



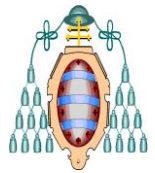
## Klinika adiktologie

1. lékařská fakulta a Všeobecná fakultní nemocnice  
Univerzita Karlova v Praze



# How parental styles influence adolescent ATOD use: Comparison of qualitative and quantitative data.

## Influencia de los estilos parentales en el consumo de alcohol y otras drogas: comparación de datos cualitativos y cuantitativos



Roman Gabrhelik & the EFE team

25. 10. 2012 Palma de Mallorca



# Introduction

- Family-related factors are considered important in adolescent alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs (ATOD) use.
- Most attention in family risk and protective factors research is focused on ATOD consumption in family, parental monitoring, attachment and parent-child communication.
- *Quality, intensity, and interactions* of these (but also other) factors cause that every factor can be evaluated as risky and protective according to different family situation.
- *Authoritative parenting* style is considered the most protective and children from these families report lower levels of ATOD consumption
- prevalence of ATOD use among children from *neglecting* and *authoritarian* families is higher.

## European Family Empowerment Improving family skills to prevent alcohol and drug related problems

- JLS/DPIP/2008-2/112
- **Project Partners:**
  - *Spain,*
  - *Czech Republic,*
  - *Great Britain,*
  - *Portugal,*
  - *Slovenia,*
  - *Sweden*
- **Conducted:**
  - Questionnaire survey with children and their parents
  - Focus groups with children and parents



# Czech - survey data – adolescents

- School-based questionnaire study conducted in 2011
- Sample
  - 3 regions – random sampling
  - N = 1,263 adolescents
  - Avg. age 14.7 years (*s.d.* = 1.9)

Age group	10-13		14-16		17-19	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Male	174	26	246	52	143	22
Female	172	30	314	55	90	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>346</b>	28	<b>660</b>	53	<b>233</b>	19



# Czech - survey data – adolescents

<b>Age</b>	<b>10 - 13</b>	<b>14 - 16</b>	<b>17 - 19</b>
<b>Never smoker (%)</b>	76.0	49.3	41.5
<b>Occasional/Former smoker (%)</b>	19.8	25.3	18.8
<b>Smoker (%)</b>	4.1	25.4	39.7
<b>Drinking alcohol 1/week or more (%)</b>	7.9	30.3	48.1
<b>Drunk 2 or more times / month (%)</b>	3.4	11.5	22.7
<b>Marijuana - lifetime (%)</b>	7.0	34.7	51.3
<b>Marijuana - past 30 days (%)</b>	1.8	7.4	15.4



# Czech - survey data – adolescents

- We focused on the relationship between adolescents' risk behavior and
  - family rules, differentiating for
    - General family rules
    - Family rules specific to alcohol and tobacco use
  - parental control, separate for
    - mothers and
    - fathers
- Internal consistency (Cronbach alfa)
- ANOVA



# Czech - survey data – adolescents

Scale	Tobacco use		Alcohol use		Repeated drunkenness		Marijuana use	
	F	<i>P</i>	F	<i>P</i>	F	<i>P</i>	F	<i>P</i>
<b>Family rules (general)</b>	23.6	< .001	42.3	< .001	25	< .001	11.5	0.001
<b>Family rules (general)</b>	94.5	< .001	111.5	< .001	53.2	< .001	33.2	< .001
<b>Parental control - mother</b>	10.8	< .001	15.8	< .001	3.7	<b>0.54 (n.s.)</b>	12.2	< .001
<b>Parental control - father</b>	3.8	0.023	4.5	0.033	0.6	<b>0.44 (n.s.)</b>	0.26	<b>0.61 (n.s.)</b>

Relationship between adolescent tobacco use, drinking alcohol, drunkenness, marijuana use, and parental influences (ANOVA, F a *P* values)



# Czech - survey data – adolescents

- **Preliminary findings:**
  - Parental practices have significant influence on ATOD use in adolescents
  - Family rules are more effective as compared to parental control
  - Specific rules regarding alcohol and tobacco are more effective than general rules
  - Maternal control has higher effect as compared to paternal control





# Spain - survey data – adolescents

- Elisardo Becoña et al. (under review) conducted a study with the Spanish sample.
- The aim of this study was to show how certain family-related variables (permissiveness toward drug use and control and affect from father and mother) are linked to adolescents' use of alcohol, tobacco and cannabis.
- Data are based on young people's perceptions of the above.
- **Sample**
- 1,428 young people attending school (51.8% males)
- aged between 11 and 19 from Mallorca (Spain).
- *Path analysis* technique was used



# Spain - survey data – adolescents

- Alcohol, tobacco, and cannabis were more likely to be used by young people who perceived:
  - their parents as permissive and
  - less maternal control and higher levels of both paternal and maternal affect
- Gender differences were detected.
  - Variables of maternal affect and control were not influential among males
  - the general pattern was maintained among females



# FG study design

- Multi-site qualitative study was conducted with parents of adolescent children in 2012
- Manual-based data collection and “two-level” analysis was used:
  - All study partners conducted FGs in their home countries (*Czech Republic, Great Britain, Portugal, Spain, Slovenia, Sweden*)
  - Transcription of raw data was performed in the national languages
  - A country report – using the Reporting Grids template (Howard et al., 1998) - from the FGs was produced by each partner and where necessary translated into English
  - All country reports were sent to one partner and than...
  - analyzed in the second round...



# FGs – sample, data management

- The Reporting Grids template (Howard et al., 1998) allowed us to compare and combine findings from different partner countries.
- Sample
  - convenience sampling and purposive sampling methods
  - In total, the study involved **62 female** and **23 male** parents/family group representatives, aged between 33 and 58 years (**average age 44.4 years**), with most families having two children (Mo 49).
  - Participation in the FG was conditioned upon receiving informed consent. Participants were not remunerated.
- 11 FGs involved 4 to 15 respondents with avg. length 90 minutes
- Data analysis techniques: itemization, clustering, categorization, contrasting, and comparison (Miles & Huberman, 1994).



# FGs - parental monitoring

- Parents consider it important to have a good overview of daily activities of their children. Great benefit in being aware of leisure activities of an offspring was seen, e.g., in modern communication technologies, especially the existence of mobile phones:
- *„...control – we could not be controlled, no mobile phones, today is greater control. Today the kids have still cell phone in their hands, so when they go to the training or something and we know when they should come back and are late for half an hour, so I call.“  
[CZE]*



## FGs – family rules

- The establishment of (family) rules and consistency in its adherence. Potentially hazardous may be just benevolence, inability to insist:
- *„I think we are afraid that if we constrain them too much they will lie to us. If he tells me he's going to some friend's house I could ask him to give me the phone number but he would say: 'Come on, what are you going to do, call his parents and check I am there?' Then, what can I do? Tell him he's not allowed to go unless he gives me the phone number? I feel sorry and I let him go. I know a couple of his friends and I go from there... but I do not really know if this friend exists. So, at the end, I do not know anything.” [ESP]*



## FGs – family rules control

- The rules do not make sense if these are not strictly demanded – this is a burning problem for parents in whose children a serious problem has emerged... and the solution often is to realize that it needs consistency:
- *“I have four children ... but really only this one began fooling around... he ended up on meth [methamphetamine] ... And then I found out - He was always roped me in, I believed him and it always come back. So I went to professionals and they helped me out, so it changed ... And I must say that firstly I had to do something with myself ... because I realized that it was in me that I'm wrong, because I'd always end up persuaded... And only then it changed.” [CZE]*



# How to translate this first EFE findings into practice?

- Improvement of parental skills - improvement of parents' competencies regarding the *forming and the control of realistic rules* - may contribute to efforts in decreasing the risk behaviors in children and adolescents.
- Gender specific approach is needed (for both parents and adolescents)
- (Paternal and maternal affect should be further explored)
  
- Specific prevention modules and prevention programs addressing parental skills should be (further):
  - Developed
  - Pilot implemented
  - Evaluated
  - (if effective) Implemented in practice





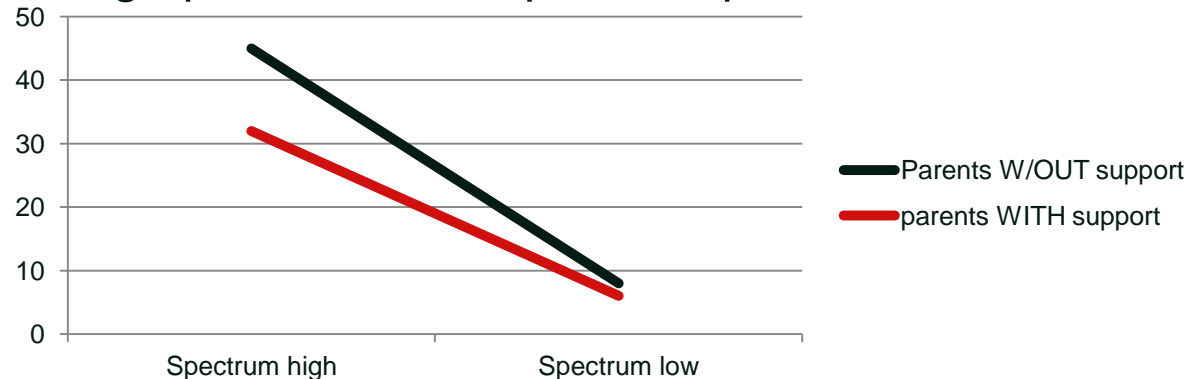
# FG – parents' involvement in prevention efforts

- Parents whose children are of the most concern (problematic pupils) do not well engage in such activities. A considerable number of parents believed:
- *„...it's a bit like preaching to the converted, to be honest, because the mums that would join those groups [i.e. informal neighborhood/parent support groups] are the mums that probably wouldn't have problems with drink.” [UK]*



# What is crucial?

- Involvement of parents in the prevention efforts.
- There is a continuum of parents and families, ranging from the „worst“ to the „best“
- We need the professionals and the right-side-of-the-spectrum parents who engage in lifting up the left side spectrum parents.



- There is an urgent need for developing effective ways how to empower European parents so their parenting competencies – *at the very end leading to reduction to risk behavior in their children* – are improved



Thank you for your attention

E-mail:

[gabrhelik@adiktologie.cz](mailto:gabrhelik@adiktologie.cz)



# Nástroj sběru dat: Škála rodinných pravidel

OP: Mí rodiče se mě ptají, jestli jsem si udělal/a domácí úkoly

OP: Mí rodiče chtějí, abych jim zavolal/a, když se zpozdím

OP: Pravidla v mé rodině jsou jasná.

OP: Když nejsem doma, jeden z mých rodičů ví, kde a s kým jsem.

AK: Mám dovoleno kouřit.

AK: Mám dovoleno pít doma alkohol.

AK: Mám dovoleno pít alkohol mimo domov.

AK: Doma je alkohol, ale já ho nemám dovoleno pít.

OB: Obecná rodinná pravidla: 4 položky, koeficient vnitřní konzistence škály = 0,62

AK: Rodinná pravidla k alkoholu a kouření: 4 položky, koeficient vnitřní konzistence škály = 0,69



# Nástroj sběru dat: Škála rodičovské kontroly

## MOJE MATKA/ OTEC...

Se stará o to, abych přesně věděl/a, co smím a nesmím dělat.

Mi říká, kdy přesně mám být doma, když jdu ven.

Mi vždy říká, jak se mám chovat.

Uznává hodně pravidel a trvá na jejich dodržování.

*Mi dává tolik svobody, kolik já chci*

Mi přesně říká, jak mám dělat svou práci (např. úkoly, chores)

*Nechá mě jít kam chci, aniž bych se musel/a ptát.*

Klade důraz na to, abych udělal/a přesně to, co jsem řekl/a.

*Nechává mě jít ven, kdykoli chci.*

Ráda by mi říkala, co mám neustále dělat.

Mi dává práci (úkoly) a nedovolí mi dělat cokoliv jiného, než ji/je mám hotové.

*Mě nechává dělat, to co chci.*

Chce mít pod kontrolou, vše co dělám.