

Honor's Day Proposal – Victoria LeCureux

My research project is titled “Adverse Childhood Experiences and Drug and Alcohol Use in a Sample of U.S. College Students.” In this research, I am studying the potential effects of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) on drug use and alcohol use in U.S. traditional-age college students. The central question that my research addresses is: What are the associations between adverse childhood experiences and drug and alcohol use in U.S. college students? While research on adverse childhood experiences and drug use and alcohol use is well known, there is not a lot of research observing the potential effects between these topics, especially in traditional-age college students. My research aims to fill these gaps of knowledge and contribute to the academic conversation on the pervasive effects of adverse childhood experiences.

The method of research used was a survey format. The questionnaires used are the Adverse Childhood Experiences Questionnaire, the Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT), and the Drug Abuse Screening Test (DAST-10). This study used a sample of 144 participants. Data from 162 participants was collected and from that group, 144 of the participants had filled out more than 80% of the survey, completed the attention checks correctly, are between the ages of 18-25, are enrolled as an undergraduate student at a college or university, and live in the U.S. This study found that adverse childhood experiences were significantly related to problematic drug use but were not significantly related to alcohol use.