



The association between parental and child alcohol consumption: Trends from Growing Up in Ireland

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Fás Aníos in Éirinn
Growing Up in Ireland

ALCOHOL RISKS

- Causal relationship with 200+ **negative health outcomes**
 - Injury, traffic incidents, cancers, CVD, liver disease, mental health conditions
- **Ireland:** 3 alcohol-related deaths per day, 70% under-65yrs (HSE)
- Irish people consume relatively higher levels of alcohol
 - 7th/189 for alcohol consumption per capita (WHO)

YOUNG PEOPLE & ALCOHOL

- Legal to buy from 18yrs, can consume at younger age (with parental consent)
 - First harmful, addictive substance (mis)used in adolescence
- **Risks:** injury, crime, dependence, mental health, cognitive impairment
- **Ireland:** similar drinking frequency to int'l peers but more likely to binge drink
 - 7th/35 for drunkenness (2019 ESPAD report)

PARENT'S IMPACT ON CHILD DRINKING

1) Parental Drinking Behaviour

- Parental problem drinking linked to child problem drinking

2) Parent's Attitude

- Providing alcohol to child linked to onset age
- Liberal attitude (approval of use, lack of strict clear rules) linked to problem drinking

3) Parent-Child Relationship

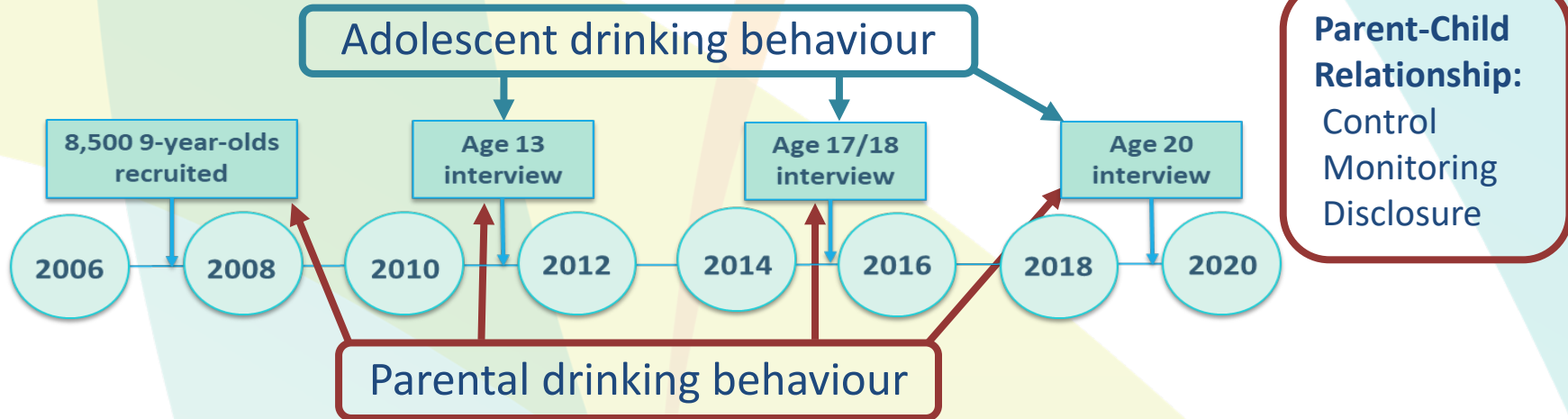
- Problem drinking can potentially be **mitigated by good parent-child relationship**
 - High parental monitoring / Good communication

Q. Is there an association between child & parental drinking behaviour, and is it moderated by good parent-child relationship?

METHODS

GUI: National longitudinal study of children and young people

- Two cohorts recruited in 2007
 - **Cohort '98** (n ≈ 8,500)
- Fixed-panel: same children interviewed (CAPI/CASI) every few years
- **Topics:** health; well-being; education; civic engagement; family background



AUDIT Screening Tool

Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT)

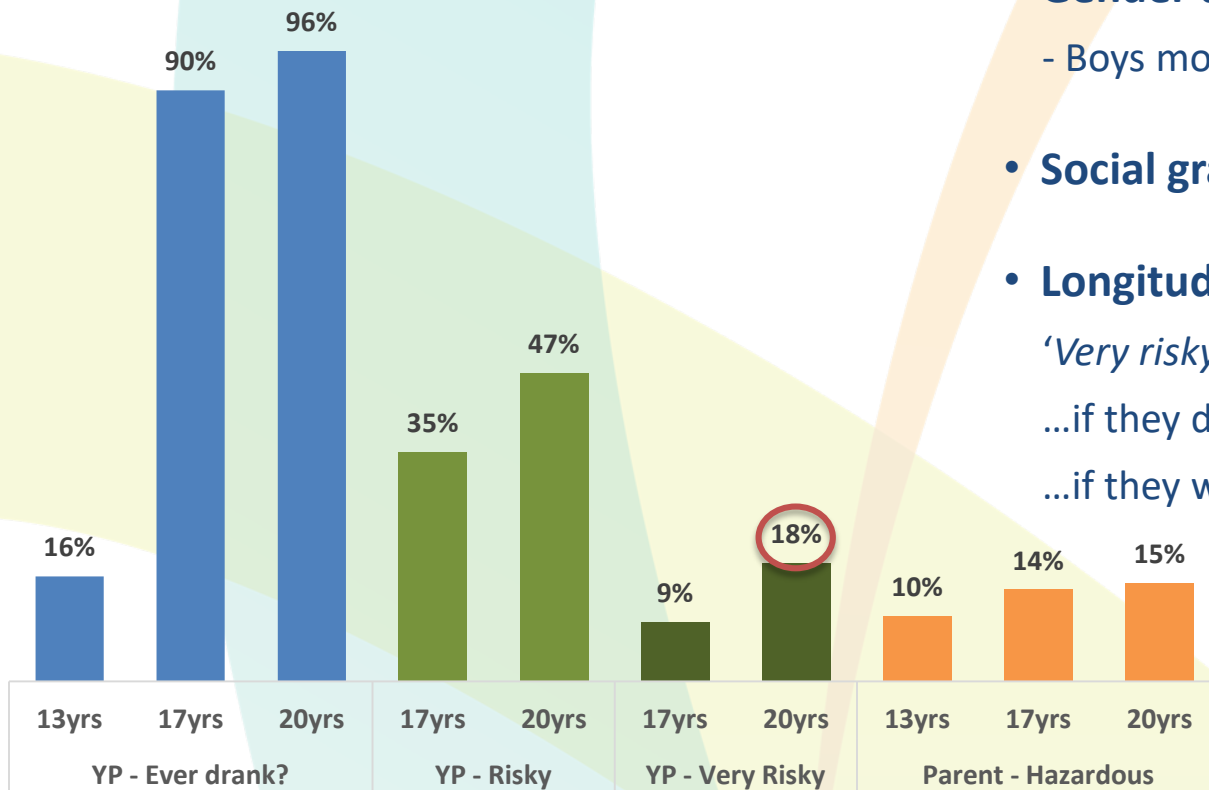
- Developed by the WHO, helps categorize drinking behaviour

10 questions relating to...

- How much you drink – regularity / amount?
- Negative outcomes caused by excessive drinking
 - unable to stop drinking once you started?
 - feelings of guilt or remorse?
 - caused injury to you or someone else?
 - relative/friend/doctor concerned about your drinking?

No / Low risk → Risky / Hazardous → Very risky / Alcohol dependence

FINDINGS



- **Gender** difference persists
 - Boys more likely to drink earlier/more
- **Social gradient** switches direction
- **Longitudinal trends**
 - 'Very risky' at 20...
 - ...if they drank before 15 = 30%
 - ...if they were 'very risky' at 17 = 51%

PARENT-CHILD INTERACTIONS, 17yrs

Total, Regression – 17-year-old 'very risky' drinker

		Unadjusted Odds Ratio	Mother – Fully Adjusted Odds Ratio	Father – Fully Adjusted Odds Ratio
Parental Drinking Behaviour	Mother - problem drinker	1.54**		
	Father - problem drinker	1.29		
Parent-Child Relationship Quality	Parental control			
	Maternal monitoring			
	Maternal disclosure			
	Paternal monitoring			
	Paternal disclosure			

PARENT-CHILD INTERACTIONS, 17yrs

Total, Regression – 17-year-old 'very risky' drinker

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	Paternal disclosure			

PARENT-CHILD INTERACTIONS, 17yrs

Total, Regression – 17-year-old 'very risky' drinker

		Unadjusted Odds Ratio	Mother – Fully Adjusted Odds Ratio	Father – Fully Adjusted Odds Ratio
Parental Drinking Behaviour	Mother - problem drinker	1.54**	1.52*	
	Father - problem drinker	1.29	-	
Parent-Child Relationship Quality	Parental control		0.97**	
	Maternal monitoring		0.97*	
	Maternal disclosure		0.93**	
	Paternal monitoring		-	
	Paternal disclosure		-	

PARENT-CHILD INTERACTIONS, 17yrs

Total, Regression – 17-year-old ‘very risky’ drinker

		Unadjusted Odds Ratio	Mother – Fully Adjusted Odds Ratio	Father – Fully Adjusted Odds Ratio
Parental Drinking Behaviour	Mother - problem drinker	1.54**	1.52*	-
	Father - problem drinker	1.29	-	1.24
Parent-Child Relationship Quality	Parental control		0.97**	0.96**
	Maternal monitoring		0.97*	-
	Maternal disclosure		0.93**	-
	Paternal monitoring		-	0.97*
	Paternal disclosure		-	0.97

PARENT-CHILD INTERACTIONS, 17yrs

Females only, Regression – 17-year-old 'very risky' drinker

		Unadjusted Odds Ratio	Mother – Fully Adjusted Odds Ratio	Father – Fully Adjusted Odds Ratio
Parental Drinking Behaviour	Mother - problem drinker	1.98**		
	Father - problem drinker	1.53		
Parent-Child Relationship Quality	Parental control			
	Maternal monitoring			
	Maternal disclosure			
	Paternal monitoring			
	Paternal disclosure			

PARENT-CHILD INTERACTIONS, 17yrs

Females only, Regression – 17-year-old 'very risky' drinker

		Unadjusted Odds Ratio	Mother – Fully Adjusted Odds Ratio	Father – Fully Adjusted Odds Ratio
Parental Drinking Behaviour	Mother - problem drinker	1.98**	1.74*	
	Father - problem drinker	1.53	-	
Parent-Child Relationship Quality	Parental control		0.96*	
	Maternal monitoring		1.00	
	Maternal disclosure		0.87**	
	Paternal monitoring		-	
	Paternal disclosure		-	

PARENT-CHILD INTERACTIONS, 17yrs

Females only, Regression – 17-year-old 'very risky' drinker

		Unadjusted Odds Ratio	Mother – Fully Adjusted Odds Ratio	Father – Fully Adjusted Odds Ratio
Parental Drinking Behaviour	Mother - problem drinker	1.98**	1.74*	-
	Father - problem drinker	1.53	-	1.46
Parent-Child Relationship Quality	Parental control		0.96*	0.98
	Maternal monitoring		1.00	-
	Maternal disclosure		0.87**	-
	Paternal monitoring		-	0.97
	Paternal disclosure		-	0.94

PARENT-CHILD INTERACTIONS, 17yrs

Males only, Regression – 17-year-old 'very risky' drinker

		Unadjusted Odds Ratio	Mother – Fully Adjusted Odds Ratio	Father – Fully Adjusted Odds Ratio
Parental Drinking Behaviour	Mother - problem drinker	1.27		
	Father - problem drinker	1.15		
Parent-Child Relationship Quality	Parental control			
	Maternal monitoring			
	Maternal disclosure			
	Paternal monitoring			
	Paternal disclosure			

PARENT-CHILD INTERACTIONS, 17yrs

Males only, Regression – 17-year-old 'very risky' drinker

		Unadjusted Odds Ratio	Mother – Fully Adjusted Odds Ratio	Father – Fully Adjusted Odds Ratio
Parental Drinking Behaviour	Mother - problem drinker	1.27	1.31	-
	Father - problem drinker	1.15	-	1.08
Parent-Child Relationship Quality	Parental control		0.97*	0.95**
	Maternal monitoring		0.95**	-
	Maternal disclosure		0.97	-
	Paternal monitoring		-	0.96
	Paternal disclosure		-	0.99

SUMMARY

- **Worrying drinking behaviour**
 - Longitudinal effect: early onset & risky drinking **linked to later risky drinking**
- **Parent drinking behaviour** predicts child drinking behaviour
 - R'ship only observed between **mother and daughter**
- **Good parent-child relationship** has protective effect
 - Some evidence of **moderation of the effect** of parent drinking
- **Future Research:**
 - Parental attitudes
 - What factors are impacted male problem drinking?
 - Negative health outcomes

Thank You

- colleagues at DCEDIY, CSO, ESRI, TCD
- participant children and families

Happy to take questions, or for more info...

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- www.growingup.gov.ie

PARENT-CHILD INTERACTIONS

17-YEAR-OLD DRINKING 'HIGH RISK'			
	Unadjusted OR	Adjusted OR Mother	Adjusted OR Father
Mother's drinking 'hazardous'	1.54**	1.52**	
Father's drinking 'hazardous'	1.29		1.24
Gender (male)	1.50**	1.26	1.38*
Age (17)	0.74*	0.77	0.81
Family structure (lone)	1.46**	1.27	1.48
Parental monitoring (high)	0.93**	0.97*	0.97*
Parental disclosure (high)	0.91**	0.93**	0.97
Parental control (high)	0.95**	0.97**	0.96**

PARENT-CHILD INTERACTIONS, 20yrs

Regression Analysis - Dependent Variable: 20YO 'HIGH RISK'

	Unadjusted OR	
Parent's drinking 'hazardous'	1.30*	
Parental admiration	0.91**	
Parental intimacy	0.89**	
Parental conflict	1.17**	
Parental unreliability	1.11**	
Disagreements about drinking	3.56**	
Disagreements about late nights	2.30**	

PARENT-CHILD INTERACTIONS, 20yrs

Regression Analysis - Dependent Variable: 20YO 'HIGH RISK'

	Unadjusted OR	Adjusted OR
Parent's drinking 'hazardous'	1.30*	1.34*
Parental admiration	0.91**	1.03
Parental intimacy	0.89**	0.98
Parental conflict	1.17**	1.09*
Parental unreliability	1.11**	1.08*
Disagreements about drinking	3.56**	2.84**
Disagreements about late nights	2.30**	1.55**