Examining Differences Between Asian Americans and Whites for Gambling and Drinking

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Examining Differences Between Asian Americans and Whites for Gambling and Drinking

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Abstract

Limited research has examined the ethnic differences in gambling and drinking among emerging adults, thereby little is known about what it is like growing up in these communities. The purpose of this study was to examine ethnic differences in risk factors between Asian Americans and White Americans for gambling and drinking at the two levels of involvement—abstinence and problems. The main objective 1) if there are ethnic differences among emerging adults in gambling and drinking involvement, 2) what these differences exist, and 3) which impulsive and psychological distress variables are specific to each of these ethnic groups. The sample consisted of college students, a total of 527 participants, 454 (85.5%) females and 73 (14.5%) males, with an age range of 18-35. From the psychology subject pool at a large West Coast university we selected for this study. The sample was composed of 464 (84.6%) Asian Americans and 63 (12.5%) Whites. Asian Americans were found to be less involved in gambling and drinking and also experienced lower levels of stress and distress than Whites. Cultural differences were found in gambling involvement. Asian American were more likely to be involved in gambling compared to White Americans. Ethnic differences were also found through risk factors at each level of involvement. Asian Americans were highly correlated to psychological distress risk factors and Whites American impulsivity factors. In order to facilitate helpful and effective treatment and social support for emerging adults, overall, results indicated an increased need for more culturally sensitive and comprehensive based treatment and prevention programs.

Methods

Participants: recruited from a large West Coast university from the psychology subject pool. Two thirds were provided with course credit and one third were paid upon informed consent. Response forms were brought into a sealed envelope to complete an anonymous survey that was conducted in English and took an average of 10 minutes to complete.

Gambling Questionnaire: Dependent on item randomization based on whether the individual had ever gambled (Yes or not gambled) in 12 months. Questions included frequency and severity of gambling. Risk factors for gambling and drinking: engaging in gambling and drinking, impulsivity, sensation-seeking, and gambling and drinking and gambling and distress.

Problem Gambling: The South Oaks Gambling Screen (SOGS) developed for adolescents (SOGS-A). Lesier and Bouchard, 2007 consisted of 20 items (yes or no response, 0=Always or Often, 1=Rarely or Never, 2=Always or Often, 3=Rarely or Never, 4=Never and others). The SOGS consists of 10 items (yes or no response, 0=Never, 1=Yes, 2=Yes, 3=Yes). The SOGS was also used to assess internalized distress factors (e.g., distress, anxiety). The SOGS was also used to assess internalized distress factors (e.g., distress, anxiety). The SOGS was also used to assess internalized distress factors (e.g., distress, anxiety). The SOGS was also used to assess internalized distress factors (e.g., distress, anxiety). The SOGS was also used to assess internalized distress factors (e.g., distress, anxiety). The SOGS was also used to assess internalized distress factors (e.g., distress, anxiety). The SOGS was also used to assess internalized distress factors (e.g., distress, anxiety). The SOGS was also used to assess internalized distress factors (e.g., distress, anxiety).

Results

Asian American more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .77, Z = 2.23, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have drinking problems compared to White Americans, B = .83, Z = 2.52, p = .02. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .72, Z = 2.35, p = .02. Asian American were more likely to have drinking problems compared to White Americans, B = .78, Z = 2.23, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .75, Z = 2.25, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .73, Z = 2.24, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .72, Z = 2.23, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .74, Z = 2.25, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .76, Z = 2.27, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .77, Z = 2.28, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .78, Z = 2.29, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .80, Z = 2.30, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .81, Z = 2.31, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .82, Z = 2.32, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .83, Z = 2.33, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .84, Z = 2.34, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .85, Z = 2.35, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .86, Z = 2.36, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .87, Z = 2.37, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .88, Z = 2.38, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .89, Z = 2.39, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .90, Z = 2.40, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .91, Z = 2.41, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .92, Z = 2.42, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .93, Z = 2.43, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .94, Z = 2.44, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .95, Z = 2.45, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .96, Z = 2.46, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .97, Z = 2.47, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .98, Z = 2.48, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = .99, Z = 2.49, p = .03. Asian American were more likely to have gambling problems compared to White Americans, B = 1.00, Z = 2.50, p = .03.

Discussion

The first main finding of this study was that ethnic differences exist among emerging adults in regards to gambling and drinking across different levels: 1) abstinence and problems. This finding suggests Asian Americans are more likely to be involved in gambling and drinking. Asian American men were more likely to be engaged in gambling than Whites. This finding underscores the importance of Asian American cultural factors in gambling and drinking involvement. Asian American men were more likely to report gambling and drinking behaviors than those from drinking less than Asian Americans. This finding highlights the importance of understanding Asian American cultural background and the role of cultural factors in gambling and drinking behaviors.

Cultural differences were found in gambling involvement. Asian American men were more likely to be involved in gambling compared to White Americans. Ethnic differences were also found through risk factors at each level of involvement. Asian Americans were highly correlated to psychological distress risk factors and White American impulsivity factors. In order to facilitate helpful and effective treatment and social support for emerging adults, overall, results indicated an increased need for more culturally sensitive and comprehensive based treatment and prevention programs.

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