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INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION

cicad

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MULTICENTRIC PILOT STUDY ON “DRUGS, WOMEN AND VIOLENCE IN THE AMERICAS”



MULTICENTRIC PILOT STUDY ON “DRUGS, WOMEN AND VIOLENCE IN THE AMERICAS”

Preliminary Report

Washington DC, 2007

CICAD – Educational Development and Research Section

Justification

- Lack of scientific research on the topic;
- Need to manifest the problem's importance to Latin women and its consequences to their family and society as a whole;
- Increase on the prevalence of drug abuse in Latin-American women;
- Limited legislation to protect women in Latin America;
- Social stigmatization makes Latin women do not seek help and legal protection;
- Need for comparative hemispheric studies.

Purpose

To explore the collective and individual experiences of Latin women on drug use and abuse, violence and partner

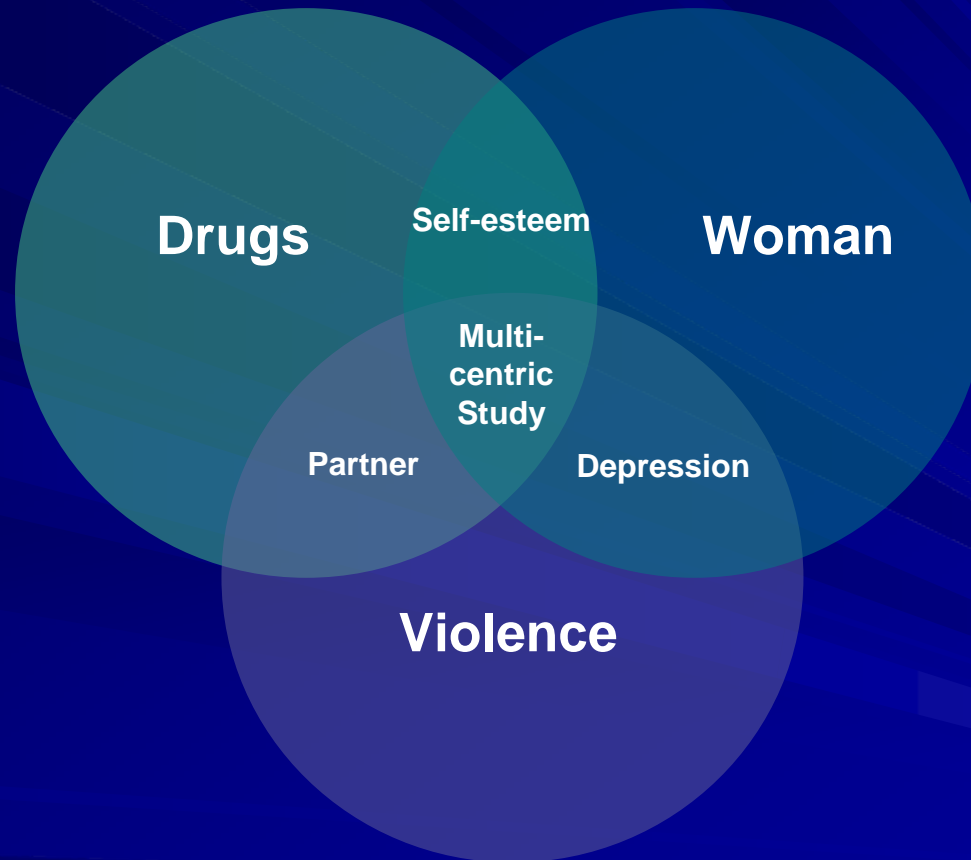
Objectives

- Identify the frequency of drug use, violence and domestic partners;
- To describe the collective and individual experiences and perceptions related to drug use, violence and domestic partners;
- To establish socio-demographic and cultural factors associated to drug use, violence and domestic partners;
- To compare the study results of 10 Spanish speaking countries, Brazil and United States (Latin women).

Participant Countries and Universities

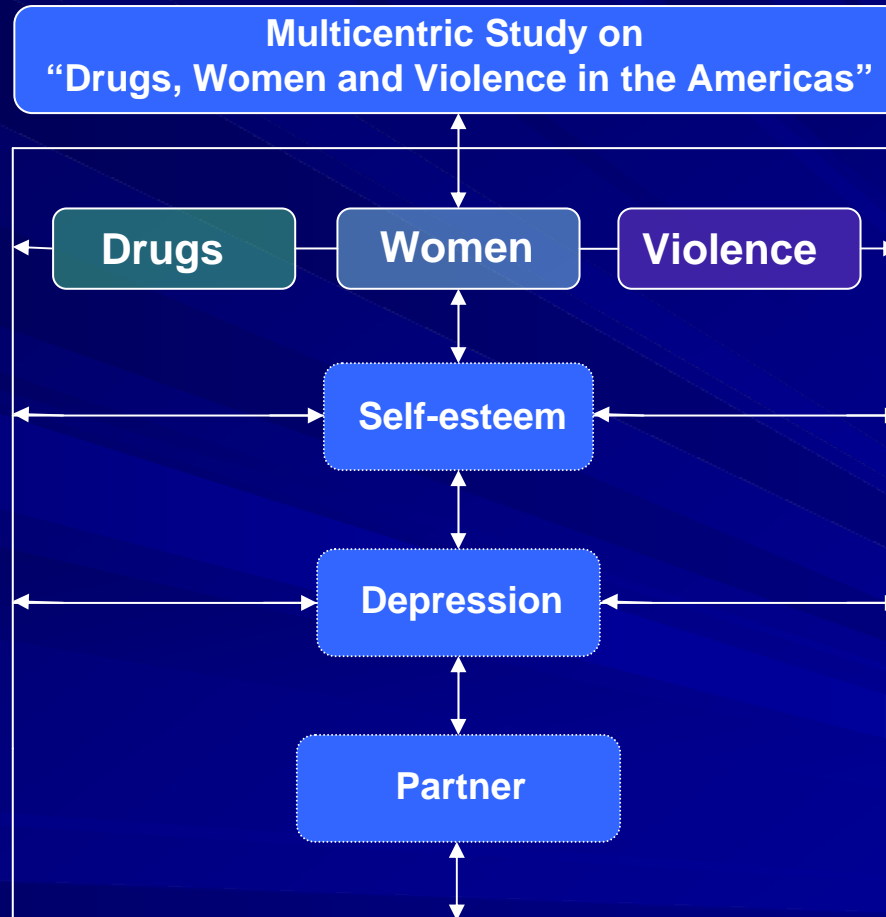
Countries	Universities
Argentina	Univ. Nacional de Córdoba; Universidad Nacional de Rosario
Bolivia	Univ. Mayor de San Andrés
Brasil	Univ. Federal de Santa Catarina; Univ. de São Paulo/Ribeirao Preto Univ. Estadual do Rio de Janeiro; Univ. Federal do Rio de Janeiro Univ. Fundação ABC
Chile	Univ. de Concepción
Colombia	Univ. Nacional de Colombia; Pontificia Universidad Javeriana
Costa Rica	Univ. de Costa Rica
Ecuador	Univ. de Guayaquil
EEUU	Univ. of Maryland; Univ. of Miami; Univ. of Michigan
Honduras	Univ. Nacional Autónoma de Honduras
Mexico	Univ. Autónoma de Nuevo León; Univ. de Guanajuato; Univ. Autónoma de Querétaro
Peru	Univ. Peruana Cayetano Heredia
Venezuela	Univ. de Carabobo

Conceptual Framework



Critic-Holistic Conceptual Model applied to the Multicentric Study on “Drugs, Women and Violence in the Americas” (Wright, 2006)

Operational Framework



Critic-Holistic Operational Model applied to the Multicentric Study on "Drugs, Women and Violence in the Americas" (Wright, 2006)

Coordination, Execution and Funding

General Coordination :	CICAD/SENAD
Execution Country Level:	22 Universities in 12 countries of the Americas
Funding:	CICAD – Government of USA SENAD/SENASP – Brazil
Proposal Model:	Elaborated by Universities of Miami, Maryland and Michigan
Proposal Model Translated:	To Spanish and Portuguese, and culturally adapted to be used by 19 Latin American Universities.

Methodology

Type of Study:	Transversal
Approach:	Qualitative/Quantitative
Ethical Committee Approval:	Universities/Schools of Nursing
Sample:	Intentional - 889 women / 16-60 years
Data Collection Technique:	Focus Groups, Individual Interview, Questionnaires (validated)
Data Collection :	Low income communities
Recruitment:	Leaflets, posters
Data Analysis:	Qualitative: Categories, Sub-Categories Quantitative: Descriptive, Multivariate, Correlation, Regression
Products:	Technical reports, scientific articles, thematic network of universities and researchers

Multicentric Pilot Study Quantitative Results of 10 Spanish-Speaking Countries

Argentina

Bolivia

Chile

Colombia

Costa Rica

Ecuador

Honduras

Mexico

Peru

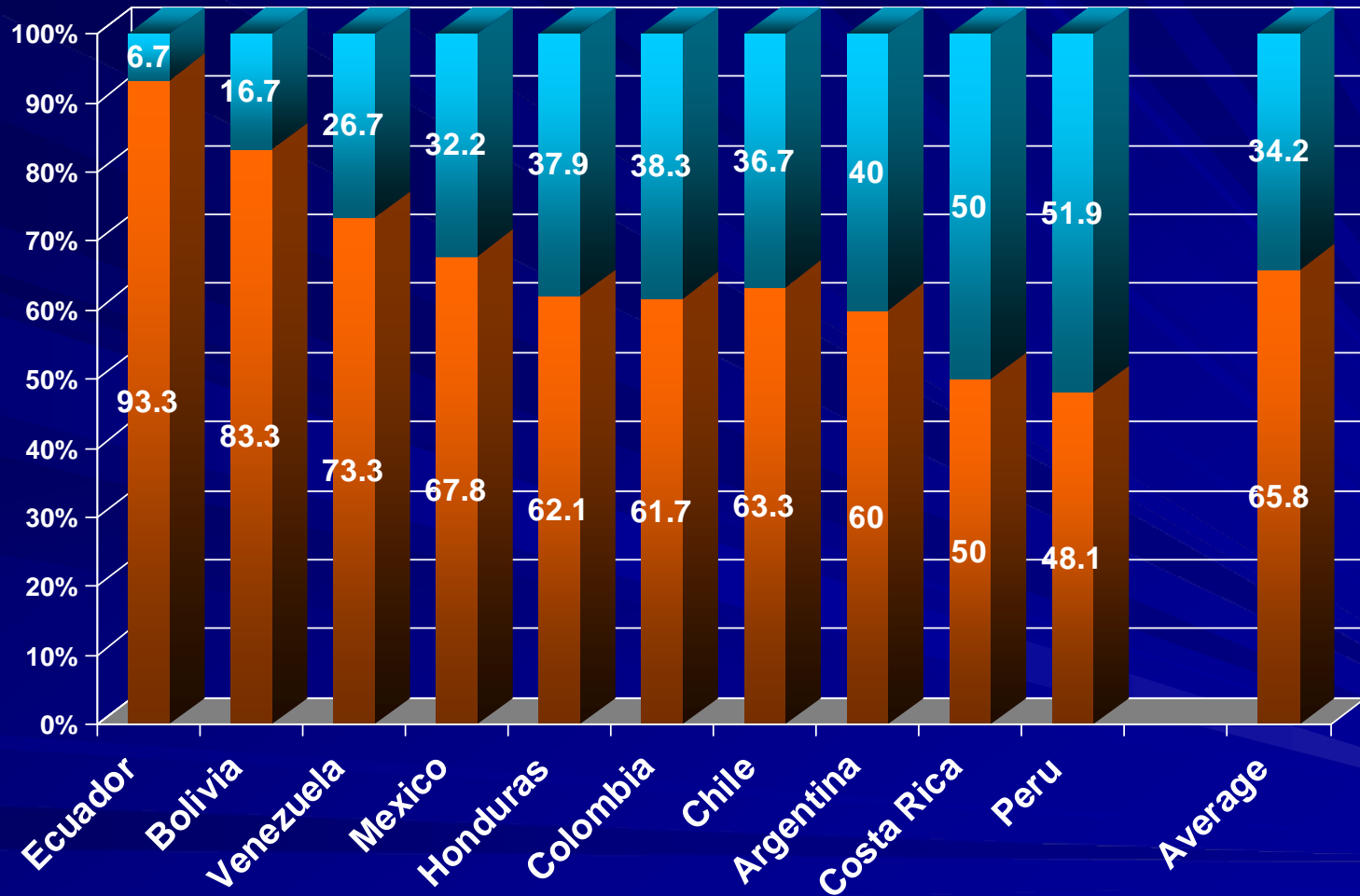
Venezuela

Socio-Demographical Characteristics (Continuous Variables)

Population sample	420 cases
Average age	36 years
Education level	On average 8.3 years (primary education)
Number of children	3 children (average: 2.8)
Number of partners in lifetime	2 partners (average: 2.2)
Marital status	65.8% live with her partner
Labor status	44.3% have a paid job <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 39.5% service workers▪ 4.8% in sales and office administrative work

Depression Scale Range by Country

(Escala de Radloff, 1977)



■ No Depression n=143

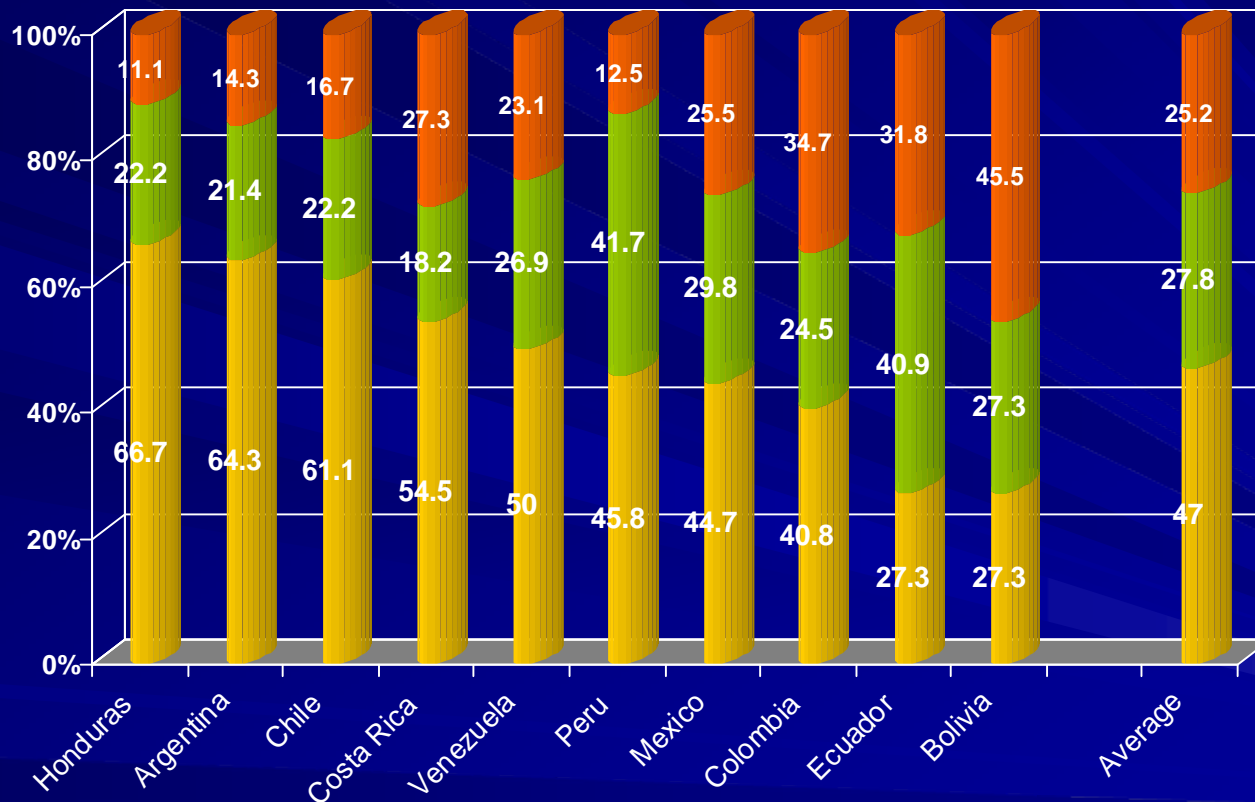
■ Possible Depression n=277

n = 420

$\chi^2 = 24.01, p = .004$

Alcoholic Beverage Consumption by Country

(TWEAK – Cyr & McGarry, 2002)



■ Moderate Consumption

■ Risk of Alcoholism

■ Probable Alcoholism

$\chi^2 = 13.48, p = .142$

$n = 420$
 n_1 (Consume alcohol) = 270
 n_2 (Do not consume alcohol) = 250

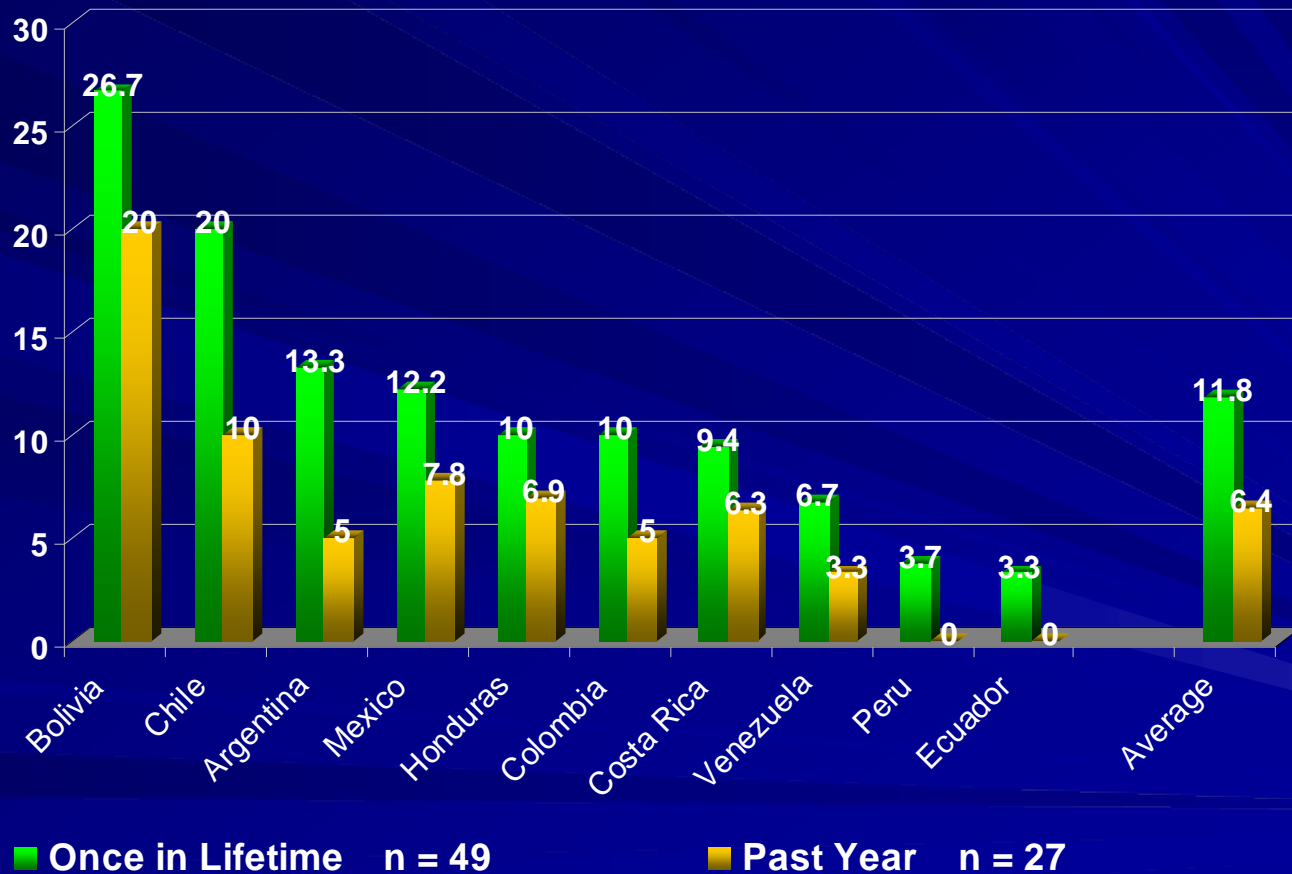
Psychoactive Drugs

(Sobell & Sobell, 2003)

Type of Consumption	Type of Drugs
Illicit Drugs 11.8% of sample <i>n</i> =49	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Cannabis – 6.2%▪ Cocaine and Crack – 5.3%▪ Heroin – 1.2%▪ Inhalants – 1.2%▪ Hallucinogens – 0.5%
Prescription Drugs 17.7% of sample <i>n</i> =74	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Benzodiazepines - 14.1%▪ Opiates (Morphine, Codeine) – 3.3%▪ Amphetamines – 2.9%▪ Sedatives / Barbiturics – 2.9%▪ Metadone – 1%

n = 420
n 1 (Consume drugs) = 123
n 2 (Do not consume drugs) = 297

Comparison Between Illicit Drug Use in Lifetime and Past Year by Country

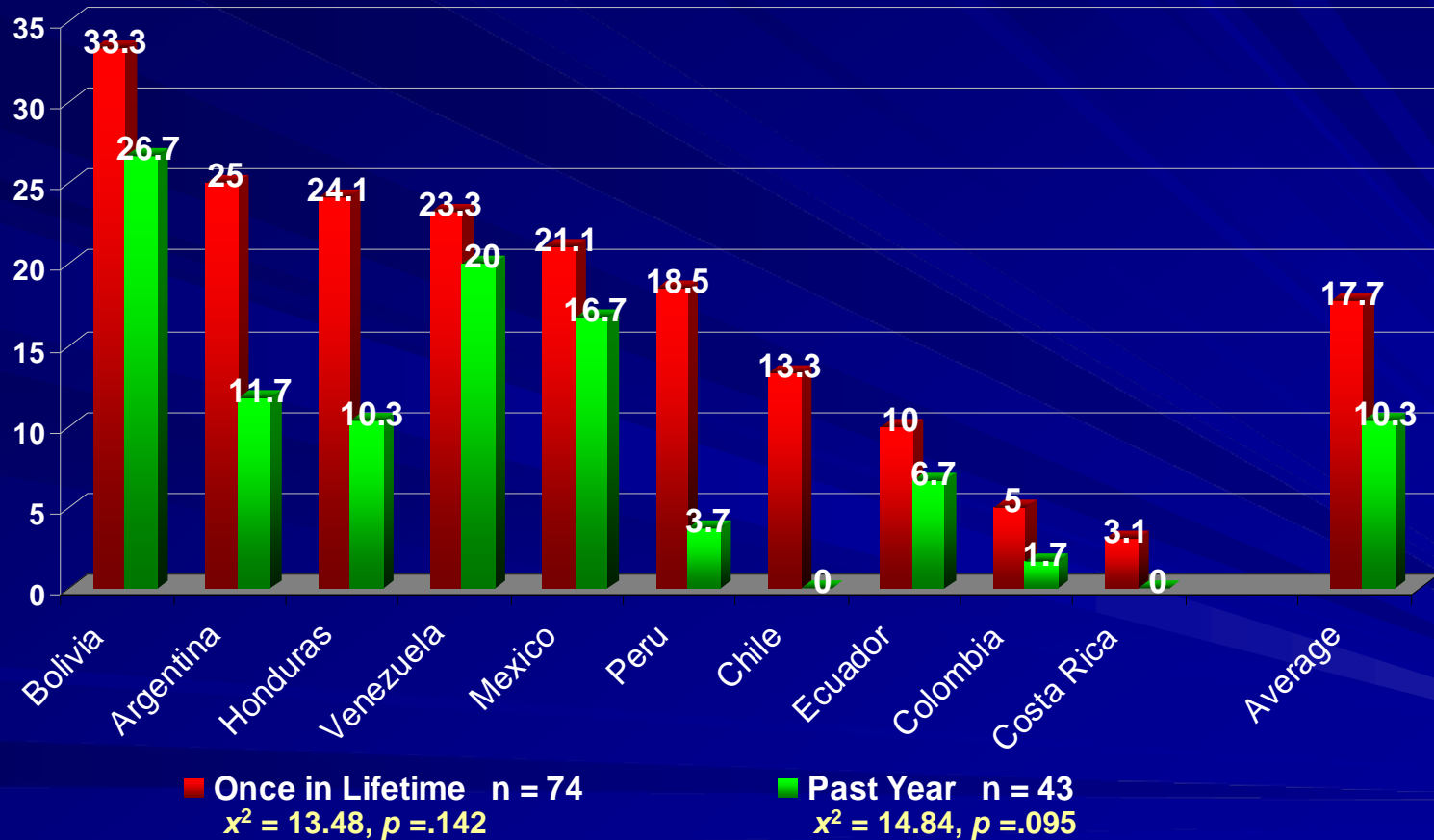


$\chi^2 = 13.48, p = .142$

$\chi^2 = 14.84, p = .095$

n = 420
n Use = 76

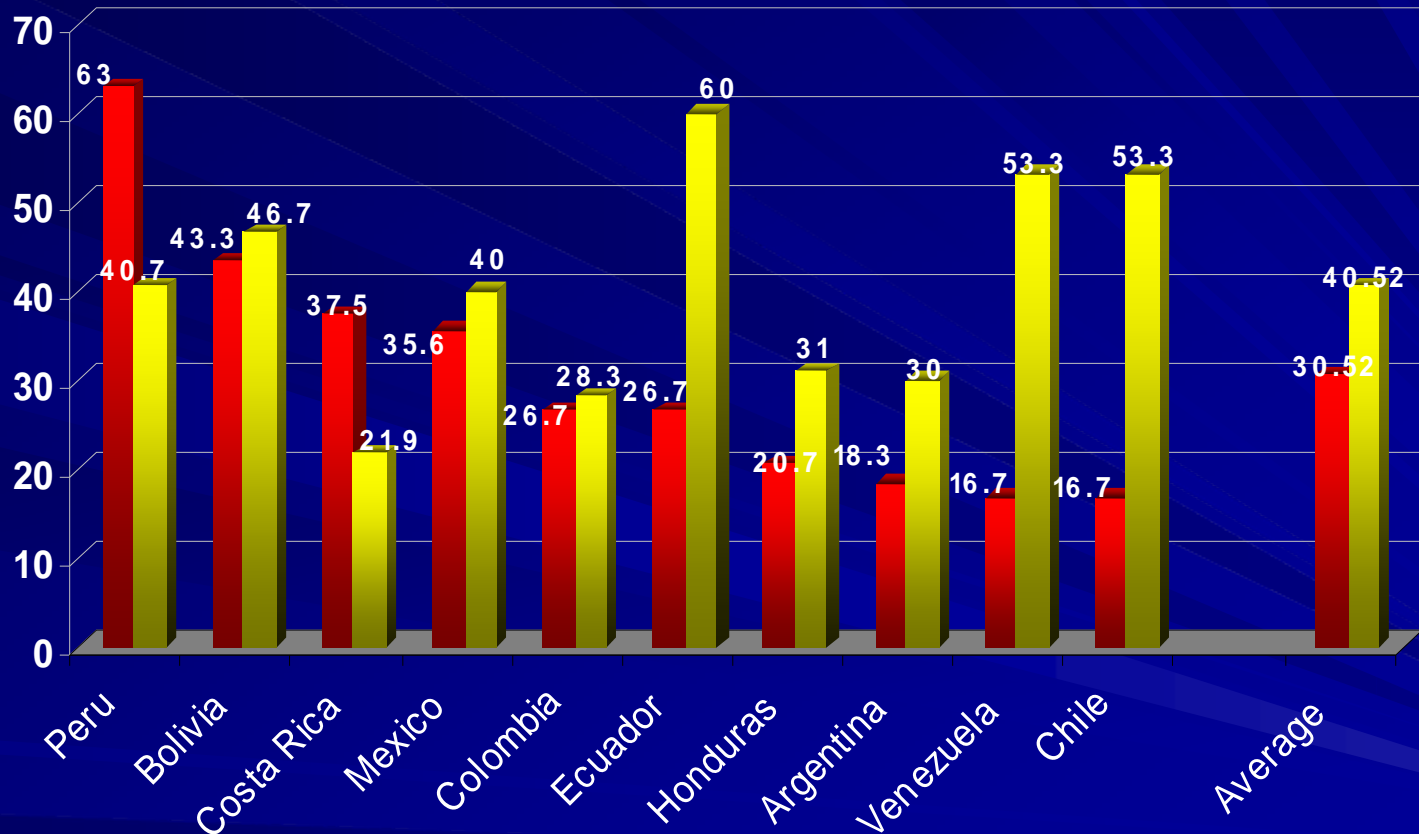
Comparison Between Prescription Drugs Use in Lifetime and Past Year by Country



n = 420
n Use = 117

Victims of Physical Abuse by Country

(Violence Scale, Peragallo & González, 2006)



■ Before 18 years old n = 125

$\chi^2 = 29.38, p = .001$

■ In Adulthood n = 162

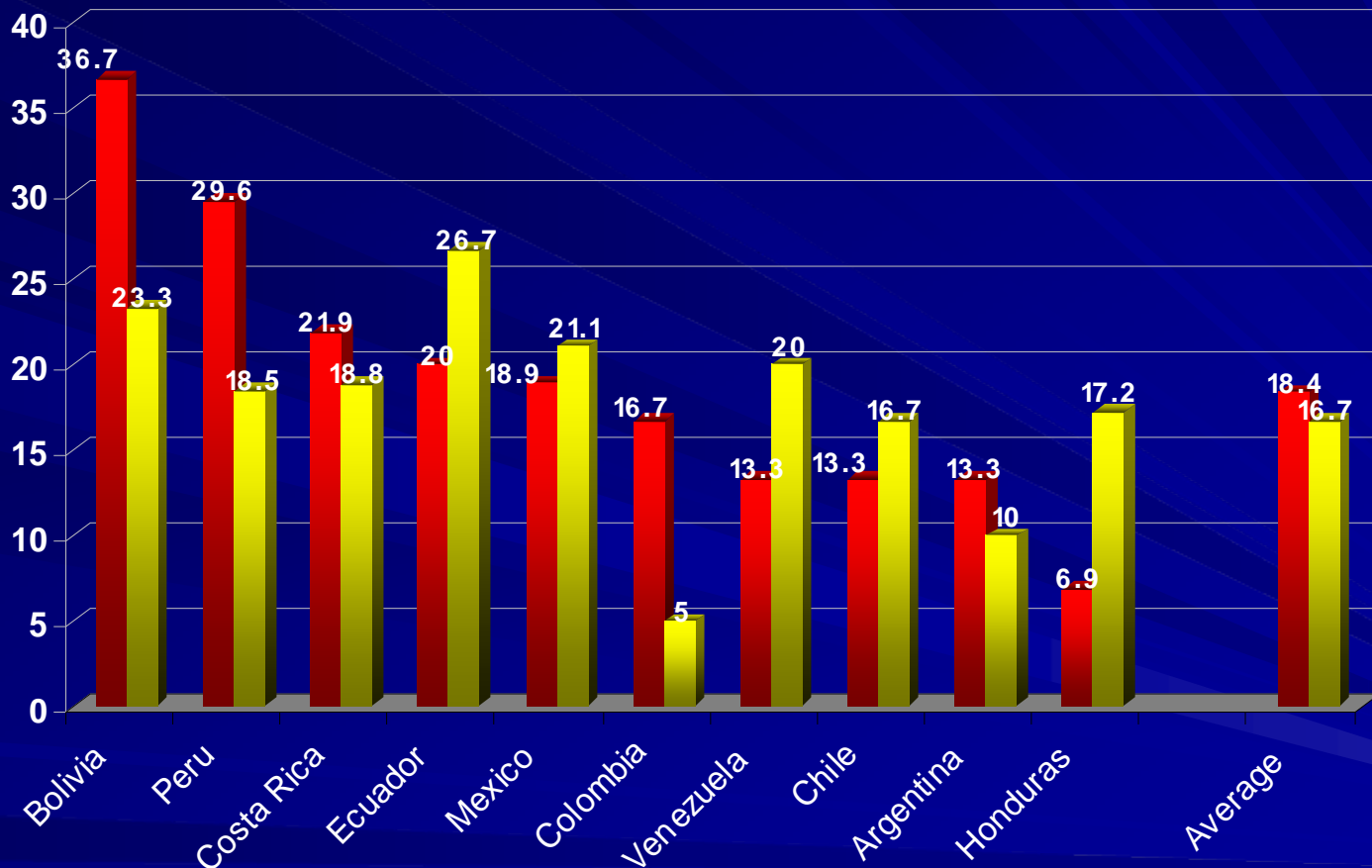
$\chi^2 = 21.22, p = .012$

n = 420

n Victims of Physical Abuse = 287

Victims of Sexual Abuse by Country

(Violence Scale, Peragallo & González, 2006)



■ Before 18 years old n = 77

■ In Adulthood n = 70

$\chi^2 = 13.93, p = .123$

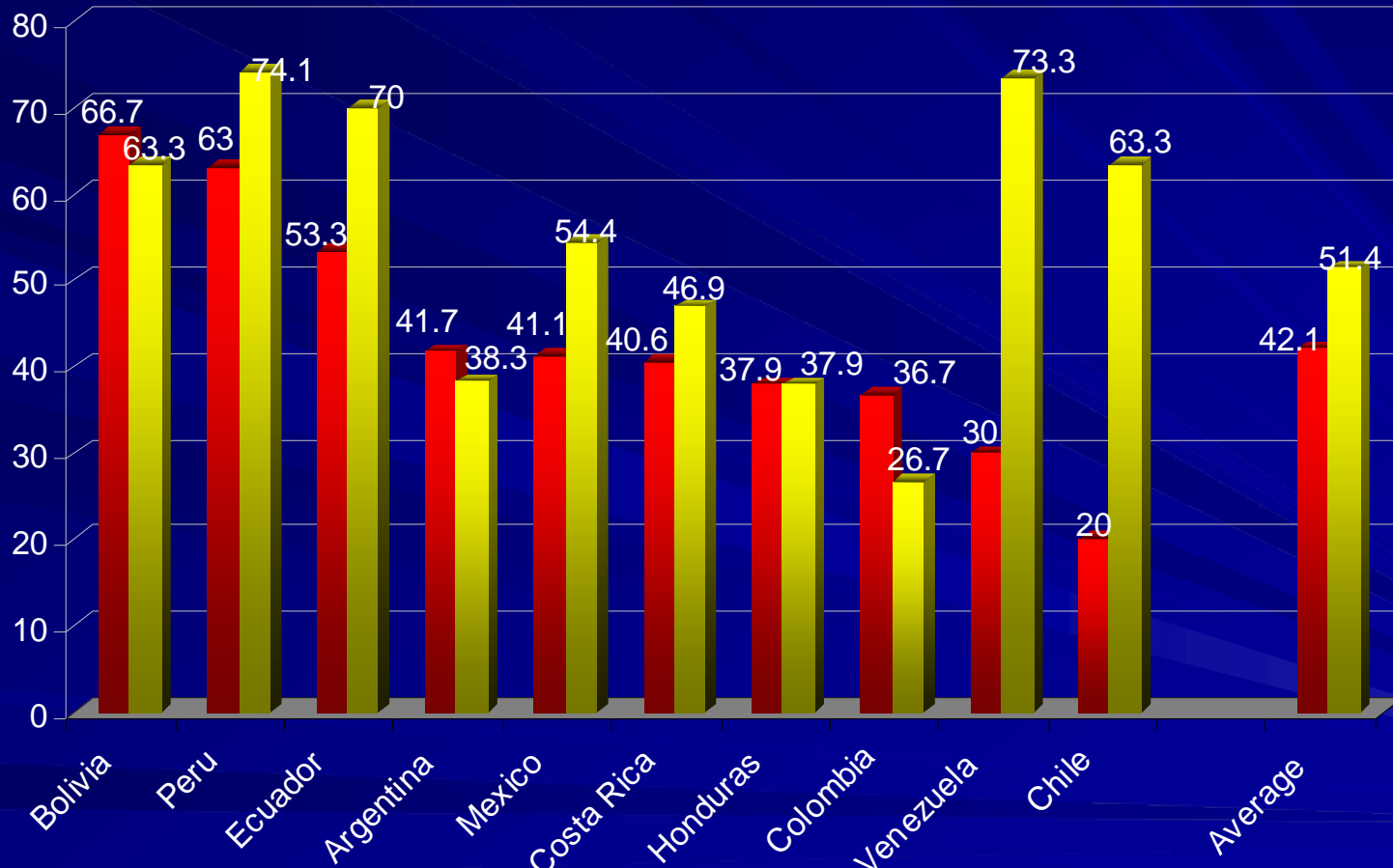
$\chi^2 = 12.56, p = .183$

n = 420

n Victims of Sexual Abuse = 147

Victims of Verbal Abuse by Country

(Violence Scale, Peragallo & González, 2006)

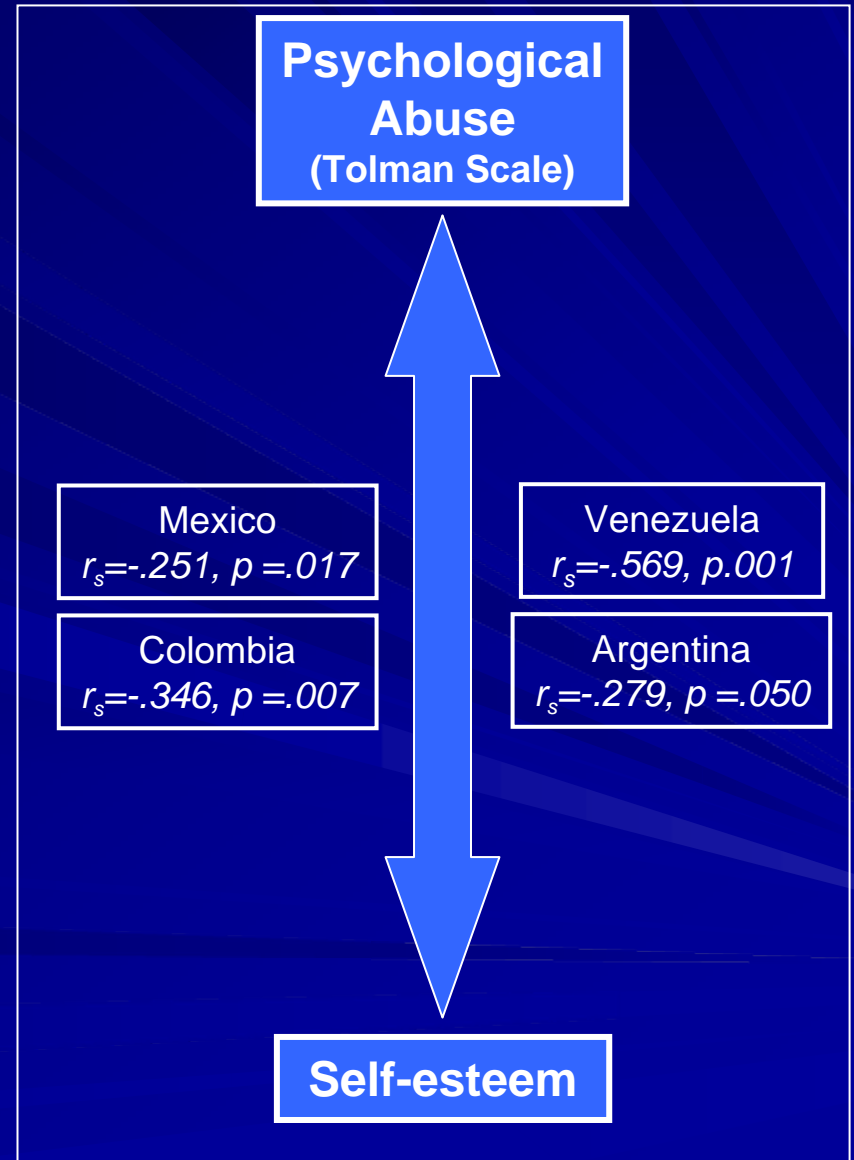
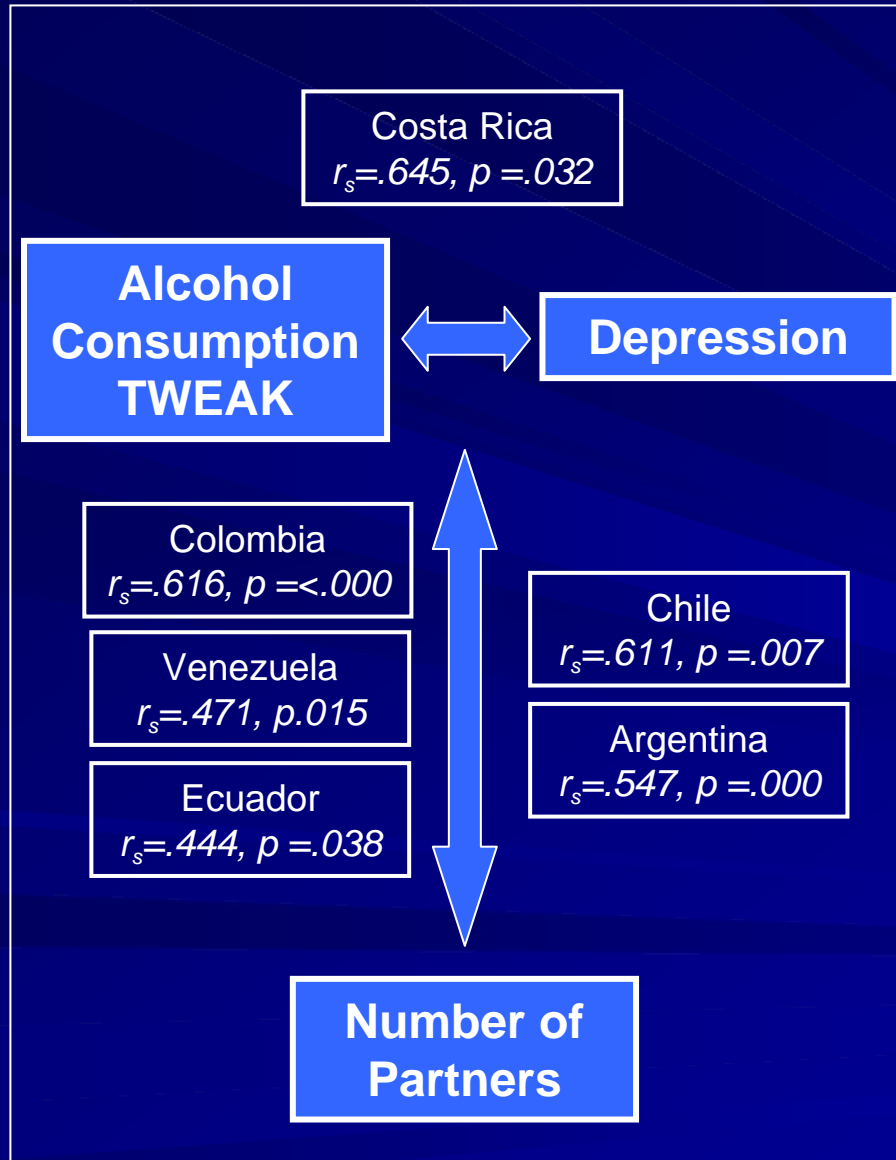


■ Before 18 years old n = 176
 $\chi^2 = 22.61, p = .007$

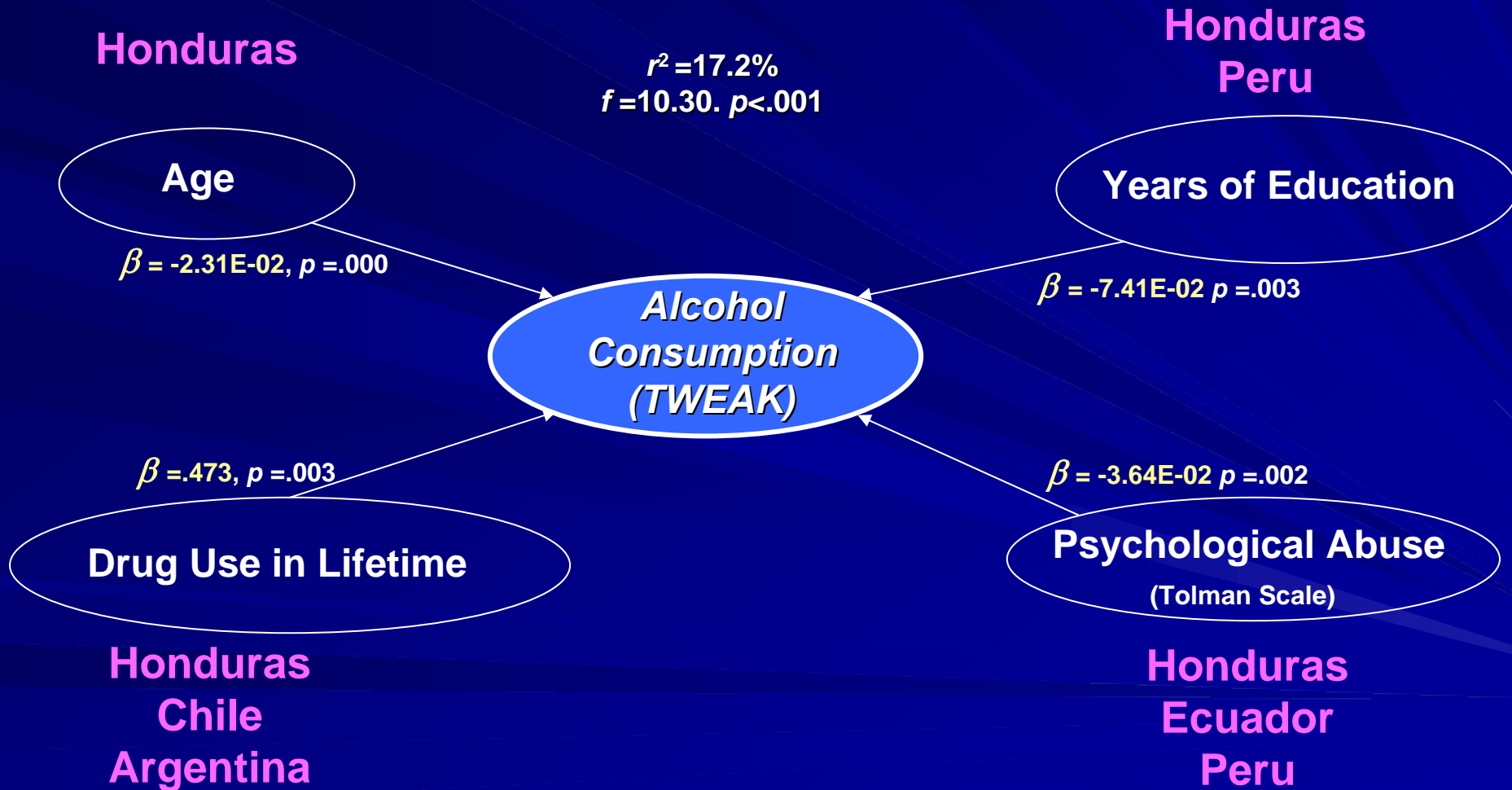
■ In Adulthood n = 215
 $\chi^2 = 40.4, p = <.001$

n = 420
 n Victims of Verbal Abuse = 391

Spearman Correlation Coefficient for the Study Variables and p value



Lineal Multiple Regression Model: Alcohol Consumption Predictors Variables (TWEAK) [Backward Procedure]



Multicentric Pilot Study Qualitative Results of 10 Spanish-Speaking Countries

Argentina

Bolivia

Chile

Colombia

Costa Rica

Ecuador

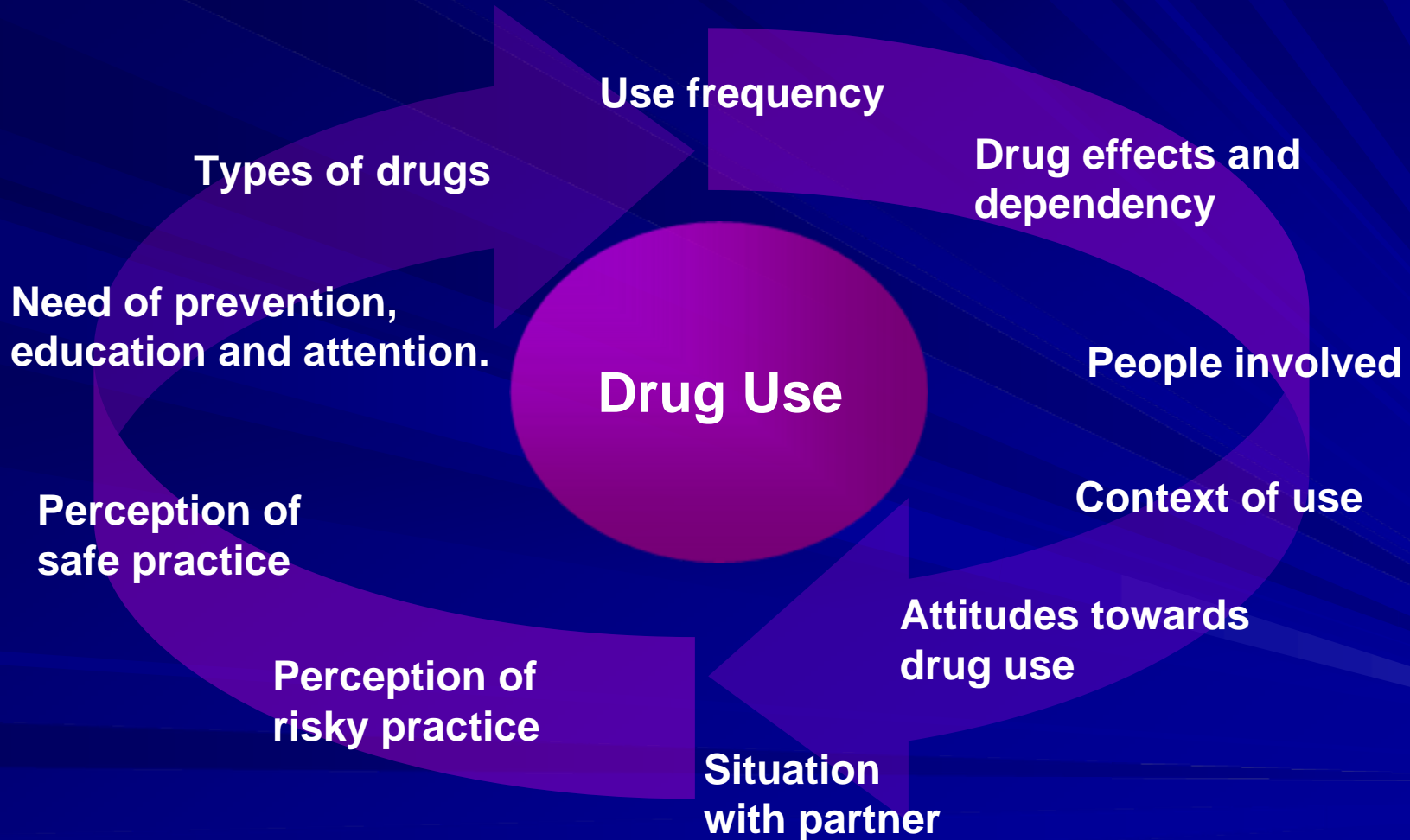
Honduras

Mexico

Peru

Venezuela

Category: Drug Use



Category: Violence

Attitude towards violence and gender culture

Physical, psychological and sexual abuse

Police training to address domestic violence and drug related problems

Violence drivers

Laws, Justice, police role and social support

Characteristics of the aggressor and abused women

Causes avoiding the report

Violence Cycle

Attitude towards the report

Violence confrontation

Violence and drug use

Violence consequences

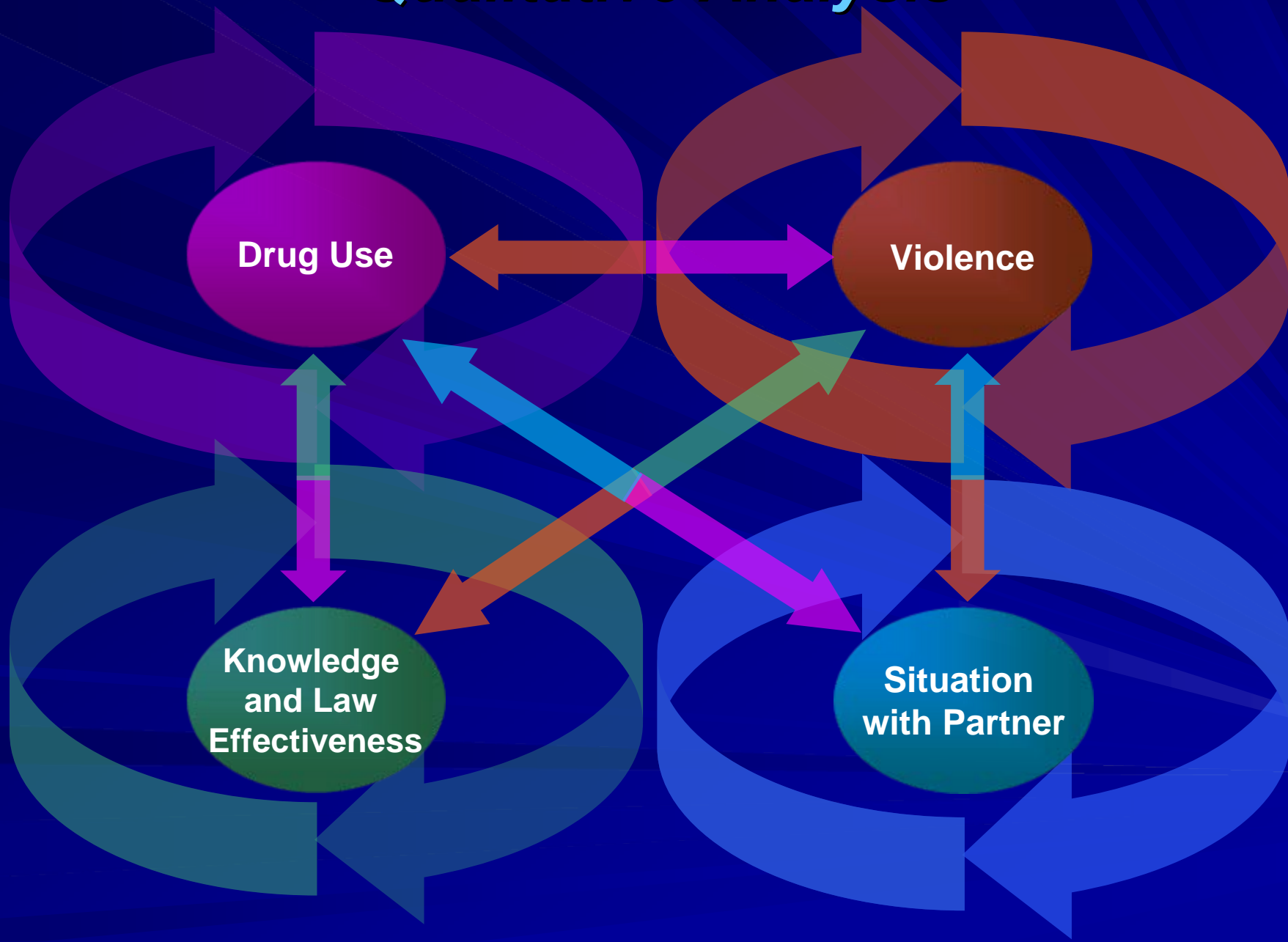
Situation with partner

Violence

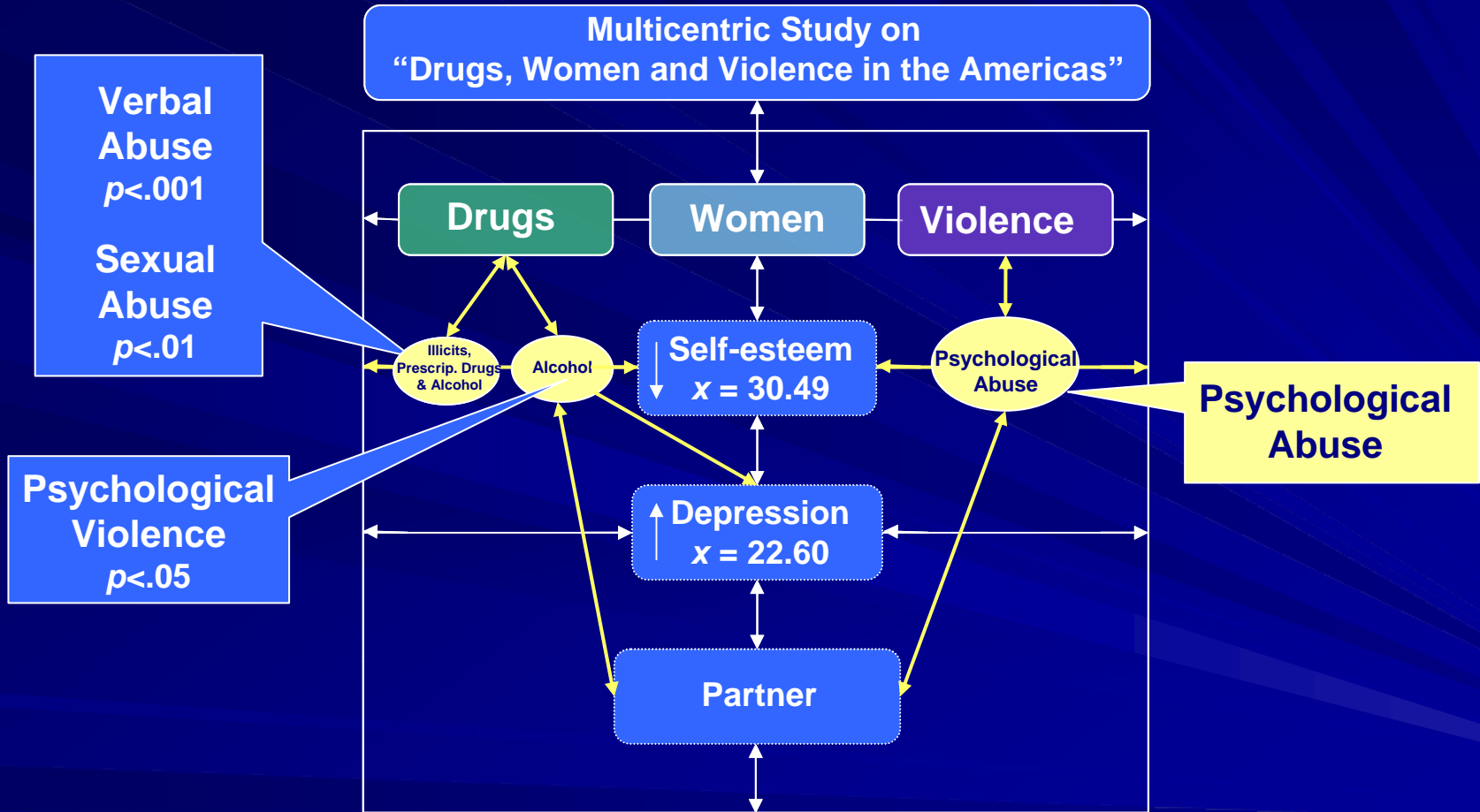
Category: Knowledge and Law Effectiveness



Qualitative Analysis



Partial Conclusions



Critic-Holistic Operational Model applied to the Multicentric Study on "Drugs, Women and Violence in the Americas" (Wright, 2006)

Multicentric Pilot Study Quantitative Results of Brazil

Florianópolis /SC

Rio de Janeiro /RJ – UFRJ y UERJ

Ribeirão Preto /SP

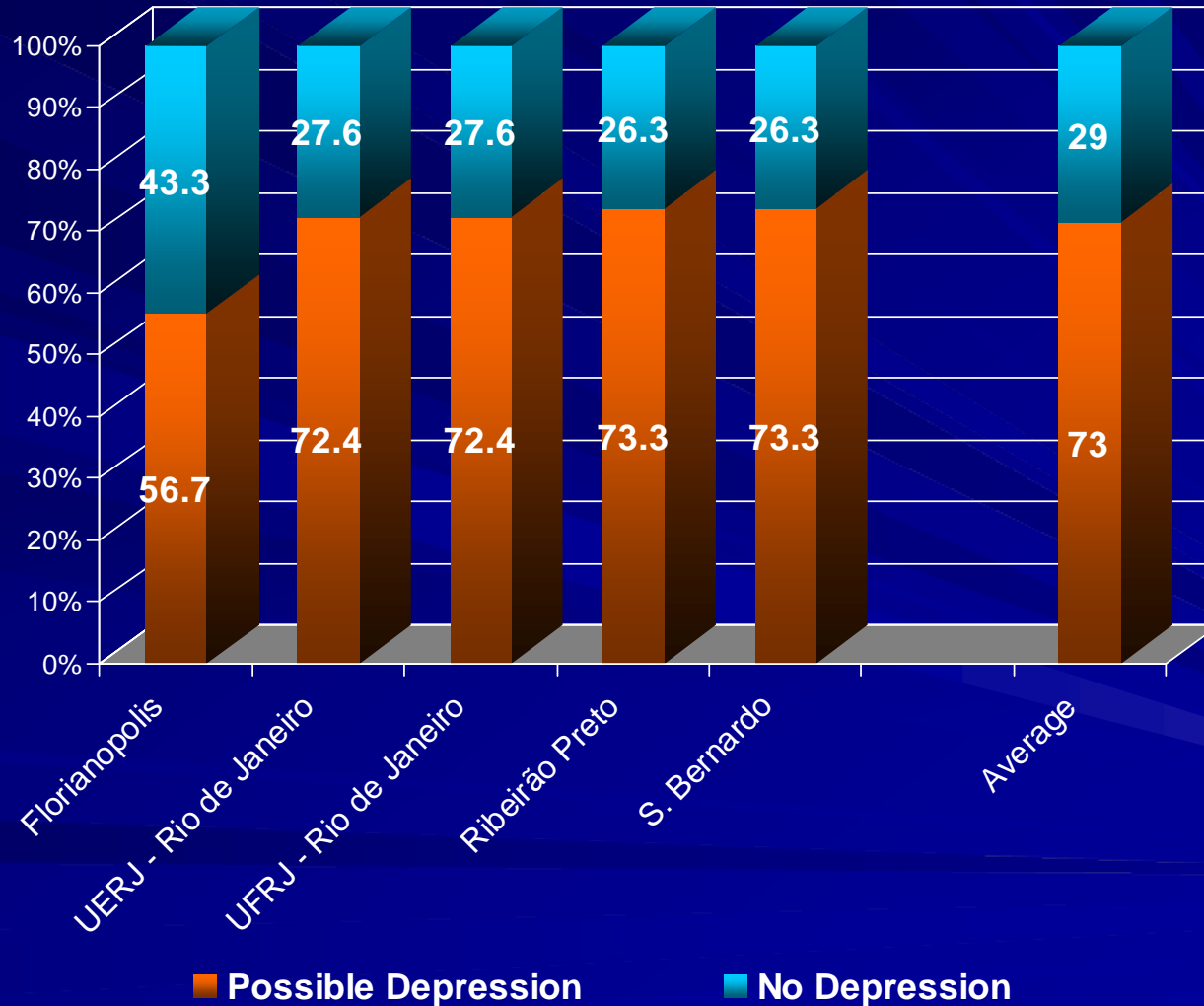
São Bernardo do Campo /SP

Socio-Demographical Characteristics (Continuous Variables)

Population sample	148 cases <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Florianópolis-SC: $n= 29$▪ Rio de Janeiro-RJ: UFRJ $n= 29$ / UERJ $n= 30$▪ Ribeirão Preto-SP: USP $n=30$▪ São Bernardo do Campo-SP: ABC $n=30$
Average age	35 years
Education level	11 years on average (secondary education)
Number of children	1 child (average: 1,66)
Number of partners in lifetime	5 partners on average
Marital status	52% live with partners
Labor status	53% women have a paid job <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 70% service work▪ Other work as sales person or in offices

Depression Scale Range by City

(Escala de Radloff, 1977)



■ Possible Depression

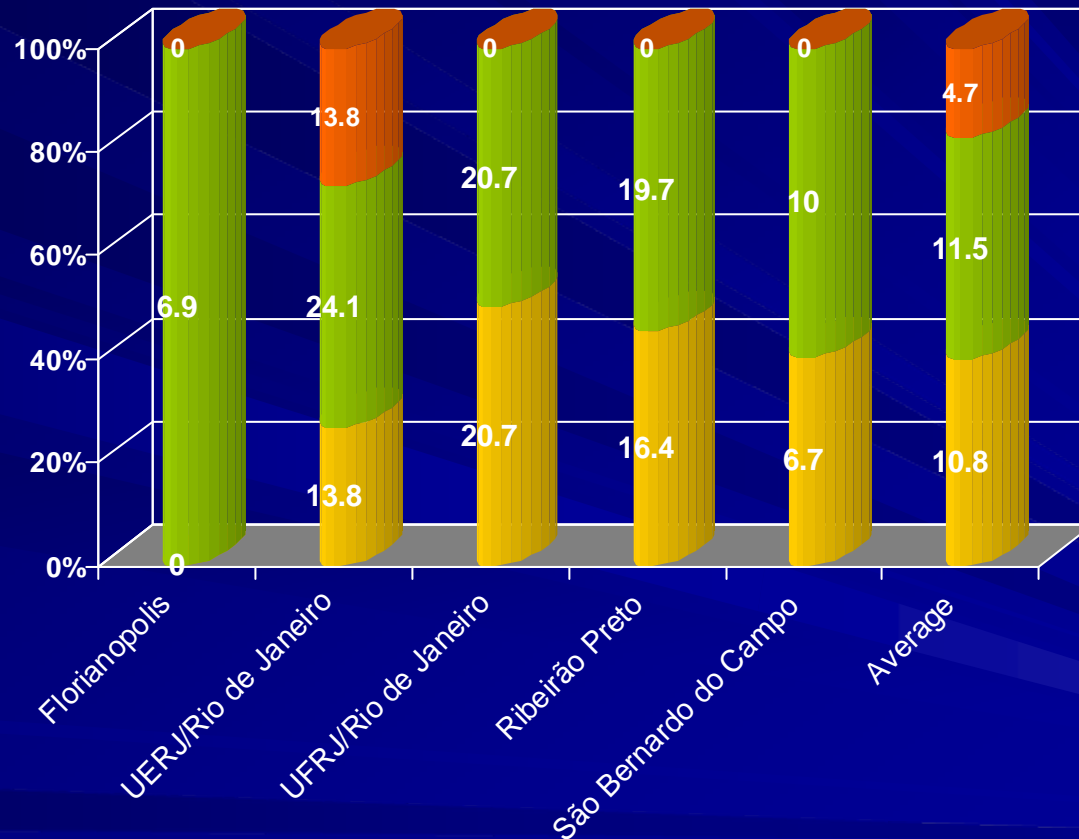
■ No Depression

n = 148

No differences between cities $p > 0.05$

Alcoholic Beverage Consumption by City

(TWEAK – Cyr & McGarry, 2002)



■ Moderate Consumption

■ Risk of Alcoholism

■ Probable Alcoholism

No differences between cities $p > 0.05$

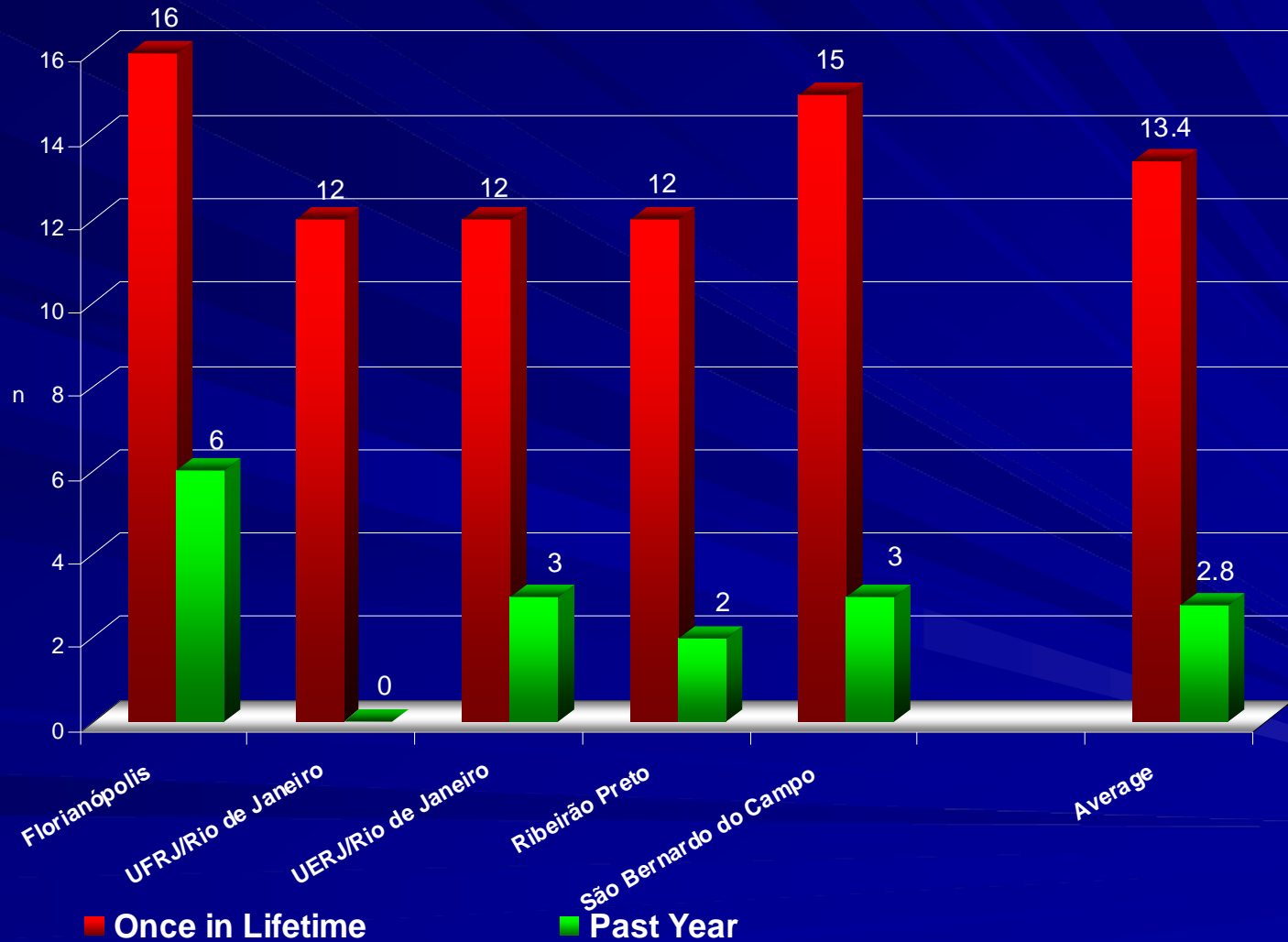
$n = 148$
 n_1 (Consumen alcohol) = 78
 n_2 (No consumen alcohol) = 70

Psychoactive Drugs (Sobell & Sobell, 2003)

Type of Consumption	Type of Drug
Illicit Drugs 32,4% of sample	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Cannabis (11,5%)▪ Hallucinogens (3,4%)▪ Inhalants (3,4%)▪ Cocaine and Crack (2,7%)
Prescription Drugs 25,7% of sample	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Benzodiazepines (16,2%)▪ Amphetamines (6,8%)▪ Opiates (Morphine, Codeine) (5,4%)▪ Sedatives / Barbiturics (4,1%)

n = 148

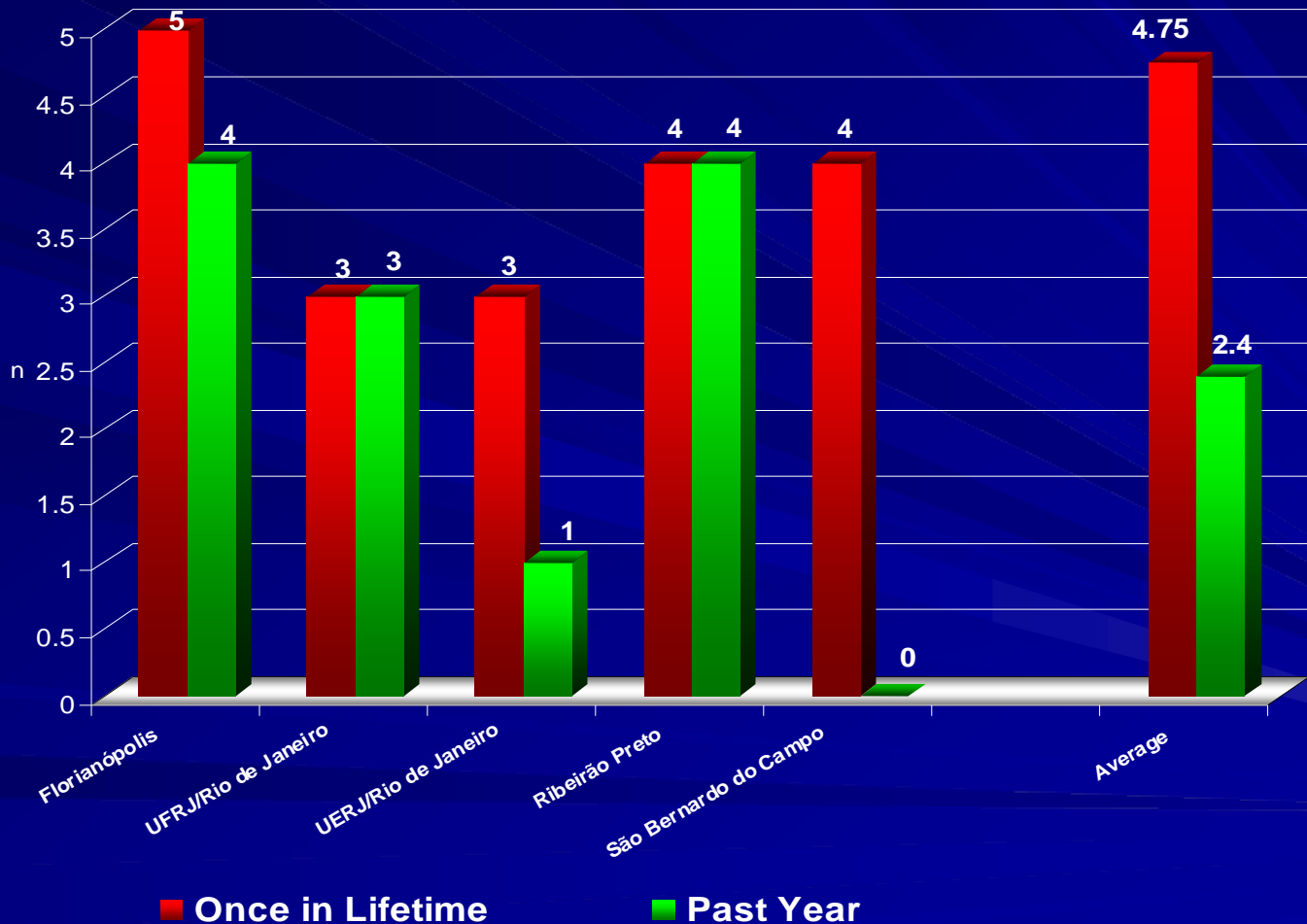
Comparison Between Illicit Drug Use in Lifetime and Past Year by City



No differences between cities $p > 0.05$

$n = 148$
 $n \text{ Use} = 67$

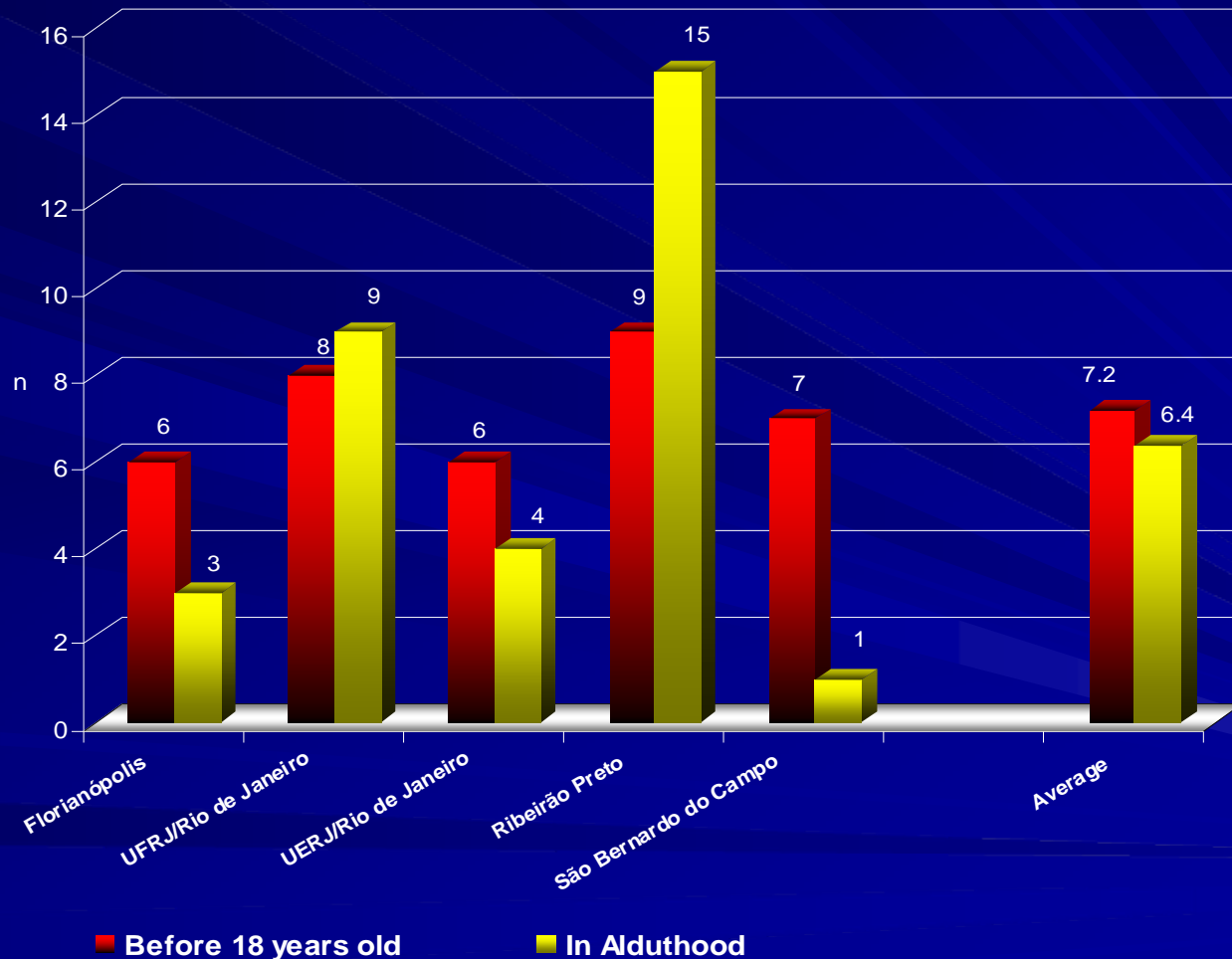
Comparison Between Prescription Drugs Use in Lifetime and Past Year by City



No differences between cities $p > 0.05$

$n = 148$
 $n \text{ Use} = 19$

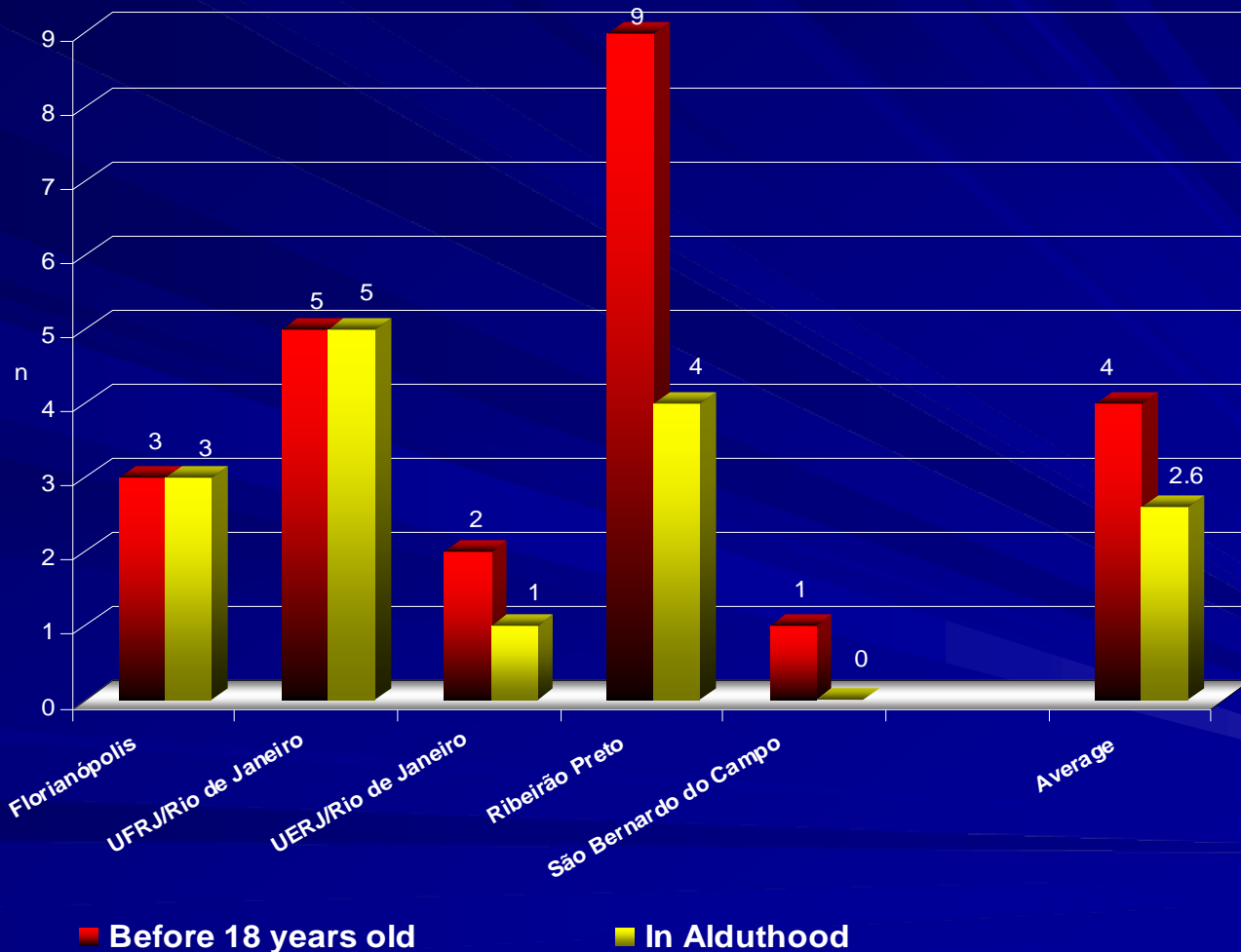
Victims of Physical Abuse by City (Violence Scale, Peragallo & González, 2006)



In Adulthood: RP is different to SBC $p < 0.05$

$n = 148$
 n Victims Physical Abuse = 68

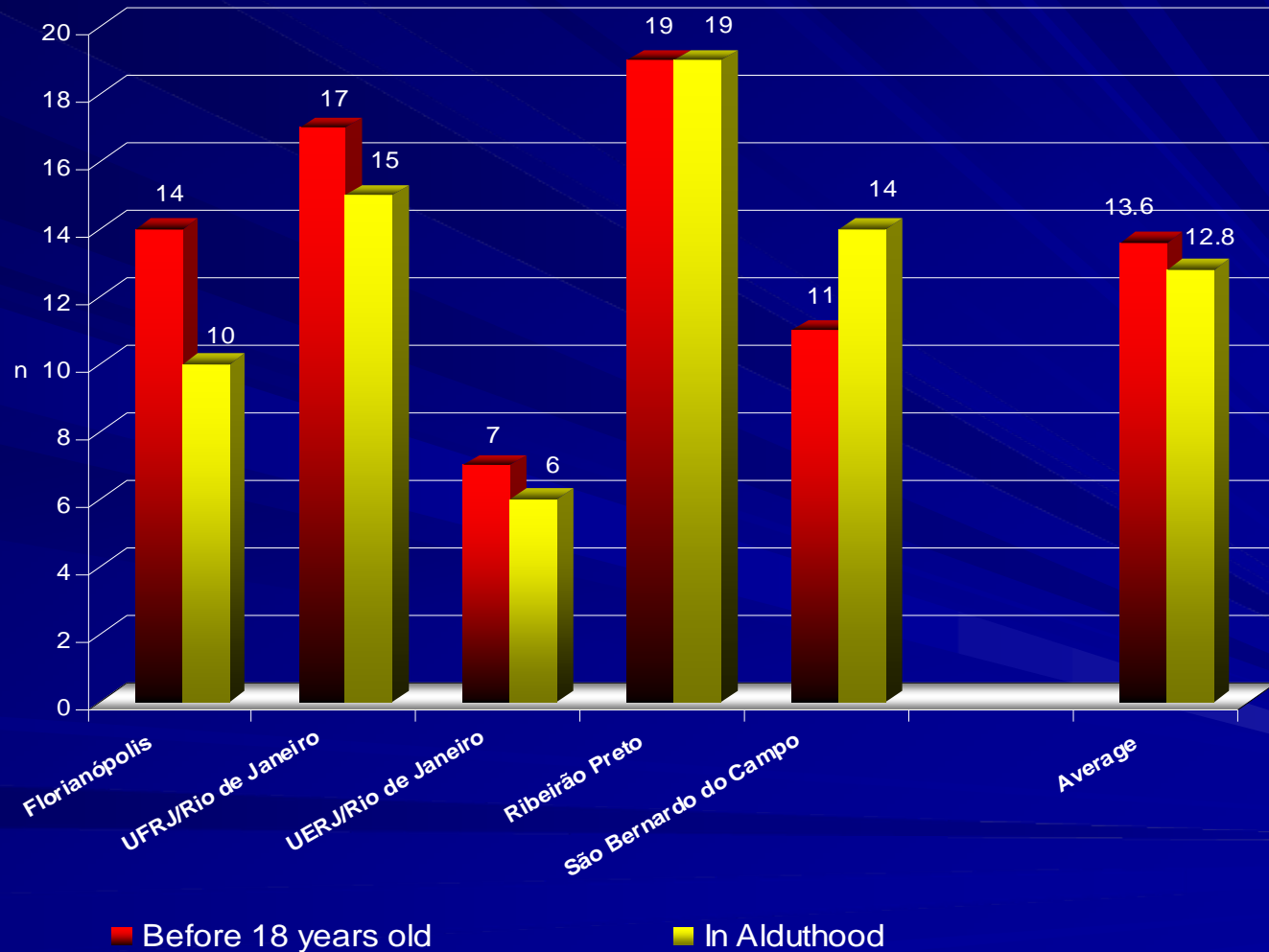
Victims of Sexual Abuse by City (Violence Scale, Peragallo & González, 2006)



Before 18 years old: RP is different to SBC $p < 0.05$

$n = 148$
 n Victims Sexual Abuse = 33

Victims of Verbal Abuse by City (Violence Scale, Peragallo & González, 2006)



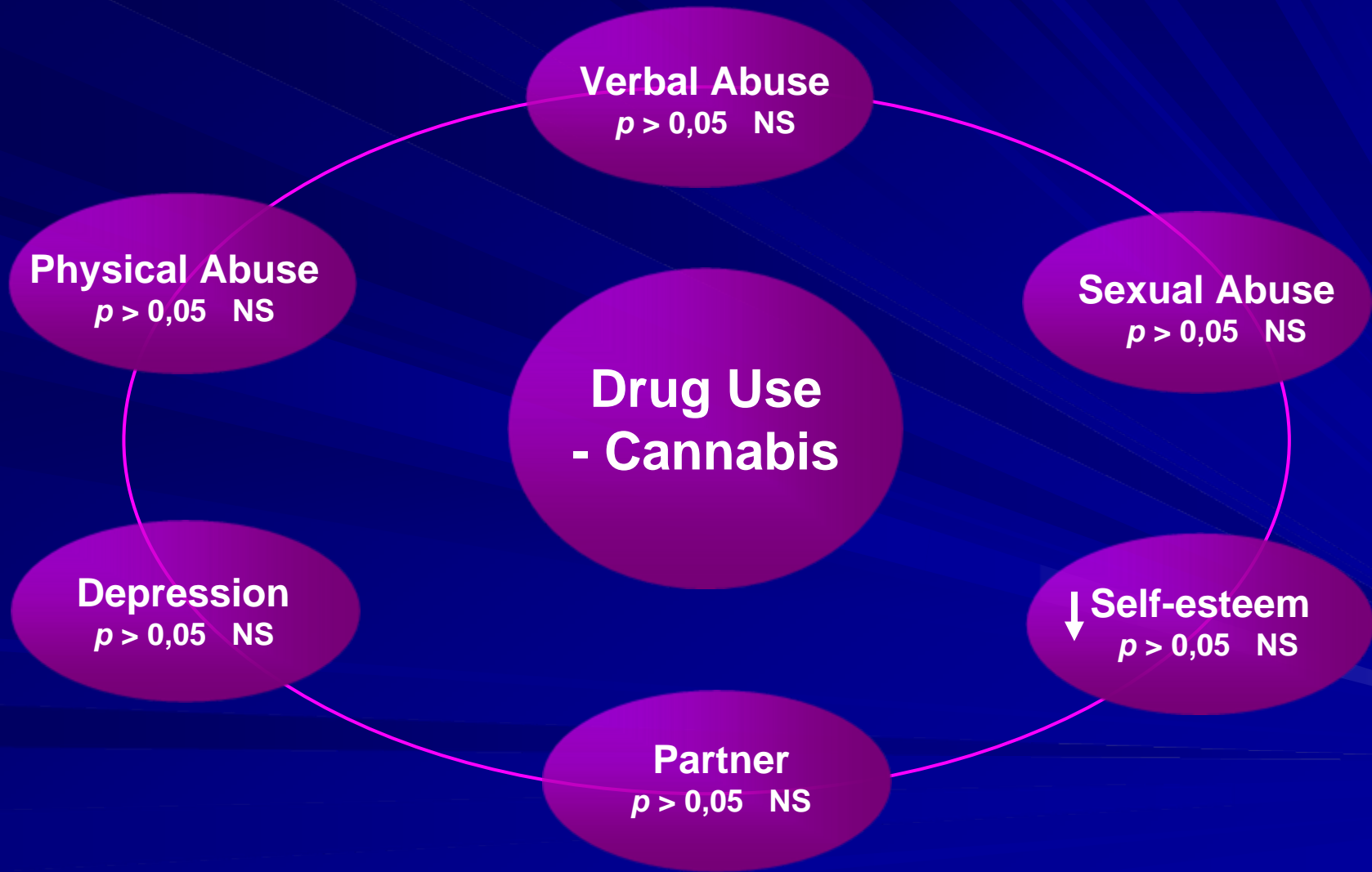
No differences between cities $p > 0.05$

$n = 148$
 n Victims Verbal Abuse = 132

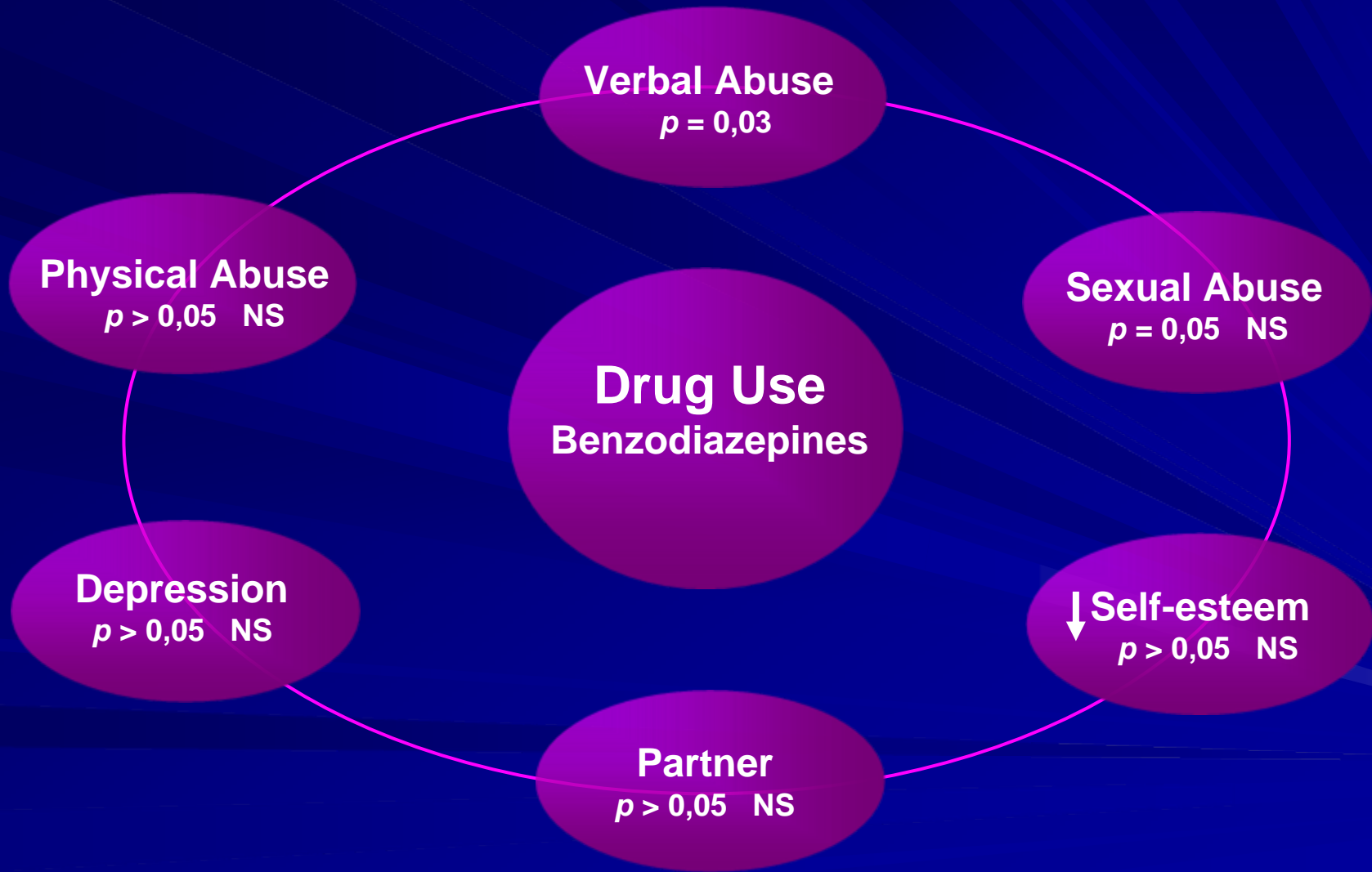
Variables Crosses: Drug Use - Alcohol



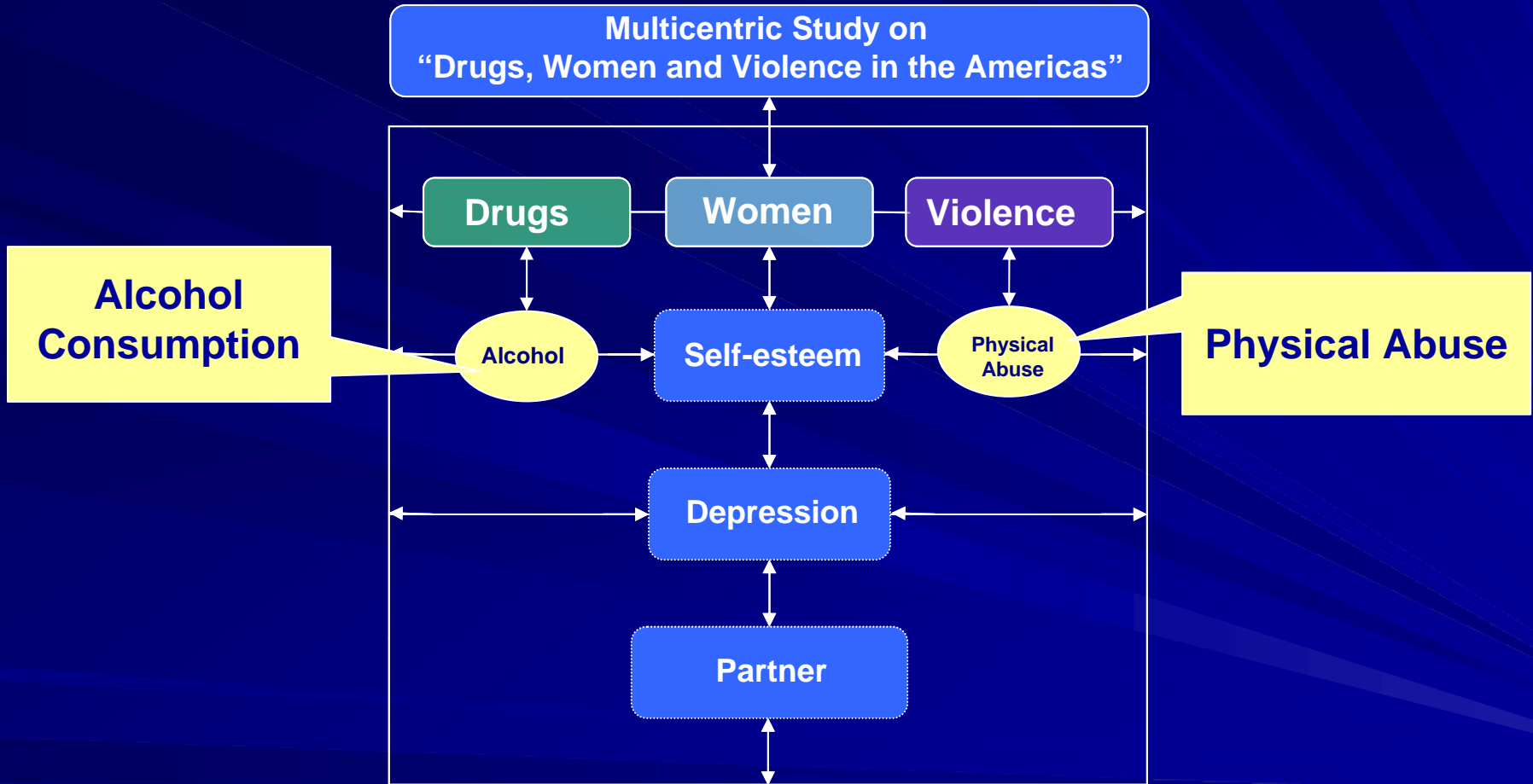
Variables Crosses: Drug Use - Cannabis



Variables Crosses: Drug Use - Benzodiazepines

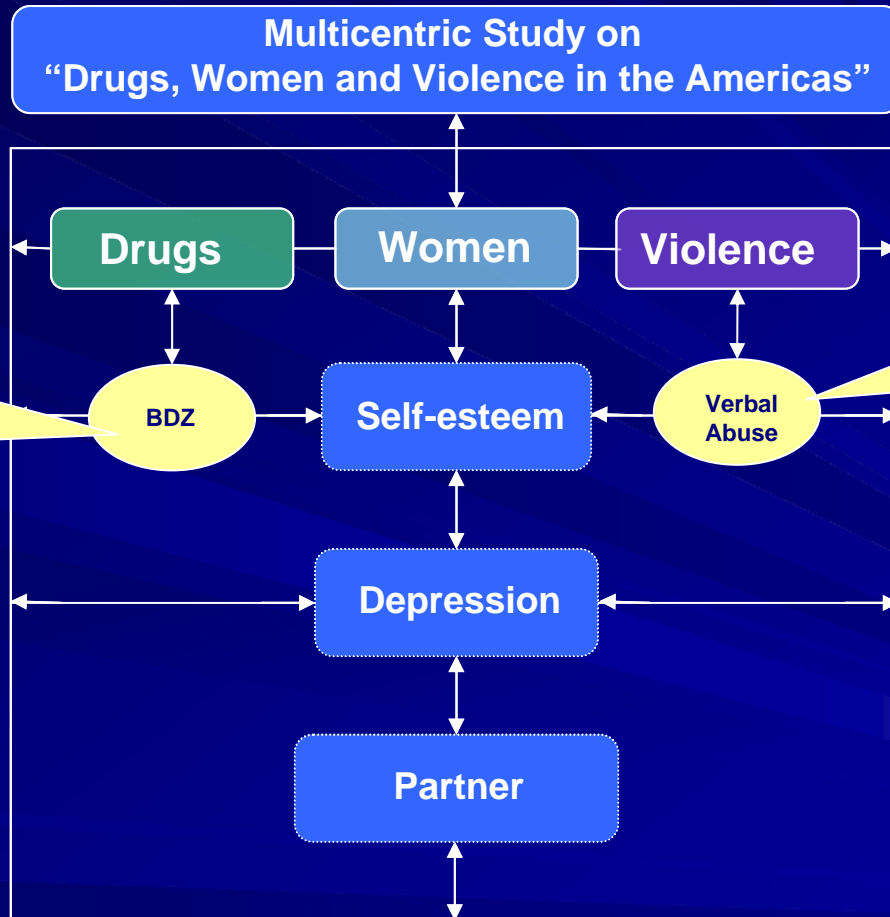


Partial Conclusions



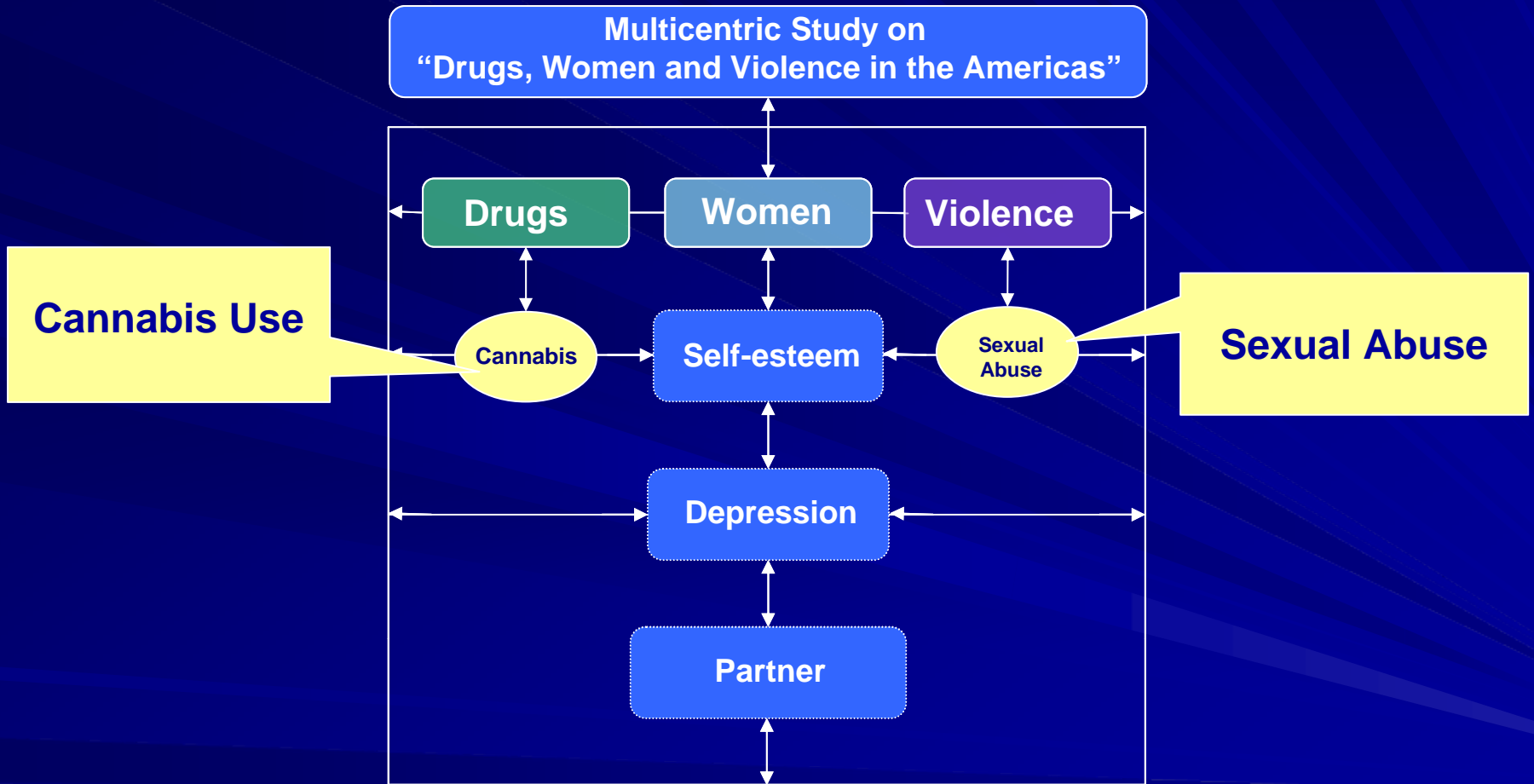
Critic-Holistic Operational Model applied to the Multicentric Study on "Drugs, Women and Violence in the Americas" (Wright, 2006)

Partial Conclusions



Critic-Holistic Operational Model applied to the Multicentric Study on "Drugs, Women and Violence in the Americas" (Wright, 2006)

Partial Conclusions



**Critic-Holistic Operational Model applied to the
Multicentric Study on “Drugs, Women and Violence in
the Americas” (Wright, 2006)**

Multicentric Pilot Study Quantitative Results of USA

**Spanish and English-Speaking Women*
in Miami-Dade and Broward Counties**

***The sample with Portuguese-speaking ($n = 10$) women is not completed yet**

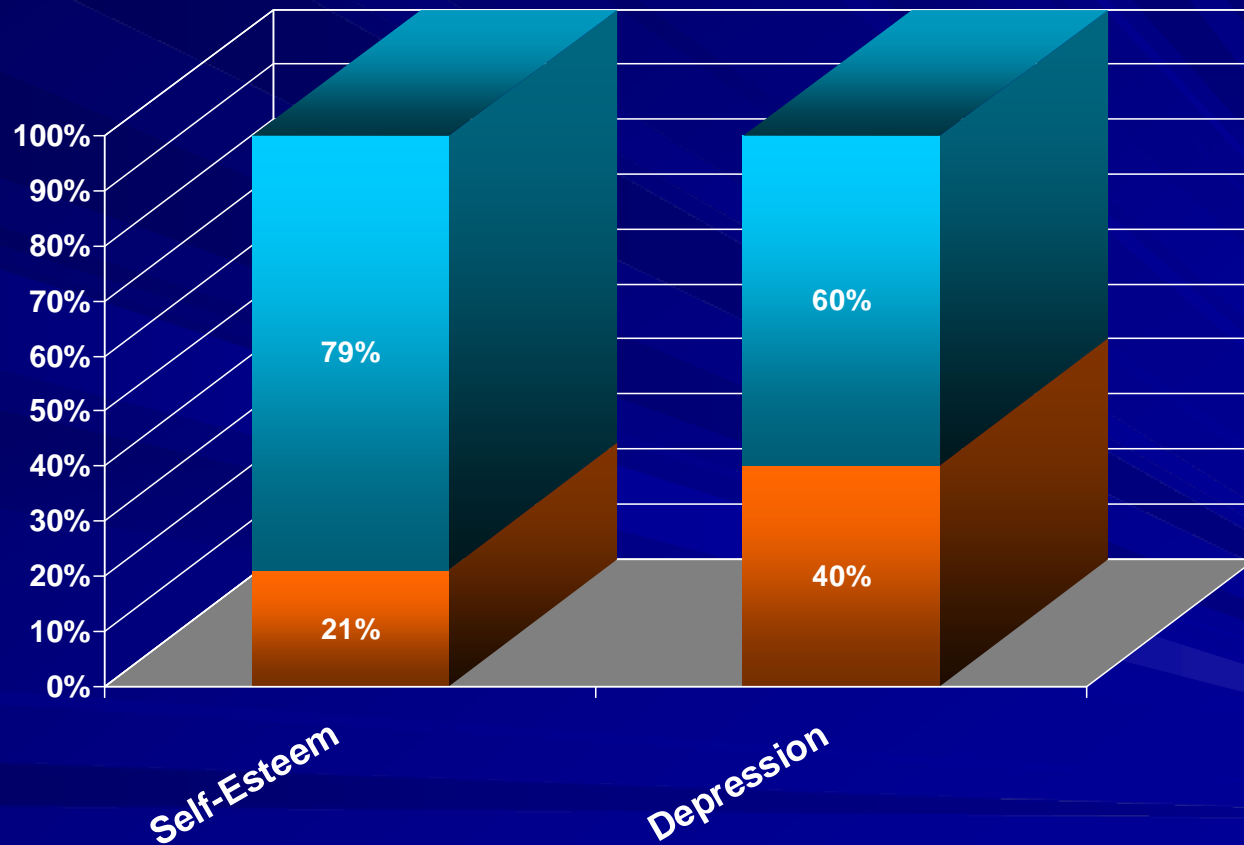
Socio-Demographical Characteristics

Population sample	82 cases
Average age	39 years
Education level	14 years
Number of children	2 children
Number of partners in lifetime	3 partners
Living with partner	63%
Marital status	57% married, 18% single, 9% divorced, 7% separated, 6% civil union, 3% widowed
Labor status	40% have a paid job
Woman income (family income)	\$505/month (\$2,355/month)

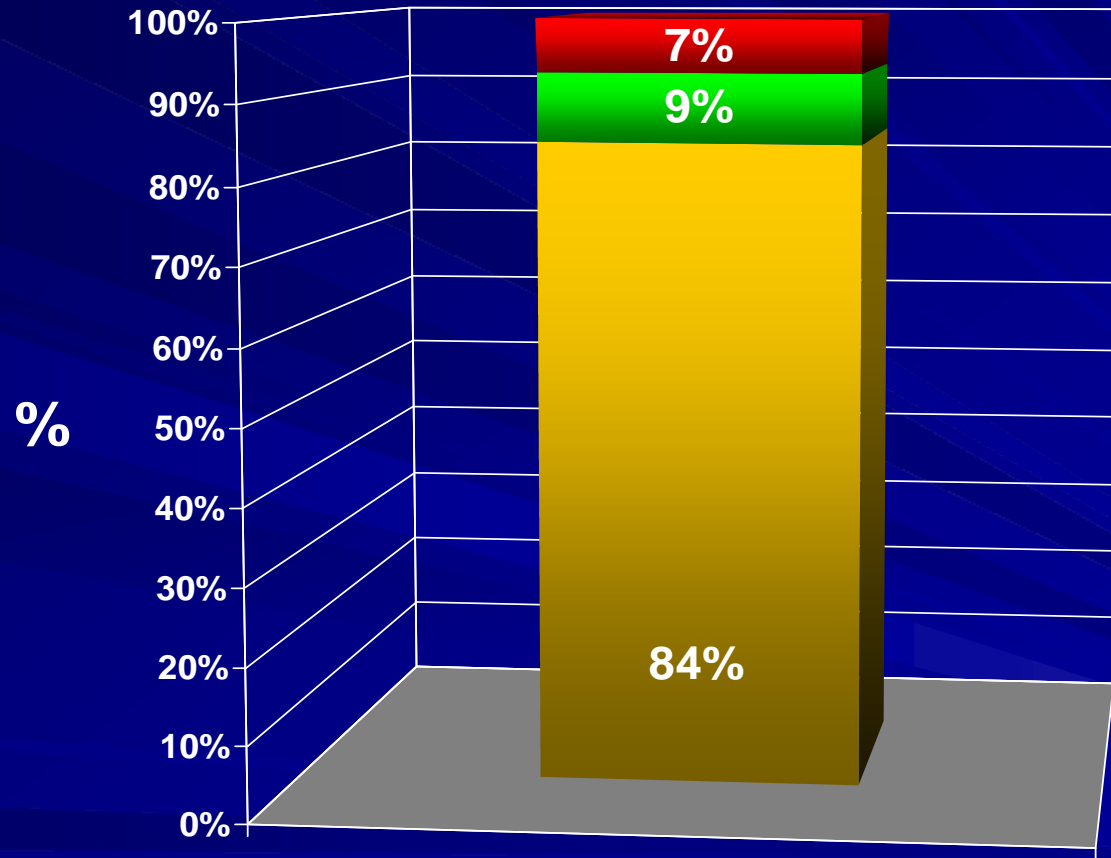
Socio-Demographical Characteristics (2)

Years living in USA (average)	9 years
Country of origin	Colombia (48%), Venezuela (13%), Ecuador (8%), Caribbean (10%), Other Central America (10%), Other South America (9%), USA (2%)
Language Preference	Spanish (96%), English (4%)
Acculturation (Marín & Gamba Scale, 1995)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ American (high) 62%▪ Hispanic (high) 100%▪ High in both 38%

Self-Esteem (Rosenberg, 1965) and Depression Scale (Radloff, 1977) Range



Alcoholic Beverage Consumption by Group (TWEAK, Cyr & McGarry, 2002)



■ Moderate Consumption

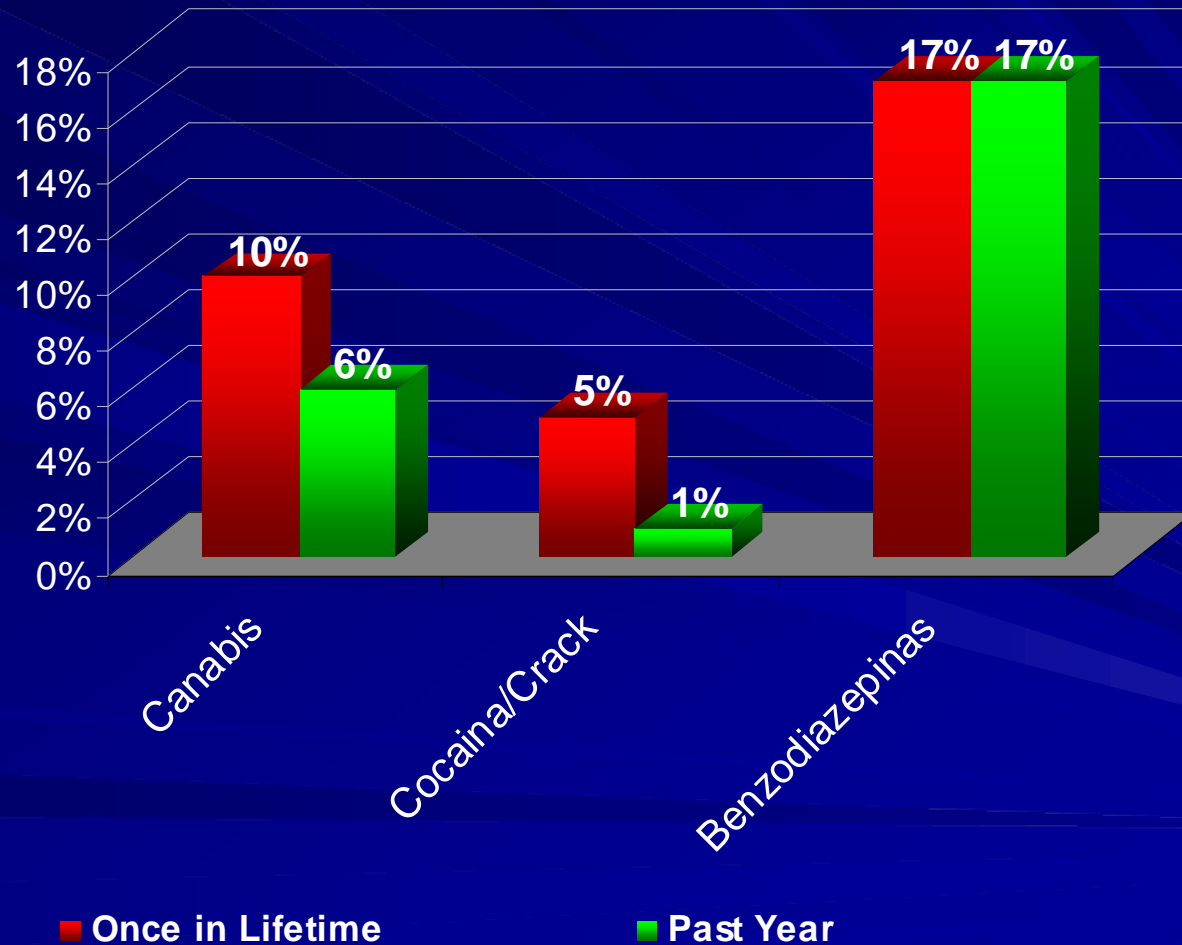
■ Risk of Alcoholism

■ Probable Alcoholism

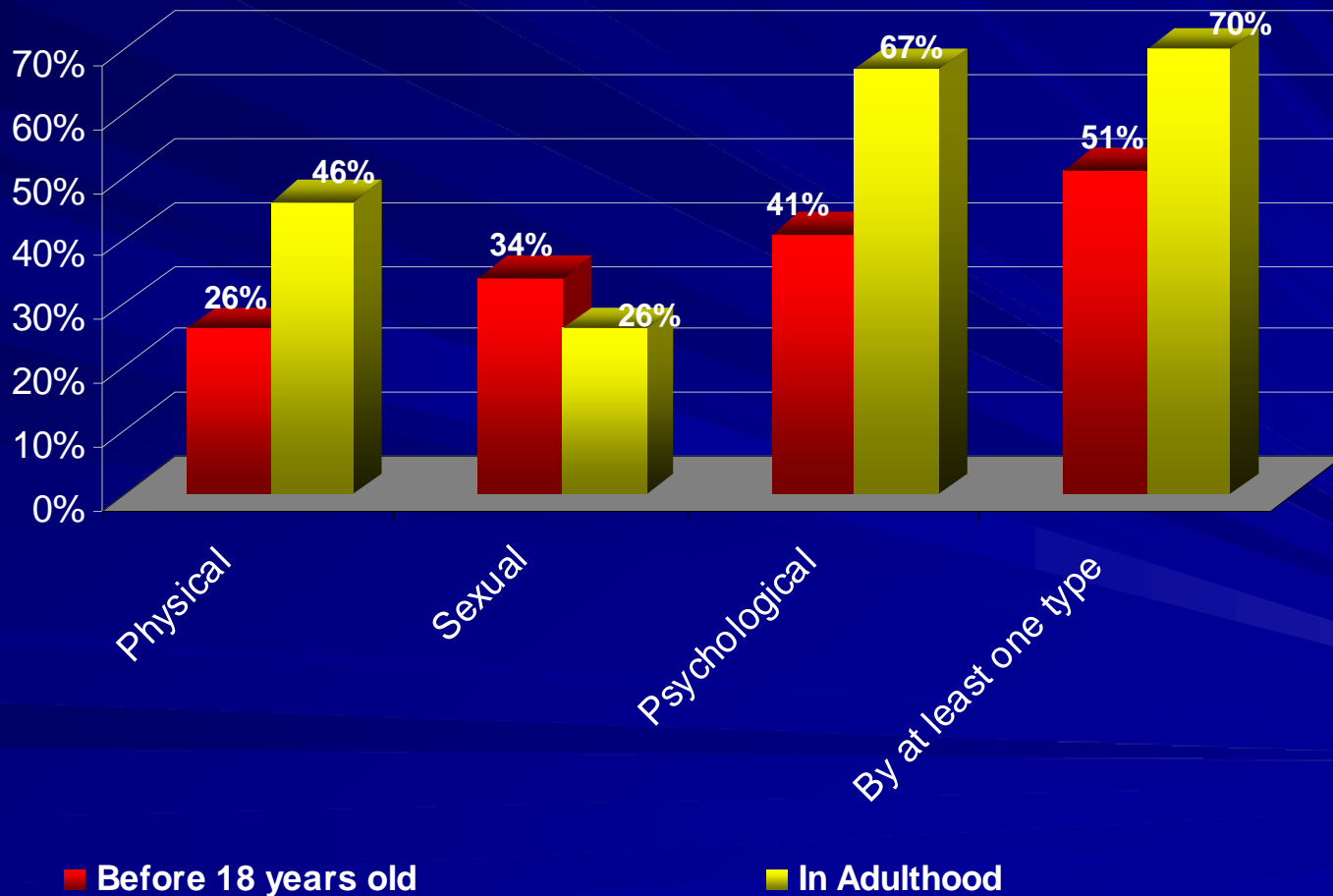
Psychoactive Drugs (Sobell & Sobell, 2003)

Type of Consumption	Type of Drug
Illicit Drugs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Cannabis (10%)▪ Cocaine and Crack (5%)▪ Heroin (1%)▪ Hallucinogens (1%)▪ Inhalants (0%)
Prescription Drugs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Benzodiazepines (17%)▪ Opiates (Morphine, Codeine, etc.) (4%)▪ Amphetamines (1%)▪ Sedatives / Barbiturics (0%)

Comparison Between Illicit and Prescription Drug Use in Lifetime and Past Year



Victims of Violence by Type of Abuse (Violence Scale, Peragallo & González, 2006)



Multicentric Pilot Study Qualitative Results of USA

**Spanish and English-Speaking Women*
in Miami-Dade and Broward Counties**

***The sample with Portuguese-speaking ($n = 10$) women is not completed yet**

Central Themes

- “Living in the United States”
- “The Vicious Cycle of the Abuse”
- “Breaking the Silence”

Living in the United States

The impact on the family

- The need to work interferes with children's upbringing;
- Work stress destroys the marriage.

American liberal influences

- Violence, sex and drug abuse are normal to kids in US;
- Too much independence.

Keeping their own culture

- Send the children to their countries so they can learn good values;
- Keep customs and traditions;
- Balance between American and Hispanic culture.

Discrimination

- Not knowing how to speak Spanish;
- In the work place;
- Discrimination from Americans;
- Discrimination from other Hispanics.

“The Vicious Cycle of the Abuse”

Types of violence

- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse and exploitation
- Intellectual abuse
- Control, manipulation, lack of support at home.

Causes and risks of abuse

- Women as the cause
- Machismo and gender inequalities
- Infidelity
- Transgenerational Transmission
- Immigration to US
- Age difference
- Drug and alcohol abuse

Difficulties in getting help

- Keeping the family together
- Economical dependency
- Fear
- Legal status
- Don't want to be alone
- Lack of support and services
- Hope of change
- Wanting to protect the aggressor

Self-esteem

- The abuser prepares his territory by diminishing the victim self-esteem
- As a risk for abuse
- As a consequence of the abuse

The cycle

- Impact of the violence in the children
- Increase the magnitude over time
- Transmission of violence to community
- Victims become aggressors

“Breaking the Silence”

Getting information

- Rights in situation of abuse
- Services in the community

Attention to oneself

- Taking care of one's appearance
- Following intuition
- Developing independence
- Having faith in God

Partner Communication

- About problems when they start
- Not allowing disrespect
- About things that you like and dislike

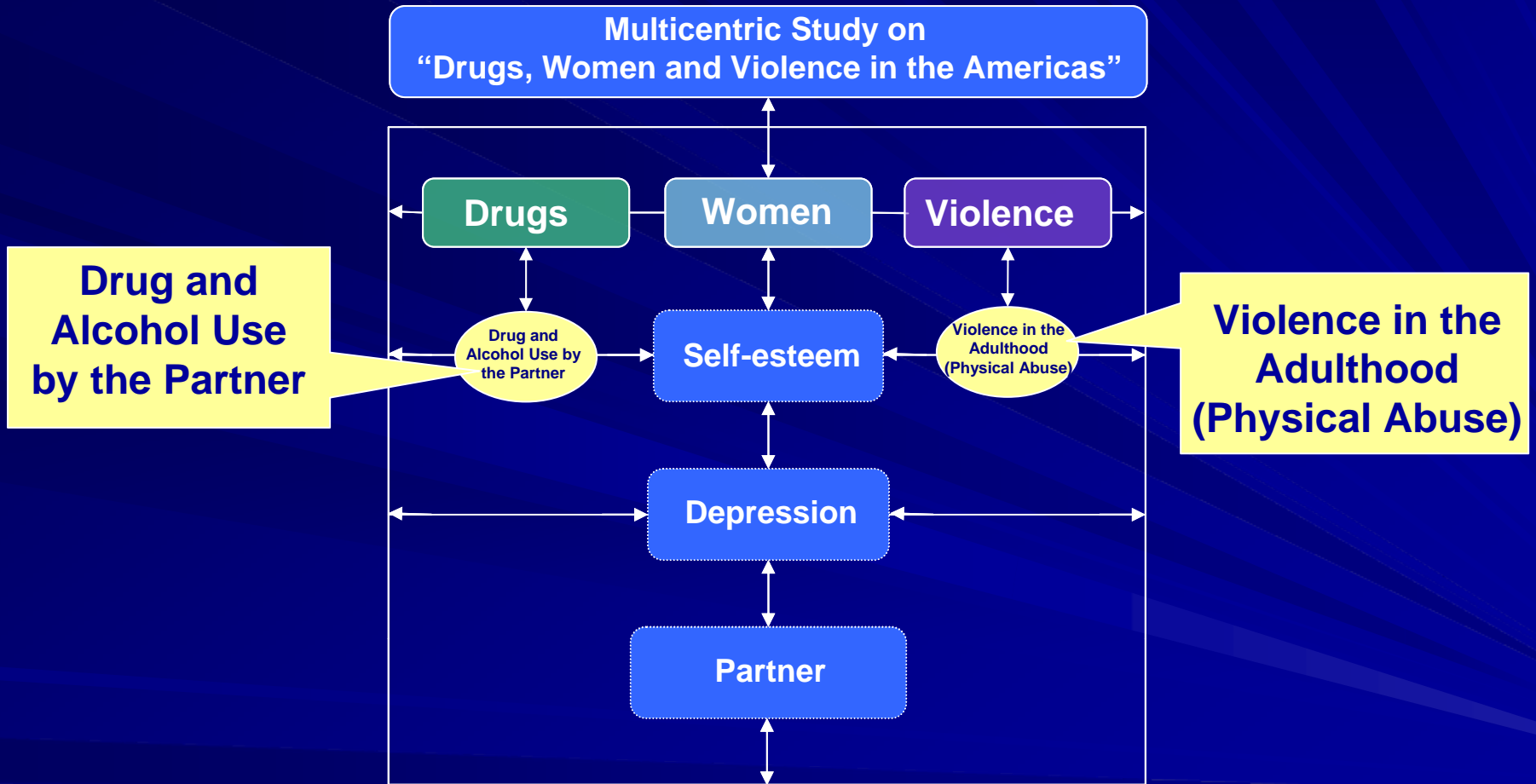
Breaking cultural norms and taboos

- Deciding to break the abuse pattern at home
- Do not raise “machista” children
- Teaching the children about violence and drugs
- Talking to friends about violence and drugs

Support

- Someone that makes you aware of the abuse and risks
- Someone that connects you with the services
- Having places and services to go

Partial Conclusions



Critic-Holistic Operational Model applied to the Multicentric Study on "Drugs, Women and Violence in the Americas" (Wright, 2006)

**PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS OF THE
MULTICENTRIC PILOT STUDY ON
“DRUG, WOMEN AND VIOLENCE IN
THE AMERICAS”**

Preliminary Conclusions

Violence and Drugs

- Violence and drugs are the biggest problem facing the studied women, specially in Latin America. This situation produces low self-esteem and high depression;
- Drug abuse increase psychological violence y and physical and sexual abuse.

Drug Problem

- Alcohol is a serious problem to Latin-American women, but not for Hispanic women living in US (Miami-Dade and Broward, Florida), even when they are affected by the partner's alcohol abuse;
- The women studied acknowledge:
 - Type of drugs, frequency of drug abuse, involved people, context of drug abuse;
 - Conscience of drug abuse, risky situations, safe practices;
 - Need of prevention, education and support;
 - Difficulty to access social and health services and drug treatment.

Preliminary Conclusions(2)

Violence Problem

- Violence against women is a serious problem;
- Intra-familiar violence is evident in the studied sample;
- Licit and illicit drug abuse by men drives psychological violence, and physical and sexual abuse against women;
- Women acknowledge type and pattern of violence, problems related with reporting to police, and social support.

Knowledge and Effectiveness of Laws

- Women feel unprotected by the Judiciary System and the law in the 10 Latin American countries studied;
- The police is not fully prepared to deal with drug and violence problem against women in Latin America.

**PRELIMINARY RECOMENDATIONS OF
THE MULTICENTRIC PILOT STUDY ON
“DRUG, WOMEN AND VIOLENCE IN
THE AMERICAS”**

Preliminary Recommendations

OAS

- Support Latin American countries updating their laws on drug abuse and violence against women, like Brazil;
- Disseminate the study results among governments, international and national organizations, and civil society.

CICAD

- Develop regional training programs to police on protection and treatment of drug-related problems and violence against women;
- Establish in EDRS a specific research program on women protection against drugs and violence in Latin America;
- Search for external funds to support the proposed research program and for the Final Multicentric Study;
- Identify and invite research reference centers to participate in the proposed program.
- Disseminate the study results among OAS departments and secretariats.

Preliminary Recommendations(2)

- Countries**
- Adapt and apply protection laws to women;
 - Train the police locally on protection, drug treatment and violence against women;
 - Improve the law procedures to protect women;
 - Interventions to this group of women should:
 - Incorporate gender aspect in all programs;
 - Promote women's independence and the condemnation of traditional gender roles that can increase risk of violence;
 - Develop communication and specific skills to handle couples conflicts;
 - Inform and advise women about their rights facing violence situation and how they can prevent the transmission of violence;
 - Help women to handle the stress of been between two cultures (sample of women in Miami-Dade and Broward, Florida).

Acknowledgement

Government of the United States

Government of Brazil

**Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission – CICAD
Educational Development and Research Section – EDRS/CICAD**

**National Anti-Drug Secretariat of Brazil – SENAD
National Public Security Secretariat of Brazil – SENASP**

Participant Universities

Participant Women