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Partner Status and Substance Use in Sexual Gender Minority People

Carli M. Giacobelli, Noella M. Ginolfi and Jordan E. Suarez

Background

The purpose of this literature review is to research partner status and substance misuse. We believe that single sexual and gender minority persons have a stronger likelihood of substance misuse than any other relationship status. The partner statuses that the research focuses on are no partner (single), casual, monogamy, consensual non-monogamy, and non-consensual monogamy. The goal of this study is to see the association between relationship status and substance misuse.

The goal of our review was to research the effects of relationship status and substance misuse. These articles were helpful in giving us the information that we needed to see the relationship between the two variables.

The researchers have recruited their people from specific populations, the sexual gender minorities. Although different actions were taken from the other studies, they all have produced a sample that is representative of the SGM community. All of the studies have a similar research focus as well

Results

- To test our hypothesis, we used a Chi squared test of independence to examine the relation between substance use and partnered status. The relation between these variables is significant, $\chi^2 = 79.954$, $P < .001$, indicating that people in casual relationships tend to use more alcohol compared to single individuals. More than 50% of people who are in casual relationships reported using alcohol.
- For heroin use, we used a Chi squared test of independence to examine the relation between heroin and partnered status. The relation between these variables is significant, $\chi^2 = 54.563$, $P < .001$, indicating that people in casual relationships tend to use heroin at a higher rate compared to single individuals. 20% of people reported using heroin in casual relationships.

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