

**PRODUCTION OF PAINTING ON THE IMPACT OF THE HIGH RATE OF ALCOHOLISM AMONG
THE YOUTHS: A CASE STUDY OF KAATO SUBCOUNTY MANAFWA DISTRICT**

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ABSTRACT.

Alcohol is a product that has provided a variety of functions for people. There is a wide range of negative effects associated with consumption of alcohol. Individuals who consume alcohol are more likely to experience a wide range of effects. The purpose of this study was to investigate the prevalence of high rate of alcoholism among the youths, factors for its cause, consequences on both health and family life of the youths of Kaato sub county Manafwa district. The secondary objectives of this study included determine the effects of high rate of alcoholism on the family and health of the youths in Kaato sub county Manafwa district and find out the level of awareness the youth of Kaato sub county in Manafwa district about the effects of high rate of alcoholism. The research design included the case study and used both qualitative and quantitative approaches. The population comprised of the selected people from the sub county including administrators, religious leaders, opinion leaders, family leaders, bar owners and local brewer's nurses, teachers and community members which constituted of 80 respondents. Summary of the key findings indicated that 43.75 percent of the respondents agreed that alcohol use prevails in Kaato sub-county, 31.25% disagreed and 25% were not sure and findings on the level of Alcohol usage in Kaato sub-county were that 43.75% of the respondents argued that it was high, 17.5% argued for high, those for low were 13.75% and very low had 25% of the respondents and causes of alcohol consumption in Kaato sub-county were that majority of the respondents agreed that lack of comprehensive prevention education account for alcohol consumption levels, lack of an alcohol policy had 16.25%, Moral degeneration had 16.25%, culture that promotes social drinking at every occasion had 15%, readily available alcohol had 5%, Peer pressure especially among youths 8.75% and economic stress had 6.25%. From the findings, the researcher recommends government should strengthen the policies on controlling alcohol such as putting up stricter laws, controlling the dispensation and distribution of drugs that are more harmful such as cocaine from the public.

Key words: Alcoholism, Painting and Youth.

Background of the study

Alcohol is a product that provides various functions to people. From the earliest times to the present, alcohol has played an important role in religion and worship. Historically, alcoholic beverages served as sources of needed nutrients and were widely used for their medicinal, antiseptic, and analgesic properties (Rebecca & Kirisa, 2023a).

In 2014, the Uganda Alcohol Policy Alliance received a grant from the International Organization of Good Templars (IOGT-NTO) to implement the promotion of an effective alcohol legal and policy environment in Uganda for the period 2014–2016 (Rebecca & Kirisa, 2023b). Alcohol is the most commonly used psychoactive substance and causes 1.8 million or 3.2% of all deaths worldwide and accounts for 4.0% of the burden of disease (Alaina & Rebecca, n.d.). Globally, harmful alcohol consumption causes significant public health problems and is the fifth leading cause of premature death and disability in the world (Shamirah et al., n.d.). Alcohol use among youth is associated with a number of adverse outcomes and risk of human

immunodeficiency disease (Irumba et al., 2023). The influence of alcohol and other substance consumption is greater in young age groups of both sexes.

Substance abuse has existed in Uganda for a long time despite the fact that it has so many negative consequences (Rebecca & Kirisa, 2023a). Data on alcohol use, abuse, and dependence show clear age-related patterns and occur particularly in the developmental stages of youth (Fred et al., n.d.; Keneth et al., n.d.). Furthermore, many of the effects that alcohol use has on the drinker, both in the short and long term, depend on the developmental timing of alcohol use or exposure. According to Dr. Basangwy David (1994) of the National Psychiatric Hospital in his report on the study of drug abuse in secondary schools showed that alcohol abuse in Uganda as a whole is increasing and most records show that cases of alcohol abuse have been increasing over the years although recently the rate at which it is increasing among the youth is alarming and therefore requires serious attention

Problem Statement

A wide range of negative effects are associated with alcohol consumption (Rebecca & Kirisa, 2023b). Individuals who consume alcohol are more likely to experience a wide range of effects, including problems such as: unwanted, unplanned and unprotected sexual activity; social problems; physical and sexual assault; physical problems; problems at school; legal issues; disruption of normal growth and sexual development; higher risk of suicide and homicide; alcohol-related car accidents and other unintentional injuries; memory problems; drug abuse; changes in brain development; and death from alcohol poisoning (Muhammadi & Sarah, n.d.). In most cases, individuals are likely to engage in risky behavior after consuming alcohol, thereby endangering their lives and endangering the safety of the general population in the vicinity. Despite the well-known negative effects of alcoholism in society, young people still continue to abuse alcohol (Muhammadi & Isaac Kazaara, 2023). This has led to alcohol-related injuries, illnesses and deaths, endangering the family unit and society, however much the government responds and enforces laws against alcohol consumption, the vice continues to increase in Kaato Sub District (Charles et al., 2023). The researcher intends to make painting prints to sensitize the youth to stop the vice.

Received: 14.11.2023**Accepted: 19.11.2023****Published on: 30.11.2023**

Objectives of the study

The study seeks to achieve the following specific objectives:

1. To establish factors, cause high rate of alcoholism among the youths Kaato sub county Manafwa district.
2. To determine the effects of high rate of alcoholism on the family and health of the youths in Kaato sub county Manafwa district.
3. To find out the level of awareness the youth of Kaato sub county in Manafwa district about the effects of high rate of alcoholism.

Methodology.

The research design included the case study and used both qualitative and quantitative approaches. The researcher used qualitative research method in this study which enabled him to provide a vivid ethnographic account of the various study fields and describe what transpires. Data was obtained from both primary and secondary sources. Secondary data was also collected through literary sources, such as books, journals, research papers, newspapers and the use of the internet. The population comprised of the selected people from the sub county including administrators, religious leaders, opinion leaders, family leaders, bar owners and local brewer's nurses, teachers and community members. The group that was interviewed consisted of eighty respondents who were chosen from the total population of study that was selected by Purposive and simple random sampling techniques. The researcher used primary and secondary data. Primary data was collected by the help of Questionnaires. These were used by the researcher to get Information especially from the administrators. Both open and closed questions were sent to widen the chance of response. Open ended questions enabled respondents to express themselves as they answer the set questions and closed ended questions enabled the respondents to choose the right answer of their choice to questions. The data collected was cleaned and coded according to the criteria developed by the researcher. The data was transferred to the Statistical Package for Social Scientists (SPSS) for analysis to be performed (Nelson et al., 2022). Cross tabulations comprising of frequencies and percentages will be drawn to better interpret the findings. In order to effectively carry out data analysis, responses in the questionnaires were grouped according to themes, tabulated and discussed using descriptive statistics.

Results.

Causes of alcoholism in Kaato sub-county Manafwa district, eastern Uganda

The first research objective was to establish the causes of alcohol consumption among people in Magale sub-county. The data collected was presented in the information given below.

Table 1: Shows Alcohol use prevalence Kaato sub-county.

Responses	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	35	43.75%
No	25	31.25%
Not sure	20	25%

Received: 14.11.2023

Accepted: 19.11.2023

Published on: 30.11.2023

Total	80	100%
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Source: Primary Data, January 2022

The results in table 1 show that 43.75 percent of the respondents agreed that alcohol use prevails in Kaato sub-county, 31.25% disagreed and 25% were not sure. This indicated that alcohol use prevails in Kaato sub-county, it is possible that they are not so effective given a higher percentage of disagreement and not sure combined.

Rate of Alcohol usage in Kaato sub-county

Table 2: Shows the level of Alcohol usage in Kaato sub-county

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Very high	35	43.75%
High	14	17.5%
Low	11	13.5%
Very low	20	25%
Total	80	100%

Source: Primary data, January 2022

The study findings on the level of Alcohol usage in Kaato sub-county were that 43.75% of the respondents argued that it was high, 17.5% argued for high, those for low were 13.75% and very low had 25% of the respondents. The study findings implied that many respondents are agreement with high levels of alcohol prevailing in Kaato sub-county.

Causes of high rate of alcoholism in Kaato sub-county

Table 3: Shows the causes of alcohol consumption in Kaato sub-county

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
A culture that promotes social drinking ever occasion	12	15%
Economic stress	5	6.25%
Lack of alcohol policy	13	16.25%
Readily available alcohol	10	12.5%
Lack of comprehensive prevention education	20	25%
Moral degeneration	13	16.25%
Peer pressure especially among youth	7	8.75%
Total	80	100%

Received: 14.11.2023

Accepted: 19.11.2023

Published on: 30.11.2023

Primary data, January 2022

The study findings on the causes of alcohol consumption in Kaato sub-county were that majority of the respondents agreed that lack of comprehensive prevention education account for alcohol consumption levels, lack of an alcohol policy had 16.25%, Moral degeneration had 16.25%, culture that promotes social drinking at every occasion had 15%, readily available alcohol had 5%, Peer pressure especially among youths 8.75% and economic stress had 6.25%.

The findings present that alcoholism arise from a series of factors that include the mentioned above.

Effects alcoholism on socio-economic development of Kaato sub-county

The second objective of the study was to assess the effects alcoholism on socio-economic development of Kaato sub-county. The data collected was presented as shown below.

Whether alcoholism affect socio-economic development of Kaato sub-county

Table 4: Showing responses on whether alcoholism affects socio-economic development of Kaato sub-county.

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	47	58.75%
No	13	16.25%
Not sure	20	25%
Total	80	100%

Source: Primary Data, January 2022

The study findings on whether alcoholism affects socio-economic development of Kaato sub county. Majority of the respondents agreed that alcoholism negatively affects socio-economic development of Kaato sub-county 58.75%, 16.25% disagreed while 25% of the respondents were not sure. The findings were that many people argue that there are aspects of concern provided for under alcohol as it influences the operations of the development of Kaato Sub County.

Summary

The study conducted in Kaato sub-county, Manafwa district, eastern Uganda, aimed to investigate the causes of alcoholism and its effects on socio-economic development. The research found that 43.75% of respondents agreed that alcohol use prevails in Kaato sub-county, with 31.25% disagreeing and 25% unsure. Additionally, 43.75% perceived the level of alcohol usage as very high, indicating a concerning prevalence. The identified causes of alcohol consumption included a lack of comprehensive prevention education (25%), absence of an alcohol policy (16.25%), moral degeneration (16.25%), a culture promoting social drinking (15%), readily available alcohol (12.5%), peer pressure, especially among youth (8.75%), and economic stress (6.25%). Furthermore, the study

Received: 14.11.2023

Accepted: 19.11.2023

Published on: 30.11.2023

revealed that 58.75% of respondents believed alcoholism negatively affects the socio-economic development of Kaato sub-county, highlighting the need for attention to the identified factors contributing to the issue.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the study conducted in Kaato sub-county, Manafwa district, eastern Uganda, sheds light on the prevalent issue of alcoholism and its potential impact on the socio-economic development of the region. The findings indicate a significant level of agreement among respondents regarding the prevalence of alcohol use, with a notable proportion perceiving it as very high. The identified causes of alcohol consumption, including the lack of comprehensive prevention education, absence of an alcohol policy, and moral degeneration, underscore the complex and multifaceted nature of this societal challenge. Moreover, the majority of respondents express concern about the negative effects of alcoholism on socio-economic development. This suggests a critical need for targeted interventions addressing the identified causes to mitigate the impact of alcoholism on the community and promote a healthier, more sustainable development trajectory for Kaato sub-county.

Recommendations

Government should strengthen the policies on controlling alcohol such as putting up stricter laws, controlling the dispensation and distribution of drugs that are more harmful such as cocaine from the public. This creates a shortage and non-availability of drugs.

The alcohol industry has attempted some self-regulation by putting small messages on labels and advertisement that say that you must be 18 years of age to purchase and consume alcohol. These messages are clearly overshadowed by the number of other messages and advertisements that the alcohol industry puts out to promote their alcoholic beverages that reach all minors and adults alike, as advertisements are currently not regulated.

There is need for alcohol policy which will outline the national action plan regarding alcohol and drug abuse, which is to include increased awareness of alcohol related problems. The policy will call for a well packaged, pro-active information, education and communication activities to be carried out to inform the public of the problem of alcohol abuse. It will call for immediate restrictions on alcohol advertisements and other promotional programming in the mass media, business premises, sporting events, billboards that expose the youth to the advisement.

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