Drinking Patterns of Whites, Coloureds, Indians and Blacks in South Africa, 1982

Lee Rocha-Silva

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Principal Investigator

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STUDY DESCRIPTION
TITLE: Drinking Patterns of Whites, Coloureds, Indians and Blacks in South Africa, 1982

PRINCIPLE INVESTIGATOR/S: Lee Rocha-Silva

DEPOSITOR: Lee Rocha-Silva

ABSTRACT: This survey deals with the self-reported quantity and frequency of alcohol consumption during the period August 1981 - August 1982 among South Africans in the age category 18 - 65 years. The consumption of alcoholic beverages has frequently been pointed out as contributing to numerous societal problems such as road, home, industrial and recreational accidents, violence, crime and various diseases. The study looks specifically at (a) Blacks in the Pretoria - Johannesburg metropolitan area, and specifically those in Mamelodi, Atteridgeville, Saulsville and Soweto; (b) Coloureds in the Cape Province; (c) Indians in Natal and (d) Whites in all four provinces in the RSA. Particular attention is given to (a) the frequency with which various types of alcoholic beverages (beer, wine and spirits) are consumed; (b) the amount consumed on occasion per beverage type; and (c) variation in the amount consumed on occasion per beverage type. Attention is also given to the possibility of the demographic status (age, gender, income, occupation, home language, marital status and religious affiliation) of respondents influencing their level and frequency of alcohol consumption. A special effort is made to relate the study to sociological theory on human behaviour in general.

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION: South Africa

IMPORTANT VARIABLES: consumption of alcoholic beverage, frequency of consumption, wine, beer, hard liquor (brandy, whiskey, vodka), alcohol abuse/r, alcoholic, tobacco use

DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES: age, gender, income, occupation, home language, marital status and religious affiliation

UNIVERSE: All South Africans aged 18 - 65 years.

METHOD OF DATA COLLECTION - SAMPLING: A multistage sampling procedure was used. The sampling frame for Whites was the Republic of South Africa as a whole. Coloured and Indian respondents were respectively drawn from the Cape Province and Natal (where the large majority of these population groups live). Black respondents were drawn from the urban residential areas of Soweto, Mamelodi, Atteridgeville and Saulsville in the Pretoria-Johannesburg metropolitan area in which 15.9 per cent of all the urban Blacks in the RSA were resident at the time of the 1980 census). The Black sample group cannot be regarded as being representative of Blacks in general, seeing that the vast majority of Blacks reside in rural areas.

The sampling units in the case of Coloureds, Indians and Whites, were (a) economic districts (as defined by Central Statistical Services for the purpose of population censuses); (b) magisterial districts within the sampled economic districts, and (c) the streetblocks within which the towns/cities in the sampled magisterial districts are divided for the purpose of population censuses. Approximately ten dwellings were randomly selected from each of the sampled streetblocks. Within each of the sampled dwellings a respondent who fell within the age category 18 - 65 years was randomly selected from members of the household in the particular dwelling. The sampling units in the case of the Black sample were the streetblocks within which the relevant Black residential areas were divided for the purpose of population censuses. Approximately 15 dwellings were randomly selected from each of the sampled streetblocks. In the selection of respondents...
with sampled dwellings the same procedure used in the case of the other three population groups was followed.

**TYPE OF INSTRUMENT:** Face to face interview using a structured questionnaire.

**UNITS OF OBSERVATION:** One case/unit equals one person/respondent.

**DATE OF DATA COLLECTION:** August 1981 - August 1982

**EXTENT OF DATA COLLECTION:** 2 data files (ASCII and SPSS) + Hardcopy documentation + machine-readable documentation

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**PUBLICATIONS:**