Attitudes toward drinking and drunkenness; And drinking patterns of white, coloured, Indian and black people in South Africa, 1985

Lee Rocha-Silva
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SADA 0005

Principal investigator

Lee Rocha-Silva

1995

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STUDY DESCRIPTION

SADA STUDY NUMBER: 0005

TITLE: Attitudes toward Drinking and Drunkenness; and Drinking Patterns of White, Coloured, Indian and Black People in South Africa, 1985

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Rocha-Silva, Lee

ABSTRACT: The aim of the investigation was to determine the degree of acceptability that drinking and drunkenness have for white, coloured, Indian and black people and to compare the data with the findings of similar studies overseas, especially those done in the Scandinavian countries. The questionnaire's attitude scales are based on a questionnaire designed by the Finnish Foundation for Alcohol Studies. The instrument for measuring alcohol consumption is a refinement of the existing index of the frequency/volume of alcohol intake as applied in the Khavari Alcohol Test. Test runs were undertaken before the finalization of the questionnaire. Attention was given to the following themes in the investigation: 1. Views/Attitudes: (a) the age at which young people should be allowed to begin drinking alcohol; (b) the degree of acceptability that drinking liquor has, on the one hand when with the family and on the other, when with friends; (c) degrees of responsibility that a person who has drunk alcohol ought to be able to accept; (d) affective connotation attached to a person who uses/abuses alcohol. 2. Drinking patterns: (a) stages of alcohol use; (b) kinds of liquor imbibed; (c) frequencies and volumes used for each kind of liquor. 3. Biographical and demographic variables. This was a self-initiated investigation undertaken by the Institute for Sociological, Demographic and Criminological Research of the HSRC.

SAMPLING: The standard white, coloured and Indian co-workers' panels of the Opinion Survey Centre of the HSRC as well as an ad hoc sample of black people were used. The samples were drawn countrywide but did not include non-urban areas (farms and small holdings). Questionnaires were filled in by means of personal interviews. A procedure of cluster sampling in randomly selected statistical regions, magisterial districts and enumerator sub districts was used. The sample of black people was restricted to the PWV (Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging) area.

DATE OF RESEARCH: June 1985 (Blacks and Coloureds) October 1985 (Whites and Indians)

EXTENT OF COLLECTION: 4 data files in SPSS + m-r record layout + hard copy questionnaire

TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES 5 350
TOTAL NUMBER OF BYTES: 1 315 920

Part 1: BLACKS
Number of cases: 1 445
Number of records: 4 335
Number of records per case: 3
Logical record length: 80
Number of variables: 115
Number of kilobytes: 281 KB
Part 2: COLOURED
Number of cases: 1 284
Number of records 3 852
Number of records per case: 3
Logical record length: 80
Number of variables: 115
Number of kilobytes: 251 KB

Part 3: WHITES
Number of cases: 1 151
Number of records 3 453
Number of records per case: 3
Logical record length: 80
Number of variables: 115
Number of kilobytes: 225 KB

Part 4: INDIANS
Number of cases: 1 470
Number of records 4 410
Number of records per case: 3
Logical record length: 80
Number of variables: 115
Number of kilobytes: 287 KB

PUBLICATIONS: