



Parental Drinking and Future Alcohol Dependence among Adolescents with and without Antisocial Personality Disorder



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Introduction

- Around 7.5 million children of the ages 17 and under have lived in a household with a parent suffering from an alcohol abuse disorder (Lipari & Van Horn, 2017).
- Intergenerational influence is a contributor to future adolescent alcohol abuse because early alcohol exposure from parental figures leaves a lasting impact on impressionable, young children (Kerr, et al., 2012).
- While this association is accepted in literature, there is minimal information on whether being diagnosed with antisocial personality disorder may be a contributor to future adolescent alcohol consumption.
- Antisocial personality disorder may cause children to be more vulnerable to developing a future drinking problem.

Methods

Sample

- Young adults (age 18 to 25) who had been raised by either an alcoholic father (n=8124) or an alcoholic mother (n=2311) were drawn from the first wave of the National Epidemiologic Study of Alcohol and Related Conditions (NESARC).
- NESARC is a nationally representative sample of non-institutionalized adults in the U.S.

Measures

- **Consumption frequency during heaviest period of drinking** and **Drinking to feel intoxicated** were measured with a series of questions pertaining to how often a respondent had drank in the past year, ranging from 1 (Every Day) up to 10 (1 to 2 times a year).
- These two variables were aggregated into **Alcohol consumption**, which reduces the meaning of the quantitative test coefficients (don't represent any measurable characteristics).
- **Having lived with an Alcoholic parent** was recorded on a range that included 0 (Neither), 1 (Both), 2 (Alcoholic Father), 3 (Alcoholic Mother).
- **Sex** was categorized into two groups and recorded on a range that included 1 (Male) and 2 (Female).
- **Antisocial Personality Disorder** was also categorized into two groups and recorded on a range that included 0 (No) and 1 (Yes).

Research Questions

- Is there a relationship between parental alcohol abuse and their adolescents developing a future drinking problem?
- Does the association between being raised by a parent who suffered from a drinking problem and future alcohol consumption differ for individuals with and without antisocial personality disorder?
- Is the Sex of an individual a contributing factor to the development of future alcohol dependence?

Results

Univariate

- 3.3% of respondents suffer from antisocial personality disorder.
- 43% identified as a Male while the other 57% are females.
- 80% of respondents admitted to drinking at least once a year during their period of heaviest drinking.
- 62% claimed to have consumed alcohol with the intention of getting intoxicated at least once in the past year.

Bivariate

- An ANOVA analysis showed that having antisocial personality disorder is **significantly associated** with alcohol consumption ($F=559.69$, $p<0.001$).
- ANOVA analysis demonstrated that there is a **significant association** between having alcoholic parents and alcohol consumption ($F=112$, $p<0.001$).
- Additionally, the ANOVA analysis showed that adolescent experience **alcoholism to larger extent** if both parents had a drinking problem, followed by people with only their mother drinking, then people with only their father drinking, and finally people with neither parents experiencing alcoholism ($p<0.05$).

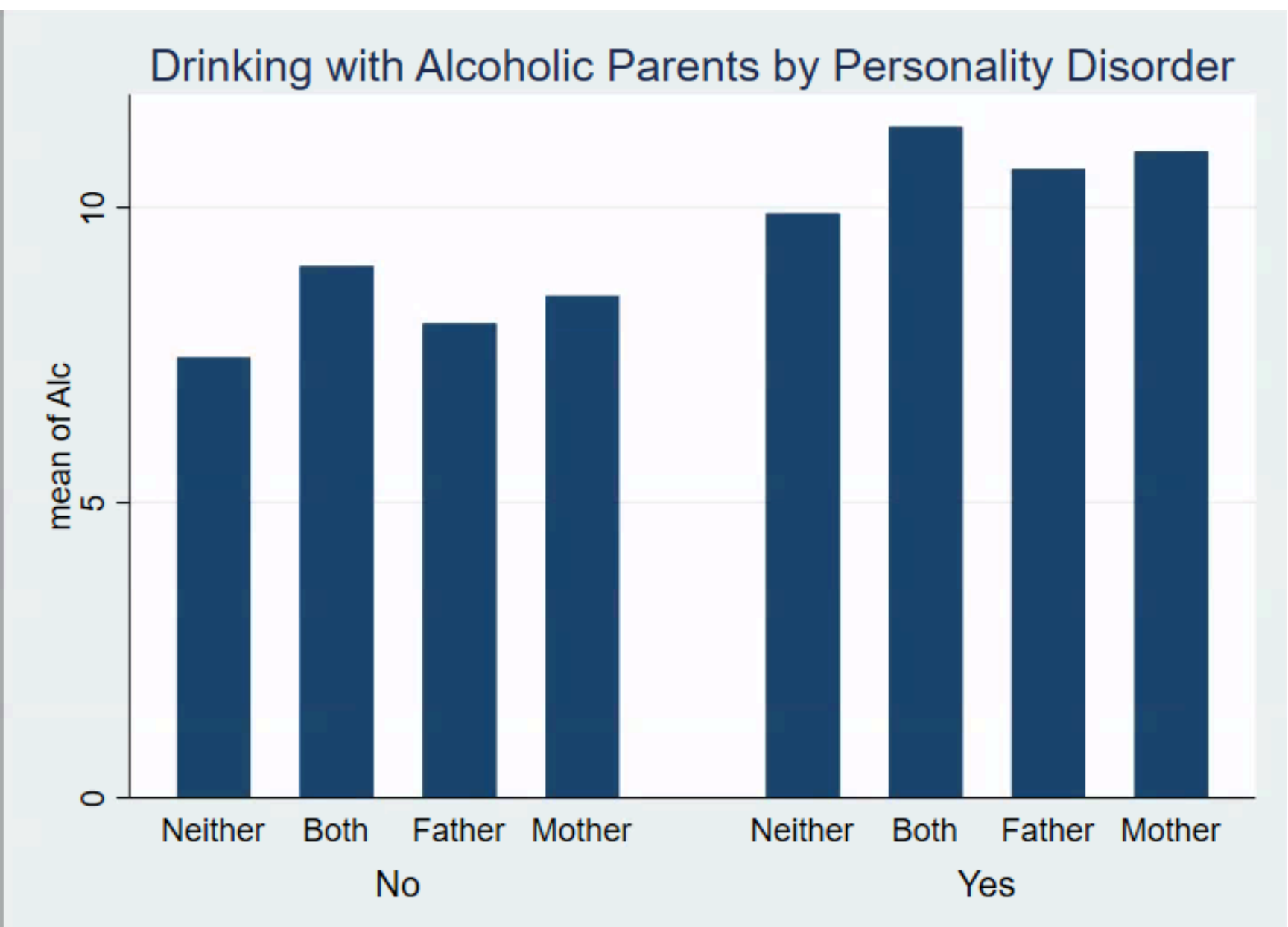


Figure 1: Parents with drinking problems and future alcohol consumption differed by having or not having antisocial personality disorder

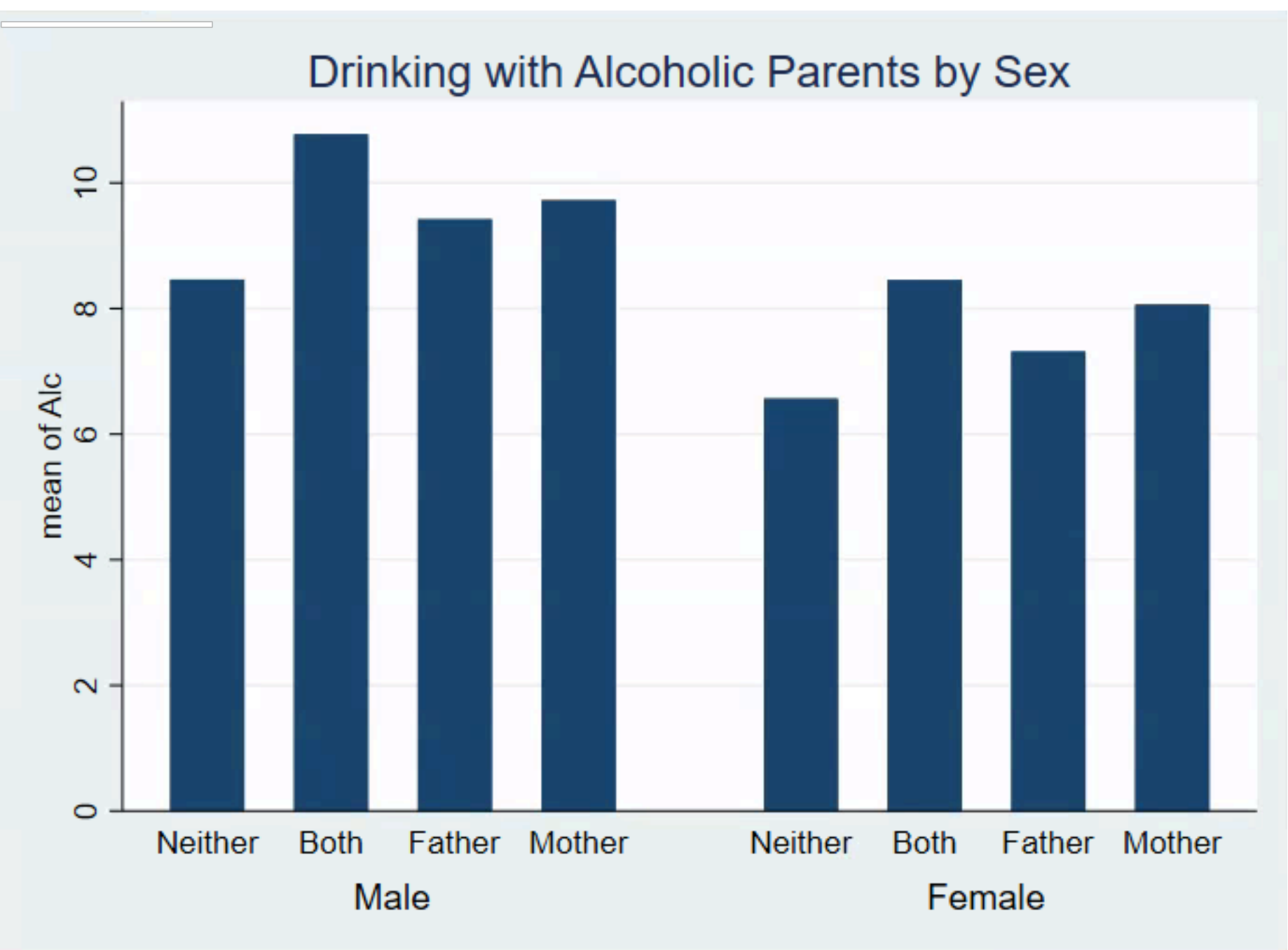


Figure 2: Parents with drinking problems and future alcohol consumption differed by sex

Multivariate

- Multiple Linear Regression demonstrates that respondents who suffer from antisocial personality disorder engage in future alcohol consumption to a larger extent than those who do not (Figure 1).
- Multiple Linear Regression also shows that Males drink more than Females (Figure 2).
- All of the variables (Sex, Antisocial personality disorder, Alcohol consumption, and Alcoholic parents) are **statistically significant** with one another ($p<0.001$).

Discussion

- Adolescents raised by both an alcoholic mother and father will drink the most in the future.
- It is clear that parental alcohol abuse has a major impact on their child developing a future drinking problem.
- Suffering from antisocial personality disorder causes individuals to consume alcohol at a larger extent than those who are not diagnosed with this mental illness.
- The sex of an individual plays a role in future alcohol usage, as males consume a larger amount than females.
- Further research is needed to determine what interventions would be most effective in removing children diagnosed with antisocial personality disorder from alcoholic households.
- Parents with a child that suffers from antisocial personality disorder might use this information in order to understand that exposing them to alcohol may lead to future alcohol dependence.

Lipari, R.N. and S.L. Van Horn. *Children living with parents who have a substance use disorder*. Rockville, MD: U.S. , The CBHSQ Report, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, August 24th, 2017.
Kerr, D., et al., *Intergenerational influences on early alcohol use: Independence from the problem behavior pathway*. US National Library of Medicine National Institutes of Health, 2012. 24(3): p. 889-906