

SOCIAL INTOLERANCE AND RISK-TAKING BEHAVIORS IN EUROPEAN ADOLESCENTS

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Introduction: Social intolerance is one major topic in every modern society, but although it receives much attention in the public space, there is relatively little information related to the behavioral correlates of such attitudes.

Aim: To investigate the relation between social intolerance and risk-taking behaviors in European adolescents.

Methods: Adolescents from the SEYLE and WE-STAY cohorts were included. The questions evaluating social intolerance, sensation-seeking and delinquent behavior, alcohol, tobacco and illegal drugs use were extracted from the baseline questionnaire.

Results: Adolescents positive for at-risk tobacco, alcohol and illegal drugs use showed significantly lower levels of social intolerance. This observation might be explained by the social factors associated with substance use at this age group. No relationship was observed with sensation-seeking and delinquent behavior.

Conclusions: Social intolerance is not associated with risk-taking behaviors in adolescents.