMA and amphetamines in samples taken from sexual assault victims, and hence these prosecutions sometimes rely on expert testimony from toxicologists, pathologists and police officers rather than psychologists and psychiatrists who are expert in the human effects of these drugs. Some of those in the latter group have dismissed claims that MDMA is an aphrodisiac or a date rape drug as myths propagated by the media. In this article, these arguments and their respective strengths and weaknesses will be examined to assist professionals and others who may become involved in these cases.

Johnson, H. (2004). *Drugs and crime: A study of incarcerated female offenders*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Johnson, H. (2006). Concurrent drug and alcohol dependency and mental health problems among incarcerated women. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology*, 39(2), 190-217.

Abstract

Research suggests that the determinants and pathways of substance use and mental health problems differ for women and men in important ways and therefore women’s experiences merit special attention. The 2003 Drug Use Careers of Offenders (DUCO) female study is used in this article to examine the prevalence, patterns and predictors of drug and alcohol dependency and mental health problems among incarcerated women. Over half of the women in this study had concurrent substance dependencies and mental health problems in the six months prior to arrest. Factors associated with having mental health problems include past experiences of sexual and emotional abuse, prescription drug use, drug dependency, and concurrent drug and alcohol dependency. Drug dependency was associated with involvement in crime or sex work to earn a living, early exposure to drug problems in the family of origin, use of prescription drugs, previous adult prison, and mental health problems. Alcohol dependency was associated with Indigenous status and physical abuse. The results of this study can contribute to treatment planning for women offenders. The finding that repeated admissions to prison is a predictor of drug dependency suggests that identification and treatment of drug problems is frequently absent, ineffective or not suited to the particular needs of women.

Johnson, H. (2006). Drug use by incarcerated women offenders. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 25(5), 433-437.

Johnson, H. (2006). *Factors associated with drug and alcohol dependency among women in prison*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

The Drug Use Careers of Offenders (DUCO) project, conducted by the Australian Institute of Criminology, aims to contribute empirical evidence about the interaction between drug use and criminal offending. A total of 470 women incarcerated in six jurisdictions in Australia were interviewed for the female component of the DUCO project. This study examines illegal drug use prior to arrest and the correlates of drug use among those incarcerated women. Regular use of illegal drugs in the six months prior to arrest was reported by 62% of offenders and 39% reported multiple drug use. Indigenous women reported higher rates of cannabis use while non-Indigenous women had higher rates of heroin, amphetamines and benzodiazepines as well as multiple drug use. Multivariate analysis identified the following statistically significant predictors of regular drug use prior to arrest: age, marital status, not having children, early exposure to drug problems among family members, violent victimisation as an adult, earning an income primarily from crime or sex work and using amphetamines, benzodiazepines or morphine on prescription. Additional factors predicting multiple drug use were low education, non-Indigenous status, having mental health problems and having been in juvenile detention. These results suggest that drug treatment that fails to identify and respond to some of the antecedents of drug use such as mental health problems and the effects of violent victimisation may result in higher rates of drug use relapse and lower success upon release from prison.

Jones, C., Weatherburn, D. J., Freeman, K., & Matthews, R. (2005). *Psycho-stimulant use, health and criminal activity among injecting heroin users*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

The present research sought to address three questions of relevance to illicit drug policy:

- (1) What effect do the perceived price, purity and availability of heroin have on (a) heroin use and (b) heroin expenditure?
 - (2) What effect does the perceived risk of 'scoring', perceived 'hassle' associated with scoring and amount of contact with police have on (a) heroin use and (b) heroin expenditure?
 - (3) What differences are there in terms of adverse health and behavioural outcomes between intravenous drug users (IDUs) who use heroin only and IDUs who use a combination of heroin and psycho-stimulant drugs, such as cocaine and methamphetamine?
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Keene, J. (2005). A case-linkage study of the relationship between drug misuse, crime, and psychosocial problems in a total criminal justice population. *Addiction Research and Theory*, 13(5), 489-502.

Kennedy, O. (2006, September). *Homelands Partnership*. Paper presented at the Victims of Crime NT conference: 'Positive ways: An Indigenous say', Marrara, NT.

Abstract

This paper outlines the police-led Homelands Partnership, which was established to address the historical problem of homelessness in Cairns, and the related issues including public drunkenness, anti-social behaviours, criminal acts, low feelings of safety by the public of Cairns, as well as poor perception by the people of Cairns that police and government are unable to address associated crime issues in the CBD. The identified homeless are predominantly Indigenous persons who become displaced from their surrounding communities after arriving in Cairns for various reasons,

including medical treatment or release from jail, and then find they no longer have the means or motivation to return home. A multi-agency partnership with the police as the primary agency, the project addresses law and order issues through integrated approaches and strategies by way of a whole of government approach in partnership with businesses and the people of Cairns.

Kevin, M. (2005). Offenders with drug and alcohol dependencies. In S. O'Toole & S. Eyland (Eds.), *Corrections Criminology* (pp. 145-150). Leichhardt, NSW: Hawkins Press.

Abstract

On arrival to prison in New South Wales, half of all prisoners reportedly experience drug withdrawal syndrome and on any given day more than one in ten prisoners receive some form of drug substitution therapy for their drug problem. After discussing the links between drug abuse and offending, this chapter describes the findings from a biennial data collection which is conducted in NSW on a sample of about to be released prisoners on a range of drug related measures. The findings show that drug use prevalence rates and frequency levels decline with imprisonment, that most prisoners who share injecting equipment clean the equipment with water and bleach, and that a sizeable proportion of drug users in the prison system seek treatment. The chapter also describes drug treatment services in NSW prisons, and discusses the challenges of prison drug strategy.

Lennings, C. J., Copeland, J., & Howard, J. (2003). Substance use patterns of young offenders and violent crime. *Aggressive Behaviour*, 29(5), 414-422.

Abstract

The use of alcohol is a significant predictor of the involvement of young offenders in violent crime. This study found that in a sample of 300 incarcerated juveniles in New South Wales, more than 70% admitted to violent crime. Detainees from an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander culture were less likely than other detainees to be involved in violent crime. The substances most associated with violent crime were alcohol, followed by cocaine. However, when the likelihood that the young person has initiated violence as a response to alcohol or other substances is introduced into the equation, the direct effects for alcohol and cocaine predicting engagement in violent crime disappear. The Goldstein hypothesis that the effects of a substance directly facilitate violence, thereby accounting for the relationship between substances of use and violent crime, was supported.

Lennings, C. J., Kenny, D., & Howard, J. P. (2007). The relationship between substance abuse and delinquency in female adolescents in Australia. *Psychiatry, Psychology and Law*, 14(1), 100-110.

Abstract

Over the last two decades young women have been increasing their representation in the juvenile justice system in Australia. Most young women are not, however, incarcerated and investigations into the correlates of female offending have largely been undertaken on small samples of incarcerated girls. This study reports on a review of seven studies of young offenders, two of which involve relatively large samples of girls in treatment or on community orders. The analysis finds that girls use illicit drugs at least as much, if not more than boys, and have similar patterns of alcohol use. Considerable variation in drug use for substances other than marijuana and alcohol is observed between the samples, and drug use patterns appear sensitive to the time and place of the survey. Girls present with much higher levels of psychopathology, although data from the treatment sample indicate that such psychopathology settles quickly if young girls can be retained in treatment. In addition, girls present with much more concerning backgrounds of abuse, although girls tend to rate their families of origin, if anything, more beneficently than do boys. A complicated pattern of interaction of family dysfunction, mental health concerns, and abuse is mediated by gender.

Livingston, M., Chikritzhs, T., & Room, R. (2007). Changing the density of alcohol outlets to reduce alcohol-related problems. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 26, 557-566.

Abstract

Increasingly, it seems, legal and political debates regarding the granting of new liquor licences are turning to the issue of whether the number and density of alcohol outlets makes a difference in rates of alcohol consumption and alcohol-related harm. But what is the state of the evidence on this question? In this Harm Reduction Digest: Livingston, Chikritzhs and Room review the research literature on the effects of density of alcohol sales outlets on alcohol consumption and alcohol-related problems; suggest a new way of conceptualising the relationships; and discuss the implications for reducing alcohol-related harm.

Loxley, W. (2007). *Benzodiazepine use and harms among police detainees in Australia*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

This paper investigates self-reported prevalence, patterns and potential harms of benzodiazepine use in a sample of adult police detainees, using data from the Drug Use Monitoring in Australia (DUMA) program for the period 1999 to 2005. Of the sample, 15 percent had used illegal benzodiazepines in the previous 12 months, and around 13 percent had used prescribed benzodiazepines in the previous fortnight. The extent of self-reported benzodiazepine dependence was much lower than that for heroin, and similar to that for amphetamines. There is evidence of use of benzodiazepines in conjunction with other drugs, particularly heroin and amphetamines, which indicates a greater risk of harms, notably heroin overdose. Although these are preliminary findings only, they point to the value of further analysis to reveal more complex patterns of behaviour and use. For the relatively small number of people in contact with the criminal justice system whose only illegal drug use is of benzodiazepines, the results suggest the need to ensure that they have access to the treatment and other interventions available to the much larger group who use and are dependent on multiple drugs, notably heroin and amphetamines.

Loxley, W., Toumbourou, J., Stockwell, T., Haines, B., Scott, K., Godfey, C., Waters, E., Patton, G., Fordham, R., Gray, D., Marshall, J., Ryder, D., Saggors, S., Sanci, L., & Williams, J. (2004). *The Prevention of Substance Use, Risk and Harm in Australia: A Review of the Evidence*. Perth: National Drug Research Institute & the Centre for Adolescent Health.

Makkai, T., & Payne, J. (2005). Illicit drug use and offending histories: A study of male incarcerated offenders in Australia. *Probation Journal*, 52(2), 153-168.

Abstract

Utilising the self-reported offending and drug use histories of over 2000 incarcerated male prisoners from four Australian jurisdictions, offenders were categorised into different offending typologies based on lifetime criminal behaviour. Eight different crime types were developed and offenders' reported use of four drugs – cannabis, amphetamines, heroin and cocaine – was examined. The analysis found that the type and level of illicit drug use varied across the different types of offenders. Of those who had used drugs, the rates of poly-drug use were high. Furthermore, most drug using offenders, regardless of crime type, were on average more likely to commit minor offending prior to the onset of illicit drug use. The extent to which offenders attributed their criminal careers to drug use also varied. This article highlights that interventions aimed at drug use alone will have only a limited impact on reducing the likelihood of re-offending.

Manzoni, P., Fischer, B., & Rehm, J. (2007). Local drug-crime dynamics in a Canadian multi-site sample of untreated opioid users. *Canadian Journal of Criminology and Criminal Justice*, 49(3), 341-374.

Abstract

This multi-site study analysed self-reported involvement in property crime, drug dealing and sex work, across five Canadian cities, among a sample of 677 illicit opioid and other drug users outside of treatment. First, we assessed drug-use patterns and the extent of illegal income-generating behaviour for each city. We then analysed the factors and city interactions contributing to the engagement in the respective criminal activity including drug use patterns, socio-economic characteristics and other illegal activities. With this approach we explored city-specific patterns of crime prediction, thus we identified local drug-crime associations. The study sample was recruited by outreach and snowball methods and assessed by standardised study protocols. Findings revealed substantial differences between the cities regarding both the extent and frequency of illegal activities. In regard to local differences, multiple logistic regression models revealed that crack use was strongly associated with property crime in Toronto, while cocaine use was strongly related with sex work in Montreal and Quebec City. This evidence points to the local dynamics of drug cultures which are related to specific criminal activities. Implications for further research and intervention efforts are discussed.

Matrix Knowledge Group. (2007). *The illicit drug trade in the United Kingdom*. London: Research Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office UK.

Matthews, S., Brasnett, L., & Smith, J. (2006). *Underage drinking: Findings from the 2004 Offending, Crime and Justice Survey*. London: Research, Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office UK.

Abstract

The Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy for England (Cabinet Office, 2004) highlighted the costs to society of alcohol-related crime, disorder and antisocial behaviour. Key aims of the strategy are to reduce alcohol-related crime and disorder and to tackle the minority who consume and sell alcohol irresponsibly. This report presents findings from the 2004 Offending, Crime and Justice Survey (OCJS) which is a nationally representative self-report offending survey of 10 to 25 year-olds which also includes questions on alcohol consumption. The 2004 OCJS predates the onset of the Government's Alcohol Misuse Enforcement Campaign aimed at tackling alcohol-related crime and disorder including underage alcohol sales. This paper is specifically focused on the results for those aged 10 to 17 years (n=3,172). It explores both the prevalence and nature of underage drinking and the relationship between alcohol consumption and offending among young people.

Mazerolle, L., Soole, D., & Rombouts, S. (2006). Street-level drug law enforcement: A meta-analytical review. *Journal of Experimental Criminology*, 2(4), 409-435.

Abstract

Our paper presents the results of a meta-analytical review of street level drug law enforcement. We conducted a series of meta-analyses to compare and contrast the effectiveness of four types of drug law enforcement approaches, including community-wide policing, problem-oriented/partnership approaches that were geographically focused, hotspots policing and standard, unfocused law enforcement efforts. We examined the relative impact of these different crime control tactics on street-level drug problems as well as associated problems such as property crime, disorder and violent crime. The results of the meta-analyses, together with an examination of forest plots, reveal that problem-oriented policing and geographically-focused interventions involving cooperative partnerships between police and third parties tend to be more effective at controlling drug problems than community-wide policing efforts that are unfocused and spread out across a community. But geographically focused and community-wide drug law enforcement interventions

that leverage partnerships are more effective at dealing with drug problems than traditional, law enforcement-only interventions. Our results suggest that the key to successful drug law enforcement lies in the capacity of the police to forge productive partnerships with third parties rather than simply increasing police presence or intervention (e.g., arrests) at drug hotspots.

McKetin, R., McLaren, J., Riddell, S., & Robins, L. (2006). The relationship between methamphetamine use and violent behaviour. *Crime and Justice Bulletin: Contemporary Issues in Crime and Justice*, (97), 1-16.

Abstract

The current bulletin assesses whether there is any relationship between the increasing assault rate in NSW seen over the past decade and increasing methamphetamine use. During this time, there have been several changes to methamphetamine use patterns that could have contributed to an increase in methamphetamine related problems, such as violent behaviour. There is currently insufficient evidence to infer a direct causal link between methamphetamine use and violence, but there is considerable evidence that the two entities are related. The strongest evidence for a relationship between methamphetamine use and violence is in the context of methamphetamine-induced psychosis. In this context, violence is likely to be related to persecutory delusions and perceived threat. There is also experimental evidence that chronic use of the drug increases the risk of violent behaviour, and a proportion of chronic methamphetamine users report problems controlling violent behaviour. Despite this evidence, it is not clear whether violent behaviour among chronic methamphetamine users is due to methamphetamine use per se or co-occurring factors (e.g. alcohol use, psychiatric status, personality, lifestyle associated with illicit drug use). Acute intoxication with methamphetamine alone does not appear to lead to violent behaviour, but it may enhance aggression in someone who is otherwise provoked. In conclusion, there is currently insufficient empirical data to estimate whether, or to what extent, methamphetamine use has increased assaults in NSW. Existing evidence suggests that methamphetamine use is likely to have a relatively minor impact on the assault rate in NSW in comparison with other factors.

McMurrin, M. (2003). Alcohol and crime. *Criminal Behaviour and Mental Health*, 13(1), 1-4.

McNally, I. M. (2004). Causal factors in weekend city center aggression. *Journal of Police and Criminal Psychology*, 19(1), 45-57.

Messner, S. F., Galea, S., Tardiff, K. J., Tracy, M., Bucciarelli, A., Piper, T. M., et al. (2007). Policing, drugs, and the homicide decline in New York City in the 1990s. *Criminology*, 45(2), 385-414.

Abstract

This research reassesses the role of policing and drugs in the sharp homicide decline in New York City in the 1990s. Drawing on theoretical arguments about "broken windows" policing and lethal violence associated with the diffusion of crack cocaine, we estimate the effects of measures of misdemeanor arrests and cocaine prevalence on homicide rates with pooled, cross-sectional time-series data for 74 New York City precincts over the 1990–1999 period. The results of mixed regression models reveal a significant negative effect of changes in misdemeanor arrests and a significant positive effect of changes in cocaine prevalence on changes in total homicide rates. Additional analyses of homicide disaggregated by weapon indicate that the effects of misdemeanor arrests and cocaine prevalence emerge for gun-related but not for non-gun-related homicides. Overall, the research generally supports influential interpretations of the homicide decline in New York City but also raises questions about underlying mechanisms that warrant more inquiry in future research.

Milner, L., & McGregor, K. (2004). *Cocaine use among a sample of police detainees*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Mistral, W., Velleman, R., Mastache, C., & Templeton, L. (2007). *UKCAPP: An evaluation of 3 UK Community Alcohol Prevention Programs*. Mental Health R&D Unit University of Bath and Avon & Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust.

Abstract

In the UK, alcohol-related harm has become a community concern over recent years, mirrored by an increase in community initiatives to tackle problems at a local level. In 2003-04 the Alcohol Education and Research Council prioritised community action to reduce alcohol-related harm, and part-funded three projects in the cities of Glasgow, Cardiff and Birmingham. The projects became jointly known as the UK Community Alcohol Prevention Programme (UKCAPP), and aimed to reduce alcohol-related harm and disorder. The projects were influenced by the approach championed by Holder (e.g. 2000, 2004), that efforts be directed toward policy-makers in positions to influence social, economic, and environmental structures in the local environment. In Glasgow and Cardiff the projects were city-centre focused, building on long-standing community partnerships. The Birmingham project was undertaken on a transport corridor across three southern suburbs, where community action had to be developed. The AERC commissioned the Mental Health Research and Development Unit to ascertain the extent to which the projects adhered to the Holder model: identify barriers and solutions to implementation; draw conclusions about what worked and how; and combine individual project evaluations into a whole. Partnerships and collaborations were crucial to all interventions, providing financial and human resources beyond the ability of any single agency, and without which no substantive multi-faceted interventions to combat alcohol-related harm could be undertaken. Partnerships included the local health authority, community safety partnership, alcohol and drug teams, police, licensing forums, business, the media, and general public

Mistral, W., Velleman, R., Templeton, L., & Mastache, C. (2006). Local action to prevent alcohol problems: Is the UK Community Alcohol Prevention Programme the best solution? *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 17(4), 278-284.

Moffatt, S., Weatherburn, D., & Donnelly, N. (2005). *What caused the recent drop in property crime?* Sydney: Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research.

Moore, S., Shepherd, J., Perham, N., & Cusens, B. (2007). The prevalence of alcohol intoxication in the night-time economy. *Alcohol and Alcoholism*, 42(6), 629-634.

Abstract

The aim of this project was to assess the prevalence of alcohol misuse in the night-time economy. A random sample of 893 people were interviewed and breathalysed in 24 repeated, cross-sectional surveys over the course of a year in the city centre streets of a European capital city between 11.00 PM and 3.00 AM.

The results indicated that the median blood alcohol concentration (BAC) in men was 0.13% (min = 0%, max = 0.33%) and in women was 0.09% (min = 0%, max = 0.27%). These were below the threshold used to indicate 'at risk BAC' (0.15%; for men $t = 9.32$, $P < 0.001$ and for women $t = 17.54$, $P < 0.001$). Men provided higher BACs than women ($t = 7.17$, $P < 0.001$). The relationship between age and BAC for men described an inverted 'u', peaking at 29 years, but for women the relationship was positive and linear. BAC was inversely related to the ability to remember and report the evening's consumption ($z = 4.76$, $P < 0.001$). Reported consumption predicted only 12% ($P < 0.001$) of the variance in BAC for men and 10% ($P < 0.001$) for women.

The study concluded that 'at risk' intoxication was apparent only in a minority of drinkers, who were mostly employed men in their late twenties, but a third of men and half of women had consumed more than the recommended daily limit. The probability for respondents to recall past consumption diminished as BAC increased, suggesting self-report data are not suitable to assess consumption in heavy drinkers. Breath analysis surveys are valuable in understanding alcohol misuse in the night-time economy.

Mouzos, J., & Borzycki, M. (2006). *Weapons, drugs and crime: The Australian experience*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Mouzos, J., & Smith, L. (2007). Illicits and crime: Recent trends. *Of Substance*, 5, 21.

Abstract

This article describes the activities of the Drug Use Monitoring in Australia (DUMA) program, which is managed by the Australian Institute of Criminology. Monitored on a quarterly basis, the program collects both questionnaire data and urine samples from police detainees. The samples are analysed for a range of drugs, while the questionnaire explores both use of and dependency on illicit drugs. Trends from the 2006 DUMA annual report are also discussed.

Mouzos, J., & Smith, L. (2007). *Partner violence among a sample of police detainees*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

Using data from the Drug Use Monitoring in Australia (DUMA) program, this paper explores involvement in intimate partner violence, and provides first-time results from face-to-face interviews with a group of 1,597 police detainees. The study found that the levels of intimate partner violence are much higher among this group (49%) than is found from general population surveys. More than two-thirds of the detainees who were involved in partner violence reported being both a victim and a perpetrator in the past 12 months. This is consistent with other criminological research that finds that a large proportion of offenders often report having been victims of crime. Factors found to be significant risk markers for detainees' involvement in partner violence included prior arrest, drug and alcohol dependency, having dependent children, and experiencing physical abuse as a child. Although a greater percentage of female than male detainees reported being involved in partner violence, once these other risk factors were controlled for, gender was not found to be a significant risk marker among this sample. The paper discusses the policy implications of the findings, particularly the need for early intervention with at-risk families and where drug and alcohol dependency issues are emerging.

Mouzos, J., Hind, N., Smith, L., & Adams, K. (2007). *Drug use monitoring in Australia: 2006 annual report on drug use among police detainees*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

The Drug Use Monitoring in Australia (DUMA) program, established in 1999, is a quarterly collection of information from police detainees in seven sites (police stations or watch-houses) across Australia. In 2006, the number of sites increased to nine. There are two parts to the information collected: a questionnaire, which is conducted with a trained interviewer independent from the police, and a urine sample, which is tested for six different classes of drugs. Information collected from the questionnaire includes basic demographic data, drug use history, drug market information, treatment history and information on prior contact with the criminal justice system. The nine DUMA sites represent a range of community configurations: three sites represent the metropolitan area of a major state capital; three cover a metropolitan city area; one the outer suburbs of a major state capital; another one a regional centre; and the last covers a major tourist and retirement destination. This report presents both self-report data from 4,555 participating detainees and urinalysis for 77% of these for 2006. It includes an overview of the

characteristics of detainees at each site, including self-reported drug use, prior criminal behaviour and treatment history. In addition to tracking changes in local drug markets, DUMA collects additional information on key strategic issues in a timely manner. Since its inception a number of addendums have been run as part of the DUMA questionnaire. In 2006, the following different addendums were run at the sites: quarter one: amphetamines (all sites except Darwin) and alcohol (Darwin); quarter two: drug driving (all sites); quarter three: motives for offending (all sites); and quarter four: alcohol (Darwin, Adelaide, Elizabeth, East Perth) and mental health (Bankstown, Parramatta, Brisbane, Southport, Sunshine/Footscray). The collection of this information allows for the formation and implementation of better-informed policies, and can also serve to guide key stakeholders, such as law enforcement bodies, in future tactical, strategic and operational decision-making.

Mouzos, J., Smith, L., & Hind, N. (2006). *Drug use monitoring in Australia: 2005 annual report on drug use among police detainees*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

National Crime Prevention (1999) *Pathways to prevention: Developmental and early intervention approaches to crime in Australia*. Canberra: National Crime Prevention, Attorney-General's Department.

National Institute of Justice. (2003). *Toward a drugs and crime research agenda for the 21st century*. Washington, DC: Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice.

Abstract

Progress towards solving the problems of crime and drugs requires an examination as to whether the relationship is cause and effect or more complex. A 2001 research forum conducted by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) and the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) was attended by experts in epidemiology, public policy, social work, and allied disciplines. Research papers served as the focal point and framework for discussions by forum participants. A series of appendices containing forum proceedings, the forum's agenda, and a list of the names of individuals and organisations who participated completes this report.

Nevala, S., & Aromaa, K. (2004). *Organised crime, trafficking, drugs: Selected papers presented at the annual conference of the European Society of Criminology, Helsinki 2003*. Helsinki: European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control.

New Zealand Police Association. (2005). How organised crime controls the meth market. *New Zealand Police Association Police News*, 38(January/February), 12-14.

Abstract

New Zealand multimillionaires, some of them legitimate businessmen in their own right, have effectively 'bought' motorcycle gangs in order to facilitate the distribution of methamphetamine/P and other amphetamine type substances. This article describes the methods used by motorcycle gangs, some of whom are directly importing meth/P from overseas suppliers. Drug supply networks throughout Asia are also fostered through European, Australian, American and Canadian biker gang networks. These transnational connections are providing local gangs with the know how to launder their criminal takings by moving their profits into legitimate businesses. There is concern among police on the ground that there is no national police strategy in place for dealing with the distribution of hard drugs by the gangs.

Newton, A., Sarker, S. J., Pahal, G. S., van den Bergh, E., & Young, C. (2007). Impact of the new UK licensing law on emergency hospital attendances: A cohort study. *Emergency Medicine Journal*, 24(8), 532-534.

Abstract

The objective of this study was to assess the effect of the new UK alcohol licensing law on overnight attendances to the emergency department.

The methodology involved a retrospective cohort study at the emergency department of St Thomas' Hospital, London over 2 months, one before and one after the introduction of the new legislation. All people over the age of 16 years who attended the emergency department between 21:00 and 09:00 during the two study periods (March 2005 and March 2006) were included. An alcohol-related attendance was defined as having occurred if there was documentation of alcohol consumption before attendance, or of alcohol intoxication in relation to the patient's physical examination or final diagnosis. The primary outcome measure was a change in the number and percentage of alcohol related attendances to the emergency department between the two study periods. Secondary outcome measures, compared between the two study periods, were number and percentage of alcohol-related attendances as a consequence of assault, and of injury; and number and percentage of alcohol-related attendances resulting in admission to hospital.

The study found that in March 2005 there were 2736 overnight attendances to the ED, of which 79 (2.9%) were classified as alcohol related. By comparison, in March 2006 there were a total of 3135 overnight attendances, of which 250 (8%) were alcohol related, representing a significant increase ($p < 0.001$). There were also significant increases in percentage of alcohol related attendances as a consequence of injury ($p < 0.001$) and assault ($p = 0.002$); and in admission rates for alcohol related attendances ($p < 0.001$) between the two study periods.

The study concluded that overnight alcohol related emergency attendances to St Thomas' hospital increased after the introduction of new alcohol licensing legislation. If reproduced over longer time periods and across the UK as a whole, the additional burden on emergency care could be substantial.

Nicholas, R. (2003). *Enhancing the links between drug misuse prevention programs and crime prevention programs*. Adelaide: Australasian Centre for Policing Research.

Abstract

Increasingly, Australia is seeking to adopt approaches that prevent a range of social problems, or intervene at early stages before they become too severe. This paper focuses on preventative approaches to criminality and drug misuse, which are both issues in which police are key stakeholders. Specifically the paper examines possibilities for integrating prevention programs to address these issues.

Nicholas, R. (2005). *The role of alcohol in family violence*. Adelaide: Australasian Centre for Policing Research.

Abstract

After describing the extent and nature of the problem of family violence in Australia and New Zealand and the extent to which family violence incidents are reported to the police, this paper reviews the research concerning the proportion of incidents of family violence that involve the use of alcohol by those involved (both perpetrators and victims). Central to the paper is an examination of the nature of the relationship between alcohol misuse and family violence and, specifically, whether alcohol is a causal factor in family violence. It is concluded that while the research literature does not support the proposition that alcohol is a major causal factor in family violence, there are nonetheless good reasons why strategies that address the alcohol problems of some perpetra-

tors of family violence warrant further consideration. The paper concludes with an examination of the implications of these findings for policing. These implications are first discussed in terms of strategic and environmental issues for policing. This is followed by an outline of potential policing strategies that more directly address the alcohol use by perpetrators of family violence.

Nicholas, R. (2007). *Policing responses to substance misuse in rural and remote Indigenous communities. The report from a National Workshop held at the Crowne Plaza, Alice Springs, 29–30 August 2007*. Hobart: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

This report concerns a National Workshop held at Alice Springs on 29–30 August 2007. The Workshop focused on policing responses to alcohol and other substance misuse problems in rural and remote Indigenous communities. The purpose of this report is to provide a vehicle to help disseminate the learning that occurred at the Workshop (including the research itself) and to highlight further issues that the National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund (NDLERF) Board of Management may wish to consider. The report does not set out to evaluate the Workshop. This was undertaken by Northern Territory Police. It is, however, noteworthy that the evaluation was very favourable. An important feature of the Workshop was that it acted as a good demonstration of the process of operationalising research. This involved taking NDLERF research findings and applying them to situations that were of direct relevance to the Workshop participants, using a systematic framework that was also developed as part of NDLERF-funded research. Added to this was the opportunity for networking amongst participants that enabled them to share their experiences and perspectives.

Northern Territory Department of Health and Community Services & Northern Territory Women's Health Strategy Unit. (2004). *Protocol: A coordinated approach to better respond to drug-facilitated sexual assault in Darwin*. Darwin: Northern Territory Department of Health and Community Services.

O'Callaghan, F., Sonderegger, N., & Klag, S. (2004). Drug and crime cycle: Evaluating traditional methods versus diversion strategies for drug-related offences. *Australian Psychologist*, 39(3), 188–200.

O'Reilly, B., Leibrick, F., Huxtable, D., & Chenhall, R. (2007). *Benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid misuse and their relationship to crime: An examination of illicit prescription drug markets in Melbourne, Hobart and Darwin: Northern Territory report*. Hobart: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

The purpose of this major research project was to contribute to the law enforcement sector's understanding of the relationship between benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid misuse and crime in three selected Australian jurisdictions (Victoria, Tasmania, Northern Territory) where there is evidence of illicit prescription pharmaceutical markets. This report focuses on the Northern Territory aspect of the study. While the primary focus of the study remains on law enforcement interests in relation to licit and illicit benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid markets, these are discussed in relation to the broader public health implications of supply reduction efforts in a harm minimisation framework. The primary aims of the study therefore were to: i) gain a greater understanding of illicit benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid marketplace dimensions and characteristics; ii) investigate the hypothesised relationship between benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid misuse and crime; iii) explore the implications for police and other frontline workers (e.g. accident and emergency staff, ambulance officers and health/youth workers) of emergent markets for benzodiazepines and pharmaceutical opioids; and iv) consider appropriate interventions to address both the law enforcement and health impacts of benzodiazepine and

pharmaceutical opioid misuse. A secondary broader aim of the research was to examine the nexus between prescribed pharmaceutical misuse, illicit prescription pharmaceutical markets, crime and health harms. The research demonstrated that misuse and injecting of benzodiazepines and pharmaceutical opioids has become entrenched among some groups of people who inject drugs in the Northern Territory. The findings suggest that the drugs are diverted to the black market and can be sold for considerable profit, and are relatively easy to obtain on the street. They also suggest criminal behaviour may be related to the dependence on, and the use of, prescription drugs. In addition, uninhibited, aggressive, and bizarre behaviour, and feelings of invincibility, were attributed to the drugs, in particular benzodiazepines.

Oscapella, E. (2004). Illegal drugs and terrorism financing. *Intersec*, 14(11/12), 351-353.

Palk, G., Davey, J., & Freeman, J. (2007). Policing alcohol-related incidents: A study of time and prevalence. *Policing: An International Journal of Police Strategies & Management*, 30(1), 82-92.

Abstract

The purpose of this paper was to investigate the prevalence and impact of alcohol-related incidents on police resources in a major Australasian region. The paper shows that participants in the current study were first response operational police officers who completed a modified activity log over a five-week period, identifying the type, time spent on, and the number of alcohol-related incidents that were attended.

The findings in this paper indicate that a substantial proportion of current police work involves attendance at alcohol-related incidents i.e. 25 percent. The most common incidents police attended were vehicle and/or traffic matters, disturbances and offences against property, which were also the most likely to involve alcohol. These events are most likely to occur in the early hours of the morning on the weekends, and importantly, usually take longer to complete than non-alcohol related incidents.

The findings in the paper highlight the pervasive nature of alcohol across a range of offences and provides a current perspective regarding the considerable impact that alcohol-related crime has on policing resources.

Palmer, D., & Whelan, C. (2007). Policing in the 'Communal Spaces' of major event venues. *Police Practice & Research*, 8(5), 401-414.

Abstract

The recent re-conceptualisation of 'mass private property' as one form of 'communal spaces' raises a series of questions concerning policing and security in these domains. This paper applies the concept of 'communal spaces' to an analysis of policing in 'major event venues.' We assess the character of policing in these communal spaces by drawing upon interviews conducted with policing – private and public – personnel operating in major event venues. The paper identifies different perspectives on the nature of policing in these communal spaces and tension between public and private police personnel concerning their respective roles and responsibilities. We conclude by raising issues concerning the implications for the 'public good' in policing at major event venues.

Parker, H., & Williams, L. (2003). Intoxicated weekends: Young adults' work hard-play hard lifestyles, public health and public disorder. *Drugs: Education, Prevention and Policy*, 10(4), 345-367.

Abstract

Going out at the weekends binge drinking is a leisure priority of the majority of young English adults. This going-out sector is described via a cohort (n = 465) of 22 year olds who have been tracked by the North West Longitudinal Study (1991-2001) since they were 13. This cohort is made

up of conventional, educated and employed young people. However, over half are regular heavy drinkers and occasional recreational drug users. They often mix alcohol and illicit drugs on nights out. Their motives for intoxicated weekends relate to maintaining successful work hard-play hard lifestyles. Most nights out are perceived as functional and enjoyable but some go wrong leading to arguments, fights and assaults (the public disorder agenda) and impaired judgement, illness and accidents (the public health agenda).

These negative outcomes are probably inevitable given the scale and functions of nights out. Better management of nightlife requires an integrative strategy which recognizes the added value of focusing on the care and welfare of the overall going-out population rather than targeting 'trouble makers' and reacting to ad hoc disorder and mishap.

Parliament of Victoria Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee. (2004). *Inquiry into strategies to reduce harmful alcohol consumption: Discussion paper*. Melbourne: Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee.

Parliament of Victoria Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee. (2005). *Inquiry into strategies to reduce harmful alcohol consumption: Final report*. Melbourne: Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee.

Payne, J. (2006). *A discrete-time survival study of drug use and property offending: Implications for early intervention and treatment*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

The nexus between drug use and criminal offending is of great interest to policy makers and researchers alike. The possibility that both illegal activities are interrelated provides promise that targeted interventions, such as drug diversion programs and drug courts, may have a tangible influence in reducing the social and economic costs of crime to the community. Although most in the academic and policy arenas agree that drugs and crime are interconnected, the nature of the relationship remains highly contested. This report contributes to this debate through an examination of drug use initiation and criminal escalation where it seeks to identify whether: drug use initiation increases the likelihood of offence escalation, and whether particular drugs play a more or less important role in increasing offending; delayed onset of drug use increases or decreases the risk of offence escalation; and, self-reported motives for the engagement in offending help to predict onset and escalation risk. This study uses data from the Australian Institute of Criminology's Drug Use Careers of Offenders Study (DUCO), an interviewer-administered self-reported survey of offending and drug use, conducted in 2001 among adult male prisoners in Queensland, Western Australia, Tasmania and the Northern Territory to examine the temporal pattern of drug use and offending. Using a survival analysis technique, this study examines the risk profile of 1,500 property offenders and their likelihood of escalating to regular offending. Drug use, including cannabis and other illicit drugs, are modelled as temporal predictors as a means of estimating their effect on increasing or decreasing escalation risk across the criminal career. The results of this study provide some important findings for the development of policies aimed at preventing crime.

Payne, J. (2006, April). Drug use histories of juveniles in detention. *Of Substance*, 4, 16-17.

Abstract

Research into the link between drug use and crime has consistently demonstrated a number of key findings: criminal offenders report higher rates of psychoactive substance (drug) use than the general population; frequent drug use is linked to higher frequencies of offending; the majority of offenders commence both crime and drug use during adolescence; and adult offenders who were detained as a juvenile report more serious and frequent offending profiles and higher levels of drug use. This study provides a summary of a research study undertaken by the Australian Institute

of Criminology to examine the drug histories of 371 young people aged between 11 and 17 years who were sentenced to or remanded in detention in all Australian states and territories. These voluntary face-to-face interviews included 25 females and 364 males with an average age of 16 years. The findings of this study indicate that for a large proportion of juveniles in detention, drug use does play an important role in criminal participation, and highlights the importance of early intervention programs for breaking the cycle of drugs and crime.

People, J. (2005). Trends and patterns in domestic violence assaults. *Crime and Justice Bulletin: Contemporary Issues in Crime and Justice*, 89, 1-16.

Abstract

Trends in recorded incidents of domestic violence assaults between 1997 and 2004 were examined in detail according to locations and premises; time of assault; and involvement of drugs and alcohol. Information was collected about offenders and victims and the relationships between domestic violence assault and several socio-economic factors.

Perry-Kessaris, A., McDougall, C., & Farrington, D. P. (2006). *Reducing crime: The effectiveness of criminal justice intervention*. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.

Plant, M. A., Plant, M. L., & Green, J. (2007). Safer bars, safer streets? *Journal of Substance Use*, 12(3), 151-155.

Policing Issues and Practice Journal. Special edition: Alcohol related crime. (2004). *Policing Issues and Practice Journal*, 12(3), 62.

Poynton, S., Donnelly, N., Weatherburn, D., Fulde, G., & Scott, L. (2005). *The role of alcohol in injuries presenting to St Vincent's Hospital Emergency Department and the associated short-term costs*. Sydney: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research.

Abstract

This bulletin presents the results from research investigating the role of alcohol in injury presentations to an inner-city emergency department and the associated short-term economic costs. In this study injured patients attending St Vincent's Hospital Emergency Department during September 2004 and February 2005 were interviewed about their alcohol consumption prior to the injury event and, where possible, administered a breathalyser test. One-third of the injured patients interviewed reported consuming alcohol prior to the injury and almost two-thirds of these patients stated that they had been drinking at licensed premises. Alcohol consumption was found to be more prevalent amongst patients presenting with injuries resulting from interpersonal violence, with almost two-thirds of these patients reporting that they had been drinking prior to the injury. The estimated annual cost of alcohol to St Vincent's Emergency Department was as much as \$1.38 million. While the overall economic cost of alcohol-related injuries is probably much greater than our estimate indicates, the research described here highlights the resources that could be devoted to other illness and disease if a proportion of alcohol-related injuries were reduced.

Prichard, J., & Payne, J. (2005). *Alcohol, drugs and crime: A study of juveniles in detention*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Putnins, A. L. (2006). Substance use among young offenders: Thrills, bad feelings, or bad behaviour? *Substance Use & Misuse*, 41(3), 415-422.

Abstract

This paper discusses the North Coast Substance Abuse Project which has been initiated and funded through Drug and Alcohol Coordination, a National Drug Strategy funded unit in the Queensland Police Service. Alcohol and other drug use contributes to a range of health, economic

and social harms, including suicide, family disruption and domestic violence, which impact negatively on the community, and the links between alcohol and other drugs and crime are well documented. Fear of drug and alcohol related crime is identified as a major community concern which reduces the quality of life of the general population, as well as placing pressure on limited police resources. The paper examines a multi-strategy project undertaken in the North Coast Police Region in Queensland, which responded to community concerns regarding alcohol and other drug use and the need to implement proactive community based responses. The project was characterised by a strong intersectoral approach and provided an opportunity to build positive and ongoing relationships between police, community and the other government and non-government sectors. The project was directed by good practice in crime prevention and adhered to the guiding principles of intersectoral collaboration, harm minimisation and proactive community policing. The process for developing and implementing the project is outlined, and the success of the project highlighted through the findings of the project evaluation.

Putt, J., Payne, J., & Milner, L. (2005). *Indigenous male offending and substance abuse*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Richardson, A., & Budd, T. (2003). Young adults, alcohol, crime and disorder. *Criminal Behaviour and Mental Health*, 13(1), 5-17.

Abstract

Alcohol-related crime is increasingly being recognised as a problem in cities and towns with popular entertainment districts. Crime and disorder linked to alcohol has been particularly connected with binge drinking or heavy sessional drinking. Research evidence indicates that it is the young adult age group who are most likely to be involved in crime and disorder and the most likely to binge drink. This paper examines the relationship between binge drinking and criminal and disorderly behaviour among 18- to 24-year-olds.

Secondary analysis was undertaken of the 1998/1999 Youth Lifestyles Survey, a large-scale, representative, household survey of 12- to 30-year-olds living in England and Wales.

The study found that binge drinking, and especially male binge drinking, among 18 to 24 year-olds is statistically related to offending behaviour. In the 12 months prior to interview 39% of binge drinkers admitted to committing an offence and 60% admitted criminal and/or disorderly behaviour during or after drinking alcohol. Multivariate analysis found that binge drinking remains strongly associated with criminal and disorderly behaviour even after taking other relevant factors into account. Individuals who got drunk at least once a week had more than five times the odds of being involved in fighting or violent crime. For offences or disorderly behaviour that took place during or after drinking alcohol an individual had a seven times greater chance of breaking or damaging something and a five times greater chance of being involved in a fight if he/she got drunk at least once a week.

These findings suggest that the frequency of drunkenness is a better predictor of offending behaviour than the frequency of drinking per se. Using the frequency of drunkenness as the basis for defining binge drinking reveals that a large minority of young adults who binge drink also become involved in offending or disorderly behaviour. Binge drinking is particularly associated with crimes of violence. The relationship between binge drinking and crime and disorder is stronger among young males than females.

Richman, M. (2006). The drugs/crime nexus. *ADCA News*, (November/December), 9.

Abstract

This brief article outlines the shift in public and police attitudes to both licit and illicit drugs. This is demonstrated by the Tasmania Police example, and their implementation of drug diversion strategies, which re-affirm that illicit drug use is both a health and a legal issue. The relationship between drugs and crime is described.

Riddell, S., Nielssen, O., Butler, T., MacDonald, C., & Starmer, G. (2006). The relationship between amphetamine use, crime and psychiatric disorder among prisoners in New South Wales. *Psychiatry, Psychology and Law*, 13(2), 160-165.

Abstract

This paper reports on data from a survey of mental health of prisoners that was used to examine the possible links between amphetamine use, psychiatric disorder and alleged offences leading to imprisonment. It found that charges laid against amphetamine users are similar to those for heroin use and that those with severe psychotic symptoms are more likely to commit violent offences.

Roberts, M. (2006). From 'creative city' to 'no-go areas' – The expansion of the night-time economy in British town and city centres. *Cities*, 23(5), 331-338.

Abstract

In a time span of 10 years, many English town centres have been transformed from being relatively deserted at night to being filled with concentrations of young drunken people out on the streets until the early hours of the morning. This paper considers this transformation: its origins, process, impacts, policy responses and the lessons that may be derived from it. The first section discusses the concept of the creative milieu and its relation to consumption. The second provides the context for the unprecedented expansion of night-time alcohol related entertainment in English town and city centres over the last decade. The third part of the paper discusses the impacts of the increase in licensed premises on cultural resources. The fourth section of the paper discusses the mutually contradictory tri-partite policy responses of the British Government as it tries to reconcile planning policies that promote 'cleaner, safer and greener' town centres with, on the one hand, free market inspired licensing policies and, on the other, 'tough' policies towards crime and anti-social behaviour. The fifth section provides evidence that by contrast, some local practice is ahead of national policy in its imaginative and integrated approach. Finally, conclusions are drawn with regard to the concept of the creative milieu. It is argued that the English experience demonstrates the need for a clear policy vision that comprehends the differences between creativity, cultural resources and the consumption of alcohol as a primary entertainment activity.

Sced, M. (2006). *Mental illness in the community: The role of police*. Adelaide: Australasian Centre for Policing Research.

Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to highlight some of the issues that are experienced by police organisations in relation to mental illness. While the paper is not intended to provide an in-depth coverage of all aspects relating to police and mental illness, it is intended to raise questions and promote debate as to the role and responsibilities of police in relation to this issue.

Schulte, C., Mouzos, J., & Makkai, T. (2005). *Drug use monitoring in Australia: 2004 annual report on drug use among police detainees*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Seddon, T. (2006) Drugs, crime and social exclusion context and social theory in British drugs-crime research. *British Journal of Criminology*, 46(4), 680-703

Abstract

This paper seeks to re-situate the drug/crime nexus in its full social context. Key words include: Britain – association between drugs and crime – neighbourhoods – multiple social/economic difficulties – new perspective – criminological theory – theory of action – structure/agency debate – globalisation – historical perspective.

Sharps, P., Campbell, J. C., Campbell, D., Gary, F., & Webster, D. (2003). Risky mix: Drinking, drug use, and homicide. *National Institute of Justice Journal*, (250), 1-6.

Abstract

This study examines the connection between alcohol and drug use and intimate partner violence, both during the incident and in the year leading up to it. The researchers found that higher levels of substance use by the offenders (and to a lesser extent, by the victims) tracked closely with more severe violence. Notably, although both partners may have regularly used alcohol before the homicide, attempted homicide, or the most severe violent incident of abuse, more male partners than female victims were problem drinkers. Also, during these violent incidents, more male partners than their female victims used alcohol.

Sheerin, I. G., Green, T., Sellman, D., Adamson, S., & Deering, D. (2004). Reduction in crime by drug users on a methadone maintenance therapy programme in New Zealand. *New Zealand Medical Journal*, 117(1190), 492-501.

Shepard, E. M., & Blackley, P. R. (2005). Drug enforcement and crime: Recent evidence from New York State. *Social Science Quarterly*, 86, 323-342.

Shepherd, J. (2007). Preventing alcohol-related violence: A public health approach. *Criminal Behaviour and Mental Health*, 17(4), 250-264.

Abstract

Studies of the relationship between alcohol and violent injury confirm that while there is some evidence of a direct pharmacological association, many other factors are relevant to the frequency and severity of both violent perpetration and being a victim of violence. It is now widely recognised that official police statistics are a poor indicator of the nature and extent of public violence. Accident and emergency departments and trauma surgeons are not only in a position to provide more accurate information on the nature and extent of clinically significant injury, but they can contribute substantially to violence prevention. This can be achieved through individually targeted interventions in conjunction with other clinicians on the one hand, and on the other through public health and community initiatives, in conjunction with other community agencies, including the police and local authorities. This article describes some of those initiatives and the evidence underpinning them.

Smart Justice (Victoria). (2006). *Breaking the link: Drugs, crime and prisons*. Melbourne: Smart Justice.

Abstract

It is often argued that criminalising certain drug use and imprisoning people for drug-related offences prevents users accessing health and support services, adding to the chaos in their lives and the likelihood of their offending. This fact sheet explores how the links between illicit drug use and crime may be broken.

Smith, A., & Waddington, I. (2004). Using 'sport in the community schemes' to tackle crime and drug use among young people: Some policy issues and problems. *European Physical Education Review*, 10, 279-298.

Abstract

This article seeks, first, to offer some critical comments on the policy issues and problems surrounding the use of sporting schemes as vehicles of social policy in which the intention is to reduce levels of crime, delinquency and drug 'abuse' among young people; second, to examine a point of fundamental importance in policy terms: do such schemes work? In this regard, it is claimed that relatively few of such schemes – which are largely premised upon a one-sided perception of sport – have built in processes for monitoring and evaluating their impact on levels of crime or drug

use among young people. It is also argued that these methodological weaknesses are exacerbated by the absence of any clearly articulated theoretical rationale for these schemes, which means that, even where success for them is claimed, it is unclear what specific aspects of the schemes account for that claimed success.

Smith, B., Miller, P. G., O'Keefe, B., & Fry, C. (2007). *Benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid misuse and their relationship to crime: An examination of illicit prescription drug markets in Melbourne, Hobart and Darwin: Victorian report*. Hobart: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

The purpose of this major research project was to contribute to law enforcement sector understanding of the relationship between benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid misuse and crime in three select Australian jurisdictions (Victoria, Tasmania, Northern Territory) where there is evidence of illicit prescription pharmaceutical markets. This report focuses on the Victorian aspect of the study. While the primary focus of the study remains on law enforcement interests in relation to licit and illicit benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid markets, these are discussed in relation to the broader public health implications of supply reduction efforts in a harm minimisation framework. The primary aims of the study therefore were to: i) gain a greater understanding of illicit benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid marketplace dimensions and characteristics; ii) investigate the hypothesised relationship between benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid misuse and crime; iii) explore the implications for police and other frontline workers (e.g. accident and emergency staff, ambulance officers and health/youth workers) of emergent markets for benzodiazepines and pharmaceutical opioids; and iv) consider appropriate interventions to address both the law enforcement and health impacts of benzodiazepine and pharmaceutical opioid misuse. A secondary broader aim of the research was to examine the nexus between prescribed pharmaceutical misuse, illicit prescription pharmaceutical markets, crime and health harms. The research demonstrated that misuse and injecting of benzodiazepines and pharmaceutical opioids, especially morphine and buprenorphine, has become entrenched among some groups of people who inject drugs in Melbourne. The findings suggest that the drugs are diverted to the black market and can be sold for considerable profit, and are relatively easy to obtain on the street. They also suggest criminal behaviour may be related to the dependence on, and the use of, prescription drugs. In addition, uninhibited, aggressive, and bizarre behaviour, and feelings of invincibility, were attributed to the drugs, in particular benzodiazepines.

Snowball, L., & Weatherburn, D. (2006). Indigenous over-representation in prison: The role of Offender Characteristics. *Crime and Justice Bulletin: No. 99*. Sydney: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research.

Abstract

Fifteen years ago the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody drew attention to the fact that the rate of imprisonment of Indigenous Australians was 13 times higher than the corresponding rate for non-Indigenous Australians. Efforts to reduce Indigenous imprisonment rates over the intervening period have met with little success. Indeed, over the last few years, the rate of Indigenous imprisonment has increased. The research reported here had two main objectives. The first was to determine whether there is any evidence of racial bias in the sentencing of Indigenous offenders. The second was to determine what other factors account for the higher proportion of Indigenous offenders sentenced to terms of imprisonment. The research revealed no evidence of racial bias in sentencing. The higher rate at which Indigenous offenders are sent to prison stems mainly from (a) a higher rate of conviction for violent crime and (b) a higher rate of re-offending, particularly following the imposition of sanctions intended as alternatives to full-time imprisonment. The implications of these findings for policy are discussed.

Spooner, C., McPherson, M., & Hall, W. (2004). *The role of police in preventing and minimising illicit drug use and its harm*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

There has been substantial documentation and evaluation of the range of illicit drug-related initiatives conducted by the health sector in Australia. However, there has been much less documentation and evaluation of initiatives conducted by police, especially on illicit drug harm reduction and demand reduction. Such information is necessary for enhancing the efficacy of police practice. In 2000, in response to this lack of documentation and evaluation, the Board of the National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund (NDLERF) commissioned a number of research projects on drug law enforcement, one of which is the subject of this report. The objective of this research project, as specified by NDLERF, was to increase the understanding of Australian police, at the policy, planning and operational levels, of ways in which they can contribute to the outcomes sought by the National Drug Strategy.

Sproat, P. A. (2007). An evaluation of the UK's anti-money laundering and asset recovery regime. *Crime, Law and Social Change*, 47(3), 169-184.

Abstract

This paper describes the UK's anti-money laundering and asset recovery laws, and the aims and objectives behind the regime since the introduction of the Proceeds of Crime Act (UK) in 2002. Key words include: AML and asset recovery strategy – attempt to re-balance criminal justice system in favour of law abiding citizen – previous evaluation – theory, practice – evaluation – asset recovery – organised crime – illegal drugs – inaction – serious concerns – morality, trustworthiness of politicians.

Stevens, A. (2007). When two dark figures collide: Evidence and discourse on drug-related crime. *Critical Social Policy*, 27, 77-99.

Abstract

This paper explores the socio-political construction of drug-related crime; a concept that has dominated recent developments in UK drug policy. It has been assumed that the perceived overlap between known offenders and drug users is also present among the much larger groups of unknown offenders and drug users. This assumption has led to inflated claims of scale, precision and causality in political discussions of the drug-crime link. The discourse coalition approach is used to analyse how such methodologically suspect knowledge has been translated into policy since 1997. It is argued that the concept of drug-related crime has been influential because it is tactically and structurally useful to powerful groups in discursive struggle.

Stuart, G. L. (2005). Improving violence intervention outcomes by integrating alcohol treatment. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 20(4), 388-393.

Talbot, D. (2006). The Licensing Act 2003 and the problematisation of the night-time economy: Planning, licensing and subcultural closure in the UK. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 30(1), 159-171.

Abstract

Nightlife historically has been viewed as a social problem to be contained by licensing, policing and the management of supply. In the context of recent trends towards deregulation of hours and supply, fears have again resurfaced as to the detrimental impact of the 'night-time economy' on street disorder and violence, concerns that have focused attention on the *Licensing Act 2003*. Utilising a case study of the regulation of nightlife in the London locality of Southview, this article will explore how there has been ongoing and renewed attention on the problems associated with the night-time economy centred on differentiating between risky and safe cultural and economic forms. The article will argue that the Licensing Act represents a consolidation of over a decade of regulatory change that has 'reordered' regulatory approaches to nightlife; one that has, in combination with other aspects of economic, social and cultural change, been productive of 'subcultural closure'.

Taylor, N., Charlton, K., Prichard, J. (2004). *National project on drink spiking: Investigating the nature and extent of drink spiking in Australia*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Testa, M., Livingston, J. A., Vanzile-Tamsen, C., & Frone, M. R. (2003). The role of women's substance use in vulnerability to forcible and incapacitated rape. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol*, 64(6), 756-764.

Abstract

Although women's substance use is believed to contribute to rape vulnerability, few studies have examined, separately from forcible rape, rape that occurs due to incapacitation. The current study examines the prevalence of completed forcible and incapacitated rape in a representative community sample of young women, identifies the predictors of these two forms of rape and compares characteristics of forcible and incapacitated rape incidents.

Women, aged between 18-30 (N = 1,014), were recruited from households in the Buffalo, NY, area, by means of random-digit-dialing. They completed computer-assisted measures, including the Sexual Experiences Survey and a face-to-face interview regarding sexual assault experiences occurring since age 14.

The study found that the lifetime prevalence of incapacitated rape was nearly identical to prevalence of forcible rape, with about 1 in 10 women reporting each type of rape since age 14. In multivariate analysis, age and childhood sexual abuse predicted forcible but not incapacitated rape, whereas adolescent alcohol and drug use predicted incapacitated but not forcible rape. Incapacitated rape incidents differed from forcible rape incidents on several contextual variables, including relationship to perpetrator, activities preceding the assault and victim injury.

The findings suggest that forcible rape and incapacitated rape may be different forms of sexual assault, with different distal and proximal correlates. Distinguishing these two forms may facilitate understanding of the role of women's alcohol and drug use in sexual assault.

Tomsen, S. (2005). 'Boozers and bouncers': Masculine conflict, disengagement and the contemporary governance of drinking-related violence and disorder. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology*, 38(3), 283-297.

Turner, N., Pointer, S., & Trifonoff, A. (2005). *Amphetamines use amongst police detainees*. Adelaide: South Australian Office of Crime Statistics and Research.

UK Drug Policy Commission (2008). *Reducing Drug Use, Reducing Reoffending: Are programmes for problem drug-using offenders in the UK supported by the evidence?* London: UK Drug Policy Commission.

Abstract

Over the past ten years, UK drug strategies have increasingly focused on providing treatment and support services for drug-dependent offenders who commit a disproportionate number of acquisitive crimes (e.g. shoplifting and burglary) as a way of reducing overall crime levels. This criminal justice focus has been reinforced in the recent 2008 UK drug strategy (new Welsh and Scottish drug strategies are also being developed). The UK Drug Policy Commission (UKDPC) has analysed the evidence for the effectiveness of these initiatives for reducing drug use and re-offending and of the wider impact of this more prominent criminal justice approach. To inform our analysis we commissioned an independent review of the published evidence from leading researchers at the Institute for Criminal Policy Research (ICPR), King's College London. We also listened to policy experts, local commissioners, drug workers and current and ex-drug users. The papers from both of these pieces of work along with a copy of this report are available online at www.ukdpc.org.uk/reports.shtml.

US Department of Justice. (2007). *Methamphetamine related identity theft*. Johnstown: National Drug Intelligence Center.

Abstract

Some methamphetamine abusers engage in various forms of identity theft in order to obtain methamphetamine. They steal, cash personal cheques, and trade stolen credit cards, and personal documents. The paper also looks at drug trafficking organisations, mail theft, car break-ins, Internet and email scams and methamphetamine trafficking and abuse.

van Duyne, P. C., & Levi, M. (2005). *Drugs and money: Managing the drug trade and crime-money in Europe*. London: Routledge.

Victorian Ombudsman (2004). *CEJA Task Force: Drug related corruption: Second interim report of Ombudsman Victoria*. Melbourne: Victoria Ombudsman.

Vitale, S. G., van de Mheen, D., van de Wiel, A., & Garretsen, H. F. L. (2006). Alcohol and illicit drug use among emergency room patients in the Netherlands. *Alcohol & Alcoholism*, 41(5), 553-559.

Abstract

The aim of this study was to clarify alcohol and illicit drug use within the emergency room population in three different regions in The Netherlands, focusing on whether interventions for these substances should be region specific. Alcohol and illicit drug use were assessed using a self-report questionnaire filled in by the patients, and by combining self-report with staff judgement on alcohol and illicit drug use.

The data on alcohol use (self-reported and staff judgement combined) resulted in prevalence rates of 4.9-8.2%. Patients testing positive for alcohol are more likely to be male, aged 48-58 years, more likely to be a frequent excessive drinker, and to have injuries as a result of violence. Patients testing positive for illicit drugs are more likely to be male, aged 28-38 years, unemployed, and frequent excessive drinkers. Among men aged 18-35 years with a Dutch cultural background, some differences emerge regarding alcohol consumption between the various hospitals, but most variation exists in the case of illicit drug use.

This paper confirms that the emergency room seems to provide an opportunity to initiate interventions regarding alcohol use and seems to suggest that this is independent of the region concerned. However, in the case of illicit drug use interventions they seem to be more region specific.

Walker, S. (2006). *Sense and nonsense about crime and drugs: A policy guide* (6th ed). Belmont, CA: Thomson/Wadsworth.

Warburton, A. L., & Shepherd, J. P. (2006). Tackling alcohol related violence in city centres: Effect of emergency medicine and police intervention. *Emergency Medicine Journal*, 23(1), 12-17.

Abstract

The aim of this study was to identify the correlates of alcohol related assault injury in the city centre of a European capital city, with particular reference to emergency department (ED) and police interventions, and number and capacity of licensed premises. Assaults resulting in ED treatment were studied using a longitudinal controlled intervention, a three stage design during a three year period of rapid expansion in the night-time economy, when ED initiated targeted police interventions were delivered. A controlled ED intervention targeted at high risk night-clubs was carried out. The main outcome measure was ED treatment after assault in licensed premises and the street.

The study found that targeted police intervention was associated with substantial reductions in assaults in licensed premises but unexpected increases in street assault were also observed (34%

overall: 105% in the principal entertainment thoroughfare). Combined police/ED intervention was associated with a significantly greater reduction compared with police intervention alone (OR = 0.61, 95% CI 0.40 to 0.91). Street assault correlated significantly with numbers and capacity of premises. Risk of assault was 50% greater in and around licensed premises in the city centre compared with those in the suburbs, although dispersion of violence to more licensed premises was not observed.

The study concluded that marked decreases in licensed premises assaults resulting from targeted policing were enhanced by the intervention of ED and maxillofacial consultants. The capacity of licensed premises was a major predictor of assaults in the city centre street in which they are clustered. City centre assault injury prevention can be achieved through police/ED interventions targeted at high risk licensed premises, which should also target the streets around which these premises are clustered.

Weatherburn, D. (2006, November). *Disadvantage, drugs and gaol: Re-thinking Indigenous over-representation in prison*. Paper presented at the Conference of the Australasian Society on Alcohol and other Drugs, Cairns, Qld.

Weiner, M. D., Sussman, S., Sun, P., & Dent, C. (2005). Explaining the link between violence perpetration, victimisation and drug use. *Addictive Behaviours*, 30(6), 1261-1266.

Weisburd, D., & Eck, J. E. (2004). What can police do to reduce crime, disorder, and fear? *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 593, 42-65.

Abstract

The authors review research on police effectiveness in reducing crime, disorder, and fear in the context of a typology of innovation in police practices. That typology emphasizes two dimensions: one concerning the diversity of approaches, and the other, the level of focus. The authors find that little evidence supports the standard model of policing. In contrast, research evidence does support continued investment in police innovations that call for greater focus and tailoring of police efforts, combined with an expansion of the tool box of policing beyond simple law enforcement. The strongest evidence of police effectiveness in reducing crime and disorder is found in the case of geographically focused police practices, such as hot-spots policing. Community policing practices are found to reduce fear of crime, but the authors do not find consistent evidence that community policing (when it is implemented without models of problem-oriented policing) affects either crime or disorder. A developing body of evidence points to the effectiveness of problem-oriented policing in reducing crime, disorder, and fear. More generally, the authors find that many policing practices applied broadly throughout the United States either have not been the subject of systematic research or have been examined in the context of research designs that do not allow practitioners or policy makers to draw very strong conclusions.

Western Australia Office of Crime Prevention, Department of the Premier and Cabinet. (2004). *State Government Northbridge strategy: Young people in Northbridge policy: One year on*. Retrieved from <http://www.crimeprevention.wa.gov.au/Portals/0/PDF/ocp-youngpeopleinnorthbridgoneyearon-2004.pdf>.

Abstract

In April 2003, the WA State Government proposed a ban on unsupervised juveniles in Northbridge. The move was aimed at addressing crime and child welfare issues, since the area was the destination for large numbers of unsupervised children and young people which the Government believed were at real risk of physical and moral danger. The area had also developed a reputation for unacceptable levels of violent, aggressive and generally anti-social behaviour. This paper reports that the policy made a significant impact in its first twelve months of operation, with clear indicators of improvement including: fewer children and young people at risk on the streets

at night; a reduction in anti-social and aggressive behaviour from young people; fewer young people being apprehended for drunkenness, solvent abuse and use of illicit drugs; the business community reporting an increase in trading and a reduction in the intimidation of patrons; users of Northbridge indicating that the area feels safer; and workers and services were in place to assist those at risk, both on the street and to follow up.

White, R., & Habibis, D. (2005). *Drugs and crime*. Melbourne: Oxford University Press.

Abstract

This chapter explores the relationship between drugs and crime. After considering the extent of drug use in Australia, the chapter discusses the characteristics of illicit drug offences; the causal relationship between drug use and crime; links between alcohol use and crime; drug cultures and their social contexts; and responses to drug use and abuse, including the elements of the National Drug Strategy, which is broadly based on harm minimisation principles, and the growth in drug courts. The chapter concludes that although the relationship between drug use and antisocial behaviour is not direct, it is clear that it is closely associated with damaging effects.

Whiteford, S. W. (2007). *The adolescent drug-crime relationship: Desistence and gateway theories across user levels*. New York: LFB Scholarly Pub. LBC.

Wilczynski, A., & Pigott, R. (2004). *The relationship between drugs and crime*. Canberra: Australian Government Attorney-General's Department.

Willis, K., & Rushforth, C. (2003). *The female criminal: An overview of women's drug use and offending behaviour*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

Examines Australian and international research on the links between women's drug use and their criminal behaviour; common risk factors for these activities; key data and research on women's drug use and offending patterns. It notes that there is currently no national survey of women inmates' experience of drug use and offending and that there is a need for this type of information to be collected for policy purposes in the management of women through the criminal justice system and in drug treatment settings.

7. Drink Driving

This section contains resources about the extent and nature of drink driving and the impact of a range of police and criminal justice responses to it.

Australian Transport Council & Australian Transport Safety Bureau. (2005). *National road safety action plan, 2007 and 2008*. Canberra: Australian Transport Council.

Abstract

This Action Plan has been developed to provide a clear focus on initiatives that offer the most realistic prospect of substantial safety gains. The mix of measures adopted in individual jurisdictions, and the details of specific measures will vary to reflect local circumstances and priorities. The Action Plan also cannot pre-empt the outcome of community consultation, or administrative and legislative processes required before the implementation of many of these measures. However, all jurisdictions agree that the research supports a focus on these priority areas.

Baker, J., Spencer, S., & Stewart, F. (2005). *Maximum penalties for repeat drink driving: Report*. Melbourne: Sentencing Advisory Council.

Bayari, C. (2003). Sentencing drink-driving offenders in the NSW Local Court. *Sentencing Trends and Issues*, 27, 1-14.

Abstract

This is a study of the drink driving offences handled by the New South Wales Local Court over a period of two years from 3 April 2000-2 April 2002. It focuses on first instance prescribed concentration of alcohol (PCA) matters under the *Road Transport (Safety and Traffic Management) Act 1999*; the imposition of sentences, fines and disqualifications under the *Road Transport (General) Act 1999*; a profile of offenders; and a distribution of the sentences and fines imposed.

Bergman, H., Hubicka, B., & Laurell, H. (2005). Alcohol problems and blood alcohol concentration among Swedish drivers suspected of driving under the influence. *Contemporary Drug Problems*, 32(3), 387-404.

Bertelli, A. M., & Richardson, L. E. J. (2007). Measuring the propensity to drink and drive. *Evaluation Review*, 31(3), 311-337.

Abstract

Laws such as .08 blood alcohol content, open container, and license revocation provide a policy framework for reducing drinking and driving. Drinking and driving behaviour is difficult to assess; unlike property and violent crimes, where incidence statistics can approximate behaviour, most drink-driving trips go undetected. The authors develop a novel measure of drink-driving propensity by estimating an item response model using national survey data. The authors illustrate their measures in the aggregate and as they relate to law enforcement efforts in the American states.

Bjerre, B., Kostela, J., & Selen, J. (2007). Positive health-care effects of an alcohol ignition interlock programme among driving while impaired (DWI) offenders. *Addiction*, 102(11), 1771-1781.

Abstract

The aim of this study was to compare the costs of hospital care and sick leave/disability pensions between two groups of driving while impaired (DWI) offenders, i.e. participants in an alcohol ignition interlock programme (AIIP) and controls with revoked licences, but with no comparable opportunity to participate in an AIIP.

As an alternative to licence revocation DWI offenders can participate in a voluntary 2-year AIIP permitting the offender to drive under strict regulations entailing regular medical check-ups. The participants are forced to alter their alcohol habits and those who cannot demonstrate sobriety are dismissed from the programme. Participants are liable for all costs themselves.

The study found that positive health-care effects were due apparently to reduced alcohol consumption. The social benefit of being allowed to drive while in the AIIP may also have

contributed. The reduction in health-care costs was significant only during the 2-year treatment period, but among those who completed the entire AIP sustained effects were also observed in the post-treatment period. The effects were comparable to those of regular alcoholism treatment programmes

Briscoe, S. (2004). *The impact of increased drink-driving penalties on recidivism rates in NSW*. Sydney: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research.

Abstract

This bulletin examines the implementation and deterrent effect of legislation that increased the statutory penalties for drink-driving offences in NSW in 1998. Examination of drink-driving offences brought before the Local Court in 1997 and 1999 showed that, after the legislation was enacted, there was a significant increase in the severity of penalties drink-drivers received on conviction. Comparisons of drink-drivers sentenced before and after the legislative amendments also revealed a significant reduction in re-offending after these penalties were increased. This reduction in recidivism was, however, confined to offenders who resided outside of the Sydney metropolitan area.

Chikritzhs, T., & Stockwell, T. (2006). The impact of later trading hours for hotels on levels of impaired driver road crashes and driver breath alcohol levels. *Addiction*, 101(9), 1254-1264.

Abstract

The aim of this study was to examine the impact of later trading hours for licensed hotels in Perth, Western Australia, on the levels of associated impaired driver road crashes and driver breath alcohol levels (BALs).

Police data on the 'last place of drinking' for impaired drivers involved in road crashes and their corresponding BALs were examined to identify those associated with Perth hotels between 1 July 1990 and 30 June 1997. During this period, 43 (23%) of the 186 hotels meeting the study criteria were granted an Extended Trading Permit for 1 a.m. closing (ETP hotels), while the rest continued to close at midnight (non-ETP hotels).

After controlling for the trend in crash rates associated with non-ETP hotels and the introduction of mobile police breath testing stations to Perth freeways, a significant increase in monthly crash rates for ETP hotels was found. This relationship was largely accounted for by higher volumes of high-alcohol content beer, wine and spirits purchased by ETP hotels. No relation was found between driver BALs and the introduction of ETPs.

The study concluded that late trading was associated with increased levels of impaired driver road crashes and alcohol consumption, particularly high-risk alcoholic beverages. Greater numbers of patrons and characteristics specific to clientele of hotels which applied for late trading hours (i.e. younger age, greater propensity to drunk-drive, preference for high-risk beverages) were suggested as having contributed to this increase.

Chikritzhs, T., & Stockwell, T. (2007). The impact of later trading hours for hotels (public houses) on breath alcohol levels of apprehended impaired drivers. *Addiction*, 102(10), 1609-1617.

Abstract

The aim of this study was to examine the impact of extended trading permits (ETPs) for licensed hotels in Perth, Western Australia, on impaired driver breath alcohol levels (BALs) between July 1993 and June 1997.

Forty-three hotels obtained ETPs allowing later closing hours and 130 maintained standard closing time (controls). Impaired driver BALs were linked to 'last place of drinking' hotels. Before and after period BALs of drivers who last drank at ETP or non-ETP hotels were compared by time of day of apprehension and sex, controlling for age.

The study found that impaired female drivers apprehended between 10.01 p.m. and 12 midnight (before closing time) had significantly lower BALs after drinking at ETP hotels. Male drivers aged 18–25 years and who were apprehended between 12.01 and 2.00 a.m. after drinking at ETP hotels had significantly higher BALs than drivers who drank at non-ETP hotels.

The study concluded that, at peak times for alcohol-related offences, late trading is associated with higher BALs among those drinkers who are most at risk of alcohol related harm.

Chikritzhs, T., Catalano, P., Pascal, R., & Henrickson, N. (2007). *Predicting alcohol-related harms from licensed outlet density: A feasibility study*. Hobart: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

This feasibility study has demonstrated the utility of using systematically recorded data to model relationships between licensed outlet density and alcohol-related harm in Western Australia. This report describes in detail how the volume of wholesale alcohol purchase data can be used effectively to: identify existing associations; identify the size and direction of associations; estimate the likely impact that changes to licensed outlet density will have on levels of alcohol-related harms; and demonstrate the variability of relationships among regions. The results also concur with the overall findings from the research literature; that is, greater physical availability of alcohol is associated with higher levels of alcohol-related harms.

Nonetheless, it must be recognised that any model which attempts to estimate the impact of one variable on another will only be as accurate, sensitive and reliable as the data and assumptions upon which it is based. One of the main reasons for selecting Western Australia as a test case for this project was relatively easy access to comprehensive alcohol consumption and alcohol-related harms data. Much of that which has been demonstrated in this report could not be achieved on a national scale given current gaps in data collection. This highlights a fundamental issue which needs to be addressed if work in this area is to move forward – access to data on alcohol purchases by licensed retail outlets.

Chikritzhs, T., Stockwell, T., & Pascal, R. (2005). The impact of the Northern Territory's Living With Alcohol program, 1992–2002: Revisiting the evaluation. *Addiction*, *100*, 1625-1636.

Abstract

The aim of this study was to evaluate the effects of the Living With Alcohol (LWA) program and the LWA Alcoholic Beverage Levy on alcohol-attributable deaths in the Northern Territory (NT), controlling for simultaneous trends in death rates from a control region and non-alcohol related death trends in the NT, between 1985 and 2002.

The LWA program was introduced in 1992 with funding from a special NT tax (Levy) on beverages with greater than 3% alcohol content by volume. The Levy was removed in 1997 but the LWA program continued to be funded by the federal government until 2002. Trends in age standardised rates of acute and chronic alcohol-attributable deaths in the NT were examined before, during and after the combined implementation of the LWA program and Levy; and before and during the full length of the LWA program. Separate estimates were made for Indigenous and non-Indigenous NT residents.

The study found that, when combined, the Levy and the LWA program were associated with significant declines in acute alcohol-attributable deaths in the NT as well as Indigenous deaths between 1992 and 1997. A significant but delayed decline in chronic deaths was also evident towards the end of the study period between 1998 and 2002.

The study concluded that the combined impact of the LWA program levy and the programs and services funded by the levy reduced the burden of alcohol-attributable injury to the NT in the

short-term and may have contributed to a reduction in chronic illness in the longer term. The results of this study present a strong argument for the effectiveness of combining alcohol taxes with comprehensive programs and services designed to reduce the harms from alcohol, and underline the need to distinguish between the acute and chronic effects of alcohol in population level studies.

Debeer, J. (2006). Social host liability in Canada. *Tort Law Review*, 14(3), 174-182.

Abstract

This article examines the implications for Canadian social hosts, homeowners, insurers and victims of drink driving of the ruling in the *Childs v Desormeaux* case that party hosts are generally not liable if their guests drive drunk and injure third parties.

Dula, C. S., Dwyer, W. O., & LeVerne, G. (2007). Policing the drunk driver: Measuring law enforcement involvement in reducing alcohol-impaired driving. *Journal of Safety Research*, 38(3), 267-272.

Abstract

With many thousands of deaths still annually attributable to driving under the influence (DUI), it remains imperative that we continually address the problem of producing and sustaining effective countermeasures, and that we subject these efforts to empirical scrutiny. This article presents relevant findings from state-wide datasets.

A formula generating a potentially useful metric for assessing aspects of the DUI prosecutorial chain is presented, focusing on the rate of proactive DUI arrests. While exercising cautious interpretation due to issues of inherent inaccuracies in large databases, small numbers of crashes and/or arrests in multiple jurisdictions, and the lack of replication in other states, the analyses show no relationship between the level of DUI arrest activity and DUI-related crashes. This finding brings into question the efficacy of the many millions of dollars devoted each year to targeted DUI enforcement, as it is currently being implemented.

The results of this study are discussed in terms of developing adequate disincentives to DUI so as to raise general deterrence via dramatic increases in proactive DUI enforcement and then engaging in pervasive and persistent social marketing efforts to maximize the perception that arrest and punishment for DUI is always imminent, that penalties will be swift, certain, and severe. Accurate data need to be collected at all levels of the DUI arrest and prosecution process in every jurisdiction within a state, so as to facilitate the empirical assessment of countermeasure efficacy in reducing alcohol-related crashes.

Given that this work needs to be replicated, the impact on the traffic safety industry is potentially huge. The present data indicate that law enforcement efforts to further abate DUI-related crashes are apparently ineffective, although they are necessary to maintain reductions achieved in the 80s and early 90s. Thus, to attain additional systematic reductions, a dramatic increase in enforcement will be necessary as will a diversification of abatement efforts, including an increase in aggressive social marketing tactics to positively impact our traffic safety culture by making DUI universally unacceptable (for a discussion of this latter issue and on the use of positive reinforcement to change driver behaviour, see Dula & Geller, 2007).

Fell, J. C., Lacey, J. H., & Voas, R. B. (2004). Sobriety checkpoints: Evidence of effectiveness is strong, but use is limited. *Traffic Injury Prevention*, 5(3), 220-227.

Freeman, J., Liossis, P., & David, N. (2006). Deterrence, defiance and deviance: An investigation into a group of recidivist drink drivers' self-reported offending behaviours. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology*, 39(1), 1-19.

Abstract

This article looks at the utilisation of aspects of defiance, deviance and deterrence theories to examine self-reported offending behaviours and punishment experiences for a group of recidivist drink drivers. Overall, participants perceived that their penalties were severe but fair, that they were treated fairly in court and that they received reasonable punishments. Factors were identified as predictors of re-offending as were aspects of the models which are applicable to the examination of habitual re-offending.

French, M. T., & Maclean, J. C. (2006). Underage alcohol use, delinquency, and criminal activity. *Health Economics*, 15(12), 1261-1281.

Abstract

Since 1988, the minimum legal drinking age (MLDA) has been 21 years for all 50 US states. The increasing prevalence of teenagers driving under the influence (DUI) of alcohol and the resulting traffic accidents were two main reasons for raising the MLDA to 21 years. Following the passage of this legislation, several published studies have found that the higher MLDA is associated with a significant reduction in both fatal and non-fatal accidents. While the relationship between MLDA and DUI events among young adults has been extensively studied, less information is available on other potential consequences of underage drinking. The present study uses data from the National Epidemiologic Survey on Alcohol and Related Conditions (NESARC), a recent nationally representative survey, to investigate the effects of underage drinking on a variety of delinquency and criminal activity consequences. After controlling for the endogeneity of alcohol use where appropriate, we find strong evidence that various measures of alcohol consumption are related both to delinquency and to criminal activity. However, the findings are not uniform across gender as we find striking differences between males and females. These results have interesting policy and public health implications regarding underage drinking.

Griffin, K. W., Botvin, G. J., & Nichols, T. R. (2004). Long-term follow-up effects of a school-based drug abuse prevention program on adolescent risky driving. *Prevention Science*, 5(3), 207-212.

Abstract

This study examined long-term follow-up data from a large-scale randomised trial to determine the extent to which participation in a school-based drug abuse prevention program during junior high school led to less risky driving among high school students. Self-report data collected from students in the 7th, 10th, and 12th grades were matched by name to students' Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) records at the end of high school. The DMV data included the total number of violations on students' driving records as well as the number of "points" that indicate the frequency and severity of the violations. A series of logistic regression analyses revealed that males were more likely to have violations and points on their driving records than females, and regular alcohol users were more likely to have violations and points than those who did not use alcohol regularly. Controlling for gender and alcohol use, students who received the drug prevention program during junior high school were less likely to have violations and points on their driving records relative to control group participants that did not receive the prevention program. The findings indicate that anti-drinking attitudes mediated the effect of the intervention on driving violations, but not points. These results support the hypothesis that the behavioural effects of competence-enhancement prevention programs can extend to risk behaviours beyond the initial focus of intervention, such as risky driving.

Griggs, W., Caldicott, D., Pfeiffer, J., Edwards, N., Pearce, A., & Davey, M. A. (2007). *The impact of drugs on road crashes, assaults and other trauma: A prospective trauma toxicology study*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

The primary objective of this study was to determine the prevalence and patterns of use of specific recreational drugs in all patients with injuries requiring assessment by a trauma team at the Royal Adelaide Hospital over a one-year period. It also aimed to examine the correlation between drug use and mechanism, pattern, and severity of injury in patients presenting to the Royal Adelaide Hospital following a motor vehicle accident, and the epidemiological and demographic patterns associated with drug use and trauma. The study was conducted over a period of 12 months, and involved the identification and quantitative analysis of blood samples for the presence of ethanol, opiates, methadone, amphetamines, benzodiazepines, cannabinoids and cocaine. The results were compared with each patient's prescribed medications, thereby yielding an estimate as to the prevalence of recreational drug use in patients presenting to hospital following a trauma. This study is one of the largest of its type ever completed, recruiting 2,127 patients from two trauma groups and one control group. Its findings provide compelling evidence of the incidence and severity of drug- and alcohol-related trauma in South Australia. They also have significant implications for health, law enforcement, policy-making and research in relation to the recognition of the impact of drugs on a range of trauma. Patients who are positive for alcohol and other drugs (AODs) create an additional, and presumably otherwise avoidable, financial burden on the health system. Significantly, the findings also add to the growing evidence base for trauma related to drug driving. The key findings of the study confirm that alcohol remains the most common recreational drug found in trauma patients. Other recreational drugs, especially cannabis, are also associated with trauma. There is evidence to suggest that use of recreational drugs before/while driving is associated with increased risk of injury occurrence and severity

Grube, J. W., & Stewart, K. (2004). Preventing impaired driving using alcohol policy. *Traffic Injury Prevention, 5*(3), 199-207.

Abstract

Considerable progress has been made in the reduction of impaired driving crashes during the last two decades. Much of this progress is attributable to strengthening laws against impaired driving along with vigorous enforcement efforts aimed at deterring impaired driving. In addition, many useful strategies can also be applied that focus on the control of alcohol availability, use, and promotion. Alcohol policies include controls on the price of alcohol, the location, density, and opening hours of sales outlets, controls on the social availability of alcohol, and on the promotion and advertising of alcohol. Enforcement of these policies is an important aspect of their effectiveness. These strategies have been shown to be effective or promising in reducing impaired driving as well as other consequences related to alcohol use and misuse.

Gustin, J. L., & Simons, J. S. (2008). Perceptions of level of intoxication and risk related to drinking and driving. *Addictive Behaviours, 33*, 605-615.

Abstract

This study investigated the variables of perceived risk associated with one's decision to drink and drive, as well as with the occurrence and successfulness of intervention efforts by others in preventing individuals from drinking and driving. Undergraduate students were presented with scenarios manipulating the number of drinks, consumption time, and distance needed to drive. Participants then provided estimates of intoxication, degree of impairment, and likelihood of being in an accident and getting arrested for drinking and driving. In addition, participants rated three criterion variables: intention to drive, likelihood someone would try to intervene, and receptiveness to someone attempting to intervene. Data was analysed using three random effects regression models, one for each of the criterion variables. The results indicated that perceptions

of risk were associated with decisions to drive after drinking and expected likelihood of, and receptiveness to, intervention efforts, over and above one's estimate of intoxication.

Harvey, P. (2004). Alcohol interlock: Helping drivers keep drink off the road. *Law Society Journal*, 42(4), 48-49.

Abstract

Studies overseas have shown that drink driving offenders whose cars were equipped with an ignition interlock device had significantly fewer repeat offences than offenders who had their licenses suspended. The Road Transport Legislation Amendment (Interlock Devices) Act provides courts with another option when dealing with drink driving offenders by referring offenders to a responsible driver program involving the use of an approved interlock device.

Health Canada. (2004). *Best practices: Treatment and rehabilitation for driving while impaired offenders*. Ottawa: Health Canada.

Hlastala, M. P., Polissar, N. L., & Oberman, S. (2005). Statistical evaluation of standardised field sobriety tests. *Journal of Forensic Sciences*, 50(3), 662-669.

Howat, P., Sleet, D., Elder, R., & Maycock, B. (2004). Preventing alcohol-related traffic injury: A health promotion approach. *Traffic Injury Prevention*, 5(3), 208-219.

Abstract

The conditions that give rise to drinking and driving are complex, with multiple and interrelated causes. Prevention efforts benefit from an approach that relies on the combination of multiple interventions. Health promotion provides a useful framework for conceptualising and implementing actions to reduce drinking and driving since it involves a combination of educational, behavioural, environmental, and policy approaches. This review draws on data from a range of settings to characterize the effectiveness of various interventions embedded within the health promotion approach. Interventions considered part of the health promotion approach include: (1) economic interventions (2) organisational interventions, (3) policy interventions, and (4) health education interventions, including the use of media, school and community education, and public awareness programs.

Effective health promotion strengthens the skills and capabilities of individuals to take action and the capacity of groups or communities to act collectively to exert control over the determinants of alcohol-impaired driving. There is strong evidence for the effectiveness of some components of health promotion, including economic and retailer interventions, alcohol taxation, reducing alcohol availability, legal and legislative strategies, and strategies addressing the servers of alcohol. There is also evidence for the effectiveness of sobriety checkpoints, lower BAC laws, minimum legal drinking age laws, and supportive media promotion programs. Other interventions with moderate evidence of effectiveness include restricting alcohol advertising and promotion, and actions involving counter advertising. Health education interventions alone that have insufficient evidence for effectiveness include passive server training programs, school drug and alcohol education programs, community mobilisation efforts, and health warnings. Because each intervention builds on the strengths of every other one, ecological approaches to reducing alcohol-impaired driving using all four components of the health promotion model are likely to be the most effective. Settings such as schools, workplaces, cities, and communities offer practical opportunities to implement alcohol-impaired driving prevention programs within this framework.

Johns, R. (2004). *Drink driving and drug driving*. Sydney: NSW Parliamentary Library Research Service.

Abstract

This briefing paper examines current laws, recent developments, and planned reforms in New South Wales relating to driving a motor vehicle after consuming alcohol or drugs. Reference is also made to some developments in interstate jurisdictions. The paper covers the following topics: the incidence of drink driving in NSW; some guiding principles of NSW drink driving laws and key drink driving offences; trends in the sentencing of drink driving offenders in NSW, relevant guideline judgments, and driving offender programs; alcohol interlock schemes for convicted drink drivers operating in NSW, South Australia and Victoria; and current laws on drug driving and related testing in NSW, extent of drug driving in the community, problems of roadside drug testing, drug driving proposals in NSW, drug driving laws in other states, and Victoria's roadside drug testing initiative.

Johnston, J., Jenkinson, R., & Quinn, B. (2007). *Drink and drug driving in Melbourne: Australia's Drug Trend Monitoring Systems: The IDRS and EDRS studies*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

Drug driving is increasingly becoming a concern to both policy makers and the general community as a factor associated with risky driving behaviour and reduced road safety. Both the Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS) and the Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS) studies are important sources of information regarding the prevalence and nature of drug driving among injecting drug users and regular ecstasy users. This bulletin presents a comparison of the Victorian 2006 IDRS and EDRS findings on people driving under the influence of illicit drugs within these populations, and makes a number of recommendations regarding the development of education strategies and future research aiming to increase road safety.

Kypri, K., Voas, R. B., Langley, J. D., Stephenson, S. C. R., Begg, D. J., Tippetts, A. S., et al. (2006). Minimum purchasing age for alcohol and traffic crash injuries among 15 to 19 year olds in New Zealand. *American Journal of Public Health*, 96(1), 126-131.

Abstract

In 1999, New Zealand lowered the minimum purchasing age for alcohol from 20 to 18 years. We tested the hypothesis that this increased traffic crash injuries among 15- to 19-year olds. Poisson regression was used to compute the incidence rate ratios for the after to before incidence of alcohol-involved crashes and hospitalised injuries among 18- to 19-year-olds and 15- to 17-year-olds (20- to 24-year-olds were the reference).

The study found that among young men, the ratio of the alcohol-involved crash rate after the law change to the period before was 12% larger (95% confidence interval [CI] = 1.00, 1.25) for 18- to 19-year-olds and 14% larger (95% CI = 1.01, 1.30) for 15- to 17-year olds, relative to 20- to 24-year-olds. Among young women, the equivalent ratios were 51% larger (95% CI = 1.17, 1.94) for 18- to 19-year-olds and 24% larger (95% CI = 0.96, 1.59) for 15- to 17-year-olds. A similar pattern was observed for hospitalised injuries.

The study concluded that significantly more alcohol-involved crashes occurred among 15- to 19-year-olds than would have occurred had the purchase age not been reduced to 18 years. The effect size for 18- to 19-year-olds is remarkable given the legal exceptions to the pre-1999 law and its poor enforcement.

Lapham, S. C., C'de Baca, J., Lapidus, J., & McMillan, G. P. (2007). Randomised sanctions to reduce re-offence among repeat impaired-driving offenders. *Addiction*, *102*(10), 1618-1625.

Abstract

This study, conducted within a driving under the influence (DUI) court intervention, evaluated the degree to which removing electronic monitoring (EM) and/or mandatory vehicle sales requirements increased rates of postsentence traffic violations among repeat DUI offenders.

A randomised trial was conducted using a total of 477 repeat DUI offenders entering the Driving under the Influence of Intoxicants (DUII) Driving Intensive Supervision Program (DISP), Multnomah County, Oregon. Subjects were randomised into four intervention groups. Group 1: standard DISP with EM and vehicle sales requirements; group 2: standard DISP with mandatory vehicle sale, but without EM; group 3: standard DISP with EM, but without mandatory vehicle sale; and group 4: standard DISP without EM or mandated vehicle sale. Standard DISP includes treatment for alcohol abuse and dependence, polygraph testing, regular court appearances, and probation or court-based monitoring. The risk of re-arrest for traffic violations was compared among the four groups using hazard ratio estimates from complementary log-log regression models.

The study found that, compared with group 1, subjects in group 2 initially had increased re-arrest risks, but this effect dissipated within 3 years of entering DISP. Group 3 subjects had a 96% increase in re-arrest rates. Group 4 subjects had smaller increased risks than predicted, with re-arrest rates similar to those of group 1 at the end of the follow-up period.

Although some of the findings suggest that mandatory vehicle sales may deter future traffic violations, inconsistent results across the groups make this finding equivocal. Positive effects of EM, while large in the short term, appear to have a relatively small long-term value in reducing traffic arrest rates.

Mann, R. E., Smart, R. G., Stoduto, G., Adlaf, E. M., Vingilis, E., Beirness, D., et al. (2003). The effects of drinking-driving laws: A test of the differential deterrence hypothesis. *Addiction*, *98*(11), 1531-1536.

Abstract

Ontario introduced an Administrative Driver's Licence Suspension (ADLS) law in 1996, whereby a person with a blood alcohol level over the legal limit of 80 mg%, or who refused to provide a breath sample, would have his or her driver's licence suspended immediately for a period of 90 days. We test the differential deterrence hypothesis which would predict that social or lighter drinkers would be more affected by the ADLS law than heavier drinkers.

Data from the 1996 and 1997 cycles of the Ontario Drug Monitor, a general population survey of Ontario adults (monthly cross-sectional surveys), were employed (response rate 64-67%). Analyses were restricted to drivers who reported at least some drinking during the last year ($n = 3827$). The total number of drinks consumed during the past 12 months was analysed with analysis of variance.

We found that the mean alcohol consumption of those who reported drinking-driving increased significantly after the ADLS was introduced, whereas the alcohol consumption of those who did not drive after drinking remained the same.

The limits of this study include a lack of comparison data from regions without ADLS, a reliance on self-report measures, possible age restrictions of the findings and the fact that only an inferential test of the differential deterrence hypothesis is permitted by the data. Despite these limitations, these findings are consistent with the prediction that lighter or more moderate drinkers will tend to stop driving after drinking completely, and thus drop out of the drinking-driving population when the ADLS law was introduced, leaving heavier drinkers in this population. It will be important to continue to examine the dynamics of differential deterrence over a longer interval.

McDonald, D. (2005). Drugs and driving: From RBT to RDT. *Of Substance*, 3, 22-23.

Abstract

The summary of research findings shows that although alcohol dominates in fatal crashes, cannabis has similar culpability risks. The difference between drink driving legislation and the legislation covering other drugs is the limited public and professional understanding of the evidence about the link between the presence of drugs in the body and impairment. The article also provides brief updates on random drug driver tests around Australia.

Moffatt, S., Weatherburn, D., & Fitzgerald, J. L. (2004). Sentencing drink-drivers: The use of dismissals and conditional discharges. *Crime and Justice Bulletin: Contemporary Issues in Crime and Justice*, (81), 1-12. Sydney: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research.

Abstract

The imposition of a mandatory period of licence disqualification does not apply to charges for driving a motor vehicle with more than the prescribed concentration of blood alcohol (PCA) that are dismissed or conditionally discharged under section 10 of the *Crimes (Sentencing Procedure) Act (1999)* or which, prior to 1999, had been similarly dealt with under section 556A of the *O*. This study shows that the use of dismissals and conditional discharges for PCA offences has increased sharply over the last ten years, across each of the three PCA offence ranges. The rate of use of dismissals and conditional discharges in relation to PCA offences, however, varies markedly across Local Courts. Multivariate logistic regression modelling shows that this variation persists even after allowance has been made for the simultaneous effects of age, gender, PCA offence type, whether or not the offender had a prior conviction for a PCA offence and whether or not the sentencing court had the option of referring an offender to a traffic offender program.

Nagata, T., Setoguchi, S., Hemenway, D., & Perry, M. J. (2008). Effectiveness of a law to reduce alcohol-impaired driving in Japan. *Injury Prevention*, 14, 19-23.

Abstract

The objective of this study was to estimate the effect of a new road traffic law against alcohol-impaired driving which was passed in Japan in June 2002. The law was intended to reduce alcohol-impaired driving by decreasing the permissible blood alcohol level and by increasing penalties. Using data collected from police reports, the number of traffic fatalities and injuries were analysed by time series.

Simple comparisons of the average of all severe traffic injuries, traffic fatalities, alcohol-impaired traffic injuries, alcohol-impaired severe traffic injuries, and alcohol-impaired traffic fatalities per billion kilometers driven showed reductions after enactment of the new road traffic law in June 2002. The rate of alcohol-related traffic fatalities per billion kilometers driven decreased by 38% in the post-law period. In segmented regression analyses with adjustment for baseline trends, seasonality, and autocorrelation, all traffic injuries, severe traffic injuries, alcohol-impaired traffic injuries, alcohol-impaired severe traffic injuries, and alcohol-impaired traffic fatalities per billion kilometers driven declined significantly from baseline after the new traffic law.

The researchers concluded that large, immediate public health benefits resulted from the new road traffic law in Japan.

New road safety program targets recidivist drink-driving offenders. (2004). *Law Society Journal*, 42(1), 20-21.

Abstract

The New South Wales Sober Driver Program focuses on recidivist drivers. Entry to the Program is made via a magistrate's direction and by way of a good behaviour bond, a deferral of sentencing for rehabilitation or a Community Service Order.

Nygaard, P., & Grube, J. W. (2005). Mixed messages: Contributions to adolescent drinking and driving. *Addiction Research and Theory*, 13(5), 411-426.

Ogden, E., & Moskowitz, H. (2004). Effects of alcohol and other drugs on driver performance. *Traffic Injury Prevention*, 5(3), 185-198.

Abstract

In the past century we have learned that driving performance is impaired by alcohol even in low dosage, and that many other drugs are also linked to impairment. This paper is a summary of some of the more relevant studies in the past fifty years and as such is an overview of our knowledge and unanswered questions.

There is no evidence of a threshold blood alcohol (BAC) below which impairment does not occur, and there is no defined category of drivers who will not be impaired by alcohol. Alcohol increases not only the probability of collision, but also the probability of poor clinical outcome for injuries sustained when impaired by alcohol. This review samples the results of the myriad studies that have been performed during the last half century as experiments have moved from examination of simple sensory, perceptual and motor behaviours to more complex measures of cognitive functioning such as divided attention and mental workload. These more sophisticated studies show that significant impairment occurs at very low BACs (<0.02 gm/100 ml).

However, much remains to be determined regarding the more emotional aspects of behaviour, such as judgment, aggression and risk taking. Considering that the majority of alcohol related accidents occur at night, there is a need for a greater examination of the role of fatigue, circadian cycles and sleep loss.

The study of the effects of drugs other than alcohol is more complex because of the number of substances of potential interest, the difficulties estimating drug levels and the complexity of the drug/subject interactions. The drugs of current concern are marijuana, the benzodiazepines, other psychoactive medications, the stimulants and the narcotics. No one test or group of tests currently meets the need for detecting and documenting impairment, either in the laboratory or at the roadside.

O'Malley, P. M., & Johnston, L. D. (2007). Drugs and driving by American high school seniors, 2001-2006. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol*, 68(6), 834-842.

Abstract

The aim of this study was to report trends from 2001 to 2006 in the percentage of all high school seniors who drive after using marijuana, other illicit drugs, or alcohol or who are exposed as passengers to such behaviours. A second objective was to examine the demographic and psychosocial correlates of these behaviours.

The data were obtained from the Monitoring the Future study, in which nationally representative samples of high school seniors have been surveyed annually since 1975.

The study found that in 2006, 30% of high school seniors reported exposure to a drugged or drinking driver in the past 2 weeks, down from 35% in 2001. Exposure was demonstrated to be widespread as defined by demographic characteristics (population density, region of the country, socioeconomic status, race/ethnicity, and family structure). Individual lifestyle factors (religiosity,

grade point average, truancy, frequency of evenings out for fun, and hours of work) showed considerable association with the outcome behaviours.

The study concluded that impaired driving by youth remains a problem needing serious attention despite some progress in recent years.

Reiling, D. M., & Nusbaumer, M. R. (2007). An exploration of the potential impact of the designated driver campaign on bartenders' willingness to over-serve. *International Journal of Drug Policy* 18(6), 458-463.

Abstract

Much has been written about the impact of the presence of a designated driver on patrons' consumption, but heretofore, its impact on the behaviour of the server has been virtually ignored. The goal of this paper, then, was to explore the potential impact of the presence of a designated driver on alcoholic beverage servers' self-reported willingness to knowingly serve an already intoxicated customer. Analysis of survey data collected from 938 licensed servers, in the state of Indiana, USA, was performed. Approximately 43% of the bartenders surveyed reported that they either would be or might be willing to over-serve an already intoxicated customer. Of those who answered the follow-up question as to under what conditions they would be willing to over-serve, almost 80% reported that they would do so if the patron were accompanied by a designated driver. The statistical significance of the relationship between these two variables (.000) raises the question of whether the Designated Driver Campaign has the latent function of enabling some servers to neutralize their responsibility for over-serving by disregarding other types of intoxication-related harm.

Saffron, D., & Chilvers, M. (2003). *Sentencing high-range PCA drink-drivers in NSW*. Sydney: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research.

Abstract

The risk of being involved in a serious car accident increases significantly when the driver's blood alcohol range substantially exceeds the basic legal limit. In particular, the crash risk of a driver whose blood alcohol concentration reaches the high range (0.15 grams per 100 millilitres) prescribed concentration of alcohol (PCA) is 25 times that associated with a non-drinker. Repeat drink drivers constitute a particular risk to road safety. In this bulletin we examine the sentencing of high-range PCA drink drivers in the context of their PCA offending history. The study shows that, for offenders convicted of high-range PCA offences over the five years to June 2001, almost one-quarter were repeat drink drivers. Of these repeat offenders, more than half had a prior PCA conviction in the high range. The sentencing of high-range drink drivers is examined in relation to the frequency and nature of prior drink-driving convictions, and to the presence of concurrent driving convictions. The probability of imprisonment for a male aged 25–49 years with no prior or concurrent drink-driving conviction is less than one per cent. This probability of imprisonment rises to around 76 per cent when the offender has three or more prior drink-driving convictions, and a concurrent driving conviction.

Scott, M., Emerson, N. J., Antonacci, L. B., & Plant, J. B. (2006). *Drunk driving*. Retrieved from <http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/files/ric/Publications/e12051224.pdf>.

Stough, C., Boorman, M., Ogden, E., & Papafotiou, K. (2006). *An evaluation of the Standardised Field Sobriety Tests for the detection of impairment associated with cannabis with and without alcohol*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

Reports indicate that in Victoria, New South Wales and Western Australia, 23.5% of drivers in fatal accidents had consumed drugs other than alcohol, and that 29.1% of drivers had a Blood

Alcohol Concentration (BAC) level of 0.05% or higher. Alcohol has been detected in combination with drugs in almost 10% of cases. Cannabis was most prevalent among drugs other than alcohol that were detected in specimens (13.5%). The combination of drugs as an influence on road traffic accidents is becoming a growing concern and research has been conducted to identify how these drugs impair performance. In Victoria, Standardised Field Sobriety Tests (SFSTs) have been introduced as a means of testing for impairment in drivers who have consumed drugs other than alcohol. The use of SFSTs, although designed for the detection of alcohol-intoxicated drivers (up to 0.08%), has been implemented in programs for the detection of drugs other than alcohol. The present study had several aims: to examine the effects of cannabis and cannabis together with alcohol on driving performance; to examine the effects of cannabis and alcohol on SFSTs performance; to examine the efficiency of SFSTs to predict driving performance associated with the administration of cannabis and alcohol; to examine any differences between the effects of cannabis and alcohol on performance in regular cannabis users and non-regular cannabis users; and to examine any differences between SFSTs ratings by researchers and SFSTs ratings by police officers in order to identify the inter-rater reliability of SFSTs.

Stuster, J. (2006). Validation of the standardised field sobriety test battery at 0.08% blood alcohol concentration. *Human Factors*, 48(3), 608-614.

Abstract

A field study was conducted to evaluate the accuracy of the Standardised Field Sobriety Test (SFST) battery to assist officers in making arrest decisions at blood alcohol concentrations (BACs) below 0.10%.

The SFST Battery was validated at 0.10% BAC in 1981, but since then many states have reduced statutory limits for driving while intoxicated to 0.08% BAC. METHODS: During routine patrols, participating officers followed study procedures in administering SFSTs, scoring results, making arrest/no arrest decisions, and completing a data collection form for each of the 297 motorists evaluated during the study period. The officers' final step in each case was the administration of an evidentiary breath alcohol test.

Overall, officers' decisions were correct in more than 91% of the cases at the 0.08% BAC level. Cohen's kappa tests found all officers' scores to be within the categories of "substantial" and "near perfect" agreement, indicating low variance among the officers and a high degree of interrater reliability.

The results of this study provide evidence of the validity of the SFST Battery as an accurate and reliable decision aid for discriminating between BACs above and below 0.08%.

Sweedler, B. M., Biecheler, M. B., Laurell, H., Kroj d, G., Lerner, D., Mathijssen, M. P. M., et al. (2004). Worldwide trends in alcohol and drug impaired driving. *Traffic Injury Prevention*, 5(3), 175-184.

Abstract

Improved laws, enhanced enforcement, and public awareness brought about by citizens' concern, during the 1980s led to dramatic declines in drinking and driving in the industrialised world. The declines included about 50% in Great Britain, 28% in The Netherlands, 28% in Canada, 32% in Australia, 39% in France, 37% in Germany, and 26% in the United States. Some of these declines may be due in part to lifestyle changes, demographic shifts, and economic conditions. In most countries the declines were reversed in the early 1990s and drinking and driving began to increase. By the middle of that decade the increases stabilised and the rates of drinking and driving again began to decline. These decreases were much less dramatic than those in the 1980s. Approaching the end of the 1990s and early in the new century, the record has been mixed. Some countries (France and Germany (until 2002)) continued to reduce drinking and driving while in other countries (Canada, The Netherlands, Great Britain, and the United States), there was

stagnation and in some cases small increases or even large increase as was the case in Sweden. Complacency and attention to other issues in recent years have been difficult to overcome in some countries. Harmonisation of traffic safety laws in the European Union has strengthened laws in some countries but threatens existing strong policies in others. It may be that the major gains have already been made and that additional progress will require a much greater level of scientific knowledge, use of new and emerging technologies, and political and social commitment to put in place proven countermeasures.

Tay, R. (2005). The effectiveness of enforcement and publicity campaigns on serious crashes involving young male drivers: Are drink driving and speeding similar? *Accident Analysis & Prevention*, 37(5), 922-929.

Abstract

This study re-evaluated the effectiveness of the anti-drink driving and anti-speeding enforcement and publicity campaigns implemented in the Australian State of Victoria which have thus far yielded mixed results in several evaluations. As opposed to previous evaluations, this study focused on the effects that these campaigns have on young male drivers who formed the primary target group and examined the combined effects of the campaigns on the total number of serious crashes. Our results showed that the anti-drink driving enforcement and publicity campaigns had a significant independent effect in reducing crashes but their interactive effect was anti-complementary. Conversely, the anti-speeding enforcement and publicity campaigns had no independent effect but their interactive effect was significant in reducing serious crashes involving young male drivers.

Trade and Management Consultants Australia. (2003). *A statistical analysis and report on drink driving offences in the Australian Capital Territory 2001/2002*. Canberra: Trade and Management Consultants Australia.

Abstract

This report details the findings of a statistical analysis of drink driving offences in the Australian Capital Territory during 2001/2002. Statistics are provided on the number of random breath tests (RBTs) conducted and the number of offenders apprehended in the years 1999 to 2002; RBT figures for Australian states and territories; gender, age, alcohol level and suburb of residence of ACT offenders; locations where offences were detected; day and month of offence; and recidivist drink driving. The report notes that about 23% of the ACT population was subjected to an RBT in 2001/2002, but that a higher proportion of drink drivers were apprehended by roadside screening and other tests than by the RBT program; however, these results are not reported in the ACT Policing Annual Report. It is also noted that the percentage of offenders to population in each jurisdiction throughout Australia over the past three years is not indicative of a reduction in the incidence of drink driving as sought in the National Road Safety Strategy 2001-2010. The report makes a number of recommendations, including a recommendation that roadside screening and other tests for blood alcohol levels should be included in the ACT Policing Annual Report statistics, and that a national review of RBT programs be undertaken, given that they have been in operation for some twenty years.

Transportation Research Board. (2006). *Highway safety: Law enforcement; alcohol; driver training; safety planning and management; commercial vehicles; and motorcycles*. Washington, D.C. Transport Research Board.

Walsh-Buckley, W. J. (2006). The drink-driving defence armoury in 21st century Victoria. *Criminal Law Journal*, 30(1), 38-46.

Abstract

This article examines a selection of recent superior court decisions that have found their way into drink-driving defences in Victoria. It notes that the defence might deploy a plethora of technicalities against the prosecution.

Walsh-Buckley, W. J. (2007). Building a defence against drink-driving charges. *Law Institute Journal, Victoria*, 81(1-2), 64-67.

Abstract

Examines a selection of Victorian superior court decisions on drink-driving and notes that considerable legislative effort has been expended by the Crown in appealing to the Victorian Supreme Court and Court of Appeal against certain decisions favourable to motorists.

Walsh-Buckley, W. J. (2007). Clamping down: Drink-driving penalties and some defences. *Law Institute Journal, Victoria*, 81(8), 62-65.

Abstract

Examines the changes to penalties for drink-driving offences that have been introduced recently by the Road Safety Act. Includes a review of recent case law relating to arguable defences to drink-driving and related offences.

8. Drug Driving

This section contains resources about the extent and nature of driving while affected by drugs other than alcohol and the impact of a range of police and criminal justice responses to it.

Amerasinghe, R., & Trifonoff, A. (2006). *Drug driving amongst police detainees*. South Australian Office of Crime Statistics and Research.

Armstrong, K., Wills, A., & Watson, B. (2005, November). *Psychosocial influences on drug driving in young Australian drivers*. Paper presented at the Road Safety Research, Policing and Education Conference, Wellington, N.Z.

Abstract

Epidemiological evidence regarding the occurrence of drug driving amongst young drivers is concerning. This study examined the prevalence of drug driving in a sample of 331 young Australian drivers (average age 24 years), as well as a number of social and psychological influences associated with the behaviour. The results revealed that 26% of the sample reported that they had driven under the influence of psychoactive drugs at least once in their lifetime, and 15% indicated that they had driven within six hours of taking drugs and alcohol. While no participants reported being convicted of a drug driving offence, 3% had been involved in one or more crashes whilst drug driving (10% of those who had ever drug driven). Investigations revealed that drug driving behaviour was significantly correlated with vicarious punishment avoidance and direct punishment avoidance, suggesting an important link between young peoples' perceptions about detection and punishment and their own propensity to drug drive. Sensation seeking and attitudes were also significantly correlated with drug driving. Further evidence indicated that those who perceived more social and non-social rewards than punishments associated with drug driving, were more likely to engage in the behaviour. Results suggest that perceptions about detection and punishment are an important influence upon drug driving behaviour for young drivers. The social and non-social rewards associated with drug driving also play an important role.

Asbridge, M. (2006). Drugs and driving: When science and policy don't mix. *Canadian Journal of Public Health*, 97(4), 283-285.

Abstract

This commentary briefly looks at the Canadian Federal Government's proposed legislation to strengthen the enforcement of drug-impaired driving, placing special emphasis on cannabis. After outlining the legislation, three issues are examined. Of primary concern is at what level cannabis use impairs driving ability leading to an increased risk of motor vehicle collision. Current epidemiological evidence is reviewed. Equally important is the government's emphasis on the training and implementation of Drug Recognition Experts (DREs), specially trained police officers who detect drivers under the influence of drugs. Research on the effectiveness of DREs is discussed, along with a dialogue regarding the potential shortcomings of the DRE program. Finally, a brief surveillance of international policy literature on drugs and driving is offered, along with some sober thoughts on the potential difficulties that may emerge in the enforcement of the proposed legislation.

Australian Transport Council & Australian Transport Safety Bureau. (2005). *National road safety action plan, 2007 and 2008*. Canberra: Australian Transport Council.

Abstract

This Action Plan has been developed to provide a clear focus on initiatives that offer the most realistic prospect of substantial safety gains. The mix of measures adopted in individual jurisdictions, and the details of specific measures, will vary to reflect local circumstances and priorities. The Action Plan also cannot pre-empt the outcome of community consultation, administrative and legislative processes required before the implementation of many of these measures. However, all jurisdictions agree that research supports a focus on these priority areas.

Boorman, M. (2007). Random drug testing of drivers in Victoria. *Australian Police Journal*, 61(1), 20-24.

Abstract

This article describes the implementation in Victoria of a random drug screening program, modelled on the alcohol program methodology, which has the potential to reduce the incidence of drug driving and therefore reduce road trauma. The related state legislation and drug screening processes are outlined.

Butler, M. (2007). Australia's approach to drugs and driving. *Of Substance*, 5, 24-26.

Abstract

Examines the introduction of testing drivers for drugs in all Australian states and the Northern Territory by end of 2008. Also looks at drug driving as a factor in motor traffic deaths; the main drugs of concern; the issues in research and practice; the status of drug driving in Australian states and territories.

Degenhardt, L., Dillon, P., Duff, C., & Ross, J. (2006). Driving, drug use behaviour and risk perceptions of nightclub attendees in Victoria, Australia. *International Journal of Drug Policy* 17(1), 41-46.

Abstract

In anticipation of the introduction of roadside saliva testing in Victoria for recent THC and methylamphetamine use, this study examined the prevalence of illicit drug use among nightclub attendees in Melbourne, Victoria; their transport methods; and their drug use and driving histories.

A total of 273 persons were interviewed as they entered nightclubs in the inner Melbourne area. Questionnaires which addressed drug use, risk perception and driving behaviour were administered.

The study found that drug use on the night of interview was common, with notable proportions reporting that they had used or intended to use cannabis (22%), ecstasy (18%), speed (13%) and crystal/base methamphetamine (6%). Around one in ten participants reported that, on the night of interview, they would either drive or be driven by someone under the influence of alcohol (10%), cannabis (11%) and/or methamphetamine (8%). Seventy percent reported that they had heard of roadside drug testing and 65% supported it. Forty percent reported that roadside drug testing would change their drug driving behaviour.

The study concluded that roadside drug testing in Victoria may have positive impacts upon drug use and driving risk behaviours among a sample of young people attending nightclubs. The provision of information and increasing the transport options for young people will play a part in reducing the number of young clubbers who use drugs and drive.

Dixon, N. (2007). *Random drug driving tests under the Transport Legislation and Another Act Amendment Bill 2006 (Qld)*. Brisbane: Queensland Parliamentary Library.

Abstract

For several decades, road safety campaigns have focussed on the dangers of drink driving. While driving under the influence of alcohol would appear to pose a huge risk to road safety, disturbing findings are emerging about driving while under the influence of drugs, particularly illicit drugs. The Transport Legislation and Another Act Amendment Bill 2006 (Qld) seeks to provide police officers with the power to conduct random roadside drug testing to detect the presence of certain illicit drugs in the bodily fluids of drivers. The testing process will operate in a similar way to current random roadside breath testing for blood alcohol concentration.

Donald, A., Pointer, S., & Weekley, J. (2006). *Risk perception and drug driving among illicit drug users in Adelaide*. Parkside, SA: Drug and Alcohol Services SA.

Abstract

The link between drug consumption and motor vehicle accidents is acknowledged through a small but growing number of national and international studies. The aim of this report was to gather information on local illicit drug users with regard to the characteristics of drug drivers, their risk perceptions, the prevalence of drug driving among the group, and the socio-cultural, geographic and other factors contributing to drug driving among illicit drug users in South Australia. On average, the participants were aged in their late 20s, and most had completed high school. This report is divided into four sections. Section one incorporates a literature review providing the background and rationale for the present study. Section two describes the study methodology, section three presents the study findings, and section four provides a discussion of findings, concluding with a series of recommendations.

Duff, C., & Rowland, B. (2006). 'Rushing behind the wheel': Investigating the prevalence of 'drug driving' among club and rave patrons in Melbourne, Australia. *Drugs: Education, prevention and policy*, 13(4), 299-312.

Abstract

This paper reports the findings of survey research recently completed in Melbourne among a sample of 455 club and rave festival patrons. The research aims to provide a clearer account of the prevalence of drug driving within such settings in Melbourne, as well as identifying relevant 'predictors' of this type of drug driving. Just under half of the sample (48%) indicated that they had driven a motor vehicle within four hours of consuming an illicit substance at least once in the past year; 22% of respondents reported driving while 'knowingly intoxicated' in the previous year. Fifteen percent reported such behaviour 'several times' or more in this time. Relatively permissive attitudes towards drug driving, coupled with a higher than average prevalence of drug driving in one's peer group, were found to be significant predictors of drug driving. So too was the reported frequency of the use of cannabis and ecstasy, and the propensity to use these substances in 'rave' and 'party' settings. Given the levels of drug driving revealed in this study, the paper closes with a series of recommendations regarding the design and delivery of more effective anti-drug-driving strategies within rave and club settings.

Farrell, L. J., Kerrigan, S., & Logan, B. K. (2007). Recommendations for Toxicological Investigation of Drug Impaired Driving. *Journal of Forensic Sciences*, 52(5), 1214-1218.

Abstract

The investigation of a suspected alcohol or drug impaired driving (DUID) case ideally contains several key elements, including a trained officer documenting observations of driving and subject behaviour, and the collection of a biological specimen for comprehensive toxicology testing. There is currently no common standard of practice among forensic toxicology laboratories in the United States as to which drugs should be tested for, and at what analytical cut-off. Having some uniformity of practice among laboratories would ensure that drugs most frequently associated with driving impairment were consistently evaluated, that appropriate methods were used to screen and confirm the presence of drugs, and that more accurate data were collected on the extent of drug use among drivers. A survey of United States laboratories actively involved in providing analytical support to the Drug Evaluation and Classification Program identified marijuana, benzodiazepines, cocaine, prescription and illicit opiates, muscle relaxants, amphetamines, CNS depressants, and sleep aids used as hypnotics, as being the most frequently encountered drugs in these cases. This manuscript presents recommendations as to what specific members of these drug classes should at a minimum be tested for in the investigation of suspected DUID cases. Additionally we include recommendations for analytical cut-offs for screening and confirmation of drugs in blood and urine. Adopting these guidelines would ensure that the most common drugs would be detected,

that laboratories could compare epidemiological findings between jurisdictions, and that aggregate national statistics on alcohol and drug use in drivers involved in fatal injury collisions were representative of the true rates of drug use in the driving population.

Griggs, W., Caldicott, D., Pfeiffer, J., Edwards, N., Pearce, A., & Davey, M. A. (2007). *The impact of drugs on road crashes, assaults and other trauma: A prospective trauma toxicology study*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

The primary objective of this study was to determine the prevalence and patterns of use of specific recreational drugs in all patients with injuries requiring assessment by a trauma team at the Royal Adelaide Hospital over a one-year period. It also aimed to examine the correlation between drug use and mechanism, pattern, and severity of injury in patients presenting to the Royal Adelaide Hospital following a motor vehicle accident, and the epidemiological and demographic patterns associated with drug use and trauma. The study was conducted over a period of 12 months, and involved the identification and quantitative analysis of blood samples for the presence of ethanol, opiates, methadone, amphetamines, benzodiazepines, cannabinoids and cocaine. The results were compared with each patient's prescribed medications, thereby yielding an estimate as to the prevalence of recreational drug use in patients presenting to hospital following a trauma. This study is one of the largest of its type ever completed, recruiting 2,127 patients from two trauma groups and one control group. Its findings provide compelling evidence of the incidence and severity of drug- and alcohol-related trauma in South Australia. They also have significant implications for health, law enforcement, policy-making and research in relation to the recognition of the impact of drugs on a range of trauma. Patients who are positive for alcohol and other drugs (AODs) create an additional, and presumably otherwise avoidable, financial burden on the health system. Significantly, the findings also add to the growing evidence base for trauma related to drug driving. The key findings of the study confirm that alcohol remains the most common recreational drug found in trauma patients. Other recreational drugs, especially cannabis, are also associated with trauma. There is evidence to suggest that use of recreational drugs before/while driving is associated with increased risk of injury occurrence and severity.

Grotenhermen, F., Leson, G., Berghaus, G., Drummer, O., Kruger, H.P., Longo, M., et al. (2007). Developing limits for driving under cannabis. *Addiction*, 102(12), 1910-1917.

Abstract

The objective of this study was to develop a rational and enforceable basis for controlling the impact of cannabis use on traffic safety. An international working group of experts on issues related to drug use and traffic safety evaluated evidence from experimental and epidemiological research and discussed potential approaches to developing per se limits for cannabis.

The study found that analogous to alcohol, finite (non-zero) per se limits for delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) in blood appear to be the most effective approach to separating drivers who are impaired by cannabis use from those who are no longer under the influence. Limited epidemiological studies indicate that serum concentrations of THC below 10 ng/ml are not associated with an elevated accident risk. A comparison of meta-analyses of experimental studies on the impairment of driving-relevant skills by alcohol or cannabis suggests that a THC concentration in the serum of 7–10 ng/ml is correlated with an impairment comparable to that caused by a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of 0.05%. Thus, a suitable numerical limit for THC in serum may fall in that range.

This analysis offers an empirical basis for a per se limit for THC that allows for the identification of drivers impaired by cannabis. The limited epidemiological data render this limit preliminary.

Hlastala, M. P., Polissar, N. L., & Oberman, S. (2005). Statistical evaluation of standardised field sobriety tests. *Journal of Forensic Sciences*, 50(3), 662-669.

Johns, R. (2004). *Drink driving and drug driving*. Sydney: NSW Parliamentary Library Research Service.

Abstract

This briefing paper examines current laws, recent developments, and planned reforms in New South Wales relating to driving a motor vehicle after consuming alcohol or drugs. Reference is also made to some developments in interstate jurisdictions. The paper covers the following topics: the incidence of drink driving in NSW; some guiding principles of NSW drink driving laws and key drink driving offences; trends in the sentencing of drink driving offenders in NSW, relevant guideline judgments, and driving offender programs; alcohol interlock schemes for convicted drink drivers operating in NSW, South Australia and Victoria; and current laws on drug driving and related testing in NSW, extent of drug driving in the community, problems of roadside drug testing, drug driving proposals in NSW, drug driving laws in other states, and Victoria's roadside drug testing initiative.

Johnston, J., Jenkinson, R., & Quinn, B. (2007). *Drink and drug driving in Melbourne: Australia's Drug Trend Monitoring Systems: The IDRS and EDRS studies*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

Drug driving is increasingly becoming a concern to both policy makers and the general community as a factor associated with risky driving behaviour and reduced road safety. Both the Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS) and the Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS) studies are important sources of information regarding the prevalence and nature of drug driving among injecting drug users and regular ecstasy users. This bulletin presents a comparison of the Victorian 2006 IDRS and EDRS findings on people driving under the influence of illicit drugs within these populations, and makes a number of recommendations regarding the development of education strategies and future research aiming to increase road safety.

Jones, A. W. (2005). Driving under the influence of drugs in Sweden with zero concentration limits in blood for controlled substances. *Traffic Injury Prevention*, 6, 317-322.

Jones, A. W., & Holmgren, A. (2005). Abnormally high concentrations of amphetamine in blood of impaired drivers. *Journal of Forensic Sciences*, 50(5), 1215-1220.

Jones, A. W., Holmgren, A., & Kugelberg, F. C. (2007). Concentrations of scheduled prescription drugs in blood of impaired drivers: Considerations for interpreting the results. *Therapeutic Drug Monitoring*, 29(2), 248-260.

Abstract

This report examines the concentrations of scheduled prescription drugs in blood samples from people arrested in Sweden for driving under the influence of drugs (DUID). The investigation covered a 2 year period 2004 (N = 7052 cases) and 2005 (N = 7759 cases) and was prompted by recent legislation stipulating zero-concentration limits in blood for controlled substances. However, prescription drugs are exempt from the zero-limit law provided that the medication was being used in accordance with a doctor's prescription. The blood concentrations of various psychoactive substances were compared with the limits of quantitation of the analytic method used and the so-called therapeutic concentration range according to various reference books and tabulations. Diazepam [N = 1950 (26%)] and nordazepam [N = 2168 (28%)] were the therapeutic agents most frequently identified in these forensic blood samples along with other benzodiazepines such as alprazolam [N = 430 (5.6%)], flunitrazepam [N = 308 (4.0%)], and

nitrazepam [N = 222 (2.9%)]. The newer hypnotics, such as zolpidem [N = 148 (1.9%)] and zopiclone [N = 111 (1.5%)], were also high on the list of psychoactive substances identified. Interpreting the concentration of a prescription drug in blood in relation to whether the person had taken an overdose or was abusing the substance in question is not always easy. The age, gender, degree of obesity, and ethnicity of the person concerned; the pharmacokinetic profile of the drug; polymorphism of drug-metabolising enzymes as well as liver and kidney function and blood hematocrit need to be considered. Among preanalytic factors, stability of the drug in blood after sampling, the type of tubes and preservatives used, the dosage form and route of administration deserve consideration. When therapeutic drug monitoring concentrations are compared with forensic toxicology results, then the plasma-to-whole blood distribution ratio of the drug also needs to be considered. In blood samples from DUID suspects, the concentrations of many commonly used sedatives and hypnotics exceeded the accepted therapeutic limits, which gives an indication of the abuse potential of these types of medications.

Jones, A. W., Holmgren, A., & Kugelberg, F. C. (2007). Driving under the influence of cannabis: A 10-year study of age and gender differences in the concentrations of tetrahydrocannabinol in blood. *Addiction*, 103(3), 452-461.

Abstract

Δ^9 -Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) is the major psychoactive constituent of cannabis and its various preparations. Increasing use of cannabis for recreational purposes has created a problem for road-traffic safety. This paper compares age, gender and the concentrations of THC in blood of individuals apprehended for driving under the influence of drugs (DUID) in Sweden, where a zero-tolerance law operates.

Specimens of blood or urine were subjected to a broad screening analysis by enzyme immunoassay methods. THC positives were verified by analysis of blood by gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) with a deuterium-labelled internal standard (d₃-THC). All toxicology results were entered into a database (TOXBASE) along with the age and gender of apprehended drivers.

The study found that over a 10-year period (1995–2004), between 18% and 30% of all DUID suspects had measurable amounts of THC in their blood (> 0.3 ng/ml) either alone or together with other drugs. The mean age [\pm standard deviation (SD)] of cannabis users was 33 \pm 9.4 years (range 15–66 years), with a strong predominance of men (94%, $P < 0.001$). The frequency distribution of THC concentrations ($n = 8794$) was skewed markedly to the right with mean, median and highest values of 2.1 ng/ml, 1.0 ng/ml and 67 ng/ml, respectively. The THC concentration was less than 1.0 ng/ml in 43% of cases and below 2.0 ng/ml in 61% of cases. The age of offenders was not correlated with the concentration of THC in blood ($r = -0.027$, $P > 0.05$). THC concentrations in blood were higher when this was the only psychoactive substance present ($n = 1276$); mean 3.6 ng/ml, median 2.0 ng/ml compared with multi-drug users; mean 1.8 ng/ml, median 1.0 ng/ml ($P < 0.001$). In cases with THC as the only drug present the concentration was less than 1.0 ng/ml in 26% and below 2.0 ng/ml in 41% of cases. The high prevalence of men, the average age and the concentrations of THC in blood were similar in users of illicit drugs (non-traffic cases).

The study concludes that the concentration of THC in blood at the time of driving is probably a great deal higher than at the time of sampling (30–90 minutes later). The notion of enacting science-based concentration limits of THC in blood (e.g. 3–5 ng/ml), as discussed in some quarters, would result in many individuals evading prosecution. Zero-tolerance or limit of quantitation laws is a much more pragmatic way to enforce DUID legislation.

Jones, C., Donnelly, N., Swift, W., & Weatherburn, D. (2005). Driving under the influence of cannabis: *The problem and potential countermeasures*. Sydney: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research.

Abstract

This study assessed (a) whether recent drug-drivers were more likely to self-report accidents than non-intoxicated drivers; (b) the likely deterrent effect of roadside drug testing (RDT), increasing the severity of sanctions for drug-driving and providing factual information about accident risk associated with drug-driving; and (c) what factors were predictive of driving under the influence of cannabis (DUIC). Face-to-face structured interviews were conducted with 320 cannabis users in NSW. The results provided only limited support for a relationship between DUIC and accident risk, although replication with a larger sample size is recommended. RDT appears to act as a more effective deterrent against drug-driving than either increasing the severity of sanctions or providing factual information about the risks associated with the behaviour. Males, dependent users, early onset cannabis users, frequent drivers, cannabis users who had used more classes of other drugs and cannabis users who believed that their risk of accident would not change following cannabis use were all more likely to report DUIC.

Laumon, B., Gadegbeku, B., Martin, J. L., & Biecheler, M. B. (2005). Cannabis intoxication and fatal road crashes in France: Population based case-control study. *British Medical Journal*, 331, 1371.

Abstract

This study evaluated the relative risk of being responsible for a fatal crash while driving under the influence of cannabis, the prevalence of such drivers within the driving population, and the corresponding share of fatal crashes.

A Population based case-control study was conducted using 10 748 drivers, with known drug and alcohol concentrations, who were involved in fatal crashes in France from October 2001 to September 2003. The cases were the 6766 drivers who were considered to be at fault in their crash; the controls were 3006 drivers who were selected from the 3982 other drivers. The positive detection of cannabis was defined as a blood concentration of Delta9tetrahydrocannabinol of over 1 ng/ml. The prevalence of positive drivers in the driving population was estimated by standardising the controls on drivers not at fault who were involved in crashes resulting in slight injuries.

The study found that 681 drivers were positive for cannabis (cases 8.8%, controls 2.8%), including 285 with an illegal blood alcohol concentration (≥ 0.5 g/l). Positive cannabis detection was associated with increased risk of responsibility (odds ratio 3.32, 95% confidence interval 2.63 to 4.18). A significant dose effect was identified; the odds ratio increased from 2.18 (1.22 to 3.89) if $0 < \text{Delta9tetrahydrocannabinol} < 1$ ng/ml to 4.72 (3.04 to 7.33) if $\text{Delta9tetrahydrocannabinol} \geq 5$ ng/ml. The effect of cannabis remains significant after adjustment for different cofactors, including alcohol, with which no statistical interaction was observed. The prevalence of cannabis (2.9%) that is estimated for the driving population is similar to that for alcohol (2.7%). At least 2.5% (1.5% to 3.5%) of fatal crashes were estimated as being attributable to cannabis, compared with 28.6% for alcohol (26.8% to 30.5%).

The study concludes that driving under the influence of cannabis increases the risk of involvement in a crash. However, in France its share in fatal crashes is significantly lower than those that are associated with positive blood alcohol concentration.

Lenton, S. (2006, August). Is the embracing of 'random' roadside saliva testing to prevent drug-affected driving premature? *CentreLines*, 2-4.

Abstract

In this article the author challenges the rapid adoption in Australia of random roadside saliva testing for illicit drugs. While acknowledging that the advantages of saliva testing over other methods such as blood, urine and sweat are that the test is relatively simple to administer in a roadside context and is less invasive, the author considers a number of other issues concerned with the use of saliva for roadside drug screening that are rarely discussed in the public realm.

McDonald, D. (2005). Drugs and driving: From RBT to RDT. *Of Substance*, 3, 22-23.

Abstract

This article presents a summary of research findings which shows that while alcohol dominates in fatal crashes, cannabis has similar culpability risks. It notes that the difference between drink driving legislation and legislation covering drugs is limited by public and professional understanding of the evidence about the link between the presence of drugs in the body and impairment. The article also provides an update on random drug driver tests around Australia.

Mura, P., Chatelain, C., Dumestre, V., Gaulier, J. M., Ghysel, M. H., Lacroix, C., et al. (2006). Use of drugs of abuse in less than 30-year-old drivers killed in a road crash in France: A spectacular increase for cannabis, cocaine and amphetamines. *Forensic Science International*, 160(2), 168-172.

Abstract

A collaborative study was conducted in France in order to determine the prevalence of cannabinoids, opiates, cocaine metabolites and amphetamines in blood samples from drivers killed in road accidents in 2003 and 2004 and to compare these values with those of a previous study performed during the period 2000–2001 involving 900 drivers. Blood samples were provided from 2003 under 30-year-old drivers, killed in a traffic accident. Drugs of abuse were determined by gas chromatography-mass spectrometry using the same analytical procedures in all the 12 laboratories.

The most frequently observed compounds were by far cannabinoids that tested positive in 39.6% of the total number of samples. Δ^9 tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the most active of the principal constituents in marijuana (*cannabis sativa*), was detected in the blood of 28.9% of drivers and was the single drug of abuse in 80.2% of the positive cases. It was associated with amphetamines in 7.4% and with opiates and cocaine in 1.9% and 4.8%, respectively. Amphetamines were present in 3.1% of the total number of samples, cocaine metabolites in 3.0% and opiates in 3.5%.

When comparing these results with those of a previous study performed 3 years before, a significant increase is observed for THC (28.9% versus 16.9%), cocaine metabolites (3.0% versus 0.2%) and amphetamines (3.1% versus 1.4%).

This study demonstrates the critical necessity of implementing in France as soon as possible systematic roadside testing for drugs of abuse.

Nicholas, R. (2004). *Testing drivers for drugs other than alcohol at the kerbside: Current issues*. Adelaide: Australasian Centre for Policing Research.

Ogden, E., & Moskowitz, H. (2004). Effects of alcohol and other drugs on driver performance. *Traffic Injury Prevention*, 5(3), 185-198.

Abstract

In the past century we have learned that driving performance is impaired by alcohol even in low dosage, and that many other drugs are also linked to impairment. This paper is a summary of some of the more relevant studies in the past fifty years and provides an overview of our knowledge and unanswered questions.

There is no evidence of a threshold blood alcohol (BAC) below which impairment does not occur, and there is no defined category of drivers who will not be impaired by alcohol. Alcohol increases not only the probability of collision, but also the probability of poor clinical outcome for injuries sustained when impaired by alcohol. This review samples the results of the myriad studies that have been performed during the last half century as experiments have moved from examination of simple sensory, perceptual and motor behaviours to more complex measures of cognitive functioning such as divided attention and mental workload. These more sophisticated studies show that significant impairment occurs at very low BACs (<0.02 gm/100 ml).

However, much remains to be determined regarding the more emotional aspects of behaviour, such as judgment, aggression and risk taking. Considering that the majority of alcohol related accidents occur at night, there is a need for increased examination on the role of fatigue, circadian cycles and sleep loss.

The study of the effects of drugs other than alcohol is more complex because of the number of substances of potential interest, the difficulties in estimating drug levels and the complexity of the drug/subject interactions. The drugs of current concern are marijuana, the benzodiazepines, other psychoactive medications, the stimulants and the narcotics. No one test or group of tests currently meets the need for detecting and documenting impairment, either in the laboratory or at the roadside.

O'Malley, P. M., & Johnston, L. D. (2007). Drugs and driving by American high school seniors, 2001-2006. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol*, 68(6), 834-842.

Abstract

The aim of this study was to report the trends from 2001 to 2006 in the percentage of all high school seniors who drive after using marijuana, other illicit drugs, or alcohol or who are exposed as passengers to such behaviours. A second objective was to examine the demographic and psychosocial correlates of these behaviours.

The data were obtained from the Monitoring the Future study, in which nationally representative samples of high school seniors have been surveyed annually since 1975.

The study found that in 2006, 30% of high school seniors reported exposure to a drugged or drinking driver in the past 2 weeks, down from 35% in 2001. Exposure was demonstrated to be widespread as defined by demographic characteristics (population density, region of the country, socioeconomic status, race/ethnicity, and family structure). Individual lifestyle factors (religiosity, grade point average, truancy, frequency of evenings out for fun, and hours of work) showed considerable association with the outcome behaviours.

The study concluded that impaired driving by youth remains a problem that needs serious attention despite some progress in recent years.

Palmer, S. (2007). *Drugs and driving: A compendium of research studies*. Canada: Department of Justice.

Abstract

It is clear that drug-impaired driving is a serious, wide-spread problem that requires effective responses. There is a broad spectrum of options, from strictly preventative to strictly punitive approaches. As seen in relation to alcohol-impaired driving, it is likely that a combination of both preventative and punitive responses provide the best results. Nevertheless, this annotated bibliography focuses on studies pertaining to the identification and prosecution of drug-impaired driving. Moreover it concentrates on studies about drug-impaired, rather than alcohol-impaired, driving. As described in the section that follows, there have been a substantial number of studies relating to drug-impaired driving worldwide. However, there has been a paucity of research that brings together data from these various sources. Assessment of the merits of proposed legislative

changes in the future and identification of alternative options will require up-to-date knowledge of current literature pertaining to drug-impaired driving. This annotated bibliography attempts to meet these needs. Its objective is to provide a listing of drug-impaired driving research published in English, since 1999.

Pointer, S. (2005). *The prevalence of drug driving in the South Australian general population: Findings from the Spring 2004 Health Omnibus Survey*. Parkside, SA: Drug and Alcohol Services SA.

Abstract

In order to establish the prevalence of drug driving in South Australia, Drug and Alcohol Services South Australia has undertaken a brief population survey through the commissioning of five questions in the 2004 Health Omnibus Survey. The Health Omnibus Survey is an annual survey of South Australian residents conducted via face-to-face interviews in both metropolitan and country regions. This bulletin presents results from that survey. The results suggest that approximately 10% of the adult South Australian population had driven a vehicle within an hour of using an illicit drug at some time in their lives, and twice as many participants reported being a passenger in a vehicle where the driver had driven within an hour of using an illicit substance. Further work is being undertaken by DASSA on an illicit drug using population to gather more information on the perceptions and misperceptions of individuals who drive under the influence of illicit drugs.

Ramaekers, J. G., Kuypers, K. P. C., & Samyn, N. (2006). Stimulant effects of 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA) 75 mg and methylphenidate 20 mg on actual driving during intoxication and withdrawal. *Addiction*, 101(11), 1614-1621.

Abstract

3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA) is currently one of the most popular drugs of abuse in Europe. Its increasing use over the last decade has led to concern regarding possible adverse effects on driving. The aims of the present study were to investigate the acute effects of MDMA on actual driving performance during the intoxication and withdrawal phase.

Eighteen recreational MDMA-users (nine males, nine females) aged 21-39 years participated in a double-blind, placebo-controlled, three-way cross-over study. MDMA 75 mg, methylphenidate 20 mg and placebo were administered on day 1 of treatment (intoxication phase). Driving tests were conducted between 3 and 5 hours post-drug intake. Subjects returned the following day for a repetition of the driving tests between 27 and 29 hours post-drug (withdrawal phase). On-the-road driving tests consisted of a road-tracking test and a car-following test. Its main parameters were standard deviation of lateral position (SDLP), time to speed adaptation (TSA), brake reaction time (BRT) and gain.

The study found that MDMA and methylphenidate significantly decreased SDLP in the road-tracking tests by about 2 cm relative to the placebo on day 1 (intoxication phase). In addition, MDMA intoxication decreased performance in the car-following test as indicated by a significant rise in the 'overshoot' of the subjects' response to speed decelerations of the leading vehicle. Driving performance was not affected by treatments during withdrawal on day 2.

The study concludes that, collectively, these data indicate that MDMA is a stimulant drug that may improve certain aspects of the driving task, such as road-tracking performance, but may reduce performance in other aspects of the driving task, such as the accuracy of speed adaptation during car-following performance.

Rapoport, M. J., & Banina, M. C. (2007). Impact of psychotropic medications on simulated driving: A critical review. *CNS Drugs*, 21(6), 503-519.

Abstract

Driving a motor vehicle is central to the functional autonomy of patients with psychiatric illnesses. There have been many studies of the deleterious effects of psychotropic medications such as benzodiazepines, typical antipsychotics and tricyclic antidepressants (TCAs) on human motor skills; however, in the literature little attention has been paid to how such impairment affects driving ability. Computerised driving simulators offer a laboratory-based method of assessing the effects of specific psychotropic medications on driving abilities, in a standardised, controlled and safe manner. The purpose of the present article is to review research undertaken to-date on the effects of psychotropic medications on computer-simulated driving.

A search of various databases, including MEDLINE, EMBASE and PsycInfo, was conducted. Forty-one articles assessing the impact of psychotropics on computer-simulated driving were identified. The pooled total number of subjects assessed in these simulator studies was 1336 (mean sample size 30.36 [SD 35.8]). The most common outcome measures in the various studies were speed, steering, deviation from lateral position (tracking, lane drifting), reaction time or braking accuracy, driving errors (e.g. errors in turning, coordination, gap acceptance, signalling, following distance) and vehicle collisions. The results of the studies were quite variable; however, the most common drug-related impairments included those of tracking and reaction time. Benzodiazepines and TCAs were most commonly associated with impairment, although the level of impairment was dependent on the population studied, the dose and the time of testing relative to drug administration.

The study concluded that computer-simulated driving provides a useful tool to research psychotropic-related impairment of driving abilities. The limitations of currently available data include the lack of generalisability, standardisation and small sample sizes.

Richman, J. E., McAndrew, K. G., Decker, D., & Mullaney, S. C. (2004). An evaluation of pupil size standards used by police officers for detecting drug impairment. *Optometry*, 75(3), 175-182.

Stough, C., Boorman, M., Ogden, E., & Papafotiou, K. (2006). *An evaluation of the Standardised Field Sobriety Tests for the detection of impairment associated with cannabis with and without alcohol*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

Reports indicate that in Victoria, New South Wales and Western Australia, 23.5% of drivers in fatal accidents had consumed drugs other than alcohol, and that 29.1% of drivers had a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) level of 0.05% or higher. Alcohol has been detected in combination with drugs in almost 10% of cases. Cannabis was most prevalent among drugs other than alcohol detected in specimens (13.5%). The combination of drugs as an influence on road traffic accidents is becoming a growing concern and research has been conducted to identify how these drugs impair performance. In Victoria, Standardised Field Sobriety Tests (SFSTs) have been introduced as means of testing for impairment in drivers who have consumed drugs other than alcohol. The use of SFSTs, although designed for the detection of alcohol-intoxicated drivers (up to 0.08%), has been implemented in programs for the detection of drugs other than alcohol. The present study had several aims: to examine the effects of cannabis and cannabis together with alcohol on driving performance; to examine the effects of cannabis and alcohol on SFSTs performance; to examine the efficiency of SFSTs to predict driving performance associated with the administration of cannabis and alcohol; to examine any differences between the effects of cannabis and alcohol on performance in regular cannabis users and non-regular cannabis users; and to examine any differences between SFSTs ratings by researchers and SFSTs ratings by police officers in order to identify the inter-rater reliability of SFSTs.

Sweedler, B. M., Biecheler, M. B., Laurell, H., Kroj D., G., Lerner, D., Mathijssen, M., et al. (2004). Worldwide trends in alcohol and drug impaired driving. *Traffic Injury Prevention*, 5(3), 175-184.

Terry, P., & Wright, K. (2005). Self-reported driving behaviour and attitudes towards driving under the influence of cannabis among three different user groups in England. *Addictive Behaviours*, 30(3), 619-626.

9. Alcohol and Other Drug Related Social Harms

This section contains resources on the broader ways in which the misuse of alcohol and other drugs impacts upon the community. These harms include public safety and amenity, family and other social problems.

Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs. (2003). *Hidden harm – Responding to the needs of children of problem drug users*. London: Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs.

Abstract

This Report sets out the findings of an Inquiry carried out by the Advisory Council, focussing on children in the UK with a parent, parents or other guardian whose drug use has serious negative consequences for themselves and those around them.

It contains 48 recommendations and the following 6 key messages:

- There are between 250,000 and 350,000 children of problem drug users in the UK or about 1 child for every problem drug user.
- Parental problem drug use causes serious harm to children at every age from conception to adulthood.
- Reducing the harm to children from parental problem drug use should become a main objective of policy and practice.
- Effective treatment of the parent can have major benefits for the child.
- By working together, services can take many practical steps to protect and improve the health and well-being of affected children.
- The number of affected children is only likely to decrease when the number of problem drug users decreases.

Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs. (2007). *Hidden harm – Three years on: Realities, challenges and opportunities*. London: Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs.

Abstract

This report, in keeping with the original Hidden Harm report, focuses on the lives and experiences of a large, diverse and vulnerable group of children. One of the recommendations of the original report was “that the voices of children should be heard and listened to” (Recommendation 6). Accordingly, this report includes children’s own words throughout, drawn from projects that have been set up and the research that has been carried out since the original report, in order to provide a reminder of their lives, experiences and resilience.

Altshuler, S. J. (2005). Drug-endangered children need a collaborative community response. *Child Welfare*, 84(2), 171-190.

Australasian Centre for Policing Research. (2004). The role of police in supporting illicit drug related public health outcomes. *Australian Police Journal*, 58(2), 53-59.

Australian Federal Police (2004). *AFP Drug Harm Index*. Canberra: Australian Federal Police.

Babb, P. (2007). *Violent crime, disorder and criminal damage since the introduction of the Licensing Act 2003* (2nd edition). London: Research Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office.

Brady, M., Nicholls, R., Henderson, G., & Byrne, J. (2006). The role of a rural sobering-up centre in managing alcohol-related harm to Aboriginal people in South Australia. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 25(3), 201-206.

Abstract

There is a paucity of literature on the topic of sobering-up centres (non-custodial safe overnight accommodation for the publicly intoxicated). This paper presents the findings of a retrospective longitudinal case study of a sobering-up centre in regional South Australia over the ten years from

1991 to 2000. There were 6,486 admissions during this period, 97.1% of which were of Aboriginal people. Primary data including demographic details of admissions and re-admissions were collated and analysed, as were qualitative and quantitative measures of intoxication. The findings from this case study, considered together with contextual understandings from a wider social study in this region by three of the authors, provide supporting evidence of the important role of sobering-up centres in averting the known harms of a custodial response to public drunkenness, as well as avoiding the potential harm of alcohol-related injury among vulnerable Aboriginal people.

Burris, S., & Strathdee, G. (2006). To serve and protect? Toward a better relationship between drug control policy and public health. *AIDS, 20*(1), 117-118.

Abstract

The USA has the highest rate of incarceration in the world; over 2 million people are behind bars and another 4.5 million are on probation or parole. The number of incarcerated people in the USA has almost doubled over the last decade, due at least in part to penally oriented US drug policies. In their paper, Friedman et al. examine the extent to which legal repressiveness, measured through drug-related arrests, police per capita and corrections expenditures per capita data, influences HIV infection in 89 major US metropolitan areas. In this current analysis, the authors show that their three indices of legal repressiveness had no effect on drug use measures, but all three were associated with higher HIV prevalence.

Casswell, S., & Maxwell, A. (2005). What works to reduce alcohol-related harm and why aren't the policies more popular? *Social Policy Journal of New Zealand, 25*, 118-141.

Chikritzhs, T., & Stockwell, T. (2006). The impact of later trading hours for hotels on levels of impaired driver road crashes and driver breath alcohol levels. *Addiction, 101*(9), 1254-1264.

Abstract

The aim of this study was to examine the impact of later trading hours for licensed hotels in Perth, Western Australia, on levels of associated impaired driver road crashes and driver breath alcohol levels (BALs).

Police data on the 'last place of drinking' for impaired drivers involved in road crashes and their corresponding BALs were examined to identify those associated with Perth hotels between 1 July 1990 and 30 June 1997. During this period, 43 (23%) of the 186 hotels meeting the study criteria were granted an Extended Trading Permit for 1 a.m. closing (ETP hotels), while the rest continued to close at midnight (non-ETP hotels). Time-series analyses employing multiple linear regressions were applied to determine whether an association existed between the introduction of extended trading and (i) monthly levels of impaired driver road crashes associated with ETP hotels and (ii) driver BALs associated with ETP hotels. Trends associated with non-ETP hotels were included as controls and possible confounders were considered.

After controlling for the trend in crash rates associated with non-ETP hotels and the introduction of mobile police breath testing stations to Perth freeways, a significant increase in monthly crash rates for ETP hotels was found. This relationship was largely accounted for by higher volumes of high-alcohol content beer, wine and spirits purchased by ETP hotels. No relation was found between driver BALs and the introduction of ETPs.

The study concluded that late trading was associated with increased levels of impaired driver road crashes and alcohol consumption, particularly high-risk alcoholic beverages. Greater numbers of patrons and characteristics specific to clientele of hotels which applied for late trading hours (i.e. younger age, greater propensity to drunk-drive, preference for high-risk beverages) were suggested as having contributed to this increase.

Cooper, H., Moore, L. L., Gruskin, S., & Krieger, N. (2005). The impact of a police drug crackdown on drug injectors' ability to practice harm reduction: A qualitative study. *Social Science & Medicine*, 61(3), 673-684.

Coumans, M., Knibbe, R. A., & van de Mheen, D. (2006). Street-level effects of local drug policy on marginalisation and hardening: An ethnographic study among chronic drug users. *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*, 38(2), 161-171.

Abstract

This study focuses on the effects of increased enforcement on the marginalisation of and quality of relations between chronic drug users in the region of Parkstad Limburg (The Netherlands). Data were mainly gathered by ethnographic community fieldwork, verified by interviews with key informants and supported by a survey sample of 100 drug users. The results show the direct effects of repression on stigmatisation and marginalisation of drug users, and on the availability of drugs. More indirect effects include the hectic reactions of drug users and dealers, greater visibility of drug users in public places, and increased tensions in and deterioration of relations between the drug users. The impact of the increased enforcement on reports of drug-related nuisance in general population surveys and on police control is also discussed.

Davis, C. S. (2005). Effects of an intensive street-level police intervention on syringe exchange program use in Philadelphia. *American Journal of Public Health*, 95(2), 233-236.

Dawe, S., Frye, S., Best, D., Moss, D., Atkinson, J., Evans, C., et al. (2006). *Drug use in the family: Impacts and implications for children*. Canberra: Australian National Council on Drugs.

Abstract

This report focuses on the impact of parental substance misuse, specifically alcohol and illicit drug use, in children aged between two and twelve years. It begins with a review of the literature on the prevalence of substance misuse in families, with additional original analyses of national surveys and analyses of specialist databases. It is clear that the use of alcohol and other drugs in households with dependent children is high, with especially high rates of binge drinking. While parental substance misuse can affect many aspects of a child's life, it is generally difficult to disentangle the effects of parental substance use from the broader social and economic factors that contribute to and maintain the misuse of either drugs or alcohol. In chapters two and three, the research literature is reviewed to ascertain the contribution of other factors, in addition to parental substance misuse, that influence child outcome. Chapter four has been written especially on the effects of parental substance misuse on Indigenous children. Whilst many of the risk and protective factors are similar across cultures, a unique historical context resulting from colonialisation and subsequent social and cultural devastation in Indigenous communities brings an additional set of considerations when looking at the impact of parental substance abuse on children. Understanding legislative frameworks and current policy initiatives is essential in determining how best to engage families in which there is risk of poor child outcome. Chapter five of the report provides a legislative overview and chapter six a description of current Australian policies. Chapter seven discusses the report from the United Kingdom's 'Hidden harm: responding to the needs of children of problem drug users', and outlines the responses from each of the four home countries, plus research initiatives and policy directives. The final chapter lists a set of principles to guide treatment interventions which have been informed by the research outlined in this report.

Degenhardt, L., Conroy, E., Gilmour, S., & Hall, W. D. (2004). The effect of a reduction in heroin supply on fatal and non-fatal drug overdoses in New South Wales, Australia. *Medical Journal of Australia*, 182(1), 20-23.

Department for Education and Skills (UK). (2003). *Government response to Hidden harm: The report of an inquiry by the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs*. London: Department for Education and Skills (UK).

Abstract

We welcome the publication of Hidden Harm: the Report by the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs (ACMD) on the needs of children of problem drug users. These are a group whose particular needs are often overlooked. Substance misuse has serious negative affects on children and young people and is associated with poor outcomes. Children and young people with drug misusing parents are children often in need of protection. The ACMD's Report contains six main messages:

- An estimate that there are between 250,000 and 350,000 children of problem drug users in the United Kingdom – about one for every problem drug user;
- Parental drug use can and does cause serious harm to children at every stage from conception to adulthood;
- Reducing the harm to children from parental problem drug use should become a main objective of policy and practice;
- Effective treatment of the parent can have major benefits for the child;
- By working together, services can take many practical steps to protect and improve the health and well-being of affected children; and
- The number of affected children is only likely to decrease when the number of problem drug users decreases.

The Report contains 48 recommendations and included in the report is an update of the progress against all of these, outlining which government department has lead responsibility.

Donnelly, N., Poynton, S., Weatherburn, D., Bamford, E., & Nottage, J. (2006). *Liquor outlet concentrations and alcohol-related neighbourhood problems*. Sydney: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research.

Abstract

This bulletin presents the results of research investigating the relationship between the concentration of licensed premises in a given area and the perceptions of alcohol-related problems in that locale. For this purpose, a secondary analysis of the National Crime and Safety Survey (2002) was conducted using data from survey participants who resided in NSW. This investigation examined three outcomes:

1. reported problems with drunkenness in the neighbourhood,
2. reported problems with property damage in the neighbourhood, and
3. assault victimisation in the home.

Two measures of alcohol outlet concentration were constructed for this analysis and included as independent variables:

- liquor outlet accessibility, and
- liquor outlet density.

Multilevel modelling of these data showed that respondents who lived closer to liquor outlets were more likely to report problems in their neighbourhood from drunkenness and property

damage, controlling for socio-demographic factors. The analysis also showed that respondents who lived in areas with a higher density of licensed premises were more likely to report problems in their neighbourhood from drunkenness, again controlling for socio-demographic factors. It was not possible to apply multilevel modelling to assess the relationship between domestic assault victimisation and either of the alcohol outlet concentration measures due to the relatively low number of assaults in the sample which were reported as having occurred at home. The implications of these findings for liquor licensing policy in NSW are discussed.

Engineer, R., Phillips, A., Thompson, J., & Nicholls, J. (2003). *Drunk and disorderly: A qualitative study of binge drinking among 18- to 24-year-olds*. London: Home Office Research, Development and Statistics Directorate.

Abstract

This report presents the findings from a qualitative study exploring the social context of binge drinking among young adults aged 18 to 24 years. The study examines young people's experiences of crime, disorder and risk-taking in the night-time economy, and explores ways in which drinking patterns, attitudes to drinking alcohol and the effects of binge drinking were related to these experiences. The research aims to provide an evidence base for the development of policies to reduce alcohol-related crime, disorder and violence, and public drunkenness. The research consisted of 16 focus group discussions with young people, conducted across 8 locations in England and Wales. All of these young people had regular experience of binge drinking, and many reported behaving in ways associated with alcohol-related crime and disorder while out drinking. The research identified four key elements of the social context that are relevant to the relationship between binge drinking and disorder:

- attitudes and motivations towards binge drinking;
- social and peer group norms;
- the effects of binge drinking on mood and behaviour; and
- the drinking environment.

Key 'risk factors' were identified in each area and the research concluded that where these are present, and particularly when they interact, the likelihood of disorderly outcomes and risk-taking is increased. The report's conclusion illustrates and explains these integral relationships.

Fitzgerald, J. L. (2005). Policing as public health menace in the policy struggles over public injecting. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 16(4), 203-206.

Harradine, S., Kodz, J., Lemetti, F., & Jones, B. (2004). *Defining and measuring anti-social behaviour*. London: Research, Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office UK.

Abstract

There is a greater emphasis being placed by the UK Government on anti-social behaviour (ASB) and methods to tackle it. This is particularly evident through the setting up of the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit (ASBU) within the Home Office, the launch of the Anti-Social Behaviour 'Together' Action Plan and the introduction of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act during 2003. Anti-social behaviour is a key issue of public concern. A count of reports conducted by ASBU in England and Wales in September 2003 found that over 66,000 reports of anti-social behaviour were made to agencies on one day. The 2003/04 British Crime Survey (BCS) shows that over a quarter of the public perceive particular behaviours such as vandalism, graffiti, litter and teenagers hanging around as a problem in their local area. Public perceptions, however, have been improving recently. The 2003/04 BCS estimates that 16 per cent of the public perceive high levels of anti-social behaviour in their local area, compared with 21 per cent in 2002/03 (Dodd, Nicholas, Povey and Walker, 2004). In order to be able to tackle anti-social behaviour effectively it is

important that practitioners with responsibility for addressing the problem have a clear knowledge and understanding of the behaviours occurring in their locality. However, little work has been published to date on how anti-social behaviour can be defined and measured. This report sets out the possible methods for defining and measuring anti-social behaviour at a local level and the sources of information that can be drawn upon for this purpose. It is not intended to be prescriptive in terms of recommending any one method or approach. Rather, it set outs a range of approaches and some of the potential strengths and weaknesses of each. It presents a series of issues for practitioners to consider when identifying the most appropriate approach.

Inner City Entertainment Precincts Taskforce (2005). *'A good night for all': Options for improving safety and amenity in inner city entertainment precincts: A discussion paper*. Melbourne: Department of Justice, Victoria.

Jacobs, K., Burke, T., Green, M., Siggers, S., Mason, R., & Barclay, A. (2007). *Making sense of partnerships: A study of police and housing department collaboration for tackling drug and related problems on public housing estates*. Hobart: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

The aim of this project is to explore the realities of partnerships by focusing on the collaboration between the police and housing departments to tackle problems associated with illicit drug activity and anti-social behaviour (ASB) on three Australian public housing estates. The rationale for the project is that, though only a small minority of tenants are perpetrators, their actions can seriously blight the lives of their neighbours. Usually it is the housing department that responds to complaints relating to ASB but, in the more serious cases that are deemed criminal, the police also perform a role. Three locations were chosen as case studies. East Devonport in Tasmania and Girrawheen in Western Australia are areas with a large public housing stock.

Kinner, S. (2006). *The post-release experience of prisoners in Queensland*. Brisbane: Queensland Alcohol and Drug Research and Education Centre, University of Queensland.

Abstract

In recognition of the need for an improved understanding of the experiences of prisoners in Australia after they are released, this project had three main goals: i) describe the patterns of drug and alcohol use, mental health status and broader socio-economic status of recently released prisoners; ii) identify the prevalence of suspected risk factors for overdose among recently released prisoners; and iii) identify predictors of re-incarceration within a six-month period (including pre-incarceration patterns of drug use). It used a prospective design to follow a cohort of adult prisoners being released to the community in Queensland. Interviews were conducted with 108 male and 52 female prisoners in the weeks prior to their release, with follow-up interviews completed on average one month and four months post-release. Due to the small sample size the findings of this study can be considered only suggestive, however a number of important issues have been identified. First, there is strong evidence of continuity in the substance-related, mental health and psychosocial problems experienced by this group. Second, there remains a large unmet need for support and assistance for recently released prisoners. Substance use is a significant problem for many ex-prisoners however, many ex-prisoners are experiencing problems including impaired health, poor mental health, and chronic social disadvantage and marginalisation. In Queensland, the recent introduction of the Transitions pre-release program has assisted some prisoners in preparing for a return to the community, however these need to be complemented by effective, evidence-based post-release programs, designed to assist the individual to integrate back into the community. The few post-release programs that exist are fragmented, often under-funded and usually based on limited evidence. A useful next step in bringing the concept of 'throughcare' into policy and practice would be the development and rigorous evaluation of an integrated post-release support program, building on the pre-release programs already in place, and linking prisoners with the communities to which they will eventually return.

Livingston, M., Chikritzhs, T., & Room, R. (2007). Changing the density of alcohol outlets to reduce alcohol-related problems. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 26, 557-566.

Abstract

Increasingly, it seems, legal and political debates regarding the granting of new liquor licences are turning to the issue of whether the number and density of alcohol outlets makes a difference in rates of alcohol consumption and alcohol-related harm. But what is the state of the evidence on this question? In this Harm Reduction Digest Livingston, Chikritzhs and Room review the research literature on the effects of density of alcohol sales outlets on alcohol consumption and alcohol-related problems; suggest a new way of conceptualising the relationships; and discuss the implications for reducing alcohol-related harm.

McKetin, R., McLaren, J., & Kelly, E. (2005). *The Sydney methamphetamine market: Patterns of supply, use, personal harms and social consequences*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

The methamphetamine market in Australia has undergone radical changes since the late 1990s with the emergence of new, more pure forms of base and ice. The current research was undertaken to fulfil a need to understand the impact of base and ice on the methamphetamine market, and the health and social consequences associated with these more pure forms of methamphetamine.

Mirakbari, S. M. (2004). Heroin overdose as cause of death: Truth or myth. *Australian Journal of Forensic Sciences*, 36(2), 73-78.

Abstract

Heroin-related deaths have many causes and occur in a heterogeneous group of patients. The current paper critically examines the literature on deaths attributed to heroin overdose, and examines the characteristics and complexity of such deaths. In particular, the dominance of the widely held belief that heroin-related fatalities are a consequence of overdose is challenged. The presence of other drugs (primarily central nervous system depressants such as alcohol and benzodiazepines) being commonly detected at autopsy and study of patients with acute opioid overdose who arrive in Emergency Departments do not prove this coherency. Furthermore, deaths attributed to overdose are likely to have morphine levels no higher than those who survive, or heroin users who die from other causes. It is concluded that the term overdose may in many cases be a misleading term, since it implies the same mechanism of death in all cases. In order to determine the impact of co-intoxicants on mortality and morbidity after opioid overdose, future studies should measure serum levels of opioids and suspected co-intoxicants in both survivors and fatalities and conduct similar prospective follow-ups for defined adverse events including death.

Moore, T. (2007). *Working estimates of the social costs per gram and per user for cannabis, cocaine, opiates and amphetamines*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

Illicit drug use is an area of major policy concern in Australia. It has been estimated that approximately \$1.3 billion is spent on drug policies by Australian governments, with more again spent on dealing with the consequences of illicit drug use. The majority is spent on enforcing drug laws, while significant amounts are spent on preventing drug use and treating drug users. The aim of the Drug Policy Monitoring Project is to create valuable new drug policy insights, ideas and interventions that will allow Australia to respond with alacrity and success to illicit drug use. DPMP addresses drug policy using a comprehensive approach that includes consideration of law enforcement, prevention, treatment and harm reduction. The work in this report represents a first step in estimating the different social costs associated with different illicit drugs. More specifically, the report sets out in detail the annual costs in Australia (circa 2004) that are associated with

opiates, amphetamines, cocaine, and other illicit drugs separately across two major classes of social costs: health and crime. The cost estimates are further broken down between dependent users and non-dependent users. These are then combined with prevalence and consumption data to generate estimates of the: social costs per drug user by drug type; and social costs per kilogram (or gram) for each drug type. The work is important because, by generating estimates such as these, different policy responses can be evaluated in terms of their cost savings to the community.

Nicholas, R., & Shoobridge, J. (2006). *The health and social impacts of cannabis use*. Adelaide: Australasian Centre for Policing Research.

Abstract

As part of its ongoing role in monitoring contemporary drug issues in Australasia, the Commissioners' Drugs Committee asked the Australasian Centre for Policing Research (ACPR) to re-examine the current literature concerning the health effects of cannabis consumption, and given the advances in published research, to revise a paper on the health harms associated with cannabis use that was originally produced in 2001. This paper is the result of that request and, in accordance with the wishes of the Committee, the paper places particular emphasis on the impact of cannabis use on mental health.

Powell, M. (2007). A safe entertainment precinct for Bendigo: Councils help to make partying safer. *DrugInfo*, 5(3), 2.

Abstract

Bendigo's entertainment precinct takes up seven blocks of the central business district and contains about ten nightclubs. A range of issues emanating from the area confronted council and the community on a weekly basis. This brief article outlines the response from the City of Greater Bendigo and some of the key initiatives which have been undertaken.

Roberts, M. (2006). From 'creative city' to 'no-go areas' – The expansion of the night-time economy in British town and city centres. *Cities*, 23(5), 331-338.

Abstract

In a span of 10 years, many English town centres have been transformed from being relatively deserted at night to being filled with concentrations of young drunken people out on the streets until the early hours of the morning. This paper considers this transformation: its origins, process, impacts, policy responses and the lessons that may be derived from it. The first section discusses the concept of the creative milieu and its relationship to consumption. The second provides the context for the unprecedented expansion of night-time alcohol related entertainment in English town and city centres over the last decade. The third part of the paper discusses the impacts of the increase in licensed premises on cultural resources. The fourth section of the paper discusses the mutually contradictory tri-partite policy responses of the British Government as it tries to reconcile planning policies that promote 'cleaner, safer and greener' town centres with, on the one hand, free market inspired licensing policies and, on the other, 'tough' policies towards crime and anti-social behaviour. The fifth section provides evidence that by contrast, some local practice is ahead of national policy in its imaginative and integrated approach. Finally, conclusions are drawn with regard to the concept of the creative milieu. It is argued that the English experience demonstrates the need for a clear policy vision that comprehends the differences between creativity, cultural resources and the consumption of alcohol as a primary entertainment activity.

Rogers, N., & Anderson, W. (2007). A community development approach to deal with public drug use in Box Hill. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 26(1), 87-95.

Abstract

The use of alcohol and other drugs in public space is one that generates much heat in the public discourse and in the media. Too often the responses called for to reduce the problems of public amenity involve punitive policing and other responses that aim to engineer (mostly) young people out of these public spaces. Often local retailers are a key stakeholder group calling loudest for punitive action. In this Harm Reduction Digest, Rogers and Anderson describe a community development approach to address these problems in Box Hill near Melbourne. This approach which aimed to develop 'bridging social capital' between community retailers and other stakeholders in the area appears to have been effective in reducing harm associated with public drug use. Moreover these changes have become institutionalised and the approach has been expanded to address other public amenity problems in the area. It is a good example of how drug related harm can be reduced by grass roots networks of local councils, business people, law enforcement and health and welfare service providers to address these issues.

Salom, C., Watts, M., Kinner, S., & Young, D. (2005). Schoolies week in perspective: Studies of alcohol, drug and risk-taking behaviour. *Of Substance*, 3, 26-29.

Small, W., Kerr, T., Charette, J., Schechter, M., & Spittal, P. (2006). Impacts of intensified police activity on injection drug users: Evidence from an ethnographic investigation. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 17(2), 85-95.

Abstract

In an effort to dismantle the open drug market and improve public order, a large-scale police initiative named the Citywide Enforcement Team (CET), began in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside (DTES) on 7th April 2003. This research sought to assess the CET's impact upon drug consumption activities as well as access to sterile syringes and health services among injection drug users (IDUs). Ethnographic research methods including participant observation and semi-structured interviews were employed. Interviews were conducted with 30 individuals recruited from an ongoing cohort study of IDUs and nine individuals who provide health services to drug users. In addition, an ongoing participant-observation program investigating public drug use in the DTES yielded data during the period of the CET, as well as seven months prior to its commencement. With regard to drug use patterns, intensified police presence prompted 'rushed' injections, injecting in riskier environments, discouraged safer injection practices, and increased unsafe disposal of syringes. Service providers indicated that the CET negatively impacted on the contact between health services and IDUs, as outreach was compromised due to the displacement of IDUs. Police activities also negatively influenced IDUs' access to syringes and their willingness to carry syringes, and syringe confiscation was reported. While the intensification of police activities led to less drug related activity in the area where the drug market was traditionally concentrated, there was also widespread displacement of drug use activities to other locations. The adverse impact of concentrated police activities upon urban drug problems and the implications for both public order and public health should be recognised.

Smithson, M., McFadden, M., Mwesigye, S., & Casey, T. (2003). The impact of illicit drug supply reduction on health and social outcomes: The heroin shortage in the Australian Capital Territory. *Addiction*, 98(3), 340-348.

Abstract

In this study the authors sought to establish whether a substantial decline in the supply of heroin, as measured by indicators such as drug purity, is related to changes in drug-related health indicators such as ambulance callouts to heroin overdoses and numbers participating in methadone treatment programs, and to changes in levels of property crime. The guiding hypothesis was that reduced

drug supply will result in positive health and social outcomes. Standard time-series methods were employed to analyse official data from local law enforcement and heroin supply indicators and several health and social outcome indicators within the Australian Capital Territory, spanning the late 1990s to early 2002. Autoregressive moving average models were estimated to remove autocorrelation from these series. Cross-correlation and autoregression models were then employed to identify the best predictive models. When autocorrelation has been removed, a reduction in heroin purity predicts a large decline in heroin-related ambulance callouts and an increase in methadone treatment program enrolments. There was little evidence of an increase in negative outcomes due to heroin users switching to other drugs. A reduction in purity also predicts declines in robbery and burglary but not in theft. The overall evidence indicated modest links between the declines in heroin supply and increases in positive health outcomes and decreases in crime, as predicted by a simple economic model. The authors state that due to the shortness of some of the series and consequent limitations in statistical power, these conclusions should be regarded as tentative.

Sommers, I. B., & Baskin, D. R. (2004). *The social consequences of methamphetamine use*. Lewiston, N.Y; Lampeter: Edwin Mellen Press.

Spooner, C., McPherson, M., & Hall, W. (2004). *The role of police in preventing and minimising illicit drug use and its harm*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

There has been substantial documentation and evaluation of the range of illicit drug-related initiatives conducted by the health sector in Australia. However, there has been much less documentation and evaluation of initiatives conducted by police, especially on illicit drug harm reduction and demand reduction. Such information is necessary to enhance the efficacy of police practice. In 2000, in response to this lack of documentation and evaluation, the Board of the National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund (NDLERF) commissioned a number of research projects on drug law enforcement, one of which is the subject of this report. The objective of this research project, as specified by NDLERF, was to increase the understanding of Australian police, at the policy, planning and operational levels, of ways in which they can contribute to the outcomes sought by the National Drug Strategy.

Stockwell, T., Gruenewald, P. J., Toumbourou, J. W., & Loxley, W. E. (Eds.). (2005). *Preventing harmful substance use: The evidence base for policy and practice*. New York: John Wiley & Sons Ltd.

Western Australia Office of Crime Prevention, Department of the Premier and Cabinet. (2004). *State Government Northbridge strategy: Young people in Northbridge policy: One year on*. Retrieved from <http://www.crimeprevention.wa.gov.au/Portals/0/PDF/ocp-youngpeopleinnorthbridgeoneyearon-2004.pdf>.

Abstract

In April 2003, the WA State Government proposed a ban on unsupervised juveniles in Northbridge. The move was aimed at addressing crime and child welfare issues, since the area was the destination for large numbers of unsupervised children and young people which the Government believed were at real risk of physical and moral danger. The area had also developed a reputation for unacceptable levels of violent, aggressive and generally anti-social behaviour. This paper reports that the policy made a significant impact in its first twelve months of operation, with clear indicators of improvement including: fewer children and young people at risk on the streets at night; a reduction in anti-social and aggressive behaviour from young people; fewer young people being apprehended for drunkenness, solvent abuse and use of illicit drugs; the business community reported an increase in trading and a reduction in the intimidation of patrons; users of Northbridge indicated that the area feels safer; and, workers and services were in place to assist those at risk, both on the street and to follow up.

10. Criminal Justice Responses Including Alcohol and Other Drug Diversion Programs

This section contains resources on the role and impact of criminal justice responses and diversion initiatives upon alcohol and other drug issues.

Acumen Alliance & Victoria Department of Justice. (2005). *Benefit and cost analysis of the Drug Court program: Final report*. Melbourne: Department of Justice.

Alberti, S., King, J., Hales, J., Swan, A., Fletcher, B., Panjari, M., et al. (2004). *Court diversion program evaluation*. Melbourne: Department of Justice.

Abstract

The Victorian Department of Justice currently delivers a range of court-based diversionary programs aimed at breaking the cycle of re-offending. These programs provide the Victorian Magistrates' Court with a range of sentencing alternatives that are available at different stages of the criminal justice process. The focus of these programs is to address the causes of crime. The Court Diversion Program Evaluation is an evaluation of three court-based diversionary programs that are aimed at a spectrum of criminal behaviours. These programs include the Drug Court Pilot; Court Referral and Evaluation for Drug Intervention and Treatment (CREDIT) program; and Criminal Justice Diversion Program (CJDP). The overall objectives of the Court Diversion Program Evaluation strategy were: to determine the effectiveness of Court Diversion programs; to gather objective evidence to support future decision making by Government; and to review the policy and, where appropriate, legislative framework underlying these programs to inform the development of these, and future, diversionary initiatives. The four volumes that make up this document provide an overview of the findings across each component of the evaluation.

Australian Institute of Criminology. (2006). *Wilderness programs and boot camps – are they effective?* Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

Wilderness programs that include adventure activities and 'boot camps', involving military-like discipline, are often promoted as being effective crime prevention measures for young people in contact with the justice system or those who are at risk of criminal involvement. However, mixed results are shown for such programs. One recent systematic review of boot camps showed no overall positive effect from the military type and physical activity aspects of these programs when recidivism was used as the measure of success. The review found that camps might be more effective if the primary emphasis is therapeutic rather than militaristic and physical. Other reviews agree that it is the therapeutic elements of such programs that are crucial to success. In a review of the crime prevention effect of wilderness challenge programs with delinquent youth, it was found the recidivism rate was eight percent lower for program participants (29%) than for control subjects (37%). In particular, established programs were found to be more effective, indicating the need for ongoing core funding to assist programs to be more successful. The following components are likely to increase the successful outcomes for programs: thorough assessment and ongoing monitoring of participants; a risk management assessment of activities and screening of program staff; multi-modal treatments with a cognitive-behavioural orientation, e.g. behaviour modification techniques, drug and alcohol programs; addressing specific criminogenic needs, e.g. attitudes supporting offending, peer groups, family problems, drug and alcohol use, anger and violence problems; meaningful and substantial contact between participants and treatment personnel; and the inclusion of an aftercare component. Programs for Indigenous or culturally and linguistically diverse youth should engage significant others, be culturally appropriate, and have staff who can relate to their clients.

Baker, J., & Goh, D. (2004). *The Cannabis Cautioning Scheme three years on: An implementation and outcome evaluation*. Sydney: Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research.

Barratt, M. J., Chanteloup, F., Lenton, S., & Marsh, A. (2005). Cannabis law reform in Western Australia: An opportunity to test theories of marginal deterrence and legitimacy. *Drug and Alcohol Review, 24*(4), 321-330.

Bjerre, B., Kostela, J., & Selen, J. (2007). Positive health-care effects of an alcohol ignition interlock programme among driving while impaired (DWI) offenders. *Addiction, 102*(11), 1771-1781.

Abstract

The aim of this study was to compare the costs of hospital care and sick leave/disability pensions between two groups of driving while impaired (DWI) offenders: participants in an alcohol ignition interlock programme (AIIP); and controls with revoked licences, but with no comparable opportunity to participate in an AIIP.

As an alternative to licence revocation DWI offenders can participate in a voluntary 2-year AIIP permitting the offender to drive under strict regulations entailing regular medical check-ups. The participants are forced to alter their alcohol habits and those who cannot demonstrate sobriety are dismissed from the programme. Participants are liable for all costs themselves.

The study found that average total health-care costs were 25% lower among AIIP participants (1156 individuals) than among the controls (815 individuals) during the 2-year treatment period. This corresponds to over €1000 less annual costs per average participant. For those who complete the 2-year programme the cost reduction was more pronounced; 37% during the treatment and 20% during the post-treatment period.

The study concluded that the positive health-care effects were due apparently to reduced alcohol consumption. The social benefit of being allowed to drive while in the AIIP may also have contributed. The reduction in health-care costs was significant only during the 2-year treatment period but among those who completed the entire AIIP, sustained effects were also observed in the post-treatment period. The effects were comparable to those of regular alcoholism treatment programmes.

Black, E., & Degenhardt, L. (2005). Self-reported substance-related aggressive behaviour in the IDU sample, 2004. *Drug Trends Bulletin*, June 2005, 1-3.

Buchanan, J. (2005). Brief intervention treatment for alcohol-related offenders. *Probation Journal, 52*, 187-197.

Abstract

In recent years considerable resources have been allocated to help tackle drug-related crime, and this has resulted in a wide range of new court orders and programmes. In contrast, and despite the longstanding connection between alcohol and crime, there are surprisingly few treatments available for those individuals whose drinking contributes significantly to their criminality. This report is an evaluation of two projects that provided brief motivational interventions as a condition of bail for those arrested following offences where alcohol was identified as a significant contributory factor. Upon arrest, appropriately selected offenders were required to attend two one-hour counselling sessions as a condition of their bail. This report describes and assesses the practices employed in the two schemes; assesses the impact of the interventions; identifies good practice to assist in the establishment of similar projects elsewhere; and makes recommendations for the future.

Bull, M. (2005). A comparative review of best practice guidelines for the diversion of drug related offenders. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 16(4), 223-234.

Abstract

In recent decades the rates of imprisonment have increased throughout the industrialised world as has the proportion of people whose imprisonment is linked to their use of illicit drugs. While the relationship between drug use and crime remains unclear, it has been argued that punitive responses alone are unsuccessful in reducing illegal drug use and associated crime. Disillusionment with traditional criminal justice approaches to drug-using offenders has renewed interest in programmes diverting drug related offenders from the criminal justice system. In the 1990s a number of diversion best practice guidelines became available, largely preceding the emerging evaluation literature. This represents a challenge for policy makers committed to evidence-based standards of best practice. This paper is a comparative analysis of best practice guidelines for various diversionary programmes delivered in different parts of the world. Consistent themes running through the guidelines and the relationship between these themes and the available evaluation literature were identified. The results of this qualitative meta-analysis suggest that sufficient evidence exists to support the principles outlined in these guidelines.

Bull, M. (2007). Alcohol and drug problems in rural and regional Australia. In E. Barclay, et al., (Ed.), *Crime in rural Australia*. Sydney: Federation Press.

Abstract

Alcohol and other drugs have been considered a problem of government in Australia since colonisation. Recently there has been a growing concern that current strategies for responding to alcohol and other drug problems fail, or are less effective or inappropriate for, regional, rural and remote Australia. This chapter considers how well current policies are able to respond to alcohol and other drugs use in regional, rural and remote Australia. It begins by examining the evidence that is available regarding the extent of use, and the effects of these substances among people not living in metropolitan areas. It concludes by reviewing the effectiveness of recently-introduced criminal justice policies and practices concerned with drug- and alcohol-related offending in non-metropolitan settings.

Burris, S., & Strathdee, G. (2006). To serve and protect? Toward a better relationship between drug control policy and public health. *AIDS*, 20(1), 117-118.

Butts, J., & Roman, J. (Eds). (2004). *Juvenile drug courts and teen substance abuse*. Washington, DC: Urban Institute Press.

Campbell, A. (2003). *Drugs, alcohol and crime: An analysis of substance abuse among a sample of the offending population in Northern Ireland and concomitant evaluation of alcohol management programmes as implemented by the Probation Board (N.I.)*. Unpublished Thesis (Ph.D.), University of Ulster.

Carney, M., & ABC-TV (Australia). (2007). Road to return. On *Four Corners* (Television program) [videorecording].

Abstract

Who's tough on crime? It's an election season ritual: the law and order auction to see which party will put more cops on the streets or increase sentences or build more jails. As the stakes are raised in the law and order debate, billions of dollars are fed each year into a nationwide prison boom that's seen the captive population nearly double in a decade. But could there be a relatively cheap and cost-effective way to stop prisoners re-offending? Most of the nation's 25,000 inmates are illiterate or have drug and alcohol addictions; close to a third has a mental illness or a physical

or intellectual disability. Some carry a cocktail of these problems. Typically, they leave jail with a few hundred dollars and far fewer living skills. For many, release is more like a revolving door, freedom tantalising but short-lived. Crucially, they lack an assurance of consistent help in finding accommodation, work and stability. In NSW, for example, nearly half will be back in prison or under community supervision orders within two years. In most states only about one per cent, or even less, of the corrections budget is spent on post release programs to integrate prisoners back into the community. It's the back end of the corrections production line, a forgotten corner of the law and order debate. Victoria has been beefing up post-release programs and is seeing a dividend: a fall in recidivism rates. Victorian officials also boast less stress on the community, a smaller corrections bill for taxpayers and a better flowing court system. Are policy-makers in other jurisdictions missing an investment opportunity?

Clancey, G., & Howard, J. (2006). Diversion and criminal justice drug treatment: Mechanism of emancipation or social control? *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 25(4), 377-385.

Abstract

In Australia, as elsewhere, there has been a rapid growth in programs to divert drug-using offenders from the criminal justice system into assessment and treatment. In this Harm Reduction Digest, which builds on papers presented at the APSAD Conference in Melbourne, November 2005, Clancey and Howard take a reflexive look at the Australian experience since the launch of the National Illicit Drug Diversion Initiative in 1999. In putting diversion within a broader criminological and societal context, they suggest that we may have criminalised drug policy and may ultimately be doing more harm than good.

Deaton, S. (2004). *On-charge drug testing: Evaluation of drug testing in the criminal justice system*. London: Research, Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office UK.

Abstract

This UK report highlights the key benefits, challenges and best practice around the implementation and maintenance of drug testing offenders on charge. It is based on evidence drawn from the ongoing evaluation of the Drug Testing Pilots, which started in three sites in Autumn 2001 and were extended to a further six sites in Summer 2002.

Dingwall, G. (Ed.). (2006). *Alcohol and Crime*. Leicester: Willan Publishing.

Abstract

This publication seeks to understand the nature of the connection between alcohol and crime, and the way the criminal justice system responds to the problem, providing a clear and accessible account and analysis of the subject. The book draws upon a wide range of sources and research findings, and also sets the subject within a broader comparative context.

Evans, E., & Longshore, D. (2004). Evaluation of the Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act: Treatment clients and program types during the first year of implementation. *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*, (May), 165-174.

Feeney, G., Connor, J., Young, R., Tucker, J., & McPherson, A. (2005). Cannabis dependence and mental health perception amongst people diverted by police after arrest for cannabis-related offending behaviour in Australia. *Criminal Behaviour and Mental Health*, 15(4), 249-260.

Finigan, M. W., Carey, S. M., & Cox, A. (2007). *Impact of a Mature Drug Court over 10 Years of operation: Recidivism and costs (final report)*. Portland Oregon: National Institute of Justice.

Abstract

This study was designed to look at the operations and outcomes of a single drug court in Multnomah County (Portland, Oregon) over a 10-year period of court operations by examining the entire population of drug court-eligible offenders over that period. In examining the entire population, rather than sampling, we hoped to describe for policymakers the effects of drug court on the system as it operated during that decade. By examining operations and outcomes, we hoped to add to our knowledge about external and internal changes and how they affect drug court success or failure.

Freeman, K., & Donnelly, N. (2005). Early-phase predictors of subsequent program compliance and offending among NSW Adult Drug Court participants. *Crime and Justice Bulletin: Contemporary Issues in Crime and Justice*, (88), 1-12.

Abstract

Previous research by BOCSAR has shown that the cost-effectiveness of the Drug Court could be increased through the early identification of those Drug Court participants at risk of non-compliance with program requirements. There are two reasons for this. Firstly, early identification would permit appropriate adjustments to be made to treatment in order to reduce the risk of program failure. Secondly, those who are at serious risk of non-compliance with the program could be removed from the program early on to reduce the cost they impose on the program. This bulletin describes an investigation that has been designed to identify early indicators of future program compliance.

Hales, J., Mayne, M., Swan, A., Alberti, S., & Ritter, A. (2004). *Evaluation of Queensland Illicit Drug Diversion Initiative (QIDDI) Police Diversion Program: Final report*. Brisbane: Queensland Health, Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Services.

Hannam, H. (2005). Specialist courts in the United States and their relevance to Australian justice. *Judicial Officers Bulletin, NSW*, 17(8), 66-69.

Abstract

This report of a study of specialist courts in the United States examines issues such as: specialist and therapeutic justice in areas of drug abuse, mental health, domestic violence, drink-driving and child welfare; their application to the Australian situation; and the domestic violence program currently being conducted in the Wagga Wagga Local Court.

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation. (2003). *Drug treatment and testing orders: A long way in a short time*. London: Great Britain, HM Inspectorate of Probation.

Holland, S., & Sargent, L. (2008, February). *Diverting young offenders in Victoria: The Victoria Police Cautioning Program for Juveniles*. Paper presented at the Young people, crime and community safety conference: Engagement and early intervention. Melbourne, Victoria.

Abstract

This paper provides a summary of a program evaluation of Police Cautioning Program for Juveniles in Victoria based on: interviews with 29 police officers; aggregate statistics on juveniles 'processed' by police; and individual records for 7,213 juveniles.

Home Office, UK (2007). *Key messages for the Drug Interventions Programme*. London: Home Office UK.

Abstract

The Drug Interventions Programme is a key part of the Government's strategy for tackling drugs and reducing crime. And it's working: drug-related crime has fallen by a fifth since the Programme started and record numbers of people are being helped with their drug misuse. Introduced in 2003, with new elements having been phased in each year since, the Programme aims to get adult drug-misusing offenders out of crime and into treatment and other support. Some interventions operate right across England and Wales, while additional "intensive" elements operate in those areas with the highest acquisitive crime.

Hopkins, M., & Sparrow, P. (2006). Sobering up. *Criminology and Criminal Justice*, 6(4), 389-410.

Abstract

Since their inception in the mid-1980s, there has been a rapid increase in the number of arrest referral schemes implemented in custody suites across the United Kingdom. These schemes have generally been focused upon detainees with drug-related problems and their key aims have been to provide education and treatment for detainees immediately after arrest as this is viewed as the time when the subject will be most contemplative of and receptive to change. It is becoming recognised that the custody suite may also be an appropriate setting for tackling alcohol-related problems through both 'arrest referral' and 'brief intervention'. The article outlines the principles that lie behind arrest referral and brief intervention and it presents a case study of a scheme that provided such treatment for detainees arrested for alcohol-related/specific incidents. The background to the initiative and the key data collected as part of an independent evaluation are presented. Consideration also is given throughout the article to problems that have been encountered in implementing and evaluating the scheme and it is hoped that some of these will serve as lessons for future research.

Hough, J. M. (2003). *The impact of Drug Treatment and Testing Orders on offending: Two-year reconviction results*. London: Home Office.

Hughes, C. (2007). Evidence-based policy or policy-based evidence?: The role of evidence in the development and implementation of the Illicit Drug Diversion Initiative. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 26(4), 363-368.

Abstract

Evidence-based policy is promoted as the ideal in drug policy, yet public policy theorists suggest that policy-based evidence may be a more fitting analogy, where evidence is used selectively to support a predetermined policy direction. This paper assesses the resonance of this notion to the development of the Illicit Drug Diversion Initiative (IDDI) that was adopted in Australia in 1999 through the Aust Govt's 'Tough on Drugs' strategy. It utilises interviews with key informants from the Australian drug policy arena conducted in 2005 to assess the role of evidence in the design and implementation of the IDDI. The paper shows that while policy-makers were generally supportive of the IDDI and viewed drug diversion as a more pragmatic response to drug users, they contend that implementation has suffered through a selective and variable emphasis upon evidence. Most notably, the IDDI is not premised upon best-practice objectives of reducing harm from drug use, but instead on 'Tough on Drugs' objectives of reducing drug use and crime. This paper contends that policy-based evidence may facilitate the adoption of pragmatic reforms, but reduce the capacity for effective reform. It therefore has both functional and dysfunctional elements.

Hughes, C., & Ritter, A. (2008). *A summary of diversion programs for drug and drug-related offenders in Australia*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

The diversion of illicit drug users and drug-related offenders comprises an important component of Australia's policy response to illicit drugs. Identifying the programs and their key characteristics poses a formidable task for policy makers and researchers, particularly following the recent expansion of diversionary responses.

This project aimed to summarise the current state of diversion in Australia: its nature and design. The analysis was guided by the following questions:

1. What programs are currently utilised for the diversion of illicit drug users and drug-related offenders?
2. What are the key characteristics of the diversion programs?
3. What are their similarities and differences?

Hunter, G., McSweeney, T., & Turnbull, P. J. (2005). The introduction of drug Arrest Referral schemes in London: A partnership between drug services and the police. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 16(5), 343-352.

Inciardi, J. A., Martin, S. S., & Butzin, C. A. (2004). Five-year outcomes of therapeutic community treatment of drug-involved offenders after release from prison. *Crime Delinquency*, 50(1), 88-107.

Abstract

With growing numbers of drug-involved offenders, substance abuse treatment has become a critical part of corrections. A multistage therapeutic community implemented in the Delaware correctional system has as its centerpiece a residential treatment program during work release – the transition between prison and community. An evaluation of this program followed 690 individuals. At 5 years, those who participated in the program were significantly more likely to be drug and arrest free. Furthermore, treatment graduates with or without aftercare had significantly greater probabilities of remaining both arrest free and drug free than did a no treatment comparison group in regular work release. Dropouts also were significantly more likely to be drug free, although not significantly less likely to have a new arrest than those without treatment. These data show that the implementation of such programs could bring about significant reductions in both drug use and drug-related crime.

Indermaur, D., & Roberts, L. (2005). Finding alternatives to imprisonment: Drug courts in Australia. *Reform (Australian Law Reform Commission)*, 86, 28-32.

King, J., & Hales, J. (2004). *Victorian Drug Court cost-effectiveness study: May 2002 to December 2004: Final report*. Melbourne: Department of Justice.

Kinner, S. (2006). *The post-release experience of prisoners in Queensland*. Brisbane: Queensland Alcohol and Drug Research and Education Centre, University of Queensland.

Abstract

In recognition of the need for an improved understanding of the experiences of prisoners in Australia after they are released, this project had three main goals: i) to describe the patterns of drug and alcohol use, mental health status and broader socio-economic status of recently released prisoners; ii) to identify the prevalence of suspected risk factors for overdose among recently released prisoners; and iii) to identify predictors of re-incarceration within a six-month period (including pre-incarceration patterns of drug use). It used a prospective design to follow a cohort of adult prisoners being released to the community in Queensland. Interviews were conducted with

108 male and 52 female prisoners in the weeks prior to their release, with follow-up interviews completed on average one month and four months post-release. Due to the small sample size the findings of this study can be considered only suggestive, however a number of important issues have been identified. First, there is strong evidence of continuity in the substance-related, mental health and psychosocial problems experienced by this group. Second, there remains a large unmet need for support and assistance for recently released prisoners. Substance use is a significant problem for many ex-prisoners, however many ex-prisoners are experiencing problems including impaired health, poor mental health, and chronic social disadvantage and marginalisation. In Queensland, the recent introduction of the Transitions pre-release program has assisted some prisoners in preparing for a return to the community, however these need to be complemented by effective, evidence-based post-release programs, designed to assist the individual to integrate back into the community. The few post-release programs that exist are fragmented, often under-funded and usually based on limited evidence. A useful next step in bringing the concept of 'throughcare' into policy and practice would be the development and rigorous evaluation of an integrated post-release support program, building on the pre-release programs already in place, and linking prisoners with the communities to which they will eventually return.

Lapham, S. C., C'de Baca, J., Lapidus, J., & McMillan, G. P. (2007). Randomised sanctions to reduce re-offence among repeat impaired-driving offenders. *Addiction*, 102(10), 1618-1625.

Abstract

This study, conducted within a driving under the influence (DUI) court intervention, evaluated the degree to which removing electronic monitoring (EM) and/or mandatory vehicle sales requirements increased rates of post-sentence traffic violations among repeat DUI offenders.

The researchers used a randomised trial with a total of 477 repeat DUI offenders entering the Driving under the Influence of Intoxicants (DUII) Driver Intensive Supervision Program (DISP), Multnomah County, Oregon. The subjects were randomised into four intervention groups. Group 1: standard DISP with EM and vehicle sales requirements; group 2: standard DISP with mandatory vehicle sale, but without EM; group 3: standard DISP with EM, but without mandatory vehicle sale; and group 4: standard DISP without EM or mandated vehicle sale. Standard DISP includes treatment for alcohol abuse and dependence, polygraph testing, regular court appearances, and probation or court-based monitoring.

The risk of re-arrest for traffic violations was compared among the four groups using hazard ratio estimates from complementary log-log regression models. Compared with group 1, subjects in group 2 initially had increased re-arrest risks, but this effect dissipated within 3 years of entering DISP. Group 3 subjects had a 96% increase in re-arrest rates. Group 4 subjects had smaller increased risks than predicted, with re-arrest rates similar to those of group 1 at the end of the follow-up period.

The study concludes that while some of the findings suggest that mandatory vehicle sales may deter future traffic violations, inconsistent results across the study groups make this finding equivocal. The positive effects of EM, while large in the short term, appear to have a relatively small long-term value in reducing traffic arrest rates.

Lenton, S. (2005). Evaluation of the Western Australian cannabis infringement notice scheme: An overview. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 24(4), 297-299.

Lenton, S., Chanteloup, F., Fetherston, J., Sutton, A., Hawks, D., & Barratt, M. J., et al. (2005). *An evaluation of the impact of changes to cannabis law in WA: A summary of year 1 findings*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Loxley, W., Toumbourou, J., Stockwell, T., Haines, B., Scott, K., Godfey, C., Waters, E., Patton, G., Fordham, R., Gray, D., Marshall, J., Ryder, D., Saggors, S., Sanci, L., & Williams, J. (2004). *The Prevention of Substance Use, Risk and Harm in Australia: A Review of the Evidence*. Perth: National Drug Research Institute & the Centre for Adolescent Health.

Malloch, M. (2004). Missing out: Gender, drugs and justice. *Probation Journal*, 51(4), 295-308.

Abstract

Government attempts to respond to drug-related crime have resulted in a significant increase in court-mandated treatment, where offenders are fast-tracked into comprehensive services under the supervision of the court. The efficacy of 'enforced treatment' has been recognised and forms the underpinning principles of such interventions. This article examines the structured and gender dimensions which are often overlooked when initiatives and services are developed to reduce or end drug use, and consequently drug-related offending. The differential experience of women, as offenders and drug users, can denote a distinct lack of social justice when initiatives fail to provide equitable access to resources or community disposals for women.

Matrix Research and Consultancy & Institute for Criminal Policy, Kings College. (2007). *Evaluation of Drug Interventions Programme pilots for children and young people: Arrest referral, drug testing and Drug treatment and testing requirements*. London: Research Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office UK.

McMurrin, M. (2007). What works in substance misuse treatments for offenders? *Criminal Behaviour and Mental Health*, 17(4), 225-233.

Abstract

The prevalence of problematic drinkers and drug users in correctional services in England and Wales is high, with implications not only for the health of prisoners, but also for substance-related crime. For most illicit drug users, the biggest criminological concern is acquisitive offending to fund the habit, whereas with alcohol it is violence and disorder. There is clearly a strong need in correctional services for the treatment of both drug and alcohol use. This review shows that the evidence is strongest for the effectiveness of therapeutic communities and cognitive-behavioural therapies. Purely behavioural therapies are ineffective, as are boot camps and group counselling. Maintenance prescription for offenders addicted to heroin, especially if combined with psychological treatment, shows promise. Arrest-referral schemes, court-mandated drug rehabilitation and drug courts can be effective, but improvements in multi-agency working are also necessary. There is evidence that treatment for substance abuse in correctional settings can work to reduce re-offending, and so it is worth focusing on how the effectiveness of these interventions may be improved.

New South Wales Audit Office. (2007). *Performance audit: Addressing the needs of young offenders*. Sydney: Audit Office of New South Wales.

Abstract

This audit looked at how well the Department of Juvenile Justice and the NSW Police Force support young offenders to reduce their re-offending. It also identifies some of the gaps that exist in the NSW youth justice system that need to be addressed to reduce re-offending. There are many factors in a young person's life that may lead them to commit an offence. These include anti-social attitudes, family dysfunction, mental health problems, and drug and alcohol abuse. Some young offenders will overcome these factors without committing another offence, but others may need help. It is more likely that a young offender will re-offend the more often they come into contact with the youth justice system. Early intervention to address a young offender's needs before re-offending occurs is critical in breaking the juvenile crime cycle.

O'Callaghan, F., Sonderegger, N., & Klag, S. (2004). Drug and crime cycle: Evaluating traditional methods versus diversion strategies for drug-related offences. *Australian Psychologist*, 39(3), 188-200.

O'Shea, J., & Powis, B. (2003). *Drug arrest referral schemes: A case study of good practice*. London: Home Office Drugs Strategy Directorate.

Passey, M., Bolitho, J., Scantleton, J., & Flaherty, B. (2007). The Magistrates Early Referral Into Treatment (MERIT) Pilot Program: Court outcomes and recidivism. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology*, 40(2), 199-217.

Abstract

Diversion programs for drug offenders have proliferated in the last decade in the belief that the treatment of underlying drug use will decrease an individual's criminal activity. The NSW Magistrates Early Referral Into Treatment (MERIT) program diverts adult offenders with significant drug problems, on bail, from the court to a 3-month intensive drug treatment program. This article reports on the criminal justice outcomes of the Lismore MERIT Pilot Program. Findings indicate that participants who completed the program were significantly less likely to re-offend, took longer to re-offend and received less severe sentences than those who did not complete the program. The reduction in re-offending is significantly associated with program completion even when other factors associated with recidivism are controlled for, including previous incarceration. Overall these findings contribute to the growing literature indicating that providing treatment for offenders with illicit drug problems can be an effective crime reduction strategy.

Payne, J. (2006). *A discrete-time survival study of drug use and property offending: Implications for early intervention and treatment*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

The nexus between drug use and criminal offending is of great interest to policy makers and researchers alike. The possibility that both illegal activities are interrelated provides promise that targeted interventions, such as drug diversion programs and drug courts, may have a tangible influence in reducing the social and economic costs of crime to the community. Although most in the academic and policy arenas agree that drugs and crime are interconnected, the nature of the relationship remains highly contested. This report contributes to this debate through an examination of drug use initiation and criminal escalation where it seeks to identify whether: drug use initiation increases the likelihood of offence escalation, and whether particular drugs play a more or less important role in increasing offending; delayed onset of drug use increases or decreases the risk of offence escalation; and self-reported motives for the engagement in offending help to predict onset and escalation risk. This study uses data from the Australian Institute of Criminology's Drug Use Careers of Offenders Study (DUCO), an interviewer-administered self-reported survey of offending and drug use, conducted in 2001 among adult male prisoners in Queensland, Western Australia, Tasmania and the Northern Territory to examine the temporal pattern of drug use and offending. Using a survival analysis technique, this study examines the risk profile of 1,500 property offenders and their likelihood of escalating to regular offending. Drug use, including cannabis and other illicit drugs, are modelled as temporal predictors as a means of estimating their effect on increasing or decreasing escalation risk across the criminal career. The results of this study provide some important findings for the development of policies aimed at preventing crime.

Payne, J. (2006). Drug use histories of juveniles in detention. *Of Substance*, 4 (April), 16-17.

Abstract

Research into the link between drug use and crime has consistently demonstrated a number of key findings: criminal offenders report higher rates of psychoactive substance (drug) use than the general population; frequent drug use is linked to higher frequencies of offending; the majority of offenders commence both crime and drug use during adolescence; and adult offenders who were detained as a juvenile report more serious and frequent offending profiles and higher levels of drug use. This study provides a summary of a research study undertaken by the Australian Institute of Criminology to examine the drug histories of 371 young people aged between 11 and 17 years who were sentenced to or remanded in detention in all Australian states and territories. These voluntary face-to-face interviews included 25 females and 364 males with an average age of 16 years. The findings of this study indicate that for a large proportion of juveniles in detention, drug use does play an important role in criminal participation, and highlights the importance of early intervention programs for breaking the cycle of drugs and crime.

Payne, J. (2006). *Specialty courts: Current issues and future prospects*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

This paper examines the history and development of specialty courts in Australia. It reviews the key evaluations of specialty court programs including drug courts, family and domestic violence courts, indigenous courts and mental impairment courts. The paper recommends a number of future directions including greater collaboration across the states in the development of good practice principles for the delivery of targeted interventions.

Perry-Kessaris, A., McDougall, C., & Farrington, D. P. (2006). *Reducing crime: The effectiveness of criminal justice intervention*. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.

Phillips, M. (2004). Cannabis cautioning criteria for first and second cautions. *Policing Issues and Practice Journal*, 12(1), 16-18.

Pidd, K., Aylward, P., Duraisingam, V., & Roche, A. M. (2004). *Evaluation of the Police Drug Diversion Initiative Assessor Training Program 2003–2004*. Adelaide: South Australian Department of Health.

Richman, M. (2006). The drugs/crime nexus. *ADCA News*, (November/December), 9.

Abstract

This brief article outlines the shift in public and police attitudes to both licit and illicit drugs. This is demonstrated by the Tasmania Police example, and their implementation of drug diversion strategies, which re-affirm that illicit drug use is both a health and a legal issue. The relationship between drugs and crime is described.

Sanford, J. S., & Arrigo, B. A. (2005). Lifting the cover on drug courts: Evaluation findings and policy concerns. *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology*, 49(3), 239-259.

Schmitt, G. A. (2006). *Drug Courts: The Second Decade*. Washington: Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice.

Abstract

Researchers have begun to look at the inner workings of drug courts and to investigate how key functional drug court components, singly and in combination, affect outcomes. When the evidence base resulting from such research is sufficiently strong to support meaningful conclusions about effectiveness, research can be translated into practice. This compendium presents findings from several recent studies that address the concerns of practitioners and policy-makers about "what works." Sometimes the studies confirm what previous research has found, and sometimes they raise more questions than they answer. But in every instance, they contribute to the slowly building base of knowledge about "the drug court effect."

Sharp, D., & Atherton, S. R. (2006). Out on the town: An evaluation of brief motivational interventions to address the risks associated with problematic alcohol use. *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology*, 50(5), 540-558.

Abstract

Alcohol has long been identified as a significant contributory factor in crime and anti social behaviour, yet there is a dearth of effective treatment available for those individuals whose drinking contributes significantly to their criminality, and subsequently the health risks and the economic and wider social implications that are associated with it. The literature on treatment programmes is drawn almost exclusively from medical experience but indicates that brief interventions are at least as effective as more intensive programmes in reducing alcohol consumption in at-risk groups. This research was undertaken to evaluate projects based in the West Midlands, United Kingdom, providing brief motivational interventions to offenders arrested for offences where alcohol is identified as a significant contributory factor. The evaluation indicates that an arrest referral scheme, as developed in the West Midlands, can achieve good levels of identification and referral, acceptable attendance, retention rates, and effective outcomes in terms of attitude and behaviour change.

Shoobridge, J. (2006). *Reducing drug-related crime: The role of Arrest Referral Schemes (ARS) and Custodial Nursing Models (CNM) in Australasia*. Adelaide: Australasian Centre for Policing Research.

Abstract

This report was prepared for the Commissioners' Drugs Committee (CDC) of the Conference of Police Commissioners of Australasia and the South West Pacific Region by the Australasian Centre for Policing Research (ACPR). The international literature promotes the benefits of custody-based arrest referral programs as an effective means of reducing drug-related crime. In the context of its role in focussing on contemporary alcohol and other drug-related issues in Australasia, the CDC sought detailed information regarding the relevance of arrest referral programs to the Australasian context, and the effectiveness of those schemes that are already in existence.

Skodbo, S., Brown, G., Deacon, S., Cooper, A., Hall, A., Millar, T., et al. (2007). *The Drug Interventions Programme (DIP): Addressing drug use and offending through 'Tough Choices'*. London: Research, Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office UK.

Abstract

This paper examines the way that the Drug Interventions Programme (DIP) in the UK engages and directs Class A drug misusers from the point of arrest or charge to the point of treatment, and examines their offending levels before and after identification by DIP.

Smart Justice (Victoria). (2006). *Breaking the link: Drugs, crime and prisons*. Melbourne: Smart Justice.

Abstract

It is often argued that criminalising certain drug use and imprisoning people for drug-related offences prevents users from accessing health and support services, which in turn adds to the chaos in their lives and the likelihood of their offending. This fact sheet explores how the links between illicit drug use and crime may be broken.

Sutton, A., & Hawks, D. (2005). The Cannabis Infringement Notice scheme in Western Australia: A review of policy, police and judicial perspectives. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 24(4), 331-336.

Swensen, G., & Crofts, T. (2005). Reforms to minor cannabis offences in the United Kingdom and Western Australia. *Web Journal of Current Legal Issues*, 1, 15.

Tresidder, J. (2008). *Cannabis and police diversion of juveniles and young people*. Paper presented at the Young people, crime and community safety conference: Engagement and early intervention, Melbourne, Victoria.

Abstract

Many young people are disproportionately involved in risk-taking, antisocial behaviours and other activities which may compromise their safety and the safety of others. They are also at risk of experiencing reduced opportunities in life through the influence of such factors as low educational attainment, early school leaving, involvement with the law, low socioeconomic status, ethnicity and disability.

UK Drug Policy Commission. (2008). *Reducing drug use, reducing reoffending: Are programmes for problem drug-using offenders in the UK supported by the evidence?* London: UK Drug Policy Commission.

Abstract

Over the past ten years, UK drug strategies have increasingly focused on providing treatment and support services for drug-dependent offenders, who commit a disproportionate number of acquisitive crimes (e.g. shoplifting and burglary), as a way of reducing overall crime levels. This criminal justice focus has been reinforced in the recent 2008 UK drug strategy. The UK Drug Policy Commission (UKDPC) has analysed the evidence for the effectiveness of these initiatives for reducing drug use and re-offending and also the wider impact of this more prominent criminal justice approach. To inform our analysis we commissioned an independent review of the published evidence from leading researchers at the Institute for Criminal Policy Research (ICPR), King's College London. We also listened to policy experts, local commissioners, drug workers and current and ex-drug users. The papers from both of these pieces of work along with a copy of this report are available online at www.ukdpc.org.uk/reports.shtml.

University of WA Crime Research Centre (2007). *WA diversion program: Evaluation framework (POP/STIR/IDP): Final report for the Drug and Alcohol Office*. Crawley, WA: Crime Research Centre.

Abstract

The Crime Research Centre has evaluated three court-based illicit drug diversion programs operating in Western Australia: the Pre-sentence Opportunity Program (POP), the Supervised Treatment Intervention Regime (STIR) and the Indigenous Diversion Program (IDP). These programs are funded through the Council of Australian Governments' (COAG) Illicit Drug Diversion Initiative (IDDI) and form part of the West Australian Diversion Program (WADP). Conducted in two stages, this is the final report of the evaluation which summarises the findings from the first and second stages of the assessment, and also provides the outcomes of health and drug analysis, recidivism

analysis, cost-benefit analysis and legal analysis. The overall aim of this evaluation was to evaluate the effectiveness of the POP, IDP and STIR programs in Western Australia, including an evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses of the programs. The report provides a summary of evaluation activities, measures and outcomes. It is divided into eleven sections.

Victoria Department of Justice. (2005). *Drug Court of Victoria evaluation*. Melbourne: Department of Justice.

Western Australia Department of the Attorney-General (2006). *A review of the Perth Drug Court*. Perth: Department of the Attorney General.

Abstract

As part of its approach to addressing the issues associated with drugs and crime, Western Australia justice services have developed a comprehensive strategy to treat substance dependent offenders that uses diversion as a means of encouraging offenders to enter treatment. One diversionary measure is the Perth Drug Court, which has been in operation in Western Australia since December 2000. The primary aim of this review was to consider the recidivism of drug users who have had different justice interactions, namely community corrections, prison and the Drug Court. Based on an evaluation of existing administrative data, the review provides: i) rates of recidivism among the Drug Court sample in comparison to those offenders who were dealt with by mainstream justice procedures; and ii) insight into the possible cost savings resulting from the Drug Court's operation. The overall aim was restricted to establishing the effectiveness of the Perth Drug Court in relation to cost efficiency and re-offending behaviour. The review considered all offenders who participated in the Drug Court between December 2000 and December 2003 and then tracked their involvement with correctional services over a two year period (from the end of their involvement with the Drug Court). As a comparison, the recidivism rate of two other groups of offenders was also tracked: prisoners on post-release programs and offenders at the end of their community based correctional orders. This involved offenders who had either drug-related convictions or that drugs were noted as a significant issue in their life. They were further matched to the Drug Court group by applying similar selection criteria used by the programs (for example, only Perth based offenders were used)

Wiseman, C. M. (2005). Drug Courts: framing policy to ensure success. *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology*, 49(3), 235-238.

11. Alcohol and Other Drug Problems Among Young People

This section contains resources on the range of ways in which alcohol and other drug problems impact upon young people. Also included are a range of strategies to reduce these problems.

Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs. (2003). *Hidden harm – Responding to the needs of children of problem drug users*. London: Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs.

Abstract

This Report sets out the findings of an Inquiry carried out by the Advisory Council, focussing on children in the UK with a parent, parents or other guardian whose drug use has serious negative consequences for themselves and those around them. The Report sets out 48 recommendations and the following 6 key messages:

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1. There are between 250,000 and 350,000 children of problem drug users in the UK – about one child for every problem drug user.
 2. Parental problem drug use causes serious harm to children at every age from conception to adulthood.
 3. Reducing the harm to children from parental problem drug use should become a main objective of policy and practice.
 4. Effective treatment of the parent can have major benefits for the child.
 5. By working together, services can take many practical steps to protect and improve the health and well-being of affected children.
 6. The number of affected children is only likely to decrease when the number of problem drug users decreases.
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Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs. (2007). *Hidden harm – Three Years On: Realities, Challenges and Opportunities*. London: Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs.

Abstract

This report, in keeping with the original Hidden Harm report, focuses on the lives and experiences of a large, diverse and vulnerable group of children. One of the recommendations of the original report was “that the voices of children should be heard and listened to” (Recommendation 6). Accordingly, this report includes children’s own words throughout, drawn from projects set up and research carried out since the original report, in order to provide a reminder of their lives, experiences and resilience.

Ahlstrom, S. K., & Osterberg, E. L. (2004). International perspectives on adolescent and young adult drinking. *Alcohol Research and Health*, 28(4), 258-268.

Australian Institute of Criminology. (2005). *Drug use by young serious offenders*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

The Australian Government Attorney-General’s Department funded the Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC) to undertake the Drug Use Careers of Offenders (DUCO) study. The first two parts of the study looked at men and women in prison. The third part comprised research into the lifetime offending and substance use patterns of 371 juveniles, aged 10 to 17 years, incarcerated in Australian juvenile detention centres. The study confirmed that young people sentenced to detention have extensive offending and drug use histories. Using self-reported prevalence of substance use, the research showed that almost all juvenile detainees had used alcohol (97%) and cannabis (94%), while half had used amphetamines (50%) and one in three had used ecstasy at some stage in their lives. Cannabis was the drug most commonly used on a regular basis by young people in the six months prior to their detention (63%), followed by alcohol (46%) and amphetamines (20%). Nearly one in three juvenile offenders were regular poly-substance users in the six months prior to detention.

Banken, J. A. (2004). Drug abuse trends among youth in the United States. *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences*, 1025, 465-471.

Abstract

Several years of survey data indicate that illicit drug use among U.S. youth was at its highest level in 1979. Generally, the use of some illicit drugs declined progressively throughout the 1980s, stabilised, and then decreased slightly. Reducing illicit drug use among U.S. youth continues to be a priority of federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies. The U.S. government tracks youth illicit drug use through three nationally representative surveys: National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, Monitoring the Future Study, and Youth Risk Behaviour Survey. Other surveys include the Partnership Attitudes Tracking Study, conducted annually to assess youth and parental attitudes about drugs, and Drug Abuse Awareness Network (DAWN), a national surveillance system that monitors trends in drug-related emergency department visits and deaths. Although survey methods differ, similar trends in drug use are well documented by these surveys. Among American youth, illicit use of drugs such as tobacco, alcohol, inhalants, marijuana, LSD, cocaine, heroin, and methamphetamine has remained relatively stable. However, a noteworthy exception is the increased use of MDMA (methylenedioxymethamphetamine). The physical consequences of “club and recreational drug use” are evidenced in the increased numbers of emergency department visits, specifically those related to MDMA and gamma-hydroxy-butyrate use, which may represent a new and emerging trend in illicit drug use.

Bellis, M. A., Hughes, K., Morleo, M., Tocque, K., Hughes, S., Allen, T., et al. (2007). Predictors of risky alcohol consumption in school children and their implications for preventing alcohol-related harm. *Substance Abuse Treatment, Prevention, and Policy*, 2(15), 1-10.

Abstract

While alcohol-related health and social problems amongst youths are increasing internationally, both consumption and the associated harms are particularly high in British youth. Youth drinking patterns, including bingeing, frequent drinking and drinking in public spaces, are associated with increased risks of acute (e.g. violence) and long-term (e.g. alcohol-dependence) health problems. Here we examine economic, behavioural and demographic factors that predict these risky drinking behaviours among 15–16 year old schoolchildren who consume alcohol. A cross-sectional survey was conducted among schoolchildren in North West England (n = 10,271) using an anonymous questionnaire delivered in school settings. Analysis utilised logistic regression to identify independent predictors of risky drinking behaviour.

Bonomo, Y. (2005). Adolescent alcohol problems: whose responsibility is it anyway? *Medical Journal of Australia*, 183(8), 430-432.

Abstract

Experimentation with alcohol is a normal part of teenage psychosocial development. Society's approach to adolescent alcohol consumption is ambiguous and sends young people mixed messages. Epidemiological data demonstrate disturbing trends in the patterns of alcohol use by young people, including widespread early onset and regular binge drinking. The acute harms of excessive adolescent alcohol consumption are well documented, and data on long term harms are now also emerging. As alcohol is an integral part of our culture, we urgently need to manage teenage drinking appropriately and comprehensively, and to guide young people to a ‘healthy norm’ for adolescent alcohol consumption.

Bryant, C., & Joudo, J. (2008, February). *Risk/Needs assessment and response to criminogenic factors with young people*. Paper presented at the Young people, crime and community safety: Engagement and early intervention Conference, Melbourne, Victoria.

Cagney, P., & Palmer, S. (2007). *The sale and supply of alcohol to under 18 year olds in New Zealand: A systematic overview of international and New Zealand literature (Final Report)*. Wellington: NZ Ministry of Justice.

Abstract

In common with other Western nations, alcohol is the most widespread legal recreational drug in New Zealand. 'Having a drink' is an accepted and positive part of social intercourse for many New Zealanders and an integral part of New Zealand's sense of identity and culture. However, New Zealand's drinking customs are also characterised by a culture of binge drinking with intoxication and the consumption of large quantities of alcohol in one sitting accepted as a social norm (Alcohol Advisory Council of New Zealand, 2005b; Alcohol Advisory Council of New Zealand and Ministry of Health, 2001).

Reflecting the wider New Zealand drinking culture, alcohol use is also common among young people. Despite people under the age of 18 years being unable to legally purchase alcohol themselves, the 2004 Health Behaviours Survey found that 56% of 12-17 year olds had consumed alcohol in the last 12 months (Stefanogiannis, Mason, & Yeh, 2007). However, while the youth drinking culture may broadly mirror the adult drinking culture, young people tend to have especially risky drinking patterns that result in them experiencing a disproportionate amount of alcohol-related harm. When they drink, young people are more likely to binge and consume large quantities of alcohol in one session. Given that this pattern of bingeing and intoxication has been shown to result in the greatest amount of alcohol-related harm, underage drinking and the sale and supply of alcohol to minors is a genuine source of concern to the community.

There are a variety of effective strategies, both legislative and non-legislative, that can be applied nationally and regionally to reduce the overall supply of alcohol to young people in order to limit underage drinking and its associated harms. However, like drinking behaviour among the wider community, drinking by minors is a social behaviour; a learned process that is primarily determined by wider social structures and norms. In other words, the problem of binge drinking by young people cannot be addressed in isolation from the binge drinking of adults and the overall New Zealand drinking culture. It is therefore crucial that prevention efforts and public action strategies are based on a thorough understanding of the complex mix of socio-economic, political and cultural factors that impact on underage drinking and its associated harms.

Cook, C. (2005). *Preventing alcohol-related harm among Australian rural youth: Investigating the 'Social Norms' approach*. Hobart: Tasmanian Institute of Law Enforcement Studies.

Dawe, S., Frye, S., Best, D., Moss, D., Atkinson, J., Evans, C., et al. (2006). *Drug use in the family: Impacts and implications for children*. Canberra: Australian National Council on Drugs.

Abstract

This report has focused on the impact of parental substance misuse, specifically alcohol and illicit drug use, in children aged between two and twelve years. It begins with a review of the literature on the prevalence of substance misuse in families, with additional original analyses of national surveys and analyses of specialist databases. It is clear that the use of alcohol and other drugs in households with dependent children is high, with especially high rates of binge drinking. While parental substance misuse can affect many aspects of a child's life, it is generally difficult to disentangle the effects of parental substance use from the broader social and economic factors that contribute to and maintain the misuse of either drugs or alcohol.

Dean, J., Harris, J., Kake, T., Kirby, S., & Kypr, K. (2005). 'Think before you buy under-18s drink': Evaluation of a community alcohol intervention. *Drug and Alcohol Review, 24*(1), 13-20.

Abstract

Hazardous consumption of alcohol by teenagers is a significant public health problem in New Zealand. Concern about the supply of alcohol to minors motivated 'Think before you buy under-18s a drink', a campaign to reduce alcohol-related harm by discouraging inappropriate supply of alcohol by adults. Two intervention districts and a comparison district, in the South Island of New Zealand, were selected for the purpose of evaluating the campaign. Primary outcome measures were changes in the prevalence of parent supply to their teenagers (13 -17 years) for unsupervised drinking (SUD), and changes in the prevalence of binge drinking among teenagers. At baseline, 49% of teenagers reported a recent episode of binge drinking. SUD in the past month was reported by 36% of teenagers. Recent purchases of alcohol by under-18s were common (bottle shops: 16%; pubs/bars: 11%). In contrast to teenagers, only 2% of parents reported SUD in the past month. The levels of binge drinking decreased in all three districts. Analysis of data from 474 teenagers who completed questionnaires, at baseline and follow-up, showed decreased SUD in Ashburton and Waitaki relative to Clutha, although this was not significant. Discrepancies between teenager and parent reports of SUD may be due to the latter providing a socially desirable survey response and to differences in the interpretation of what constitutes adult supervision. The lack of a significant association between changes in SUD and binge drinking may be a consequence of teenagers obtaining relatively small amounts of alcohol from their parents and larger quantities from other sources, e.g. peers (some of whom may be able to purchase alcohol legally) and from licensed premises.

Dent, C. W., Grube, J. W., & Biglan, A. (2005). Community level alcohol availability and enforcement of possession laws as predictors of youth drinking. *Preventive Medicine: An International Journal Devoted to Practice and Theory, 40*(3), 355-362.

Elkadi, S., Dain, S., & Dick, S. (2006, May). *The profile of drug use and offending in young offenders in Victorian prisons*. Paper presented at the 5th International Conference on Drugs and Young People, Randwick, NSW.

Abstract

Young offenders are a significant group within the Victorian Prisons system. This conference paper outlines a study undertaken by Caraniche Pty Ltd for Corrections Victoria, to profile the drug use and offending patterns of male and female young adult offenders identified as being medium to high risk alcohol and other drugs abusers within Victorian prisons. In addition, the clinical implications of the findings were discussed in relation to the management and treatment options. All male and female offenders who were assessed by Corrections Victoria as being of medium to high risk of alcohol and other drugs abuse were referred to Carniche. Patterns of drug use were surveyed, with the result that the offending activity reflects the income generating activity; however, there is no information about which activity comes first, the drug use or the offending.

Engineer, R., Phillips, A., Thompson, J., & Nicholls, J. (2003). *Drunk and disorderly: A qualitative study of binge drinking among 18- to 24-year-olds*. London: Home Office Research, Development and Statistics Directorate.

Abstract

This report presents the findings from a qualitative study exploring the social context of binge drinking among young adults aged from 18 to 24 years. The study examines young people's experiences of crime, disorder and risk-taking in the night-time economy, and explores ways in which drinking patterns, attitudes to drinking alcohol and the effects of binge drinking were related to these experiences. The research aims to provide an evidence base for the development of policies to reduce alcohol-related crime, disorder and violence, and public drunkenness. The

research consisted of 16 focus group discussions with young people, conducted across 8 locations in England and Wales. All of these young people had regular experience of binge drinking, and many reported behaving in ways associated with alcohol-related crime and disorder while out drinking. The research identified four key elements of the social context that are relevant to the relationship between binge drinking and disorder: attitudes and motivations towards binge drinking, social and peer group norms, the effects of binge drinking on mood and behaviour, and the drinking environment. Key 'risk factors' were identified in each area. The research concluded that where these are present, and particularly when they interact, the likelihood of disorderly outcomes and risk-taking is increased. The report's conclusion illustrates and explains these integral relationships.

French, M. T., & Maclean, J. C. (2006). Underage alcohol use, delinquency, and criminal activity. *Health Economics*, 15(12), 1261-1281.

Abstract

Since 1988, the minimum legal drinking age (MLDA) has been 21 years for all 50 US states. The increasing prevalence of teenagers driving under the influence (DUI) of alcohol and the resulting traffic accidents were two main reasons for raising the MLDA to 21 years. Following the passage of this legislation, several published studies have found that the higher MLDA is associated with a significant reduction in both fatal and non-fatal accidents. While the relationship between MLDA and DUI events among young adults has been extensively studied, less information is available on other potential consequences of underage drinking. The present study uses data from the National Epidemiologic Survey on Alcohol and Related Conditions (NESARC), a recent nationally representative survey, to investigate the effects of underage drinking on a variety of delinquency and criminal activity consequences. After controlling for the endogeneity of alcohol use where appropriate, we find strong evidence that various measures of alcohol consumption are related both to delinquency and to criminal activity. However, the findings are not uniform across gender as we find striking differences between males and females. These results have interesting policy and public health implications regarding underage drinking.

Frisher, M., Crome, I., Macleod, J., Bloor, R., & Hickman, M. (2007). *Predictive factors for illicit drug use among young people: A literature review*. London: Research Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office UK.

Gosselt, J. F., van Hoof, J. J., de Jong, M. D. T., & Prinsen, S. (2007). Mystery shopping and alcohol sales: Do supermarkets and liquor stores sell alcohol to underage customers? *Journal of Adolescent Health*, 41(3), 302-308.

Abstract

The Dutch national policy regarding alcohol and youth relies on retailers' willingness to refuse to sell alcohol to underage customers. This study examined unobtrusively whether supermarkets and liquor stores comply with the legal age restrictions for alcohol sales. A research protocol was developed based on the methodology of mystery shopping. Using the protocol, 150 supermarkets and 75 liquor stores were visited by 15-year-old adolescents who tried to buy soft alcoholic beverages (legal age, 16 years), and 75 liquor stores were visited by 17-year-old adolescents who tried to buy strong alcoholic beverages (legal age, 18 years).

The study found that of all 300 buying attempts, 86% were successful. In supermarkets, 88% of all attempts succeeded. In liquor stores, a difference was found between the purchase of strong alcohol by 17-year-olds (89%) and the purchase of soft alcoholic beverages by 15-year-olds (77%). In only 71 of all visits, mystery shoppers were asked for an ID. In 39% of these cases, they were still able to buy alcohol. Female adolescents were more successful in buying alcohol than male adolescents. The results show that supermarkets and liquor stores generally fail to see the need for extra care when young customers try to buy alcohol. Legal age restrictions without enforcement and facilitation clearly do not suffice to protect adolescents from early exposure to alcohol.

Gottfredson, D. C., & Wilson, D. B. (2003). Characteristics of effective school-based substance abuse prevention. *Prevention Science, 4*(1), 27-38.

Abstract

This study summarizes, using meta-analytic techniques, results from 94 studies of school-based prevention activities that examined alcohol or other drug use outcomes. It set out to determine what features of school-based substance abuse prevention programs are related to variability in the size of program effects. It asked:

1. Which populations (e.g., high risk vs. general population) should be targeted for prevention services?
2. What is the best age or developmental stage for prevention programming?
3. Does program duration matter?
4. Does the role of the person delivering the service (e.g., teacher, law enforcement officer, and peer) matter?

The results suggest that targeting middle school aged children and designing programs that can be delivered primarily by peer leaders will increase the effectiveness of school-based substance use prevention programs. The results also imply that such programs need not be lengthy. The evidence related to the targeting issue is sparse, but suggests that, at least for programs teaching social competency skills, targeting higher risk youths may yield stronger effects than targeting the general population. Suggestions for future research are offered.

Griffin, K. W., Botvin, G. J., & Nichols, T. R. (2004). Long-term follow-up effects of a school-based drug abuse prevention program on adolescent risky driving. *Prevention Science, 5*(3), 207-212.

Abstract

This study examined the long-term follow-up data from a large-scale randomised trial to determine the extent to which participation in a school-based drug abuse prevention program during junior high school led to less risky driving among high school students. Self-report data collected from students in the 7th, 10th, and 12th grades were matched by name to students' Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) records at the end of high school. The DMV data included the total number of violations on students' driving records as well as the number of "points" that indicate the frequency and severity of the violations. A series of logistic regression analyses revealed that males were more likely to have violations and points on their driving records than females, and regular alcohol users were more likely to have violations and points than those who did not use alcohol regularly. Controlling for gender and alcohol use, students who received the drug prevention program during junior high school were less likely to have violations and points on their driving records relative to control group participants that did not receive the prevention program. The findings indicated that anti-drinking attitudes mediated the effect of the intervention on driving violations, but not points. These results support the hypothesis that the behavioural effects of competence-enhancement prevention programs can extend to risk behaviours beyond the initial focus of intervention, such as risky driving.

Huckle, T., Casswell, S., & Pledger, M. (2005). Evaluation of a regional community action intervention in New Zealand to improve age checks for young people purchasing alcohol. *Health Promotion International, 20*(2), 147-155.

Abstract

This paper describes the evaluation of a regional community action intervention to reduce access to alcohol from off-license premises by minors. The intervention focussed on: (1) monitoring alcohol sales made without age identification from off-licenses; (2) utilising data on alcohol sales for media advocacy and direct contact with alcohol retailers and (3) working with key

enforcement staff to encourage increased monitoring and enforcement of minimum purchase age legislation for off-licenses. Evaluation of this intervention used a case study design. Purchase survey data was obtained before and after intervention. Media items were monitored and included pre- and post-intervention phases. Interviews, with key enforcement staff, and document review were undertaken post-intervention. Purchase survey data showed a significant decrease ($p < 0.05$) in the sales of alcohol made to young people without age identification pre- and post-intervention. Pre-intervention: 60% of visits resulted in a sale made without age identification; post-intervention this proportion was 46%. The principal component analysis of newsprint media indicated increased coverage of items advocating improved age checking for off-licenses following intervention. Interview data and document review indicated that some enforcement staff in the region implemented increased enforcement strategies including controlled purchase operations and increased visits to off-licenses due to the intervention. The evaluation findings indicated that collaborative and intersectoral community action interventions implemented regionally could be effective in redirecting resources to achieve preventive outcomes at a population level.

Hughes, K., Anderson, Z., Morleo, M., & Bellis, M. A. (2008). Alcohol, nightlife and violence: The relative contributions of drinking before and during nights out to negative health and criminal justice outcomes. *Addiction*, *103*(1), 60-65.

Abstract

This paper explores the differences in alcohol consumption and negative nightlife experiences between young people who drink prior to attending city nightlife venues and those who do not drink until reaching bars and nightclubs by conducting a cross-sectional survey of 380 young people (aged 18–35 years) in bars and nightclubs in a large city centre in the North-west of England. An anonymous questionnaire explored the participants' basic demographics; frequency of utilising nightlife; quantities of alcohol consumed prior to and during a typical night out in the city; and negative experiences in the city's nightlife in the previous year [fighting, being verbally abused, being sexually molested (e.g. groped) and being too drunk to walk]. Participants who reported drinking prior to attending nightlife (e.g. at their own or a friend's home) reported significantly higher total alcohol consumption over a night out than those who did not drink until they had reached the bars and nightclubs. Over a quarter (26.5%) of female and 15.4% of male alcohol consumption over a night out occurred prior to attending nightlife. Individuals who drink before going out were over four times more likely to report drinking >20 units on a usual night out and 2.5 times more likely to have been involved in a fight in the city's nightlife during the previous 12 months. Measures to tackle drunkenness and alcohol-related violence in nightlife should expand beyond those targeted solely at nightlife environments. Continued disparities in the pricing and policing of alcohol between on- and off-licensed premises may increase at-home drinking prior to nights out and alcohol-related problems in residential areas.

Johnston, K. L., & White, K. (2004). Binge-drinking in female university students: A theory of planned behaviour perspective. *Youth Studies Australia*, *23*(2), 22-30.

Abstract

Researchers have noticed a disturbing increase in alcohol consumption by young women in Australia. Although they are affected more than young men by the same amount of alcohol, the current research found that young female university students are binge-drinking at similar rates to young men. Female students who binge-drink believe that they are more likely to have fun drinking than those who don't binge-drink. However, they also increase their risk-taking and the damage to their health. Intervention programs need to make students aware that their positive expectations of binge-drinking are distorted and that they face disapproval from significant others if they binge-drink.

Julian, R., Hughes, C., & Richman, M. (2008, February). *It's better to be safe and sober: Working with young people to create healthier, safer communities*. Paper presented at the Young people, crime and community safety conference: Engagement and early intervention. Melbourne, Victoria.

Abstract

This paper provides an overview of the Social Norms Analysis Project (SNAP).

Kemshall, H. (2006). Young people, pathways and crime: Beyond risk factors. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology*, 39(3), 354-370.

Abstract

This paper examines the various approaches to risk and crime pathways. It looks at issues such as: 'artefact' and 'constructionist' cultures; how constructionist perspectives have provided new insights into the way traditional risk factors operate for young people; examples based on classical risk factors; exclusion from school and social networks as potential risk and protective factors and the potential role of drugs; synthesising rather than disputing paradigms to produce different layers of knowledge.

Komro, K., Maldonado-Molina, M., Tobler, A., Bonds, J., & Muller, K. (2007). Effects of home access and availability of alcohol on young adolescents' alcohol use. *Addiction*, 102(10), 1597-1608.

Abstract

The purpose of the present study was to examine the effects of parental provision of alcohol and home alcohol accessibility on the trajectories of young adolescent alcohol use and intentions.

The data were part of a longitudinal study of alcohol use among multi-ethnic urban young adolescents who were assigned randomly to the control group of a prevention trial and they were collected from a cohort of youth, and their parents, who attended public schools in Chicago, Illinois (2002–2005). Specifically, the sample comprised the 1388 students, and their parents, who had been assigned randomly to the control group and were present and completed surveys at baseline, in the beginning of 6th grade (age 12). The sample was primarily low-income, and African American and Hispanic.

Students were asked to complete self-report questionnaires when they were in the 6th, 7th and 8th grades (age 12–14 years; response rates 91–96%). Parents of the 6th grade students also completed questionnaires (70% response rate).

The study found that the students reported, at age 12, parental provision of alcohol and home alcohol availability, and parental reports of providing alcohol to their child and the accessibility of alcohol in the home. Both of these were associated with significant increases in the trajectories of young adolescent alcohol use and their intentions from ages 12–14 years. Students reporting that they had received alcohol from their parent or taking it from home during their last drinking occasion were the most robust predictors of increases in alcohol use and intentions over time.

The results of this study indicate that it is risky for parents to allow children to drink during early adolescence. When these findings are considered together with the risks associated with early onset of alcohol use, it is clear that parents can play an important role in prevention.

Kypri, K., Voas, R., Langley, J., Stephenson, S., Begg, D., Tippetts, A., et al. (2006). Minimum purchasing age for alcohol and traffic crash injuries among 15 to 19 year olds in New Zealand. *American Journal of Public Health*, 96(1), 126-131.

Abstract

In 1999, New Zealand lowered the minimum purchasing age for alcohol from 20 to 18 years. We tested the hypothesis that this increased traffic crash injuries among 15- to 19-year-olds by using poisson regression to compute the incidence rate ratios for the after to before incidence of alcohol-

involved crashes and hospitalised injuries among 18- to 19-year-olds and 15- to 17-year-olds (20- to 24-year-olds were the reference).

The study found that, among young men, the ratio of the alcohol-involved crash rate after the law change to the period before was 12% larger (95% confidence interval [CI] = 1.00, 1.25) for 18- to 19-year-olds and 14% larger (95% CI = 1.01, 1.30) for 15- to 17-year-olds, relative to 20- to 24-year-olds. Among young women, the equivalent ratios were 51% larger (95% CI = 1.17, 1.94) for 18- to 19-year-olds and 24% larger (95% CI = 0.96, 1.59) for 15- to 17-year-olds. A similar pattern was observed for hospitalised injuries.

The authors concluded that significantly more alcohol-involved crashes occurred among 15- to 19-year-olds than would have occurred had the purchase age not been reduced to 18 years. The effect size for 18- to 19-year-olds is remarkable given the legal exceptions to the pre-1999 law and its poor enforcement.

Laslett, A., Matthews, S., & Dietze, P. (2006). *Alcohol use and related harm among young people across Victorian Local Government Areas 2006*. Fitzroy, Victoria: Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre.

Lennings, C., Copeland, J., & Howard, J. (2003). Substance use patterns of young offenders and violent crime. *Aggressive Behaviour*, 29(5), 414-422.

Abstract

The use of alcohol is a significant predictor of the involvement of young offenders in violent crime. This study found that in a sample of 300 incarcerated juveniles in New South Wales, more than 70% had admitted to committing violent crime. Detainees from an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander culture were less likely than other detainees to be involved in violent crime. The substances most associated with violent crime were alcohol, followed by cocaine. However, when the likelihood that the young person has initiated violence as a response to alcohol or other substances is introduced into the equation, the direct effects for alcohol and cocaine predicting engagement in violent crime disappear. The Goldstein hypothesis that the effects of a substance directly facilitate violence, thereby accounting for the relationship between substances of use and violent crime, was supported.

Lennings, C., Kenny, D., & Howard, J. (2007). The relationship between substance abuse and delinquency in female adolescents in Australia. *Psychiatry, Psychology and Law*, 14(1), 100-110.

Abstract

Over the last two decades young women have been increasing their representation in the juvenile justice system in Australia. Most young women are not, however, incarcerated and investigations into the correlates of female offending have largely been undertaken on small samples of incarcerated girls. This study reports on a review of seven studies of young offenders, two of which involve relatively large samples of girls in treatment or on community orders. The analysis finds that girls use illicit drugs at least as much, if not more than boys, and have similar patterns of alcohol use. Considerable variation in drug use for substances other than marijuana and alcohol is observed between the samples, and drug use patterns appear sensitive to the time and place of the survey. Girls present with much higher levels of psychopathology, although data from the treatment sample indicate that such psychopathology settles quickly if young girls can be retained in treatment. In addition, girls present with much more concerning backgrounds of abuse, although girls tend to rate their families of origin, if anything, more beneficently than do boys. A complicated pattern of interaction of family dysfunction, mental health concerns, and abuse is mediated by gender.

Lyons, A. C. (2006). Going out and 'getting pissed': Understanding young adults' binge drinking behaviour. In M. Katsikitis (Ed.), *Psychology bridging the Tasman: Science, culture and practice: Proceedings of the 2006 Joint Conference of the APS and NZPS* (pp. 234-238). Melbourne, Vic: Australian Psychological Society.

Abstract

Young adults and young women in particular, are drinking more alcohol than ever before. The media has attributed these shifts to a culture of masculinity, yet previous research examining gender roles and alcohol consumption has produced inconsistent results. This study aimed to gain in-depth understandings of young people's drinking by talking to eight groups of friends (aged 18-29 years) about themselves and their drinking behaviour. Results highlight how, when and where young adults drink, who they drink with, and how this relates to their gender identities. Young adults are regularly consuming large amounts of alcohol, and this is seen as a routine everyday experience that is a normal part of social life. Both men and women described regularly going out with friends and 'getting pissed'. Traditionally this public binge drinking was a masculine behaviour; however, talk around women's binge drinking challenged and superseded this understanding through a feminisation of binge drinking.

Matrix Research and Consultancy, Institute for Criminal Policy Research, Kings College. (2007). *Evaluation of Drug Interventions Programme pilots for children and young people: Arrest referral, drug testing and drug treatment and testing requirements*. London: Research Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office UK.

Matthews, S., Brasnett, L., & Smith, J. (2006). *Underage drinking: Findings from the 2004 Offending, Crime and Justice Survey*. London: Research, Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office UK.

Abstract

The Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy for England (Cabinet Office, 2004) highlighted the costs to society of alcohol-related crime, disorder and antisocial behaviour. The key aims of the strategy are to reduce alcohol-related crime and disorder and to tackle the minority who consume and sell alcohol irresponsibly. This report presents findings from the 2004 Offending, Crime and Justice Survey (OCJS) which is a nationally representative self-report offending survey of 10- to 25-year-olds which also includes questions on alcohol consumption. The 2004 OCJS predates the onset of the Government's Alcohol Misuse Enforcement Campaign aimed at tackling alcohol-related crime and disorder including underage alcohol sales. This report is specifically focused on the results for young people aged 10 to 17 years (n=3,172). It explores both the prevalence and the nature of underage drinking and the relationship between alcohol consumption and offending among young people.

Montgomery, J. M., Foley, K. M., & Wolfson, M. (2006). Enforcing the minimum drinking age: State, local and agency characteristics associated with compliance checks and Cops in Shops programs. *Addiction*, 101(2), 223-231.

Abstract

The aim of this study was to identify the state, local and organisational characteristics that are associated with local law enforcement agencies' implementation of two dramatically different approaches to enforcement of underage drinking laws: compliance checks and Cops in Shops programs. Compliance checks use underage decoys to attempt to purchase alcohol from retail merchants, while Cops in Shops programs deploy undercover law enforcement officers in alcohol outlets to detect and cite persons under the age of 21 years who attempt to purchase alcohol.

The researchers used a cross-sectional telephone interview which was conducted as part of the Tobacco Enforcement Study (TES), to examine the enforcement of laws that related to youth access to tobacco.

Data were collected in 1999 among law enforcement agencies in all 50 states of the United States. Participants included representatives of city police departments, departments of public safety, sheriffs or county police (n = 920 local agencies). Alcohol compliance checks and Cops in Shops programs were the primary outcomes. Covariates included state level policies (e.g. beer tax), agency resources (e.g. number of sworn officers) and community demographics (e.g. college dormitory population).

The study found that local enforcement agencies were more likely to perform alcohol compliance checks than to have a Cops in Shops program (73.9% compared to 41.1% in cities > 25 000 and 55.7% compared to 23.9% in cities ≤ 25 000). Conducting compliance checks for tobacco age-of-sale laws was positively associated with alcohol compliance checks and Cops in Shops (OR 3.30, P < 0.001; OR 1.84, P = 0.001, respectively). Having a Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) officer was negatively related to conducting compliance checks (OR 0.67, P = 0.03). Special community policing units were associated with departments having Cops in Shops programs (OR 1.80, P = 0.006).

This study used a nationally representative sample of communities to better understand state and local factors that shape local law enforcement agencies' use of two distinct approaches to underage drinking enforcement. The strong link observed between tobacco and alcohol compliance checks may indicate a culture within some law enforcement agencies supporting strict enforcement of age-of-sale laws.

National Crime Prevention (1999) *Pathways to prevention: Developmental and early intervention approaches to crime in Australia*. Canberra: National Crime Prevention, Attorney-General's Department.

Nicholas, R. (2007). *Young people, alcohol and other drugs: The role of police in providing school-based drug education*. Adelaide: Australasian Centre for Policing Research.

Abstract

Police services in Australia have a long history of involvement with drug education programs in schools and this has, at least in the past, involved a significant investment for police. As a result, the Commissioners Drugs Committee (CDC) of the Conference of Police Commissioners of Australasia and the South West Pacific Region asked the Australasian Centre for Policing Research (ACPR) to prepare a discussion paper that identifies best practice in school-based drug education. This paper was developed with a view to assisting policing organisations to identify what their future role might be in this area. The paper first considers those factors which, at a general level, protect young people from developing alcohol and other drug problems. The paper then considers the importance of having clear goals in implementing drug education programs and highlights the range of potential goals. Next, a range of emerging perspectives about the role of schools in preventing alcohol and other drug misuse problems are explored, which is followed by an outline of the difficulties associated with research in this area. After this, the principles of best practice in this area are outlined. The paper concludes with an examination of whether police should have a role in drug education, and if so, what their role should be.

Nygaard, P., & Grube, J. (2005). Mixed messages: Contributions to adolescent drinking and driving. *Addiction Research and Theory*, 13(5), 411-426.

Office of Crime Statistics and Research. (2005). *Evaluation of the fake ID Project*. Adelaide: Office of Crime Statistics and Research.

Abstract

The Fake ID Project was launched in 2003 as an initiative of SA Police's Sturt Local Service Area via their Drug Action Team, and the Office of Liquor and Gambling Commissioner, in order to reduce the number of young people using false or altered identification to enter licensed premises or purchase alcohol. The use of false identification is a concern due to the range of harms that attending licensed premises and alcohol use can expose young people to, including health issues, sexual assault, behavioural incidents and violence. This report summarises the activities and findings associated with an evaluation of the initiative. It should be noted that the evaluation directs particular attention to the survey of school students. This is a function of the extensiveness of the study, and also because it provides a picture of the attitudes, experiences and behaviours of young people in relation to underage entry to licensed premises, underage purchases of alcohol, and the use of fake identification. The detailed methodology for each of the evaluation components is addressed separately in the report, with the final section providing a synthesis of findings across the evaluation, and some overview of future considerations in dealing with this issue.

Ogilvie, D., & Gruer, L. H., S. (2005). Young people's access to tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs. *British Medical Journal*, 331, 393-396.

Abstract

Young people in the United Kingdom can easily obtain cigarettes and alcoholic drinks from a range of social and illicit commercial sources before they reach the legal minimum age for such purchases; many also report having access to illicit drugs. Un-enforced voluntary agreements with retailers and intervening in illicit distribution systems have not been shown to influence young people's use of tobacco, alcohol, or other drugs.

Paschall, M. J., Grube, J. W., Black, C., Flewelling, R. L., Ringwalt, C. L., & Biglan, A. (2006). Alcohol Outlet Characteristics and Alcohol Sales to youth: Results of alcohol purchase surveys in 45 Oregon communities. *Prevention Science*, 8(2), 153-159.

Abstract

Reducing youth access to commercial sources of alcohol is recognised as a necessary component of a comprehensive strategy to reduce underage drinking and alcohol-related problems. However, research on policy-relevant factors that may influence the commercial availability of alcohol to youth is limited. The present study examines the characteristics of off-premise alcohol outlets that may affect alcohol sales to youth. Random alcohol purchase surveys (N = 385) were conducted in 45 Oregon communities in 2005. Underage-looking decoys who were 21 years old but did not carry IDs were able to purchase alcohol at 34% of the outlets approached. Purchase rates were highest at convenience (38%) and grocery (36%) stores but were relatively low (14%) at other types of outlets (e.g., liquor and drug stores). Alcohol purchases were less likely at stores that were participating in the Oregon Liquor Control Commission's Responsible Vendor Program (RVP), when salesclerks asked the decoys for their IDs, and at stores with a posted underage alcohol sale warning sign. Alcohol purchases were also inversely related to the number of salesclerks present in a store, but were not related to salesclerks' age and gender. Findings of this study suggest that more frequent compliance checks by law enforcement agents should target convenience and grocery stores, and owners of off-premise outlets should require training of all salesclerks to ensure reliable checks of young-looking patron IDs, and they should also post underage alcohol sales warning signs in clear view of patrons.

Patton, G. C., Coffey, C., Lynskey, M. T., Reid, S., Hemphill, S., & Carlin, J. B., et al. (2007). Trajectories of adolescent alcohol and cannabis use into young adulthood. *Addiction*, 102(4), 607-615.

Payne, J. (2006, April). Drug use histories of juveniles in detention. *Of Substance*, 4, 16-17.

Abstract

The research into the link between drug use and crime has consistently demonstrated a number of key findings: criminal offenders report higher rates of psychoactive substance (drug) use than the general population; frequent drug use is linked to higher frequencies of offending; the majority of offenders commence both crime and drug use during adolescence; and adult offenders who were detained as a juvenile report more serious and frequent offending profiles and higher levels of drug use. This study provides a summary of a research study undertaken by the Australian Institute of Criminology to examine the drug histories of 371 young people aged between 11 and 17 years who were sentenced to or remanded in detention in all Australian states and territories. These voluntary face-to-face interviews included 25 females and 364 males with an average age of 16 years. The findings of this study indicate that for a large proportion of juveniles in detention, drug use does play an important role in criminal participation, and highlights the importance of early intervention programs for breaking the cycle of drugs and crime.

Prichard, J., & Payne, J. (2005). *Alcohol, drugs and crime: A study of juveniles in detention*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Putnins, A. L. (2006). Substance use among young offenders: Thrills, bad feelings, or bad behaviour? *Substance Use & Misuse*, 41(3), 415-422.

Abstract

This paper discusses the North Coast Substance Abuse Project which has been initiated and funded through Drug and Alcohol Coordination, a National Drug Strategy funded unit in the Queensland Police Service. Alcohol and other drug use contributes to a range of health, economic and social harms, including suicide, family disruption and domestic violence, which impact negatively on the community, and the links between alcohol and other drugs and crime are well documented. Fear of drug and alcohol related crime is identified as a major community concern which reduces the quality of life of the general population, as well as placing pressure on limited police resources. The paper examines a multi-strategy project undertaken in the North Coast Police Region in Queensland, which responded to community concerns regarding alcohol and other drug use and the need to implement proactive community based responses. The project was characterised by a strong intersectoral approach and provided an opportunity to build positive and ongoing relationships between police, community and the other government and non-government sectors. The project was directed by good practice in crime prevention and adhered to the guiding principles of intersectoral collaboration, harm minimisation and proactive community policing. The process for developing and implementing the project is outlined, and the success of the project is highlighted by the findings of the project evaluation.

Research Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office. (2007). *Identifying and exploring young people's experiences of risk, protective factors and resilience to drug use*. London: Research, Development and Statistics Directorate.

Abstract

The Home Office commissioned research in 2004 to explore the risk, protective factors and resilience to drug use in young people. This report highlights key findings from a literature review, analysis of the 2003 Offending Crime and Justice Survey (OCJS) and a qualitative study of the views and experiences of a sample of young people from the OCJS who could be considered resilient to drug use.

Roche, A., Bywood, P., Lunnay, B., Freeman, T., Lawton, T., Tovell, A., Nicholas, R. (2007). *Young People and Alcohol: The Role of Cultural Influences*. Adelaide: National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction.

Roche, A., Pidd, K., Bywood, P., Duraisingam, V., Teenson, T., Freeman, T., Nicholas, R. (2008). *Drug Testing in Schools; Evidence, Impacts and Alternatives*. Canberra: Australian National Council on Drugs.

Rogers, N., & Anderson, W. (2007). A community development approach to deal with public drug use in Box Hill. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 26(1), 87-95.

Abstract

The use of alcohol and other drugs in public space is one that generates much debate in the public discourse and in the media. Too often the responses called for to reduce the problems of public amenity involve punitive policing and other responses that aim to engineer (mostly) young people out of these public spaces. Often local retailers are a key stakeholder group calling loudest for punitive action. In this Harm Reduction Digest, Rogers and Anderson describe a community development approach taken to address these problems in Box Hill near Melbourne. This approach which aimed to develop 'bridging social capital' between community retailers and other stakeholders in the area appears to have been effective in reducing harm associated with public drug use. Moreover these changes have become institutionalised and the approach has been expanded to address other public amenity problems in the area. It is a good example of how drug related harm can be reduced by grass roots networks of local councils, business people, law enforcement and health and welfare service providers to address these issues.

Rooney, A. (2006). *Drugs on the street*. London: Evans.

Salom, C., Watts, M., Kinner, S., & Young, D. (2005). Schoolies week in perspective: Studies of alcohol, drug and risk-taking behaviour. *Of Substance*, 3, 26-29.

Schafer, J. A. (2005). Negotiating order in the policing of youth drinking. *Policing: An International Journal of Police Strategies & Management*, 28(2), 279-300.

Schwartzenberger, T. (2007). *Substance use and abuse*. New York: Weigl Publishers.

Scott, L., Donnelly, N., Poynton, S., & Weatherburn, D. (2007). *Young adults' experience of responsible service practice in NSW: An update*. Sydney: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research.

Smith, A., & Waddington, I. (2004). Using 'sport in the community schemes' to tackle crime and drug use among young people: Some policy issues and problems. *European Physical Education Review*, 10, 279-298.

Abstract

This article seeks, first, to offer some critical comments on the policy issues and problems surrounding the use of sporting schemes as vehicles of social policy in which the intention is to reduce levels of crime, delinquency and drug 'abuse' among young people. Secondly, it examines a point of fundamental importance in policy terms: do such schemes work? In this regard, it is claimed that relatively few such schemes, which are largely premised upon a one-sided perception of sport, have built-in processes for monitoring and evaluating their impact on the levels of crime or drug use among young people. It is also argued that these methodological weaknesses are exacerbated by the absence of any clearly articulated theoretical rationale for these schemes, which means that, even where success for them is claimed, it is unclear what specific aspects of the schemes account for that claimed success.

Swahn, M. H., & Donovan, J. E. (2006). Alcohol and violence: Comparison of the psychosocial correlates of adolescent involvement in alcohol-related physical fighting versus other physical fighting. *Addictive Behaviours*, 31(11), 2014-2029.

Tay, R. (2005). The effectiveness of enforcement and publicity campaigns on serious crashes involving young male drivers: Are drink driving and speeding similar? *Accident Analysis & Prevention*, 37(5), 922-929.

Abstract

This study re-evaluated the effectiveness of the anti-drink driving and anti-speeding enforcement and publicity campaigns implemented in the Australian State of Victoria which have thus far yielded mixed results in several evaluations. As opposed to previous evaluations, this study focused on the effects of these campaigns on young male drivers who formed the primary target and examined the combined effects of the campaigns on the total number of serious crashes. Our results showed that the anti-drink driving enforcement and publicity campaigns had a significant independent effect in reducing crashes but their interactive effect was anti-complementary. Conversely, the anti-speeding enforcement and publicity campaigns had no independent effect but their interactive effect was significant in reducing serious crashes involving young male drivers.

Treno, A. J., Gruenewald, P. J., Lee, J. P., & Remer, L. G. (2007). The Sacramento Neighborhood Alcohol Prevention Project: Outcomes from a community prevention trial. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol*, 68(2), 197-207.

Abstract

This article reports the results of the Sacramento Neighborhood Alcohol Prevention Project (SNAPP). SNAPP set as its goal the reduction of alcohol access, drinking, and related problems in two low-income, predominantly ethnic minority neighborhoods, focusing on individuals between the ages 15 and 29 years, an age group identified with high rates of alcohol-involved problems.

Two neighborhoods in Sacramento were selected to be the intervention sites because they were economically and ethnically diverse and had high rates of crime and other drinking-related problems. The quasi-experimental design of the study took a "phased" approach to program implementation and statistical examination of outcome data. Outcome-related data were collected in the intervention sites as well as in the Sacramento community at large. Five project interventions included a mobilisation component to support the overall project, a community awareness component, a responsible beverage-service component, an underage-access law enforcement component, and an intoxicated-patron law enforcement component. Archival data were collected to measure and evaluate study outcomes and to provide background and demographic information for the study.

Overall, the researchers found significant ($p < .05$) reductions in assaults as reported by police, aggregate emergency medical services (EMS) outcomes, EMS assaults, and EMS motor vehicle accidents.

The results from the SNAPP demonstrate the effectiveness of neighborhood-based interventions in the reduction of alcohol-related problems such as assaults, motor vehicle crashes, and sale of alcohol to minors.

Wagenaar, A. C., Toomey, T. L., & Erickson, D. J. (2005). Preventing youth access to alcohol: Outcomes from a multi-community time-series trial. *Addiction*, 100(3), 335-345.

Abstract

The Complying with the Minimum Drinking Age project (CMDA) is a community trial designed to test effects of two interventions which are designed to reduce alcohol sales to minors: (1) training for management of retail alcohol establishments; and (2) enforcement checks of alcohol establishments.

CMDA is a multi-community time-series quasi-experimental trial with a nested cohort design. It was implemented in 20 cities in four geographic areas in the US Midwest. The core outcome of the trial (the propensity for alcohol sales to minors) was directly tested with research staff who attempted to purchase alcohol without showing age identification using a standardised protocol in 602 on-premise and 340 off-premise alcohol establishments. Data were collected every other week in all communities over 4 years.

The researchers found that the effects of the training intervention were mixed. Specific deterrent effects were observed for enforcement checks, with an immediate 17% reduction in likelihood of sales to minors. These effects decayed entirely within 3 months in off-premise establishments and to an 8.2% reduction in on-premise establishments.

The study concluded that enforcement checks prevent alcohol sales to minors. At the intensity levels tested, enforcement primarily affected the specific establishments that were checked, with limited diffusion to the whole community. Finally, most of the enforcement effect decayed within 3 months, suggesting that a regular schedule of enforcement is necessary to maintain deterrence.

Wallin, E., & Andreasson, S. (2004). Can I have a beer, please? A study of alcohol service to young adults on licensed premises in Stockholm. *Prevention Science*, 5(4), 221-229.

Abstract

This study evaluated the effects of a community alcohol prevention program on the frequency of alcohol service to young adults at licensed premises in Stockholm, Sweden. We used a pre-test (1996) and post-tests (1998 and 2001) design with intervention and control areas. The multi-component intervention combines the training of serving staff in responsible beverage service, policy initiatives, and enforcement of existing alcohol regulations. Adolescents aged 18 years (the legal drinking age on licensed premises in Sweden), but younger looking according to an expert panel, visited licensed premises in pairs, where each adolescent ordered a beer. At baseline in 1996, the adolescents made 600 attempts to order a beer. At follow-up in 1998, the number of attempts to order was 252, and at the second follow-up in 2001, the adolescents made 238 attempts. We found no statistically significant differences between the intervention and control areas. Overall, the frequency of alcohol service to adolescents on licensed premises in these areas of Stockholm decreased significantly over time, from 45% to 41% and to 32%, in 1996, 1998, and 2001, respectively. The decrease in alcohol service in 2001 was statistically significant compared to the baseline in 1996. One explanation for this improvement could be that there was more effective enforcement of existing alcohol laws in both the intervention and control areas. We also found that licensed premises that used doormen to screen potential customers were less likely to sell to minors.

Wei, Z., Makkai, T., & McGregor, K. (2003). *Drug use among a sample of juvenile detainees*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

This report examines the drug-taking patterns of a group of juveniles detained by police and interviewed as part of the Drug Use Monitoring in Australia (DUMA) project. The findings show that there is prevalent use of drugs by members of the group with few juveniles reporting accessing treatment. The findings highlight the need for a continued commitment to early prevention and intervention strategies.

Western Australia Office of Crime Prevention, Department of the Premier and Cabinet. (2004). *State Government Northbridge strategy: Young people in Northbridge policy: One year on*. Retrieved from <http://www.crimeprevention.wa.gov.au/Portals/0/PDF/ocp-youngpeopleinnorthbridgeoneyearon-2004.pdf>.

Abstract

In April 2003, the WA State Government proposed a ban on unsupervised juveniles in Northbridge. The move was aimed at addressing crime and child welfare issues, since the area was the destination for large numbers of unsupervised children and young people which the Government believed were at real risk of physical and moral danger. The area had also developed a reputation for unacceptable levels of violent, aggressive and generally anti-social behaviour. This paper reports that the policy made a significant impact in its first twelve months of operation, with clear indicators of improvement including: fewer children and young people at risk on the streets at night; a reduction in anti-social and aggressive behaviour from young people; fewer young people being apprehended for drunkenness, solvent abuse and use of illicit drugs; the business community reporting an increase in trading and a reduction in the intimidation of patrons; users of Northbridge indicating that the area felt safer; and workers and services being put in place to assist those at risk, both on the street and at follow up.

White, V., & Hayman, J. (2006). *Australian secondary school students' use of over-the-counter and illicit substances in 2005*. Canberra: Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing.

White, V., & Hayman, J. (2006). *Australian secondary school students' use of alcohol in 2005*. Canberra: Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing.

Whiteford, S. W. (2007). *The adolescent drug-crime relationship: Desistence and gateway theories across user levels*. New York: LFB Scholarly Pub. LLC.

12. Alcohol and Other Drug-Related Crime Prevention

There is a clear link between the misuse of alcohol and other drugs and a variety of criminal and anti-social activities. The articles in this section seek to address the problem of the nexus between the misuse of substances and crime.

Babb, P. (2007). *Violent crime, disorder and criminal damage since the introduction of the Licensing Act 2003 (2nd edition)*. London: Research Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office UK.

Bennett, T., & Holloway, K. (2007). *Drug-crime connections*. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press.

Braga, A. (2006). The crime prevention value of hot spots policing. *Psicothema*, 18(3), 630-637.

Abstract

This paper reviews the available research evidence on the effectiveness of hot spots policing programs in reducing crime and disorder. The research identified five randomised controlled experiments and four non-equivalent control group quasi-experiments evaluating the effects of hot spots policing interventions on crime. Seven of the nine selected evaluations reported noteworthy crime and disorder reductions. Meta-analyses of the randomised experiments revealed statistically significant mean effect sizes favoring hot spots policing interventions in reducing citizen calls for service in treatment places relative to control places. When immediate spatial displacement was measured, it was very limited and unintended crime prevention benefits were associated with the hot spots policing programs. The results of this review suggest that hot spots policing is an effective crime prevention strategy.

Donnelly, N., Poynton, S., Weatherburn, D., Bamford, E., & Nottage, J. (2006). *Liquor outlet concentrations and alcohol-related neighbourhood problems*. Sydney: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research.

Abstract

This bulletin presents the results of research investigating the relationship between the concentration of licensed premises in a given area and perceptions of alcohol-related problems in that locale. For this purpose, a secondary analysis of the National Crime and Safety Survey (2002) was conducted using data from survey participants who resided in NSW. This investigation examined three outcomes:

1. reported problems with drunkenness in the neighbourhood,
2. reported problems with property damage in the neighbourhood, and
3. assault victimisation in the home.

Two measures of alcohol outlet concentration were constructed for this analysis and included as independent variables:

1. liquor outlet accessibility, and
2. liquor outlet density.

Multilevel modelling of these data showed that respondents who lived closer to liquor outlets were more likely to report problems in their neighbourhood from drunkenness and property damage, controlling for socio-demographic factors. The analysis also showed that respondents who lived in areas with a higher density of licensed premises were more likely to report problems in their neighbourhood from drunkenness, again controlling for socio-demographic factors. It was not possible to apply multilevel modelling to assess the relationship between domestic assault victimisation and either of the alcohol outlet concentration measures due to the relatively low number of assaults in the sample which were reported as having occurred at home. The implications of these findings for liquor licensing policy in NSW are discussed.

Foote, W., Wangmann, J., & Braaf, R. (2004). *Old crime, new modus operandi: Preventing drug and alcohol assisted sexual assault*. Sydney: Attorney General's Department of New South Wales.

France, A., & Homel, R. (2006). Pathways and prevention: Concepts and controversies. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology*, 39(3), 287-294.

Abstract

For at least a quarter of a century the study of the developmental origins of crime and delinquency has been, in the words of Nagin and Tremblay (2005, p. 873), 'both an important and contentious topic in criminology'. Indeed, as these researchers note, the contemporary international wave of research within this genre is 'testimony to the central position of what has come to be called developmental criminology' (p. 874). We estimate that in the journal *Criminology*, since 1990, at least one third of the articles have been devoted to some aspect of developmental criminology, and many other journals, broader perhaps in their theoretical and methodological orientations than *Criminology*, are now devoting considerable space to issues like the effects of child abuse and family violence on children and young people's personal development, or the influence of poverty and social exclusion on pathways towards adulthood and perhaps toward crime.

Gordon, S. (2007, September). *Communities need to function before they can act on crime prevention*. Paper presented at the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime Annual Colloquium, Canberra, ACT.

Abstract

This paper is the keynote address presented at the sixth Annual Colloquium of the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime held in 2006. Focusing on Indigenous communities, the author states that the breakdown of law and order in many of these communities in Australia has provided, and continues to provide, fertile ground for crime and related problems. She argues that the term 'communities' must encompass police and law enforcement agencies and all levels of government as well as community groups and organisations working together to address the significant challenges faced in Indigenous communities. In many remote communities, law and order has either been absent or seriously lacking for some time. Community members are frequently trapped in dysfunction with entire communities paralysed by lawlessness, violence, substance abuse and chronic ill health. This perpetuates the cycle of disadvantage and hopelessness. She maintains that Indigenous communities offer many of the conditions that are conducive to crime, and could in fact be described as 'crime magnets'. Recent reports about the trafficking of illicit drugs in Indigenous communities highlight this fact. For communities to be able to combat, and in time, prevent crime, the underlying conditions that enable criminal activity to flourish unchecked must be addressed.

Green, J., & Plant, M. (2007). Bad bars: A review of risk factors. *Journal of Substance Use*, 12(3), 157-189.

Abstract

Bars, inns, taverns, and hotels have been popular settings for recreational alcohol consumption for centuries. The bar is firmly established as an important adjunct of leisure in many societies. Alcohol consumption in bars is mainly convivial, restrained and problem-free. Even so it has long been apparent that heavy drinking in bars is associated with aggression, violence, public disorder and injuries. This paper examines published empirical evidence related to the possibility that problematic behaviours are associated with identifiable characteristics of a bar. It concludes that the evidence suggests that a number of factors are associated with elevated risks that a bar will be a focus for problematic behaviour. These risk factors are considered under the following main headings: internal physical characteristics and atmosphere (e.g. layout, crowding), organisational factors (e.g. beverage promotions, entertainment), patron characteristics (e.g. gender, age), beverage choice and external characteristics (e.g. location, density). Hence the type of evidence

presented here should be taken into account when reviewing licensing arrangements, designing bars and planning the location, type and density of bars in any locality where such establishments are situated.

Home Office (2008). *Tackling Drugs-Changing Lives: DATs/Partnerships*. Retrieved 4 March, 2008, from <http://drugs.homeoffice.gov.uk/dat/>

Abstract

In the UK. Drug Action Teams (DATs) are the partnerships that are responsible for delivering the drug strategy at a local level. This section contains information to help partnerships, Drug Action Teams (DATs) or Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs), carry out their work.

Homel, R. J., Carvolth, R., Hauritz, M., McIlwain, G., & Teague, R. (2004). Making licensed venues safer for patrons: What environmental factors should be the focus of interventions? *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 23(1), 19-29.

Inner City Entertainment Precincts Taskforce (2005). *'A good night for all': Options for improving safety and amenity in inner city entertainment precincts: A discussion paper*. Melbourne: Department of Justice, Victoria.

International Center for Alcohol Policies. (2008). *Alcohol and Violence: Exploring Patterns and Responses*. Washington DC: International Center for Alcohol Policies.

Abstract

The aim of this project was to explore the realities of partnership working by focusing on collaboration between the police and housing departments to tackle problems associated with illicit drug activity and anti-social behaviour (ASB) on three Australian public housing estates. The rationale for the project was that, though only a small minority of tenants are perpetrators, their actions can seriously blight the lives of their neighbours. Usually it is the housing department that responds to complaints relating to ASB but, in the more serious cases that are deemed criminal, the police also perform a role. Three locations were chosen as case studies. East Devonport in Tasmania and Girrawheen in Western Australia are areas with a large public housing stock.

Jacobs, K., Burke, T., Green, M., Saggars, S., Mason, R., & Barclay, A. (2007). *Making sense of partnerships: A study of police and housing department collaboration for tackling drug and related problems on public housing estates*. Hobart: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Lind, B., Chen, S., Weatherburn, D. J., & Mattick, R. (2005). The effectiveness of methadone maintenance treatment in controlling crime: An Australian aggregate-level analysis. *British Journal of Criminology*, 45(2), 201-211.

Livingston, M., Chikritzhs, T., & Room, R. (2007). Changing the density of alcohol outlets to reduce alcohol-related problems. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 26, 557-566.

Abstract

Increasingly, it seems, legal and political debates regarding the granting of new liquor licences are turning to the issue of whether the number and density of alcohol outlets makes a difference in rates of alcohol consumption and alcohol-related harm. But what is the state of the evidence on this question? In this Harm Reduction Digest Livingston, Chikritzhs and Room review the research literature on the effects of density of alcohol sales outlets on alcohol consumption and alcohol-related problems; suggest a new way of conceptualising the relationships; and discuss the implications for reducing alcohol-related harm.

Loxley, W., Toumbourou, J., Stockwell, T., Haines, B., Scott, K., Godfey, C., Waters, E., Patton, G., Fordham, R., Gray, D., Marshall, J., Ryder, D., Saggors, S., Sanci, L., & Williams, J. (2004). *The Prevention of Substance Use, Risk and Harm in Australia: A Review of the Evidence*. Perth: National Drug Research Institute & the Centre for Adolescent Health.

Mansdotter, A. M., Rydberg, M. K., Wallin, E., Lindholm, L. A., & Andreasson, S. (2007). A cost-effectiveness analysis of alcohol prevention targeting licensed premises. *European Journal of Public Health, 17*(6), 618-623.

Abstract

A multi-component alcohol prevention programme targeting licensed premises has been operating in Stockholm since 1996. An earlier study established that this led to a 29% reduction in police-reported violence. The objective of the present study is to calculate the programme's cost-effectiveness from a societal perspective: the cost of implementation, the savings made as a result of fewer assaults, unlawful threats and violence towards officials, and the health gains in terms of quality-adjusted life-years (QALYs).

The costs included administration, studies of alcohol serving practices, community mobilisation, responsible beverage service training and stricter alcohol law enforcement. For the purpose of estimating how the decrease in violence affected savings and health gains, a survey among victims of violence (N=604) was performed.

The authors concluded that the most significant concern was the low response rate (35%), and caution needs to be exercised when interpreting their results. Yet, they indicate that a reasonable conclusion is that the monetary and human benefits have been considerable.

Mistral, W., Velleman, R., Templeton, L., & Mastache, C. (2006). Local action to prevent alcohol problems: Is the UK Community Alcohol Prevention Programme the best solution? *International Journal of Drug Policy, 17*(4), 278-284.

Abstract

Increasing evidence indicates that the UK has a serious alcohol problem. This crosses many patterns of drinking and all ages, whereas the public debate about alcohol tends to focus almost exclusively on binge drinking and on young people's alcohol-related anti-social behaviour. This paper addresses the interventions and policy developments that have been implemented in the UK to reduce alcohol-related anti-social behaviour. There are two main approaches: a national (England) change in the licensing laws; and local harm reduction projects seeking to effect change independently of central Government initiatives. This paper describes the critique currently mounted against the expected efficacy of new licensing laws and describes the theoretical and practical developments of some local prevention initiatives that are part of the United Kingdom Alcohol Prevention Programme (UKCAPP), and which are funded by the Alcohol Education and Research Council (AERC). Although it is too early to draw conclusions as to the effects of either of these developments, initial reports suggest that changes in the licensing regime have not yet created the increase in alcohol-related problems some commentators have argued would occur; and the local prevention initiatives have led to the formation of extremely strong community partnerships, with a range of innovative and integrated actions to tackle alcohol-related anti-social behaviour. Fundamental criticisms of both the new licensing laws and the National Alcohol Strategy remain, however. Even if the above interventions lead to reductions in alcohol-related anti-social behaviour, it is not clear how they might deal with the rising levels of alcohol-related health harms reported within the UK. Nevertheless, the community partnership approach may be the best possibility for dealing with at least some of the alcohol-related problems caused by the rise in availability and accessibility of alcohol within the UK.

Mistry, D. (2007). *Community engagement: Practical lessons from a pilot project*. London: Research, Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office UK.

Abstract

Although engaging local people in activities to make communities safer is not new, it has become an increasingly significant part of UK Government policy in the last five years. The recent review of the *Crime and Disorder Act 1998* recommended that Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) “consult and engage with their local communities on a regular and ongoing basis.” The Neighbourhood Policing Programme 2 is another example of the drive for more community involvement in making neighbourhoods safer, using community intelligence to make policing more responsive to citizens’ needs through dedicated and accessible Neighbourhood Policing Teams. This report is intended as a resource for practitioners setting up mechanisms to engage local communities in community safety activities.

National Crime Prevention (1999). *Pathways to prevention: Developmental and early intervention approaches to crime in Australia*. Canberra: National Crime Prevention, Attorney-General’s Department.

Nicholas, R. (2003). *The impact of general law enforcement on the illicit drug market*. Adelaide: Australasian Centre for Policing Research.

Abstract

The illicit drug supply reduction activities of the law enforcement sector in Australia are often conceptualised simply in terms of the seizure of illicit drugs. However, law enforcement also makes substantial efforts to reduce the harm from illicit drugs and, in particular, to reduce the demand for illicit drugs. This paper examines the range of ways in which general law enforcement activities influence the illicit drug market in Australia, from both supply and demand reduction perspectives.

Nicholas, R. (2008). *Understanding and Responding to Alcohol-Related Social Harms in Australia: Options for Policing*. Hobart: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Office of National Drug Control Policy (2005). *Cities without drugs: The ‘Major Cities’ guide to reducing substance abuse in your community*. Office of National Drug Control Policy.

Abstract

Americans understand the value of working together. We know that when we pool our resources and combine our strengths, when we unite as a community, there is little we cannot accomplish. This booklet represents the lessons the ONDCP and our partners have learned and the knowledge we have gained in the course of administering the Major Cities project. It is, in effect, a “how to” manual for citizens anywhere who want to adopt the Major Cities model for their own communities. The document does not pretend to have all the answers. Because the nature of the drug threat differs from city to city, there are no hard and fast rules for addressing the problem, just as there is no one size fits all formula for stopping drug use. In each community, the specific methods must be tailored to address local needs.

Perry-Kessaris, A., McDougall, C., & Farrington, D. P. (2006). *Reducing crime: The effectiveness of criminal justice intervention*. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.

Prenzler, T., & Sarre, R. (1998). Regulating private security in Australia. *Trends and Issues in Crime and Criminal Justice*, 98. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Putnins, A. L. (2006). Substance use among young offenders: Thrills, bad feelings, or bad behaviour? *Substance Use & Misuse*, 41(3), 415-422.

Abstract

This paper discusses the North Coast Substance Abuse Project which has been initiated and funded through Drug and Alcohol Coordination, a National Drug Strategy funded unit in the Queensland Police Service. Alcohol and other drug use contributes to a range of health, economic and social harms, including suicide, family disruption and domestic violence, which impact negatively on the community, and the links between alcohol and other drugs and crime are well documented. Fear of drug and alcohol related crime is identified as a major community concern which reduces the quality of life of the general population, as well as placing pressure on limited police resources. The paper examines a multi-strategy project undertaken in the North Coast Police Region in Queensland, which responded to community concerns regarding alcohol and other drug use and the need to implement proactive community based responses. The project was characterised by a strong intersectoral approach and provided an opportunity to build positive and ongoing relationships between police, community and the other government and non-government sectors involved. The project was directed by good practice in crime prevention and adhered to the guiding principles of intersectoral collaboration, harm minimisation and proactive community policing. The process for developing and implementing the project is outlined, and the success of the project is highlighted through the findings of the project evaluation.

Richardson, A., Nicholls, M., & Finney, A. (2004). *Alcohol audits, strategies and initiatives: Lessons from crime and disorder reduction partnerships*. London: Home Office Research, Development and Statistics Directorate.

Shanahan, M., Hetherington, K., Mattick, R., & Weatherburn, D. (2007). *Estimating the cost-savings of reduced crime while in methadone treatment*. Sydney: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

Abstract

The aim of this study was to assess whether there was evidence of cost-savings due to crimes averted while individuals were engaged in methadone maintenance as a treatment for heroin use. It examines the costs of crime, treatment and days in prison, as well as exploring the impact of age and gender on treatment and crime costs. Analyses were undertaken over a four year period for a population-based sample of NSW methadone clients. The study found a reduction in the cost of crime associated with enrolment in methadone consistent with the broader literature. When comparing only the treatment and crime costs, it was apparent that the investment in methadone treatment was only partially offset by savings from averted crime. However, the results from regression analysis, which examined the relationship between time in methadone treatment and costs of crime and prison, found that every day an individual was enrolled in methadone treatment paid for itself in terms of a decrease in prison and crime costs.

Sheerin, I. G., Green, T., Sellman, D., Adamson, S., & Deering, D. (2004). Reduction in crime by drug users on a methadone maintenance therapy programme in New Zealand. *New Zealand Medical Journal*, 117(1190), 492-501.

Smith, A., & Waddington, I. (2004). Using 'sport in the community schemes' to tackle crime and drug use among young people: Some policy issues and problems. *European Physical Education Review*, 10, 279-298.

Abstract

This article seeks, first, to offer some critical comments on the policy issues and problems surrounding the use of sporting schemes as vehicles of social policy in which the intention is to reduce levels of crime, delinquency and drug 'abuse' among young people; second, to examine

a point of fundamental importance in policy terms: do such schemes work? In this regard, it is claimed that relatively few of such schemes, which are largely premised upon a one-sided perception of sport, have built in processes for monitoring and evaluating their impact on levels of crime or drug use among young people. It is also argued that these methodological weaknesses are exacerbated by the absence of any clearly articulated theoretical rationale for these schemes, which means that, even where success for them is claimed, it is unclear what specific aspects of the schemes account for that claimed success.

Trifonoff, A., & Edmonds, D. (2005). Drugs and law enforcement: Trends and initiatives. *Public Health Bulletin South Australia*, 2, 21-22.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (2006). *Compendium of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice*. Vienna: UNODC.

Weatherburn, D. J., Lind, B., Chen, S., & Mattick, R. P. (2004). *The effectiveness of methadone maintenance treatment in controlling crime: An aggregate-level analysis*. Sydney: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research.

Western Australia Office of Crime Prevention, Department of the Premier and Cabinet. (2004). *State Government Northbridge strategy: Young people in Northbridge policy: One year on*. Retrieved from <http://www.crimeprevention.wa.gov.au/Portals/0/PDF/ocp-youngpeopleinnorthbridg eoneyearon-2004.pdf>.

Abstract

In April 2003, the WA State Government proposed a ban on unsupervised juveniles in Northbridge. The move was aimed at addressing crime and child welfare issues, since the area was the destination for large numbers of unsupervised children and young people which the Government believed were at real risk of physical and moral danger. The area had also developed a reputation for unacceptable levels of violent, aggressive and generally anti-social behaviour. This paper reports that the policy made a significant impact in its first twelve months of operation, with clear indicators of improvement including: fewer children and young people at risk on the streets at night; a reduction in anti-social and aggressive behaviour from young people; fewer young people being apprehended for drunkenness, solvent abuse and use of illicit drugs; the business community reporting an increase in trading and a reduction in the intimidation of patrons; users of Northbridge indicating that the area felt safer; and workers and services had been put in place to assist those at risk, both on the street and at follow up.

Wunungmurra, B., & Cook, J. (2006). *Communities in action for crime prevention*. Paper presented at the Victims of Crime NT conference: 'Positive Ways: An Indigenous Say', Marrara, NT,

Abstract

East Arnhem covers about 38,000 square kilometres of the North East top end of Australia, with an Indigenous population of approximately 9,000 spread out among some very remote communities and numerous homelands. Substance abuse and family violence has been increasing over recent years, particularly among younger families. In the remote communities there are few support structures. The Community Harmony Strategy is a program operating in East Arnhem which aims to coordinate responses to issues surrounding homelessness and anti-social behaviour. It focuses on preventative and harm minimisation objectives aimed at substance abuse, associated anti-social behaviour, family violence and child abuse. This paper provides an overview of the Strategy's implementation, its functions and activities.

13. Alcohol and Other Drug Issues in the Police Workplace/OHS

This section contains articles that focus on problematic patterns of alcohol and other drug consumption by police and other workers. It also includes resources on a range of other ways in which alcohol and other drug problems can impact on police safety and welfare.

Beletsky, L., Macalino, G. E., & Burris, S. (2005). Attitudes of police officers towards syringe access, occupational needle-sticks, and drug use: A qualitative study of one city police department in the United States. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 16(4), 267-274.

Berry, J. G., Pidd, K., Roche, A. M., & Harrison, J. E. (2007). Prevalence and patterns of alcohol use in the Australian workforce: Findings from the 2001 National Drug Strategy Household Survey. *Addiction*, 102(9), 1399-1410.

Abstract

The aim of this study was to describe Australian workers' prevalence and patterns of alcohol use.

It involved a secondary analysis of the 2001 National Drug Strategy Household Survey – a total of 13 582 workers \geq 14 years old. The alcohol consumption levels associated with National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) guidelines for short and long-term harm were stratified by occupation and industry.

The study found that approximately 8% of the workforce drank at least weekly at short-term risky or high risk levels, 17% drank at least monthly, 18% drank at least yearly and 11% drank at long-term risky or high risk levels. The prevalence of risky or high risk drinking was higher for younger than for older workers. Controlling for socio-demographic factors, the risk of workers frequently drinking at levels associated with short-term harm was lowest in the education industry and significantly higher in the hospitality, agriculture, manufacturing and construction industries. Drinking patterns associated with long-term harm were more prevalent in the agriculture, retail and manufacturing industries, compared to the education industry. Drinking patterns associated with both short- and long-term harm were more prevalent for blue-collar workers than professionals.

The study concluded that risky and high risk drinking occurred at least occasionally in 44% of Australian workers. Workers in the hospitality, agriculture, manufacturing, construction and retail industries, workers in blue-collar occupations and young workers were identified as at-risk subgroups. These data provide evidence that patterns of consumption differ between occupational and industry groups, and highlight the pressing need to develop policies, prevention and intervention strategies to reduce harmful alcohol use in Australia, particularly among young adults.

Brunet, J. R. (2005). *Drug testing in law enforcement agencies: Social control in the public sector*. New York: LFB Scholarly Pub.

Dutton, J. D. (2005). *Police officer stress, burnout, and substance abuse: A cross-sectional view of officers working in mid-sized Alabama police departments*. Capella University, Minneapolis, MN.

International Labour Office. (2003). *Alcohol and drug problems at work: The shift to prevention*. Geneva: United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention & ILO.

Lindsay, V. (2008). Police officers and their alcohol consumption: Should we be concerned? *Police Quarterly*, 11, 74-87.

Abstract

Alcohol use by police officers in the United States is theorised to be double that of the general population, with 20% of those abusing alcohol. However, no known alcohol consumption study has been conducted within the United States. This study hoped to fill that void. Full time Mississippi officers from municipal, county, and state departments totalling 1,328 were asked to complete a 27-item questionnaire containing the World Health Organisation's Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test instrument to determine alcohol use and risk. The researcher found no difference in use by Mississippi officers and the general public.

Nolan, S. (2008). Drug-free workplace programmes: New Zealand perspective. *Forensic Science International*, 174(2-3), 125-132.

Abstract

New Zealand (NZ) companies have been introducing Drug & Alcohol Free Workplace Policies and Programmes, which include testing, since 1992. Most “safety-critical” industry sectors are now embracing drug and alcohol testing as part of comprehensive programmes which also have a strong focus on education and rehabilitation. Prison Inmate testing was also introduced in 1998. Lawful drug testing in NZ should be conducted to the strict medico-legal requirements of the Australian/New Zealand Standard, AS/NZS 4308:2001 “Procedures for the collection, detection and quantitation of drugs of abuse in urine.” This paper gives an overview of the NZ experience, highlighting the mix of testing options employed, the industry sector trends, the categories of drugs misused, the influence of significant Employment Court Judgements, proposed changes to the AS/NZS 4308 (2006), and current oral fluid research projects.

Prenzler, T. (2005). Senior police managers’ views on integrity testing, and drug and alcohol testing. *Policing: An International Journal of Police Strategies & Management*, 29(3), 394- 407.

Abstract

The purpose of this study was to ascertain the attitudes of senior police managers toward the deployment of integrity tests, and drug and alcohol tests, in misconduct prevention. A questionnaire-based survey was conducted of 114, mainly Australian, senior police managers.

Responses revealed very high levels of support for targeted testing in more serious cases of suspected corruption. There was also moderate support for random testing in serious cases. Views were divided on both targeted and random testing in less serious cases. There was very strong support for alcohol and drug testing. Overall, the results show a willingness on the part of police leaders to embrace radical measures to combat corruption.

Integrity tests involving simulated misconduct opportunities, and related drug and alcohol testing programs, have been used in a number of jurisdictions as a means of revealing and deterring police corruption. However, such tests have been criticised as being unethical, especially in terms of “entrapment”. There are also practical issues regarding allocating scarce resources to a testing program and potential pitfalls with unintended consequences such as conflicts and injuries. Policy level decisions to develop testing programs will therefore depend to a considerable extent on the beliefs of senior managers about the utility and fairness of these strategies.

Rallings, M., Martin, P., & Davey, J. (2005). A prospective study of alcohol consumption rates of first-year Australian police officers. *Policing: An International Journal of Police Strategies & Management*, 28(3), 206-220.

Witter, R. Z., Martyny, J. W., Mueller, K., Gottschall, B., & Newman, L. S. (2007). Symptoms experienced by law enforcement personnel during methamphetamine lab investigations. *Journal of Occupational & Environmental Hygiene*, 4(12), 895-902.

Abstract

This study was conducted to determine if law enforcement personnel experience symptoms associated with methamphetamine laboratory investigation and to assess those factors that may result in more symptoms. A total of 258 standardised, self-administered surveys were distributed to law enforcement personnel attending national/regional training classes, between June 2004 and February 2005. Ninety-three percent of the surveys were returned and they were used to determine the symptoms that are experienced by police while investigating clandestine methamphetamine laboratories, as well as the job duties of the respondent and the personal protective equipment used. More than 70% of respondents reported headaches, central nervous system symptoms, respiratory symptoms, sore throat, and other symptoms. Unadjusted and adjusted risks of

symptoms were higher for those who investigated more than 30 laboratories. Other significant risk factors included time spent in the laboratory, phase of investigation, presence of active chemical processes, and coexistent disease. Respirator use was not independently associated with the likelihood of reporting symptoms. It was concluded that methamphetamine laboratory investigation is positively associated with symptom reporting in a high percentage of law enforcement personnel involved in these tasks. For most individuals, the reported symptoms were transitory and diminished in a short time, but some individuals reported needing to seek medical attention with symptoms that persisted.

14. Alcohol and Other Drug Related Problems Among Indigenous People

This section contains resources on the range of ways in which alcohol and other drug problems impact upon Indigenous Australians. Also included are a range of strategies to reduce these problems.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commission. (2004). *Responding to petrol sniffing on the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Lands: A case study*. Canberra: Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission.

Adams, M. (2006, September). *Working towards changing the negative image of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander males*. Paper presented at the Victims of Crime NT conference: 'Positive Ways: An Indigenous Say', Marrara, NT.

Abstract

The portrayal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander males has often been negative because of their association with family violence, sexual abuse, excessive misuse of alcohol and illicit drugs, incarceration, suicidal levels and other unacceptable social behaviour. While this holds true for a small percentage, the comments are inclusive of all Indigenous males. This paper discusses the historical and social factors that have influenced this perception, which have their roots in dispossession, cultural dislocation and often alcohol and other substance misuse, and also looks at what can be done to change this negative image.

Australian Institute of Criminology. (2006). *Police perception of negative outcomes due to illicit drugs in Indigenous communities*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

There has been considerable media coverage about the negative outcomes associated with the abuse of alcohol and inhalants in Indigenous communities. Police in remote areas have also been concerned about the extent to which illicit drug use is having a negative impact in these communities. In 2005, the National Drug Law Enforcement Fund commissioned research into the policing implications of such use in rural and remote Australia. The Australian Institute of Criminology conducted a survey of police in urban and country areas in the Northern Territory, Western Australia, South Australia and Queensland. Overall, a large proportion of police indicated that there were negative outcomes associated with cannabis and amphetamines in terms of family violence, mental and physical health, and engagement in crime to fund a drug habit. The impact of cannabis use on these various outcomes was generally considered to be similar in both urban and country areas. In contrast, there was more variability in regard to amphetamines, with a greater proportion of police reporting negative consequences in urban areas. The caveat is that a large percentage of police in rural areas indicated 'don't know', which is probably due to the more recent introduction and lower penetration of amphetamines into those communities at the time of the survey.

Blagg, H., & Valuri, G. (2004). Aboriginal community patrols in Australia: Self-policing, self-determination and security. *Policing & Society*, 14(4), 313-328.

Brady, M., Nicholls, R., Henderson, G., & Byrne, J. (2006). The role of a rural sobering-up centre in managing alcohol-related harm to Aboriginal people in South Australia. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 25(3), 201-206.

Abstract

There is a paucity of literature on the topic of sobering-up centres (non-custodial safe overnight accommodation for the publicly intoxicated). This paper presents findings of a retrospective longitudinal case study of a sobering-up centre in regional South Australia over the ten years 1991 to 2000. There were 6,486 admissions during this period, 97.1% of which were of Aboriginal people. Primary data including demographic details of admissions and re-admissions were collated and analysed, as were qualitative and quantitative measures of intoxication. The findings from this case study, considered together with contextual understandings from a wider social study in this region by three of the authors, provide supporting evidence of the important role of sobering-up centres in averting the known harms of a custodial response to public drunkenness, as well as avoiding the potential harm of alcohol-related injury among vulnerable Aboriginal people.

Cavanagh, G. (2005). *Inquest into the deaths of Kumanjay Presley, Kunmanara Coulthard and Kunmanara Brumby*. Darwin: Coroner's Court.

Chivell, W. C. (2005). *Finding of inquest [inquest into the deaths of Kunmanara Ward, Kunmanara Ken, Kunmanara Ryan and Kunmanara Cooper]*. Adelaide: State Coroner's Office.

Clough, A. (2006). No alcohol beyond this point: Restricted areas in the top end. *Of Substance*, 4, 10-11.

Abstract

A recent surge in applications for restricted alcohol areas in the Northern Territory will take the number of restricted areas there to more than 100. The restricted area provisions of the current NT Liquor Act have presented remote Indigenous communities with the opportunity to re-enforce their own local efforts to control liquor and its attendant problems. This article discusses the significance of these strategies in meeting the needs of the resident Indigenous groups in relation to the following regions: Groote Eylandt restricted area, Maningrida restricted area, and Yirrkala. These case studies show that local circumstances have a real impact on what licensing conditions might or might not work in a given community.

Clough, A., Lee, K., Cairney, S., Maruff, P., O'Reilly, B., d'Abbs, P., et al. (2006). Changes in cannabis use and its consequences over 3 years in a remote Indigenous population in northern Australia. *Addiction*, 101(5), 696-705.

Abstract

Few studies describe cannabis use in indigenous populations, and no longitudinal studies are available in Australia. We conducted 3-year follow-up interviews and assessments in Aboriginal communities in Arnhem Land (Northern Territory, NT).

A randomly selected sample (n = 161; 80 males, 81 females aged 13-36 years) was assessed in October 2001 and then reassessed in September 2004. An opportunistically recruited sample (n = 104; 53 males, 51 females aged 13-36 years) was also interviewed in 2001 and followed-up in 2004. Cannabis and other substance use were determined by combining proxy assessments by local Aboriginal health workers, medical records and data from interviews. Changes in cannabis use and symptoms of misuse were assessed using McNemar's test for paired proportions and the Wilcoxon signed rank test. Logistic regression assessed associations between clinical presentations and cannabis use at both time-points.

Those who used cannabis at both baseline and follow-up were at greater risk, than those who never used it, to have suffered from: auditory hallucinations; suicidal ideation; and imprisonment. In the randomly selected cohort there were fewer cannabis users at follow-up than at baseline (P= 0.003). The reduction was evident in females generally (P= 0.008) and older males (aged = 16 at baseline) (P= 0.007). In those interviewed at both baseline and follow-up we measured no statistically significant reduction in frequency and levels of use, although fewer cannabis users reported symptoms of misuse such as: fragmented thought processes; memory disruption; difficulties controlling use; and auditory and visual hallucinations.

Modest reductions in cannabis use and its consequences in this population were demonstrated. These may be the result of enhanced supply control and broader socio-political changes.

Combined Aboriginal Organisations of the Northern Territory. (2007). *A proposed emergency response and development plan to protect Aboriginal children in the Northern Territory: A preliminary response to the Australian Government's proposals*. Alice Springs: Combined Aboriginal Organisations of the Northern Territory.

Abstract

In June 2007, the Australian Government responded to the report of the Northern Territory Board of Inquiry into Protection of Aboriginal Children with the announcement of a package of 12 'emergency' measures. This short paper comments on the likely effectiveness of the proposals and puts forward a set of practical immediate measures and long term reform proposals to address the problem. These draw upon the experience of Aboriginal communities and service providers on the ground, and some of the many reports detailing problems in Aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory and elsewhere. It proposes a two-tiered response to the problems of child abuse in remote Aboriginal communities. The first phase was an 'emergency response', on which agreement can be reached quickly between Governments and community leaders, and which included such actions as more resources for communities, police, child protection and health services to protect the victims of violence and abuse (such as safe houses, night patrols, and Aboriginal Community Police), tougher restrictions on the sale of alcohol outside the communities (including take away trade), community based family support, improved access to mediation, treatment and rehabilitation services, and better access to primary health care and education services. The second, a 'long term development plan' is aimed at improving the capacities and services in Aboriginal communities to continue the work commenced in the emergency response and to combat the underlying risk factors for Aboriginal children.

d'Abbs, P., & Brady, M. (2004). Other people, other drugs: The policy response to petrol sniffing among Indigenous Australians. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 23, 253-260.

Abstract

This paper examines the policy response of Australian governments to petrol sniffing in Indigenous communities from the 1980s until the present. During this period, despite the formation of numerous inquiries, working parties, and intergovernmental committees, there has been little accumulation of knowledge about the nature and causes of sniffing, or about the effectiveness of interventions. Policies are fragmentary; programmes are rarely evaluated, and most rely on short-term funding. The paper sets out to explain why this should be so. It draws upon a conceptual framework known as 'analytics of government' to examine the ways in which petrol sniffing comes to the attention of government agencies and is perceived as an issue; the mechanisms deployed by governments to address petrol sniffing; ways in which knowledge about sniffing is generated; and the underlying assumptions about people that inform policy-making. Drawing upon case studies of policy responses, the paper argues that a number of structural factors combine to marginalise petrol sniffing as an issue, and to encourage reliance on short-term, one-off interventions in place of a sustained policy commitment. Four recommendations are advanced to help overcome these factors:

1. agreements should be reached within and between levels of government on steps to be take to reduce risk factors before the eruption of petrol-sniffing crises;
 2. the evidence base relevant to petrol sniffing (and other inhalants) should be improved by funding and directing one or more national drug research centres to collate data on inhalant caused mortality and morbidity, and to conduct or commission research into prevalence patterns, effectiveness of interventions and other gaps in knowledge;
 3. the current pattern of short-term, pilot and project funding should be replaced with longer-term, evidence-based interventions that address the multiple risk and protective factors present in communities; and
 4. insistence by governments that communities must take 'ownership' of the problem should be replaced by genuine partnerships involving governments, non-government and community sectors.
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Dawe, S., Frye, S., Best, D., Moss, D., Atkinson, J., Evans, C., et al. (2006). *Drug use in the family: Impacts and implications for children*. Canberra: Australian National Council on Drugs.

Abstract

This report has focused on the impact of parental substance misuse, specifically alcohol and illicit drug use, in children aged between two and twelve years. It begins with a review of the literature on the prevalence of substance misuse in families, with additional original analyses of national surveys and analyses of specialist databases. It is clear that the use of alcohol and other drugs in households with dependent children is high, with especially high rates of binge drinking. While parental substance misuse can affect many aspects of a child's life, it is generally difficult to disentangle the effects of parental substance use from the broader social and economic factors that contribute to and maintain the misuse of either drugs or alcohol.

Delahunty, B., & Putt, J. (2006). *Good practice framework: Policing illicit drugs in rural and remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait communities*. Adelaide: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

The advice in this guide is intended for police and police organisations looking to review their approaches to policing illicit drug use and reducing drug-related harms among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in rural and remote areas. The advice and materials in this guide focus on opportunities to improve policing through the use of: i) strategic policies and programs requiring different sectors and jurisdictions to commit to coordinated approaches to drug control; ii) local, district and regional area planning to prevent crime and promote community safety, including the reduction of illicit drug supply and use; and iii) individual police practices. These elements work best when coordinated as part of a holistic police approach to working in partnership with Aboriginal communities and other organisations to improve police effectiveness and improve outcomes. Where relevant, the examples cited refer to the main report *Policing implications of cannabis, amphetamine and other drug use in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities* (2006).

Delahunty, B., & Putt, J. (2006). *The policing implications of cannabis, amphetamine and other illicit drug use in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities*. Adelaide: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

This report focuses on the policing of cannabis, amphetamine and other illicit drug use in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in rural and remote areas, including the role of police in efforts to reduce drug-related harms. Recent shifts in drug supply and use appear to be exposing isolated Aboriginal communities to unexpected difficulties. Cannabis is now flowing into remote areas at an alarming rate, a trade fuelled by high demand and extreme profits but increasingly facilitated by profiteers from outside the community rather than resident user-dealers. Despite a sharp rise in cannabis smoking, particularly among young people, there is no evidence of a corresponding fall in drinking. Alcohol and alcohol-related conflicts remain an urgent issue for most communities, while the illicit drug trade is adding fresh and dynamic impediments to an already complex policing environment

Fairbairn, A., & Murray, D. (2003). Chroming: Legislative change and practical dilemmas. *Indigenous Law Bulletin*, 5(23), 19-21.

Abstract

The Victorian Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee was given a reference to examine the issues associated with the abuse of volatile substances for the purposes of intoxication or 'chroming' in April 2001. A Discussion Paper released in January 2002 *Inquiry into the Inhalation of Volatile Substances* examines the current situation and recommends an appropriate framework to address chroming.

Gordon, S. (2007, September). *Communities need to function before they can act on crime prevention*. Paper presented at the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime Annual Colloquium, Canberra, ACT.

Abstract

This paper is the keynote address presented at the sixth Annual Colloquium of the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime held in 2006. Focusing on Indigenous communities, the author states that the breakdown of law and order in many of these communities in Australia has provided, and continues to provide, fertile ground for crime and related problems. She argues that the term 'communities' must encompass police and law enforcement agencies and all levels of government as well as community groups and organisations working together to address the significant challenges faced in Indigenous communities. In many remote communities law and order has either been absent or seriously lacking for some time. Community members are frequently trapped in dysfunction with entire communities paralysed by lawlessness, violence, substance abuse and chronic ill health. This perpetuates the cycle of disadvantage and hopelessness. She maintains that Indigenous communities offer many of the conditions that are conducive to crime, and could in fact be described as 'crime magnets'. Recent reports about the trafficking of illicit drugs in Indigenous communities highlight this fact. For communities to be able to combat, and in time, prevent crime, the underlying conditions that enable criminal activity to flourish unchecked must be addressed.

Gray, D., Shaw, G., d'Abbs, P., Brooks, D., Stearne, A., Mosey, A., et al. (2006). *Policing, volatile substance misuse, and Indigenous Australians*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Abstract

Volatile substance misuse is the inhalation of substances containing hydrocarbons to induce a state of intoxication. There are a number of acute and chronic health and social problems with which it can be associated. Police have an important role to play in the minimisation of both volatile substance misuse and related harm, a role that has been established within the framework of Australia's National Drug Strategy. The objective of this project was to enhance the understanding by the law enforcement sector of the extent and nature of petrol sniffing and other inhalant misuse by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples predominantly in rural and remote, but also urban communities.

Hogan, E., Boffa, J., Rosewarne, C., Bell, S., & Ah Chee, D. (2006). What price do we pay to prevent alcohol-related harms in Aboriginal communities? The Alice Springs trial of liquor licensing restrictions. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 25(3), 207-212.

Abstract

This paper analyses the trial of alcohol restrictions that was implemented in Alice Springs from April 2002 to June 2003. The trial included a ban on alcohol in containers greater than two litres and reduced take-away trading hours. The history of the trial, its findings, and the different interpretations placed on the trial data is discussed. Particular emphasis is placed on the evidence indicating a link between alcohol price and consumption. Data from the evaluations of the Alice Springs trial are reviewed. The trials add substantial new evidence to the strength of the relationship between alcohol price, consumption and harm as the restrictions led to a 1000% increase in the sale of the cheapest form of alcohol, i.e. two-litre port. Recent proposals for supply reduction strategies such as a tiered volumetric tax on alcohol and a trial of alcohol restrictions based on a minimum price benchmark demand further consideration by policy makers, especially in regions that are marked by excessive alcohol consumption and a high burden of alcohol-related harms such as Alice Springs.

Margolis, S. A., Ypinazar, V. A., & Muller, R. (2007). The impact of supply reduction through alcohol management plans on serious injury in remote indigenous communities in remote Australia: A ten-year analysis using data from the Royal Flying Doctor Service. *Alcohol and Alcoholism*, 43(1), 104-110.

Abstract

The aim of this study was to assess the impact of supply reduction through Alcohol Management Plans (AMPs) on the rate of serious injuries in four indigenous communities in remote Australia.

An ecological study used the database of the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) to calculate trauma retrieval rates for 8 years pre- and 2 years post-AMP in four remote communities covering a period from 1 January 1995 to 24 November 2005. All serious injuries in these communities required aero-medical retrieval.

Serious injury resulted in a total of 798 retrievals during the observation period. One-sided analysis of variance for repeated measurements over the 10 years demonstrated a significant ($P = 0.021$) decrease of injury retrieval rates after the introduction of the AMP. Similarly, a comparison of linear trends of injury retrieval rates pre- and post-AMP also resulted in a significant decrease ($P = 0.022$; one-sided paired t-test). Comparisons of injury retrieval rates of just the 2 years pre and post-AMP also revealed a significant reduction ($P = 0.001$; paired t-test), with an averaged 52% decline. Identical comparisons of retrieval rates for causes other than injury revealed no significant changes.

This impact evaluation provides evidence that AMPs were effective in reducing serious injury in the assessed indigenous communities.

National Drug Research Institute. (2007). *Trends in alcohol-attributable deaths among Indigenous Australians, 1998–2004*. National Drug Research Institute.

Nicholas, R. (2007). *Alcohol and other drug problems among Indigenous Australians from rural and remote regions: A policing perspective*. Adelaide: Australasian Centre for Policing Research.

Abstract

The current paper considers policing strategies to reduce the harms to Indigenous communities that are associated with illicit drugs, alcohol and volatile substances. The paper has been constructed in this way and is based on the way in which the supporting literature has been developed. It should be noted, however, that this is a rather artificial segregation of these problems. In reality, there is generally a large degree of overlap in the existence of these problems, and there are common underlying principles associated with responding to them.

Nicholas, R. (2007). *Policing responses to substance misuse in rural and remote Indigenous communities. The report from a National Workshop held at the Crowne Plaza, Alice Springs, 29–30 August 2007*. Payneham, SA: National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund.

Northern Territory Board of Inquiry into the Protection of Aboriginal Children from Sexual Abuse. (2007). *Ampe akelyernemane meke mekarle: 'Little children are sacred': Report of the Northern Territory Board of Inquiry into the Protection of Aboriginal Children from Sexual Abuse*. Darwin: Northern Territory Government.

Abstract

In August 2006, the Northern Territory Government created the Board of Inquiry into the Protection of Aboriginal Children from Sexual Abuse to research and report on allegations of sexual abuse of Aboriginal children. It was asked to investigate concerns about serious child sexual abuse in Aboriginal communities, and to find better ways to protect Aboriginal children from sexual abuse. Specifically the Inquiry was asked to: study how and why Aboriginal children were being abused, focusing on unreported cases; identify problems with the way the government responds

to and attempts to protect Aboriginal children from abuse; look at how government departments and other agencies can better work together to protect and help children; and look into how the government can better support and educate Aboriginal communities to prevent child sexual abuse. Travelling all over the Northern Territory, the Inquiry gathered feedback from more than 260 meetings with individuals, agencies and organisations, and visited 45 communities to talk with local people. Sixty five written submissions were also received. The vast amount of information that was gathered and reviewed by the Inquiry was shaped into 97 recommendations for the Chief Minister. Underlying the Inquiry's findings was the common view that sexual abuse of Aboriginal children is happening largely because of the breakdown of Aboriginal culture and society. Child sexual abuse is a complex and deep seated problem that requires urgent, dedicated and collective action from the entire community. The Inquiry's recommendations are intended to offer advice to the Government on how it can best support and empower communities to prevent child sexual abuse now and in the future.

O'Meally, S., & Barr, A. (2005, August). *Families in crisis: Implications of change for Yolngu living in remote Arnhem Land*. Paper presented at the International Conference on Engaging Communities. Brisbane, Qld.

Abstract

North East Arnhem Land, an isolated and remote corner of the Northern Territory, has an Indigenous population that is suffering from a variety of health and social problems. This paper explores the background to this current dilemma and then provides details of the strategies, programs and people who are involved in assisting the Yolngu people and their culture. Innovative contemporary interventions and prevention methods are being explored in an attempt to halt the cycle of domestic and sexual violence, alcohol and drug abuse, problematic gambling, mental illness, morbidity and health problems that currently exist in the Yolngu community. The paper gives insight into the pioneering methods and strategies that are fundamental to empowering the men, women and children who are victims of abuse. The focus is on capacity building, and on the development of strategies to promote autonomy, independence and self-sufficiency in the face of the traditional systems and structures of the Yolngu people.

Putt, J., & Delahunty, B. (2006). *Illicit drug use in rural and remote Indigenous communities*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

There has been considerable media coverage recently of inhalant misuse by Indigenous young people in remote Australia. However, this misuse must be understood within a wider context of other drug use. Funded by the National Law Enforcement Research Fund and initiated by police concerned about illicit drug use, the study summarised in this paper has highlighted widespread and often heavy use of cannabis and increasing signs of amphetamine use by Indigenous people in rural and remote communities. While alcohol abuse remains a primary concern, illicit drug use is also impacting on individuals and communities, with quite distinct problems in isolated settlements. There are significant challenges for police involved in preventing the supply of drugs and helping communities to reduce drug related harms. There is also a demonstrable need for more drug specific services, especially diversion and treatment programs.

Putt, J., Payne, J., & Milner, L. (2005). *Indigenous male offending and substance abuse*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Snowball, L., & Weatherburn, D. (2006). Indigenous over-representation in prison: The role of Offender Characteristics. *Crime and Justice Bulletin*: No. 99. Sydney: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research.

Abstract

Fifteen years ago the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody drew attention to the fact that the rate of imprisonment of Indigenous Australians was 13 times higher than the corresponding rate for non-Indigenous Australians. Efforts to reduce Indigenous imprisonment rates over the intervening period have met with little success. Indeed, over the last few years, the rate of Indigenous imprisonment has increased. The research reported here had two main objectives. The first was to determine whether there is any evidence of racial bias in the sentencing of Indigenous offenders. The second was to determine what other factors account for the higher proportion of Indigenous offenders sentenced to terms of imprisonment. The research revealed no evidence of racial bias in sentencing. The higher rate at which Indigenous offenders are sent to prison stems mainly from (a) a higher rate of conviction for violent crime and (b) a higher rate of re-offending, particularly following the imposition of sanctions intended as alternatives to full-time imprisonment. The implications of these findings for policy are discussed.

Van der Sterren, A., Anderson, I., & Thorpe, L. (2006). 'Individual' harms, community 'harms': Reconciling Indigenous values with drug harm minimisation policy. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 25(3), 219-225.

Weatherburn, D., Snowball, L., & Hunter, B. (2006). *The economic and social factors underpinning Indigenous contact with the justice system: Results from the 2002 NATSISS survey*. Sydney: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research.

Abstract

This paper uses data on the social context of drug-related harms in the Melbourne Aboriginal Community to inform an alternative model of harm minimisation, and discusses its potential application in program development. The paper involves a secondary analysis of interviews and focus group discussions with 62 Community members who participated in a qualitative injecting drug use study conducted at the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service in Melbourne. Individuals and families within the Melbourne Aboriginal Community experience significant levels of harm associated with injecting drug use, and face restricted access to appropriate service options. This experience of drug use contributes to a broad range of values within the Community around harm minimisation approaches to program delivery. The authors propose a fundamentally distinct harm minimisation model which explicitly acknowledges this range of conflicting values, and reflects the need for a breadth of services and programs that address these tensions. Policies and funding must support Aboriginal Communities to negotiate through these conflicting Community values to actively create spaces in the service system for both using and non-using Community members. This includes the development of regional approaches which articulate an appropriate mix of services and the roles of Aboriginal and mainstream services in their delivery.

Weatherburn, D. (2006, November). *Disadvantage, drugs and gaol: Re-thinking Indigenous over-representation in prison*. Paper presented at the Conference of the Australasian Society on Alcohol and other Drugs. Cairns, Qld.

Weatherburn, D., Snowball, L., & Hunter, B. (2006). *The economic and social factors underpinning Indigenous contact with the justice system: Results from the 2002 NATSISS survey*. Sydney: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research.

Abstract

This study uses the 2002 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey (NATSISS) to examine the economic and social factors that underpin Indigenous contact with the criminal

justice system. The analysis shows that the Indigenous respondents to the NATSISS were far more likely to have been charged with, or imprisoned for, an offence if they abused drugs or alcohol, failed to complete Year 12 or were unemployed. Participating in the Commonwealth Development Employment Scheme appears to reduce the risk of being charged (compared with being unemployed). Other factors that increase the risk of being charged or imprisoned include: experiencing financial stress, living in a crowded household and being a member of the 'stolen generation'.

Wilson, A. (2006). Palm grog anger. *Koori Mail (July)*, 12.

Abstract

This brief article describes community reaction to the controversial new alcohol management plans for Palm Island which became law in June 2006. Under the laws, all alcohol except for light and mid-strength beer is banned from all islands in the Palm Island group, and only one carton can be transported there at a time in cars, boats or planes. Wine and spirits are banned. Locals are highly critical of the new restrictions, suggesting they are racist in intent, and that they would lead to an increase in sly-grogging from the mainland.

Wunungmurra, B., & Cook, J. (2006, September). *Communities in action for crime prevention*. Paper presented at the Victims of Crime NT conference: 'Positive Ways: An Indigenous Say', Marrara, NT.

Abstract

East Arnhem covers about 38,000 square kilometres of the North East top end of Australia, with an Indigenous population of approximately 9,000 spread out among some very remote communities and numerous homelands. Substance abuse and family violence has been increasing over recent years, particularly among younger families. In the remote communities there are few support structures. The Community Harmony Strategy is a program operating in East Arnhem which aims to coordinate responses to issues surrounding homelessness and anti-social behaviour. It focuses on preventative and harm minimisation objectives around substance abuse, associated anti-social behaviour, family violence and child abuse. This paper provides an overview of the Strategy's implementation, its functions and activities.

15. Alcohol and Other Drug Related Police Custody Issues

This section contains resources on alcohol and other drug issues as they impact upon the custodial environment.

Best, D., Havis, S., Strathdee, G., Keaney, E., Manning, V., & Strang, J. (2004). Drug deaths in police custody: Is dual diagnosis a significant factor? *Journal of Clinical Forensic Medicine*, 11(4), 173-182.

Deaton, S. (2004). *On-charge drug testing: Evaluation of drug testing in the criminal justice system*. London: Research, Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office UK.

Abstract

This UK report highlights the key benefits, challenges and best practice around the implementation and maintenance of drug testing offenders on charge. It is based on evidence drawn from the ongoing evaluation of the Drug Testing Pilots, which started in three sites in Autumn 2001 and were extended to a further six sites in Summer 2002.

Havis, S., & Best, D. D. (2003). *Drug-related deaths in police custody: A Police Complaints Authority study*. London: Police Complaints Authority.

Hunter, G., McSweeney, T., & Turnbull, P. J. (2005). The introduction of drug Arrest Referral schemes in London: A partnership between drug services and the police. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 16(5), 343-352.

Mouzos, J., Hind, N., Smith, L., & Adams, K. (2007). *Drug use monitoring in Australia: 2006 annual report on drug use among police detainees*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology.

Abstract

The Drug Use Monitoring in Australia (DUMA) program, established in 1999, is a quarterly collection of information from police detainees in seven sites (police stations or watch-houses) across Australia. In 2006, the number of sites increased to nine. There are two parts to the information collected: a questionnaire, which is conducted with a trained interviewer independent from the police, and a urine sample, which is tested for six different classes of drugs. Information that is collected from the questionnaire includes basic demographic data, drug use history, drug market information, treatment history and information on prior contact with the criminal justice system. The nine DUMA sites represent a range of community configurations: three sites represent the metropolitan area of a major state capital; three cover a metropolitan city area; one the outer suburbs of a major state capital; another one a regional centre; and the last covers a major tourist and retirement destination. This report presents both self-report data from 4,555 participating detainees and urinalysis for 77% of these for 2006. It includes an overview of the characteristics of detainees at each site, including self-reported drug use, prior criminal behaviour and treatment history. In addition to tracking changes in local drug markets, DUMA collects additional information on key strategic issues in a timely manner. Since its inception a number of addendums have been run as part of the DUMA questionnaire. In 2006, the following different addendums were run at the sites: quarter one: amphetamines (all sites except Darwin) and alcohol (Darwin); quarter two: drug driving (all sites); quarter three: motives for offending (all sites); and quarter four: alcohol (Darwin, Adelaide, Elizabeth, East Perth) and mental health (Bankstown, Parramatta, Brisbane, Southport, Sunshine/Footscray). The collection of this information allows for the formation and implementation of better-informed policies, and can also serve to guide key stakeholders, such as law enforcement bodies, in future tactical, strategic and operational decision-making.

Nicholas, R. (2004). *The apprehension and custodial care of offenders affected by the use of amphetamine type stimulants*. Adelaide: Australasian Centre for Policing Research.

O'Shea, J., & Powis, B. (2003). *Drug arrest referral schemes: A case study of good practice*. London: Home Office Drugs Strategy Directorate.

Payne-James, J. (2004). Drug-related deaths in police custody. *Journal of Clinical Forensic Medicine*, 11(3), 141.

Shoobridge, J. (2006). *Reducing drug-related crime: The role of Arrest Referral Schemes (ARS) and Custodial Nursing Models (CNM) in Australasia*. Adelaide: Australasian Centre for Policing Research.

Abstract

This report was prepared for the Commissioners' Drugs Committee (CDC) of the Conference of Police Commissioners of Australasia and the South West Pacific Region by the Australasian Centre for Policing Research (ACPR). The international literature promotes the benefits of custody-based arrest referral programs as an effective means of reducing drug-related crime. In the context of its role in focussing on contemporary alcohol and other drug-related issues in Australasia, the CDC sought detailed information regarding the relevance of arrest referral programs to the Australasian context, and the effectiveness of those schemes that are already in existence.
