

Parenting factors influencing teenage drinking and marijuana use in U.S. rural and suburban communities



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Social Influences on Teenagers



- Teenagers spend more time with peers than when they were younger.
- Teenagers and their peers influence each other's behaviors.
- Rule breaking can increase in early adolescents as a vie for independence and autonomy.
- Teenagers are more likely to break rules when they are with other teenagers, especially when adults aren't around.
- Parents still have an important influence on their teenagers.

Study: Social influences on adolescent problem behaviors



- NIDA-funded study to social influences longitudinally as they relate to initiation and escalation of
 - Substance use (tobacco, e-cigarettes, **alcohol, binge drinking, marijuana**)
 - Antisocial behavior
 - Risky sexual behaviors
 - Follows adolescents for four years, from age 13 to age 17
 - N = 444 youth, 51% female, 35% Latino/Hispanic;
 - N = 400 parents, 73% female, 27% Latino/Hispanic
 - Used baseline data collected in spring of 8th grade (ages 13-14) to predict changes in initiation of these substances and behaviors.
 - National Institute on Drug Abuse grant #: 5 R01 DA034062



Parent Influence: Monitoring



- Where are you? Who are you with?
What are you doing? When will you be home?
How will you get there?
- Monitoring involves active and open communication
- Parent awareness = observation + discussions + trust + youth disclosure

Teenagers tend to get into the most trouble when they are with a peer or peers, no adult is present, and they are “wandering” or “out and about” in the neighborhood.

Parent Influence: Parent-Youth Relationship



- Patterns of interactions that typically occur between the parent and teenager → quality of their relationship.



- OPEN COMMUNICATION
- CLOSENESS
- CONFLICT



Parent Influence: Modeling, Exposure, Access



- Parent's own behaviors regarding their use of alcohol and marijuana impact their teenagers' use through:

- Modeling
- Exposure
- Access
- < Monitoring
- > Conflict



Parenting to Prevent Substance Use



TEENAGER



**PARENT
MONITORING**

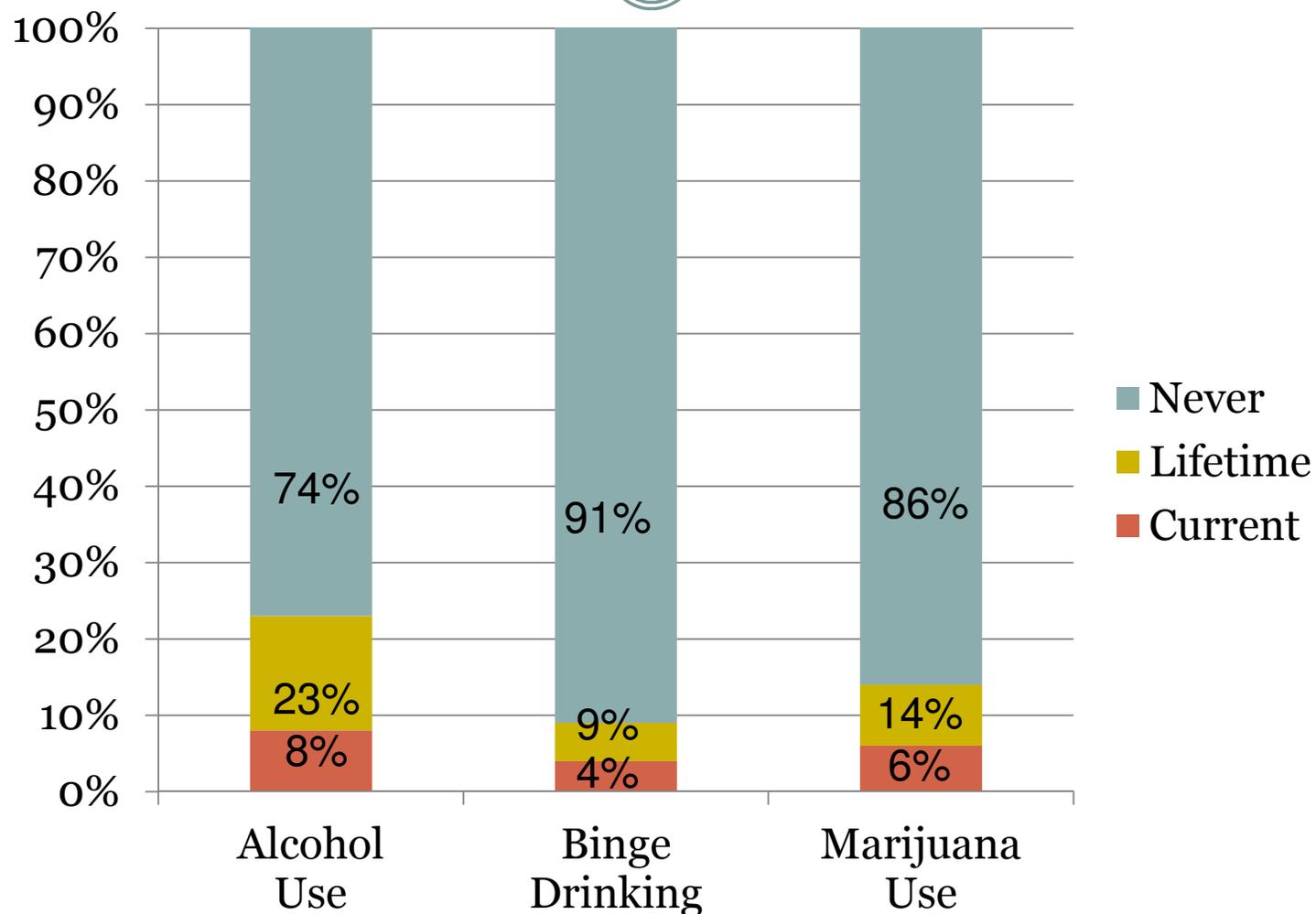
**PARENT-YOUTH
RELATIONSHIP**

**PARENT
SUBSTANCE USE**

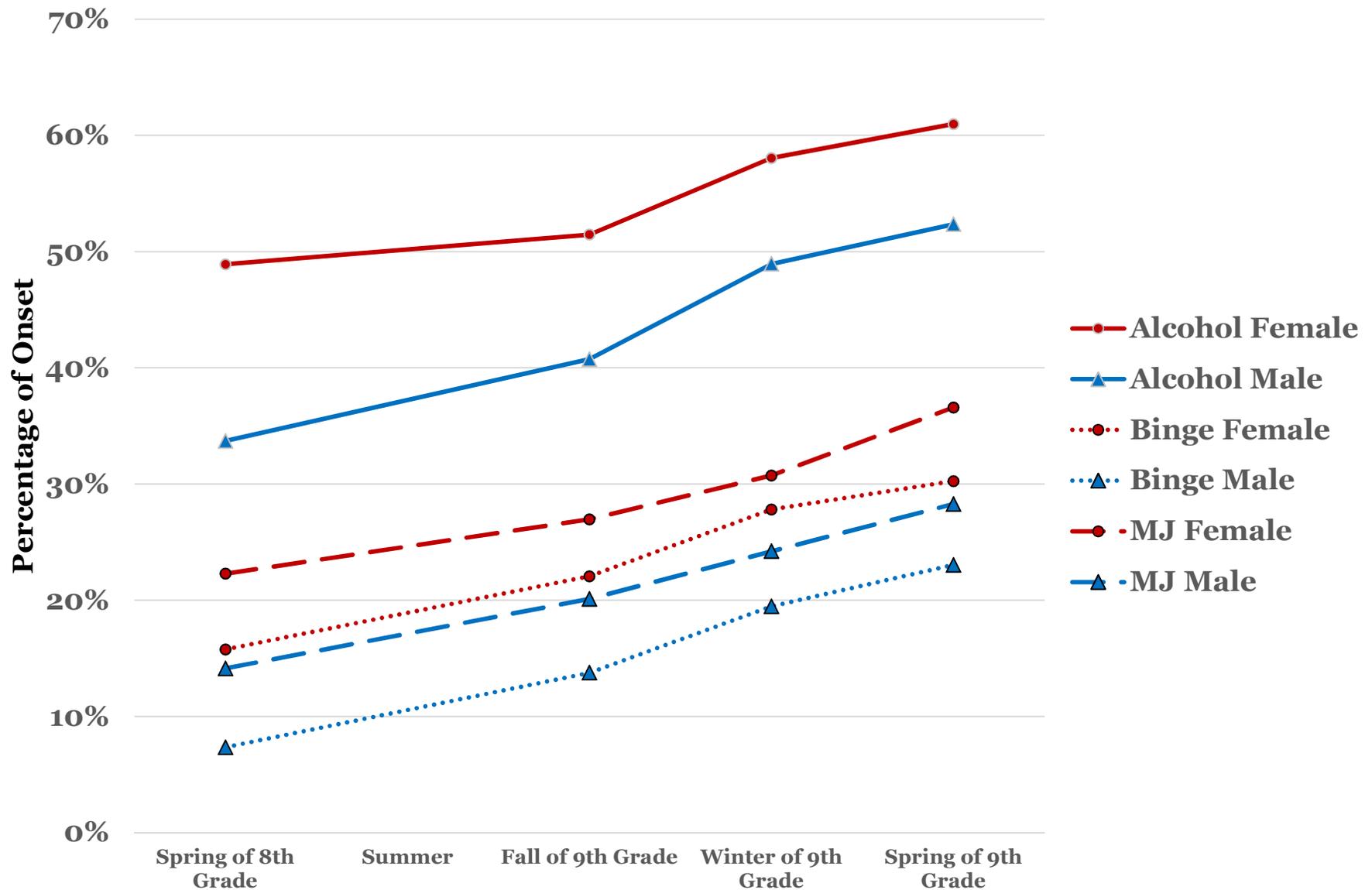
**TEENAGERS'
SUBSTANCE USE**

- Alcohol Use
- Binge Drinking
- Marijuana Use

Prevalence in U.S. 8th graders (age 13-14)



Prevalence of onset: teens in our study





Perspective matters: Monitoring Teens & parents don't always agree

- “How often do you or your partner know:
 - Who your child hangs out with during free time”
 - Where your child goes when he/she is out with friends at night”
 - What your child is doing when he/she is away from home”

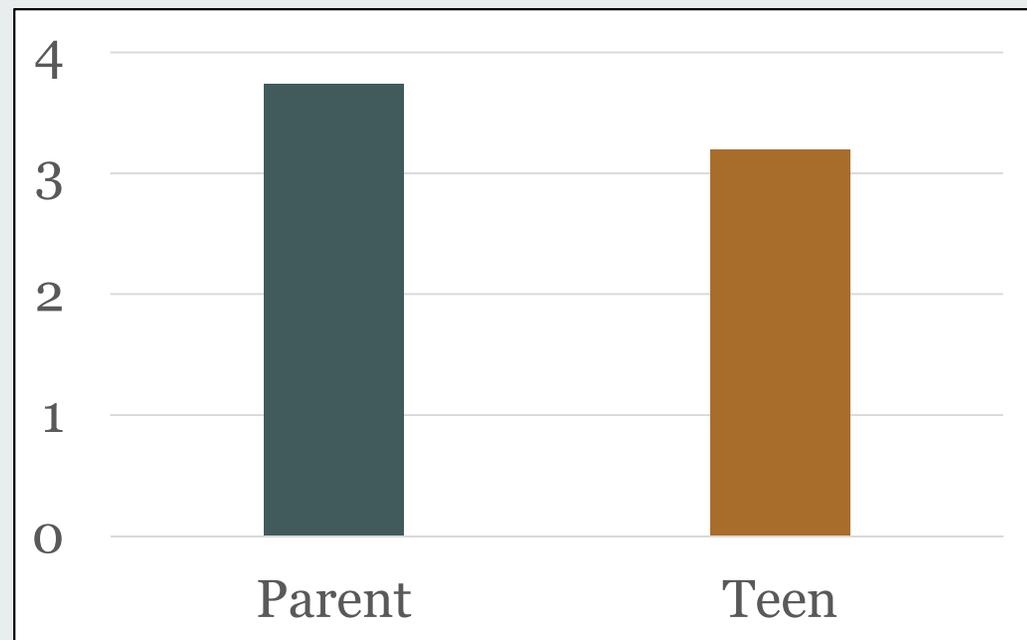
7 items

Almost never to
almost always

$$r = .32$$

$$t = -9.94$$

$$p < .001$$



Perspective matters: Relationship

Teens & parents don't always agree

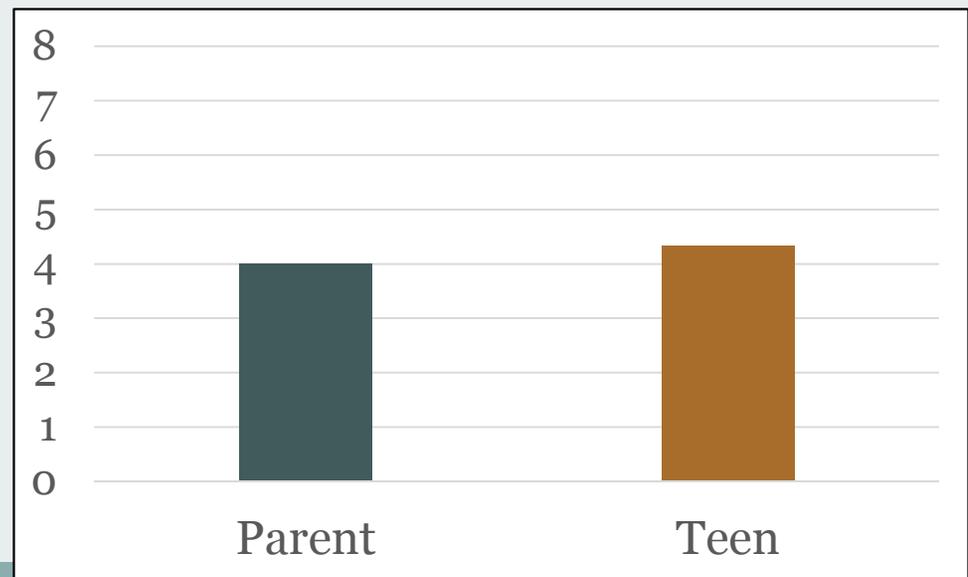


- Poor quality of relationships (19 items, True-False)
 - “We almost never seem to agree”
 - “My parent listens when I need someone to talk to”
 - “For the most part, my child likes to talk to me”
 - “My child/parent often seems angry at me”

$$r = .31$$

$$t = 2.69$$

$$p = .008$$



Hypotheses and Research Questions



- Teenagers' reports of monitoring and quality of relationship with their parent will be more predictive of teenager's alcohol use, binge drinking and marijuana use onset than parent reports.
- Parents' substance use will be predictive of their teenager's use of the same substance.
- Do the predictors of teenage alcohol use, binge drinking, and marijuana use differ by gender?

Predictors of Alcohol Use Onset



Discrete time survival model: grade 8 through 9

PARENT BINGE DRINKING



TEEN REPORT:
POOR RELATIONSHIP



TEEN REPORT:
POOR MONITORING



Predictors of Binge Drinking Onset



TEEN REPORT:
POOR RELATIONSHIP



TEEN REPORT:
POOR MONITORING



Predictors of Marijuana Use Onset



**PARENT REPORT:
POOR RELATIONSHIP**



**TEEN REPORT:
POOR RELATIONSHIP**



**TEEN REPORT:
POOR MONITORING**



Gender Differences: Stronger effect on girls



TEEN REPORT:
POOR RELATIONSHIP

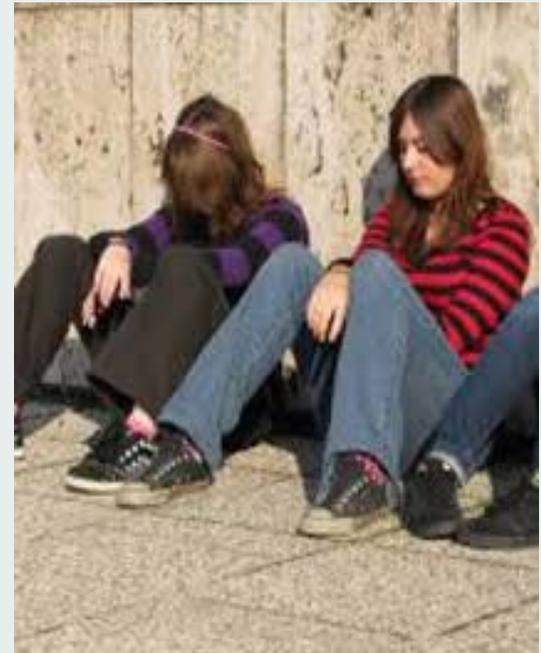
Alcohol

TEEN REPORT:
POOR MONITORING

Alcohol

TEEN REPORT:
POOR MONITORING

Marijuana



Implications for working with families



- Teen perspective of their relationship with their parent and parental monitoring matters.
- Attending to substance use in rural and suburban teenagers is important.
- Open and non-conflicting communication will help develop more positive relationships and effective monitoring, which impacts teen substance use, particularly for girls.
- Attend to parents' problem drinking too.





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