

Review of: "Using the Socio-ecological Model to Examine Prevalence and Demographic Correlates of Alcoholic Beverage Consumption among Adolescents in Public Schools in Uganda"

Loc Le

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Comments to the Authors

Thanks for your manuscript. In the context of the world that adolescent morality has been going down, your research is really meaningful. However, there are some points I would like to address as below:

1. In the beginning of the background section (page 2), social-ecological model needs to be defined to provide readers an overall look because not all have expertise in it.
2. Before the section of methodology (page 5), I think it is better to include one more section for study aims and hypothesis.
3. In terms of study design (page 6), could you clarify the reasons why quantitative methods were employed, please?
4. As you stated in page 7, a five point Likert scale was adopted to measure the alcohol consumption in adolescence. The problem here was that you transformed the items into a binary scale. The gap between point 2 (rarely) and point 5 (very often) is too big. Drinking once a year could not be the same as doing almost every day. I think the correlations between demographics and the frequency of alcoholic consumption among adolescents will be more reasonable here.
5. In the section of settings and description of the study sample (page 5-6), you reported that there were three categories of schools in Uganda. However, only students from public schools were surveyed (page 7). Why was that? I think that conducting the surveys from three different categories of schools would be better because learning environment and the educational policy of each may affect students' alcoholic consumption. For example, students from the schools established by religious entities may drink wine less often.
6. Also in the section above, the samples from four regions were included in your research (page 6). The data presented in Table 2 (page 9) revealed that there were the correlations between regions and the consumption of beers, wines and spirits ($p = 0.002, 0.000$ and 0.000 respectively). I wonder why you ignored those in your result analysis. Also, you did not have any discussions about that. I think that the teens' living environment can affect their habits. I do not know much about Uganda, but I think the economy and culture in each region may also determine the consumption of the teens.
7. In the section of discussion (paragraph 2, page 13), you quoted Luczak et al. (2014) to explain why the alcoholic

consumption in the teens from Roman Catholics was higher. This seems to be unconvincing. I don't know much about church services but I believe that drinking in rituals if happens is not misused. More than that, I also believe that wine cannot be served to any teens at churches.