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Individual differences among alcohol and tobacco users: Self-classification and problem recognition

Little information exists on the influence of individual differences on problem recognition, or admitting to having a substance-use problem. This study will examine the relationship between individual differences (personality, peer influences, family history of substance use, and religiosity) and problem recognition among 300 college age smokers and drinkers. Problem recognition will be measured as two separate concepts: consumption and consequences of drug use. Regression analysis will explore the accuracy between subjective self-classification and objective standard measures of consumption and consequences of drug use. Results could potentially indicate that self-classification of consumption will be significantly more accurate than consequences for drinking and smoking and individual differences that effect drinking and smoking habits also influence the accuracy of problem recognition.

This project was completed as part of a Capstone requirement.