ASSOCIATION BETWEEN PARENTAL ALCOHOL-RELATED BEHAVIORS AND CHILDREN'S DRINKING

Gianbattista Modonutti University Department of Clinical Medical and Surgical Sciences and of the Health, University of Trieste, Trieste, Italy
Maria Fiore. Department “GF Ingrassia”, Sector of Hygiene and Public Health, Catania University, Catania, Italy
Fulvio Costantinides University Department of Clinical Medical and Surgical Sciences and of the Health, University of Trieste, Trieste, Italy
Luca Leon University Department of Clinical Medical and Surgical Sciences and of the Health, University of Trieste, Trieste, Italy
Gea Olveri Conti Department “GF Ingrassia”, Sector of Hygiene and Public Health, Catania University, Catania, Italy
Roberto Fallico Department “GF Ingrassia”, Sector of Hygiene and Public Health, Catania University, Catania, Italy
Margherita Ferrante Department “GF Ingrassia”, Sector of Hygiene and Public Health, Catania University, Catania, Italy

Background and Aims. Many researches have evidenced a high prevalence of youthful use of alcohol. Aim of this study was to acquire information about the pupil’s alcohol-related behaviors and parent’s use of and attitudes toward alcohol in order to assess the presence of early risk behaviors in pupils.

Methods. The data were collected using a questionnaire anonymous, semi-structured and self-administered. A total of 281 pupils resident in Catania (Males: 49.8% Females: 50.2%), aged between 6 -12 years have joined the survey.

Results. 281 pupils resident in Catania (Males: 49.8% Females: 50.2%), aged between 6 -12 years have joined the survey.

42.3% of the pupils have already tasted alcohol (M: 49.3% F: 35.5%, p <0.025), in particular the 29.9% the wine (M: 35.0% F: 24.8%), the 30.6% the beer (M: 40.7% F: 20.6%, p <0.0005) and 12.8% the strong drinks (M: 16.4%, F: 9.2%).

40.2% of the pupils (ages 6-12) drink alcohol (M: 44.3% F: 36.2%). Overall, 60.5% of pupils live with families who use alcohol at the meal (M: 63.6% F: 57.4%) and the fathers drinking are more frequent than mothers drinking (M: 63.7% F: 24.9%, p <0.0005).

The pupils that had tasted alcohol and live with parents drinker (52.9%) are significantly more numerous (p <0.0005) than those living with parents non-drinker (21.6%). At the end, the percentage of pupils drinker (54.1%) living with parents drinker was significantly higher (p <0.0005) than that living with parents non-drinker (18.0%).

Conclusions. Results highlight an early/widespread alcohol use and an elevated prevalence of pupils who use alcohol. Moreover the findings suggest that living with parents drinkers favor the initiation and use of alcoholic beverages.

References.