

Abstract

A PREDICTIVE MODEL OF SIMULTANEOUS POLYDRUG USE FROM SURVEYED DEMOGRAPHICS AND PAST DRUG USE

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Simultaneous polydrug (SPU) use is the case when a person uses more than one drug at the same time. The prevalence of SPU has been increasing in the last thirty years, especially with a growing dance and party culture. However, most research on drug use has focused on single drug use or has not distinguished SPU from other forms of multiple drug use. In this study, a logistic regression model has been built that can predict how likely it is that a person has ever used drugs simultaneously. The data used to build the model comes from survey responses from college students. Covariates considered include demographic information and indicators of which drugs participants have ever used. Religiosity and self-esteem were specifically evaluated, and intrinsic religiosity was found to have a statistically significant association with having used drugs simultaneously while self-esteem did not. Indication of having used cannabis was a very strong predictor of having used drugs simultaneously.