INDIANA UNIVERSITY SOUTHEAST

Holy Smokes: The Relationship between Religion, Other Personal Beliefs, and Marijuana Use

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Introduction

- Increasing use of marijuana due to increasing availability and legalization (Hammond et al., 2020).
- 27.4% of college students have reported having used marijuana in the past thirty days (Fox et al., 2020).
- Religious affiliation (Fox et al., 2020) and Family Function (Vakalahi 2002) have been found to mediate marijuana use.
- Limited Research suggests that Catholic affiliated individuals are more likely to use marijuana in comparison to other denominations (Engs & Mullen 1999).
- In this study I examined the relationship of religious importance, denomination, and family function on marijuana use.

Methods

Design: Correlational

- Distributed through social media platforms.
- In-person participation for bag of chips.

Participants: 90 adults ages 18-65 *(M*=26.91, *SD*=11.53)

- 39 Male, 41 female, 2 Non-Binary, 8 other.

Measures:

- Personal Religiousness PRI-10(Lace & Handal 2018).
- Family Function: Family APGAR Scale(Shapiro, Neinstein, & Rabinovitz 1987).
- Marijuana Smoking History Questionnaire (Fox et al., 2020).

Descriptive Statistics

Religious Denomination:

- 11% Catholic
- 14.3% Baptist
- 18.7% Other Christian
- 18.7% Not Religious
- 12.1% Atheist
- 11% Agnostic
- 2.2% Mainline Protestant
- 2.2% Orthodox Christian
- 3.3% Methodist
- 1.1% Spiritualist

Correlations

VAR00001			religiousity	The following questions are about your marijuana use. In your lifetime, how many times have you used marijuana?	Approximately how often are you involved in ritual/worship services in your church/ synagogue/ mosque [other place of worship]?
male	religiousity	Pearson Correlation	1	-.269	.390**
		Sig. (1-tailed)		.052	.008
		N	38	38	38
	The following questions are about your marijuana use. In your lifetime, how many times have you used marijuana?	Pearson Correlation	-.269	1	-.328*
		Sig. (1-tailed)	.052		.022
		N	38	39	38
	Approximately how often are you involved in ritual/worship services in your church/ synagogue/ mosque [other place of worship]?	Pearson Correlation	.390**	-.328*	1
		Sig. (1-tailed)	.008	.022	
		N	38	38	38
5.00	religiousity	Pearson Correlation	1	-.228	.823**
		Sig. (1-tailed)		.079	<.001
		N	40	40	40
	The following questions are about your marijuana use. In your lifetime, how many times have you used marijuana?	Pearson Correlation	-.228	1	-.175
		Sig. (1-tailed)	.079		.140
		N	40	40	40
	Approximately how often are you involved in ritual/worship services in your church/ synagogue/ mosque [other place of worship]?	Pearson Correlation	.823**	-.175	1
		Sig. (1-tailed)	<.001	.140	
		N	40	40	40

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (1-tailed).

Results

Gender, Religiousness, and Marijuana use:

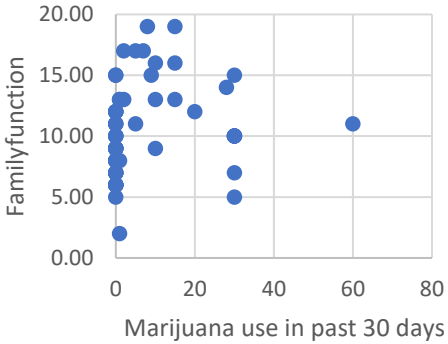
- For males' marginal correlation between marijuana use and religiosity, r(36)= -.269, p=.052
- Correlation between marijuana use and attendance was stronger, r(36)= -.328, p=.02.
- For Females religiosity and marijuana use were not correlated, r(38)=-.228, p=.08.
- No correlation between attendance and marijuana use, r(38)= -.175, p=.14

Family Function and Marijuana Use:

- Family Function and Marijuana use were positively correlated, r(88)=.50, p=<.001

Religious Denomination:

- There was a relationship between marijuana use and religiosity, r(87)= -.185, p=.042 for men.
- No correlation between religious denomination and marijuana use.



Conclusions

- Religious denomination was not related to the likelihood of using marijuana.
- Religiosity was more important factor for males and not females
- Those with higher. family function were more likely to engage in marijuana use.

References

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