

Sex-Related Alcohol Expectancies Among Adolescents: I. Scale Development

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A measure of sex-related alcohol expectancies was developed with a representative sample of 916 sexually experienced adolescents (13 to 19 years) who had ever consumed alcohol. Expectancy items represented 3 domains: enhancement of sexual experience, increased sexual risk taking, and disinhibition of sexual behaviors. Confirmatory analyses showed that a 3-factor model provided a good fit to the data. Adequate reliability and low- to-moderate correlation among the expectancy measures were also demonstrated. Expectancies for sexual risk taking and disinhibition were found to be more strongly endorsed by male than by female respondents, although these differences were stronger among Black than among White adolescents and increased with age. Overall, results suggest that these scales may have substantial utility for future research.

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