

**SOCIAL CORRELATES OF ADOLESCENT ALCOHOL USE: A CASE OF  
KASAMA DISTRICT, NORTHERN PROVINCE, ZAMBIA.**

**BY**

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**A dissertation submitted to the University of Zambia in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of the degree of Master of Arts in Child and Adolescent Psychology of the University of Zambia.**

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## **Author's Declaration**

I, Jefferson Mubita Mubita, hereby declare that this dissertation represents my own work and that all the works of other people has been accordingly acknowledged and also that this work has not been previously presented at the University of Zambia or any other university for the requirement of an award of Master's degree, or indeed for any other similar purposes.

Signature.....

Date.....

## Certificate of Approval

This report of Jefferson Mubita Mubita is approved as fulfilling the partial requirements for the award of the degree of Master of Arts in Child and Adolescent Psychology by the University of Zambia.

Signed

Date

Examiner 1.....

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Examiner 2.....

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Examiner 3.....

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## **Abstract**

This paper focuses on social correlates of adolescent alcohol use. It aimed at investigating the relationship between perceived parental alcohol use, perceived permissive parenting style, perceived peer alcohol use, perceived alcohol accessibility (independent variables) and adolescent alcohol use (dependent variable). The sample size in this study was 119 adolescents from Kasama district of the Northern Province of Zambia. A questionnaire adopted from a self-completion questionnaire (Brenner et. al. 2011) and a Parental Authority Questionnaire (Buri, 1991) was used to collect data from the purposively sampled. Bivariate correlation analyses were performed to determine the relationship between the four independent variables and the dependent variable. Out of the correlations between the perceived parental alcohol use and adolescent alcohol use, the caregiver's weekly alcohol use's and 'the frequency parents were seen drunk were positive. Generally, the findings in this study supported the researcher's expectations, except for the two negative but significant correlations regarding perceived permissive parenting style. This research seems to be a suitable measure of social correlates of adolescent alcohol use. Based on the findings of the study, the following recommendations were established: the need for stakeholders to put concerted efforts in fighting drunkenness so that children do not perceive their caregivers in the state of drunkenness; more research is needed with a bigger sample to see whether permissive parenting style would still correlate negatively and significantly with adolescent alcohol use; the Ministry of Education, Science, Vocational Training and Early Education should incorporate Alcohol Related Topics in Secondary Schools Curriculum especially in Grades Eight and Nine to sensitize pupils on the effects of alcohol use in adolescence; the Ministry of Local Government and Housing, the Ministry of Home Affairs and other stakeholders should collaborate in implementing policies that regulate alcohol accessibility to adolescents country wide and: more research with a bigger national sample is required to add more comprehensive knowledge.

Keywords: Adolescent, alcohol use, parent, peer, parenting style, accessibility.

## **Dedication**

This work is dedicated to Jesus Christ firstly and then to my wife, Mrs. Sibeso Jefferson and my children Tisha and Tasha Jefferson and my wonderful son Emmanuel Jefferson. I also dedicate this paper to all the poor people in the whole wide world.

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## **Acronyms**

**AIDS** - Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome

**AUD**- Alcohol Use Disorder

**CSO**- Central Statistical Office

**GRZ** - Government Republic of Zambia

**HIV**- Human Immunodeficiency Virus

**LCMS**- Living Conditions Monitoring Survey

**MCDS** - Ministerial Council on Drug Strategy

**NDCS**-National Drug Control Strategy

**NIAAA**- National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

**NYVP**- National Youth Violence Prevention

**SAMHSA**- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

**UNFPA** – United Nations Population Fund

**WHO** - World Health Organization