

Alcohol Consumption As A Generator Of Gender-Based Violence In Families In The Peruvian Jungle

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Citation: Juan Rafael Juarez Diaz, et al (2024), Alcohol Consumption as a Generator of Gender-Based Violence in Families in the Peruvian Jungle. Educational Administration: Theory and Practice, 30(7), 786-796

Doi: 10.53555/kuey.v30i7.6831

ARTICLE INFO

ABSTRACT

The objective of this study was to determine the relationship between alcohol consumption and gender-based violence in parents of the Antonio Raymondi Educational Institution, Cacatachi – 2023. The methodology used was basic, with a non-experimental design, cross-sectional and correlational. Parents from an educational institution in Cacatachi were considered as a sample, with a population of 256 fathers and mothers, and a random sample of 154 fathers and mothers, who make up a parental family. The data collection technique was the survey and the instrument was the questionnaire. For alcohol consumption, the WHO AUDIT questionnaire was used, analyzed in the Peruvian context by Colán & Rosario (2022). For gender-based violence, the questionnaire adapted by Juárez & Bardales (2021) was used. According to the results, there is a significant relationship between alcohol consumption and gender-based violence in parents of the Antonio Raymondi Secondary School in Cacatachi ($p=0.000$; $X^2=37,031$), alcohol consumption is also significantly linked to the dimensions of gender-based violence. It was concluded that the higher the alcohol consumption by the male partner, the greater the degree of gender-based violence in the female partner.

Keywords: Gender-based violence; Consumption; Alcohol; Spouse and Family

INTRODUCTION

Violence has been manifested throughout human existence, and although humanity has evolved, it remains a problem due to its frequency, particularly that directed at the female population, known as gender-based violence. According to Jaramillo and Canaval (2020) this term is used interchangeably with violence against women. This stems from the generation of its concept in relation to violence against women since the 1970s, coined by international bodies responsible for these issues. Despite advancements, this problem persists, emphasizing that the act is generally committed by males towards females, and as the World Health Organization (WHO, 2022a) refers, it is any act that generates physical pain, sexual or mental harm to a woman, including through threats and coercive acts that deprive her of her rights anywhere. It encompasses any physical, sexual, psychological, economic harm, and any suffering imposed on women in the form of limitations on their freedom in personal or social life (Ostadtaghizadeh et al., 2023), whether in a public or private setting, caused by a learned behavior of the perpetrator and other factors that perpetuate this issue, affecting the overall well-being of women (Castillo et al., 2018). Although it can also be seen in other individuals with diverse gender identities, affecting the right to life, morality, equity, integrity, to act on one's own decision with freedom, security, and respect (Jaramillo and Canaval, 2020).

These acts can be reinforced by the level of alcohol consumption of the individual, which is understood, according to Franjic (2021), as a leisure activity classified as a common pastime associated with socializing with friends in bars, nightclubs, and at dates or parties. Specifically, for Barradas et al. (2019), alcohol consumption is defined as the grams consumed of this substance or the alcohol content of the drink, which may vary in standard amount depending on the country. However, it is important for the study to consider what Duffy (2015) states, indicating that consuming this psychoactive substance is to self-administer it, affecting the body's organs, particularly the brain during its consumption, altering psychic functions and inducing repetitive consumption due to the perceived pleasure from it.

The prevalence of the problem associated with these variables is still frequent. In terms of gender-based violence, the WHO (2022b) reports that 33% of women worldwide suffer from some form of violence, especially within their intimate relationships. Elsaid et al. (2022) found a prevalence of violence against women in Egypt at 31% during the COVID-19 pandemic, with emotional violence being the most recurrent at 43.5%. Nationally, recent data from the Ministry of Health (Minsa, 2022) up to October 2022, showed that 86% of violence focused on women is generated in the family environment, caused by males in 83% of cases, with psychological violence prevailing (57.9%) followed by physical violence, totaling 17,000 cases. In the San Martín region, the Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations (MIMP, 2022) assisted up to 1,937 women who were victims of violence between January and August, with psychological violence being most common, suggesting there could be more unreported cases.

On the other hand, regarding alcohol consumption, according to PAHO (2022b) 54% of the total population are current drinkers and 17% are former drinkers. According to the World Bank (2018), individuals aged 15 and older drink an average of 6.4 liters per capita. Bonnechère et al. (2022) in Burkina Faso found that the average alcohol consumption was 18.1%, with high consumption at 5.8% and abusive consumption at 4.8% in a sample of 4,692 individuals; such consumption can vary with age and the use of other drugs such as tobacco. Quiroga et al. (2022) in Mexico found that 58.2% of males exhibit sensible alcohol consumption, followed by symptoms of dependency at 31.6% and harmful consumption at 8.2%; moreover, this consumption can increase when involved in a dysfunctional relationship. Eriksson et al. (2021) in Australia found that the majority (38.8%) of a sample of 302 homicidal offenders had elevated levels of alcohol consumption. They concluded that there is a high prevalence of alcohol consumption among individuals who have exhibited violent behaviors, even leading to homicide. In Peru, according to Minsa (2021) this consumption is linked to a high frequency of psychological problems along with the consumption of other substances, amounting to 55,000 cases, which involves a risk to others. According to the report by INEI set by Carhuavilca y Sánchez (2022) more than 90% of those over 15 years old drank alcohol at some point, especially within the urban area.

The consequences of alcohol consumption, as mentioned by the WHO (2022c) lead to a vast array of diseases and disorders, resulting in even 3 million deaths annually, along with social and economic losses. Specifically regarding the link between alcohol consumption and gender-based violence, according to the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO, 2022a) the harms caused by this substance consumption by male perpetrators can increase towards women. Studies on this subject, presented by Shiva et al. (2021) in their review on the association of these variables, concluded that alcohol is a factor in the perpetuation of gender-based violence and the struggle against victimization among women. Meanwhile, Pérez y Ramírez (2021) indicate that there is a link between substance consumption and violence, with alcohol being one of these drugs. Natera et al. (2021) in Mexico found a prevalence of 17.6% in violence towards women, with an increase in this if one of the partners consumed alcohol. Although the study by Miller et al. (2022) in Uganda found that 18.9% of women in a sample suffered intimate partner violence, despite high levels of alcohol consumption, no relationship was found between this and victimization, suggesting that high alcohol consumption in the sample may have masked differences in partner violence. Finally, Fabian et al. (2020) in Junín found that alcohol consumption is an influential factor in the type of intimate partner violence.

Regarding the theoretical foundation of alcohol consumption, the Expectancy Theory by Brown et al. (Salazar et al., 2018) can be considered, which suggests that if an individual has greater positive expectations when consuming alcohol, their desire to consume again will also increase, and if the expectations are negative, they will cease consumption. Another recent theory linked to the issue of violence is the Intoxication-Violence Model by Øverup and colleagues (Rivera-Rivera et al., 2021), which proposes that alcohol consumption is used to cope with a very complicated problem, leading to increased consumption and the generation of a violent environment. The Social Learning Theory is also considered important, indicating that recurrent alcohol consumption and aggressive behavior are due to influences from the sociocultural environment, which assumes that a person who drinks is aggressive and expects such behavior to occur, coupled with the expectations of the person consuming it (Llopis et al., 2014). Additionally, Castro-Ochoa & Moreta-Herrera (2023) mention that this theory emphasizes how the environment shapes individuals' thinking through observation and generates the observed phenomenon as a consequence. Therefore, if an individual believes that drinking alcohol is something that can be imitated, it is likely that they have observed it previously. Furthermore, Páez-Rodríguez et al. (2021) from a more specific aspect, state that this theory explains that an adult consumes alcohol because they observed their father consuming it during adolescence, thus reducing their perception of the risk associated with consumption.

Alcohol consumption is multifaceted, influenced by the desire for new experiences and the social environment. Biological, personal, familial, psychological, and social factors complete the picture (Ahumada-Cortez et al., 2017). Historically a male-dominated activity, its abuse affects both public and personal health (White, 2020; Almanza et al., 2022). The consequences extend beyond alcoholism, including social, legal, and health damages, with an elevated risk of aggressive sexual behavior in chronic drinkers (Franjic, 2021; Leone & Parrott, 2019).

The theoretical model for assessing the variable on alcohol consumption will be the one proposed by the WHO using the AUDIT instrument (Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test), which considers three dimensions. The first is risky alcohol consumption, which according to Herrera et al. (2019) consists of

behavioral patterns that may increase the likelihood of suffering physical and mental harm by the consumer, even if they are not dependent. This includes exposure to risky behaviors that can affect others, such as driving under the influence, using other narcotics, or engaging in risky sexual behavior. Additionally, as indicated by the WHO (Villanueva et al., 2021), it involves a pattern of consumption that increases the risks or likelihood of harm to the individual, even if they do not have any type of disorder. Indicators to consider include the frequency of consumption, the typical amount, and the frequency of heavy drinking episodes.

The second dimension involves symptoms of dependence, which combine behavioral, cognitive, and physiological expressions, where high alcohol consumption becomes a necessity. The individual intensely craves alcohol, struggles to control their consumption, drinks without considering the detrimental consequences, shows little interest in fulfilling responsibilities with a greater inclination to drink, experiences withdrawal symptoms when not consuming, and also demonstrates increased tolerance to alcohol (PAHO and WHO, 2018). The third and final dimension is harmful alcohol consumption, which manifests as a deterioration in the overall health of the consumer. Moreover, people begin to view this behavior as concerning, leading to criticism of the individual's actions and the problems they cause (PAHO and WHO, 2018). For the Ministry of Health of Chile (Colán and Rosario, 2022) it specifically refers to the mental and physical harm caused. The indicators include feelings of guilt about consumption, memory lapses, physical damage as a result of consumption, and concerns from others about the individual's situation.

Regarding theories of gender-based violence, the ecological model of violence against women, originally proposed by Urie Bronfenbrenner, is noteworthy. According to Enríquez-Canto et al. (2020) this model considers that an individual's development results from the interaction with various factors in a changing environment, in a continuous process of adaptation. Hurtado et al. (2023) discuss the different subsystems of Bronfenbrenner's theory, where the broadest system is the macrosystem, which encompasses the beliefs and values formed from ideologies that are constantly transmitted, which become normalized within a patriarchal society, reinforcing the notion that men dominate and control, thereby validating violence against women. According to Torrico and colleagues (Mancero et al., 2020) the macrosystem is a more distant environment, but it encompasses everything else and is shaped by culture, history, religion, and public entities. Following the macrosystem is the exosystem, which Hurtado et al. (2023) describe as determined by the social environment in which abused women may operate, but do not intervene. This system exhibits economic-focused violence, where women have few opportunities for development and education, which also restricts job opportunities. According to Torrico and colleagues (Mancero et al., 2020) the individual is not an active participant, but the situations that occur within do impact the environments in which they are involved.

Following the exosystem, the mesosystem highlights smaller social groups that can either support women or pose a risk when such groups prevent women from disengaging from violence or the violent environments they are exposed to. These groups are typically informal, unlike groups or associations that aim to reduce violence towards women (Hurtado et al., 2023). On the other hand, Torrico and colleagues (Mancero et al., 2020) mention that there are two microsystems linked within the mesosystem: the family, workplace, school, among other potential settings, where violence can also originate. Lastly, the microsystem of the family is the primary environment where an individual interacts and internalizes behaviors that may predispose men towards violent tendencies or women towards submission and vulnerability (Hurtado et al., 2023). According to Torrico and colleagues (Mancero et al., 2020) within this microsystem, women interact with their closest people and may receive support; however, they also experience interpersonal dynamics that create a specific family scenario, which may not always be favorable.

The dimensions considered in relation to gender-based violence are three, analyzed by the study of Juárez y Bardales (2021) to evaluate this variable. Thus, the first dimension is physical violence, which according to Gonzales (Juárez y Bardales, 2021) involves behavior that can cause harm to the body and health of another person, or in this case, a woman, causing injuries, even if they are not visible, as they involve various types of aggression, ranging from a mere push to the most severe consequence, which could be death. For Watts & Zimmerman (Sen & Bolsoy, 2017), physical violence is a means of intimidation, repression, and enforcement through brute force. According to Binfa et al. (2018) it includes hitting, kicking, and pushing. On the other hand, the study by Barraza et al. (2023) found that physical violence manifests as physical blows that can occur at any moment, putting women in a constant state of alert.

The dimension of psychological violence, according to Gonzales (Juárez y Bardales, 2021) encompasses both direct and indirect acts that can cause emotional harm to a woman, diminishing her self-esteem and negatively interfering with her holistic development. This involves restricting her freedom to act, as well as controlling her way of thinking and decision-making through threats, humiliations, isolating her from others, manipulation, and other actions that mentally harm her. On this aspect, Watts & Zimmerman (Sen & Bolsoy, 2017) describe it as the repression, punishment, and control of women through behavioral discourse. According to Binfa et al. (2018) it includes being treated rudely, being yelled at, or insulted. Barraza et al. (2023) note that psychological violence is the most damaging and also the most complex to detect since it does not leave visible marks.

Finally, the dimension of subtle or insidious violence, as described by Jara and Romero (Juárez y Bardales, 2021) represents a form of violence that is continuous, covert, and malicious. It involves aggression that continually manifests and leads the victim to self-harm. This type of violence persists even after the

perpetrator has ceased their actions and even after the abused woman has left the aggressor. According to Crespo (2019) it consists of small acts that occur on a daily basis and may seem normal. It primarily begins with disrespect, involving lying or manipulating, making the person feel bad through what is said, implied, or done with a look. Specifically, Hirigoyen (Marina y Rabanal, 2022) points out that it is an indirect violence that occurs primarily due to a lack of respect.

Among other types of violence, sexual violence is described by Watts & Zimmerman (Sen & Bolsoy, 2017) and Binfa et al. (2018) as the use of sexuality to threaten, oppress, or control, and may include acts of non-consensual sexual aggression. Additionally, economic violence, according to Watts & Zimmerman (Sen & Bolsoy, 2017) and Barraza et al. (2023), involves the use of economic control as a form of domination over women. The consequences of both physical and sexual violence are severe and include injuries, disability, and death, as well as psychological effects such as depression and anxiety. These psychological impacts are highlighted by Colque (2020) and García et al. (2020), who point out neuropsychological damage and stress-related memory disorders.

The aforementioned background and theories reflect a reality that is likely to be observed in the local environment, specifically within an educational institution, as evidenced in the testimonies of mothers during psychological orientation meetings. These mothers reported that their partners often exhibit violent behavior towards their children and themselves, in addition to arriving home intoxicated or frequently going out to consume alcohol with others. This situation underscores the need to understand the link between gender-based violence and alcohol consumption by their partners, in order to more accurately grasp this reality. This is especially crucial given the lack of current studies in this area on this issue, which could help the educational community to take future actions to improve this situation.

In light of this situation, the research question posed is: "What is the relationship between alcohol consumption and gender-based violence among parents of the Antonio Raymondi Educational Institution, Cacatachi – 2023?" Consequently, the study's objective was to determine the relationship between alcohol consumption and gender-based violence among parents at the Antonio Raymondi Educational Institution, Cacatachi – 2023. The specific objectives included assessing the frequency of both alcohol consumption and gender-based violence among the parents of the mentioned educational institution, as well as identifying the relationship between alcohol consumption and the dimensions of gender-based violence. The hypothesis considered is that these variables and dimensions are significantly associated.

METHOD

Participants

The participants for this study included parents of elementary school children from all grades at the Antonio Raymondi Educational Institution in Cacatachi. The criteria for participation required that the parents be part of a nuclear family, as they cohabit as a couple. A total of 256 pairs of parents were initially considered, excluding single parents and those from extended or blended families. The population was determined through a brief survey conducted among the students of the institution. The sample was selected using stratified random sampling, based on the grade level of each participant's child, resulting in a sample of 154 nuclear families, thus including 154 fathers and 154 mothers. The sample size was calculated using the Decision Analyst STATS 2.0 software.

Instruments

For assessing the variable of alcohol consumption, the study employed the Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT), originally developed by the World Health Organization in 2001, but updated by Colán and Rosario (2022). They demonstrated the psychometric properties of the instrument, confirming that no modifications were needed and that both its validity and reliability are appropriate. Permission for its use was duly obtained from the authors. The AUDIT instrument consists of a total of 10 items divided into three dimensions; risk alcohol consumption with 3 items, symptoms of dependence with 3 items and harmful consumption with 4 items.

The instrument uses an ordinal Likert-type scale with five response options and, in some cases, three, but all are scored equally from 0 to 4 points. The purpose of the AUDIT is to understand the degree of harmful alcohol consumption in individuals and it can be applied both individually and collectively. Regarding its psychometric properties, Colán and Rosario (2022) conducted a factor analysis and found adequate fit indices, determining that the instrument retains the number of items and the factors they belong to without any modifications. Additionally, it demonstrated a high level of content validity as assessed by five experts, and its reliability was greater than 0.86.

Regarding to the Gender-based violence variable, the study utilized the Gender-Based violence Type Assessment Scale (EETVG) originally designed by Jara and Romero in 2009 and later adapted by Juárez and Bardales (2021) for their use. Juárez and Bardales also determined that it had adequate psychometric properties for application, and they were the authors from whom permission to use the instrument was obtained. The instrument consists of 28 items distributed across three components: Physical Violence with 11 items; Psychological Violence with 9 items and Subtle or Insidious Violence with 8 items. The instrument employs an ordinal Likert-type response scale ranging from totally disagree (0) to totally agree (4). Its

purpose is to assess the level of gender-based violence and is applied to women both individually and collectively.

Regarding its psychometric properties, Juárez and Bardales (2021) conducted a factor analysis with the help of expert judgment, which was found to be suitable, particularly demonstrating that the three-factor model with 23 items had appropriate scores. Additionally, the overall reliability of the instrument was found to be very high, with a Cronbach's alpha coefficient of 0.96, indicating excellent internal consistency.

In addition to these data, the instruments were validated through the judgment of five experts, which corresponds to content validity. They found a validity coefficient according to Aiken's V test of 1 for both instruments, after making the experts' corrections. The reliability of the instruments was also assessed by conducting a pilot test on 30 parents (both fathers and mothers), to analyze the responses using the Cronbach's alpha coefficient, yielding reliability indices above 0.8 for both instruments, indicating high reliability.

PROCEDURE

Procedure

The procedure followed to achieve the study objectives began with the review of the literature and the appropriate instruments already mentioned, which met the requirements for analyzing information about the observed and detailed problem. After identifying these instruments, permissions were requested from the respective authors. With the instruments authorized for use, they were validated through expert judgment and then their reliability was tested with a pilot test. Once it was verified that the instruments were suitable for use, permissions were obtained from the educational institution under study to administer the questionnaires and to use the institutional name with their authorization. Following this, a brief survey was conducted within the institution to identify nuclear families. The instruments were then applied in person during meetings scheduled by the institution and, in some cases, personally in their homes with the address provided by the school. This process was carried out considering the consent of the participants, who were informed about the purpose of the study. In this way, the basic ethical principles in research involving people were adhered to, respecting their autonomy to participate, the confidentiality of the data provided, fair and equal treatment, and the pursuit of maximum benefit and no harm to them. After the surveys were collected, it was verified that all were fully completed for subsequent analysis.

Data Analysis

After collecting the data, two types of statistical analyses were employed. Descriptive statistics were used to present the state of the variables according to the levels established in the study instruments. For this purpose, the information from the responses was stored in Microsoft Excel, aggregating these responses both at the level of variables and dimensions to obtain direct scores. In this case, only the direct scores of the variables in general were analyzed to establish their frequencies and percentages corresponding to this type of statistic. Subsequently, inferential statistics were developed using the information on the final values of the variables and dimensions stored in Microsoft Excel, which were transferred to SPSS version 26 for analysis, employing the Chi-square test to corroborate the relationship. Both descriptive and inferential results were presented in tables with their interpretation.

RESULTS

After analyzing the data, the following results were obtained in accordance with the study objectives. Regarding the general objective, the Chi-square test (X^2) in Table 1 shows that there is a significant relationship between alcohol consumption and gender-based violence, with a p-value of .000 and a Chi-square (X^2) of 37.031. Thus, the study hypothesis is accepted, indicating that higher alcohol consumption by male partners is associated with a higher range of gender-based violence towards female partners.

Table 1: Relationship between Alcohol Consumption and Gender-Based Violence

Statistic	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (two-tailed)
Pearson Chi-square	37,031 ^a	4	.000
Likelihood Ratio	39.139	4	.000
Linear-by-Linear Association	35.555	1	.000
Number of Valid Cases	154		

Note: 3 cells (33.3%) have an expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 0.90.

As for the first specific objective, there is a prevalence of high alcohol consumption among the surveyed fathers at 59.09%, followed by a very low level at 38.96%. This indicates a significant distinction between individuals who drink very occasionally and those who do so very frequently.

The second specific objective was developed regarding the level of gender-based violence among women surveyed from the Antonio Raymondi Educational Institution in Cacatachi. there is a prevalence of low level

gender-based violence at 38.31%, followed by a medium level at 29.87% and a high level at 31.82%. This indicates a certain homogeneity among the levels of violence.

Table 1: Relationship between Alcohol Consumption and Physical Violence

Statistic	Value	df	Asymptotic (two-tailed)	Significance
Pearson Chi-square	15.643 ^a	4	0.004	
Likelihood Ratio	15.773	4	0.003	
Linear-by-Linear Association	14.216	1	0.000	
Number of Valid Cases	154			

Note: 3 cells (33.3%) have expected counts less than 5. The minimum expected count is 0.86.

In Table 2, it is observed that there is a relationship between alcohol consumption and the dimension of physical violence, with a p-value of .004 and a Chi-square (X^2) of 15.643, which is higher than the tabular X^2 of 9.488.

Table 3: Relationship between Alcohol Consumption and Psychological Violence

Statistic	Value	df	Asymptotic (two-tailed)	Significance (two-tailed)
Pearson Chi-square	27.410 ^a	4	0.000	
Likelihood Ratio	29.464	4	0.000	
Linear-by-Linear Association	27.223	1	0.000	
Number of Valid Cases	154			

Note: 3 cells (33.3%) have expected counts less than 5. The minimum expected count is 0.94.

In Table 3, there is a relationship between alcohol consumption and the dimension of psychological violence, with a p-value of .000 and a Chi-square (X^2) of 27.410, also higher than the tabular X^2 of 9.488. In Table 4, there is a relationship between alcohol consumption and the dimension of subtle violence, with a p-value of .004 and a Chi-square (X^2) of 32.660, again higher than the tabular X^2 of 9.488

Table 4: Relationship between Alcohol Consumption and Subtle Violence

Statistic	Value	df	Asymptotic (two-tailed)	Significance
Pearson Chi-square	32.660 ^a	4	0.000	
Likelihood Ratio	34.770	4	0.000	
Linear-by-Linear Association	32.069	1	0.000	
Number of Valid Cases	154			

Note: 3 cells (33.3%) have expected counts less than 5. The minimum expected count is 0.88.

DISCUSSION

From the findings of this study, a discussion of the results is conducted, starting with the general objective, which was to determine the relationship between the variables. It was found that both variables are significantly related, interpreting that the greater the alcohol consumption by the male partner, the more frequent will be the gender-based violence perceived by female partners. This finding aligns with the results of Quiroga et al. (2022), who concluded that alcohol consumption is associated with having a dysfunctional relationship with one's partner. Similarly, Fabian et al. (2020) concluded that there are multiple factors that cause gender-based violence, among which is the alcohol consumption of the partner in social activities. Moreover, Pérez and Ramírez (2021) found a significant link between alcohol consumption and various forms of violence, with this relationship being very high.

However, this contrasts with the results of Miller et al. (2022), who found that alcohol consumption is not associated with victimization in women due to violence, possibly because the sample they had included high alcohol consumption which may not reveal any differences related to this type of violence. The theoretical support that reinforces these findings is found in the theory of Øverup and colleagues (Rivera-Rivera et al., 2021) regarding the intoxication-violence model, which mentions that people consume alcohol to cope with their problems, leading to progressively higher intake and promoting a violent environment. The social learning theory also explains that frequent consumption of this substance and violent behavior is influenced by culture, which reinforces the fact that a person who drinks is going to be aggressive, expecting such behavior to occur, adding to the expectations held by the consuming individual, which can facilitate the enactment of violence (Llopis et al., 2014). Additionally, as Franjic (2021) noted, when a person is intoxicated with alcohol, it is possible that their behavior may change and cause legal and social harm, with negative consequences towards themselves or others, as well as reinforcing psychological disorders, impulsive behaviors, or physical discomforts due to alcohol.

The empirical studies previously cited demonstrate the association that exists between these variables, which suggests that indeed, alcohol consumption is linked to violence towards women, as indicated by the intoxication-violence model. Violent behaviors are promoted by this consumption, especially when under the influence of alcohol. However, it appears that in cases where the frequency of alcohol consumption is excessive, the relationship with the violence perceived by a woman is not significant. This could be explained by the social learning theory, as people in a social environment may have learned that high alcohol consumption is normal, and despite this, the women in their environment may or may not perceive violence. Thus, it also helps to understand the sociocultural context of any population that needs to be studied.

Regarding the first specific objective, a prevalent high level of alcohol consumption was found among the respondents, followed by a very low level, with virtually no medium and low levels, indicating a significant difference between those who consume alcohol problematically and those who do not, with high consumption being more frequent. This finding is similar to the study by Eriksson et al. (2021) and Quiroga et al. (2022), which also found high levels of consumption to be prevalent, but differs slightly from the study by Bonnechère et al. (2022) in Africa, where consumption is minimal. Nevertheless, it is evident that consumption tends to be very frequent in many places, including in the population of the current study, which can be explained according to the expectancy theory. This consumption is due to the fact that many people do not perceive negative experiences at the time that punish their consumption, thus reinforcing their behavior (Salazar et al., 2018), perceiving that they can consume without any risk, especially in males who have long had the habit of drinking alcohol (White, 2020).

Regarding the second specific objective, a prevalent low level of gender-based violence was found, however, similar scores were observed at low and medium levels, with almost a third at each level. This indicates that still, one in every three women in the sample perceives high-level violence, and the rest at subsequent levels. This finding is similar to the studies by Elsaid et al. (2022), Natera et al. (2021), and Miller et al. (2022), which found in all cases more than 15% of respondents affirming they had experienced violence. This can also be explained by Bronfenbrenner's theory, which suggests that violence still persists because the various subsystems of a society transmit ideas that normalize violence towards women in all its aspects (Hurtado et al., 2023). Thus, it is observed that gender-based violence, particularly directed towards women, still prevails both in the present context and in other parts of the world, and it should be a concern for nations to take actions that minimize these acts.

Lastly, the third specific objective addressed the relationship between alcohol consumption and the dimensions of gender-based violence, finding that this relationship is significant. Thus, the more alcohol consumed by the partner, the higher the likelihood of physical, psychological, and subtle violence increases. As previously mentioned, there is a relationship between the study variables, which suggests that this relationship also exists within its components, although there are hardly any current studies linking with the dimensions proposed. Pérez and Ramírez (2021) found that alcohol consumption is linked to the different expressions of violence perceived by women, physically, psychologically, and sexually, with this relationship being very high. Similarly, the theoretical frameworks discussed, such as the intoxication-violence theory or social learning theory, suggest that alcohol consumption, considered normal by society and especially when in a state of intoxication, can lead to violent acts directed towards women because they are perceived, through social learning, as inferior in society.

It is important to note that this research had some limitations regarding the available information about the link between the variables and the dimensions considered in the study, which limited the ability to compare the findings specifically within those dimensions, suggesting that more research is needed. However, the studies used were the most suitable and relevant to the topic, thus allowing for a discussion of the findings and demonstrating that it is a contribution to the scientific community. Regarding the implications of the study based on the findings, it is suggested to improve the identification of problems related to gender-based violence and alcohol consumption, particularly by focusing on educating fathers, more so than mothers, in order to reduce the risks associated with these issues. It is advised to conduct individual interviews with fathers who show indicators of these problems, thereby supporting the students. It is crucial to be aware of the damage that alcohol abuse can cause and not to silence violence, reporting it when necessary. It is also recommended to expand the research with studies involving larger populations and experimental designs to evaluate how certain variables can reduce alcohol consumption in men.

Recognitions

A special thank you to the students of Cesar Vallejo University for supporting the collection of information

Conflict of interest.

Authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.

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