Drinking Context Scale (DCS)

by James Lani

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The Drinking Context Scale is a self-report measure of the likeliness of drinking excessively. Testing is based on three factors – convivial circumstances, intimate circumstances, and coping with negative emotion. A common use for the DCS is to predict the likelihood for young people to drink abusively in certain situations.

The scale includes 23 items which is the original version or the brief form which is only 9 items. Approximately 5 to 10 minutes is required for completion, which can be done through an interview or with pencil-and-paper.

Author

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Reliability and Validity

The reliability and validity reported for the DCS is respectable. Internal consistency for Convivial Drinking, Negative coping, and Intimate Drinking were reported at 0.82, 0.85, and 0.81 respectively. Concurrent validity is proven with DCS’s significant association with the Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test and the College Alcohol Problem Scale for all three DCS subscales.

For More Information and Obtaining the DCS

Permission is required from the author

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