

Unpacking Effects of Stress & Discrimination on Substance Use: Similarities and Differences among Racially Diverse YMSM

Eric K. Layland

Michele D. Kipke, Bethany C. Bray, & Katrina Kubicek

Objectives:

1. Model associations of psychosocial stressors with substance use
2. Investigate ethnoracial differences in these associations

Methods

Sample:

- N=448 (age 16-24)
- Black (21%), Latino (59%), Mixed Race (20%) young men who have sex with men (YMSM)

Variables:

- Psychosocial stressors
 - Stressful Life Events, Institutional & Sexual Racism, Shaming & Harassment Homophobia
- 6-month substance use



Alcohol



Marijuana



Tobacco



Cocaine



Poppers



Other Drugs

Analysis

- Modified Poisson regression:
 - Six models predicting past 6-month use relative to never using
- Stressors*Race/Ethnicity → Substance Use Prevalence*

Results

Stressful Life Events

- → Higher use rates for all substances (All YMSM) (PR=1.05-1.33)

Discrimination

- *Institutional racism* → higher tobacco (mixed race only) (PR=1.38)
- *Sexual racism* → higher poppers (Black only) (PR=1.92)
- *Shaming homophobia* → higher tobacco (Black & mixed race) (PR=1.24-1.44)
- No *harassment homophobia* effects