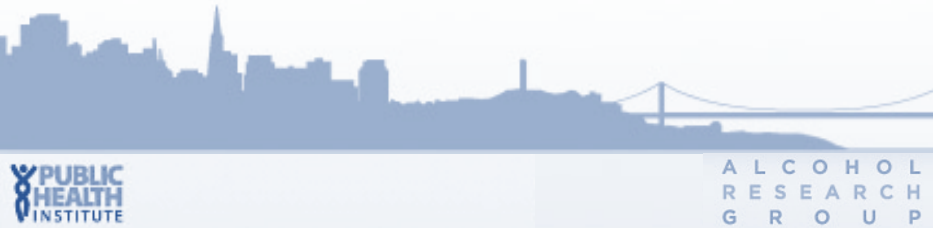


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Interactive Effects of Social Networks & Neighborhood Disadvantage on Heavy Drinking: A Longitudinal Study

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Presenter Disclosures

VANESSA AU

The following personal financial relationships with commercial interests relevant to this presentation existed during the past 12 months:

No relationships to disclose

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LEARNING OBJECTIVES

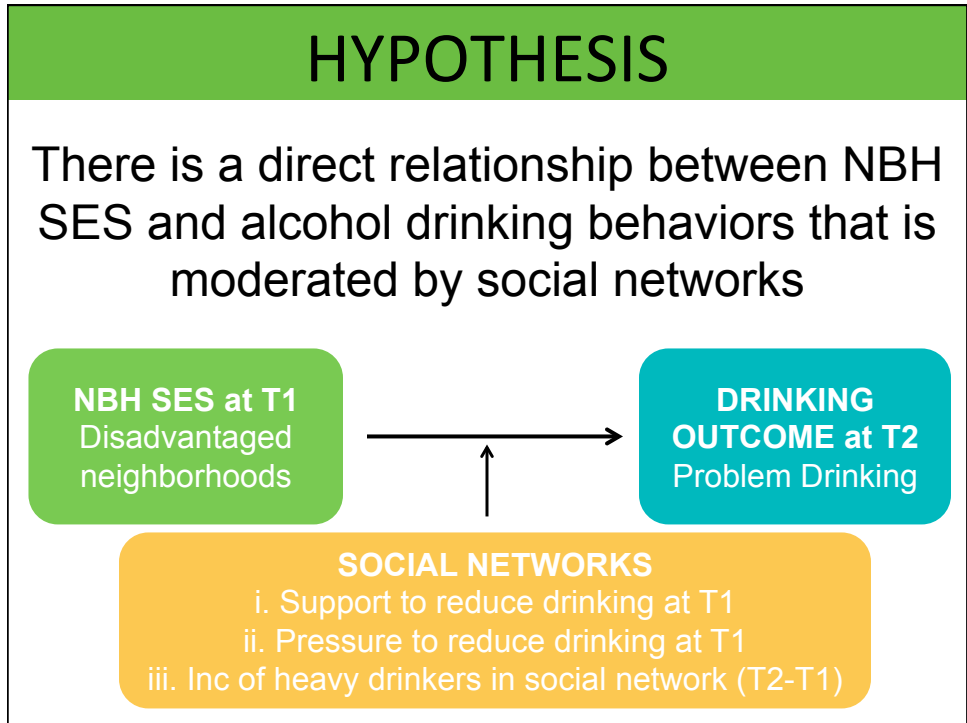
- 1. Describe** how social networks moderate the effects of neighborhood SES on drinking outcomes.
- 2. Identify** which aspects of the social network influence the impact of neighborhood SES on problem drinking.

BACKGROUND

- Neighborhood (NBH) disadvantage associated with alcohol outcomes¹⁻⁴
- Social network characteristics influence drinking outcomes^{5,6,7}
- No previous studies on effects of disadvantaged NBHs on problem drinking moderated by social networks


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ORIGINAL STUDY

- Study conducted in Northern California
 - General population: problem drinkers, not been in treatment in past year
- Baseline data collected in 1995 & 1996
- Interviews: Baseline= in-person; Follow-up= phone



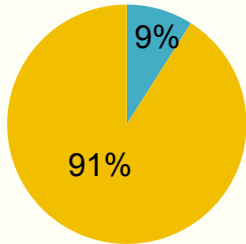
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STUDY BACKGROUND

- N=660
- Problem drinkers (met 2 of 3 criteria)
 - Heavy drinking
 - Alcohol abuse
 - Social consequences

Study Population NBH Type

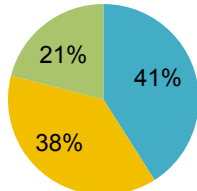


■ disadvantaged nbh
■ non-disadvantaged nbh

*Disadvantaged = living in areas with 20% of residents with income below poverty level

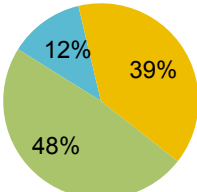
SAMPLE DEMOGRAPHICS

Age



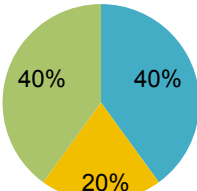
- under 30
- 30 - 44
- 45 & up

Education



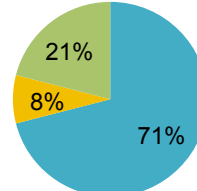
- < HS
- High School
- More than HS

Marital Status



- married, s.o.
- sep/div/wid
- never married

Ethnicity



- White
- Black
- Other

Addiction Severity Index (ASI) for alcohol median ≈ 0.16

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SOCIAL NETWORK VARIABLES

- **Support to reduce drinking at Baseline**
 - Q: How many...actively support your effort to reduce alcohol or drug use?
- **Pressure to reduce drinking at Baseline**
 - Q: [Has anyone] said anything about your drinking or suggested you cut down in the last 12 months? Who?
- **Number of Heavy drinkers in network at Baseline compared to 1 year later**
 - Q: How many...are heavy drinkers or problem drinkers?



ANALYSES

- **Generalized estimating equations (GEE)**
 - Controlled for neighborhood clustering
- **Logistic GEE models**
 - Tested 3 separate interactions in 3 separate models
- **Stratified GEE models**
- **Controlled for covariates**
 - Age, Ethnicity, Addiction Severity Index (ASI), Education, Marital Status

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RESULTS - Interaction models

	AOR	p-value
Model 1: Support		
High Poverty	5.27	0.00
High Support	1.36	0.10
Poverty*Support	0.21	0.02
Model 2: Pressure		
High Poverty	3.16	0.01
Low Pressure	2.38	0.00
Poverty*Pressure	0.44	0.19
Model 3: Heavy drinkers		
High Poverty	2.00	0.11
Social Norms	1.77	0.00
Poverty*Social Norms	1.21	0.77

Significant!

Table 1. Odds ratios & p-values of interaction analyses
Covariates: Age, Ethnicity, ASI, Education, Marital Status

RESULTS - Stratified models

	AOR	AOR
Support	<i>Low support</i>	<i>High support</i>
High Poverty	5.04*	1.13
Pressure	<i>Low pressure</i>	<i>High pressure</i>
High Poverty	3.21*	1.25
Heavy Drinkers	<i>High Heavy</i>	<i>Low Heavy</i>
High Poverty	3.29*	2.01

Table 2. Odds ratios of stratified analyses

* = significant p-value

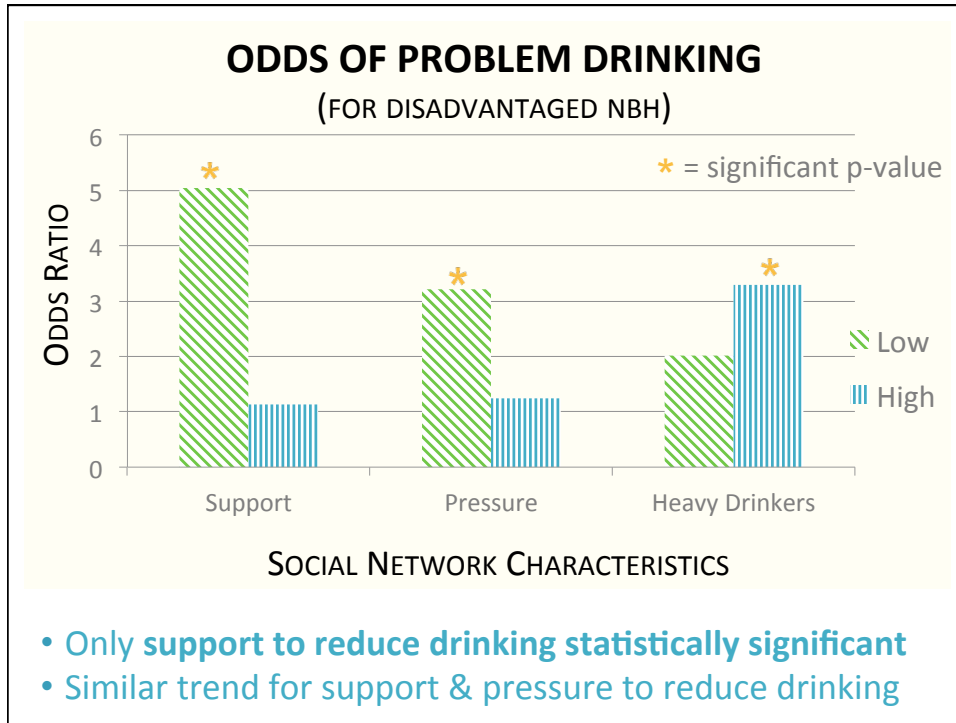
Support is characterized by whether respondents received support to reduce alcohol/drug use

Pressure is characterized by whether respondents received pressure to reduce alcohol/drug use

Heavy Drinkers is characterized by whether there was an increase in number of heavy drinkers in the respondents' social network at the one year follow-up

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Limitations	Strengths
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recall bias• Secondary data analyses• Small sample size• Mostly White sample• Poverty variable variability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• General population• Used logistic & stratified GEE models• Controlled for covariates• 3 social network characteristics

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CONCLUSION



- Supportive social networks can buffer effects of neighborhood poverty on problem drinking
- Prevention efforts should develop supportive social networks in disadvantaged neighborhoods

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